LETTER FROM SHOGHI EFFENDI

The following instruction was written in a letter addressed to Mr. Smider, Urbana, on September 5, 1936, and is published with the Guardian's approval.

"Regarding your question as to the advisability of holding Baha'i meetings at a time coinciding with church meetings; the Guardian would advise the friends to avoid such a coincidence, as otherwise many church people may feel offended, and this may lead to unnecessary and even harmful misunderstandings and developments which may injure the Cause and affect its prestige in the eyes of the public. The friends should, under all circumstances, be careful not to arouse unnecessarily any feelings of religious antagonism."

MESSAGE TO LOCAL ASSEMBLIES

Mr. Siegfried Schopflocher, at the request of the National Spiritual Assembly, has furnished the following draft of the statement he reported to the Convention embodying his notes of the Guardian's message to the local Spiritual Assemblies.

"Since a few local Assemblies have incorporated, now is the time for others to offer, if they feel the urge to do so, property or real estate, no matter how small or humble it may be, in order to establish local endowments. At the present time the National endowments amount to two and a half millions, and for this reason local Assemblies should follow. It is preferred that these donations should not be labelled. It would be excellent to start with possibly some building, no matter how modest or humble, to have as meeting place (if the friends locally buy it and build it in the sense of designing it for Baha'i use) and establish local Archives, this will facilitate development and efficiency for a local Assembly when it owns its own property. In enlarging the subject, the Guardian said the friends must learn how to manage these so they will be able to help even the National property and in time Shoghi Effendi may establish Palestine branches for properties in Haifa for local Assemblies. The friends should learn how to manage. If an Assembly is poor and cannot keep it (the property) up they should present their petitions to the Authorities in order to be free from taxes. Shoghi Effendi wants to educate the friends to be a help rather than a liability."

THE AMERICAN BAHAI COMMUNITY BEGINS ITS TWOFOLD TASK

Beloved Friends:

In preceding issues of BAHAI NEWS you have received the Guardian's summons to undertake the Plan of teaching and Temple construction allotted to the seven years ending May, 1944. The schedule embodied in the current Annual Budget has been announced. The decision to place the first of the two necessary Temple contracts has been reported. On the side of teaching, the National Assembly has approved and authorized comprehensive recommendations made by the National Teaching Committee for placing pioneer teachers and traveling teachers in many new areas. An early conference with the chairman of the Inter-America Committee will lead to decisions concerning increased effort in other parts of the American continents. The American Baha'i community has begun its glorious mission.

Now the appeal is renewed that each and every American Baha'i awake to the vital importance of this Plan and become spiritually and otherwise active for its support and promotion. The inspirations and reinforcements will come as we step forward into the arena of action and responsibility. If we be sluggish and indifferent now, our acceptance of membership in the Baha'i community is no evidence of true faith.

How often the Master spoke of the humble ones of past ages who served the Cause of God, and of the people of power and capacity who, denying, came to naught! What assurance He gave that every faithful one can render mighty service!

Fortunate are those who can attend the Nineteen Day Feasts and other meetings held by the organized communities, since there the flame of devotion should kindle the brightest. Nevertheless, the smallest local group and likewise the isolated believers can be no less intimately allied to the moving spirit of the age if they but realize the joy of sharing in the sacred task.

For we have but made the beginning, and laid only the groundwork of the Plan. Its success in reality calls for the daily prayer, the daily consecration, the daily effort of all who bear the name of Baha'i. We are "perilously near" the time of cataclysm, as Shoghi Effendi informed us a few weeks ago. But far from accepting the attitude of fatalism, we should long for such ardent heroism as will overcome the general feeling among non-believers that the world is decadent by a more penetrating realization that the new age has already dawned.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.
MISS LIDIA ZAMENHOF IS GUEST OF AMERICAN BAHÁ'IS

On October 30 Miss Lidia Zamenhof, daughter of the distinguished founder of Esperanto, arrived in America as the guest of the National Spiritual Assembly. Miss Zamenhof's services to the Faith are well known. At many of the international gatherings of Esperantists she has expounded the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh, and her facility in the use of Esperanto has been devoted to the translation of a number of Bahá'í books into that language.

It is hoped that Miss Zamenhof may remain in America for the period of a year, and during that time visit a number of cities. The Esperantists rejoice in the fact that the Bahá'ís have made her visit possible. The Universal Auxiliary Language Committee of the N. S. A. and a special Committee appointed by the Esperantists, are cooperating with Miss Zamenhof in arranging her program.

Her first stay will be in New York. A public reception was held for her at the New York Bahá'í Center by the Assemblies of the New York Metropolitan District on Saturday, October 2.

The general plan is that in each city the Bahá'ís will hold a public reception for Miss Zamenhof as soon as possible after her arrival. She will conduct paid classes for teaching Esperanto under the auspices of the Esperantist groups. Before she leaves the city, the local Assembly is requested to arrange a public meeting with Miss Zamenhof as speaker, to which all Esperantists and those interested in the subject of an international auxiliary language should be especially invited. Other Bahá'í meetings featuring Miss Zamenhof can be arranged locally in consultation with her.

In honor of her visit, the National Assembly has printed a pamphlet containing Esperanto translations of a portion of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Tablet on the Seven Candles of Unity, and the text of Shoghi Effendi's The World of Faith. The edition has been placed in the hands of the Committee on Universal Auxiliary Language for free distribution through the Assemblies of the cities she visits. These Assemblies will be informed by the Committee as soon as Miss Zamenhof's program is arranged.

The American Bahá'ís deeply appreciate this opportunity to meet their distinguished and scholarly fellow-believer from Europe, and do everything possible to make her visit a joy to her and a great service to the Cause.

THE SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLE UNDERLYING THE BUDGET OF THE SEVEN-YEAR PLAN

Mr. Siegfried Schopflocher has been requested to contribute a statement based upon his remarks on the subject of the Fund at the last Convention, and the following statement is published with the request that the friends give it their careful attention.

Now is the time for the friends to understand the great spiritual principle underlying the special budget of the seven-year plan.

We have been accustomed to accept cycles of prosperity and depression which happen at regular intervals. If we consider the causes of depression, we find that they are caused by injustice, greed, and selfishness, the very cankers which are totally eradicated in the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh and which will produce a community entirely guided by justice, love and understanding, and most of all sacrifice. These are the guiding principles and the very foundation of a world community in contrast to our present-day conditions when war is not only possible but inevitable. Only when the funds in the form of taxes, contributions, tithes, or whatever they may be called, can be employed for the felicity of mankind, only then can we understand the wisdom in the Institution of the Bahá'í Funds.

In this respect we must consider the completion of the Temple ornamentation at Wilmette, this great symbol of our Faith, "the great silent Teacher" from which its dependencies will be born and which will bear witness to a humanity torn by strife and hatreds, that salvation, health and happiness is close at hand when depressions have given place to continuous happiness.

It is necessary to impress the friends with the importance of early and continuous contributions in order to insure the best and most economical execution of this, our most sacred obligation. To delay in this our great privilege and responsibility would mean to retard and prevent the commencement of similar constructions in other lands, especially in the country of the cradle of our Faith. Therefore as a token of our gratitude, and to the memory of 25,000 martyrs, will our dedication serve to hasten through our combined and undivided support the unfoldment of a world civilization. This Symbol, our "great silent Teacher" alone can convince an unguided humanity and instil a new hope and assurance of the Kingdom of God on earth. We are all aware of the effect this great Symbol will produce when completed, but the remarkable promises made by our gracious Master will only be fulfilled in its entirety when this Temple is completed.

How could the friends meet in 1944 to celebrate the close of the first Bahá'í century in an unfinished edifice, an unfulfilled spiritual obligation. From the point of view of the Guardian this is inconceivable.

We have experienced depressions but as vividly expressed by Shoghi Effendi we must not be deceived by momentary prosperity. This is the time to look for safe investments and what could be more secure than the Institution of the Greatest Name? This is an offering to God, a living proof of our Faith, demanded and accepted by Him, and no one either in Heaven or on earth can take it from us. This is an investment that we can trust, it will be with us on earth and become our crown in all the worlds to come. Let us start at once, the interests are its bounties and the dividends its blessings. Let us benefit by these bounties and blessings at this moment.

The Teaching Campaign is producing its fruits and must not be relaxed, may rather redoubled: $30,000 per year is required to establish the Cause in every state in the Union, every province in Canada and every republic in the Americas.

$30,000 for the maintenance of the Administrative Order in all its ramifications, including the upkeep of its Institutions. the Temple, its Summer Schools and its far-flung God-given Institutions.

$60,000 additional per year is needed to fulfill our sacred Temple obligation, a never re-occurring privilege started by our gracious Master during the pioneer age, and which will go down in history as an achievement and a last-
ing sign of this new and greatest civilization which will extend over a period of 500,000 years.

It follows that there must be a continuous flow of $4.00 per year for each believer during the next seven years, over and above the expense of Local requirements; Local Treasurers should work tirelessly towards this end to insure the continuous flow to the National Fund which amounts to a trifle over $3.00 per month on an average for each believer. However, great relief will come as a result of the teaching campaign which will produce a large number of enthusiastic supporters.

We appeal to the Local Assemblies through their Treasurers to bend all their energies toward this end. They must adopt modern methods to win the confidence of the friends, to keep them informed and well-posted regarding the status of the Local Fund, as to receipts, expenditures and disbursements. The friends should always be mindful that our beloved Guardian repeatedly assures us that all Funds, Local and National, are under his personal supervision. The National Assembly will keep the friends well informed at all times. There should never be a depression in Baha’i ranks, providing we submit to the principle of faith, love and justice as well as by the seal of sacrifice rendered in the true Baha’i spirit and the joy it implies.

"Is there any remover of difficulties save God?"

**ASSEMBLY ROLL**

The following changes of address have been reported since the list of local Secretaries was published:

- Baltimore, Md. Correct address, 28 S. Highland Ave.
- Evanston, Ill. New address, 823 Washington Street.
- Jersey City, N. J. New address, 41 Tonnelle Ave.
- Vancouver, B. C. New address, P. O. Box 744.

**ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS**


**IN MEMORIAM**

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It confereth the gift of everlasting life.—Baha’u’llah.

Cecil Carmody, New York.
Dr. Hettie West, Los Angeles.

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**MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY**

In continuance of its effort to contribute to the teaching work, the National Spiritual Assembly is carrying out the following schedule of meetings during the current Baha’i year. Public meetings and Baha’i conferences will be held in connection with those marked:

- Evanston, Ill. May 2 and 3, 1937.
- West Englewood, N. J. June 18, 19 and 20, 1937.
- West Englewood, N. J. December 10, 11 and 12, 1937.
- Evanston, Ill. April 26 and 27, 1938.

**PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

In order to cooperate with local Assemblies in maintaining a complete file of Baha’i literature, the Publishing Committee suggests that each Assembly which is in a position to carry and display at least one copy of each title make up a list of titles not now on hand and order these from the Committee. The Publishing Committee will be glad to extend credit for such special orders for a reasonable length of time.

The plan is that the copies of books and pamphlets kept in the complete file are to be used for display, in order to obtain orders, and therefore these copies should not be sold. In ordering books for this purpose, state that they are for the reference library. It is when books can be inspected that interest is aroused.

Local Librarians are reminded that a 25% discount is given on orders of $10.00 or more, but books listed as net can not be included for discount.

The *Memorial Services of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá on Mount Carmel*. The Committee has on hand a large number of these pamphlets and offers them at the nominal price of 12 copies for 10c while the supply lasts. It is suggested that Assemblies might very well order enough for each believer, in connection with the Anniversary of the Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá to be observed on November 28.

*Prayers and Meditations of Baha’u’llah*, translated by Shoghi Effendi. This new and vitally important work is in process of publication, and the publication date will be announced. Copies will be available this winter.

The *World Order of Baha’u’llah*, by Shoghi Effendi. The publication of the Guardian’s successive World Or-
order letters in book form will be undertaken as soon as possible. Meanwhile, the individual letters can be obtained in pamphlet form.

A Traveller’s Narrative, translated by Edward C. Bronson from the manuscript given to him by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. The believers are reminded of this significant work on the episode of the Bahá’í, which should be in every individual Bahá’í library.

The Bahá’í House of Worship, by Genevieve L. Coy. This is such an interesting introductory pamphlet on the Cause that Assemblies are urged to keep on hand a good supply at all times.

Bahá’í Catalog. A new, pocket-size catalog will be ready in a few weeks. Will Assemblies kindly report the quantity they will need.

WORLD ORDER MAGAZINE

The series of chapters by Alice Simmons Cox on The New Creation begun in the July issue are attracting wide attention as a scholarly and profound study of the teachings in relation to current thought.

Other recent contributors have been: Benjamin Schreidelman, Marion Holley, Ella C. Quant, Mary S. Hammond, Harry E. Ford, Dale S. Cole, Helen Campbell, Prof. Paul Peroff, David Hoffman, G. Townsheal, Orcella Rafter, Genevieve L. Coy, Prof. Ernest Pye, Ruby Lorraine Radford, H. M. Manji, Kenneth Christian, Maye Harvey Gift, Frances A. Kelsey, Horace Holley, Inez Greeven, Helen Inderlied and Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick.

Contributions are welcomed from believers and also from non-Bahá’ís who are moved by the spirit of the age and have knowledge and experience which adds to our power of understanding. The friends in other countries are particularly invited to send articles, to give the magazine a broad international character.

During the next few months will be published a series by Prof. Shook on Philosophy and Revelation, and a symposium entitled The World Outlook.

The magazine has also its distinct place in the general teaching effort. Local Assemblies, Regional Teaching Committees and individual believers who are active can make use of copies to bring the Cause to the attention of persons and liberal organizations not easily reached through public meetings.

With the steady rise of the Temple, the consolidation of the administrative order and on the other hand the increasing general troubles, World Order must be made an adequate and valuable organ of the Cause. To do so, the assistance and sustaining interest of the friends is vitally important.

The friends are informed that the title “World Order” has recently been protected by registration in the U. S. Patent Office.

BAHÁ’I YOUTH BULLETIN

The National Youth Committee is pleased to announce that beginning with the next issue, the Bahá’í Youth Bulletin will be published in New York City.

The October issue will contain reports of Summer School Sessions and a survey of Youth activities throughout the United States and Canada. In addition to this news, there will be a most interesting Editorial, and copy of the Guardian’s latest letter to the National Youth Committee.

Although limited in space to sixteen pages, the Bahá’í Youth Bulletin is filled with interesting reading not only for Bahá’ís, but for all those who are interested in the progress that Youth is making in this great work of helping to build the foundation for the New World Order.

The Bulletin is still ten cents per copy, forty cents per year, to subscribers in the United States. To foreign addresses, the price is fifteen cents per copy, fifty cents per year. Subscriptions may be sent to the new Business Manager, Mae Graves, 1767 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

Manuscripts may be sent to the Secretary of the National Youth Committee, Miss Zeah Holden, 48 Terrace Avenue, Allany, New York.

We expect to sell every one of the 1,000 copies of our October issue, so you’d better get busy with that subscription, if you haven’t already done so!

MARTHA ROOT’S TEACHING ACTIVITIES IN JAPAN

(Continued)

Leaving Tokyo I came to Kyoto. Mr. and Mrs. Tokojirm Torii met me. He is the great blind brother who received those two beautiful Tablets from ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. Mr. Torii is lovely like St. John and so is his wife. He has such great capacity and he has done solid, glorious foundation work. I felt his helpful influence in each city in Japan that I visited. He knows how to take responsibility; he is scholarly, a good speaker, a fluent Esperantist, and he is always smiling and pleasant.

Mr. Kikutarö Futaba (who was a university student in Tokyo in 1915 when I visited Japan first) came to Kyoto from his native city Toyohashi, to visit me for two days. He said to Mr. Torii (and these two friends have not had the joy of meeting each other for ten years) “Come and spend your summer vacation with me in Toyohashi, and I will help you in any way possible in your translation of ‘Hidden Words.’” This dear Fujitasan was the boy who said to Agnes and me in 1915: “Please excuse me that I always come the first one to the meeting and remain until the last one, but I’m so interested in the Bahá’í Teachings.”

There is a religious daily newspaper in Kyoto called Chugai Nippo... the only daily, purely religious newspaper in the world... with a circulation of fifty thousand. It is a newspaper of the Buddhists and its subscribers are Buddhists in Japan, China, in the States and Canada. The Bulletin is still ten cents per copy, forty cents per year, to subscribers in the United States. To foreign addresses, the price is fifteen cents per copy, forty cents per year. Subscriptions may be sent to the new Business Manager, Mae Graves, 1767 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

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MARTHA ROOT’S TEACHING ACTIVITIES IN JAPAN

(Continued)
a strong group established in Kobe. He brought a reporter from "Kobe Shim bun" who interviewed us about the Bahá’í Teachings and the newspaper photographer took our pictures. The article appeared June 24.

A beautiful Bahá’í young woman came three times to see me in Kobe as she is a friend of Miss Alexander, and was taught by Miss Alexander and her husband Mrs. Finch. I met several friends in Japan who asked for Mrs. Finch and wished to send her loving greetings.

I went over to Osaka one afternoon to call upon a friend of Mr. Torii, Mr. K. Nakamura one of the editors of "Osaka Mainichi". He has visited some of the newspaper editors of our country and is very scholarly and keen humanitarian. I gave him "Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era" in Japanese and we spoke of the Bahá’í Faith. The article they used in the English edition, June 24, did not say much about Bahá’í, but it did carry the statement "she is a Bahá’í". I do not know what the Japanese edition had. He invited in to our coffee party in the reception room of the newspaper another editor who took the interview in Japanese. It was also taken in Braille (The Japanese edition may have used an earlier article, for when I arrived in Yokohama one of their journalists was at the ship.)

This paper, the "Osaka Mainichi" in its morning and evening editions has a combined circulation of more than three and a half million copies daily and its sister paper (under the same ownership) published in Tokyo, the "Tokyo Nichi Nichi" has a circulation of two million four hundred thousand. Their Braille edition has a circulation of three thousand.

I invited eighteen Esperantists of Kobe and Osaka to my hotel in Kobe, to a lecture in Esperanto about the Bahá’í Teachings. Two French Esperantists from the "Lamotte Picquet" were also guests and I gave them a letter of introduction to Shoghi Effendi, for their ship will be stationed for a time at Haifa in the autumn. It is an immense help to any Bahá’í teacher working abroad to be a proficient Esperantist. I hope our Bahá’ís will study this auxiliary language when Lidija Zamenhof comes to the United States, then they will become excellent Esperantists, for Lidija is one of the very best Esperanto teachers and scholars in the whole world.

The day before I sailed Mr. and Mrs. Torii came to Kobe and stayed until my ship left. We were going to have a Bahá’í Conference, but Mr. Inouye's wife was very ill with appendicitis and he could not come, but we had a little gathering at the hotel, Bahá’ís and new souls. But lo, next forenoon at the ship all the Bahá’ís were together. Mr. Inouye came for half an hour, and down in my state-room we all had a prayer together and a few earnest words.

The Bahá’í Faith will illumine Japan. Agnes Alexander, the great apostle to Japan, is doing work as outstanding as the apostles of old. Her visit to our country will bring Japan and the United States closer. I hope you will see her and hear about Japan, and that you will read about Japan and that Bahá’u’lláh will wait into your hearts the "Guidance" to do some deed to bring "the Golden Age" of the Bahá’í Faith in Japan into a solid reality, and do it now.

As I sailed from Japan (after sending out from the ship one last article to those Japanese newspapers) I thought of the great Buddha in Japan and the Bahá’ís in establishing the New World Order in Japan. Shoghi Effendi has sent them such brave and tender instructions. Every country knows our Guardian never lets them go, he is helping every country. 'Abdu’l-Bahá sent nineteen Tablets to Japan and today we see they are beginning to bear rare and wonderful fruits.

ANNUAL REPORT

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the British Isles 1936-1937

The current year may justly be described as outstanding in the history of the Faith in this land. We have been conscious of a new and vital spirit within the community, and outward signs of its activity have not been lacking. Looking backward, over even so short a period, we may discern three stages in the general development. First an awakening among all the believers, second, a realization of community consciousness, fostered by, and co-incident with, the establishment of the Administrative Order, and thirdly the beginning of a wider and more effective teaching work.

The year began with an event of outstanding importance; the receipt of Shoghi Effendi’s general letter entitled "The Unfoldment of World Civilization," a copy of which was sent to every believer. To this, more than to any other outward cause, may be attributed the expansion of consciousness which has been apparent in the English Bahá’í community. Our attention was directed in a compelling manner to the wide and universal aspects of Bahá’u’lláh’s Revelation: we were given an indication of the course of history in the next few years, and were forced to realize the crucial necessity of building, firmly and steadily, the fabric of the New World Order in Great Britain. In this letter the Guardian called attention to two processes at work within society—one of disintegration affecting every phase of human life, and one of construction associated directly with the rise of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. Subsequent world shattering events have named but two, the abdication of Edward VIII with the consequent attacks upon the church, and the outbreak of war in Spain between the upholders of two social doctrines to whose alignment of forces the Guardian had already referred in a previous letter—bear striking testimony to the Guardian’s unerring perception, and in association with a host of other ills—strikes and lock-outs, civil disturbances, universal rearmament—confirm his dictum that humanity is now entering the outer fringe of the darkest period of its history. "The signs of impending convulsions and chaos can now be discerned, inasmuch as the prevailing order appeareth to be lamentably defective."

This clear analysis of the present world picture, followed in the second half of his letter by an intimation of the entrancing vision of ‘The Most Great Peace,’ aroused in the hearts of the friends a desire to play their part in the establishment of that great day. In this noble aim the National Spiritual Assembly provided initiative and leadership, and served as the channel for a flow of encouragement and guidance which constantly came from the Guardian. The activity, consolidation and strengthening of the National Spiritual Assembly has been one of the significant items of the year. Through the measures which it has initiated, the contact it has maintained with the community, the supervision it has exercised over the local Assemblies and isolated believers, and through much practical in the Bahá’í technique of consultation, it has won the confidence of the friends and acquired a valuable experience to be handed on to subsequent national bodies.

Early in the year a Teaching Bulletin was issued by the National
in August 1936, at Matlock, Bath. Its hopes, and a fresh spirit of fellowship and dedication was engendered and diffused throughout the country. The classes were of a high standard. It would be hard to overestimate the significance of this achievement in the development of the Faith in England, for it demanded and received the enthusiasm and full support of all the believers, it undoubtedly attracted Divine confirmation and stands as our first important national undertaking. The Guardian signified his pleasure at its success and sent the following message:—"The institution of the Summer School constitutes a vital and inseparable part of any teaching campaign, and as such ought to be given the full importance it deserves in the teaching plans and activities of the believers. It should be organized in such a way as to attract the attention of the non-believers to the Cause and thus become an effective medium for teaching." Plans are already complete for the second Summer School in August 1937.

In July 1936 the World Fellowship of Faiths held its second International Congress in London, the subject being "World Fellowship Through Religion." Representatives of all the leading Faiths were present and a session was allotted to each one. The Bahá'í paper, approved by Shoghi Effendi, was composed and read by Mr. Townshend. In introducing the Bahá'í session, the chairman, Sir Herbert Samuel, said in effect that if he were asked to say which of all the Faiths represented was the nearest to the aim of the Congress, he would reply the Bahá'í, for World fellowship and unity is the raison d'être of the Bahá'í Community. Mrs. Helen Bishop, Madame Orlova and Mr. St. Barbe Baker spoke for the Faith, and Mr. Hirst, of Leeds, made a plea for recognition of the Bahá'í principles.

Two important decisions of the National Spiritual Assembly made during the year are as follows:—One, reported in Bahá'í Journal number one and clarified in the following number, reads: "Individual believers must not communicate with persons of eminence in governmental or political circles, except through the National Spiritual Assembly." The second ruling delimited the area of jurisdiction of the London Spiritual Assembly to within a radius of twelve and a half miles of Charing Cross.

In January 1937, a convention of Bahá'í students was held in Paris. Six people attended from England and one of them read a paper.

A cable was sent to the American National Spiritual Assembly during the period of the floods in the Mississippi valley, expressing the sympathy of the British friends with America in this national disaster.

The following Committees of the National Spiritual Assembly have been working during the year:—Teaching; Reviewing; Contacts; Library; Summer School. The Reviewing Committee has approved a book on the Faith and some articles. The Contacts Committee is in close touch with the N.S.A. and sends literature to many people. The Library Committee has been appointed only recently but has succeeded in placing books in various public libraries. Mrs. George was appointed to maintain contact with the isolated believers, a service which is greatly appreciated by them.

Teaching

In April 1936 the following message was received from the Guardian:—"There is undoubtedly no higher call than that of bringing the Message to a world tormented and torn on every side by the forces of destructive materialism. It is for us to realize the full measure of the responsibility that has been laid upon our shoulders in this matter, and having attained full consciousness of our responsibility to unite in the discharge." Although teaching has never ceased and has been notable in certain instances such as Summer School and the work in Devonshire, it is realized that this year in England has been a period of internal consolidation, of gathering our energies, of investigating the most opportune fields and the most effective methods, of gaining experience and of preparing for efficient teaching work. The N.S.A. believes that one great factor not yet integrated into the scheme of national teaching, is the potentiality of every believer, no matter what his capacities or talents may be, to teach the Cause, and it strongly recommends that this matter should receive the deep and prayerful consideration of every follower of Bahá'u'lláh.

(To be concluded)
All-praise to the unity of God, and all-honor to Him, the sovereign Lord, the incomparable and all-glorious Ruler of the universe, Who, out of utter nothingness, hath created the reality of all things, Who, from naught, hath brought into being the most refined and subtle elements of His creation, and Who, rescuing His creatures from the abasements of remoteness and the perils of ultimate extinction, hath received them into the Kingdom of incorruptible glory. Nothing short of His all-encompassing grace, His all-pervading mercy, could have possibly achieved it. How could it, otherwise, have been possible for sheer nothingness to have acquired by itself the worthiness and capacity to emerge from its state of non-existence into the realm of being?—Baha'u'llah.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPIRITUAL POWER

The world has become a jungle dominated by the fierce monsters of collective social policy. Nothing in history compares to the force accumulated by certain nations on the material plane, nor to the aggressiveness of their avowed plans. All that militarism and national authority and financial resources can supply are at the disposal of these apocalyptic beasts.

Whether willingly or unwillingly, whether consciously or unconsciously, millions of human beings constitute the atoms of these monstrous powers, and by compulsory if not voluntary obedience supply the necessary factor of psychological life which projects the beasts from the realm of imagination into the arena of human experience.

Their savage roars compose the substance of the daily news; their attack and recoil is the visible history of these transitory years.

Aside from the indifferent or fearful attitude of other nations, aside from the aspiration of individuals made helpless by such collective turmoil, there is no other reality upon earth save the interposition of God's Power and Authority through Baha'u'llah. His Power reigns supreme, unaffected by human will raised in ignorance or opposition, but the visible evidences of His Power depend upon the conscious response of souls to the new Law of unity.

The Bahá'ís may be certain that in the world there are mighty hosts awaiting the hour of recognition when their greater powers will be added to our own. But meanwhile all Bahá'ís have their unique mission to fulfil. Ours is the privilege of disclosing in human life the true patterns of World Order which Baha'u'llah created in the world of the soul and spirit, ours to reflect the radiance of an inner joy, ours the task of spreading the Word and raising up the House of Worship which embodies the principle of The Most Great Peace.

May we not, one and all, rise to the heights of understanding, throw off any clinging veils of hesitation and doubt, and with the whole force of our beings become inspired, not merely with willingness, but with fiery determination to throw ourselves into the performance of the Seven-Year Plan. These apocalyptic beasts that ravage the world have no real power. Their apparent force is naught but the negation of faith in God. But that negation feeds upon our lack of faith, and the superior power of God requires consecrated souls through which to manifest the Victory.

The National Spiritual Assembly longs for evidences of that true faith which is synonymous with action in this world.
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HOLDS CONFERENCE AND PUBLIC MEETING

It was the privilege of the members of the National Spiritual Assembly to meet in conference with the Baha'is of Portland, Oregon and a number of other cities on Sunday, October 17, 1937. In addition to Portland, the cities represented were: Vancouver, Boise, Colorado Springs, Monroe, Everett, Seattle, Oakland, San Francisco and Los Angeles, not reckoning the cities from which the members of the National Assembly came to this conference.

The subject of the Seven-Year Plan was the topic of consultation, and its importance was stressed by a number of the friends. At five P. M. the Portland Assembly served a buffet supper attended by about fifty additional guests, persons especially invited because of their interest in the Cause.

A public meeting was held in the ballroom of Multnomah Hotel, Monday evening, October 18, on the subject of "The Need for World Unity." This meeting attracted an audience of about four hundred which filled the room. Mrs. Dorothy Baker spoke on "Cycles of Civilization" and Montfort Mills spoke on "The Goal of a New World Order." Horace Holley served as chairman of the meeting.

The business meetings of the N. S. A., held on October 16, 17 and 18, were the first held by the National Assembly in the Pacific Northwest.

IN MEMORIAM

Death profereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It confereth the gift of everlasting life—Baha'u'llah.

Mrs. Muriel Rucker, Toronto.
Mrs. Mary Arch, Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Edward Ruppers, Phoenix.
Mrs. Daisy G. Fry, Visalia.
Miss Avis Morris, San Francisco.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


ASSEMBLY ROLL

The following changes have been reported:

Nashville, Tenn., new address, Mrs. Elva H. Peebles, Secretary, 218 Rose Street.
Rochester, N. Y. Due to removals of several believers to other cities, the Spiritual Assembly no longer exists, and the believers now have the status of a local group.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

The following Committees have been appointed for the current Baha'i year in addition to those reported in the September issue:

Annual Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Baha
William deForge, Chairman.
Anthony Jochim.
Bertha L. Herklotz.

Ophelia B. Crum.
Mrs. E. B. Kinney.
Carl Krug.
Bernard B. Gottlieb.

Geyersville Summer School
John D. Bosch, Chairman.
Leroy C. Isos, Vice-Chairman.
N. F. Ward, Secretary, 2330 Rose Street, Berkeley, Calif.
George O. Latimer.
Mrs. Thomas Collins.
Mrs. Ella G. Cooper.
Ruth Westgate.
Siegfried Schopflocher.
Irvin Sommerhalder.

Geyersville Maintenance
George O. Latimer, Chairman.
Leroy C. Isos, Secretary, 640 46th Avenue, San Francisco, Calif.
John D. Bosch.
Mrs. Thomas Collins.
N. F. Ward.
H. R. Munson.

Lovelena Summer School
L. W. Eggleston, Chairman.
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Secretary, Olivet, Mich.
Mrs. Frank Baker.
Garretta Busey.
Edward Miessler.
Bishop Brown.

Malden House Maintenance
Victor Archambault, Chairman, 2 Pilgrim Road, Arlington Village, Arlington, Mass.
Mrs. Fred Morton.
Wendell Bacon.

Regional Teaching
California, Arizona and Nevada—Mrs. Sara Kenney unable to serve.
Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland—Mrs. Sutherland Maxwell added to the committee.

Temple Program
Dr. R. D. Pettet added. Mrs. Edward Lindstrom unable to serve.

BAHA'I MARRIAGE SERVICE
IN HOUSE OF WORSHIP

The question having arisen whether non-believers might use the Temple for a marriage service, the National Spiritual Assembly has recorded the following view: that the Temple can be used for a Baha'i marriage service by believers, and for a Baha'i marriage service by a believer and a non-believer, but that non-Baha'i marriage services should not be permitted, nor should the Temple be used for a Baha'i service by non-Baha'is.

MISS ZAMENHOF'S VISIT

Miss Lidia Zamenhof, whose visit as guest of the National Spiritual Assembly was reported in the last issue of Baha'i News, spoke on the subject of "Language and World Unity" at a meeting arranged by the Public Conference Committee of the New York Spiritual Assembly on November 21. These special meetings bring together Baha'is and non-Baha'i speakers on subjects of general public interest. The other speakers were Hon. Dave Heenen Morris, Ambassador to Belgium from 1933 to 1937, and Mrs. Morris. Mr. and Mrs. Morris have long been active in the cause of an international auxiliary language. Mountfort Mills presided at the meeting.

The Committee on Universal Auxiliary Language of the N. S. A. have been making plans for Miss Zamenhof to visit other cities after her Esperanto classes have finished in New York. Miss Zamenhof will go to Philadelphia about January first, and after some weeks there will probably proceed to Detroit.

As Miss Zamenhof wishes to hold Esperanto classes, and arrangements for them are made by Esperantists and not by the local Assemblies, her itinerary is worked out by joint consultation between a national Bahai and a national Esperanto committee.

Local Assemblies desiring information about the plans may write to the Chairman of the Committee on Universal Auxiliary Language, Mrs. Della Quinlan, 70 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, N. Y.

THE TEMPLE MODEL

Distribution has recently been made of the ten Temple models produced by
Mr. John J. Earley on order from the Temple Trustees. These replicas are about thirty inches high, and can be displayed very effectively on a table.

One model has been presented to Shoghi Effendi; one sent for permanent display in Temple Foundation Hall; two models are retained by the National Assembly for special exhibitions which may be arranged by National Committees or local Assemblies; one model has been purchased by both the New York and Chicago Assemblies; two models are being held on orders received from other local Assemblies; and one model is being offered with the compliments of the Temple Trustees to the Concrete Institute. This leaves only one final model which can be purchased by a local Assembly for $95 plus cost of shipment. If, however, the number of orders justifies it, additional models to a total of ten can be cast from the original molds.

This model is accurately scaled and carries a beautiful reproduction of the intricate scheme of external decoration, somewhat simplified as required by adjustment to the small scale. The National Spiritual Assembly trusts that these excellent replicas of the Mashriqu’l-Adhkar will contribute powerfully to public teaching during coming years. It should be possible to arrange for temporary displays in museums, libraries, universities and expositions, as well as in store windows under conditions preserving the dignity of the Faith.

**TEACHING CLASSES HELD AT THE TEMPLE**

The Temple Program Committee wishes to report that the class for believers on the subject of “Teaching and Teaching Methods,” conducted by the Temple Guide Committee on Thursday evenings, will during the winter months be held Sundays at 1:30 P.M.

The special attention of Bahá’í communities in the Temple area is called to this announcement.

**A BAHÁ’Í SUMMER SCHOOL IN THE SOUTH**

For more than a year, the National Spiritual Assembly has given consideration to the possibility of establishing a Summer (or Winter) School somewhere in the South, for serving the believers in that great region. Sooner or later a fourth Bahá’í School will certainly be required, and its program and general arrangements will no doubt be similar to those developed by the three Summer Schools already in existence, and likewise be conducted by a National Committee. At present, however, the National Assembly feels that the collective responsibilities of the American believers under the Seven-Year Plan makes it impossible to take any definite steps in the direction of a new Summer School at present. The believers throughout the Southern States are urged to concentrate their efforts on direct teaching, as all growth in our numbers in that area will hasten the time when such a School can be firmly established. Suggestions, however, will be welcome, as the National Assembly will require all possible information in order to base any future action upon thorough understanding of all relevant facts and possibilities.

**ILLUSTRATED TEMPLE LECTURES ATTRACT WIDE ATTENTION**

The Bahá’í Temple is one of the most powerful teachers of the Faith in America today. As the ornamentation of this unique religious edifice proceeds, it will become even more important as a teaching medium. In fact, teachers have found, as ‘Abdu’l-Bahá has promised that lectures on the Temple, particularly if illustrated, offer an extremely effective manner of presenting the Faith and its dynamic principles.

In order to make it possible for as many Assemblies and Individuals as possible to give illustrated lectures on the Temple, showing the progress of the construction work from the erection of the superstructure, the Teaching Committee has made available stereopticon slides of various views of the building work. This series includes slides of religious edifices of the past, which very often can be used in creating an ideal setting for the slides of the Bahá’í Temple. These slides can be secured from the Secretary of the Teaching Committee, Miss Charlotte Linfoot, 376 60th Street, Oakland, Calif., at a cost of 35 cents each. Orders should be made by numbers, rather than designation of the slides desired. Listed below are the slides now available. As the work on the ornamentation goes forward, additional slides will be made available, illustrating its further progress.

**Slides of Bahá’í Temple, Wilmette, Illinois—etc.**

1. Artist’s Drawing of Temple.
2. Plaster Paris Model of Temple—now in Foundation Hall.
3. Interior Decorative Scheme.
4. Floor Plan—main floor.
5. First Floor Exterior Decorative Scheme.
6. Second and Third Floor Exterior Window Decorative Scheme.
7. Artist’s Drawing of Entrance Door and one Facing.
8. Exterior View Completed Basement.
10. First Steel in Place.
11. First Floor in Concrete and Steel of second floor.
12. Steel Work.
15. Interior View of Completed Superstructure.
17. Aerial View of Completed Superstructure.
20. Wooden Replica of One-quarter of Dome (front view).
22. Carving the Models.
23. Mold Being Made from Model.
24. Casting Being Made.
25. Casting Being Lifted from Mold.
27. Reinforcing Steel for Each Casting.
30. Model of Rib.
31. Model of Base of Rib.
32. Model of Base of Rib, and Part of Rib.
33. Dome—Before Uniting of Ribs.
34. Distance View of Dome Before Uniting of Ribs.
35. Distance View of Completed Dome.
37. View of Temple—Showing Completed Clerestory and Dome.

60. Twelve Basic Bahá'í Principles.
61. American N. S. A.—at Base of Rib on Temple.
62. 'Abdu'l-Bahá.
63. Quartz Before Crushing.
64. Quartz Crusher.
65. Quartz After Crushing.
68. Making of Molds.
69. Making of Molds.
70. Model of Rib.
71. Model of Rib.
73. Interior of Hardening Chamber.
74. Concrete on First Floor.
75. Ruins Inca Temple—Bolivia.
76. Ruins Mayan Temple—Central America.
77. Ruins Aztec Temple—México.
78. Shiva Temple and Area—India.
79. Ruins Great Temple—Karnak, Egypt.
80. Parthenon (restored) Athens, Greece.
82. Golden Temple and Shrine, Burmah.
83. Temple of Heaven, Pekin.
84. Great Buddha, Japan.
85. Niko Temple, Japan.
86. Solomon's Temple in Herod's Time.
87. Cathedral at Amiens.
88. Church of St. Basil, Moscow.
89. Mosque of St. Sophia, Constantinople.
90. Kaaba, Mecca.
91. Mosque of Omar, Jerusalem.
92. The Alhambra, Spain.
93. Taj Mahal.
94. Bay of Haifa.
95. Ruins Great Temple—Karnak, Egypt.
96. Ruins Mayan Temple—Central America.
97. Making of Molds.
98. Model of Rib.
100. Ruins Inca Temple—Bolivia.
101. View of Temple—Showing Distance View of Completed Clerestory and Dome.
102. Ruins Inca Temple—Bolivia.
103. Ruins Mayan Temple—Central America.
104. Ruins Great Temple—Karnak, Egypt.
105. Parthenon (restored) Athens, Greece.
108. Temple of Heaven, Pekin.
110. Niko Temple, Japan.
111. Solomon's Temple in Herod's Time.
112. Cathedral at Amiens.
113. Church of St. Basil, Moscow.
114. Mosque of St. Sophia, Constantinople.
115. Kaaba, Mecca.
117. The Alhambra, Spain.
118. Taj Mahal.
119. Bay of Haifa.

**Havening created the world and all that is thereto and move within, He, through the direct operation of His unconstrained and sovereign Will, chose to confer upon man the unique distinction and capacity to know Him and to love Him—a capacity that must needs be regarded as the generating impulse and the primary purpose underlying the whole of creation. Upon the immensity of each and every created thing He hath shed the light of one of His names, and made it a recipient of the glory of one of His attributes. Upon the reality of man, however, He hath focussed the radiance of all His names and attributes, and made it a mirror of His own Self. Alone of all created things man hath been singled out for so great a favor, so enduring a bounty. —Bahá'u'lláh.**

**PUBLISHING COMMITTEE**

Catalog: The Publishing Committee has issued a new catalog, revised to October 1, 1937, in convenient pocket-size. Librarians should request a supply for local use.

*Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era*: The invaluable introductory work by J. E. Esslemont has recently been corrected and revised, and the new edition presents the subject of the Administrative Order in accordance with our present knowledge. The friends are reminded of the great usefulness of this book for teaching work. Paper-bound edition, $0.50.

*The Bahá'í World, VI*: This volume presents the international developments in the Faith from 1934 to 1936, and careful study of it is necessary for fulfilment of our spiritual world citizenship in the Faith. $3.00.

*Life Eternal*: This compilation on immortality and the spiritual life is most attractively printed and bound for use as a gift. $2.50.

**WORLD ORDER MAGAZINE**

The current (November) issue contains an Editorial on 'The Magnificent Opening of the New Era: The Laboratory of Life' by Louise D. Boyle; The fifth chapter in the New Creation, by Alice Simmons Cox; The Cultural Unity of the East, by V. B. Metta; 'Abdu'l-Bahá's teaching on The Types of Character; The New Frontier of Civilization, by Ralph Tyler Flewelling; Revelation, by Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick; The Seed of Civilization, Book Review, by Helen Inderlief; and Signs of the Times, by Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick.

The friends active in teaching are requested to appreciate the usefulness of the magazine as an important means of contact with inquirers. Among the special offers are, trial subscription at $1.00 for seven consecutive months, and seven copies of any one issue for $1.00. The magazine is edited to appeal to the public as well as directly to Bahá'ís. A periodical has a timely interest and a variety of contents which can awaken interest in ways not met by books and pamphlets. Fireside groups should have their attention called to the magazine, which can assist in deepening the knowledge and interest of those just beginning to attend Bahá'í meetings.
These energies with which the Day-Star of Divine bounty and Source of heavenly guidance hath endowed the reality of man lie, however, latent within him, even as the flame is hidden within the candle and the rays of light are potentially present in the lamp. The radiance of these energies may be obscured by worldly desires even as the light of the sun can be concealed beneath the dust and dross which cover the mirror. Neither the candle nor the lamp can be lighted through their own unaided efforts, nor can it ever be possible for the mirror to free itself from its dross. It is clear and evident that until a fire is kindled the lamp will never be ignited, and unless the dross is blotted out from the face of the mirror it can never represent the image of the sun nor reflect its light and glory.—Baha’u’llah.

**RADIO COMMITTEE**

The Radio Committee extends heartiest thanks to the friends who are sending in talks for general radio use. We cannot over-estimate the good uses of radio; every word goes out to unseen thousands who make up the Bahai world of tomorrow. More talks could be used. Fifteen-minute talks are preferred, and these should be five typed pages, double spaced. Those who cannot go out and teach may make a nation-wide contribution in this way. We hope to hear from many more. Address all talks to Mrs. Dorothy Baker, 615 W. Elm St., Lima, Ohio.

A few talks are listed below for immediate use. Further lists will appear from time to time.

1. A suggested series on World Order:
   - Political Unity for a World of Peace, by Marion Holley. (World Order, Dec., 1936.)
   - Poverty and Crime, by Helen Inderlied.
   - A World Language, by Agnes Alexander.
   - Unity in Religion, by Dorothy Baker. (World Order, Feb., 1937.)

2. Copies of the New York series on World Order may still be obtained.

3. A Progressive Revelation series will be reviewed and ready Nov. 1.

The series will include:
- Israel Speaks, by Dorothy Baker.
- Jesus, the Christ, by Allen Gorrell and Edmund Niessler.
- Ancient Oriental Prophecy, by Frank Warner.
- The Prophet of Arabia, by Charleen Warner.

- The Day of the Báb, by Dorothy Baker.
- Baha’u’lláh, the Glory of God. (Promulgation of Universal Peace, p. 22.)

It is suggested that this series be given without interruption.

4. The following are talks on spiritual topics, adapted to devotional hours, or for use with other series, or to be used alone:
   - How to Overcome Our Difficulties, by Ruth Moffett.
   - The Royal Road to Happiness in This New Day, by Ruth Moffett.
   - The Soul, Mind and Spirit of Man, by Elsa Blakeley.
   - Peace or Prejudice, by Alice Parker.
   - The Eternal Worlds, by Bahiyyih Lindstrom.
   - *A Narrative by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, by Elizabeth Cheney. (Story taken from Mysterious Forces of Civilization.)
   - The Uses of Prayer, by Dorothy Baker.
   - The Habit of Prayer, by Dorothy Baker.
   - Bible Prophecies, by Dorothy Baker.
   - Some general talks, well adapted to single presentations:
     - World Peace, by Ruhi Afrán.
     - The Divine Physician, by Mamie Seto.
     - Unity of Thought, by Harry Jay.
     - The Spirit of the Age, by Nina Matthison.
     - *'Abdu'l-Bahá and World Peace, by Nina Matthison.
     - The New World Order, by Lucy Heist.


7. True Survival (or Things in Reverse), by Helen Inderlied.


The talks so far listed are ready to be sent out in typed form. A minor charge of ten cents per talk will be made, to help defray the expenses. Orders may be placed through Mrs. Baker.

From time to time valuable suggestions come in which are helpful to all. Mr. Eugene Hilgert of Lima suggests that the friends adopt the talks of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to radio use, and recommends the following ones as well timed for fifteen-minute presentations, and covering a most interesting range of subjects:

- Wisdom of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, p. 18, 26 and 28 (combined) 30, 40, 48 and 51, 67, 75, 80, 93, 109, 117, 130, 136.
- Promulgation of Universal Peace, p. 2, 22, 36, 76, 90, 93, 118, 122, 125.

A few of these have been tried on the weekly programs in Lima with good results. It is suggested that the reading of these talks be preceded by a simple statement concerning their Author.

A suggestion has come in regarding the use of small stations. Large cities are often prohibitive in price and in censorship of material, whereas outlying stations which have more difficulty in filling their time, are disposed to welcome educational and devotional programs, provided that the material does not have the air of proselytizing. Visit your neighboring stations!

DOROTHY BAKER, RUTH BROWN, ELSIE AUSTIN.

*Adapted for use in commemorating 'Abdu'l-Bahá’s departure from America.*

**LOCAL RADIO ACTIVITIES**

The Spiritual Assembly of Vancouver has announced a series of Radio Talks and Fireside Discussions, Thursday evenings, 8:30 to 8:45, beginning October 7, over Station CKMO (1410 k.c.). The object as stated is to present the modern world and its problems viewed in the light of
those all-inclusive principles of World Order which are the aim and purpose of the Baha'i Faith.” The general title of the series is “The World at Home.” Eleven weekly titles are listed, such as “The Present World Crisis,” “War vs. International Cooperation,” “Order, a Law of Nature,” etc.

A most interesting aspect of this activity is the announcement that “following these talks, groups of interested people, gathered in private homes throughout the city, will discuss the subjects in an informal, though serious atmosphere in an effort to understand more of these challenging problems and the unifying forces at work to establish the World Order propounded by Baha'u'llah.”

A new element has thus been introduced into Fireside study groups, the result of which will be awaited with profound interest by the Assemblies of other cities.

The New York Assembly announces a series of three broadcasts over Station WQXR by Mountfort Mills on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, November 10, 11 and 12, from 3:45 to 4:00 P. M. The subjects are: “The World Crisis: Its Cause,” “The World Crisis: Its Cure,” and “The New World Order.” After each broadcast the invitation is made to attend a lecture by Mr. Mills at the Baha'i Center on Sunday, November 14.

This series will be followed by three more radio talks over the same station in January.

LOUHELEN SUMMER SCHOOL

The Louheilen Summer School Committee announce the following dates for next summer:

June 26-30 (incl.), Youth session.
July 3-7, Second Youth session.
July 10-19, Laboratory Course (for those of any age who wish to make an intensive study of the Baha’i Teachings and who wish practice in speaking and in making new contacts).
August 20-28, General session.

If there is a sufficient demand a third youth session will be held in August or early September.

This announcement is made now for the benefit of those who have to arrange their vacations early. The subjects and leaders of courses will be announced later.

INTER-AMERICA COMMITTEE

“While Mrs. F. B. Stewart was in Buenos Aires she interested Sra. de Garcia Rosell in the Baha’i teachings and gave her her names and address in Peru. As Sra. Rosell publishes a magazine, Universal, in Lima, it was easy to find her. She was just the person to gather together a select group of liberal thinking people and bring them to us, for a preparatory teaching. The first group met on July 10. My mother (Mrs. Stebbins), prepared a paper on ‘The Uneness of Mankind,’ while I wrote on ‘The Temple’ at Wilmette. Sra. Rosell’s son was able to translate our papers. The audience was composed of distinguished men and women: there were present engineers, business men, naval and military officers. After our papers had been read and translated the meeting was thrown open for discussion. The two things which interested them most were the idea of independent investigation of truth, and having no clergy. Our statements met with no opposition or criticism, and in so Catholic a country, this was remarkable, and showed the wisdom and care that Sra. Rosell had used in the selection of our audience. Our next meeting, a little later, was attended by the same twenty with a few additional people. My mother read a paper on ‘Security for a Failing World’ and I one on ‘Science and Religion.’ In spite of my foreign accent and lack of knowledge of the language I read it in Spanish and this was, I believe, more effective. We were unexpectedly called away from Lima and were obliged to leave the formation of a study group in Sra. Rosell’s hands. In the Fall I am planning to spend a month in Lima to perfect my Spanish and teach Sra. Rosell more about the writings of Baha’u’llah and ‘Abdu’l-Baha, as there is no doubt she will make a fine teacher and be of great help to us in spreading the Cause.”—(From report written by Isabel Stebbins Dodge.)

In Mexico City Miss Beatrice Irwin completed her work for the present. Her contribution has been most remarkable and without the aid of the Spanish language she managed to approach some of the most distinguished and important people of Mexico. A summary of her activities follows:

April 30 Miss Irwin gave an address on World Citizenship before the Masonic Lodges. There were five hundred people present. July 1, Miss Irwin lectured before the Institute of ‘Impersonal Life.’ This lecture was listened to by over one thousand people. A world broadcast was given on The Baha’i House of worship. August 4 an exhibit of Baha’i Literature was arranged at the Nat. University Summer School. Also in the chief book shop of the city for three weeks with splendid publicity. Again the American book store allowed the same exhibit to remain in the large window for three weeks. A class of ten students was organized and carried forward by Miss Irwin.

Mrs. Stewart’s short visit to Mexico City during the Musical Conference bore immense fruit for she left a well-organized class under the direction of Mr. Pedro Espinosa. This class will continue through the Winter, letters and questions will be directed to Mrs. Stewart and she will answer in Spanish, the class will read and study in this way and so remarkable is the interest aroused that we will surely have results.

It is necessary for the Inter-America Committee to have a good deal more Spanish Literature and this is now the next objective of the Committee’s work.

L. A. Mathews, Chairman.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

To Baha’i youth throughout the world

Dearest Baha’i friends:

Conceivably every energetic Baha’i youth of the world can steadfastly endure more of our tremendous and sacred task of spreading the Teachings among our fellow-youth. Pulled by the joy of it and impelled by the love of it, whole-heartedly persevering, why should we be concerned about the enormity of our “well-nigh staggering” responsibility when we know we are indeed superhuman enough to bear it... once we assume it!

The National Youth Committee is calling all Baha’i youth to unanimously arise as an international body to promote the Third Annual International Baha’i Youth Symposiums to be held Sunday, February 27, 1938. Symposium plans should be made now and every possible means should be used to publicize this event.

Every Baha’i youth group, “however humble, however inexperienced” is urged to hold a public Symposium on February 27 at which representative youth will discuss general, personal, and social aspects of the Teachings. All features of the same plan will be universally adopted, but the subjects may vary according to community interests.

Adhering to the same general steps of last year’s procedure, we have adopted the following plans:

1. General theme, “Humanity’s Coming of Age.”
2. Suggested Symposium topics:
   a. General—The Dauntbreakers.
   b. Personal application of the Teachings—
Let us discipline and exercise ourselves for this event. What should our scope be, both as individuals and members of our group? What can each of us and all of us do? Let us make our plans now, complete them at our mid-winter conferences, and may we reach our state of maximum effectiveness for February 27!

Faithfully yours,

National Youth Committee.

“THE EMANATIONS OF SPIRITUAL POWER”

So vast and significant an enterprise as the construction of the first Mashriqu’l-Adhikar of the World should be supported, not by the munificence of a few but by the joint contributions of the entire mass of the convinced followers of the Faith. It cannot be denied that the emanations of spiritual power and inspiration destined to radiate from the central Edifice of the Mashriqu’l-Adhikar will to a very large extent depend upon the range and variety of the contributing believers, as well as upon the nature and degree of self-denial and disinterested offerings that will be given. Moreover, we should, I feel, regard it as an axiom and guiding principle of Bahá’í administration that in the conduct of every specific Bahá’í activity, as different from undertakings of a humanitarian, philanthropic, or charitable character, which may in future be conducted under Bahá’í auspices, only those who have already identified themselves with the Faith and are regarded as its avowed and unreserved supporters should be invited to join and collaborate. For apart from the consideration of embarrassing complications which the association of non-believers in the financing of institutions of a strictly Bahá’í character may conceivably engender in the administration of the Bahá’í community of the future, it should be remembered that these specific Bahá’í institutions, which should be viewed in the light of Bahá’u’lláh’s gifts bestowed upon the world, can best function and most powerfully exert their influence in the world only if reared and maintained solely by the support of those who are fully conscious of, and are unreservedly submissive to, the claims inherent in the Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh. In cases, however, when a friend or sympathizer of the Faith eagerly insists on a monetary contribution for the promotion of the Faith, such gifts should be accepted and duly acknowledged by the elected representatives of the believers with the express understanding that they would be utilized by them only to reinforce that section of the Bahá’í Fund exclusively devoted to philanthropic or charitable purposes. For, as the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh extends in scope and in influence, and the resources of the Bahá’í communities correspondingly multiply, it will become increasingly desirable to differentiate between such departments of the Bahá’í treasury as minister to the needs of the world at large, and those that are specifically designed to promote the best interests of the Faith itself. From this apparent divorce between Bahá’í and humanitarian activities it must not, however, be inferred that the animating purpose of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh stands at variance with the aims and objects of the humanitarian and philanthropic institutions of the day. Nay, it should be realized by every judicious promoter of the Faith that at such an early stage in the evolution and crystallization of the Cause such discriminating and precautionary measures are inevitable and even necessary if the nascent institutions of the Faith are to emerge triumphant and unimpaired from the present welter of confused and often conflicting interests with which they are surrounded.—Shoghi Effendi, Bahá’í Administration, pp. 171-172.

And since there can be no tie of direct intercourse to bind the one true God with His creation, and no resemblance whatever can exist between the transcendent and the Eternal, the contingent and the Absolute, He hath ordained that in every age and dispensation a pure and stainless Soul be made manifest in the kingdoms of earth and heaven.—Bahá’u’lláh.

THE GRAVE OF THORNTON CHASE

On the afternoon of September 30, 1937, Bahá’ís from Los Angeles and Glendale met at the grave of Thornton Chase, “the first Bahá’í in America,” in Inglewood Cemetery, suburban to Los Angeles, California.

The Bahá’ís came together there to fulfill the command of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, the Center of the Covenant of God, to commemorate yearly, on the day of his departure, the passing of Mr. Chase. Those who knew Mr. Chase, of whom a number were present, have found
their love for him and their respect for his privileged position as the first American Bahá’í only deepened by the passing years, while others present knew and honored him by reputation.

The exact wording of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Tablet in regard to the friends visiting the grave is, in part, as follows:

“In short every year on the anniversary of the ascension of that blessed soul the friends must visit his tomb on the behalf of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, in utmost lowliness and humility, should with all respect lay on his grave wreaths of flowers and spend all the day in quiet prayer, while turning the face toward the Kingdom of Signs and mentioning and praising the attributes of that illustrious person.” (Translated by Shoghi Effendi.)

In compliance with the injunction of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, the friends brought beautiful flowers, which they not only put in the receptacles at the head and foot of the tomb, but also strewed over the marble tombstone, upon the surface of which the Greatest Name is engraved, together with a quotation especially written for the purpose by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, which is to the following effect: “This is the illuminated resting place of the holy soul Thornton Chase, who is shining in the horizon of eternal life ever like a star.”

The sunny September afternoon was warm and pleasant; and an airplane flew over head, as the Bahá’ís began to read from the remarks of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá regarding Mr. Chase and recited the prayer which He gave for Mr. Chase while standing beside the grave. All of the friends were offered an opportunity to read selections, some from Tablets about Mr. Chase and others from Mr. Chase’s own account of his visit to the Shrine of Bahá’u’lláh at ‘Akká, Palestine, and to the Tomb of the Bab at Haifa, and his own meeting with ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, on that same visit to the Holy Land. How and where (June 5, 1894, at Chicago, Illinois) Mr. Chase first heard of the Bahá’í Faith was told. Mrs. von Kirtley, formerly Mrs. Frank Beckett, produced a list of all that she could remember as having visited the grave with ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, September 19, 1912. (They were about nineteen in number, and included Mr. Beckett and herself.) Prayer was read for all the departed in the entire cemetery, and then the friends left for their homes spiritually strengthened and refreshed, a reflection of the condition of Mr. Chase, in joy in the realm of El-Abhá.

Had not ‘Abdu’l-Bahá said in this connection: “... for his spirit will be exhilarated through the loyalty of the friends, and in the world of God will it be happy. The friends of God must be kind to one another, whether it be in life or after death.” For Mr. Chase had died a firm Bahá’í; ‘Abdu’l-Bahá having written to him: “... a soul who is firm will be a Son of the Kingdom of God and will be confirmed with the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore I have named thee Thabet (firmness) and I supplicate and beseech the True One that, like an unshakable mountain, thou mayest remain firm in the Cause of God and that the whirlwind of tests imprint no effect upon thee. Nay, rather mayest thou become the cause of the firmness of others ...”

Los Angeles is a visiting point for tourists from all over the United States. Bahá’ís pass through the city, sometimes having but a day, or a half a day to spend before they depart. Were they made aware of the importance which ‘Abdu’l-Bahá attached to this grave, which this account endeavors to show, at least to a small extent, they possibly would like the bounty of visiting and praying there. Any member of the Los Angeles Bahá’í Community would feel it a privilege to go along and show them the way, or provide someone else, if unable to go personally.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá arrived in San Francisco, October 3, 1912, and it was there that He received the news that Thornton Chase had passed away in Los Angeles, just three days before.

SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHA’IS OF LOS ANGELES: By, WILLARD P. HATCH.

PILGRIMS’ NOTES

The National Spiritual Assembly will not in the future ask for the authentication of any pilgrim’s notes nor cooperate in their distribution but refer exclusively to the Guardian’s general communications to this body and the American believers for its source of information and guide of action.—Bahá’í Procedure, Section Four, Sheet 13.

ANNUAL REPORT

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the British Isles 1936-1937

(Concluded)

Early in the year Mr. and Mrs. Bishop came to England and in addition to working in London made a tour of various parts of the country, speaking to audiences gathered by resident Bahá’ís. They returned to Geneva in September. After examination of Mrs. Bishop’s report the National Spiritual Assembly wrote to Shoghi Effendi requesting her services for another year, a petition which the Guardian granted. Mrs. Bishop was
asked to go to Torquay, where in association with Mr. Tobey and Mrs. McKinley active work was begun. From December until April a constant and intense campaign was conducted, Mrs. Bishop speaking in churches, intellectual institutions and private homes. The result of this work was that three people declared themselves and were enrolled, while a large number were introduced to the Faith and the Teachings were widely spread in that district. Follow up work will be continued by the five believers now there, who are preparing themselves for intensive work with a view to enlarging the group into an Assembly.

In the work of the Spiritual Assemblies there is apparent at this end of the year, a different and more impressive method than could be seen at the beginning. In both London and Manchester the old type of teaching in wide generalizations has been succeeded by intensive and vital discussion groups.

In London, the removal of the centre to 46 Bloomsbury Street, made it necessary to conduct a more intimate type of meeting, similar to a fireside group. This has proved highly effective and large attendances are the rule. Fireside meetings have been conducted at various homes, and in Crouch End a group has been formed under the jurisdiction of the London Spiritual Assembly. This group recently rented the Hornsea Town Hall and conducted a well attended and successful public meeting. Plans are being made for a series of public lectures in Caxton Hall during May. London has enrolled seven new believers during the year.

In Manchester a new and vigorous spirit is at work. The Spiritual Assembly has taken a hall in the center of the city and is making full use of it. The Nineteen Day Feast has become firmly established in the community, and with an increased understanding of the Administrative Order, a new teaching programme is being undertaken. Two new believers have been enrolled.

The Baha'i Theatre Group may be mentioned under the heading of Teaching, for this group, organized and directed by Madame Orlova, has proved an effective means of attracting young people to the Faith and of giving them first hand experience of Baha'i consultation. At Naw-Ruz the group presented scenes from 'As You Like It' and is now working on a pageant of the 'Seven Valleys.'

In March 1937, Mr. Siegfried Schopflocher brought a message from the Guardian to the effect that he wishes us to stress two things:—humanity has come of age, and the appearance of Baha'u'llah. These are the two factors to resolve the modern "riddle of existence."

A small pamphlet was composed by the National Spiritual Assembly and five thousand copies printed, available at a penny each.

From the very beginning of the year the National Spiritual Assembly felt the need for literature printed in England, but owing to lack of resources the need remained unfilled. Shortly, however, circumstances arose with which all the friends are acquainted, which led to the decision to form a Publishing Company, for the purpose of publishing Baha'i books through an established printing house. In this project the National Spiritual Assembly was fully supported and encouraged by the Guardian, who sent £50 towards the Fund needed. The National Spiritual Assembly pledged and gave its full support, both moral and financial and sought the help of the friends. The response was immediate and generous, but only from a limited number. The N.S.A. is confident, however, that when the project itself, and the wide range of its probable results, are more fully understood, every believer will sacrifice for its success. With the permission of the Guardian, a circular letter was printed and sent throughout the Baha'i World, seeking the help of the world-wide Baha'i community. It is surely a symptom of the Almighty assistance of Baha'u'llah, that within the short space of one year, we should have successfully accomplished a national undertaking and embarked on another which bids fair to become international in scope. For Shoghi Effendi has likened the establishment of the Publishing Company to the building of the Temple in America and indicates that its success may "mark the inauguration of a new era of expansion of the Cause throughout the British Isles and the rest of the far-flung British Empire." At its last meeting the N.S.A. was advised that there was £153 in the Publishing Fund, which is sufficient to establish the Company legally with a limited capital liability of £100. Proper legal advice has been obtained and the N.S.A. has recorded its decision to register the Company as "The Baha'i Publishing Company Limited." Investigations are being made as to the most favourable method of associating the N.S.A. with the Company. It may be truly said that upon the progress of this plan, depends that expansion of the Teaching work which is now our chief duty to promote.

On March 29th the following cable was received from Haifa:—"Announce Assemblies celebration marriage beloved Guardian. Imperishable honour bestowed upon handmaid of Baha'u'llah Ruhiyyih Khanum Miss Mary Maxwell. Ziaiyih, Mother of Guardian." To this joyful news the National Spiritual Assembly, the Spiritual Assemblies of London and Manchester, and the Bournemouth Group, cabled their expressions of delight. The union of East and West, so dear to the Master's heart, has been cemented in his own Family.

During the year the National Spiritual Assembly has met twelve times; ten times in London, once in Manchester and once at Summer School. It was found necessary to purchase a typewriter for the secretarial work.

One of the greatest problems with which the N.S.A. has had to contend, has been the National Fund. Although this year, receipts are slightly in excess of expenses, it will be seen from the Treasurer's report how very limited are the funds at the disposal of the N.S.A. It is felt that the friends do not yet realize the importance of regular contribution to the Fund, or that it is a Baha'i Law, and not a principle... a command of Baha'u'llah.

This report would not be complete without some reference to the encouragement and guidance which has been received from the Guardian during the year. His constant message has been to persevere and teach the Cause. "Persevere and never feel disheartened." "Rest assured and persevere." "Now is the beginning of your work. And as in the beginning of every task, you are bound to meet all sorts of difficulties. The more you strive to overcome these, the greater will be your reward, and the nearer you will get to that glorious success which, as repeatedly promised by Baha'u'llah, must needs crown the efforts of all those who, whole-heartedly and with pure detachment, strive to work for the spread and establishment of His Cause." And lately these inspiring words to an individual believer, published with his permission. "The goal is clear, the path safe and certain, and the assurances of Baha'u'llah as to the eventual success of our efforts quite emphatic."

In comparison with the greatness and eventual destiny of the Faith of Baha'u'llah, the year may well seem to be of little significance. But in comparison with previous years, and remembering the difficulties which have been overcome both within and with-
out the Faith, and remembering too the smallness of our numbers, we can realize with gratitude the meaning of the Guardian’s words referring to “this auspicious stage in the evolution of the Faith” in England. The uniting of all the friends in an organic unity, the strengthening of the position and authority of the National Spiritual Assembly, the firm establishment of the Administrative Order, as attested by the Guardian, the publication of the Baha’i Journal, the inception of Summer School, the teaching campaign in Devonshire, the consolidation of the Faith in London and Manchester within the Administrative structure and the subsequent beginning of new teaching work in those centers, the initial success of the plan for the Publishing Company, the enthusiasm and active work of the London Youth Group—these are among the outstanding features of the ninety-third year of the Baha’i era in Great Britain.

“All-praise and glory be to God Who, through the power of His might, hath delivered His creation from the nakedness of non-existence, and clothed it with the mantle of life . . . O, how blessed the day when, aided by the grace and might of the one true God, man will have freed himself from the bondage of the world and all that is therein, and will have attained unto true and abiding rest beneath the shadow of the Tree of Knowledge.”

Faithfully,

In His Service,
National Spiritual Assembly.

by DAVID HOFMAN,
Secretary.

These Essences of Detachment, these resplendent Realities are the channels of God’s all-pervasive grace. Led by the light of unfailing guidance, and invested with supreme sovereignty, they are commissioned to use the inspiration of their words, the effusions of their infallible grace and the sanctifying breeze of their revelation for the cleansing of every longing heart and receptive spirit from the dross and dust of earthly cares and limitations. Then, and only then, will the Trust of God, latent in the reality of man, emerge as resplendent as the rising Orb of Divine Revelation from behind the veil of concealment, and implant the ensign of its revealed glory upon the summit of men’s hearts—Baha’w’llah.
'ABDU'L-BAHA'S PRAYER FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE DIVINE PLAN

O Thou Incomparable God! O Thou Lord of the Kingdom! These souls are Thy heavenly army. Assist them and, with the cohorts of the Supreme Concourse, make them victorious; so that each one of them may become like unto a regiment and conquer these countries through the love of God and the illumination of divine teachings.

O God! Be Thou their supporter and their helper, and in the wilderness, the mountain, the valley, the forests, the prairies and the seas, be Thou their confidant—so that they may cry out through the power of the Kingdom and the breath of the Holy Spirit!

Verily, Thou art the powerful, the mighty and the omnipotent, and Thou art the wise, the hearing and the seeing.

LETTERS FROM THE GUARDIAN

The Guardian feels most gratified over the splendid progress realized by the Temple Fund, though he still would urge your N. S. A. to impress upon the friends the paramount necessity of maintaining at any cost the steady flow of their offerings. This obviously calls for considerable sacrifice, but such a sacrifice is of the very essence of the Cause and is the only force that can enable it to carry out its ideas into the realm of constructive and living action.—October 30, 1937.

I am delighted with the progress of the Plan and I pray that the contributions to the National Treasury may be such as to lend unprecedented impetus to its development. (The Guardian's postscript to the above.)

"All Should Arise"

To this letter . . . I wish to add a few observations connected with the wider and more challenging issues with which the American believers as a body are now being confronted. As I lift up my gaze beyond the strain and stresses which a struggling Faith must necessarily experience, and view the wider scene which the indomitable will of the American Baha'i community is steadily unfolding, I can not but marvel at the range which the driving force of their ceaseless labors has acquired and the heights which the sublimity of their faith has attained. The outposts of a Faith, already persecuted in both Europe and Asia, are in the American continent steadily advancing, the visible symbols of its undoubted sovereignty are receiving fresh luster every day and its manifold institutions are driving their roots deeper and deeper into its soil. Blest and honored as none among its sister communities has been in recent years, preserved through the inscrutable dispensations of Divine Providence for a destiny which no mind can as yet imagine, such a community cannot for a moment afford to be content with or rest on the laurels it has so deservedly won. It must go on, continually go on, exploring fresh fields, scaling nobler heights, laying firmer foundations, shedding added splendor and achieving added renown in the service and for the glory of the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh. The seven year plan which it has sponsored and with which its destiny is so closely interwoven, must at all costs be prosecuted with increasing force and added consecration. All should arise and participate. Upon the measure of such a participation will no doubt depend the welfare and progress of those distant communities which are now battling for their emancipation. To such a priceless privilege the inheritors of the shining grace of Bahá'u'lláh cannot surely be indifferent. The American believers must gird up the loins of endeavor and step into the arena of service with such heroism as shall astound the entire Baha'i world. Let them be assured that my prayers will continue to be offered on their behalf.

—Shoghi Effendi

Postscript to letter dated November 25, 1937.

THE BAHÁ'Í VIEW OF PACIFISM

The following statement was written by the Guardian, through his secretary, to Mrs. Helen Bishop on November 21, 1935, and is now published with Shoghi Effendi's approval.

"With reference to the absolute pacifists, or conscientious objectors to war; their attitude, judged from the Baha'i standpoint, is quite anti-social and due to its exaltation of the individual conscience leads inevitably to disorder and chaos in society. Extreme pacifists are thus very close to the anarchists, in the sense that both of
these groups lay an undue emphasis on the rights and merits of the individual. The Baha’i conception of social life is essentially based on the subordination of the individual will to that of society. It neither suppresses the individual nor does it exalt him to the point of making him an anti-social creature, a menace to society. As in everything, it follows the ‘golden mean.’ The only way that society can function is for the minority to follow the will of the majority. “The other main objection to the conscientious objectors is that their method of establishing peace is too negative. Non-cooperation is too passive a philosophy to become an effective way for social reconstruction. Their refusal to bear arms can never establish peace. There should first be a spiritual revitalization which nothing, except the Cause of God, can effectively bring to every man’s heart.”

MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

The schedule of meetings published in a recent issue of Baha’i News has been revised as follows: December, 1937, meeting held at Chevy Chase, Md., instead of West Englewood; January, 1938, meeting to be held at Lima, Ohio, instead of New Orleans; place of March meeting to be determined.

The principal purpose of the change in the December meeting was to provide opportunity to visit the Earley Studio and observe the progress of work under the contract for external decoration of the Temple gallery section. About two hours were spent at the Studio, and the members were happy to note that the work is proceeding more rapidly than had been anticipated.

A considerable number of completed units are already on hand, for shipment to the Temple grounds next spring. The most delicate part of the work, the carving of the models, is also well under way. The plain surface of the gallery does not require this hand carving, and these units will be cast at the Temple site.

The members of the National Spiritual Assembly also inspected the system of cost accounting employed for this contract, a system adopted by the City of Nashville for a large contract carried out by Mr. Earley some years ago, and are satisfied that it is most efficient.

These passing months, when it is essential to complete the Annual Budget, are a time of sacrifice, but later in the year, when the gallery ornamentation is all in place, its impressive beauty will make the believers forget the difficulty of the task and fill us with a sense of joyous gratitude that we have been privileged to play some part in so universal and permanent an exposition of the Faith.

Later generations, thronging this House of Worship, will envy us the honor and blessing of raising the Mashriqu’l-Adhkar during a period of outer turmoil when sacrifice truly counts. For every seed we plant and cultivate now, the harvest will be increased a thousandfold!

“PRAYING FURTHER SUCCESS!”

“Delighted teaching progress. Praying further success” were the words of the Guardian to the National Assembly in response to the information given him that plans had been consummated to introduce the Faith into each State in the United States and each Province of Canada where there are no Baha’is, and to extend the teaching service in such states and provinces as do not have Spiritual Assemblies.

The Teaching Committee wishes it was possible to bring to the consciousness of each and every Baha’i in America, a full realization of the vital manner in which the American Baha’i Community is responding to the Guardian’s urgent appeal. A new wave of sustained and persevering service has been launched which will in due course bring us to the goal the Guardian has set for us. The victories being achieved are most heartening; and the doors of guidance opening ever new fields, most inspiring. There is no doubt, as we redouble our efforts, in this stupendous undertaking, the promises of the Master will be richly fulfilled and great spiritual confirmation reach each and every Baha’i.

It is possible to outline only briefly, a few of the varied activities being engaged in by the Assemblies and individuals through the country, and expanding to foreign shores.

Nebraska is the first State in which the Faith was introduced in response to the Guardian’s call for Pioneers a year ago. At that time, teaching work was done in Omaha and Lincoln. The seeds sown then, have been watered by continuous follow-up teaching, until at present there are ten voting Baha’is in Omaha, who plan to organize a Spiritual Assembly on April 21, 1938. They are holding regular meetings and study classes. In Lincoln with two voting Baha’is, a study class is being held regularly.

Oklahoma is the first State into which Baha’is migrated in response to the Guardian’s call. While some teaching work had been done in Oklahoma City, it did not produce voting Baha’is. Through the pioneering services of the Entzminger family, who moved from Geyersville, California to Oklahoma City about a year ago, there are now eight voting Baha’is, holding two study classes each week and conducting a children’s class weekly. The first Nineteen Day Feast, marking the beginning of the Administrative activities of this Group, was held September 27, 1937. As a result of the continued teaching work the members of the Group hope to be able to form a Spiritual Assembly on April 21, 1938.

North Dakota is another State into which Baha’is moved. Mrs. Margarite Breugger moved from Chicago to Fargo. There are now two voting Baha’is in Fargo. North Dakota was likewise the State to which Mrs. Mabel Ives and Mrs. Gale Woolson traveled last year to introduce the Faith. They assisted with the work in Fargo, and did public teaching work in Carrington and Glenfield. At present, Mrs. Woolson and Miss Margarite Reimer are doing follow-up work in these cities. The work will be further stimulated through the recent arrival of Mrs. Edwina Powell, who has been doing excellent work in Fargo, and through the joint efforts of herself and Mrs. Breugger, have expanded the work into Bismark.

Montana is another state into which the Faith has been introduced by the “settlement” method of teaching. Mrs. Lorrol O. Jackson, of Seattle, settled in Helena this fall; and is now actively

CABLEGRAM FROM SHOGHI EFFENDI

Hand Omnipotence removed archbreaker Baha’u’llah’s Covenant. His hopes shattered, his plottings frustrated, society his fellow-conspirators extinguished. God’s triumphant Faith forgives on, its unity unimpaired, its purity unsullied, its stability unshaken. Such death calls for neither exultation nor recrimination but evokes overwhelming pity so tragic downfall unparalleled in religious history.

Shoghi. Haifa, December 20, 1937.
engaged in establishing the Faith. Some of the best publicity secured this year, was had in Helena; where detailed articles concerning the Faith were published. The Principles were outlined, a picture of the Temple printed, and words of encouragement given. One article was headed, "Baha'i Faith to be introduced to this State." Great assistance was rendered in this city by friends, who gave letters of introduction to Mrs. Jackson, and urged their friends to attend the Baha'i classes.

South Carolina is the present field of activity of Mrs. Emogene Hoagg and Mrs. Amelia Bodmer. These two pioneers are making Charleston their headquarters, working in a circuit from that point. They will stay in South Carolina until there is an active Baha'i Group there.

South Dakota was the point of pioneer service last year on the part of Mrs. Maimie Seto and Miss Margarette Reimer. Study groups were established in Lead, Wall and Deadwood. Miss Margarette Reimer and Mrs. Gale Woolson will do active follow-up work in these cities during the present fall and winter.

West Virginia is another State into which pioneer Baha'is have moved. Miss Marion Holley has just arrived in Huntington to make her home, settle, and establish the Faith.

Mrs. Mabel Ives reports from Monton, New Brunswick, where she is teaching at present, a tremendous interest. She has spoken over the Radio, the newspapers have carried fine articles concerning the Faith; and there appears marked interest.

From Toronto comes the good word of the interest in the Faith in that city, through the sustained teaching work of the Toronto Group, now aided by Mrs. Grace Ober. Mrs. Ober has been in Toronto since early in October and will remain there until the end of the year.

Our pioneer teacher, Louis Gregory, has just left on a teaching trip through the South where he will renew contacts formerly made, and carry on follow-up teaching work in centers where he previously taught. His destination is Alabama, where he hopes to settle near Tuskegee and establish a Baha'i group.

Mrs. Louise Caswell of Portland has moved to Tennessee to assist in the teaching work in that State. Mrs. Caswell first went to Nashville to carry on the follow-up teaching work in that city, resulting from the public meetings held by the National Assembly last winter. This work has now spread to Knoxville and even to Chattanooga, Tennessee. Mrs. Caswell is dividing her time between these three cities to actively carry on the important follow-up teaching services.

Of great interest to the Baha'is will be the recent experience of Mrs. Loulie Matthews in endeavoring to place books in the Public Library of Manila. The cruiser on which Mrs. Matthews was traveling stopped in Manila only a few hours, giving her only a very short time in which to contact those concerned, and if possible have our literature available to the public. At the Library she learned it would be impossible to have the books placed in the Library without the approval of an important committee under the direction of prejudiced orthodox religious leaders. After many inquiries, Mrs. Matthews was finally directed to a gentleman who might place the books on a single shelf containing literature on comparative religions. The representative at first refused, without the approval of the general committee in charge, but finally agreed to place them among the books on comparative religions. After her return to America, Mrs. Matthews received a most inspiring letter from a native Filipino from which the following extracts are given:

"I have been reading the pamphlets you left on the free shelf for references. Really, the Baha'i movement is wonderful and is a new thing to me. Many had not heard of this Baha'i Religion ever before, until I told them about it. Some are interested and are eager to know the teachings... I wish I might contemplate devoting all my surplus time and energy to reading the books of this religion, perhaps you will help me. I am interested in seeing all Baha'i books translated into the Philippine dialects. I believe the Baha'i Religion will spread—it will spread—pop like popcorn, all over the Philippines, and it will replace the old religions."

Dear friends, the reports coming from all parts of the country show how greatly Baha'i faith is spreading and confirming the teaching work today. No blessing can be greater, and no spiritual quickening more powerful than that which comes to the individual who makes himself the channel for the diffusion of the Holy Spirit today. The confirmations truly seem uninterrupted. Let us one and all arise, assured of the spiritual victory—and achieve for America the spiritual destiny invested in it by the Master.

National Teaching Committee.

UNOCCUPIED STATES AND PROVINCES

The areas in the United States and Canada which had no Baha'i community, group nor even enrolled individual believer on May 1, 1937, have been reported by the National Teaching Committee as follows: Arkansas, Nevada, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, West Virginia, Alabama, Delaware, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Pioneers and traveling teachers have since gone to some of these areas, and it is hoped that before the end of the current Baha'i year the unoccupied territory will be considerably decreased.

ASSEMBLIES PLANNING LEGAL INCORPORATION

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes to remind all local Assemblies desiring to incorporate to submit copies of their proposed Certificate of Incorporation and their local By-laws together with a copy of the State Statute under which they intend to incorporate in order to facilitate approval of such action. The advice of a local attorney is recommended for the legal procedure of drafting the Certificate or Articles of Incorporation.

TRANSLITERATION OF BAHAI TERMS

The friends are requested to follow the Guardian's instruction concerning the use of Baha'i terms in accordance with the scheme of transliteration he prepared for publication in The Baha'i World. As given in Baha'i Administration, Shoghi Effendi's words on this subject, as long ago as 1923, were... "the faithful spelling of which
by all the Western friends will avoid confusion in future, and insure in this matter a uniformity which is greatly needed at present in all Bahá’í literature. . . . I feel confident that all the friends will from now on follow this system and adhere scrupulously and at all times to this code in all their writings."

The preparation of Bahá’í articles, committee reports, etc., should therefore employ the system of translocation which the Guardian has supplied.

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

The following appointments and revisions are reported:

_Bahá’í World, Editorial:_ Miss Hilda Brooks in place of Bertram Dewing, for Australia and New Zealand.

_Publicity:_ Mrs. Virginia Camelon added as new member.

_Green Acre (combining program and maintenance functions):_ Mrs. Florence Morton, chairman, Harold Bowman, Amelia Bowman, Mrs. Wendell Bacon, Roushan Wilkinson, Harlan Ober, Glenn L. Shook.


_Regional Teaching Committee for New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania:_ Genevieve L. Coy unable to serve.

_Youth Committee,_ revised list of International Correspondents: Salim Joory, P. O. Box 5, Baghdad, Iraq; C. S. Liu, Hanglok, Canton, China; A. Bahyusa, American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon; Haji Mirza Bazar, Amman, Jordan; Shamsir Ghaq Street, Shiraz, Iran; Mehrabam R. Jamshedy, Bahá’í Hall, Bund Road Extension, Karachi, India; Marguerite Welby, 6 Greveil Road, Richmond, Surrey, England; M. Hakim, Paris, France; Miss Dugdale, Herald of the South, Adelaide, South Australia.

**PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**

The last report about the contents of the National Press Books was published in _Bahá’í News_ in March, 1937. The new ones for 1937-38 contain the material from about April 15th on. A copy of last year’s Press book has been sent to Shoghi Effendi through the National Assembly, and the committee feels certain that its contents will be concrete evidence of the splendid work done by publicity committees and pioneer workers throughout the country. We would take this opportunity to say that some clippings arrived too late to be mentioned in the last report, such as the outstanding work done by the comparatively new assembly of Jacksonville, Florida; the almost full page article on the Temple and illustrations published in the Washington, D. C., _Post_ on March 7th; together with the tremendous amount of publicity received in connection with the anniversary event of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s arrival in this country. From this the friends will see how important it is that clippings are sent in regularly, at least once a month, and we especially ask traveling teachers to do this.

The Press Books this year are growing by leaps and bounds. Already we have clippings from 53 of the 71 Assemblies. Clippings representing pioneer work and places where there are no Assemblies have come to us from Glendale, Arizona; many cities in California; Fernandina, Florida; Maywood and Kankakee, Illinois; Elkhart, Indiana; Helena, Montana; Deadwood, Wall, Lead and Rapid City, South Dakota; Fargo, North Dakota; Scranton, Pennsylvania; Knoxville and Nashville, Tennessee; Corpus Christi, Texas; Richmond, Virginia; Huntington, West Virginia; Green Bay, Hudson and Three Lakes, Wisconsin.

Of the pioneer work listed above we would make special mention of the work done by Maywood, Illinois. From August, 1937 to November 18th inclusive, the picture of the Temple has been published five times. Lengthy articles about each of their lectures; a picture of Miss Zamenhof and articles about Esperanto and classes to be conducted. The small Temple models have been on display in numerous stores and one of the new models is to be on exhibition shortly in the display window of one of the newspaper offices. In Helena, Montana, Mrs. Lorrol Jackson has succeeded in having a picture of the Temple published and many excellent write-ups. The work done by the Dakotas has been especially fine. Publicity from Scranton, Pennsylvania, is particularly thrilling inasmuch as the talks were reported and so much of the direct teachings were given. Mrs. Kathryn Frankland in Corpus Christi, Texas, has done another remarkable piece of work. Pictures of the Temple were published twice and full one and two column articles about it and the Teachings.

Geyserville Summer School again obtained fine publicity as did Lohulen. It is such remarkably fine work when whole talks are printed in the papers. In Los Angeles a new publication called “Wilshire Friday Night” is giving the teachings much space. From Washington, D. C., came a full column article published in the _Eaton Plan Dealer_, in a “From the Reader” column on the eradication of prejudice, which is excellent. Augusta, Georgia, has done splendid work since April. Honolulu and Hawaii, in addition to other fine articles, through a press interview with the incomparable Bahá’í Journalist, Martha Root, obtained a two column article on Universal Peace and the principles. The national re-
leases on the publication of "Portals to Freedom" and review of "World Order" articles are also among their clippings.

Two unusual features on the Chicago pages are the account of the visit to the Temple by the heroine of the story which was running in the Chicago American. She said she was shown through the Temple by a "grand old man" and then she proceeds to give accurate information about the Temple and teachings. Then an article by Bruno Lessing on "Palestine's Seaports," published in the Herald Examiner is so interesting that we quote what he says in the last paragraph about our Faith: "Did you ever hear of the Baha'i? There is a bus service between Haifa and Mount Carmel which passes a large and beautiful garden, the home of the Baha'i. This is a Persian sect that started a new religion only fifty-three years ago. Its founder, Mirza Ali-Muhammed, declared himself to be the "Gateway through which mankind may renew its connection with Allah." His program was: 'One must lead an honest life without injury to any other human being, one must love one's fellowmen and strive to achieve goodness and humility and universal peace and happiness.' They told me that the sect was growing. Who can foretell how it will stand 2,000 years from now? Its founder was executed by the Persian government for being a big nuisance. Yet who would fail to agree with his creed?"

More and more the Temple is becoming a landmark to autocrats and travelers on land as well as on Lake Michigan. More and more is unsought publicity being given our Faith, bringing to mind 'Abdu'l-Baha's words in a tablet to Shahnaz Waite in 1914—"Consider the Power of the Cause of God that the outsiders like unto the friends are enraged in the promotion of the Cause of God and are glorying in this distinction, although they do not claim to be Baha'i.'"

Urbana we note is most successful in reporting talks. In the North Shore papers, among the many fine clippings is one about the dedication of the Temple grounds with an accompanying picture as well as other beautiful views of the Temple. The international section contains articles from Hungary, Italy, New Zealand, Ceylon, Shanghai and Mexico. We urge these international workers to send two copies of all publicity obtained. Teaneck has its usual quantity as well as quality of news items. New York's World Observer published a long article in connection with Baha'i World Volume VI, and an article about the Temple. Lima has turned in an outstanding amount of clippings. In a paid advertisement about 4x6 they have given various phases of the teachings with large headlines. Monroe, Washington, has also been most successful in getting the teachings published. We regret that space will not permit our mentioning the work of each publicity committee.

We are happy to note that clippings are coming in which show that the publicity chairmen are writing their own releases on the Holy Days as the National Assembly wish them to do. Those of you who think you can't do it will be surprised how easy it is, once you get started, for when we make the effort assistance is surely given. Not having to send out releases on these Holy Days gives this committee opportunity and funds to branch out in other directions.

To the traveling teachers, we wish to make the announcement that a series of articles on the Temple, the Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá and Shoghi Effendi have been prepared for your use and can be obtained from this committee in any quantity desired. This series will be supplemented from time to time.

Plans are being made to work up releases for contacting foreign language papers and any ideas the friends may have to pass on to us will be most appreciated.

Your attention is called to the article on the Temple, published in the October-November issue of Highways Traveler, the magazine of the Greyhound Bus Lines, together with pictures of the Temple as it now stands, a closeup of the dome and the interior of the dome. The article was printed exactly as we sent it in. These can be obtained in the bus depots throughout the country. The caption given the article by the editor is most striking "When Baha'i's Build a Temple" and in the index he states, "We have never seen the Taj Mahal but evidently those who believe in the Baha'i Faith are just about to duplicate this lovely structure with one near Chicago."

The committee would suggest that when writing articles for your papers that you endeavor to use as your first sentence something that the headline writer might pick up as a caption, in this way avoiding the possibility of some of the objectionable headlines which have been given to articles in the past.

Pictures and mats of Lida Zamenhof can be obtained from this committee.

Remember, please, to send 2 copies of all clippings to this committee. Send them the first of each month.

4612 Malden St.,
Chicago, Illinois.
November 24, 1937.

Publishing Committee
Prayers and Meditations By Bahá'u'lláh, translated by Shoghi Effendi. An advance notice is given of early publication of this supreme work of devotion for all Baha'is. The new volume will be issued in a style similar to the Gleanings, and in number of pages exceeds that book. The price has been set at $2.00 per copy. Since orders will be filled in the order they are received, those wishing copies at the earliest possible date should request their Assemblies to place advance orders.

The Báb's Address To the Letters of the Living. These sublime words, first published in The Dawn-Breakers, pp. 92-94, have been reproduced in pamphlet form from a hand-lettered copy of the English text translated by the Guardian. About 1700 copies have been sold since this pamphlet appeared a few weeks ago. 12 pages, per copy, 5c each.

Economics As Social Creation, by Horace Holley. The latest addition to the series of Teaching Literature pamphlets. 32 pages, sold in lots of 100 only. $1.75 per 100, net.

New Uniform Discount
After considering the fact that the Baha'i literature is being sold at prices considerably lower than the usual rate for books of similar quality and size, and consequently the discounts previously allowed have made it impossible for the Committee to develop an adequate financial reserve required by the growth of the Cause, the National Spiritual Assembly has instructed the Publishing Committee to allow in future only one discount—10% on orders of $10.00 and more—and to give this discount to all purchasers without discrimination, whether Assemblies, groups or individuals.

Youth Committee
To Baha'i youth throughout the world.

Dear Friends:

In a recent general letter, the Guardian discussed the "society-building" power of the Baha'i Faith. There is great significance for us in that phrase; for, as members of the world Baha'i community, we are striving, under the Guardian's leadership, to aid in the erection of World Order.

It naturally follows that every act of ours, which advances the Faith of
Bahá'u'lláh and consolidates the unity among men and women of all races and nations, is an act hastening the realization of the World Commonwealth of Bahá'u'lláh. Could we lend our efforts to any nobler and more universal service?

Two years ago the National Youth Committee proposed the holding of simultaneous Youth Symposiums as a demonstration of the loyalty and solidarity of Bahá'í youth throughout the world. Last year another series of Symposiums was held with even greater success. Now such an annual undertaking is viewed as one of the public teaching efforts of the younger members of the Bahá'í Community.

In many ways the annual Youth Symposiums are unique. They demonstrate a real bond of unity that is world-embracing. They are positive and constructive in a world seething with separatism and hatred. They are a public declaration of faith in Bahá'u'lláh.

And now the date, February 27, for the third World Youth Day nears. Let us prayerfully and carefully make our plans for this third world-wide effort of Bahá'í youth. Through many such acts as these may the time be hastened when the majority of the people will have recognized in the Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh the source and structure of true civilization.

NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE
December 15, 1937.

ANNOUNCEMENT
WESTERN STATES BAHÁ'Í SUMMER SCHOOL TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION
Bosch Place, Geyserville, California
July 3 to July 18, 1938

Devotion: 9:15 a. m. daily, under Big Tree.
Unity Feast: The Annual Reunion of the Friends and their Guests 12:00 noon, Sunday, July 3rd.
Classes: 9:45 a. m. to 12:00 noon, daily, in Bahá'í Hall.
Teaching Seminar: 3:00 p. m. each Tuesday and Thursday.
Round Table: (Bahá'í Youth) 2:00 p. m. each Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
Children's Activities: Study Classes 9:45 a. m. daily.
Supervised Recreation afternoon and evening.
Public Meetings: Bahá'í Hall, Geyserville 8:00 p. m. Tuesday, July 5th.
Santa Rosa, 8:00 p. m. Thursday, July 7th.
Babá's Hall, Geyserville, 8:00 p. m. Tuesday, July 12th. — Youth.
Babá's Hall, Geyserville, 8:00 p. m. Thursday, July 14th.

Courses of Study: First Week:
1. The Unfoldment of World Civilization.
2. The Unfoldment of World Civilization.
Second Week: 1. New Movements Within Christianity.
2. The Unfoldment of World Civilization.
(The classes will be conducted by Bahá'í teachers.)

Accommodations: Reservations for accommodations in the Dormitory and other rooms in the property should be made early through:
Miss Ruth Westgate,
The Huntington, 1075 California St.
San Francisco, California.

ASSEMBLY ROLL
St. Augustine, Fla., the corresponding secretary, C. Mae Thitchenor, should now be addressed as Mrs. R. A. Speissegger.
Montreal, Quebec, until further notice, on account of the absence of the corresponding secretary, communications for the Assembly should be sent to Mrs. Ruth Lee, secretary, 2682 Soissons Ave.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


IN MEMORIAM
Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life. Bahá'u'lláh.
Mrs. Harriet Storeman, Peoria.
Dr. James Oakshette, Atlanta.
Mr. F. A. Kelsey, New York.
Mrs. Myrta Deming, Flint.
Mr. Fred Leopold, Racine.
Mr. Charles Mann, Baltimore.

N. S. A. MEETINGS AT WASHINGTON

It was the privilege of the members of the National Spiritual Assembly to meet jointly with the Washington Assembly on Sunday evening, December 12, after which they attended the Nineteen Day Feast observed by the Washington community. Sharing the radiant spirit of the friends, these meetings were most refreshing and helpful.

On Saturday noon the members attended a luncheon at the home of C. Mason Remey, at which a number of interested non-believers were present.
Aspects of the teachings were expounded, and it was felt that many of the new friends were attracted.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

The following items have been taken from successive issues of "Baha'i Quarterly," the organ of the National Spiritual Assembly of Australia and New Zealand.

Formation of New Assembly

It was a source of joy to the N. S. A. to receive notification from the Bahá'ís of Perth, Western Australia, of their desire to form a Spiritual Assembly. This was done prior to the N. S. A. meetings in Adelaide. The opportunity was taken while members were assembled to assist the teaching work already being done by local Bahá'ís. Mrs. Axford and Miss Blundell of Auckland, New Zealand, Mrs. Routh of Sydney and Mr. Guy Inman spoke at public and semi-public meetings during their stay in Adelaide. Mrs. Axford and Miss Blundell had the pleasure of contacting a few of the Bahá'ís of Melbourne as they passed through that city and also the joy and privilege of associating again with the Sydney Bahá'ís. Mrs. Axford was sent on a teaching mission to the newly formed Assembly at Perth. A very hearty welcome was accorded her and meetings were arranged as frequently as possible during her two weeks stay. Most of the meetings were held at the home of the secretary, Mrs. Miller. Mr. Johnson, the chairman, and their other members of the Assembly all opened their homes for meetings, and in this way the message was given to a large number of people to whom it was no more than a name. A special study of Bahá'í Administration was undertaken in the short time available and interesting individual contacts made. Reports received since the visit are very encouraging. The zeal and enthusiasm, the sincerity and deep sense of the privilege of active participation for the beloved Cause is very marked in this small but united group and will surely bear abundant fruit.

Visit of Mr. Schopflocher

In November of last year the Bahá'ís of Auckland, Sydney and Adelaide had the great pleasure of a visit from Mr. Siegfried Schopflocher, a member of the N. S. A. of U. S. A. and Canada. Some of the Auckland members met him on arrival and arranged for an informal meeting the same evening as he was leaving Auckland the same day. A very happy and profitable time was spent with him, taking the form chiefly of questions and answers. In Sydney and Adelaide Mr. Schopflocher was able to address public meetings as well as meetings with the Spiritual Assembly. In an address to the latter in Sydney Mr.
Schöpflocher expressed his deep joy at finding, throughout Australia and New Zealand, the real spirit of unity and true Bahá'í love and friendship. He stressed the need of fostering the community spirit through properly organized socials as the test of Bahá'ís was their capacity to associate together in love and harmony. This phase of Bahá'í life, he said, could not be over-emphasized. Other points stressed were:

1. The benefits gained by observing the Fast.
2. The need of the N. S. A. to gain the confidence of believers and the duty of local assemblies and all believers to support and obey its rulings.
3. The enormous value of summer schools, the primary object of which is that of a school—Teaching.
4. The importance of registration.
5. The need of understanding in dealing with problems as to voting membership.
6. The importance of the Nineteen Day Feast.

Mr. Schöpflocher paid a visit to Mr. Bolton's newly-erected house at Yeerinbool, which Mr. Bolton wishes to be used as a Summer School when arrangements can be made for this much-desired project. The friends appreciate greatly the valuable work Mr. Schöpflocher was able to accomplish in so short a time, and hope for a longer visit in the near future.

**Secretary's Annual Report**

It is a great pleasure to report that all the committees and officers have given the utmost co-operation to the N.S.A. and that all the business has been conducted in a most efficient manner. The N.S.A. cannot function efficiently without the co-operation of all the officers, not only of the N.S.A. itself, but of the officers of the local Spiritual Assemblies as well. The secretaries and treasurers and other officers of the various local assemblies have been simply splendid, whatever the N.S.A. required them to do was done efficiently and the N.S.A. is tremendously grateful to them for their part in enabling it to function smoothly.

In administering the affairs of the Cause and in exercising the powers vested in it the N.S.A. has made great progress in the past twelve months. The N.S.A. is fast becoming the administrative body it is meant to be. The N.S.A. is profoundly grateful to the believers for their expressions of loyalty and their co-operation. . . .

The clerical work is most arduous, owing to the fact that, except once a year, when the N.S.A. meets, all consultations must be conducted by correspondence. It is because this work is so tremendous that the N.S.A. has requested local assemblies to make all their communications in triplicate. If letters to the N.S.A. are not sent in triplicate, the Secretary has the extra work of making copies so that a copy may be sent to the N.S.A. members wherever they may reside. The N.S.A., therefore, is very grateful to the secretaries of the local assemblies for acceding to their request.

The N.S.A. has endeavored by every means in its power to discharge its responsibilities and to exercise the powers vested in it in order that things may be properly ordered and well arranged. Abdül-Bahá said, “It is incumbent upon every one not to take any step without consulting the Spiritual Assembly, and they must assuredly obey with heart and soul its bidding and be submissive unto it, that things may be properly ordered and well arranged. Otherwise every person will act independently and after his own judgment, will follow his own desire, and do harm to the Cause.”

The N.S.A. has striven to keep a vigilant eye on the affairs of the Cause. Shoghi Effendi said, “The need for the centralization of authority in the National Spiritual Assembly, and the concentration of power in the various local assemblies, is made manifest when we reflect that the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh is still in its age of tender growth and in a stage of transition. It is our primary task to keep the most vigilant eye on the manner and character of its growth.” This the N.S.A. has tried to do.

**Hilda Brooks**, Secretary, N.S.A.

**Annual Election**

The result of the voting was handed by the scrutineers to the chairman who declared the following elected to the N.S.A. for the coming year:

- Miss H. Brooks
- Mrs. E. M. Axford
- Miss E. A. Blundell
- Mrs. S. Jackman
- Mr. R. Brown
- Mr. S. W. Bolton
- Mr. T. Dowson
- Miss M. B. Stevenson
- Mr. O. A. Whitaker

**MartHA Root in Japan**

*Photograph taken in Kyoto, June 20, 1937*

**MartHA Root in China**

*Photograph taken in Shanghai, July 1, 1937*
LETTER FROM THE GUARDIAN

Concerning the problem of increasing the number of delegates at the Annual Bahá'í Convention; the Guardian wishes me to reaffirm the message he cabled to the N. S. A. a few days ago stressing the necessity of revising the basis of the national elections at this and subsequent conventions. He is convinced that the expansion of the American Bahá'í Community, involving the increase in the number of its Assemblies and other administrative institutions, necessitates a similar increase in the size of the electoral body responsible for the election of the N. S. A. It is obviously unfair and mathematically impossible to apportion ninety-five delegates among the seventy or more Assemblies already instituted. The principle of proportional representation governing the election of Convention delegates therefore can no longer operate, and unless a definite increase in the number of representatives is made the election of the N. S. A. itself would cease to rest on a secure foundation.

The advantage which such an increase presents is to broaden the basis of the N. S. A. by making it a truly representative body, and thus heighten the confidence of the believers in its authority. The National Assembly, being the highest administrative body within a country, is in absolute need of the full trust of the believers, who have the right as well as the obligation to see that the body under whose jurisdiction they serve should be a truly representative body.

In view of these considerations the Guardian feels that the time has come to revise the basis of the present representation at the Convention, by raising the number of the delegates from 95 to 171, which number represents nine times nineteen.

The question of the added expense and strain which this increase in the number of delegates entails can be solved by having those delegates who cannot afford to pay the expenses of the trip send their votes by mail. Aside from that, no financial consideration is of any importance when compared to so vital an issue as that of Convention representation which admittedly affects the very welfare and future growth of the Cause.

The Guardian wishes me to convey to your Assembly his deep appreciation of their gift of the Temple model which, he hopes, will reach him in good condition, and which he plans to fit in a place that would be accessible to both the Bahá'ís and non-Bahá'í visitors.—November 25, 1937.

“NOW IS THE TIME”

Letter from the National Spiritual Assembly

Beloved Friends:

In the Tablet revealed on April 8, 1916, inaugurating the mighty Plan by which the Faith is to be spread from America throughout the world, 'Abdu'l-Bahá declared: “Therefore, now is the time that you may divest yourselves from the garment of attachment to this phenomenal realm, be wholly severed from the physical world, become angels of heaven and travel and teach through all these regions.”

The Cause of Bahá'u'lláh has survived in America and increased in power and capacity during all these years solely because many Bahá'ís have, to some degree at least, attained the station of inward obedience to the Master’s assurance. For in effect He promised that the time has come when it would at last be possible to achieve the inward, spiritual condition requisite to service in the Faith of God.

The whole trend of human events since that date has been a violent,
forceful and involuntary pressure upon the human soul to abandon reliance upon the material reality and seek the realm of spirit. War and revolution, hunger, disease and death have constituted the instruments through which the Truth has demonstrated its resistless might to them who could not or would not heed its gentle plea. The same Will which voiced the supreme pean of love in that passage beginning: "Release yourselves, O nightingales of God," has likewise ordained dire suffering and the overthrow of civilization if the majority of men remain deaf and blind. The true believer and the unbeliever live physically side by side in this material world, but while the believer stands in the garden of blessed assurance, the unbeliever bows as before a raging storm.

These are the considerations which the National Spiritual Assembly feels should be uppermost in the minds of the friends at this hour. How to animate the body of the Cause with unswerving conviction, steadfast assurance and the blessedness of severance from the movements of the ego—this is the first, the supreme issue the American Bahá'í community is called upon to meet and solve.

The seven Year Plan is not self-operating. No scheme can be devised in the name of religion which can promote universal ideals by selfish, fearful and self-centered hearts. Every task given the Bahá'ís is for our own purification and spiritual reinforcement. Its blessed results for the world mean that the task has found workers imbued with motives raised high above the level of the worldly.

Any individual believer, and any community of believers, remaining aloof and indifferent to the Plan intended to unify and concentrate our souls and our resources is not walking upon the path that leads to inner success. The nature of fire is to burn. The nature of faith is to strive—strive endlessly and without discouragement—at the simultaneous spiritual and objective task. Where there is no striving there is no faith. No man can await the moment when he becomes perfect enough to serve the Cause of God. The intention of service is the only perfection human beings can ever attain. Has not the Master assured us over and over that knowledge comes as the result of loving the Teachings, that eloquence comes as the result of loving to convey the Truth, that courage comes as the result of upholding the Faith in an unbelieving world? No one is denied the superhuman results of faith, whether by poverty, lack of education or lack of social influence, but any one who is deprived has deprived himself.

What the National Spiritual Assembly longs to witness is a deepening of the inner life of the individual believers throughout the land. A number of communities give no evidence of the power of unity which is the fusion of the state of faith within the individual believer. Does any believer really wish to deprive himself of the blessing derived from participation in the most important task ever given to the American Bahá'ís? We may be ill, but the Cause is health; we may be poor, but the Cause is wealth; we may be downcast, but the Cause is joy; we may be dispirited, but the Cause is the source of life.

Can we not, therefore, in the spirit of real humility, turn back to the fundamental issues of the life of faith on earth and begin more consciously to demonstrate the reality of our acceptance of His Call? If we have attended meetings in an attitude of indifference or complaint, can we not feel a responsibility to bring enthusiasm and radiance? If our service has principally been one of objection and criticism, can we not bring loyalty and cooperation?

A Bahá'í community, large or small, is intended to be a garden, planted by the divine Gardener, revealing its blooms and releasing its fragrance to those lost in the arid desert of the world. These blooms and that fragrance reveal the presence of faith and consecration. Without them, a Bahá'í community is but a new name for the unredeemed waste of the desert itself. By the linking up of all the Bahá'í communities of East and West, the new World Order is to be attained. In that World Order lies the healing of all human ills.

These swiftly passing years write indelibly the story of our lives in the Day of God. Either that story will be one of faith or of unfaith. It will be one of service or one of impotence and stagnation. No one else can dictate to us the record of our inner life, for outer circumstance never restricts the motives of the soul. "Announce unto yourselves the joyful tidings: 'He Who is the Best-Beloved is come! He hath crowned Himself with the glory of God's Revelation, and hath unlocked to the face of men the doors of His ancient Paradise.'"

"IT MUST GO ON; CONTINUALLY GO ON"

The spirit increasingly animating the American believers is summed up in the quotation above from the Guardian's recent letter to the National Spiritual Assembly. More and more the Friends are realizing the need for intensification of their efforts in the short time left us to accomplish the goal set before us. While the momentum of our teaching services is gaining, is carrying the Faith ever wider and wider, yet we all must agree, the efforts most of us are putting forth, are not yet in keeping with the high standard desired by the Guardian. Let us keep ever before us, these dynamic calls of the Guardian, so that each and everyone of us, to the extent possible, may arise, that the outposts of our Beloved Faith, already persecuted in Europe and Asia, may in America steadily advance, adding new luster to the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh.

The Teaching Committee wishes it were possible to bring to each and every Bahá'Í in America, a full consciousness of the almost unbelievable manner in which the Confirmations of the Holy Spirit are reaching those actively serving in this pioneer work. Reports from one end of the country to the other carry account after account of the manner in which doors are opening, and the teaching work confirmed. In not one instance of the efforts to introduce the Faith into virgin territory, there has been failure; and in most instances the results are truly astonishing. Where are those souls who leaving their home ties will go forward as pioneers of the New Day of God, and through sacrifice become the media for the quickening power of the Word of God for struggling humanity today? Greater numbers of inspired souls must arise if we are to carry knowledge of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh to every state in the United States, every province of Canada, and every Republic of Central and South America before May 23, 1944.

The outposts of the Faith have been extended, since the reports published in the January Baha'i News, into Wyoming, North Carolina, and Nevada; while in States having Spiritual Assemblies, the Faith has been introduced into new cities, in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and Celina, Ohio. Miss Ruth McDowell, of Chicago, spent approximately one month in Laramie and Cheyenne, Wyoming. Despite severe weather, and numerous obstacles which had to be met and overcome, a series of public meetings were held in Laramie and Cheyenne, displays of Bahá'í literature held, and a detailed broadcast concerning the
Faith made from the largest station in the Inter-Mountain Territory, from Greeley, Colorado. As a result of these sacrificial services of Mrs. Moffett, assisted so capably by the Lily-whites of Laramie there is now an active study class in Laramie and an inquirers' group in Cheyenne.

Mrs. Edna Johnson and Mrs. Oni Finks of Los Angeles, are now in Las Vegas, Nevada, actively teaching the Faith. Mrs. Finks visited Las Vegas early in December, doing "follow up" work with the interested ones left there by Mrs. Terah Smith last spring. The reports indicate active interest in the Faith, and it is hoped an enthusiastic study class will be established.

Just now Mrs. Terah Smith, with Miss Marguerite Reimer and in Raleigh, North Carolina, working diligently to establish the Faith. Insufficient time has elapsed since their arrival to know the results of this teaching effort, but it will be shared with the Friends in subsequent statements in the Baha'i News.

The Spiritual Assembly of Lima, Ohio, carrying out the plan of the National Assembly that each Spiritual Assembly introduce the Faith in a new city this year, has conducted a series of public meetings in Celina, Ohio. A study class has been formed and is being actively followed up by the Friends in Lima.

The Binghamton, New York Assembly, has undertaken the establishment of the Faith in Scranton, Pennsylvania. A lecturer in popular psychology friendly to the Faith, has turned her classes over to the Baha'i Teachers. Assisting the Binghamton friends, was Mr. Harlan Ober; and now Mr. and Mrs. Howard Ives. Mrs. Ives has conducted a series of public lectures, and it is interesting to note that the attendance increased as the lectures proceeded. Lectures have been given before other organizations and group meetings organized by interested ones.

Miss Marguerite Reimer, and Mrs. Gale Woolson, as reported in the January Baha'i News, spent six weeks in North and South Dakota doing "follow-up" work, and teaching in new cities. This trip covered 4,500 miles by automobile; over 33 lectures given; the Faith introduced into four new cities; the study class in Lead, South Dakota, strengthened with five new members; and a class left in Huron, South Dakota. Of outstanding interest is the fact that many lectures were given in schools and colleges. At Spearfish, South Dakota, for instance, a lecture was given before the student body of the Black Hills Teachers College; attended by 175 students, 25 members of the faculty, and 2 clergymen. Free literature was distributed to those present; while a photograph of the Temple, exhibited on the Bulletin Board for a week, was placed in the collection of famous art and architectural pictures of the School. One of the clergymen present entitled his sermon the following Sunday, "Christ and Baha'u'llah," reading to his congregation from the pamphlet "Principles of the Baha'i Faith." The other clergymen present invited our two youthful teachers to speak to the Episcopal League and then to the entire congregation at the evening service. When questions were asked after the services, and some seemed antagonistic, this minister assisted by saying, "I am satisfied with Christianity, but not with Christians. If this is right, we want to know about it."

The Dakotas seem to be responding to the influence of the spirit released through the teachers who have visited those States. Mrs. Margarite Breugger is now teaching in Fargo, Bismarck, Valley City, and Northwood, North Dakota. The following quotation from one of her recent reports, will prove of intense interest to all the Friends:

"I think the greatest confirmation I have had thus far happened in Bismarck. After I had finished speaking at one of our meetings, one of the ladies came to me and almost insisted that I met Governor Longer. She said she would gladly arrange it. Needless to say it was the most extraordinary reception I ever experienced in presenting the Message. The Governor not only listened intently, but gave the impression that he was glimpsing a new world; a world he could not comprehend, perhaps, yet felt was real. The following evening he called me on the phone, asking if he might call, as he wanted to hear more about the New World Order. He came and we talked solidly for two hours."

Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Ober have been most active in spreading the Message. Mrs. Ober's services in Toronto were outstanding, even to the extent of attracting new souls to the Faith, so it may be possible for the Toronto friends to organize into a Spiritual Assembly in April of this year. Mrs. Ober is now in Louisville, Kentucky, where she will be present for some time, to renew the teaching work in that important city. Mr. Ober visited Binghamton, Syracuse, Ithaca, New York; Scranton, Pa.; Toronto, Canada, and a number of cities in northern Michigan.

Louis Gregory is now at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, where many doors are opening for the spread and establishment of the Faith. A few extracts from recent reports will convey the manner in which the work is going forward. "The President of Tuskegee has twice invited me to his home, the second time for a dinner conference which lasted two hours. At the close he warmly shook hands and said it was a very helpful message." "The chief assistant to the Chaplain, a Baptist clergyman, has done wonders to help, even leaving me in charge of his pulpit while away, with freedom to give the Message." "During the meetings, the Y.M.C.A. Secretary, who had the Esslemont Book and accepts the message, prayed a most eloquent prayer of thankfulness for 'the New Star of Bethlehem that has arisen.'" "Passing by a home one day I was called by a lady student who had heard a Baha'i lecture in one of the classes. 'Come in and meet my husband, Prof. Otis, who is head of the Agricultural Department.' This led to an impromptu meeting; and also led to a lecture today before the Agricultural Department. Now we have started two regular weekly meetings and are hoping for another. There appears to be a considerable number more than superficially interested." "I feel that the Most High, Baha'u'llah, who has showered so many signs of His Blessings on this famous community, is now willing to give them a further blessing of Divine Knowledge and spiritual outpouring."

One of the most outstanding exam-
Tales of the divine confirmations is the manner in which the Faith has found deep roots in Moncton, New Brunswick. Twelve have signified their acceptance of the Faith by sending in the usual registration cards. A regular class of 25 is being held, while children’s class is held each week. Following the intensive teaching work of Mabel Ives and Rosemary Sala, Mrs. Dorothy Baker is spending the month of February in Moncton, to assist the friends in their deepening processes in the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. The following extracts from letter from the first new Bahá’í of Moncton, Mr. W. F. Byrne, will indicate how deeply the spirit has touched these new souls—

"I am the first declared Bahá’í in this district, and am very proud of it. . . . This Faith is the biggest and grandest thing that has ever entered my life, something which I had been in search of for twenty long years; and I, indeed, feel it an honor to be associated with this great work. Words cannot describe how I feel about it, but perhaps when I tell you I intend to dedicate my life to this noble Cause, you will more readily understand than any words I might use."

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL BAHAI CONVENTION 1938

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Springfield, Massachusetts1
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Detroit, Michigan         3
Plint, Michigan           1
Lansing, Michigan         1
Muskegan, Michigan        2
Minneapolis, Minnesota    1
St. Paul, Minnesota       1
Kansas City, Missouri     1
Jersey City, New Jersey   1
Monclair, New Jersey      2
Newark, New Jersey        2
Teaneck, New Jersey       5
Binghamton, New York      2
Buffalo, New York         1
Geneva, New York          1
New York, New York        17
Yorkers, New York         1
Cincinnati, Ohio          4
Cleveland, Ohio           1
Columbus, Ohio            1
Dayton, Ohio              4
Lima, Ohio                1
Toledo, Ohio              1
Portland, Oregon          3
Philadelphia, Pa.         2
Pittsburgh, Pa.           1
Nashville, Tennessee      1
Monroe, Washington        3
Seattle, Washington       3
Spokane, Washington       1
Kenosha, Wisconsin        3
Milwaukee, Wisconsin      11
Racine, Wisconsin         3

Day of the Covenant Observed by New York Bahá’í Community, November 28, 1937

RADIO COMMITTEE

Too often in our travels we hear the words, “I have never heard of your Faith.” Could a nation-wide radio effort lift the veil of obscurity still hovering over some of the areas of this continent? Figures lead us to believe that it could. In the United States and Canada there are 741 radio stations. It is estimated that there are about 24,414,300 radio families in all.

The Radio Committee suggests a plan, approved by the National Spiritual Assembly, for carrying on, under the supervision of the Regional Committees, a canvass of radio stations with a view to initiating regular and sustained radio efforts everywhere. Regional secretaries are invited to write to the committee (care Mrs. Dorothy Baker, 615 W. Elm St., Lima, Ohio), for lists of stations and operators in their areas, and for talks ready for distribution. A thorough canvass of stations may reveal many stations, which, like Monson, Mass., and Lima, are happy to accept, free of charge, educational and devotional material for unfiled time on the air.

In addition to the thirty talks listed in December Baha'i News and the 1937 New York series, the following talks are offered: “The Principles of the Bahá’í Faith,” “The Law of the New Day,” “Once Again God.” Four hundred and fifty talks have been sent out to twenty cities, and some splendid reports have come in from individuals and groups.
"CERTAIN VITAL REQUIREMENTS"

"The Seven Year Plan, with which the immediate fortunes of the American Bahá’í community are so closely intertwined, demands, at this critical stage in its development, serious and prayerful consideration of certain vital requirements, without which such a stupendous task can never be brought to a successful completion. The evolution of the Plan imposes a three-fold obligation, which all individual believers, all local Assemblies, as well as the National Assembly itself, must respectively recognize and conscientiously fulfill. Each and every believer, undaunted by the uncertainties, the perils and the financial stringency afflicting the nation, must arise and ensure, to the full measure of his or her capacity, that continuous and abundant flow of funds into the national Treasury, on which the successful prosecution of the Plan must chiefly depend. Upon the local Assemblies, whose special function and high privilege is to facilitate the admission of new believers into the community, and thereby stimulate the infusion of fresh blood into its organic institutions, a duty no less binding in institution devolves. To them I wish particularly to appeal, at this present hour, when the call of God is being raised throughout the length and breadth of both continents in the New World, to desist from insisting too rigidly on the minor observances and beliefs, which might prove a stumbling block in the way of any sincere applicant, whose eager desire is to enlist under the banner of Bahá’u’lláh. While conscientiously adhering to the fundamental qualifications already laid down, the members of each and every Assembly should endeavor, by their patience, their love, their tact and wisdom to nurse, subsequent to his admission, the new-comer into Bahá’í maturity, and win him over gradually to the unreserved acceptance of whatever has been ordained in the teachings. As to the National Assembly, whose inescapable responsibility is to guard the integrity, coordinate the activities, and stimulate the life, of the entire community, its chief concern at the present moment should be to anxiously deliberate on how best to enable both individual believers and local Assemblies to fulfill their respective tasks. Through their repeated appeals, through their readiness to dispel all misunderstandings and remove all obstacles, through the example of their lives, and their unrelaxing vigilance, their high sense of justice, their humility, consecration and courage, they must demonstrate to those whom they represent their capacity to play their part in the progress of the Plan in which they, no less than the rest of the community, are involved. May the all-conquering Spirit of Bahá’u’lláh be so infused into each component part of this harmoniously functioning System as to enable it to contribute its proper share to the consummation of the Plan."—Your true brother, Shoghi. (January 30, 1938)

From the same letter, in the portion written by the Guardian through his secretary, the following excerpts are published for the information of the believers:

"The Temple model prepared by Mr. Earley which you had shipped to Haifa has been received in good condition, and will be placed shortly in the International Bahá’í Archives on Mt. Carmel for the benefit of all the visitors."

In reply to a question concerning the authority to approve a bust of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá: "He feels that for the present neither he nor the National and local Assemblies should take any action by laying down any regulation in this matter. Individuals should be left free to exercise their discretion and act as they deem best."

"All those believers who are talented in music and desire to make some contributions along this line should be encouraged and advised to send their musical contributions to the Editorial Committee of The Bahá’í World for reproduction in that book."

"In conclusion the Guardian wishes me to express his satisfaction at the progress which the Seven Year Plan is making as a result of the cooperation, energy, selflessness and perseverance displayed by the entire body of the American believers. He is continually praying that their efforts for the consummation of this two-fold task may be blessed and crowned with complete success."

ASSEMBLY ROLL

Springfield, Illinois, the new address of the Secretary, Mrs. Anna K. Jurgens, is 1136 North 4th Street.

ELECTION OF NEW ASSEMBLIES

The National Spiritual Assembly has authorized the election of a local Spiritual Assembly on April 21 by the Bahá’í groups resident in the following cities: Sacramento, Calif., Grand...

The love and best wishes of the American Bahá’í community will surely flow out to these believers on the occasion of the election on April 21.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


IN MEMORIAM

Death proffereth unto everyone confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It confereth the gift of everlasting life—Bahá’u’lláh.

Mrs. Laura L. Drum, Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Elizabeth Stein, Lima.
J. B. Gordon Hall, Fernandina.
James Coe (former member of Racine Bahá’í community).

A BAHÁ’Í GUEST FROM TİHRAN

Mrs. Bahiyyih Hakim, whose father is a member of the National Assembly of Iran, and whose husband, Dr. Lotfíllah Hakim, is a member of the Spiritual Assembly of Tihran, arrived at New York on March 15 from Paris. Mrs. Hakim will spend some weeks in America, and in addition to New York will probably proceed to Chicago and see the Temple. It is most gratifying to receive this visit from a fellow-Bahá’í of Iran.

AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS

The American believers are informed of the following amendment to the By-Laws of the N. S. A., duly adopted at the meeting held February 19 and 20, 1938:

"Resolved, that in accordance with the instructions given by Shoghi Effendi in his letter to this body dated November 25, 1937, to the effect that the number of delegates at the Annual Convention number 171 instead of 95, Article VIII of the By-laws be amended by striking out the word ‘Ninety-five’ in the second sentence of said Article, and substitute therefor the words ‘one hundred seventy-one.’"

PRESS BOOK REPORT

March 14th: Since the last Press Book report, written November 24th, many clippings have been added to the Press Books.

Phoenix, Arizona have, in addition to their many clippings, sent in an article written by Willard Hatch which was published by Par, a monthly magazine. They have also branched out into Coolidge, Arizona, this year where they did some splendid publicity work, and an article on the Youth Symposium was received from them published in El Imperial, a Spanish paper.

Mrs. French in Pasadena, is still having wonderful results with her column the ‘Loon of Reality.’ A thousand copies of her recent contribution ‘Our Intellectual and Spiritual Heritage’ was reprinted by the Lambda Sigma Pi Society and widely distributed.

Santa Paula, California, has sent in very newsy clippings. Los Angeles and San Francisco have kept up their usual activity in the publicity field. Miami, Florida, still sends in their fine educational articles which are published in a Forum column. Maywood, Illinois, is still doing outstanding work. The Evanston News-Index recently published a picture of the Temple taken by their own staff photographer, with the caption ‘Towering Bahá’í’ "Wilmette Life," among its regular write-ups published a picture of the new model of the Temple. Gertrude Struven reports that in 52 weeks, 55 notices have appeared in the Wilmette Life, Winnetka Talk and Glencoe News which includes regular notices of weekly Sunday lectures, and in addition other articles and an editorial praising the Bahá’ís’ honorable character; and a letter about the Temple from a school child visitor. Many photographs were also used, some as cover designs.

The international section contains an amazing amount of clippings sent in by Martha Root from India, where long articles on the Faith were printed in the Rangoon Times; the Ceylon Daily News and others. On February 4th, a radio talk captioned ‘American Journalist’s Experiences in Shanghai’ given by Martha was published in The Hyderabad Bulletin.

From Baltimore, Maryland, the clippings are outstanding because they give so much of the teachings. Muskegon, Michigan, is another city using the Forum Column successfully. Doris Holliday, of the comparatively new Omaha, Nebraska, group has done some splendid work in a series of articles in The Omaha Guide some of which she has written herself.

Mr. C. H. Pettit of Bucyrus, Ohio, very tactfully answered an article in a forum column, headed "What is to Become of Us?" and suggested that the Esslemont book be read. He later placed a notice in a News Flash column to the effect that after reading the Esslemont book, to read "Some Answered Questions." The evening of its publication the book, Answered Questions, was taken out of the public library.

Elsie Miller in Dayton is having unusually splendid success this year with the Forum columns. Lima publicity is also most outstanding this year. A paid advertisement has been run an-
nouncing the subject and speaker and in addition a quotation from the Teachings.

In the Pittsburgh Courier, an attack on the Cause by Dr. DuBois was answered most effectively by the National Assembly, thus giving the Faith some very favorable publicity. From Moncton, New Brunswick, we have a deluge of clippings covering the period of Mabel Ives' work from October 18th to December 14th and Dorothy Baker's work in February. There is every indication that the group will continue this fine work. From Scranton, Pa., comes numerous outstanding clippings as more evidence of Mabel Ives' splendid work. An attack on the Cause, labeling it as Communist, was answered by Mrs. and Mrs. Ives in a masterful manner.

Louise Caswell's work in Tennessee shows persistent effort. Kathryn Frankland has interested the editors of the Daily Voice in Corpus Christi, Texas, in publishing the "Goal of the New World Order" by Shoghi Effendi, in a series. Practically all releases sent out by Baha'i News Service have been published verbatim by this paper. Lorrol Jackson in Helena, Montana, continues to send in well-written clippings of all her activities. Clippings received from Ruth Moffett's activities come from Fremont, Ohio; Grand Rapids, Michigan; Kankakee, Maywood and Oak Park, Illinois; Springfield and Kansas City, Missouri; Topeka, Kansas; Laramie and Cheyenne, Wyoming as well as from cities where there are Assemblies.

Chelan, Washington, was successful in getting the entire release of December 25th published in their paper. Madison, Wisconsin, while still a group, have been successful this year in publicity work. Racine, Wisconsin, has pages showing results of continuous and persistent effort.

The visit of Lidia Zamenhof to this country has brought the Cause some nice publicity. An article headed "High Priestess of the Esperantists" was syndicated by Seven Arts Feature Syndicate and sent out to about 100 Jewish papers. One paragraph of the article was devoted to the Baha'i Faith.

BAHA'I NEWS SERVICE COMMITTEE
NINA MATTHISEN, Chairman
VIRGINIA CAMELON, Edna Eastman
C. W. La Rocque

RADIO COMMITTEE
We have recently received from Mrs. Wendell Bacon of Monson, Mass., an encouraging report of radio work, delivered Jan. 24-29, in Springfield, Mass. Six talks given in daily series attracted wide attention, and inquiries are still coming in to the Monson and Springfield friends from Chester, West Springfield, Westfield, Three Rivers and Palmer. Newspapers have been unusually cooperative. The talks were based largely on direct quotations from the utterances of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and Shoghi Effendi, and cover the following subjects:

The Divine Physician, Bahá'u'lláh. The Search After Truth. Universal Peace. The Agreement of Science and Religion. The Equality of Men and Women. Principles of the Bahá'í Faith. The talk given recently in Vancouver and reported in the last issue of the News Letter are listed below:


Attention is called to the current articles by Mr. Mountfort Mills in World Order Magazine, February, March and April issues, covering the subject "World Crisis." These articles were used successfully as radio talks in November in New York, but will not be mimeographed for general use, due to their immediate availability in the magazine.

Mrs. Florence Morton reports plans for the summer broadcasting from Eliot, near Green Acre, and from the largest Portland station; and expresses great faith in the medium of radio for general teaching and publicising our Cause.

Requests have come from New Orleans, Denver, Kansas City, Edgewater, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Beverly Hills, Cleveland, Miami, Honolulu, Milwaukee, Chicago, Augusta, Urbana, Nashville, Boston, Asheville, Birmingham, Moncton, Jacksonville, Baltimore, and Philadelphia. Final reports would be welcomed on work done in these and other centers.

Regional secretaries are arising rapidly to carry out a canvass throughout the country with an eye to systematic campaigns in teaching.

A radio talk, "What Future For Youth" has been chosen for circulation this month. Miss Marion Holley here outlines a vigorous viewpoint on world affairs.

DOROTHY BAKER, Chairman

MEXICO
Mrs. Frances Stewart, Secretary of the Inter-America Committee, sends the following account of her experiences in taking the Bahá'í Message to Mexico last summer.

When on July 15 last, our ship approached the harbor of Vera Cruz, and we saw the scars left by canons that had bombarded the city in former years, our prayer was that we might be privileged to bring to the people of Mexico the great Bahá'í Message of Unity and Love. This prayer was granted, for Bahá'u'lláh had prepared a group to receive this Message in a most wonderful manner.

In Mexico City, while speaking to a Woman's Club on the subject of: "Peace in a New World Order" and quoting from the Writings quite freely, I noticed the deep interest of a lady not far from me. After the meeting she hurried to beg me to go with her that evening to the home of a friend where a group met weekly for study and discussion. I felt impelled to break a former engagement and gladly went with Miss Aurora Gutierrez to meet nine Mexican people, who later became the first believers in Mexico. My friend explained that for several years this group of seekers had met regularly to discuss spiritual questions and to study the increasing turmoil in the world. After a beautiful prayer given by Mr. Pedro Espinosa, the group leader, in which he asked for spiritual vision and understanding, they asked me to repeat the message I had given at the club in the afternoon. I then asked if I might tell them of the Bahá'í Message.

Way into the morning hours they listened and asked questions about the Cause and said that I must come often and they would bring to the circle all of their group. After three such meetings with an ever larger group, the leader told me that they had for some time been convinced that somewhere in the world a New Manifestation had appeared to give the Truth for the New Era. So convinced had they been that they had sent their leader, Mr. Espinosa, to the United States where he traveled to New York City to California in search of evidence of this New Manifestation. He did not find it but returned to Mexico convinced: "That from a foreign country a Teacher would bring them the Good News of a New Manifestation." They had continued their regular studies and when they heard the Bahá'í Message, they were convinced it was the Truth they had long sought. At this meeting Mr. Espin-
Martha Root in India and Burma

From Baha'i News Letter Published by the N. S. A. of India and Burma

Miss Martha Root arrived in India from Ceylon on October 15th. The believers of Bombay accorded her a right royal reception. The National Spiritual Assembly had also fixed their half-yearly meeting to be held in Bombay in order to meet the beloved sister. Miss Root stayed in Bombay for 5 days and these 5 days were gala days for the believers of the place. While the Bombay friends held meetings and arranged for lectures, which were fully reported by the press the N. S. A. in consultation with Miss Root, chalked out a programme for her.

After attending the public meeting on the Birthday of the Bab, which was presided over by an ex-Mayor of the Town, Miss Root left for Surat.

Surat—During her two days' stay here Miss Root met lawyers, judges and other notables of the town at the home of Mr. Vakil and delivered a public lecture in the Ara Samaj Hall. This was attended by 250 to 300 people—students, lawyers and other notables. The press published elaborate articles and thus a good publicity was achieved for the Divine Faith.

Poona—Owing to her brief stay here no public lecture was arranged; but she met press representatives and the believers of the place. She visited the Baha'i School and the Baha'i Cemeteries. To the friends she delivered a talk on teaching. Miss Root will visit Poona again when she returns from her tour in South India.

Burma

Rangoon—Leaving Poona on October 26 she stayed one day at Bombay and then left for Burma where she arrived on November 2. The believers of Rangoon had chalked out a busy and elaborate programme for her. She spoke at the Y. M. C. A. (Town Branch), Araya Samaj (Central), Theosophical Society, Brahmo Samaj, Malabar Club and Rotary Club. Press publicity had preceded her arrival and when she arrived all the leading dailies of Rangoon published glowing articles about her and about the Cause she had come to teach. Rangoon Times, widely circulated English daily, published an interview with her about Baha'i work in Shanghai. Rangoon Times has been devoting weekly two to three column space to Baha'i articles for the last 11 months. Rangoon Gazette, another English daily, had an equally fine interview of more than a column and in addition there was an editorial about the history of the Baha'i Faith. Her lectures attracted large number of hearers and were presided over by religiously inclined public men. In fact, Miss Martha Root created a stir in the religious circles of that great city of 500 thousand souls comprised of almost all civilized nations of the world.

Miss Root had two meetings with the Baha'is of Rangoon in the Hazrat-ul-Qods (Baha'i Hall). The meetings with the children was very interesting. She started a children's class and gave first lesson to youngsters. This class, the Rangoon Spiritual Assembly is determined to continue in remembrance of the visit of our beloved sister.

 Mandalay—Miss Root arrived in this ancient city of Upper Burma on November 10. She was received at the station by the believers led by our revered Baha'i teacher Syyid Mustafa Roumie. She delivered a public lecture in Mandalay Municipal Library. The attendance was the largest of any public Baha'i lecture given up to this time in Mandalay. The Headmaster of the Normal School U. Thet Swe, B.A., B.L. was the Chairman. Some of the hearers came later on to see Miss Root and asked questions. Baha'is who live in towns near Mandalay came all the way to see their beloved guest.

 Toungoo—On reaching Mandalay Miss Root detained at this town of about 23,000 inhabitants. No Baha'i teacher has ever before visited this place. It was through the efforts of Dr. M. A. Latiff, that the town was opened. He had gone to the place and had arranged for a lecture in the Jubilee Library, Dr. Bahl, Civil Surgeon of the district presided. He also gave a dinner in his home after the lecture and four interested people came to meet the Baha'i teacher. Miss Root took the train that same night and nine people who had attended the lecture were on the station to see her off. It is a great thing for our Faith that Toungoo is opened and we have our dear brother Dr. M. A. Latiff to thank for it.

Daidanaw (Kungyangoon) — Accompanied by Syyid Abdul Hussain Sherazi and Mr. Siyyid Ghulam Murtaza Ali Miss Root reached this Baha'i village of 800 believers on November 20. The believers of the place had made...
elaborate preparations for reception of their beloved guest. A special roadway was cut through the grass from the main road to the Assembly Hall, which was tastefully decorated. The Assembly Compound was full of believers when Miss Root's car arrived. Mrs. Kahn garlanded her amidst the acclamations of Ya Bahá-El-Abhá. She met these friends and they chanted holy songs and prayers. Miss Root writes: "What a royal welcome we received! Never shall I forget their chanting and the reverence and love in their kind faces."

At 4 p.m. Miss Root drove to Kyangkwin, an important town of people situated about 3 miles from the Bahá’í Village. The lecture was held in the National School under the Chairmanship of Dr. Gurbakhsh Singh. It was translated into Burmese by U. Sein, the headmaster of the School. There were about 150 people present including the Township judge, the staffs of the National and Board Girls' High Schools. The lecture was well received. Dr. and Mrs. Gurbakhsh Singh called on Miss Root that evening and had a long talk with her.

Next day the friends again met in the Assembly Hall. After the usual prayers; Mr. M. I. Kahn read a beautiful address of welcome to which Miss Root replied in suitable words and the meeting closed in an atmosphere of spiritual joy and happiness. Mr. MurtazaAli describes the scene of Daida-Wilmette, Ill. This Committee will arrange accommodations in private homes in the vicinity of the Temple. The rates are about $2.00 for single and $1.00 to Nov. 21 and attended the farewell meeting at the Hazrit-ul-Qods (Bahá’í Hall).

On Tuesday, Nov. 23, Miss Root sailed for Calcutta. The friends came to the Wharf to give her a hearty send-off.

(To be Continued)

NOTE:—Miss Martha Root will tour South India during the latter part of December, 1937, and the whole of January and February, 1938.

THIREDTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Annual Convention will be held in Temple Foundation Hall on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning, April 27 to May 1, inclusive. The Public Congress will be held Sunday afternoon.

Convention Committees

Devotional Program: Ella G. Cooper, Chairman; Mary Rabh, Lena Lee. Ridvan Feast: Refreshments served by the Spiritual Assemblies of Chicago, Evanston, Wilmette, Park Ridge and Winnetka. Chairman of program, Corinne True. Brief addresses by recent Pilgrims to Haifa: Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland Maxwell, Ruhangiz Balles, Amelia Collins, Marjorie McCormick, Agnes Alexander, Mildred Mottahedeh, Emerie Sala.

Housing Committee: Mrs. Carl Hansen, Chairman, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill. This Committee will arrange accommodations in private homes in the vicinity of the Temple. The rates are about $2.00 for single and $1.00 to $2.00 for double room.
7. The Seven Year Plan.
   A. Building the Temple, Siegfried Schopflocher.
   B. Placing the Temple Contract, L. W. Eggleston, Chairman of Technical Committee.

8. Feast of Ridvan, Saturday evening, April 30.


10. Annual election, Friday, April 29, 9:30 A.M.

11. Sunday afternoon, Bahá’í Congress (public meeting).

Subjects Suggested for Consultation


ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
1937—1938
ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

As early as 1903 the first step was taken in America toward the collection and preservation of Bahá’í Archives. At that time permission was granted by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá to gather copies of His Tablets to American believers in order that they might be published.

In more recent years many of the original Tablets of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá with their original translations, many of the letters of Shoghi Effendi addressed to National and Local Spiritual Assemblies and to individual believers, numerous sacred objects which were the possession of Bahá’u’lláh, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, or the Greatest Holy Leaf, and numerous manuscripts and records bearing upon the history of the Cause in America have been flowing continuously into the National Bahá’í Archives.

Following a recommendation of the National Spiritual Assembly in 1935, an increasing number of Local Spiritual Assemblies have been establishing local Bahá’í Archives for the preservation of various Assembly records, and for assistance in the collection and forwarding of materials suitable for the National Archives.

For the information of the friends, a partial list is given below of materials received for the National Archives during the current Bahá’í year, or since March 21, 1937.

2 original, illuminated Tablets of Bahá’u’lláh, in His Own Hand-Writing, addressed to ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. These are gifts of the Guardian, and were sent through Mr. Siegfried Schopflocher for presentation to the National Spiritual Assembly at the last Convention.

232 original Tablets of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, almost all of which are accompanied by original translations. One of these is the first Divine Plan Tablet to the Western States. The original and translation were written on post cards and mailed in Haifa on April 4, 1916. They bear the stamp of the military censor. Several groups of Tablets received this year were addressed to believers who have passed on, such as Mrs. Helen S. Goodall, Mrs. Isabella D. Brittingham, and Dr. G. A. Sander. Among Tablets received during the year are those addressed to the Portland, Seattle and Spokane, and to the San Francisco, Oakland, Urbana, and Cincinnati Spiritual Assemblies or communities.

108 original letters of the Guardian, a number of which were addressed to Local Spiritual Assemblies.

Some of the Sacred Relics which have come into the Archives since the first of the year include:

A Bahá’í seal and ring containing a ruby blessed by Bahá’u’lláh. (These were given originally to Thornton Chase in Acca.)

A rosary used by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. (Given to an American pilgrim in 1899.)

A taj and a turban belonging to ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

A collection of original photographs taken in Acca and Haifa which are authenticated in the hand-writing of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

A copy of the Greatest Name hand done by Mishkin-Qalam given to a believer by a member of the Holy Family.

A shawl made by the Greatest Holy Leaf.

The following publications and historical records are among materials of this nature received during the year:

Two copies of each of the publications issued by authority of the National Spiritual Assembly.

Historical Record Cards from about sixty per cent of the American believers.

Questionnaires on local Bahá’í history, which were filled out and returned by approximately one-half of all the Bahá’í Assemblies.

The committee has the following suggestions to make with regard to sending material to the National Archives.

(1) It is recommended that friends who have Tablets or other sacred objects (See Bahá’í News No. 103 for classification), which they wish to place in the National Archives should bring them or send them by a delegate to the Convention. The Secretary will be on hand to issue receipts and to see that objects presented are immediately placed in safe-keeping.

(2) It is the Guardian’s wish that original Tablets and original translations be preserved in the Archives. Friends who wish photostatic facsimiles of Tablets or of the Guardian’s letters may obtain them at a cost of 15c per page, or double this amount, if both negative and positive copies are desired. Assemblies wishing copies of the framed, Divine Plan Tablets may order them at a cost of 35c per positive copy.

(3) If objects are sent by mail, they should be registered. Address Mrs. May T. Scheffler, Secretary, 1821 Lincoln St., Evanston, Ill.

(4) Relics should be accompanied by as complete a description as possible of the circumstances under which the gift was originally made, to whom and when the object was given, and the hands through which it has subsequently passed.

(5) If photographs are sent, they should be labeled with the name or names of persons shown and should be dated.

In the name of the National Spiritual Assembly, the Archives and History Committee wishes to extend most heart-felt thanks to those believers and Assemblies who have parted with their most precious possessions in order that they might be safely kept for the observation and reference of future generations.

EDWIN W. MATTOON, Chairman
MRS. MAY T. SCHEFFLER, Secretary
MRS. R. D. PETTIT
MISS JULIA SORREL
C. M. REMEY

*See Bahá’í Procedure, Section One, Sheet 19.
EDITORIAL COMMITTEE, THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD, VOL. VII

Immediately following the appointment of the Staff of Editors for The Bahá'í World, Vol. VII, the chairman and executive secretary consulted at length upon the problems which had been encountered in the preparation of former volumes and it was decided to assign to the various members of the staff certain areas for which they should be responsible, thus bringing the whole staff into closer relationship and dividing up the work of correspondence. By this method we seem to be more nearly approaching a system which will be more efficient, more generalized and more complete; in fact the results have proven this to be the case, for the cooperation of the National Spiritual Assemblies of other countries, except those where communication has been cut off, has been definitely satisfactory.

We mention with special appreciation the reports from India, Iraq, Egypt and even Iran which have given us splendid resumes and have observed most painstakingly the marks of accent to which detail is essential that all closely adhere. And à propos of the accent marks, although we have many times called the attention of the friends to this important matter, we have still to accustom ourselves to taking up a pen and going over everything which is written where Bahá'í terminology is employed. To be sure there are many words for which we have had no written precedent in this country and thus the accents must be put in by those who go over the manuscripts in Haifa, but we do have rules for almost all of the words and names and with a little more attention to detail we could arrive at the usage which the Guardian desires us to adopt.

The most perplexing matter is that of punctuality, and once again we seek to explain the method which must be employed in order to comply with the instructions of the Guardian. All the 15th of October is the date when manuscripts are due. Much liberty has been taken in this matter and it has become very difficult to adhere to the Guardian's instructions because of this.

Third—It is by special instruction of the Guardian that all manuscripts are requested to be sent to the executive secretary. This is the channel which he has established and unless it is adhered to the secretary cannot know whether manuscripts are in which have been solicited or are due under the general plan of the work. It is extremely embarrassing to write for a second or third time for a manuscript and then to be told that it has been sent to Haifa direct. When this is done there is danger that it may not find its way into the general collection when it is received from New York and thus may not appear in the book through no fault of anyone but the writer himself who has ignored the instructions.

Perhaps the most baffling thing is the preparation of the address list especially from foreign countries. If the friends could realize the amount of correspondence which is carried on by the member of the staff of editors who is responsible for this important work they would be more particular in fulfilling the requirements. It seems not to be the custom in some countries to give the initials of believers, but it is one of the details which should claim closer attention for it is not enough to say, nor is it good form to write "Mrs. Smith" or "Mr. Jones" with their respective addresses but without the initials of the names.

If your secretary in making this report has seemed to be rather too meticulous you are urged to consider that anything done for the Guardian must be done the very best possible. This is a training which we all need and which, when recognized, will lead to the improvement which the Guardian hopes for in our work. But while pointing out the weak places, your secretary is not unappreciative of the very splendid cooperation which has been received and for which she and all the staff wish to express their deepest gratitude. But may there be still better results in the preparation of future books!

HORACE HOLLEY, Chairman
NELLIE S. FRENCH, Secretary
RUTH BRANDT
MARGERY MORTEN
ELSA BLAKELY
CORALIE COOK
MARION HOLLEY
LOUIS G. GREGORY
AGNES ALEXANDER
HERMAN BRAFT
MARIJAN CARPENTER
VICTORIA BIRKIN

BRAILLE TRANSCRIPTIONS FOR THE BLIND

The work of transcribing in Braille the Revealed Words for the blind has proceeded, and the committee has satisfactory results to report, notwithstanding the limited number of Brailleists. We hope that an increase in our workers will enable us to extend the future program for this much needed service, and that many Braille circulating libraries will be illuminated by the Sacred Books.

The libraries already approached are interested and have accepted with appreciation the books we have been able to make.

Following is a list of the Bahá'í Books transcribed by this committee. The names of the libraries where they are placed we hope to furnish soon to anyone seeking information.

From our earnest and indefatigable worker, Miss Ella Quant, I have to report an achievement of great merit, the transcription of:

1. Bahá'u'lláh—A nineteenth century Prophet and His Message.
2. Bahá'í Peace Program.
4. La Bahá'í Revelacion (the No. 9 in Esperanto).
5. Bahá'í Teachings on Economics.
6. Hidden Words of Bahá'u'lláh.
7. Divine Philosophy—'Abdu'-Bahá.
8. Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh—(Mrs. Brittingham).
10. The Goal of a New World Order (Shoghi Effendi).
11. Bahá'u'lláh and His Message.
14. Seven Valleys and Words of Wisdom; Four Valleys.

Miss Mabel Menn, a Bahá'í friend and co-worker has contributed:

1. The Reality of Man—(Compilation).
2. The Reality of Man—(Excerpts from above).
3. The Hidden Words—Baha’u’llah.

Mrs. Constance Rodman reports the following transcriptions:

1. The Wisdom of ‘Abdu’l-Baha
   (Paris Talks).
2. The Wisdom of ‘Abdu’l-Baha
   (Paris Talks).
3. The Hidden Words—Baha’u’llah.
4. The Hidden Words—Baha’u’llah.
5. The Hidden Words—Baha’u’llah.
7. The Iqan—The Book of Certitude—Baha’u’llah.

Miss Hilda Stauss, although unable to add any transcription to our list, is doing splendid work in contacting the Braille Libraries and Clubs.

I would like to remind the friends that the metal plates given by Mrs. Nellie French of the “Iqan” and “Baha’u’llah and the New Era” are a permanent asset in the possession of the Publication Committee, and from these plates, new editions can always be reproduced. These Books are in all the large Braille Public Libraries in the United States. The members of Braille Clubs in those cities will find them available.

The suggestion has been made that the Assemblies at their meetings, give out this information and so further this line of teaching. The committee will be faithful in their efforts to produce the transcriptions and will welcome this assistance from the Assemblies.

From the International correspondents of the Bahá’í Braille Committee very gratifying promises of cooperation have been received. Beyond this spirit of hearty cooperation very little is to be expected at present, as the relationship is too young to be well organized.

From Mr. Thilandar of Stocksund, Sweden, we have only to report his sincere regrets that excess of work will prevent his accepting the invitation extended to him. His work is the editing and publishing of a magazine with other literary work conducted in Esperanto and Swedish for the blind of any country where these two languages are understood. Mr. Thilandar, however, says: “I am interested in the Bahá’í movement, because it is as I know it, a movement of love and brotherhood.”

We had hoped for his cooperation, as through his magazine and papers, the Bahá’í transcriptions would have been widely spread.

Madame Hesse of Paris has, with gratifying enthusiasm, become one of our co-workers in our Committee. She reports the completion of a French Braille transcription of the “Essai sur la Bahaism” Nouvelle Edition—by Hippolyte Dreyfus. This contains also, some part of one letter of the Guardian, and a portion by Horace Holley on World Economy. This transcription has been presented to the “Livre de l’Aveugle” for publication. Madame Hesse writes that “le livre de l’Aveugle will gladly circulate her Bahá’í transcriptions in French Braille.” Also, “L’Association Valutin Haney, knows the world over, for which she hopes to transcribe another Bahá’í Book.” This association has a large circulating library for the blind, and Madame Hesse thinks they will be glad to be presented with Hidden Words, or Seven Valleys.

From Mr. Vuk Echtner of Prague very cordial letters have come, expressive of his desire to cooperate in all ways possible for the benefit of the blind and to promote the Bahá’í Teachings in Czechoslovakia. Mr. Echtner is the publisher and editor of a small Esperanto magazine known “Auroro,” which is complementary to Mr. Thilandar’s magazine in Sweden. In “Auroro” at times appear Bahá’í articles needful for the blind and to spread the Bahá’í teachings. Mr. Echtner seeks some special manner to awaken the interest of the blind in the Bahá’í Cause. Messages from foreign lands do this more quickly than messages from their own country. He adds: “The dear Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, seriously considers the work for the blind. Therefore, it is almost a duty of his faithful ones to learn the writing for the blind. Our Braille copy of the Esslemont book in Esperanto is completed, but a very regrettable error has occurred. The copyist misread the name of Baha’u’llah and misspelled it—the colossal labor lost much of its value. I intend to recopy the book from time to time.

“A pacifist magazine begs of me an article on the Bahá’í faith. I am very anxious to cause this to appear with a photo of Masriqi’l-Adhikar and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.”

From Mr. Tokujiro Torii of Japan we have received a cordial response. In his own words, which I quote, he says: “It is a great privilege and honor for me to be appointed by the Guardian as an International correspondent of the Bahá’í Braille committee.”

In the letters and reports of Miss Agnes Alexander may be read interesting accounts of the work being done for the blind in Japan.

In 1917 Mr. Torii translated the Japanese writings of Baha’u’llah. These have been published in Braille in one volume which was spread among the blind of Japan. Mr. Torii, at the time he did this, was teaching in a small school for the blind. His only helper was his devoted wife who spelled the words to him; these he copied in Braille. This is the way the first Japanese Bahá’í Braille book was transcribed. Mr. Torii has transcribed into Braille:

The Hidden Words.
The Iqan—the Book of Certitude.
Some Answered Questions.

Besides these, they have now the Esslemont book in Japanese Braille. Now it is his desire this year to translate the Hidden Words into Japanese.

(From a report of Miss Alexander.) Following are some of the words of approval and encouragement received by the committee:

Shoghi Effendi, in a letter to a member of the committee has written: “Persevere, may redouble your efforts. I am planning to establish in the Mansion of Baha’u’llah at Bahji, a special section wholly and exclusively devoted to Bahá’í literature in Braille.”

(Signed) Shoghi Effendi.

To another he has written:

“I am deeply appreciative of your recent service and wish to urge you to persevere in this notable and promising field of Bahá’í activity. I will pray for you from the bottom of my heart. Persevere and do not feel discouraged however great the obstacles which may confront you in the days to come.”

Martha Root gives us courage by her words: “Every year I am more impressed how important it is to get books into Braille for the blind. It brings such a light to them, and they in turn, may translate and give the Bahá’í teachings throughout the world.”

Miss Adelia Hoyt, Service for the Blind, Library of Congress, Acting Director of Braille A. R. C., has said: “I think most of our libraries will be glad to have some of this literature.”

The field is extending and the work increasing. The Committee begs the prayers and sympathetic support of the friends.

Constance Martha Rodman, Chairman
Ella C. Quant
Hilda Stauss
Nellie S. French

CONTACTS

To date, during the current Bahá’í year, 753 letters and several thousand
pamphlets have been sent out. The favorable replies, including those requesting to receive regularly the national teaching bulletin, number 53 and unfavorable replies number 17. The total amount of cash received from the National Treasurer was $35 and total amount expended $46.63. Each one who spent in excess wants to take care of the balance. These several thousand pamphlets have been distributed with covering letters, to eminent people and to names of people furnished by Baha'is, one list coming from the Sydney, Australia, Spiritual Assembly. Names were also taken from such books as "Young Men of America," "Women of America," "Who's Who in Education," etc.

Some replies show considerable interest and the following are extracts from the cream of the crop:

A Professor of Sociology writes that he first heard of the Baha'i Faith as a student in Toronto in 1907 and that he has explained its inception, organization, growth and purpose to the students in his classes. Another professor acknowledges with thanks the books sent to the college library, and says he has used them at a seminar group, the students voting to devote an evening to study of the subject, and one student having taken a book home over the week end, said her father had read it with great interest.

A columnist of Los Angeles writes: "I thank you sincerely. I have made the pamphlet 'Homoculture' the theme of the weekly article I have just written." An official of the Urban League sends the following note: "May I extend my deepest appreciation for your thoughtfulness in sending me the leaflet 'A New World Order.' I would be interested in additional information regarding the Baha'i Faith." A student of religion says: "Thank you so much for the literature which I assure you I shall read with much interest."

An employee of the Department of Commerce writes: "Permit me to assert my sincere interest in the Baha'i Faith and my concurrence with the principles of Baha'u'llah . . . I should indeed like to see a group of Baha'is organized in this locality but of course do not feel capable of attempting such an undertaking myself without first contacting authoritative leaders of the movement . . . I am not an entire stranger to the aims and teachings of the Faith, since I am already the possessor of several of their publications and have received a world of encouragement and spiritual uplift from them . . . I feel that were I allowed to play even a very small part in the furtherance of such a movement I would have accomplished a worthy deed."

An inmate of a penitentiary, having seen an article on the Baha'i Faith in an Omaha newspaper, wrote to ask for more information.

More of these Baha'i seeds will undoubtedly spring up into flourishing growth, as more believers go forth into new districts and work for the fulfillment of the Seven-Year Plan.

Gertrude Atkinson
Marion Holley
Mrs. Stanley Kemp
Sarah Kenny
Mrs. Allen B. McDaniel
Ethel Revel
Mrs. Emeric Sala
Lucy J. Marshall, Chairman

GREEN ACRES SUMMER SCHOOL

The Green Acre program of 1937 marked a definite transition in the historic activities and functions of the center established by the late Sarah J. Farmer in 1894. From a Green Acre which had upheld a public platform dedicated to the investigation of reality, with lectures representing a wide variety of philosophic and religious views, sympathetic to but uncontrolled by the Baha'i Faith, the forward march of sustaining interest produced a Green Acre firmly established as a summer school for the inculcation of the Baha'i teachings, with, however, admirable facilities for service in the field of public Baha'i teaching.

Green Acre today may therefore be viewed as a Baha'i Summer School, with a sufficiently extended season to permit a supplementary program of lectures and discussion groups of extreme interest to non-Baha'is.

The concentration of effort necessary over several years to clarify the nature of Green Acre has temporarily sacrificed certain of its more cultural possibilities, for example the activities of the Arts and Crafts Studio, but it is confidently expected that these possibilities will in the long run be more effectively realized on the firmer foundation of policy which has been laid.

The 1937 season opened with greatly increased physical facilities, thanks to generous gifts from interested Baha'is. A new Baha'i Hall, located near the river on the main plot of ground, provided a beautiful and convenient auditorium for lectures, conferences and study classes. The top floor of the inn was rebuilt prior to the opening of the season with many new rooms available at dormitory rates. Second floor accommodations had also been added to two of the adjoining cottages, with the result that Green Acre today can take care of about one hundred guests.

Another important gift was the transfer of the so-called Bull cottage and land to the Green Acre Trustees, a donation involving a large house on the main highway of Eliot and a strip of land running from the highway to the Ole Bull property on the river bank. This land joins the largest present area of Green Acre property and greatly increases its usefulness for future development.

The present report deals with the Summer School program, conducted from August 1 to September 3, the program maintained during July being reported by a separate Committee.

The 1937 Baha'i Summer School opened with Youth Week, the subject for the daily classes being "The Baha'i Administrative Order." The discussion was led by Horace Holley. The attendance this year was double that of any previous Youth Week at Green Acre. A notable result was a much closer association with the young people of Eliot, brought about by the Youth Committee through special social gatherings.

August 9, 10 and 11, Bishop Brown conducted morning and afternoon sessions on "The Rise and Fall of Civilizations," a scholarly presentation of fundamental social movements in the light of the Baha'i teachings.

A Conference on Teaching was held both morning and afternoon of August 12 and 13. Members of Regional Teaching Committees, and experienced pioneer teachers, carefully surveyed the problem of effective teaching methods in the spread of the Faith throughout the United States and Canada.

The week of August 16-20 had two different classes, one in the morning and one each afternoon. Kenneth Christian led a class on "Essentials of World Religion" and Ali Kuli-Khan lectured on "Islam." The material made available by these classes was a significant contribution to Baha'i thought.

From August 23 to 27 the morning sessions were devoted to the subject of "The Dispensation of Baha'u'llah" under the leadership of Mrs. Emogene Hoagg, while the afternoon meetings were conducted by Marguerite Reimer with the subject of Public Speaking, a new development of the Green Acre School much appreciated by those participating. The outline prepared by Mrs. Hoagg covered the fundamental subjects of the Faith.

Dr. Genevieve L. Coy conducted a course on "Human Qualities in the New Age" each morning from August 30 to September 3, a psychological approach to the vital problem of response
to the implications of faith. The after-noon sessions during this final week brought another richly experimental course to Green Acre, the class in Writing planned and conducted by Mrs. Doris McKay. The basis of this course was the art of self-expression, with the technical features of literary composition made subservient to inner development.

Sunday devotional services and Fri-day evening discussion groups were conducted weekly, the speakers being: Carl Cartwright, Marion Holley, Kenneth Christian, Rosemary Sala, Ali Kuli-Khan, N. D., Elsie Austin, Archie G. Tichenor, Raphael Pumpelly, Chester Davison, Louis G. Gregory, Harlan Ober.

The outlook for Green Acre as a Bahá’í institution is exceedingly bright. Its historic tradition developed during forty-three years, its impressive facilities in land and buildings, its charm and beauty, and above all, the public trend in the direction of spiritual truth, a strongly-anchored inner life and a true World Plan, are factors making for a future that must be far greater than any portion of its past.

For overlooking Green Acre, a promise and an assurance, stands 'Ali ’Alí-Bahá. For overlooking Green Acre, a beautiful and an assurance, stands the beauty, and above all, the public trend to the implications of faith. The after-noon sessions during this final week brought another richly experimental course to Green Acre, the class in Writing planned and conducted by Mrs. Doris McKay. The basis of this course was the art of self-expression, with the technical features of literary composition made subservient to inner development.

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For overlooking Green Acre, a promise and an assurance, stands ‘Ali ’Alí-Bahá. For overlooking Green Acre, a beautiful and an assurance, stands the beauty, and above all, the public trend to the implications of faith.

The second conference was conducted by Prof. Stanwood Cobb on the subject: “Universal World Culture Based on Universal Education.” July 9th, 30 present; (preceding Dr. Cobb’s lecture a commemoration for the Martyrdom of the Báb was held) Amelia Bowman, chairman. July 10th, 28 present, Mrs. Grace Ober, chairman; July 11th, 35 present; Dr. Cobb read from the Writings at intervals during a concert by the members of the Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra.

The third of the series was conducted by Prof. Glenn L. Shook on “Development of Church and State in Our Civilization.” July 17th, 12 present, Amelia Bowman, chairman; July 18th, 15 present, Hishmat Alai, chairman; July 19th, 35 present, Dr. Shook read from the Writings and musical numbers were given on the Harpsichord by Miss Betty Shook and Mrs. Lionel Lovejoy accompanied by the members of the Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra. Prof. Shook opened the meeting with a short talk on the Harpsichord.

The fourth of the series was conducted by Mr. Horace Holley on “The Coming of World Order.” July 23rd, 39 present, Miss Agnes O’Neill, chairman; July 24th, 42 present, Fred Schopfucher, chairman. July 25, 35 present. Mr. Holley read, musical numbers on the Harpsichord with orchestral accompaniment.

On July 30th Hishmat Alai spoke—30 present—Miss Marguerite Reimer, chairman. July 31st Mr. Fred Schopfucher shared with the friends his notes taken on his recent visit in Haifa, 66 present, Horace Holley, chairman.

Publicity was secured before and after each of these series of talks; however no radio time was available free of charge this year for Bahá’í speakers, because the commercial programs used all available time. The orchestra which was furnished by Mrs. Florence Morton during July, added greatly to the interest of the week-end conferences, and to the success of the July program.

After the lectures during July visitors were invited to the Ole Bull Cottage for further discussion of the subject and a cool drink of punch. These little fireside groups with a teacher for each three or four members proved a great success; the little personal contact and informal discussion opened the way for questions from the visitors. These groups varied in numbers from 4 to 30.

The additional programs were: a lecture with colored slides of the Holy Land given by Mrs. Nancy Bowditch on July 6th. Music was furnished by members of the Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra. This program was given on a very hot night; the audience 33; Horace Holley, chairman. Mrs. Bowditch gives a very delightful lecture with her slides which are beautifully colored.

There were three evening parties during July aside from the week-end fireside groups; at one the 14 members of the Public Health Ass’n. were entertained, at another local community of Elton to meet new member of community—Hazel Bowman, discussion centered on ways in which community could be of assistance to Green Acre, about 30 present; a surprise party given for the manager of the Inn and others having birthdays in July, this was just a jolly get-together with a program of entertainment for the 40 or more guests, birthday cakes, gifts, etc. Three teas were given during this month, two for non-Bahá’í guests at the Inn, and one tea for the Current Events Dept. of the So. Berwick Women’s Club at which Dr. Stanwood Cobb and Mrs. Lorol Schopfucher spoke. Two supper parties and a dinner party at which ten young married couples from towns in vicinity were entertained. Mr. Manny Reimer and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bowman spoke on “Future World Commonwealth.”

JULY ACTIVITIES

At Green Acre—1937

In accordance with the plan of the National Spiritual Assembly the Regional Committee for New England planned the program of activities for July at Green Acre, which consisted of a series of International Conferences held each Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening.

The first of the conferences was conducted by Mountfort Mills on the subject: “World Crises and World Needs” July 3rd, 53 present, Amelia Bowman, chairman; since this was the first meeting held in the new Hall, Mr. Mills expressed the appreciation of the National Spiritual Assembly for this splendid gift and dedicated it to the Bahá’í Faith.

July 4th, Mrs. Florence Morton, chairman, 66 present. Mr. Mills discussed the Future World Federation. July 5th the meeting was in the nature of a concert by the members of the Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra interspersed by readings from the Writings read by Mr. Mills. There were 33 present at this meeting.

The second conference was conducted by Prof. Stanwood Cobb on the subject: “Universal World Culture Based on Universal Education.” July 9th, 30 present; (preceding Dr. Cobb’s lecture a commemoration for the Martyrdom of the Báb was held) Amelia Bowman, chairman. July 10th, 28 present, Mrs. Grace Ober, chairman; July 11th, 35 present; Dr. Cobb read from the Writings at intervals during a concert by the members of the Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra.
The work this year at the Ole Bull was more concentrated and intensive than last year, the key people from surrounding towns who showed greatest response to lectures last year, entertained. Also many young married couples were attracted to meetings this year. Having the lovely new Hall for the meetings left the cottage freer for the small intimate groups and was a great boon to the work in every way. We have newly interested persons reading now in Manchester, Northwood, Dover, Somersworth, Salmon Falls and Portsmouth, N. H., and Eliot, York, Portland, Kennebunk, So. Berwick, Berwick, and Sanford, Me., Attleboro, New Bedford and Boston, Mass., Billings, Montana, Naples, Fla., and Elmina, N. Y. The names and addresses of these people will be sent to the Regional Committees.

Mrs. Schopflocher was unting in her efforts to aid the teaching work and carried on the follow up work at her Studio at Nine Gables. We are still carrying on this work and have our last meeting Oct. 8th to hear Madame Orlova speak. Expect thirty or more as there are women coming from all the surrounding towns as well as from Manchester, N. H., and North Berwick, Maine. We appreciate very deeply the splendid assistance and cooperation of Mrs. Schopflocher in allowing the use of their summer home and assisting constantly in the work.

From the accounts kept of numbers during the summer, we have the total attendance during July at the Hall 562, which we are told has not been done in July in Green Acre for years. The total for the Ole Bull Cottage for July and August attendance is 509 as nearly as we can figure it, this is not counting little informal calls of which there were too many to try to keep account of.

The teachers assisting in the Green Acre teaching work besides Mrs. Schopflocher and Mrs. Marguerite Bruegger, were: Miss Marion Holley, Mrs. Mabel Ives, Mrs. Harlan Ober, Mr. Reimer, Miss Marguerite Reimer, Mrs. Alice Bacon (who spent a week with me assisting as member of the Regional Teaching Committee), Mr. Hishmat Alai, Mr. Kenneth Christian, Prof. Stanwood Cobb, and Mrs. Elizabeth Greenleaf.

The work at Ole Bull has opened the way for follow-up work in this vicinity during the entire winter months and up to next season when we hope we shall have twice the attendance at all the lectures. I appreciate more than I can say, the marvelous opportunity for service to the Cause we have had during the season at the Ole Bull.

AMELIA S. BOWMAN, For New England Regional Teaching Committee

GREEN ACRE YOUTH WEEK, AUGUST 1-7, 1937

**SUNDAY:** Afternoon Feast at 4:00 given by the Eliot Assembly. Talk at 8 P. M. by Marion Holley.


**TUESDAY:** Devotions at 9:15—Elsa Noska. Forum at 9:30 to 10:15—Hishmat Alai—"Current Events." Study Class at 10:30 to 12—Mr. Holley. Talk 2-4 P. M. by Mr. Schoflocher on Haifa, reading of Haifa notes. Dance in evening from 9 to 12.

**WEDNESDAY:** Devotions at 9:15—Ann Butler. Forum at 9:30 to 10:15—Rosemary Salter—"Marriage." Study Class at 10:30 to 12—Mr. Holley. Forum on 2 on the Guardian's recent cables and on pioneer teaching, led by Rinaldo Quigley and Mrs. Howard Ives. Youth Symposium at 7:30 at Ole Bull Cottage, Speakers: Kenneth Christian, Dr. Edris Rice-Wray, Marion Holley.

**THURSDAY:** Devotions at 9:15—Allen Tichnor. Forum at 9:30 to 10:15—Hishmat Alai—"Moral Aspects of the Baha'ai Teachings." Study Class at 10:30 to 12—Mr. Holley. Afternoon Frees at Marshalltown at the Shook Cottage.

**FRIDAY:** Devotions at 9:15—Grace Shepard. Forum at 9:30 to 10:15—Emeric Sala—"Economics." Study Class at 10:30 to 12—Mr. Holley. Talk by Dr. Rice-Wray on sex conduct and morality. Stunt Night at 8:30.

**SATURDAY:** Devotions at 9:15—Marvin Newport. Discussion at 10 of the National Youth Program for the coming year. Afternoon Beach Party at 2 at Ogunquit. At 7:30 a supperdance for the youth of Eliot and other near-by communities.

**SUNDAY:** Talk at 8 P. M. on "World of Tomorrow" by Kenneth Christian.

The foregoing is a corrected outline of the activities of Youth Week. It is impossible to put on paper any indication of the splendid content of the study course and of the fine ideas brought out in discussion at the forums; and it is not possible to describe the exceptional spirit prevailing all the week in all the activities.

Several Baha'is and non-Baha'i youth in attendance have told me since that Youth Week meant a great deal to them. Such an effect upon individuals is one excellent criterion of judgment.

We feel that a good balance was achieved between play and study. In fact, the members of the National Youth Committee in attendance met before the work was up and drew up a list of suggestions for next year's committee.

The high point as far as actual teaching goes was the supper-dance held at the Inn on Saturday night with almost one hundred young people from the surrounding towns as our guests. And they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Marion Holley spoke briefly on "The New Frontier." From the point of social mixing the dance that followed was a great success.

On every hand we were accorded the finest cooperation.

The members of the National Youth Committee feel that we have laid the foundation for great youth activity in the future.

KENNETH CHRISTIAN

INDEX

This past year the work of the Index Committee has been mainly that of cataloguing the results already obtained from the individual indexing.

By this means a card index of the authentic writings of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and Shoghi Effendi can be obtained. From this card index a printed index in pamphlet form can easily be made whenever it is deemed advisable.

Besides cataloguing results there has been some indexing carried on too. Mrs. Stebbins continues her index of the Bahá'í News and Letters and there is a short index of Bahá'í Procedures in a form similar to the pages in the present volume and hence can be inserted in it.

In reviewing the work of the Index Committee deep gratitude is felt for the hearty response of many individuals and committees to the call for assistance in indexing. There were many manuscripts offered. Some were very detailed and no doubt can be used later when a more complete index is made.

The manuscripts used in this card index have been shorter ones. Many of these have been made by persons trained for such work. Surely Shoghi Effendi expects us to secure as able productions as possible from our Bahá'í fellow workers.

Thanks are also due the friends who so generously offered their services in typing and mimeographing. A list of
their names will be given to the incom­
ing Index committee for there will be
need for considerable typing before a
complete index of all the volumes about
the Faith is completed.

It is a source of constant joy to learn of
the eagerness of the Baha'i friends
to assist this Great Cause in even the
more technical lines of service. "Blessed
be he who serves with love."

ESTHER S. HARDING, Chairman
MABEL PAINE
MRS. JOEL STEBBINS
BERTHA HYDE KIRKPATRICK
MARY RABB

INTERNATIONAL AUXILIARY
LANGUAGE

The Committee reports greatly in­
creased activity during the past season,
due to the visit to America of Miss
Lidia Zamenhof and the classes in Es­
eranto which she has taught.

She has visited three cities, New
York, Philadelphia and Detroit and in
each one has made many contacts for
the Cause. Everywhere she has ap­
ppeared she has been received with in­
terest, as she is a speaker of ability
and power.

Articles on her visit to America and
her work appeared in the following
newspapers and one magazine: the
New York News, New York Sun, Na­
tional Jewish Daily, Philadelphia Rec­
ord, Detroit News, Detroit Free Press
and the Chicago Sentinel. One of these
newspapers in each city carried a large
cut with their article. The account in
the Sentinel, a monthly magazine de­
voted to Jewish interests, was excep­
tionally good and mentioned the Cause
sympathetically. Another bit of pub­
licity of a related kind, was the folders
announcing her classes gotten out by
the Detroit Esperantists. This folder
carried the announcement that her visit
had been made possible through the co­
operation of the National Spiritual As­
sembly. The Detroit society also
arranged for her to speak over the ra­
dio, twice in
Philadelphia, the Drexel Institute; in
Detroit, the Women Lawyers Associa­
tion, the Zonta Club and True Kindred.

The Chairman of the Committee hav­
ing occasion to write Shoghi Effendi
to request his prayers for the solution
of difficulties which had arisen, wrote
also of the very hearty welcome and
cooperation given Miss Zamenhof by the
New York Spiritual Assembly. In the
replies received are expressed his appre­
ciation and his expectation of the
results her work will accomplish. We
quote from these letters:

November 10th—"He is most pleased
to know of the hearty welcome extend­
ed to Miss Lidja Zamenhof by the
friends in New York. He has every
reason to hope that the outcome of
Miss Zamenhof's work will be to
awaken a deep and sustained interest
in the Cause in many important circles.
He will ardently pray that the highest
success may crown her efforts for the
wider dissemination of the Teachings
throughout the States."

February 12th—"He again wishes
me to express his profound sense of
appreciation to the friends in New
York for the continued and valuable
assistance you have extended to her
throughout her travels. He cherishes
the hope that as a result of your united
efforts the Cause will make increas­
ing and steady headway in Esperanto
circles throughout the States." To
this was added in the Guardian's hand
—"May the efforts you are exerting
yield the richest fruit, and enable you
to attract increasingly the best, the
worthiest and most devoted souls to the
Cause of God."

DELLA QUINLAN, Chairman,
JOSEPHINE KRUESE
LOTHAR SCHURGAST
Consulting Members—
CHARLES WITT
SARA WITT
A. E. REGAL
ELS A CHASLON
LUCY MARSHALL

LEGAL
Incorporation of Local Assemblies

The principal work of the Legal
Committee for the current Baha'i year
has been the examination and approval
of the incorporation papers of a num­
ber of Baha'i Assemblies. There has
been considerable delay in this work
owing to the fact that the Committee
has not been supplied with all the data
necessary to pass upon the sufficiency
of the papers due to the difference in
the laws of the various States govern­
ing religious corporations. It was
therefore necessary during the year to
issue the following instruction:—"All
local Assemblies desiring to incorpo­
rate should submit copies of their pro­
spected Certificate of Incorporation and
their Local By-laws together with a copy
of the State Statute under which they
intend to incorporate in order to facili­
tate approval of such action. The ad­
vise of a local attorney is recommended
for the legal procedure of drafting the
Certificate or Articles of Incorporation."

In some States the law governing
the incorporation of religious bodies is
not satisfactory to Baha'i organization
which vests the authority in the As­
ssembly, or nine Trustees, and it is then
necessary to use the sections of the
law controlling "Corporations Not For
Profit."

The committee wishes also to call
attention to the importance of prepa­
ing a proper set of minutes of the As­
ssembly meeting which approves the
incorporation of that body. An ap­
proved set of By-laws for the adminis­
tration of a local Assembly may be
found in the latest edition of The
Baha'i World. It is not necessary to
file these By-laws with the Articles of
Incorporation when they are submi­
ted to the State office which handles
such matters. Photostatic copies of
the recorded articles should be for­
warded to the National Spiritual As­
sembly for use in future Baha'i pub­
cations as the Guardian has made
such a request.

The following Assemblies have com­
pleted their papers and have had them
approved during the past year: Los
Angeles, Kenosha, Binghamton, Ra­
cine, Milwaukee, Cleveland and Seattle.
Other Assemblies are in the course of
completing their papers including Min­
neapolis, Boston, San Francisco and
Portland. The Kansas City Assembly
has submitted a set of By-laws for ap­
proval but does not intend to incorpo­
rate at this time.

Owing to the increase of the elec­
toral body of the National Spiritual
Assembly it has been necessary to
make the following amendment to the
By-laws of that body:—"Resolved,
that in accordance with the instruction
given by the Guardian to this body dated November 25, 1937, to the effect that the number of delegates at the Annual Convention hereafter number 171 instead of 95, Art. VIII of the By-Laws be amended by striking out the word 'ninety-five' in the second sentence of said Article, and substituting therefor the words 'one hundred seventy-one.'"

Temple Property

An agreement between the Trustees and the owners of the property adjoining the triangular piece of property across Sheridan Road over the equitable division of the vacated stub-end of Sheridan Road has not yet been concluded, but is in the process of negotiation.

Palestine Branch of N. S. A.

Two title deeds of land on Mt. Carmel situated between the Shrine of the Bab and the Tomb of the Greatest Holy Leaf transferring this property to the Palestine Branch of the N. S. A. were received from the Guardian during the year, and placed in the records of the National Treasurer's office. It is desirable for the American friends who still own property in Haifa to complete their plans for the transfer of this property to the Palestine Branch in order to protect the title against the Ottoman law which prevents a foreigner from disposing of his property after death according to his Will.

Baha'i Temple Unity

It is interesting to note that the charter of the Baha'i Temple Unity has been retained since the time when it transferred all the property it held to the Trustees of the National Spiritual Assembly a number of years ago. The wisdom of this action became apparent this year as a legacy in the estate of the late Ada C. Devine was established for the Baha'i Temple Unity and Mr. Carl Scheffler was able to accept service of the citation from the Court where a final accounting of the estate had been issued by the executor, in Tompkins County, New York. It is only gifts and legacies which have been bequeathed in old wills in favor of the Cause through the Baha'i Temple Unity will not be lost. In conclusion the committee wishes again to remind the friends that a modern form of bequest was prepared and published in the August, 1936 Baha'i News No. 102, page 2* for the benefit of all those who wish to leave a legacy to the Cause. Baha'u'llah has declared that "It is incumbent upon every person to write (his) Will," and this action is recommended to every believer.

GEORGE LATIMER, Chairman
MOUNTFORT MILLS
CARL SCHEFFLER

LIBRARY

The total number of books donated by this committee during the year to libraries is 399; these books were given to 26 colleges and universities, to 83 public libraries, and to the Geyserville, Green Acre, and Louhelen Summer Schools:

The books given were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Baha'i World, volume 1. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot; 2. 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot; 3. 6</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot; &quot; 4. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot; 5. 60</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot; 6. 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book of Assurance ........... 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baha'i: Spirit of the Age .... 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baha'i Revelation ............ 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gleanings from the Writings of Baha'u'llah ........ 64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baha'u'llah and New Era ....... 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promise of all Ages ........... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security for a Failing World. 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(These Securities are part of the fifty bought for the Library Committee some time ago.)

Life Eternal .................. 1

Some Answered Questions..... 46

Foundations of World Unity ... 53

Goal of a New World Order .... 1

Baha'i Peace Program ......... 1

Unfoldment of World Civilization .......... 1

Dawn Breakers ................. 1

Inqan ................................ 1

Hidden Words .................. 1

Baha'i Administration .......... 1

Baha'i Prayers ................ 1

Wiseom of 'Abdu'l-Baha .' 1

The Committee's expenses for the year amounted to $88.53. This was for stationery, stamps, and miscellaneous items, and for packing, postage, and shipping the books.

We now have Baha'i books in at least one public library in all but the following states and provinces: Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Iowa, Louisiana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Alberta, Manitoba, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island.

We also have Baha'i books in at least one college or university library in all but the following states and provinces: Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming; Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan.

Will Baha'ai living in these places, also travelling teachers, keep this in mind and tackle the librarians at the most opportune time?

MARTHA WOODBURY, Chairman

PUBLICITY

This report of the Baha'i News Service Committee dates from March 10th of 1937 to March 10th of 1938.

The replacing of the name of Baha'i Publicity Committee with that of Baha'i News Service we feel was an important step forward as it gave our work prestige in the eyes of the newspaper world.

More and more, publicity committees and traveling teachers have made use of the service which this committee is prepared to give, through suggestions, photographs and mats. The committee has endeavored to be prompt at all times in replying to such requests and acknowledging press clippings.

Twenty-seven releases have been issued this past year, compared to three of the year before. This increase in releases has been made possible through the use of a mimeograph machine placed at the disposal of Baha'i News Service. The following releases were issued this year to date:-

Advance release in March, of the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of 'Abdu'l-Baha's arrival in America: April 11th, a release announcing the national-wide celebration of 'Abdu'l-Baha's arrival on that date; April, a release reviewing advance of civilization since 'Abdu'l-Baha's visit; April 14th, release issued by National Assembly on the marriage of Shoghi Effendi; April 25th, the Convention release; May 1st, after-convention release; Strikes; announcing publication of Portals of Freedom; Advance release on Summer Schools; Release on opening of Youth Session at Louhelen; July session of Louhelen; July 9th, Martyrdom of the Bab; The Baha'i Faith is not a Cult, released to publicity committees and teachers for their files, to be used if necessary; Release on review of article on "Language and World Unity" published in May and June issues of "World Order"; Review of article on "Soul, Mind and Spirit" published in "World

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* See Baha'i Procedure, Section One, Sheet 17.
Order"; A series of 5 releases which include, two on the Temple, What is the Baha’i Faith?, When and Where did the Baha’i Faith originate and who was its Forerunner? Who was the One promised by the Bab? ‘Abdu’l-Baha, the Servant of God; October 20th, a release on the 118th Anniversary of the birth of the Bab; October 13th, Placing of Temple contract for work on gallery section; Release on Lidia Zamenhof; December 25th release; February 12th, One event of Mankind; (this release was sent out by the United Press office of Chicago to some 475 papers. We were told it was also used by a Chicago radio station, and over a Honolulu station by Mrs. Matthews.) March 15th, Resumption of actual work on gallery section of Temple.

In addition to these releases, calls have been received for aid from traveling speakers. A series of 10 releases covering the entire "Goal of a New World Order" was requested by Mrs. Kathryn Frankland and is now being published in the "Daily Voice" at Corpus Christi, Texas.

The Baha’i News Service recently compiled a few of the outstanding publicity chippings into a planographed sheet. This sheet has been sent out to publicity committees, regional committees and some of the traveling teachers, to assist them in securing publicity. As a further project Bahá’í News Service is sending this sheet, to newspapers throughout the country, together with a letter inviting them to call upon us for the series of articles on the Temple and the Faith. In making the editors more familiar with the name "Bahá’í Faith" this serves as an advance agent for teachers going into these areas.

A questionnaire Bulletin was recently issued to publicity committees, asking for an annual report. From the reports received we have gleaned the following:

In most instances it has been reported that publicity was easier to obtain than last year, and the Press Books are a proof of this; that the Faith is being given greater recognition, as it becomes better known, proving the value of persistent effort. Problems were presented such as, difficulty in trying to convince editors that we have the solution for World Order. Some reports have said that the releases sent out by Bahá’í News Service are too long. To this we must answer as we have in the past, that each community has their own particular problem to handle in this connection, and if releases are too long for their use, they should be re-written by the local committee and local color always added. One teacher reported using the releases in her teaching work. Some newspaper editors state they receive complaints for giving too much space to the Bahá’ís. This is discouraging in a way—but brings to mind the words of Bahá’u’lláh, that no one tries to extinguish a lamp that is not burning.

Our file of photographs, cuts and mats has been continuously added to and we are now prepared to furnish mats and glossy prints of ‘Abdu’l-Baha, views of the Temple and mats or glossy prints of many of the speakers. We will always try to get the ones needed which are not on file and we ask teachers to send in at least three glossy prints of themselves. We also have two cuts of the Temple for use on programs, which can be borrowed.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our deepest appreciation for the splendid cooperation which we have received from publicity committees and speakers alike. Also, for the assistance given us in our work by Mary Haggard of Wilmette, Gertrude Eisenberg and William Pulley of Chicago.

NINA MATTHESEN, Chairman
VIRGINIA CAMELON
EDNA EASTMAN
C. W. LA ROCQUE

PUBLISHING

In submitting the report for the first year of the Seven Year Plan, the Committee wishes to express its grateful appreciation for the privilege of sharing in the work of the Plan. The making and distributing of the books and pamphlets is of paramount importance; without them the teaching work could not go on.

It is only by serious study of the Words, that a true understanding of the Faith may be obtained and the books are the primal source for all Bahá’í teaching and for living in accord with Bahá’í principles.

The Committee has had invaluable help from the Editing Committee, Marie B. Moore, Helen Campbell and Teresita Ryan, for which they are most appreciative. Their devoted efforts in revising, editing, indexing and proof-reading have been of inestimable value.

We have sold and distributed for teaching, Committee work etc., for the year ending March 1, 1938:
12,343 books
94,229 pamphlets
3,177 outlines

and in addition to above:
1 copy of The Dawn-Breakers,
Limited edition
31 copies of The Dawn-Breakers, Standard edition

brining total sales to date
Standard edition 1,423 copies
Limited edition 140 copies

Only ten copies now available of the Limited edition.

New publications

The outstanding event of the year is the publication of Prayers and Meditations by Bahá’u’lláh, translated by the Guardian. After much careful editing and consultation with the Guardian, this important work was ready for distribution late in February. We are very grateful for the generous gift of a friend for financing the production of this sublime book.

The Bahá’í World, Volume VI, was published May, 1937. This volume covers the period, April, 1934 to April, 1936.


Business Procedure, a compilation of secondary administrative material compiled by the National Spiritual Assembly, published April, 1937.


Economics as Social Creation, by Horace Holley, teaching pamphlet, reprint from article in World Order magazine, published November, 1937.

The Bab’s Address to the Letters of the Living, hand lettered copy reproduced in small pamphlet form by photographic process, published November, 1937. Reprints December, 1937 and January, 1938. Donation from a friend made possible the less than cost price, at which it is sold.

Outlines


Study Outline on the Essential Principles of Creative Writing, prepared by the Outline Committee, published April, 1937. Reprinted August, 1937.


In process

The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh: This important work comprising the seven World Order letters received to date from Shoghi Effendi, is now in process of making. Will probably be ready in time for the Convention.

Reprints, Purchases and Binding orders

April, 1937—Portals to Freedom by

May, 1937—Bahá’í Lesson Outlines for Children. Epistle to the Son of the Wolf.


Feb., 1938—Principles of the Bahá’í Faith, teaching pamphlet.


In October, 1937, a new catalog was issued in convenient pocket size. The edition is about exhausted, and a new printing with additions to date will be ready for the Convention.

In January, 1938, the National Spiritual Assembly notified the Publishing Committee of a new ruling in regard to discounts. The higher discounts given in the past have not allowed enough margin to cover manufacturing costs, overhead, etc., therefore in future only 10% discount will be allowed on orders of $10.00 or more (but this total must not include net items) to Assemblies, Groups and Individuals. Postage, however, will be paid by the Committee on all orders.

Braille Transcriptions

Mrs. Stuart French had plates made of Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era, and Kitáb-i-Iqán, and donated many sets to institutions for the Blind. The plates were shipped to the Publishing Committee, New York. Having had inquiries for these Braille transcriptions, the Committee asked for estimates from Eastern firms who do this work, but prices were much too high. Price quoted from the firm who made the original plates in Los Angeles was also too high for practical handling. It was decided that this matter should be referred to the Braille Committee, as it seemed to be a purely philanthropic undertaking and the Braille Committee should submit the question to the National Spiritual Assembly.

Special offer good for ninety days from March 1, 1938, of The Bahá’í World, Volumes 1 to 6, has been made. Six volumes for $7.50 net, postage prepaid. The selling price of several of the volumes has been below cost, therefore this offer is a most generous one. These volumes have great value as a progressive history of the Bahá’í Faith.

**World Order**

The most important happening in the year regarding the magazine, is the registration of the name “World Order” at the Patent Office, Washington, D. C. This means that the name belongs exclusively to the Bahá’ís, and it is a name destined to become most important in the future of the world. We must build the circulation of the magazine to broaden its influence.

We sent a letter to all Assemblies and Groups in January, 1938, and are really gratified at the awakened interest. The Introductory subscriptions, seven months for one dollar, are popular and a large percentage renew as regular subscribers. The special offer of seven copies of any one issue for one dollar, has also met with response, and we hope that the friends will continue to use this means of introducing the magazine to both Bahá’ís and non-Bahá’ís.

Subscriptions for University and Public Libraries have grown, due to the generosity of many Assemblies and individual friends. Many libraries have also subscribed direct.

Several plans have been tried out to enroll newsdealers as selling agents, but with little success so far. However, a few are selling copies regularly and a prominent bookstore in New England, has recently sent in a monthly order. The Assemblies in many instances order in quantity, placing orders in advance for a certain number monthly.

The Publishing Committee has received a donation of World Unity magazine. Fifteen complete sets are available, covering a period of seven and one-half years, price $15.00 per set net. The National Spiritual Assembly is donating a set to each of the summer schools.

We are constantly striving that the publishing work may increase in power and usefulness and we need the cooperation of all the friends.

**RADIO**

The National Radio Committee wishes to extend thanks to the friends for their hearty response to this year's effort.

Taking inventory of possible unused capacities throughout America, the Radio Committee in September sent seventy-five invitations to individuals to submit radio talks, and issued a like invitation in NEWS LETTER. It has not been the policy of the committee to write the talks, but rather to encourage and use the talents of the believers at large. Fifty-six talks have been accepted and most of these are obtainable in mimeographed form. They have been listed in BAHÁ’Í News as they have appeared. They include three World Order series written and used by New York, Vancouver, and Monson, a series on Progressive Revelation written and used by Lima, and a variety of single talks on World Order and spiritual subjects. Approximately five hundred copies have been sent out by the committee between December first and March first, leaving a fair supply on hand. A complete set will be given to each Summer School. The national cost of issuing these talks has been slight because of the cooperation of the friends in mimeographing, and of the believers in accepting the obligation of a minor charge for each talk. After an initial expense of sixty dollars, the department became self-supporting.

Under consideration at the present time is a “Bahá’í School of the Air,” part of which will be devoted to lecture and part to questions and answers. The School of the Air when completed will be offered to the committee for all centers able to carry regular weekly programs throughout a season.

Information has been obtained covering location, power and name of operator of every radio station in America, and several regional secretaries are already using this information to canvass for radio opportunity in their areas. It is hoped that by this means the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh will command wide-spread and increasing attention throughout the United States and Canada.
STUDY OUTLINES

Our work of the past year has culminated in the approval of the Reviewing Committee of two outlines. One, a very splendid piece of work, was submitted by Mrs. Emogene Hoagg. It is the outline she used for her course at Green Acre in the summer of 1937, entitled The Three Worlds, and will prove a rich guide to study for the advanced Baha'i student. The other outline is the work of this committee. Its scope is restricted to the material in the Guardian’s letter, The Dispensation of Bahá’u’lláh. We have ventured, in this outline, an innovation in the form of tests. These tests are of the modern type familiar to all young people; we believe older people will find them stimulating even though unfamiliar.

At present our efforts are concentrated on a series of six or eight lessons whose purpose is to direct the study of the person who has been attracted to the Cause by a traveling teacher. When the teacher goes on, this outline will guide the student in his effort to answer the question, Am I a Bahá’í?

The committee would appreciate suggestions from both Local and National Assemblies as to types of outlines that are needed. Such suggestions would be very helpful in planning the future work of the outline committee.

GRETCHEN WESTERVET,
Chairman

TEACHING LITERATURE

During the past year this committee has reported four new articles for publication in the series of teaching pamphlets. One of them “Economics As Social Creation” by Horace Holley has been recently published. Two other articles, “The Manifestation” by Albert P. Entzminger and “The Laboratory of Life” by Louise Boyle have been approved by the National Spiritual Assembly and will soon appear in print. The fourth manuscript entitled “The Approach Through Religion” by G. Townshend, recently submitted, shows how religion down through the ages has been the chief source for the peace and unity of the world. This article had been recommended to the National Spiritual Assembly as a splendid introduction to the Bahá’í Faith.

Last year we reported the sales by the Publishing Committee of the various small leaflets and teaching pamphlets as approximately 52,000 in number. This year the following list of sales has been supplied to February 28:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tr>
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<td>The Most Great Peace</td>
<td>2,365</td>
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<td>The Path to God</td>
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<td>The Oneness of Mankind</td>
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<td>Economics As Social Creation</td>
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<td>Principles of Bahá’í Faith</td>
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<td>The World Religion</td>
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<td>What is the Bahá’í Faith?</td>
<td>19,885</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>59,512</td>
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In addition to the amount of pamphlets sold, 18,400 more have been furnished the Teaching, Publicity, Contacts and Temple Program Committees through budgets arranged by the National Assembly, making a total of nearly 78,000 leaflets and pamphlets distributed for the teaching work this year. This is an increase of several thousand over last year and the coming year should find at least a 100,000 in demand.

With the publication of the new pamphlets that have been approved, the following subjects will have been covered: Education, Peace, Unity of Mankind, Economics, Science, Religion, the Spiritual Path, the Manifestations and the Bahá’í Temple—nine in all, besides the introductory leaflets. This wide range, we feel, should be sufficient at this time to meet the requirements of a seeking public. We recommend that every believer who has dedicated himself or herself to the prosecution of the Seven Year Plan will keep a supply of these pamphlets on hand at all times so that the seeker can be given one that will tend to further increase his interest in the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. All the Bahá’í communities should have them on display at all meetings. In this manner we can help to prosecute the great teaching task still before us. The Guardian has stated: “There is undoubtedly no higher call than that of bringing the Message to a world torn and torn on every side by the forces of destructive materialism. It is for us to realize the full measure of the responsibility that has been laid upon our shoulders in this matter, and having attained full consciousness of our responsibility to unity and arise to contribute all that we can towards its discharge.”

GEORGE LATIMER, Chairman
LOUISE CASWELL
ALICE ROBERTSON

TEMPLE PROGRAM

‘Abdu’l-Bahá said: “Temples are symbols of that uniting force, in order that when the people gather there, in a given edifice of God, they may recall the fact that the Law has been revealed for them and that the Law is to unite them. That just as this edifice was founded for the unification of mankind, the Law preceding and creating this Temple was issued therefor.”

It was to inform the public of this Law of Bahá’u’lláh that the following local people spoke at the Bahá’í House of Worship during the past year:

Mr. Monroe Iona
Mrs. Nina Matthisen
Mrs. Ruth Moffett
Mrs. Mahdah Paton
Dr. R. D. Petet
Mr. Carl Scheffler
Mrs. Corrine True
Mrs. Margarite Ullrich
Mrs. Sarah Walsch
Mr. Albert Windust

The following speakers from out-of-town were enthusiastically welcomed and were an inspiration to the audience:

Mrs. Dorothy Baker
Prof. Stanford Cobb
Miss Pearl Easterbrook
Miss Marion Holley
Mr. Horace Holley
Mrs. Mabel Ives
Mrs. Margaret Lindstrom
Mr. Allen McDaniel
Mrs. Harlan Ober
Mr. Siegfried Schopfischer
Mrs. Mamie Seto
Mr. Roy Wilhjem

The youth were in charge of the public meeting at the Bahá’í House of Worship on Annual Bahá’í Youth Day, February 27th, and their efforts met with great success. The speakers were Wilfrid Barton, Florence Mattoo, Linda Taylor and Clarence Sigall. Mr. Albert Windust acted as chairman for these splendid young speakers, setting the stage for them, so to speak, and in conclusion summing up the four addresses into a perfect whole. It was an inspiring occasion and the Bahá’ís may feel justly proud of the sincere and earnest young people who are preparing themselves for service in the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh.

A very special program was arranged under the supervision of the Spiritual Assembly of Chicago at the Bahá’í House of Worship for April 11—the 25th Anniversary of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s arrival in America. We were privileged to have Mr. Allen McDaniel
of Washington as our Bahá’í speaker, and there were guest speakers from clubs and churches where 'Abdu’l-Bahá spoke when He was in Chicago. The Temple was filled to over-flowing and it was felt that great benefit was derived from this meeting.

Programs for the Holy Days celebrated in the Bahá’í House of Worship, while under the jurisdiction of the Temple Program Committee, were arranged by the various communities surrounding the Temple, Chicago, Evanston, Park Ridge, Wilmette and Winnetka, and refreshments were provided by these same communities when necessary. Recently Maywood has been added to the list of communities serving in this capacity.

The guide service this year has been under the capable supervision of Mr. Hilbert Dahl and his assistants, Miss Gertrude Buikema and Mrs. Anne Bartholomew. Several new ideas were inaugurated in the guide work which proved very effective. During the year, there were 3,589 groups totaling 14,510 people conducted through the House of Worship by Guides. This number included about 2,300 people in 60 groups scheduled by appointment through the guides, the caretaker, Contacts Committee and other service committees. The latter groups represented churches, schools, universities and other educational institutions, Women’s Clubs, boys’ clubs, fraternal organizations, business and industrial groups, WPA-Chicago Board of Education, Free Tours and other groups.

At the suggestion of Mr. Dahl and under his direction, all, however, under the supervision of the Temple Program Committee, was the forming of a Teachers’ Training Class at the Bahá’í House of Worship, for Bahá’ís in the vicinity of the Temple. This project was enthusiastically and successfully carried forward and has been very helpful to the participants.

It was felt that a library at the Bahá’í House of Worship would be of great benefit to the guides, as perhaps some question might be asked that it was not possible to answer in detail. The guides felt, if such a contingency arose and they could turn to the books in the library and refer the inquirer to the “written word,” the impression made would be deeper and more lasting. Accordingly donations of books were solicited from nearby Spiritual Assemblies, and the generous response from communities and individuals has resulted in a fine collection of books for reference purposes. Having the books on hand has helped the guides and has also given them the opportunity to invite visitors who are interested to sit and read awhile.

At the Free Literature table, under the guidance of Mrs. Nina Matthiesen who has faithfully served in this capacity for many years, free literature furnished by the National Spiritual Assembly has been distributed, and many questions have been answered.

Active and growth classes for children are conducted at the Bahá’í House of Worship on Sunday morning from 11:00 to 12:00, under the supervision of Mrs. Clair Gillespie and Mrs. Mary Haggard.

It has been the aim and hope of this Committee to make the meetings at the Bahá’í House of Worship a source of information and inspiration to the public and to the Bahá’ís. We hope we have succeeded.

SOLOPHE LOEDING, Chairman MARGARIIT ELLRICH, Secretary MRS. ERNIE M. BARTON R. S. HAMMOND DR. R. D. PETTET EDNA TRUE

TEMPLE GUIDES

Your Guide Committee respectfully submit this report of activities during the year ending February 28, 1938, including progress made and suggestions for future goals to be achieved. During the year, there were 3,589 groups totaling 14,510 people conducted through the House of Worship by Guides. This number included about 2,300 people in 60 groups scheduled by appointment through the Guides, the caretaker, Contacts Committee and other service committees. The latter groups represented churches, schools, universities and other educational institutions, Women’s Clubs, boys’ clubs, fraternal organizations, business and industrial groups, WPA-Chicago Board of Education, Free Tours and other groups.

The activity during the year has been harmonized and inspired by a message from our beloved Guardian with reference to Guide work, to wit: “The Guardian attaches the highest importance to it (the Guide work), inasmuch as it affords a splendid opportunity for presenting the Message on a very large scale. The responsibilities which this function calls for are as vital and far-reaching as the privileges and benefits it confers on the individual believer. The Bahá’í Guide has indeed a very sacred obligation to discharge. Not only has he to perfect his knowledge of the Cause, but should develop all those qualities of tact, wisdom, and of ability to present the Message which every Bahá’í teacher requires. It is the duty of those who are in charge of organizing the guide work at the Temple to make every effort to widen its scope, raise the standard of its personnel, and thus increase its effectiveness.

“The Guardian very deeply values the steps that have already been taken in that direction . . . .” H. RABBANI

Thus inspired, and with the consultation and approval of the Temple Program Committee, guide activity during the year included the following:

1—Conduct of normal guiding with renewed sacrifice and vigor.
2—Increase of Guide Secretaries from one to three—one in each of three regional districts—to facilitate the machinery of activity.
3—Establishment of a Guide Committee consisting of nine members: the chairman, the regional secretaries and five other guides—an effort being made in the scheduling of guides to have a committee member on duty each day. The purpose of the committee is to act as a clearing house of consultation between the Program Committee and the individual guide and as a medium for harmonizing guide activity in accord with policies of the Program Committee.
4—Institution of a reading library at the House of Worship of books contributed by Assemblies and individuals. At present there are some twenty-five volumes.
5—Establishment of Teacher Training Classes at the House of Worship. Meeting weekly, the Class started on July 1, 1937, for a one month program. Averaging twenty to forty in attendance, interest was so intense as to continue the activity to the present, with frequent demand for expansion of the activity to additional classes for specialized study. A moving characteristic of the class has been its unity, sincerity and universal spirit.
6—An effort to establish a study class for non-Bahá’ís indicated lack of proper publicity due, largely, to lack of time.
7—Regulations for Guides were brought into accord with needs and harmonized with the policy of the Program Committee.
8—Incorporation of Temple usher service under the jurisdiction of the Guide Committee.

HILBERT DAHL, Chairman GERTRUDE BUKEEMA ANNE BARTHOLOMEW
Our current committee year, beginning July 1, 1937, found a listing obtained from various sources of seventeen isolated believers in widely scattered areas in Florida. None were to be found in Alabama. There was also a list of fifteen who had been studying the Bahá’í teachings at various places and periods during the past two years with the aid of some of the isolated believers and traveling Bahá’ís, but who have not yet registered as declared believers. Of these latter, ten are in West Palm Beach where some work was done last year by Oredella Rexford, but so far nothing has been done to follow it up since we know of no one resident there who can take a lead in unifying and teaching in that locality. However, progress is being made. At Bristol, Florida, in the northwestern part of the state, Mr. Edward H. Young, formerly of Washington, D. C., has settled and has found many eager for the Teachings. Three so far have recently enrolled and a number of others are studying. Miss Alma Knoblock is also spending some time in Bristol assisting Mr. Young in forming study classes, especially among the young people, and reports much interest throughout the whole county.

A number of Bahá’ís from other localities have reported to me their work during short visits in Florida this season. Among them I have listed Mr. F. G. Hale of Clearwater, Mrs. K. M. Breymann at De Land, and Miss Bessie M. Garrison in Gainesville, all of whom have reported their intentions of settling permanently in the State. The study group in Orlando, while not yet having the required nine believers to form an Assembly reports (in March, 1938) that they have arranged to share a hall with the Theosophical Society in that place on alternate weeks and advertise public meetings. They will be assisted by Dr. and Mrs. Walter B. Guy of St. Augustine, who plan to establish a full teaching circuit as quickly as possible for points between Jacksonville and Orlando.

Most encouraging reports have come from Mr. Louis G. Gregory who has been working at Tuskegee, Alabama, since early in December. The way has opened for Mr. Gregory to continue to teach and remain at Tuskegee as long as he feels it advantageous and he has announced a series of lectures and study classes which are being well attended and given much favorable comment. The meeting place is donated by the Institute and good co-

operation is being given by teachers and prominent citizens of Tuskegee. Mr. Gregory reports having several students ready to declare themselves.

Alabama was one of the states listed at the beginning of last year as having no known believers. At present Mr. Walter H. Blakely is residing and working in Birmingham, having gone there during the winter for the purpose of settling in order to give the Teachings. He now reports that he has made connections which will enable him to remain permanently and that he is placing books in the Public Library in Birmingham and preparing for study classes.

A number of books have been distributed during the past few months in our area—mainly the “New Era,” “Answered Questions,” “Wisdom of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá” and “Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá’u’lláh,” and also many pamphlets partly through the help of traveling Bahá’ís during personal visits to places where study groups or isolated believers are known. We wish also to acknowledge and thank Miss Victoria Bedkian for her loving work in corresponding with and encouraging the isolated believers and students.

Louisiana and Mississippi

In submitting the report of the work done in this territory, I can best describe it as being only pioneer work. My first efforts therefore were to make the teachings known to as many people as possible; making them familiar with the word Bahá’, and the names of the Faith, the Báb, Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. The principles of the Faith as well as the word Bahá’í were absolutely unknown to the majority of the people.

Work was concentrated in New Orleans. New Orleans is a city of traditions, tradition in thought, customs, and laws; this tradition is Latin and therefore Roman Catholic.

1. Method of approach had to be based on a spiritual point of Unity. Stressed the historical truth in progressive revelation, as the foundation of the teachings of Bahá’u’lláh.

2. Spoke to many different types and groups of people. Some listened without prejudice or antagonism, many listened with both, but all were attentive and listened just the same. Many listened with deep interest, but only a few have responded with the sense of the answer to their doubts or as the case might be their search for truth. These few have met with me each week, and I am happy that a few new people have been added to the original number.

3. I gave one Radio Talk over station W.S.M.B.N.O., subject: “The Vistas of Today.” A few inquiries have resulted from this talk. I hope to get a popular hour on a local station next week, and will give a series of three talks.

4. Gave one talk in Gulfport, Miss.

5. Gave a Book Review at a prominent Book Club. The book was “I Yaweh” by Robert Munsen Grey. And is an interesting subject, relating to Bahá’í teaching of progressive revelation. It is the “autobiography” of Jehovah. Through this I had many openings to speak of the Cause.

6. A great deal of literature has been distributed, in New Orleans as well as sent to remote districts in this territory. This phase of the teaching work has been most encouraging and the response most edifying. One outstanding example was a letter received from someone in Mississippi, who lives on a cotton plantation far from any big center. She writes: “I had been searching for a long time for the Truth, I feel now that I have found it in learning about the Bahá’í Faith. I have felt an inner sense of peace and security which passeth all understanding, and the world seems a very different place to me.” These are the highlights which came to light the path of the “lone worker” in the field and brings inestimable joy.

7. Given several talks to a group in Covington, La., who are already familiar with the teachings. It is an interesting group composed of Theosophists, Rosacrucians, Oxford Group, Unity, New Thought and Christian Science, many interesting and stimulating friendly discussions invariably take place in the quest of illuminating differences.

8. There is much yet to be done in this territory. I have only just touched the surface of the University groups. One or two of the professors who have heard of the Cause, showed decided interest perhaps prompted by the historical and educational value in the teachings rather than religious. I feel that this must be followed up by stressing the full understanding of the spiritual importance of a new revelation as well as the intellectual understanding.
to spread the Cause in that city. Miss Ebbert has become a confirmed believer. They were preceded by Mrs. Furbush, who made quite a few contacts for the Cause. Mr. Louis Gregory also visited Atlanta, giving talks in schools and churches. Mrs. Tehrah Smith is in Atlanta assisting the teaching work. She is planning to give a series of public meetings.

There are two people who have declared their belief but have not joined the community in Augusta, Ga. The third, Miss Gene Cappus, has joined the Buffalo Assembly after receiving the Message in Augusta. Two weekly public meetings at the Bahá’í Center. The two newspapers publish regularly the weekly programs and, in most instances, the special articles of national interest. Permission has been granted for time on the radio. Dr. Morris and Miss Alma Knobloch spent some time teaching in and near Augusta.

Teachers visiting this region have been Mrs. Caswell, Mrs. Little, Dr. Morris, Miss Alma Knobloch, Mr. Agnew, Mrs. Hoag and Kruka, Mrs. Wiles, Mrs. Smith, Miss Finke, Mrs. Ober, Miss Marion Holley, Mrs. Schopflocher and Mrs. Seto.

Washington, Oregon, Idaho, British Columbia

The committee wishes it could show more definite results than this report will show, but here at least is a report of efforts made since last summer.

Everett—a city of 30,567 (30 miles north of Seattle, 15 miles west of Monroe). The committee decided to concentrate on this city first, since an afternoon weekly study class conducted by Monroe and Seattle friends had been making progress. This afternoon class has now just about completed a course of 36 lessons under the guidance of Mrs. Laura Luther. Beginning the 7th of October a series of weekly evening meetings were presented in a rented studio, covering the aims and principles of the Faith. Mrs. Dorothy Baker gave a talk in this studio when she was in the Northwest, and later Mrs. Lorrol Schopflocher spoke to an audience of 95 in the Everett Masonic Hall.* Much free literature has been distributed or mailed to Everett people and occasional notice of meetings has been secured. At the present time Mrs. Gale Marsolais of Monroe has rented a house in Everett for the sole purpose of opening her home for the weekly evening meeting and keeping up on contacts made over the last year, also making all possible new contacts. One person has become a Believer (Mrs. S. D. Smith) and has made such progress that before very long

* Rowland Estall of Vancouver also gave a talk "World Order" in Everett on January 23rd.
she will be able to take over the study classes and release Mrs. Luther for another project.

Wennatchee (a city of 11,726)—Mrs. Gale Marsolais and Mrs. Levina Sprau went to Wennatchee the week of January 9th and were successful in making several good contacts. Eight people expressed a desire to investigate the Teachings and would like to follow a study course when presented in Wennatchee. Mrs. Sprau, with the assistance of Mrs. Luther, is going to carry on this teaching project, traveling over there for two weeks at a time to make contacts and gather together a class for study and discussion. The regional teaching committee has secured books for the Wennatchee Public Library, a regional lending library to assist the teacher and free literature to have supplied him with books for the public library, a regional lending library for a teacher there to spur things up.

Armstrong—Mr. Austin Collin of Vancouver is conducting a class of ten young people in this town and we are eagerly awaiting news of progress. He has been supplied with books and literature.

The secretary has written all isolated believers in this region offering any assistance possible, books for a lending library, study courses, free literature, etc.; has asked for suggestions, names of contacts, but only a few have responded. The committee, besides lacking representation in Oregon and Idaho, has been handicapped in available teachers.

$150.00 has been sent this regional teaching committee, of which $55.00 has been spent to date for rent, traveling expense, postage, etc.; Doris Poe, Secretary; Levina Sprau, Rowland Estall, Stanley Kemp, Louise Caswell.

Ontario

In their last year's report the Committee had pointed out as their immediate objective the creation of a vigorously functioning Bahá'í community in Toronto which would be able to take over local teaching and administrative work so as to set the energies of the Regional Teaching Committee free for the initiating and organizing of teaching campaigns in the province. This objective has been fully reached.

There are now nine active believers residing within the city limits of Toronto and there is in the hands of the writer a declaration of faith of a tenth prospective Bahá'í for the consideration of the Committee at their next meeting. The National Spiritual Assembly have granted their permission for the election of a spiritual assembly in Toronto on April 21. The Group is already functioning vigorously and promises to develop into a dynamic assembly. Amongst the new believers is one who was a clergyman—the first Canadian minister to embrace the Faith without any reservation.

These results have been made possible only through the whole-hearted and self-forgetful cooperation of such teachers as Grace Ober who taught ten weeks in Toronto; Harlan Ober who assisted Grace Ober during her last two weeks in Toronto and who also gave an excellent indirect radio address; May Maxwell who spent ten days in Toronto; and Dorothy Baker, whom we had with us for two days. The Committee wish to express their profound gratitude to these friends and to Lorol Schopfcher who helped to get the Group under way in September, 1936; also to those who through their financial contributions via the National Fund have made this campaign possible. The members of the Committee wish to thank also those distant friends who through their prayers and through the inspiration which they supplied, have helped to sustain and confirm the efforts extended.

Public talks are given at the Bahá'í Hall in Toronto every Sunday and Study Classes are held there every Tuesday night. Newspaper publicity has been obtained locally on various occasions and also once in London, Ont.

Over a period of six months or so, copies of the bi-monthly teaching bulletin of the National Spiritual Assembly, entitled "A New World Order," and other literature have been sent to editors of Canadian national magazines (Maclean's and Liberty) and to a selected list of some fifty progressive, public-spirited clergymen with a view of expanding their ideas and through them, consciously or subconsciously, the minds of their congregations and the reading public. The results have been checked by a careful and steady observation of the religious section and of the editorials of the local press. As the headquarters of most Canadian religious and other organizations are located in Toronto, the repercussions of this move should have been felt throughout the Dominion. However, realizing that in Canada the Bahá'í Faith is as yet not in a position to capitalize upon rapidly multiplying opportunities, this activity has been suspended until more vigorously functioning groups will have been set up throughout the Dominion.

In the meantime the Committee will have ample opportunity to enlarge their scope of activities by following the suggestions of the National Radio Committee.

Gerrard Sluter, Secretary
St. George Spenslof
William Suter

Ohio, Indiana

Our committee instead of sponsoring a pioneer effort rather urged our Assemblies to undertake pioneer work in localities sufficiently close to permit consistent follow-up work.

The Cleveland Friends have established a study class at North Oldstedt, Ohio, South Bend and Indianapolis have been active in placing library
books and Indianapolis has planted seeds in six surrounding towns and is preparing members for public teaching work. The Bexley friends are sponsoring two study groups in Circleville. Lima believers conducted a series of public lectures in Celina which were followed up by making weekly trips calling on those who showed interest. A fireside group has now been developed in the neighboring town of Coldwater. Contacts have been made in many towns surrounding Lima and three weekly radio broadcasts help diffuse the Divine Fragrances in this area. Assistance has also been given isolated believers in Fremont where public reaction has been very favorable. Lima and Cincinnati have had successful Youth Forums and Cincinnati has made contacts in Covington, Kentucky.

We are grateful for the privilege of serving and pray that the continued bounties of Bahá'u'lláh will bring to fruition the widely scattered seed of His Word.

**Elma Meissler, Secretary**
**Dale S. Cole**
**Charlotte Lindenburg**
**Dr. Lillian Stelken**

**Kansas, Missouri**

We are very happy to be able to report that due to the work of visiting teachers and the enrolled older believers, the membership of the Topeka Group has increased, several new believers having been enrolled, and is ready for reorganization of an Assembly on April 21. This will make another state which has an Assembly, and, with Kansas City, Missouri, gives us an Assembly in each state of our Region.

We endeavored to arrange to open one other larger city to the Faith during the past year, but it could not have been done without a teacher from outside our Region, and seemingly the teacher was not available at the time we thought the work should be done.

A considerable increase in the activity in teaching is noticed in the Kansas City Assembly and in the Topeka Group. Several study classes are being held each week, and more visiting between the believers of Topeka and Kansas City has been done during the past year. We may soon be able to do more work outside the two cities, but there have been so few of us that we have not been able to do a great deal of outside work. The Kansas City Assembly, however, is conducting a study class in Kansas City, Kansas, which is the only new city opened to the Faith in this Region during the year.

Considerable correspondence has been carried on with isolated believers and much literature has been sent to contacts. 125 to 150 of each issue of World Order leaflets were sent out, at times with other literature enclosed. The response has not been what we hoped, and in none of the new cities where literature has been sent have our contacts developed to the point of starting a study class, although we have a few reading "The New Era." No pioneers have gone from this territory to live during the year and no groups of believers have been formed in new places.

We have been favored with the following visiting teachers during the year:

In Kansas City: Orcella Rexford, two lectures; Marion Holley, one evening lecture; Mrs. Moffett, three weeks; Loulie A. Mathews, three days; Dorothy Baker, one evening; Lorol Schofflocher, three evenings; Mamie L. Seto, one afternoon and one evening.

In Topeka: Orcella Rexford, one public lecture, and helped in teaching study classes; Mrs. Moffett, 12 days; Dorothy Baker, one evening; Lorol Schofflocher, one evening.

Since we have no gifted public speakers within our Region, we feel it helps us a great deal in our teaching work to have the visiting teacher stop occasionally, for a public lecture, as it lets those who attend know that we do have some good speakers in the Cause, and it sometimes puts across a point we sometimes have trouble in making clear.

New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

The Regional Teaching Committee has devoted much time and effort this year to promoting the first step of our new Teaching Program. Our efforts have met with considerable success although the full fruits of them will not be apparent until the coming year. Effort has been made to establish new centers and to proceed as fast as possible with the work, as teachers and money were available.

Scranton

The Regional Teaching Committee, after consultation at a meeting, authorized its member, Mrs. Helen Underly, to proceed with the opening of this city. With the assistance from Binghamton they got a group together and after a few lectures Mrs. Mabel Ives was sent there to carry on the work.

There are about eight people who probably will be ready to declare themselves within a very short time and with the one believer we had there it is our hope that a Spiritual Assembly will be established in this city.

**Philadelphia and Environs**

At the special request of the Philadelphia Assembly the Regional Committee sent Marion Holley to follow up the work initiated by Orcella Rexford. This is now being carried forward by the Philadelphia Assembly and they expect to add some new believers in the immediate future.

In addition to that the Regional member, Miss Revell, has been contacting groups in Manoa, Morrisville, Lansdowne, Norristown, Chester, West Chester, and Bethlehem. A study group is in progress at Manoa. Pennsylvania is one of the largest states and it is most encouraging to see the progress of the work there as at the present time there are only two Assemblies in the entire state.

The New Jersey Regional member reported that they decided to consolidate the forces of the four assemblies in their region rather than to try to open new places and this work had been carried on; also that fireside groups had been started in some adjoining places and plans were under way to go into some new places, including Ridgefield, N. J., in the near future.

Atlantic City

The Regional member from Philadelphia, Miss Revell, and Mr. deForge, of Teaneck, have been working with the Atlantic City friends and six persons have declared their intention of becoming believers. With those already enrolled there this will constitute a new Assembly.

**Syracuse**

Miss Ida Noyes and Mrs. Edgecomb went to Syracuse, sent postcards to the members of Mrs. McCollum's psychology class. After the initial publicity work was done Philip Marangella was sent up there to do the teaching work which he has done with great success. There are now seven people seriously interested in the study course and three have already announced their intention of joining. This will also mean a new Assembly in the near future for Syracuse. We are planning to send a teacher back there to continue the work of confirming the study group.

**Albany**

A series of public lectures was given by Mrs. Mildred Mottahedah and the
initial work has been done towards starting a group there. Miss Zeah Holden, who was active in promoting the activities there has been temporarily unable to continue, due to a serious illness in the family but this work will again be vigorously undertaken in the near future. After a few more lectures we plan to start a study group there.

Rochester and Buffalo

The Regional Teaching Committee is now making plans for special teaching efforts in Rochester and Buffalo.

Westchester County

Mr. Robert Fuller has been holding a fireside group meeting in his office in New Rochelle every Sunday evening for several months. Another group, drawn from New Rochelle, Larchmont, and Armonk have been meeting on Tuesday afternoons. This group has been actively studying and has had an average attendance of ten. They have been using a regular study outline, varying the program occasionally with talks by Bahá'ís. This work owes its success to the continuous effort of Mrs. Renee Welsh who has been assisted by Miss Martha Heber and Mrs. Marion Mills (also Mrs. Marie Hopper during the winter). From this group, two have already declared themselves and a third will do so within a very short time.

West Hempstead

Meetings have been held weekly at Mrs. Vaughn's home in West Hempstead; the average attendance was ten. At the same time a children's group met there. This group was taught by Mary Bower, one of the junior youth, of New York. About the middle of December the Vaughns moved to New York and the meetings were continued at the home of one of the interested friends who had been attending the Vaughn meetings. These are now being continued with the cooperation of Mrs. Vaughn. Our regional member, Mr. Sprague, and the New York young people have been most enthusiastic in their support. Bahá'í books have been placed in two colleges and several of the libraries. Many of the schools were contacted and Marion Holley spoke in the Hempstead High School to 1,200 students; also in the Williston Women's Club to 40 women. In addition to placing books in the library much literature was distributed to newspapers, clubs and churches. Mrs. Hoagg and Marion Holley did outstanding work in this group.

Southampton

Mrs. Emogene Hoagg spent some time in Southampton and gave a series of six Public Forum Discussions to which the entire Southampton Colony were invited. This group had one-eighth of a page of advertising in three of the local papers, with 3,500 circulation each, approximately. Then Mrs. Hoagg conducted a study group at the home of Mrs. John Anderson, The Andersons moved away a month ago and we are uncertain whether this group is still meeting but this work will be taken up again immediately.

New Haven

(This City was especially assigned to our Committee)

Digest of Report sent by the New Haven Community:—The work of this community was vitalized and accelerated by a visit from Miss Marion Holley, who spent a week in this City. Mr. Sprague started a study class, and a speaker was invited once a month to speak on the subject studied at that time. This was a public lecture and was attended by the New Haven and visiting teachers participated in these meetings. Three new members joined the community, as a result of this work; and a fourth will be added to the list from the Youth Group at the Feast of Naw-Ruz.

Mildred Mattaheesh, Secretary

Mildred Mattaheesh, Secretary

Philip Sprague

Philip Sprague

Helen Campbell

Helen Campbell

Jessie E. Revelle

Jessie E. Revelle

Helen Inderlief

Helen Inderlief

Dr. Albert Heist

WORLD ORDER MAGAZINE

Editorial Department

The annual report of the Editorial Committee is concerned with the gathering, selection and publication of the material contained in Volume Three, which includes the twelve monthly issues beginning April, 1937, and concluding March, 1938.

During that period, one hundred and forty-five manuscripts were received, read separately by each editor and then considered at a monthly conference. Volume Three represents the work of sixty-eight different authors.

The serial articles published this year were: concluding chapters of "The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh," by Mary Collison, and of "A Study of Church Organization," by G. A. Shook; "The New Creation," by Alice Simmons Cox; and "Philosophy and Revelation," by G. A. Shook; A symposium entitled "The World Outlook" was projected for Volume Three in February, 1937, but contributions have been so delayed that it has been possible so far to publish only three articles; and "The World Crisis," by Mountfort Mills.


Through the kind cooperation of Norman F. MacGregor, a new and more effective front cover design and inside typographical scheme has been adopted for the volume beginning April, 1938.

The editors are by no means satisfied, despite continuous effort to increase the number of contributors, that the entire Bahá'í community is yet represented. For the first time in known history a worldwide community has been established, responding to one Source of truth and inspiration and developing vital aspects of the future social and spiritual philosophy in the realm of action. Such a community, combining unity of aim with variety of background of experience, should be capable of producing a magazine whose contents will challenge the attention and command the respect of a great proportion of those who reject prevalent doctrines on the one hand and are unwilling on the other to drift passively with the stream. The earth is replete with public mediums serving as instruments for partisan plans. We renew our fervent plea that the Bahá'ís, not only in America but in all other countries, will more deeply realize their collective opportunity to join forces in the extension of World Order Magazine as one element in the teaching work of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.

In conclusion, the editors express special appreciation of the increasingly important part being played by the Summer Schools in developing deeper thought and clearer expression in the literary field. Were all the lectures and study courses made available by the Summer School teachers for subsequent publication in the magazine, this source alone would represent an invaluable contribution to the work.
For each monthly issue goes to about six hundred university and public libraries in America and abroad, and in addition a special gift makes it possible to donate each bound volume to the sixteen most important libraries of the entire world.

STANWOOD CORB
HORACE HOLLEY
MARJORIE MORTEN

YOUTH

The Third Annual World Bahá'í Youth Symposia, published their four-months in advance by 200 monthly news letters to Bahá'í youth throughout the world and to all National Assemblies for publication in the news bulletins and magazines, were held Sunday, February 27. The number of groups and the number of countries participating are not yet known, but it is believed that there was a decided increase over last year's 24 Symposiums in 5 countries. Reports so far show a much higher standard of effort and enthusiasm, and printed programs, newspaper clippings, and radio news all indicate a most extensive and glowing celebration of Bahá'í Youth Day. A permanent record of these world-wide Symposiums will again be compiled by the National Youth Committee and forwarded to Shoghi Effendi in the form of a scrapbook containing a general message signed by young Bahá'ís at each Symposium, photographs, publicity, and detailed accounts of every session.

Previous to the Symposiums, interregional conferences were held for the different areas in New York, Chicago, and San Francisco.

A survey of 90 letters sent out to all Bahá'í Assemblies and Groups in the United States and Canada early in March, 1937, showed that out of sixty-eight answers, 44 communities have youth groups, 28 of which have youth committees; 7 communities have 1 or 2 Bahá'í youth, 1 has 8 interested youth (non-believers), 1 has 3 non-believers, and the rest report "no youth." According to reports, 621 youth in this country, 334 Bahá'ís and 287 non-Bahá'ís, are studying the Bahá'í teachings at the present time.

To deepen the understanding and help organize the knowledge of enrolled Bahá'í youth and these beginning a serious study of the Teachings, and to prepare youth more thoroughly for life in the Bahá'í community and for youth work and effective teaching, youth groups in this country held a series of five concentrated Study Days as part of the basic program of Bahá'í youth activity during the year. These were held once a month with as long a time as possible, two sessions in many instances, devoted to study. The teacher best qualified was obtained through consultation with local Spiritual Assemblies to take charge of each Study Day. Outlines for study were prepared by the National Youth Committee.

Four more members were added to the Youth Committee this year, and a second international secretary was appointed to take care of our increasing correspondence from abroad. What Bahá'í youth in foreign countries are doing and thinking will be more widely circulated in Bahá'í Youth. To develop international correspondence through the youth bulletin, a page or two has occasionally been devoted to the printing of names and addresses of youth who wish to correspond internationally.

New contacts and newly enrolled Youth, particularly when isolated, are receiving special attention through regular communication and the dissemination of news by a newly appointed correspondent for this branch of youth work.

The first meeting of the National Youth Committee was held this year at the Youth Session at Louhelen Summer School; eight members attended. Eighty-two young people and numerous counselors and teachers were registered for the Louhelen Youth Session. Sixty-five young people attended Green Acre's second annual Youth Week, almost double the number of last year. Geyserville youth again adapted their activities to the life of the regular sessions. Specialized courses of study were given in all three Summer Schools, and this with the fun and fellowship and priceless advantages to be gained means that more Bahá'ís and their friends are being attracted each year.

The publication of Bahá'í Youth has been moved to the East, and a new business manager is doing everything possible to induce all Bahá'í youth to lend a hand in making this international youth bulletin self-supporting.

The National Youth Committee is about to prepare a compilation on the spiritual Teachings as they apply to individual character in human relationships, to be entitled "The Bahá'í Life," this to be recommended as one of the subjects for next year's Study Days, seven of which will be proposed in the new program.

In answer to a cablegram sent on Bahá'í Youth Day, the Guardian called for a "nobler standard of Bahá'í virtue." Bahá'í youth hope to be the first to accent to the world this greater development in Bahá'í lives.

KENNETH CHRISTIAN,
Chairman
ZEAH HOLDEN, Secretary
Tahirih Mann,
International Sec.
AHMAD MARJAH,
International Sec.
FLORENCE MATTOON
FARRUKH IOPE
MARGUERITE REIMER
DOROTHY WEVER
SAMUEL FOX
CLARENCE LA ROCQUE
FREDERICK ASCH
EVELYN CLIFF
GRACE SHEPARD
MAE GRAVES DYER
WILFRID BARTON
LOYD SCHOFENY
A year has almost elapsed since the Seven Year Plan has been launched with characteristic vigor and noble enthusiasm by the American Baha'i Community. For no less than six consecutive years this two-fold and stupendous enterprise, which has been set in operation, must, if the American believers are to prove themselves worthy of their high calling, be wisely conducted, continually reinforced and energetically prosecuted to its very end. Severe and unprecedented as it may be the internal tests and ordeals which the members of this Community may yet experience, however tragic and momentous the external happenings which might well disrupt the fabric of the society in which they live, they must not throughout these six remaining years, allow themselves to be deflected from the course they are now steadily pursuing.

Nay, rather, as the impelling forces which have set in motion this mighty undertaking acquire added momentum and its potentials are more fully manifested, they who are responsible for its success must as time goes on evince a more burning enthusiasm, demonstrate a higher sense of solidarity, reveal greater depths of consecration to their task, and display a more unyielding determination to achieve its purpose. Then, and only then, will the pleas, the hopes and wishes of "Abdu'l-Baha, eternally enshrined in the Tablets of the Divine Plan, be worthily acknowledged and fulfilled. "Let your exertions, henceforth, increase a thousandfold" is the earnest appeal voiced by Him in those Tablets. "Summon the people," He exhorts them, "in these countries, capitols, islands, assemblies and churches, to enter the Abha Kingdom. The scope of your exertions must needs be extended. The wider its range the more striking will be the evidences of Divine assistance." "The moment," He solemnly affirms, "this Divine Message is carried forward by the American believers from the shores of America and is propagated through the continents of Europe, of Asia, of Africa and of Australasia... this community will find itself securely established upon the throne of an everlasting dominion... Then will the whole earth resound with the praises of its majesty and greatness." The Seven Year Plan, to which every American believer is fully and irrevocably pledged, during the closing years of the First Century of the Baha'i Era, is in itself but an initial stage in the unfoldment of 'Abdu'l-Baha's vision of America's spiritual destiny—a destiny which only those who will have successfully accomplished this preliminary task can enable the rising generation who will labor after them to fulfill in the course of the succeeding century.—April 14, 1938.
Mrs. Hanna Matthisen, Chicago.
Mrs. Rosa V. Winterburn, Ventura, Calif.

Mrs. Grace Ober, Beverly, Mass.
Mrs. Evelyn Kamerzel, New Haven, Conn.

ON THIS AUSPICIOUS OCCASION
The Guardian’s Cablegram to the Convention

On this auspicious occasion when number elected representatives American Bahá’í Community is well-nigh doubly reinforced moved convey on eve Thirtieth Convention to all delegates friends expression most loving welcome stop Gathered within House of Worship which enterprise persevering loyalty self-abnegation American believers reared and adorned summoning their aid vitalizing influence prayers meditations which Author their Faith Himself revealed let them delegates visitors alike draw nigh unto Bahá’u’lláh that He may draw nigh unto Bahá’u’lláh’s most precious hair arranged preserved by loving hands Greatest Holy Leaf to rest beneath dome of Temple nobly raised by dearly beloved believers in American continent.—April 27, 1938.

THE GUARDIAN’S SECOND CABLEGRAM TO THE CONVENTION

On April 27 the Convention cabled the following message to the Guardian: “Unspeakably grateful sacred Relic and most precious gift to American Archives lovingly preserved by Greatest Holy Leaf. Historic Convention rejoices in bestowal increased participation realizing singleness of purpose achieve goal set by Master’s Will and Guardian’s impassioned appeals. Supplicating renewed power selfless devotion arise complete Temple structure and fulfill Guardian’s expressed wish infuse new blood throughout America. Lovingly awaiting expression your unerring guidance.”

On April 30 this reply was received from Shoghi Effendi: “Heartily welcome evidences high resolve as direct consequence increased participation stop Immediate task challenging combined resources delegates and incoming Assembly anxious deliberation provide means push further frontiers Faith ensure speedy completion existing contract Temple ornamentation.”

“A LONG, AN UNINTERRUPTED VIEW”

In “The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh,” page 148, Shoghi Effendi has stated that without the institution of the Guardianship, “the integrity of the Faith would be imperiled, and the stability of the entire fabric would be gravely endangered. Its prestige would suffer, and the means required to enable it to take a long, an uninterrupted view over a series of generations would be completely lacking . . .” It is this “long, uninterrupted view” of the development of the Faith that characterizes the Guardian’s general letters in that volume, the first dated February 27, 1929, the last, March 11, 1936; and it is this clarity of vision and breadth of outlook to which Bahá’ís must turn for strength whenever, for any reason, their collective energy momentarily weakens and their aim is obscured. There have been several brief periods since the first of the successive Temple contracts was completed when the National Bahá’í Fund encountered difficulties and the teaching effort appeared to relax. After an interval, the flame of ardor and zeal became re-ignited, and the temporary recession left behind.

In reading and pondering these general letters today, in their more convenient and dignified form of the published book, it would seem as though Shoghi Effendi had anticipated all such periods of recession and abundantly prepared sources of ardent understanding to supply our every need. How majestic is the vision of the Faith he upholds! How inimitable the Power he informs us is conducting it to eventual victory! How harmonious the elements which, as he explains, constitute the framework and body of the Faith! How one and indivisible its sustaining Spirit, raised so high above our human tendency to reduce even Spirit to duality!

“The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh” possesses a vast inward movement, like the surging of a mighty sea. Its kingly truths rise above all human limitations like a continental mountain chain. Here, indeed, is the inspiration we all need in order to resume the great task set by Shoghi Effendi a year ago, and reaffirmed in words of fire by his letter of April 14, 1938. Well is it if we can take from this source the mental, moral and spiritual guidance so necessary for concentration upon that part of the supreme effort to be made throughout this present Bahá’í year!

The National Budget

The general plan adopted for the year ending April 30, 1938, is based upon the definite instructions cabled by Shoghi Effendi on July 4, 1937, in which were outlined the five successive steps necessary for the successful operation of the Temple enterprise. The first two steps were taken last year. “Third, redirect with added force nationwide appeal to entire community insure uninterrupted completion first unit and accumulation sufficient funds enable placing without delay final contract. Fourth, place final contract as soon as half required sum available in National Treasury. Fifth, re-emphasize supreme obligation triumphant consummation so vital a part

ASCENSION OF MUNIRIH KHANUM

Holy Mother Munirih Khanum ascended Abá’í Kingdom stop With sorrowful hearts Bahá’ís world over recall divers phases her rich eventful life marked by unique services which by virtue her exalted position she rendered during darkest days ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s life stop All Ridván festivities suspended stop Advise Convention delegates devote special session her memory hold befitting gathering Auditorium Mashriq-‘il-Adhkár. — (Signed) SHOGHI. (Cablegram received April 30, 1938).
of American believers' twofold task by May, 1944."

Although the Budget fixed for the first year of the Plan fell short, the National Assembly feels confident that the present contract for exterior decoration of the gallery section can be financed from funds now in hand and require no further special appeals. This feeling, however, realizes that under economic and industrial conditions so unsettled, there is always the possibility that the present estimate of cost may have to be revised.

Nevertheless, relying upon the successful outcome of this part of the task by January, 1939, the National Spiritual Assembly has included no further item for the gallery section in the current Budget.

The largest item in the Budget this year is the sum of $75,000 representing one-half the estimated cost of the contract for the exterior decoration of the first story. If we are to assure an uninterrupted progress in this work, it is clear that the sum of $75,000 should be available before February 1, 1939. To make a definite beginning on this vital part of the Budget, the Assembly has set up a new Temple Construction Fund and made an initial appropriation to it of $1,000.00.

For the year May 1, 1938-April 30, 1939, the following Budget has been adopted:

For teaching work in North and South America ........................................... $30,000.00
For next Temple contract (one-half the estimated cost of exterior decoration of first story) ........................................... 75,000.00
For contingency reserve .................................................................................. 15,000.00

Total Annual Budget .................................................................................. $150,000.00

The elements of this Budget are simple. It contains three classifications of expense, representing the three necessary forms under which all our Baha'i activities are conducted: Administrative, which sustains the National Assembly's functions, the Annual Convention and all National Committees, and likewise the five Trustee properties, as well as the funds sent to the Guardian; the special Teaching Budget required under the Divine Plan for spreading the Faith throughout North and South America; and the new Temple Construction Fund already explained. These three activities are entirely interdependent and none can exist without the other. Therefore, contributions made to the National Fund without restriction assure the balance of all its important responsibilities.

The work of Teaching, and definite plans and policies for the coming year, based upon all previous experience, is still under careful consideration, and before another month, when the new Committee appointments are announced, this equally essential aspect of the Seven Year Plan will be emphasized in suitable announcements to the friends.

The recent messages from the Guardian, published in this issue, reveal the importance of the task and make the unique appeal to the souls of the Baha'is. May we faithfully and unitedly respond to his sacred plea!

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


BAHA'I SUMMER SCHOOLS

There is no need now to stress the value and importance of attendance at a Summer School. They are the most effective instruments we have for preparation to become well qualified teachers, and the social activities provide a means of Baha'i association with friends from many other cities. For the isolated believer, or the member of a small group, attendance at one of the Schools means an opportunity for making contact with the pulsing life and spirit of the American Baha'i community.

Green Acre

A preliminary announcement was published in the February issue of Baha'i News. The printed program recently issued contains the following revisions: July 11-16, Dr. Glenn A. Shook, "Education for the New Humanity"; July 18-23, Marion Holley, "Internationalism, Path to Peace"; Lydia Zamenhof's Esperanto class, July 11-22, will be for beginners as well as for those already familiar with Esperanto; August 1-6, Dorothy Baker, "Spiritual Development and Law"; August 8-13, "Comparative Religion," Doris and Willard McKay: August 22-27, Horace Holley, "The Transformation of Human Society"; August 29-September 3, Mamie L. Seto, subject to be announced.

Green Acre Youth Week, July 24-31. The weekly rate will be $10.00 if forty or more youth enrollments are received.

The season runs from July 2 to September 5. Rate for adults, and for
youth at times other than Youth Week, $12.00 to $20.00 per week. Make reservation through Mrs. Flora Valentine, Manager, 142 Regent Street, Saratoga Springs, N. Y., until June 15, afterwards at Green Acre Inn, Eliot, Maine.

**Geyserville**

July 4 to 16, 1938. Devotions, 9.15 A.M. daily. Classes, 9.45 A.M. to 12.00 noon. Teaching Seminar, 3.00 P.M. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Round Tables, (Bahai youth), 2.00 P.M. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays. Children's activities, study classes, 9.45 A.M. daily. Supervised recreation afternoons and evenings. Educational evenings, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays. Housing rates, $2.00 to $4.00 per week. Make reservation through Miss Ruth Westgate, Chairman of Housing Committee, care of The Huntington, 10/5 California St., San Francisco, Calif.

**Course One—Unfoldment of World Civilization**


**Course Two—Rise and Expansion of Christianity**

July 4, The Background, Siegfried Schopflocher. 5, Spheres of Influence at Time of Christ, Virginia Orbins. 6, Establishment of the Church, Joyce Lyon Dahl. 7, Development of Theocracy, Helen Bishop. 8, The Dark Ages, Marion Holley.

### CABLEGRAM TO NEWLY ELECTED NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The incoming National Spiritual Assembly addressed to the Guardian this cablegram on April 29: "Reconsecrated to Master's Will renewed determination promote Seven Year Plan humbly appeal supplications of revered Guardian. Incoming Assembly Baker McDaniel Holley Wilhelm Latimer Schopflocher Collins Ober Ioas."

Shoghi Effendi replied to it on April 30: "Greatly welcome reconsecration Master's Will fervently supplicating realization highest hopes."


**Loubelen**

The Loubelen program was also reported in the February Baha'i News. The following revisions or additions have since been made: Laboratory Session, July 9-19, leaders of discussion, H. Emogene Hoag, Marguerite Reimer, Kenneth Christian; Louise Casswell will give the course on Divine Government in the General Session, August 20-28.

Summary: First Youth Session, June 26-30; Second Youth Session, July 3-7; Laboratory Session, July 9-19; General Session, August 20-28. Afternoon classes on Studies in the Qur'an and Islam, by Hishmat Aai, have been added.

Rate for Youth Sessions, $6.00 per person. Rate for Laboratory Session, $19.00. Rate for General Session, per day per person, single, $2.15; double room, $1.50; dormitory, $1.50.

Make reservation through Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Loubelen Ranch, Davison, Mich. Those coming by bus or train to Flint will be met at Flint if advance notice is sent to Mrs. Eggleton.

**Note:** Those attending the General Session in August are requested to bring their copy of "Baha'i Administration," The "World Order" Letters, including "The Dispensation of Baha'ullah," and "Baha'i Procedure."

### PUBLISHING COMMITTEE

The World Order of Baha'ullah, Shoghi Effendi. This volume contains the Guardian's general letters, received since the publication of Baha'i Administration, which have hitherto been available only in the form of separate pamphlets. The arrangements of the present book were all submitted to the Guardian and approved by him before its publication. To the "World Order" letters have been added the Guardian's own summary of the Faith, and at his request an Index has been prepared. $1.50 per copy.

Spanish translations now available: Los Siete Valles, $0.25. El Kitab-I-Iqani, $0.75. El Objeto de un Orden Nuevo Mundial, $0.10. La Republica Venidera Mundial, $0.10.

**Study Outlines**

The Three Worlds, Introductory to the Revelation of Baha'ullah, by H. Emogene Hoag, $0.50. The Dispensation of Baha'ullah, Study Outline Committee, $0.15.

### ANNUAL SOUVENIR

**OF 'ABDU'L-BAHA**

The Committee announces the following program for the Annual Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Baha to be held at Evergreen Cabin, West Englewood, Saturday afternoon, June 25.

2.00 P.M., an hour of music by the Bergen County Music Project of the WPA.

3.00 P.M., public program. William de Forge, Chairman. Reading by Carl Krug of the Address given by 'Abdu'l-Baha in 1912. Subject for the meeting, "This Wondrous Age." Addresses by Orella Rexford, Horace Holley and Gita Orlova.

The Committee has arranged to serve box lunches with coffee, tea or milk and ice cream at 5.00 P.M. No formal evening meeting will be held.

### COMMITTEE LIST

Regional Teaching Committee for Oregon, Washington and British Columbia: Doris Skinner added to the Committee.

### COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSAL AUXILIARY LANGUAGE

From reports of the Committee on
Universal Auxiliary Language are taken these interesting excerpts concerning recent activities of Miss Lidia Zamenhof.

The classes in Detroit are the best that she has had, so far. She wrote me the other day that 62 people are taking the course. She has spoken over the radio three times, twice in Polish over Station WJBJ on their Polish Hours Program and once over WWJ as guest of the Detroit News. The Esperantists arranged three invitations for her to speak, the Zonta Club where 40 persons were present, The Women's Lawyers' Association where 20 were present (this was a luncheon given to Miss Zamenhof), and another luncheon at a vegetarian restaurant where there were present 40 persons. I am not clear whether this was given by a Vegetarian Society or not. There were between 100 and 120 people at the propaganda meeting for the course.

The last report sent to you concerned the preliminary activities in Detroit and were very encouraging. She has had the largest classes there that she has had so far; and she has been able to address important audiences for the Baha'i Cause in short trips from that city. Mrs. Bertha Kirsch- rick arranged for her to speak before the Michigan League in Ann Arbor on March 20th; she spoke on Esperanto at the Burton High School in Roseville on March 31st. The talk before the Michigan League was on the Bahai Revelation. She made a short trip to Urbana, Ill., and spoke there April 3 and 4; twice on the Bahai Revelation and once before the Urbana Esperanto Society on their subject. She wrote me that the attendance ran between 40-50 and 30, on the different occasions. I suppose this was good considering the size of the Assembly there. At both the Bahai talks there were a large number of non-Baha'is and some Esperantists.

Supplement to Annual Report

In submitting the Annual Report of the International Auxiliary Language Committee for this year a serious oversight occurred. No mention was made of the founding of the first Bahai Esperanto Society in America. The Committee regret this omission and would appreciate it if some mention can be made in the News Letter of this addition to their report.

The society was organized last fall under the auspices of the Bahai Spiritual Assembly of Boston, was named Esperanto-Rondo Amika, (Esperanto Friendly Circle) and adopted a constitution which permitted the membership of non-Baha'is as well as Baha'is in the society. Thus putting into effect the command of Baha'u'llah is to "consort with all the people with joy and fragrance."

INVITATION FROM CLEVELAND ASSEMBLY

The Cleveland Bahai Community extends a cordial invitation to all visiting Baha'i and Esperantists attending the International Esperanto Convention in Cleveland, July 1st, 2nd and 3rd, to use the Bahai Temple at 665 Hippodrome Building, during their stay in the city. The room will be open for the convenience and fellowship of all.

"APPRECIATE YE THE VALUE OF THIS TIME"

"We must not sit inactive for one moment; we must sever ourselves from composure, rest, tranquillity, good property, life and attachment to material things. We must sacrifice everything to His Highness, the Possessor of existence, so that the powers of the Kingdom may show greater penetration and the brilliant effulgence in this New Cycle may illumine the worlds of minds and ideals." (Abdu'l-Baha in America's Spiritual Mission.)

"World crisis inexorably moving toward climax, challenging torch-bearers of Baha'i civilization (to) scale loftier heights (of) individual heroism, (to) scatter more widely throughout length and breadth (of the) American continents, (to) participate more strenuously (in) concerted effort organized by National, Regional, local agencies dedicated (to) prosecution (of) noble enterprise..." (Cablegram from Shoghi Effendi, October 29, 1937.)

Viewing in the light of the present...
SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 1938-1939

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Evanston, Ill.</td>
<td>One from ‘Abdu’l-Baha'</td>
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<td>May 1, 2</td>
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<td>June 10</td>
<td>West Englewood, N. J.</td>
<td>Twice weekly.</td>
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<td>August 12</td>
<td>Green Acre, Eliot, Maine</td>
<td>A lively study class has</td>
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<td>August 13</td>
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<td>October 7</td>
<td>Urbana, Ill.</td>
<td>Some new believers.</td>
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<td>8, 9, 9</td>
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<td>December 9</td>
<td>Urbana, Ill.</td>
<td>One new believer.</td>
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<td>10, 11, 12</td>
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<td>March 3, 4</td>
<td>Knoxville, Tenn.</td>
<td>One new believer.</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
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<td>March 24</td>
<td>West Englewood, N. J.</td>
<td>A series of meetings will be</td>
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<td>25, 26, 27</td>
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<td>1939</td>
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Since the last report in Baha'i News, another new state has been opened to the Faith through pioneer service. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ewing of Lima, Ohio, and Dr. E. Lenore Morris and Dr. A. L. Morris of Chicago, have settled in Albuquerque, New Mexico. A Bahá'í group of seven has now been established in this city and regular meetings are being held.

The enrollment of seven believers in the city of Lead, South Dakota, has established the first Bahá'í Group in that state where pioneer teaching work was carried on for some time. In the summer and fall of 1938, Miss Margarette Reimer and Mrs. Gayle Woelson, who have recently joined the Faith, have given public lectures and conducted public meetings and in addition to creating interest among telephone operators and various administrative bodies in each region.

In reporting this schedule, the National Assembly wishes to explain that the meetings held at Urbana, Los Angeles and Knoxville will include public meetings and also regional conferences to be arranged by the Assembly itself, with the cooperation of the various administrative bodies in each region.

One of Mr. Gregory's students recently became the first Bahá'í in Montgomery, Alabama.

In Raleigh, North Carolina, Mrs. Terah Smith and Miss Margarette Reimer, with the assistance of Mrs. Sarah Martin Eason, an isolated believer in that city, were able to lecture on the Faith in Shaw University, the oldest colored university in the United States. Other public meetings have created much interest both in University circles and among other individuals. New contacts at Durham, North Carolina, are promising.

Since the last report, Mrs. Grace Ober has undertaken pioneer work in Louisville, Kentucky, and conducted a study class meeting twice weekly.

In addition to these new states, teaching work has been accelerated in several states having isolated believers. Miss Alma Knoblock is spending two months there to follow up previous contacts and to generally assist Mr. Young with his teaching work.

Mrs. Laura Robarts, Coolidge, Arizona, with the assistance of the Phoenix Bahá'ís, has arranged several public meetings in that city during the fall and winter. Excellent newspaper publicity has helped to stimulate interest in a study class.

Through the preparatory work of Orcella Rexford, Mr. Charles Mason Remey addressed a group of twenty interested people in Wilmington, Delaware, in February—the first public Bahá'í meeting to have been held in that city. Mr. Remey also addressed meetings arranged by isolated believers with the cooperation of the Regional Teaching Committee in Richmond and Arlington, Virginia.

In Santa Ana, California, where Mrs. Sara Witt of Los Angeles has been quietly working for some time, a well-attended public meeting was held in February with Mrs. Sylvia Matteson as speaker. As a result, several new people indicated their desire to study.

Miss Muriel Warnicker of Vancouver, British Columbia, recently went to Victoria for a few days for the express purpose of making Bahá'í contacts. The opening sentence of her report is typical of those that come from all pioneers: "It was positively miraculous the way in which I was led to people—key people who could give us entrée to other organizations." One contact opened the way to others and within three or four days fifty or sixty people heard of the Cause for the first time in that city.

A very interesting report from South Bend, Indiana, indicates how extension work may be carried on through the distribution of Bahá'í books, especially the World Order Magazine. One member has personally sent out 125 copies of the Magazine with covering letters. Subscriptions have been furnished the public libraries in five cities in three states and a considerable amount of teaching by correspondence is constantly going on by those who are not free to travel to other parts.

Vancouver Assembly reports that its series of eleven radio broadcasts, reported in detail in Baha'i News, has resulted in the establishment of a new study class of forty-five non-Bahá'ís. A twelve weeks' course has been planned to prepare the students for Bahá'í membership.

Springfield, Massachusetts, reports having had opportunity to give a series of six devotional radio broadcasts.
in January. A number of people wrote for copies of the talks, several of the requests coming from outside the city, thus making new contacts for extension work.

Through a high school member of its Youth Group, the Oakland Assembly recently sponsored three showings of the Temple slides before classes in art appreciation and history in the high school in Richmond, California, each class consisting of approximately one hundred fifty students. The following week pictures of the Temple and Baha'i books were displayed in the corridors for all students to see.

So unexpectedly successful have been all efforts to sow the seeds in new soil that there should no longer be any doubt or hesitancy on the part of any community or individual to carry the Teachings into surrounding as well as distant fields. Sincerity of purpose, a well-conceived plan, perseverance and prayer are among the chief requisites for all types of teaching work, and as each individual and each Assembly adds its strength and momentum to this service all will be the recipients of greater power and confirmation in all their teaching efforts.

"A person declares the glad tidings of the appearance of the realities and significances of the Kingdom is like unto a farmer who scatters pure seeds in the rich soil. The spring cloud will pour upon them the rain of bounty, and unquestionably the station of the farmer will be raised in the estimation of the lord of the village, and many harvests will be gathered."

"Therefore, ye friends of God! Appreciate ye the value of this time and be ye engaged in the sowing of the seeds, so that ye may find the heavenly blessing and the lordly bestowal." (‘Abdu’l-Baha in America’s Spiritual Mission.)

—National Teaching Committee.

**ANNUAL REPORT**

*National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada 1937-1938*

Dear Bahá’í friends:

This, the Thirtieth Annual Convention of American Bahá’ís, establishes a considerable extension of the principle of consultation as applied to our national Bahá’í affairs. By the increase in the number of delegates, the Bahá’í community has utmost representation in the annual meeting. The Convention can, therefore, fully and faithfully reflect the spirit and action of the body of the believers and, as the Guardian stated, constitute a firm foundation for the organic Bahá’í institution it is called upon to elect.

It is for lack of this principle of consultation whose roots draw sustenance from Divinely revealed truth, that the civilizations and cultures of the non-Bahá’í world have during this past year suffered further disintegration. Mass feelings and needs, divorced from the spirit of oneness, seek in violence under misguided leadership a solution of problems which but augments their difficulties and destroys their basis. There is not one active Bahá’í teacher who will not testify to the fact that individual souls are more receptive to the Message of Bahá’u’lláh than ever before, driven from their former allegiances by the realization that societies, whether large or small, which are imbued with suspicion or prejudice, hatred or fear, offer no refuge to the conscious human being in this age. Far more than any eloquence, the deeply-laid, providentially protected unity of the Bahá’í body itself stands as the visible proof that religion has been renewed by God’s will.

The most dramatic, the most moving evidence of the degree to which the world has turned away from the Path of Truth can be found in the Bahá’í history of this current year. We believe of the West have long admired the heroism and steadfastness of our fellow-Bahá’ís in the Orient, whom successive waves of persecution both ecclesiastical and secular have failed to disturb in their sublime faith. For ourselves, however, we have assumed that such conditions could never arise, relying upon a greater prevalence of public enlightenment or tolerance and upon the historical tradition of the separation of church and state. When, therefore, word came that the sacred Faith of Bahá’u’lláh had been denounced and its institutions and meetings forbidden in the very heart of Europe, we could not but realize the instability and impermanence of all things dependent upon human will and aim, and the need for a great deepening of faith in our own inner lives and a reconsecration to the unity of our spiritual community. The increase in the number of delegates thus may be appreciated as no mere arithmetical change, but a strengthening of the very foundations of the administrative order in America.

This reference to the Guardian’s protective action during the current year brings us to another subject vitally connected with the main springs of our faith—his translation of “Prayers and Meditations By Bahá’u’lláh.” Here, indeed, in the devotional realm—in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit—exists that Divine Elixir which can alone transmute the base metal of human nature into pure gold. This bounty has been given us at the crucial hour of need. Only as we enter into the new heaven of His Spirit can we live and strive free from the subtle or brutal influences of a misguided world. Our purity of aim, our unity of spirit and activity, must realize the new heaven upon earth. All else is subsidiary to that victory in the realm of heart and spirit.

It is, moreover, no coincidence of material fact but another working of the higher Will which during the same Bahá’í year presents us with the Guardian’s “World Order” letters in book form. For this work is the expression of the Guardianship itself, a degree of consecration and inspiration to which none other can attain, and the view of truthest wisdom upon the present condition of the world and the future of Bahá’u’lláh’s Faith. The work is consequently a direct tie for us in our present development between the book of prayers and meditations and the Guardian’s letters dealing with the character and evolution of the Cause. For our understanding of and our loyalty to the latter must be taken to represent the extent to which the spir-
it of devotion has truly entered our lives. For the first time in recorded history, revealed religion has combined and united the regeneration of the inner life with a social program fulfilling human personality in all degrees. No longer can piety and devotion assert ways of action or attitudes of thought as justification of anti-social forms of life. The Bahá'í knows well that he will not evolve spiritually if he spends his whole time in isolated prayer without association with other believers. He knows well that the end of worship today is not solitude on the mountain. He knows that he is not free to invent his own cosmic or social philosophy to express a personal and subjective religion. The religious life in this age can be lived under guidance, and the fears or ambitions secretly cherished in the soul have their healing as we forget ourselves in the task of establishing the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh.

The Twofold Task

The plans and achievements of the current Bahá'í year were born of the Guardian's message to the last Convention and the deep and abiding response that message evoked. "Dual gift Providentially conferred (upon) American Bahá'í community invests recipients with dual responsibility fulfilling historic mission. First, prosecute uninterruptedly teaching campaign inaugurated (at) last Convention in accordance (with) Divine Plan. Second, resume with inflexible determination exterior ornamentation (of) entire structure (of) Temple. Advise ponder message conveyed (to) delegates (through) esteemed co-worker, Fred Schopflocher. No triumph can more befittingly signalize termination (of) first century (of) Bahá'í era than accomplishment (of) this twofold task. Advise prolongation (of) Convention sessions (to) enable delegates consult National Assembly to formulate feasible Seven Year Plan (to) assure success Temple enterprise. No sacrifice too great for community so abundantly blessed, (so) repeatedly honored."

In the clear light of this call to action and sacrifice let us trace the steps by which the powers of the Holy Spirit have been set in motion and a foundation laid for the mighty victory to be realized by 1944.

1. A pledge of $100,000 was made at the Convention.

2. We were informed that the Guardian wished a special committee of technical experts to make a thorough study of the project, involving consideration of all available contractors and the costs and contractual elements of each successive stage in the work.

3. The incoming National Spiritual Assembly, as an insert to Baha'i News of June, 1937, the items of the annual Budget and an explanation of the first portion of the Seven Year plan.

4. The technical committee reported its findings at the meeting of the National Assembly held on August 28, 29, and 30, and after consultation with the committee and with Mr. John J. Earley a contract was placed for the ornamentation of the gallery section. Mr. Earley began the work at once, and the progress report dated August 6, 1938, conveyed the following information: "On March 25, the first car was shipped from the Earley Studio and arrived at Wilmette, Illinois, the last of the month. This car contained contractor's equipment, reinforcing steel and the wooden molds for the placing of the ornamentation that will be poured at the building. On March 28, the second car was shipped from Rosslyn, Virginia. This car contained 54,000 pounds of crushed stone and sand to be used in the pouring of the ornamentation at the building; 28 (finished) columns, 51 impost, 2 sections of cornice ornamentation and 2 sections of window band ornament. "The original clay models were completed by the sculptor during the early part of the month (March). The plaster models were being completed during the latter part of the month: the carving of the surfaces of the plaster cast of the pylons will be completed during the early part of April. Similarly the plaster casts for the spandrel ornamentation at the corners of the main arches will be completed during April: ... Work will continue uninterruptedly at the Temple, and will be in full swing by the end of the month and during the forthcoming Annual Convention. The engineering supervision of Temple construction has been carried on by Mr. McDaniel without cost to the Fund.

This is a truly gratifying and inspiring record of progress, for it means that before the end of 1938 or soon after all units of the gallery section will have been placed upon the Temple, and the unique effect already achieved by the dome and clerestory sections will be vastly enhanced.

The Guardian's joy on learning of the plans reported to the friends in June was expressed in the following cablegram: "Immeasurably gratified National Assembly's initial step presentation Seven Year Plan, redirect with added force nationwide appeal to entire community insure uninterrupted completion first unit and accumulation sufficient funds enable placing without delay final contract." His approval of the technical committee's recommendations was received on September 2: "Approve committee's decision. Place contract immediately."

As we consider this development of the Temple work, and recall the fact that the 1937 Convention resolved to rededicate itself "to the achievement of the holy task before the end of the first century of the Bahá'í era," we should be profoundly grateful for the conditions of complete unity and continuous guidance under which the tremendous undertaking has begun. Nothing could testify more strongly to the general progress of the Bahá'í community than the certitude prevailing now in contrast to the hesitation and uncertainty which accompanied the launching of the first "Plan of Unified Action" in 1926.

The arena of social confusion and fear in which this concentration of Bahá'í faith and energy has proceeded was once more interpreted for us by the Guardian in his cablegram dated August 4, 1937:"

"Much heartened (by) compelling evidences accelerated speed with which teaching campaign inaugurated throughout Americas (is) now progressing. ... In a world perilously near cataclysmic convulsions destined to experience, at a time when forces of repression are launching their assaults and conspiring (to) undermine foundations (of) most powerful strongholds (of) Faith (of) Bahá'u'lláh in land of its birth and in heart of both Asiatic (and) European continents, an inescapable, well-nigh staggering responsibility rests on America, its one chief remaining citadel. Who among its stalwart defenders will arise, untrammeled (and) unafraid, to implant its banner in those States, provinces (and) Countries where its standard is still unhinged? Entreat now the American community heed vital urgency (of) my impassioned plea (and) spur efforts bring speedy termination (of) first Stage in evolution (of) so impor-
tantly a phase of dual task they have so enthusiastically shouldered."

The progress of the teaching work carried on during the year cannot be reported as definitely as the developments in Temple construction. The activities of every committee, every Assembly, every group and of individual believers from day to day have their direct relation to the promotion of the Faith. Thus, for example, one should not overlook the work of the Committee on Braille Transcriptions which brings light to the eye of the soul, nor the achievements of the Summer Schools, nor the special opportunities resulting from the program maintained by Miss Zamenhof, Orella Rexford and others, many details of which come to us in the periodic reports of the Teaching Committee and in the annual reports just published in Baha'i News.

That each established Baha'i community should undergo continuous growth in numbers as well as in experience and capacity must be assumed. The spiritual reinforcement augments miraculously from year to year, and upon that rising tide even a small and fragile craft will dare to leave its moorings. There are, however, certain fixed standards which can be applied to the progress of teaching each year: first, the formation of new Spiritual Assemblies; second, the establishment of groups in new areas. At the date of this writing, nine local groups are authorized to form an Assembly on April 21, and one former Assembly may be re-established. This is truly a notable record. Such a result can not be achieved without the most vigorous action on the part of the National and Regional Teaching Committees, traveling teachers and, in the case of such centers as Oklahoma City, a most impressive response to the Guardian's call for pioneers. The essential characteristic of teaching work at present is its quality of acceleration. A decade passed from 1912 to 1922 when, separated from the Master by the War and then bereft by His ascension, the American Baha'i community struggled to maintain its place. Under the Guardian there followed a remarkably brief period of readjustment to the Administrative Order, and the progress of Temple construction has symbolized that new force of acceleration which will surely increase each day until the World Order is firmly established. Already our teaching area is the Americas and not the United States and Canada alone. Already we are acquiring experience in dealing with problems of language, nationality and cultural differences which contains the potentiality of the universal outlook of world citizenship. The sphere of our collective responsibility has been extended by Shoghi Effendi to fill that vast social area to which Bahá'u'lláh extended His gaze and upon which He laid His blessing when He revealed that Tablet addressed to the "Rulers of America, and Presidents of the Republics therein."

But the forward movement also has its tests requiring us to examine the character of our community life from time to time. The Assembly Roll this year omitted Santa Barbara, Akron, Rockford and Rochester, while adding the new Assembly of Jersey City.

The Guardian's message, sent through Mr. Schopflocher, calling upon local Assemblies to incorporate, acquire capacity for handling practical affairs, and place themselves in a position to receive endowments, has resulted in a great increase of legal incorporation. The necessary papers have been worked out by the Assemblies of Cleveland, Kenosha, Racine, Milwaukee, Seattle and Minneapolis, and those submitted by Binghamton and Boston are in process at the present time. Perhaps we have not yet fully realized the power and importance of a local Assembly in the maturity of its development. Together they will in future control far more property than the National body of Trustees. Each will have its House of Worship and accessory buildings; each will maintain facilities for education and the humanitarian functions of the Faith. Whether that maturity is near or remote in time, the outcome is inevitable, and consequently the basis for that further development must be laid as soon as possible.

American believers who have served under the Inter-America Committee in foreign lands have been Beatrice Irwin, Eve Nicklin and Mrs. Frances Stewart. Louis Gregory's activities in Haiti belong partly to this and partly to the record of last year. Miss Nicklin proved that a believer with professional training can establish himself financially in another country, but unfortunately found soon after she had established herself in Bahia that her residence as a foreigner had become untenable. As reported in April, 1938 Baha'i News, an active group has been formed in Mexico City, and the election of a Spiritual Assembly in that capital of a neighboring people was authorized by the Guardian. Here, indeed, is an event of the utmost significance. A Spiritual Assembly in Mexico City can never be realized as the strong pillar of a bridge that will eventually link together in the Bahá'i Order all the nations and peoples of the New World.

American believers residing in other lands are: Leonore Holzapple, in Bahia, Mrs. Clara Sharp and Adelaide Sharp in Thiran, Marion Jack in Sofia, Mrs. Isabel Stebbins Dodge in Peru, Bertha Matthiesen in Europe, and Martha Root, now in India. During the year, Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell returned from Haifa, Agnes Alexander returned from Japan, Mrs. Louise Gregory from Belgrade, Mrs. Ruth Langhiz Bolles and Mrs. Millyl from Europe, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bishop, Mrs. Annie Romer and Mrs. Gina Orlova from England and the continent of Europe. Miss Margaret Lent, after serving at the International Bahá'i Center in Geneva, Switzerland, has again established herself in the United States. Let us pay homage to these devoted Bahá'i workers for their significant services to the Faith. Mark Tobey, member of the National Spiritual Assembly of the British Isles, is now in the United States for a visit of some months.

Direct or indirect fruits of their activities are: the institution of Summer Schools in Iran and England, the formation of a Baha'i group in Budapest, and extensive publicity as well as the quickening of the spirit of faith in many European countries, South Africa and the Orient.

Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Mathews returned after an extensive journey, during which Mrs. Mathews established distribution or reference centers for Bahá'i literature in Rio de Janeiro,
Cape Town, Johannesburg, the Seychelles Islands, the Islands of Java and Bali, Manila and the Island of Zanzibar, the Philippines.

Although Siegfried Schopflocher's teaching work in the Orient was carried on last year, a picture of the results, in the form of newspaper and magazine clippings, was not available when last year's annual report was prepared. These clippings and programs reveal a most impressive public presentation of the teachings before many audiences. It is hoped that copies will be made available for the scrapbooks maintained by the Publicity Committee.

Between August 18 and October 4, 1937, Mrs. Nellie S. French served the Cause in Honolulu, New Zealand and Australia, finding many opportunities for interviews and publicity and responding to the call of the Bahá'í communities for public meetings. An interview was given over the radio at Melbourne.

The powers of the spirit seem to accompany Martha Root wherever she goes. Sailing from San Francisco, May 20, she visited the Honolulu believers and after effective teaching work in Japan, she arrived at Shanghai immediately prior to the military invasion and attack upon that city. Sent to Manila with other American citizens for safety, Martha there experienced the great earthquake. Undaunted, she proceeded to India and Burma, and for many months has carried out a most extensive program arranged by the Bahá'í Assemblies. We understand that the Guardian wishes her to continue serving in India until the fall of 1938.

Another teaching work achieved by an American believer in the foreign field resulted from Mrs. Joel Stebbins' visit to Peru during the summer of 1937, where, with her daughter, important contacts were made.

Miss Lidia Zamenhof, daughter of the founder of Esperanto, has been in the United States, since September, 1937, arriving on invitation extended by the National Spiritual Assembly and warmly endorsed by the Guardian. Her distinguished services have been shared with the Esperantists. Miss Zamenhof has held Esperanto classes so far in New York, Philadelphia and Detroit, under the auspices of the local Esperanto groups but with the cordial cooperation of the Bahá'í Assemblies. She has made a number of direct Bahá'í addresses and in her Esperanto contacts has turned many to consideration of the Bahá'í Faith. The plans made with her by our Committee on Universal Language call for meetings in Lima, Ohio and a class in Esperanto at Green Acre in July. These Esperanto classes are not only for beginners but also they are to prepare Esperanto students to become proficient teachers. This honored guest emphasizes the truth that a believer who becomes technically expert in any branch of knowledge or activity based on idealism, thereby opens a door by which the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh may enter the consciousness of some large special groups. Perhaps we have not sufficiently realized the degree to which Bahá'ís are expected to acquire knowledge and attain capacity in fields outside as well as within the Cause. The Esperantists, inspired by their founder, Dr. Zamenhof, are idealists who have already asserted their acceptance of one of the laws revealed by Bahá'u'lláh. Those present at the Convention will surely wish to meet and greet this honored fellow-believer and co-worker, Lidia Zamenhof, translator of Bahá'í books into Esperanto and Bahá'í speaker at a number of International Esperanto Congresses in recent years.

The American Bahá'í community has realized how much of the Seven Year Plan has come into the realm of possibility through the donation of $100,000 to the Fund. The Fund has also this year received another munificent gift of $25,000. Our Bahá'í properties have likewise been considerably extended through the generous gifts of a number of American believers.

Roy Wilhelm's original gift of property at West Englewood, blessed by the Unity Feast held by the Master in 1912, has been extended by additional property donated by him at the end of the last Bahá'í year, and by two lots transferred to the Trustees by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Goodfellow. The Bahá'í Summer School at Geyersville, the monument to the ardent love of Mr. and Mrs. John Bosch, has been greatly enriched by the new and beautiful dormitory presented by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Collins. The Green Acre property has been extended and consolidated by the acquisition of the so-called Ball cottage and land given by Mr. and Mrs. Siegfried Schopflocher. Its facilities have furthermore been considerably developed by Mrs. Florence Morton's donation of the new Bahá'í Hall and the accommodations added to the Inn and two of the adjoining cottages. The publication cost of the Guardian's translation of "Prayers and Meditations by Bahá'u'lláh" was also met by a generous and loving gift offered by an American Bahá'í.

In the model produced by John J. Earle, we have our first glimpse of the Bahá'í House of Worship as it will appear with completed external decoration and scaled to the proportions of the present structure which represents an alteration made by Mr. Bourgeois, at the direction of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, in his original design. Twenty reproductions of the model have been obtained. Of these, one was presented to the Guardian, one is for exhibit in Temple Foundation Hall, several have been transferred to the Teaching Committee for temporary traveling exhibit by local Assemblies and groups, and models have been purchased for permanent exhibit by the Spiritual Assemblies of New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Montreal and Buffalo. The model sent to Montreal was a gift from Ruhiyih Khanum to the local Bahá'í community. Other Assemblies are urged to consider the desirability of possessing a Temple model, which so clearly depicts the form and appearance of the House of Worship and thus creates visible evidence of the universal significance of the Faith.

On August 30, 1937, the members of the National Assembly gathered at the grave of Alfred E. Lunt in Beverly, Massachusetts, by request of the Guardian, whose cable message received August 16 declared: "Future generations will appraise his manifold outstanding contributions to rise and
establishment of Faith in the American continent." Gratitude for distinctive and important services to the Cause impels special mention of the passing of Mr. Thomas Collins, whose name will ever be associated with the American Pilgrim House at Haifa and with the Hall and dormitory at the Geyersville Summer School, though he was not enrolled officially as a Bahá’í.

Communications from the Guardian

Our knowledge of the Bahá’í teachings, and our capacity to act under guidance, have been enriched and stimulated by a number of letters and cablegrams from Shoghi Effendi, some of which have already been cited in this report. Reviewing now their publication in Bahá’í News, Nos. 108 to 115, we have—

Shoghi Effendi’s cablegram to the 1937 Convention.

His interpretation of Bahá’u’lláh’s law on daily obligatory prayer.

His explanation of the command concerning daily work.

An observation and direction with reference to teaching in the Southern States.

Plea for complete rededication to the ideals of the teaching campaign during the observance of the Twentieth Anniversary of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s visit to America.

The cablegram received April 5, 1937, accepting the donation made by the National Assembly for all local Assemblies “for immediate strengthening new tie binding American Bahá’ís to institution of the Guardianship.” Shoghi Effendi in his acceptance declared: “Nobest contribution individual believers can make at this juncture is to promote the potentialities with which the community of the Greatest Name has been so generously and mysteriously endowed by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.”

An explanation of the Bahá’í attitude toward Esperanto.

The cablegram of July 4: “Immeasurably gratified National Assembly’s initial step presentation Seven-Year Plan” and setting forth five successive steps upon which its successful operation depends.

The cablegram of August 4 pointing out the “inescapable, well-nigh staggering responsibility” resting upon America and appealing for individuals to arise, “untrammeled and unafraid, to implant its banners in those States, Provinces and Countries where its standard is still unhoisted,” concluding with a moving appeal that we heed afresh the vital urgency of his impasioned plea.

On September 2 was received the cablegram approving the recommendations of the Technical Committee and directing that the Temple contract be placed immediately.

The October, 1937 issue of Bahá’í News reported the Guardian’s statement that Bahá’í mission should not coincide with the time of church services; and the message which the Guardian sent through Siegfried Schopflicher for local Assemblies on the subject of incorporation and endowments.

The cablegram directing that hereafter 171 delegates be elected to the Convention, received November 21, was published in Bahá’í News of January. In the same issue was made known to the friends the Guardian’s cablegram of December 20: “Hand Omnipotence’s范畴 had should not coincide with the time of church services; and the message which the Guardian sent through Siegfried Schopflicher for local Assemblies on the subject of incorporation and endowments.

The cablegram directing that hereafter 171 delegates be elected to the Convention, received November 21, was published in Bahá’í News of January. In the same issue was made known to the friends the Guardian’s cablegram of December 20: “Hand Omnipotence’s movement archbreaker Bahá’u’lláh’s Covenant. His hopes shattered, his plottings frustrated, society his fellow-conspirators extinguished. God’s triumphant Faith forges on, its unity unimpaired, its purity unsullied, its stability unshaken. Such death calls for neither exultation nor recrimination but evokes overwhelming pity so tragic downfall unparalleled in religious history.”

That event turned the hearts of the believers to those texts in the Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá which recounted the actions and pretenses and established their disobedience to the Manifestation of God, especially the violation enacted by Muhammed-Ali, son of Bahá’u’lláh.

Whenever the Guardian’s letters to the National Assembly contain passages of general instruction and interest, they are reported to the entire community, and such references are found in Bahá’í News of January, February and April, 1938. The explanation of the Bahá’í attitude on pacifism, on the matter of reproductions of the Master’s likeness, on Bahá’í music and on his view of the progress of the Plan may be found therein.

Shoghi Effendi’s letter of November 25, 1937, which developed the theme of the increased number of delegates, was published in February, 1938. The challenging issues with which the American believers as a body are now being confronted were outlined in his own words as postscript to that letter, and no doubt the believers have given these words their most careful attention.

We were informed in the body of that same letter that the details of the administrative order have been sufficiently developed, and that both individual believers and the National Assembly must “henceforth direct their attention to the greater and vital issues which an already established Administration is now called upon to face and handle.”

Finally, up to the date of the preparation of this report, we have the Guardian’s words of January 30 on “certain vital requirements,” of the Plan, with the prayer, “May the all-conquering Spirit of Bahá’u’lláh be so infused into each component part of this harmoniously functioning System as to enable it to contribute its proper share to the consummation of the Plan.”

In conclusion, the National Spiritual Assembly feels it incumbent to ask for consideration of the fundamental fact that the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh is not a static creed but a dynamic and world-renewing Power. At each stage of its evolution a higher and more conscious inner understanding, consecration and sacrifice is required of every believer. Attitudes, feelings and methods that might have seemed proper and sufficient in an earlier stage may be harmful and destructive when that stage has been ended and a new phase of the Faith begun to unfold. The degree

A SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY IN MEXICO CITY

The first definite achievement in the field of Inter-America teaching is the formation of a Spiritual Assembly by the new Bahá’í community of Mexico City.

A heart-felt welcome is extended to the members of this Assembly by their co-workers throughout the United States and Canada. For their success in firmly establishing the Faith, first in Mexico City itself and later in other cities of the nation, with the cooperation of the Inter-America Committee, the American believers will surely pray ardently.

That event turned the hearts of the believers to those texts in the Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá which recounted the actions and pretenses and established their disobedience to the Manifestation of God, especially the violation enacted by Muhammed-Ali, son of Bahá’u’lláh.

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of discipline inevitably increases from childhood to maturity as responsibility replaces the care and protection extended to the helpless child. All around us, discipline has become entirely a matter of force and external power, frequently brutal and brutalizing in its effects upon human beings. In the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh, love and worship precede discipline, making it possible for each devoted soul to respond voluntarily to the organic laws and precepts; and this capacity for self-imposed discipline transforms the aged-old concept of social power from material force to spiritual authority, spiritually accepted and willingly obeyed. Moreover, while the springs of action within disbelieving persons release the urges of nature or reflect prevailing human values, the follower of Bahá'u'lláh can draw upon an illimitable Source of dynamic energy in his will to serve. Both on the side of discipline and on the side of self-expression, the believer is expected to rise above what is called the human condition and show forth the realities of the true man. But these mysteries are not so much attributes of knowledge as attributes of will. When the Faith enters every new stage of development, it is our will which must become re-directed and re-inspired. Argument and discussion can not invoke the mysterious potency released only as we purify the elements of intention and will. If we will anything less than unity, disunity must inevitably result.

It is by a deepening realization of the responsibility laid upon the American Bahá'í community that we can make the transition to the new stage of reality indicated by the Guardian this year. The resolution to adopt and fulfill the Seven-Year Plan, amidst the general darkening of the world's horizons, must survive every conceivable test before the resolution can become firmly established. The task surpasses the capacity of human emotion and thought, as faithfulness to the achievement of the task saves us from the limitations of human nature as they have existed in the past. Solely by concentration upon these two aspects of the Plan in our daily lives and meetings can we hope to become worthy of its ultimate success.

Faithfully yours,
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY,
By: HORACE HOLLEY,
Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT 1937-1938
Trustees for the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada

A year ago the Trustees reported for the first time a detailed summary of the origin, development and management of the various corporate trusteeships that have been created to control and supervise the different properties that have been acquired either by gift or purchase by the National Spiritual Assembly over a period of years, and which are located in the States of Illinois, Maine, New Jersey, California and Massachusetts. It was pointed out in that report that it had been necessary to form these separate trusts in order to protect the National Fund from any contingencies that might possibly involve one of these properties. The officers and members of these corporate bodies are the same as those of the National Spiritual Assembly and are elected each year by the same vote that elects the National Assembly. In this manner the Bahá'í community of the United States and Canada is assured that all of the affairs of the Bahá'í Faith are under the direction of their duly qualified representatives.

Owing to the ever-increasing responsibilities in connection with these estates it has been necessary to appoint special Maintenance Committees to assist in their management. These committees have rendered most valuable services this past year and merit the gratitude of the friends. As the Cause grows, and more use is made of these properties, it may be necessary to place them under the supervision of a general manager.

This year the National Assembly appointed a Committee on Financial Records of all Bahá'í Properties in North America. This committee is preparing a set of records that will contain photostats of all the Indentures of Trust, survey maps and photographs of the properties, inventories, annual tax and insurance records, payrolls and terms of employment, leases and development plans as well as a list of the lands held by the Palestine Branch with the names of their donors. A new financial set-up is being made that will provide for a capital account and an accounting of the annual maintenance operations, and improvements, which have to be provided from the National Bahá'í Fund. This record will be made in duplicate and one copy will be forwarded to the Guardian, the other will be available for reference at all meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly. It will assure a more effective supervision of all these sacred trusts which are valued in America alone at more than a million dollars.

The annual report of the National Treasurer will give the exact figures of income and expense involved in the management of these trusteeships as related to the National Bahá'í Fund. This record will give the salient points connected with the supervision of the five properties for the current Bahá'í year and the approximate fixed charges of each trust—the Temple, Green Acre, Wilhelm, Bosch and Malden, to March 1, 1938.

Temple Trustees

The trustees received a new responsibility when the memorable and inspiring cabled Message from Shoghi Effendi was received during the 1937 Convention, investings the American Bahá'í community with a dual task to continue the teaching campaign and "resume with inflexible determination exterior ornamentation entire structure of the Temple. Advise ponder message conveyed delegates (through) esteemed co-worker, Fred Schopflocher. No triumph can more befittingly signalize termination first century Bahá'í era than accomplishment (of) this twofold task."

Mr. Schopflocher further reported that the Guardian hoped that the exterior ornamentation would be completed before the end of the first Bahá'í century, 1944, and that a committee of experts, Bahá'í and non-Bahá'í, should be appointed to submit costs and make recommendations to the National Assembly about the contract for the next step in the construction. A committee was appointed of three Bahá'ís and three technical experts, consisting of L. W. Eggleston, chairman, E. Roger Boyle, Frank R. McMillan, Stuart W. French, Frank A. Baker and C. Herrick Hammond.

This committee considered the most efficient, economical and satisfactory methods to be employed in the completion of the entire exterior ornamentation of the Temple, the nature and terms of the contract and to whom it should be given, and after a careful survey of the problem made a unanimous recommendation that the contract be placed with Mr. John J. Earley, who had so successfully completed the Dome and Clerestory ornamentation. After consideration of the type of contract, whether on a cost-
plus basis or a fixed amount, it was found that the latter would run nearly $30,000.00 higher, and the cost-plus basis was recommended. The technical committee further recommended that the Research Service, Inc., be employed to supervise the construction work, on behalf of the Trustees.

With these recommendations before it the National Assembly met with both the Technical Committee and Mr. Earley during its August meeting at Green Acre and voted to accept the recommendations and to enter into a contract with Mr. Earley for the completion of the gallery section of the Temple at an estimated cost of $140,000.00, which includes all materials, labor, insurance, social security taxes and freight charges at actual cost, and which should also cover a contingency reserve for unforeseen conditions and raises in wages and the 15 per cent fee of the Earley Studio. Mr. Earley stated that he would like to purchase all the necessary steel and quartz and cement necessary to complete the contract as soon as possible. He also gave an estimate of $350,000.00 for the completion of the entire outer ornamentation. The National Assembly then cabled the following message to Shoghi Effendi: "Under recommendation Technical Committee contract next Temple unit given Earley. Estimated cost his work $125,000, total estimated cost $145,000 including contingency reserve." The following reply was received on September 2nd, "Approve Committee's decision. Place contract immediately."

When this information was received by the Trustees they voted to appoint a committee of Mountfort Mills and Allen McDaniel to prepare the terms of the contract in accordance with the standardized type of agreement used by the American Institute of Architects and to authorize any five Trustees to sign it on behalf of the Trustees. Mr. Earley was further authorized to make an immediate purchase of the materials needed for the performance of the work at an estimated cost of $20,000. This was done on the advice of the National Spiritual Assembly that the sum of $76,000 was available and that an additional $50,000 would be available in January, 1938. The contract was signed on October 5, 1937.

It was further voted to appoint Mr. Allen McDaniel the representative of the Trustees in supervising the execution of the ornament entered into with Mr. Earley and that the treasurer be directed to pay the expense incurred by Mr. McDaniel in connection with the supervision of the work at the Earley Studio as well as at the Temple, including the preparation of detailed monthly reports and travelling expenses. It was likewise voted to pay any expense incurred by the Technical Committee in connection with its survey.

The Trustees are happy to report that this committee is available for consultation and will be present on construction with any technical problem that might arise during the construction work and that they made no charge for their professional advice. A full report of the work of this Committee will be given by its chairman, Mr. Eggleston, during the 1938 Convention.

The purchases of materials was started in September, and during the early part of October, Mr. Earley had trained assistants make the measurements at the Temple necessary for the working drawings from which the models and moulds are prepared. The works at the Earley Studio and all clay models and casts were completed the first part of April. On March 25, the first car containing contractor's equipment, reinforcing steel and wooden moulds for the placing of the ornamentation that is to be poured at the Temple, was shipped. On March 28, a second car was shipped containing 54,000 pounds of crushed stone and sand, 28 columns, 51 imposters, 2 sections of cornice ornamentation and 2 sections of window band ornament. The friends attending the 1938 Convention will have the renewed inspiration of again seeing the Temple under construction.

A detailed monthly report of all operations has been furnished the Trustees by Mr. McDaniel which includes every item of expense from the reinforced steel down to a whitewash brush. This progress report divides the work into three sections; A. Cost of Models and Moulds, B. Cost of precast Ornament, C. Cost of materials and labor at the Temple. The estimated cost of the work to March 31, 1938, according to figures supplied by Mr. Earley was $45,162.28, while the total expenditures to the same date have amounted to $43,354.34, showing that up to the present time the work has advanced according to outlined schedule and the actual cost is running reasonably within the estimates. The system of accounting is the same as that installed in the Earley Studio by the auditor of the City of Nashville when Mr. Earley completed a contract with that city some years ago. The entire gallery section should be completed within a two year period from the signing of the contract. The Trustees visited the Earley Studio on December 11th and found the work proceeding ahead of the outlined schedule. They also viewed the splendid Temple Model made by Mr. Earley and which can be purchased by local Assemblies for $95.00. One of these models was sent to Shoghi Effendi, one will be on display at the Temple and one was sent to the Concrete Institute; others will be available for Teaching campaigns.

Two most generous gifts, one of $100,000 and another of $25,000 gave a great impetus to the start of the Temple construction fund the early part of the Baha'i year. The friends throughout the land have arisen to the great task before us inspired by the Guardian's cablegram of July 4, 1937: "Immeasurably gratified National Assembly's initial step presentation Seven-Year Plan. Successful operation Temple enterprise necessitates carrying on faithfully, energetically following foregoing steps. First, expedite preliminary investigations. Second, utilize Fred's historic munificent donation by immediate signature contract for next unit. Third, redirect with added force nationwide appeal to entire community insure uninterrupted completion first unit and accumulation sufficient funds enable placing without delay final contract. Fourth, place final contract as soon as half required sum available in National Treasury. Fifth, re-emphasize supreme obligation triumphant consummation so vital a part of American believers' twofold task by May, 1944. Advise communicate above message all believers stimulate universal response Assembly's future endeavors." The Trustees feel confident they will not have to make any further loans to complete payments for contracted work on the Temple as the believers will be ever mindful that "No sacrifice (is) too great for community so abundantly blessed, repeatedly honored."

Considerable attention has been given to the problem of the Temple grounds this past year. A preliminary survey of the landscaping plans is under way so that the nature and amount of fill necessary for the ultimate ground plan can be determined. The Trustees have informed the United States Engineer's Office that they are in a position to build the necessary bulkheads and arrange for the fill when dredging operations in Wilmette harbor are started.

For the information of the friends the Triangular plot adjacent to
Marshall Studio .......................... 0.1768
Burgeois Studio plot .......................... 0.9105
Temple plot .................................. 5.8835
Total area ................................ 6.9708

The Trustees have spent much time trying to arrive at an equitable settlement of the division of the stub-end property of the old Sheridan Road upon information from the Wilmette Village authorities that it has been abandoned, and that they will cooperate with the Trustees in making a settlement with the Goldblatt family which have acquired the adjacent Marshall property. This matter should be terminated in the near future, as three Trustees, Mr. Wilhelm, Mr. Holley and Mr. Scheffler met with the owners last Fall and reported that a settlement has been proposed.

Upon the advice and instruction of the Guardian, an agreement has been entered into with Mrs. Pemberton for the purchase of the interior designs of Temple at the cost of Forty Dollars a month, payable to her during the term of her natural life. Payments started in January, 1938, under this agreement. The drawings will be forwarded to Shoghi Effendi after a set of prints have been made.

The following necessary repairs and improvements were made this past year: a new steel rolling door was installed in the foundation wall at a cost of $251.00; plastering $150.00; screen and storm doors, $101.77; grading and seeding the ground, $558.96; and roofing, refacing the walls of the Temple Studio and caretaker's cottage, $738.68—a total of $1,800.41. Travelling expenses of the Technical Committee amounting to $297.64 and legal expense of $88.35 have been paid. Insurance was renewed on the Temple Studio, Liability and Workmen’s Compensation and the Boilers in the Temple, this latter at a saving of $74.25 for three years. The annual maintenance costs will be found in the Treasurer’s report. Beginning March 1st, Mr. Hennan’s salary was increased to $125.00 a month. Allen McDaniel and Carl Scheffler acted as the Maintenance Committee.

**Green Acre Trustees**

Prior to the opening of Green Acre for the Summer School sessions for 1937, the rebuilding of the third floor of the Inn was completed, second floor accommodations had been added in two of the cottages adjoining the Inn, and the new Baha’i Hall, overlooking the Piscataqua River—the generous gift to the Cause by Mrs. Florence Morton—was finished and ready to provide a beautiful and necessary auditorium for lectures, classes, conferences and feasts. In addition to her greatly appreciated gift of the Baha’i Hall, Mrs. Morton contributed $1,500.00 for the third floor improvements in the Inn.

Another important gift to Green Acre was the purchase of the so-called Ball cottage with its three acres, running from the main highway to the Ole Bull property, by Mr. and Mrs. Schopflocher. In addition they donated $250.00 for the repair of the roof and paid the current taxes on this property, which is a valuable addition to Green Acre because of its year-round rental opportunity, when necessary repairs and improvements are made in the amount of $3,000.00.

The following cottages have produced income for the Trustees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cottage</th>
<th>Rent (annual)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McKinney Cottage</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rogers Cottage</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reeves Cottage</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas Cottage</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball Cottage</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total ........................................ $240.00

Repairs in the amount of $100.00 were expended on the Lucas Cottage and $115.00 on the Ball Cottage. Additional repairs will be necessary to the Ball Cottage to make it rentable during the winter months. Besides the third floor improvements at the Inn, it will be necessary to repair and paint the roof over the kitchen and dining-room at a cost of $260.00. The Trustees voted to expend the balance of the Yandell Art Fund of $375.00 for installing a toilet and making improvements in the Arts and Crafts Studio. Mrs. Nancy Bowditch has been appointed to conduct classes in drawing, painting and designing this coming season. The taxes of $662.72 and $9.75 on McKinney Cottage for 1937 have been paid. In this connection, the Trustees felt that the Baha’i Hall, Fellowship House and the Arts and Crafts Studio are subject to tax exemption as they are used exclusively for religious purposes and a committee of Mr. Harold Bowman, Mrs. Emma Flynn and Mr. Horace Holley met with the Village Selectmen and presented a request for exemption in the valuation of $5,600.00, the limit allowed by the laws of the State of Maine. Favorable action on this request is hoped for this year. It will be necessary to make certain repairs on Fellowship House roof and also on the interior supports in Rogers Cottage.

The matter of insurance became another serious problem to the Trustees this past year, as notice of an increase of rate on Fellowship House from $1.75 to $3.75 per hundred was published by the New England Insurance Exchange. Mr. Latimer, who has been authorized by the Trustees to handle all insurance items, met with the Agents last August at Green Acre and had them file an application for revision. Finally in March of this year, word was received that the old rate had been restored and this amounted in a savings of $200.00 to the Trustees. Owing to the improvements to the Inn and Cottages, additional insurance has been placed on these buildings and the amount reduced on Fellowship House. Total insurance paid this year amounted to $665.98 on the buildings, liability and workmen’s compensation.

Mrs. Ormsby managed the Inn for the Trustees in 1937. The Inn was thoroughly fumigated at a cost of $175.00 and new beds and equipment installed on the third floor and in the cottages at a cost of $534.80. A station wagon, costing $353.00 was purchased for the use of the Inn and its guests. Mrs. Marguerite Bruegger served as a Baha’i hostess during the season. Food, pay-roll, supplies and miscellaneous expense for light, water, coal, ice, laundry, amounted to $4,412.27, while the income from guests, cottage rents and miscellaneous amounted to $3,979.51, leaving a deficit for the season of $432.76.

Mrs. Flora Valentine has been engaged to manage the Inn and cottages for July and August, 1938, at a salary of $100.00 a month. The manager is to send in a weekly financial report this coming season to the Trustees and supply a copy for the Maintenance Committee. The Trustees adopted a policy that Green Acre is to be recognized as a Baha’i summer school, the aim of which is to train and inspire believers to become Baha’i teachers, and plans made to attract non-believers to conform in all respects to the highest interests of the Faith. It is hoped a deeper spiritual appeal will promote greater unified effort and enthusiasm, to the end that it may become financially self-supporting.

The following committee was appointed jointly by the National Assembly to combine the functions of program and maintenance: Flora Morton, chairman, Alice Bacon, Harold Bowman, Amelia Bowman, Roushan Wilkinson, Harlan Ober and Glenn Shook. Emma Flynn was appointed supervisor of properties and directed
the caretaker's duties. Mr. Edwin La Pointe served as caretaker for the year at a part time monthly salary at $76.80. It is the hope of the Trustees that the attendance at Green Acre this coming season will increase to such an extent that there will be no operating deficit and a great spiritual contribution be made to the furtherance of the Seven-Year Plan.

Wilhelm Trustees

The Trustees are happy to report that another welcomed gift has been made to this property which witnesses each year the most memorable event connected with the visit of the Master to America in 1912—the Annual Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Mr. Walter Goodfellow and Jessie Goodfellow, his wife, presented to the Wilhelm Trustees two lots adjoining the present property. This indenture was executed December 31, 1937 and recorded on January 4, 1938, in the office of the clerk of Bergen County, in Book 2097, page 482 of Deeds. These lots make a valuable addition to the present property, and our deep and abiding appreciation is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Goodfellow.

Last year Mr. Samuel Shure, attorney for Mr. Wilhelm, advised the Trustees that the Teaneck Township assessor stated that the lots located in the pine grove were not tax exempt because they are separated from the property used for religious purposes. Mr. Wilhelm paid the taxes on these lots for 1937. The town has agreed to give exemption on lots No. 8 and No. 9 for 1938 and successive years.

The Cabin has been leased for meetings to the Teaneck Spiritual Assembly at a monthly rental of $30.00, and this Assembly pays for its portion of the liability insurance, light and heat. This past year Mr. Wilhelm installed a separate oil tank to supply oil to the Cabin for determining exactly the costs to the Teaneck Assembly. The only costs to the Trustees have been $18.40 for legal expenses and about $10.00 for insurance, Mr. Wilhelm having borne all other costs.

Bosch Trustees

Since our last report the beautiful dormitory at Geyserville was completed and its dedication took place on July 4th, the opening day of the Summer School. It was an occasion of great joy to have Mrs. Thomas Collins present at these services. She and her husband, who was deprived of seeing the culmination of his devotion to this institution, have complemented the wonderful gift of John and Louise Bosch, with their endowments of the Bahá’í Hall and the dormitory. The two-story dormitory, with thirteen rooms on the main floor and beds for fourteen on the second floor, will accommodate about fifty people. This beautiful building will stand as a memorial to Mr. Thomas Collins.

Mr. Joe Borzoni was employed as caretaker last May at a salary of $50.00 per month, for part time services. An arrangement has been made that whatever work he does for the friends who have cottages on the property in his spare time shall be deducted from the wages paid by the Trustees and assumed by the other parties. These services are not available during the period of the summer school.

The summer school and maintenance of the property have been conducted up to the present time without any subsidy from the National Fund, the only costs being the caretaker’s salary which amounted to $521.66 and workmen’s compensation of $34.05. Mr. and Mrs. Bosch and Mrs. Collins have taken care of the taxes, water, light, and other insurance items. Other friends have contributed sums to carry on the summer school work. Last year there was a deficit of $20.00, which included a nominal weekly charge for the rooms to cover laundry, etc. This deficit was made up by the friends.

The Trustees appointed the following Maintenance Committee to supervise the management on their behalf: George Latimer, chairman, Leroy Forsyth Ward and Harry R. Munson. This committee will render an annual report to the Trustees.

Malden Trustees

The friends are aware that this house was turned over to the National Spiritual Assembly by Shoghi Effendi because of its memorable association with the Master’s visit to America in 1912. On June 4, 1937, the following word was received from the Guardian: “Concerning the house at Malden, Mass., the Guardian leaves all the questions related to its restoration and renting to the discretion of your N. S. A., but wishes only to emphasize the absolute necessity of keeping this house as the property of the Cause. Under no circumstances should it be sold or given to non-Bahá’ís, though it may be rented to them, in view of the references 'Abdu'l-Bahá has made to it in His Tablet. Whatever arrangement the Assembly decides upon should be made after due consideration of this important fact.”

Owing to the age of the house many repairs are necessary. The following most urgent ones have been taken care of at a cost of $390.15, a new hot-air furnace, replacement of old window frames and sashes, new modern electric wiring throughout, plumbing and plastering of ceiling. Taxes amounted to $204.04 and water $18.96. Rent was received amounting to $171.00. Other repairs will be made when necessary.

The following Maintenance Committee was appointed by the Trustees: Victor Archambault, chairman, Florence Morton and Wendell Bacon. This committee has taken over the work formerly entrusted to the Boston Assembly.

Conclusion

This detailed report is rendered to the friends in order to show what is required to maintain these various properties which are the manifest signs of an ever-growing Faith and also to indicate the responsibility on the part of the Trustees in their care and management of these sacred trusts. To recapitulate: the operating costs for the past year, including caretakers’ salaries, taxes, light, heat, water, telephone, insurance, legal expenses, repairs and capital expenditures for improvements, are divided as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temple Maintenance</td>
<td>$7,596.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs to Studio and Caretaker’s Cottage and Ground</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$14,269.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The cost of Temple construction to April 1, 1938, including Technical Committee expense of $297.84 is $44,036.03.

It will be noted from the above figures that the monthly withdrawals from the National Bahá’í Fund have averaged $1,189.00 for the past year. Next year some heavy insurance renewal items for the Temple will be due but there should be a corresponding reduction in repairs in the other trusteeships. If the applications for tax exemption are approved there will be
another reduction. However, with the increasing needs of an expanding community, the friends should realize that at least $14,000.00, annually, or $1,200.00 a month will be required from the National Bahá’í Fund, for the next few years.

These institutions are definitely a part of the Seven-Year Plan as the Summer Schools bear a most important relationship to the Teaching Activities. Therefore, they must be considered as an integral obligation of the National Bahá’í Fund. There is almost the needed amount in the Temple Fund to insure the payment of the balance that will be due on the completion of the Gallery Section of the Temple. The friends must now bear in mind the following stage, the completion of the main story, in their budget plans. The Trustees feel sure that the friends will not fail in their task. The Guardian has pointed the way in his most recent communication: “Each and every believer, undaunted by the uncertainties, the perils and the financial stringency afflicting the nation, must arise and ensure, to the full measure of his or her capacity, that continuous and abundant flow of funds into the national Treasury, on which the successful prosecution of the Plan must chiefly depend.”

Respectfully submitted,
Trustees for the benefit of the National Spiritual Assembly

By George O. Latimer,
"A MORE BURNING ENTHUSIASM ... 
A HIGHER SENSE OF SOLIDARITY ..."

Teaching Plans for the Second Year of the Seven Year Plan

The most essential element in teaching is the deep, inward response to the Guardian's successive appeals, warnings and instructions. All minor considerations and hampering personal issues must be swept aside, and the souls turned with pure intention to Bahá'u'lláh. Baha'ís are assured that the spiritual powers are all-encompassing, and but await every opportunity to reinforce true efforts to serve the Faith.

Plans and policies depend upon the "burning enthusiasm" and "solidarity" of the friends. They are means and not ends, and no plan can serve as substitute for the consecration of those who seek to promote the Faith.

The following outline of plans adopted by the National Spiritual Assembly is nothing else than a sincere and considered effort to make available for teaching work all possible resources of individual initiative and unified consultation. It is but the framework in which individual believers, local Assemblies and National Committees can best combine their activities and concentrate their powers.

1. The two principal teaching methods in the national field are to be, first, settlement by pioneers in unoccupied areas, and second, the approval of definite projects involving the use of teachers for a specific time and under a specific budget. Pioneers intending to establish permanent residence in order to found a new Baha'i community will be assisted financially for a definite period, while they are finding means of self-support.

2. A National and a number of Regional Teaching Committees have been appointed. All requests for teaching literature, and all projects involving a budget, are to be submitted to the National Teaching Committee and transmitted by that Committee to the National Assembly for approval. Budgets for administrative expense will be given the Regional Committees, which are to arouse teaching activity among groups and isolated believers. Regional Committees are not to pass upon requests for budgets or teaching literature but refer these to the National Teaching Committee, with reports of teaching work in their region. Regional Committees are to make use of available teachers who can function without a budget for traveling expense.

3. The fundamental importance of teaching under the direction of local Assemblies is emphasized. Local Assemblies are urged to extend their efforts to adjoining areas. They can notify the Regional Committee of the area for which they will assume teaching responsibility throughout the year. It is of the utmost importance for every local Assembly to deepen and enlarge its sense of responsibility and its capacity for carrying out carefully considered plans.

4. Individual believers are urged to realize that teaching is inseparable from true faith. Capacity comes from sincere effort. Those who are free to travel, however, without depending upon administrative assistance, are not thereby to feel free of proper administrative direction and jurisdiction, but will be held responsible to the local Assembly, the Regional Committee or the National Teaching Committee, depending upon the jurisdiction immediately concerned. The effective teacher is immersed in spiritual matters and
stands aloof from any internal problems of the Faith. The National Assembly welcomes and appreciates individual initiative, but initiative must not be expressed at the sacrifice of the fundamental principle of consultation and the obligation of all Baha'is to recognize spiritual and administrative principles. All Baha'is are teachers; there is no special group of "official" teachers; but too many have been content to wait for others to arouse and work.

Baha'i teaching is the sharing of loving reverence for the Manifestation and His New World Order; it is a quickening of the spirit and a form of education and training until the soul or group is fully confirmed. We should endeavor to turn the souls to Baha'u'llah and make them independent of all save Him. The National Assembly feels that pressure of personal influence and organized methods of the American promotion type should be scrupulously avoided.

Constant reference to the Divine Plan set forth in the pamphlet which reprints the Master's Tablets on teaching under the title of "America's Spiritual Mission," and no less constant reference to the Guardian's messages, will produce the mighty momentum needed for the task defined by Shoghi Effendi in the cablegram received May 1, 1936: "Would to God every State within American Republic and every Republic in American continent might ere termination (of) this glorious century embrace (the) light (of the) Faith of Baha'u'llah and establish structural basis of His World Order." National Spiritual Assembly.

"PRAYING INSTANTANEOUSLY"

The members of the National Assembly are deeply touched by recent letters from local Assemblies reporting action by the community after receiving the general statement of Temple plans issued early in May.

From San Francisco comes word that the community has voted to collect and transmit as soon as possible a special contribution of $1,000 for the new Construction Fund. Phoenix, Oklahoma City, New York, Topeka and Eliot write that the local community stands unitedly in support of the new plans. The Los Angeles community prayed for the National Assembly during its recent meeting.

Such electric flow of spiritual and material forces symbolizes the true, dynamic nature of the Faith, which is fulfilled in deeds and not in words.

The new Temple Construction Fund, started with a balance of $1,000, has been increased by the N. S. A. to $2,000 by an appropriation from the National Fund. Thus all the believers who contribute directly or indirectly to the National Fund are fully associated with the great enterprise.

Shoghi Effendi's cablegram of June 6 on the subject of this enterprise, already issued to local Assemblies, is reprinted here so that his words can be in the possession of every believer.

Each further step in these developments will be shared with the friends.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


IN MEMORIAM

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It confereth the gift of everlasting life.—Baha'u'llah.

Mrs. Mathilde Gale, Chicago.

Mrs. Blanche Alonzo, New York.

JULIET THOMPSON'S BOOK

A Correction

In Baha'i News of February, 1938, the National Assembly announced the early publication of the novel written and illustrated by Juliet Thompson entitled "I, Mary Magdalen."

It is now reported that the book is on the press, for publication in July, but the publisher is not the Robert Speller Company, as announced, but Sovereign House, 16 East 41st Street, New York, N. Y.

Believers wishing copies of this book, of which the Guardian has written, "He hopes and prays that through this publication many people of capacity and of true spiritual insight will be attracted to the Message," may order it from the publisher or through their local bookstore at $2.50 a copy.

GREEN ACRE NEWS

Word has been received that Orcella Rexford will take the study course program during the week July 18-23 instead of Marion Holley as announced.

The Crafts House and Pottery will be open during July and August. Classes will be held in Pottery, Modeling, Lettering, Pen and Ink Drawing, and Painting in Oils and Water Color.

The arts and crafts work is to be under the direction of Nancy D. Bowditch, Agnes O'Neill and Harold Bowditch. For further information, address Mrs. Harold Bowditch, Green Acre, Eliot, Maine.

LOUIELEN NEWS


QUESTIONNAIRE ON LOCAL HISTORY

Up to the present time one-half of the Local Assemblies have responded to the Questionnaire on Local Bahá'í History and Records which was mailed to each Local Spiritual Assembly something over a year ago. This form contained numerous questions, answers to which would constitute a brief summary of the local history of the Cause in each Community, and which would contribute to it nationally.

Assemblies which have not filled out and forwarded this Questionnaire are urged to do so. Duplicate copies of the form can be supplied if necessary.

ARTICLES FOR WORLD ORDER

The editors of World Order feel a great responsibility in their effort to make the magazine fully and truly representative of the best available writing in the international Baha'i Community. They therefore request that this communication be shared with the believers, in the hope that the following explanation of editorial plans and needs will lead to an increase in the number of manuscripts received.

Our aim is to produce a balance of interest in each issue by the selection of articles and poems under the following classifications:

At least one direct Bahá'í article, carefully expounding some aspect of
the Teachings, with appropriate quotations.
A "human document," conveying the sense of intimate inner experience.
Material imbued with the esthetic and cultural quality.
A practical application of spiritual truth to the problems of daily life.
Prose or verse conveying the joy and freedom of the spiritual life.
Articles based upon factual knowledge of sociological or scientific character and informative value.
Articles presenting constructive international themes, the relations of East and West, etc.

In addition, the editors plan to include a new department, devoted to correspondence from readers, in the hope that this will lead to interesting and valuable Baha'i comments on topics of current public interest.

It is gratifying to note that World Order is being more and more used as teaching material in making contacts with new friends.

PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasures of the East, by Dr. Zia M. Bagdadi: Copies of this book have been donated by Mrs. Rose Russell to be sold for the Temple Fund. It is a travel book, with many photographs, and of interest to believers. It was not issued as a directly Baha'i volume. Per copy, net, $0.50.

The Manifestation, by Albert P. Entzminger: A new title in the series of pamphlets prepared under the auspices of the Teaching Literature Committee. Per 100 copies, net, $1.75.

The Laboratory of Life, by Louise D. Boyle: Another new title in the series of Teaching Literature pamphlets. It deals with the relations of science and religion. Per 100 copies, net, $1.75.

TEMPLE MODEL

The Temple models assigned to the Teaching Committee have begun to render very effective service. One is on display at Urbana; another has been exhibited at Cornell University in the lobby of the students' social center where it was seen by three thousand students. Allen B. McDaniel gave an illustrated Temple lecture in connection with this exhibit, and the faculty wish him to return. Excellent publicity was obtained in the Cornell student newspaper. Another Model has been exhibited under the auspices of the Binghamton Assembly, and Mr. McDaniel gave his Temple lecture at the Art Gallery, Arlington Hotel, Binghamton, on June 8. The Teaching Committee reports that plans are under way in Nashville and Knoxville for a Temple model exhibit at an early date.

DISTINGUISHED WORKER BELOVED GRACE OBER

On May 3, after the Convention, the following cablegram was received from Shoghi Effendi: "Profoundly grieve great loss sustained teaching field through passing distinguished worker beloved Grace Ober. Advise delegates pay worthy tribute her glowing spirit eminent services. Joining them fervent prayers."

The National Spiritual Assembly feels that the prayers and chants rendered in Foundation Hall after this tragic event and the grief of the friends, fulfilled the spirit of the Guardian's advice.

Suggested Compilation for Meditation, Reva R. Belcher.
D. Holley, Secretary
Genevieve L. Cov
Adella Quinlan

GEYSERVILLE SUMMER SCHOOL

The opening session of the eleventh annual Baha'i Summer School at Geyserville was held under the Douglas fir landmark on the Bosch place, Sunday, July 4th. Some 210 people were in attendance to enjoy the sumptuous Unity Feast and the joyous messages from persons from every part of the United States and parts of the world.

Mr. George Latimer of Portland acted as chairman of the day and introduced Mr. J. D. Bosch, of Geyserville, who welcomed the guests to the school and said in part, "The study of the principles and belief in Baha’u’llah, will regenerate mankind." Through the gift of 37 acres of their property Mr. and Mrs. Bosch set in motion the means, some ten years ago, for a school for Baha’i learning which has shown a steady growth. Imposing buildings known as Baha’i Hall, completed last year, and the Collins dormitory, occupied for the first time this year, have increased the facilities and conveniences for advancement of the public knowledge of the Baha’i Faith.

Mrs. T. H. Collins, of Pacific Pal-
isades, Calif., whose gift with her recently deceased husband, was the new dormitory, thanked the assembled friends for their comfort and remembrance in their prayers during her recent bereavement.

There were many expressions of interest by telegram and persons in the welfare of this first Bahá’í summer school on the American continent, which carry the fame of Geyserville beyond its own boundaries because it leaves the lasting impressions of a friendly town in the hearts of these former students.

Messages of greeting impressed many attending at this opening session. Mrs. Nell Griffith Wilson of Kenwood, Calif., welcomed the guests for the Geyserville Assembly. Mr. Chas. Bishop of London, England, and formerly of Portland, Oregon, told of his joy in being present and said that his spirit would always be here although an ocean stood between. Mrs. T. C. Smith brought greetings from Binghamton, N. Y. Mr. Chas. Reimer, of Milwaukee, Wis., had a word of greeting and expressed his satisfaction in finally being able to arrive after attempting the trip for three years past. Other appropriate expressions were given by Mrs. E. G. Cooper of San Francisco, Miss Y. Isobe of Japan, who is in Los Angeles for a short time. Both of these students spoke in Esperanto, their most fluent method of expression, which was translated by Miss Lorrol Jackson of Spokane, Wash., Mr. Gerge Sterris, an artist from Italy and France, spoke in French, which Miss Virginia Orbison of Hollywood, interpreted for the gathering.

Mr. S. Schoflocher, of Montreal Canada, recounted vividly his happiness in returning to Geyserville after his trip around the world. His first experience with Geyserville was his meeting with John Bosch in Haifa, Palestine, when he (Schoflocher) was not yet a Bahá’í. Mrs. Louise Caswell of Portland told briefly of her teaching work in Nashville, Tenn., from which she had just returned.

The accompanying printed schedule of the courses given at the Western States Bahá’í Summer School were built around fundamental subjects by speakers chosen from wide fields of experience in the Bahá’í Faith:

Islam: Its teachings,

The Unfoldment of World Civilization.

Supplementing this program on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays was the teaching seminar in which the classes discussed six subjects by experienced public speakers,

TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION—7.

Carving an Original Model.

Miss C. Linfoot and Mrs. Buelah Lewis, N. F. Ward, Mrs. Mamie Seto and Mrs. Louise Caswell. The subjects of the six seminars were:

The Bahá’í Teacher—Prime requisites for teaching.

Technique, and relation to Bahá’í Community

The Public Address—Preparation, presentation and supporting elements.

The Class Work—Types and objects, teacher’s place, student participation.

Teaching Opportunities—In Bahá’í community, new fields, and national teaching program.

Introduction of the Faith in new States—Survey, contacts, publicity, lectures, classes, follow-up.

In addition to the formal classes the program provided four public meetings in the Bahá’í Hall at Geyserville, and one meeting in Santa Rosa at the Masonic Temple.

The attendance at the summer school was as follows: Devotionals, maximum 68, minimum 28; at the teaching seminar, maximum 74, minimum 47; at daily meetings maximum 82, minimum 47; public meetings approximate average of 61.

Provision for study of correlated non-Bahá’í and Bahá’í literature was made in the rear space of Bahá’í Hall as a library. By personal gifts and discount from Bahá’í books sold by Western division of Bahá’í Publishing Committee. The value of this assistance to teachers has amounted to nearly $100. This convenience of up-to-date literature for the teachers at the school has proved invaluable for the reference of teachers and students. It will remain a perpetual gift for the progress of the Faith.

Other important features of the summer school program included a complete course of study of the Bahá’í Faith for all of the children in attendance. The children’s program included short recreation periods and handicraft during the morning and supervised play in the afternoon. Some twelve children were in attendance daily during the two weeks.

The youth program on Bahá’í subjects was held Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. An additional responsibility of the youth group was the planning and execution of two public meetings at the Bahá’í Hall. These meetings proved to be of very high order and a credit to the youth in attendance.

J. D. Bosch, Chairman
N. F. Ward, Secretary
Mrs. E. G. Cooper
Charlotte Linfoot
Seigfried Schoflocher
Mrs. Amelia Collins
Irvin Somerhalder
George Latimer
Ruth Westgate

LOUHELEN SUMMER SCHOOL

Last summer your committee for the Louhelen Summer School located at Louhelen Ranch, Davison, Michigan, planned and carried out three sessions. First was the youth session, June 27-July 1, with the following program daily:

Devotions; The New World Order, Forum conducted by Willard McKay; History and Principles of the Faith, conducted by Amamarie and Margaret Kunz for new inquirers; Study of The Dispensation of Bahá’ulláh, conducted by Miss Garreta Bushey; The Bahá’í Teachings applied to Daily Life, talks by Emeric and Rosemary Sala, Marion Holley, Kenneth Christian. These courses were attended almost a hundred percent. Each afternoon was a forum conducted by different young people which was particularly vital. There was opportunity in the afternoons for swimming and other recreation.

In charge of the sports and evening programs was the Lima youth group and they had their plans well worked out in advance. An effort was made to have the evening entertainments more distinctively Bahá’í both in character and excellence of presentation, for our Guardian urges that our summer schools gradually develop into “true cultural and educational Bahá’í centers.” The pageant which the Ur-
bana group put on Monday evening is especially worthy of mention. This was a presentation of “The Gate of Dawn,” the pageant arranged by Mrs. Bowditch and Kenneth Christian. Although the equipment and costumes were quite limited the presentation was dignified and impressive and created an atmosphere of reverence and inspiration. It made it evident that in the line of pageantry and drama is a great field for presenting the Cause. Tuesday evening the Chicago and North Shore groups gave a varied program of music and readings. Wednesday evening the Flint group showed us some of the wonders of chemistry and electricity and Thursday evening put on an original play which gave the Baha’i message. This was well worked out and impressive. All these programs had been planned at home.

Over ninety young people were in attendance at this session besides many more part time visitors and we feel that it was outstanding in earnestness and purposefulness. One thing that helped greatly in bringing high standards to this session was the presence of the National Youth Committee which chose this time and place for its annual meeting. The unexpected arrival of Mrs. Seto and Mr. Carl Scheffler Sunday afternoon gave opportunity for inspiring talks from them. A vital innovation was the quiet hour just before retiring when dormitory groups gathered with a counsellor for questions, reading and prayer. The honor system of self-government was successfully continued this year.

Immediately following the youth session was the July general session, July 3-11. This group was rather small, but there was something vital about the session. In general we have found before that small groups were especially blessed. Several wrote back after returning home that they had never had so great a desire to spread the Cause as after returning home from this session. While the enrollment was small there was an unusually large number of visitors.

The following unusually rich program occupied the morning daily from nine to twelve: Devotions; The World Order of Baha’u'llah; Allen McDaniel; Pillars of the New Civilization, Dr. Garreta Busey; The Science of the Love of God, Marion Holley. In the afternoons was round table discussion at which various teaching problems were discussed. How to use prophecy in teaching the Cause, How to present the Cause to the agnostic or atheistic type. How to present the Cause to the deeply religious type: these were some of the subjects discussed. The period proved most valuable.

The especial purpose in the evening meetings was to present the Cause to new people. On two evenings Mr. McDaniel gave illustrated lectures on religious architecture and the Baha’I House of Worship. One evening there was a symposium on the subject of immortality and on another the story of Mullá Husayn from The Dawn-Breakers was beautifully told by Miss Neya Bissell of Buffalo. The evening of July ninth was devoted to a memorial service in memory of the Báb.

In August (July 31-August 8) another group gathered, larger than the July group. At this time, too, a rich and inspiring program was presented: Devotions; The True Relation between Religion and Government, Dr. Glenn Shook; The World’s Debt to Isfáhán, Mr. N. M. Firoozí; The Divine Art of Living, Mrs. Dorothy Baker.

An especial favor for the August session was the presence of Miss Agnes Alexander who had recently visited Haifa and had much to tell us of the Guardian’s words and wishes. Before she left Haifa the Guardian had instructed her to visit summer schools. Many of the afternoon meetings were devoted to hearing her notes and others to discussing teaching methods. It is impossible to put into words what these summer schools, even in their still undeveloped state, mean to those who attend. Our Guardian has told us that these schools are the foundations of the universities of the future and that we should strive in every way for their growth and improvement each year. Moreover, in a letter dated November 8, 1937, he places responsibility for this growth upon each believer. “Every believer,” he says, “no matter what his gifts and position, has something to contribute to the growth of the school, and it is only by means of such collective support that Louhelen can gradually develop into a true cultural and educational Baha’i center.” Here are words for reflection for every believer.

The committee greatly appreciates the cooperation of the various communities and individuals which have made possible the work and growth of the school. Those who come to teach and those who come to learn and those who remain at home and send others and those who pray are all essential to the continued growth and improvement of the school.

L. W. Eggleston, Chairman,
Mrs. Dorothy Baker
Garreta Busey
E. J. Messler
Bishop Brown
Bertha H. Kirkpatrick, Sec’y

NATIONAL TEACHING

“Prosecute uninterruptedly teaching campaign inaugurated at last Convention in accordance with Divine Plan.” (1937 Convention message from the Guardian.)

“In a world perilously near cataclysmic convulsions... well nigh staggering responsibility rests on America... Who among its stalwart defenders will arise, untrammelled (and) unafraid, to implant its banner in those states and provinces where its standard is still unhoisted. Entreat afresh American community heed vital urgency (of) my impassioned plea...” (Cablegram from Shoghi Effendi, August, 1937.)

“World crisis inexorably moving toward climax, challenging torchbearers of Baha’i civilization (to) scale loftier heights (of) individual heroism, (to) scatter more widely throughout length and breadth (of) the American continents, (to) participate more strenuously (in) concerted effort organized by National, Regional, local agencies dedicated (to) prosecution (of) noble enterprise.” (Cablegram from Shoghi Effendi, October 29, 1937.)

“The seven-year plan... must at all costs be prosecuted with increasing force and added consecration. All should arise and participate... The American believers must gird up the loins of endeavor and step into the...”
states and two Canadian provinces
of service and such an outpouring of
effort of even the humblest been
crease their efforts to expand the
oping these new centers of attraction,
result. Certainly such a standard
directions, the divine Banner of
areas and established the Faith. Many
ed States and two provinces of Can­
astound
This conscious and spiritual unity

to the frontiers, can

The believers, to an individual, have
arisen to play their part in the divine
drama now being enacted on the hori­
zon of America's spiritual destiny.
The progress of the teaching work
during the first year of the Seven-Year
Divine Plan, if intensified as it gains
momentum, will surely bring such spir­
tual motion in the life of the Ameri­
can continents that the Faith of Ba­
ah'u'llah will achieve renown as to
"astound the Bahá'í world."

It is impossible to recount the un­
ceasing sacrifices, the untiring efforts,
the heroic deeds, and the depth of spir­
tual consciousness developed by the
friends during the past year. Nor is
it possible to gain more than a slight
impression of this great collective ac­
tion, carrying forward, as it did in all
directions, the divine Banner of Ba­
ah'u'llah. In not one instance has the
effort of even the humblest been with­
out result. Certainly such a standard
of service and such an outpouring of
divine confirmations have never been
witnessed in this country.

Pioneers have arisen and, forsaking
their home ties, have moved into new
areas and established the Faith. Many
singly and alone have entered areas
of spiritual darkness and brought the
Light of Guidance. Others have di­
lectly carried on the work of de­
veloping these new centers of attraction,
while one and all have continuously in­
creased their efforts to expand the
Faith and strengthen the institution of
its New World Order.

At Convention time a year ago the
Faith of Bahá'u'lláh had not yet been
established in seven states of the Unit­
ed States and two provinces of Can­
da. At this time, there were still seven
states and two Canadian provinces
without any known Bahá'ís.

A year ago there were twenty-six
states without Assemblies or Groups,
while at this time this number has been
reduced to eighteen, and in six of these
eighteen states there are flourishing
study groups. It is encouraging to
note that active teaching work has been
carried forward during the year in
twenty of the twenty-six states which
were without Assemblies or Groups in
May, 1937.

At Convention time a year ago, sev­
en of the Canadian provinces were
without Assemblies. An Assembly
now having been authorized in Toron­
to, Ontario, the number after April
21 is reduced to six. Another Province
has a Bahá'í Group, and teaching work
has been done in two others.

Twelve Bahá'ís have moved to new
states as pioneer teachers, and exten­
sion pioneer teaching work has been
actively carried on by thirty-eight oth­
ers. The Regional Teaching Com­
mittees, too, have labored diligently to
open up new cities, to assist isolated
believers in their teaching efforts, and
to cooperate with Bahá'í Groups in
increasing their numbers. Add to this
the unrecorded pioneer teaching work
of all the Bahá'ís and we may gain a
slight idea of the momentum that is be­
ing gained in the teaching branch of
the Seven-Year Plan.

Thirty-four of the fifty-five Assem­
bles sending in reports show a total
increase of 177 new believers during
the year. In addition, fifty-three new
isolated believers were enrolled in
twenty states. Also nine new Spiritual
Assemblies have been authorized this
year, bringing the number of cities
where the Faith is established up to
342 as against 303 last year. Worthy of
note as an indication of the developing
strength of the Faith, is the fact that
of this large number of new Bahá'ís,
most of them are able and anxious to
become active supporters of the Cause,
rather than only believers impressed
with the spiritual gifts of Bahá'u'lláh.

Of the fifty-five Assemblies report­
ing, twenty-six opened eighty-two new
cities to the Faith, with active follow­
up work being done in forty-one of
them. One of the most encouraging
features of this work is that twenty­
five of these Assemblies used local
teachers for introducing the Teachings
into new localities.

Fifteen Assemblies report teacher
training classes where definite training
is being given prospective Bahá'í
teachers.

A new type of teacher training for
Bahá'í youth was developed this year
in the service rendered by Miss Mar­
guerite Reimer who accompanied old­
er, more experienced teachers into new
areas, making arrangements for the
public meetings, taking care of public­
ity and handling all details in connec­
tion with the pioneer work.

All Assemblies are unanimous in
their views that the most successful
method of teaching is still the fireside
method. Public lectures and radio
talks are the means of attracting souls,
and while producing greater results
than previously, they do not provide
the opportunities to confirm the stu­
dent that are offered in the informal
study courses of the fireside meetings.

As the world draws nearer the hour
of its greatest travail, the hearts of all
are seeking more and more a true basis
of spiritual life and a sound solution to
the world's ills. Thus the public is
more receptive than ever before to the
Bahá'í Faith. Evidence of this is borne
out in the attitude of the press toward
Bahá'í articles. Most reassuring is the
liberality of the press in the new cities
where the Faith has been established,
some of the very best of newspaper
articles appearing in these virgin areas.

It is regrettable that there is not
sufficient opportunity to record the
great sacrifices of the pioneer teachers,
to outline the many problems and ob­
stacles in their paths, how the doors of
guidance have opened to them, and the
confirmations of the Holy Spirit have
reached them. Any one, contacting in
the least degree the field of sacrificial
service of all the friends, and particu­
larly the teachers on the frontiers, can
do no other than carry continuously in
his heart a feeling of deep gratitude
for their exemplary devotion and a
continuous prayer for their success.
With this conscious and spiritual unity
of all the friends, both in deed and
spirit, surely the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh
will move forward to ever new fron­
tiers, achieving, ere the close of this
century, the goal set before us by the
Guardian.

LEOY IOAS, Chairman
REGIONAL TEACHING

New England

The teaching work in this region reflects the fine work done by our speakers and teachers in our Summer School at Green Acre, and we are frequently hearing of its far-reaching effects. And during the many travels of Mrs. Greenleaf throughout this country, she has interested a great many people who are constantly coming to Green Acre in the summer time to enjoy her famous hospitality and talks upon the Faith, carrying away with them many books and pamphlets to their far homes. We have again with reluctance loaned her to Florida this winter. With these two influences, New England has tentacles reaching into many of our states, far and wide.

Maine:

In the mountains of Maine an extensive teaching work is still being carried out among summer people and interesting vacation travellers from many states, as well as the surrounding towns people. Books and pamphlets have been widely distributed, and addresses given by National Assembly members to large groups from Men's Clubs and Women's Societies of the larger towns. Several requests have already been received from many residents of those centers for group meetings this summer. This is a most successful and unique venture.

Contacts were made in two new localities, North Berwick and Lewiston. Mrs. Ives went to Lewiston en route to Moncton, N. B., to speak to a group of 12 students of Bates College and a professor and wife. All were so interested that a set of books was sent to the Department of Religion at the college for the use of students who had been requested to write theses on the Bahá'í Faith.

Mme. Orlova gave a lecture to the North Berwick group. Questions followed which enabled her to speak on The New World Order for half an hour to about 30 new people. Next day an invitation was extended to 30 friends in different towns, and Mme. Orlova spoke upon "What the World Is Waiting For." To a group of 20 at Eliot she spoke on Prayer. It is encouraging to see so many inquirers from the towns surrounding Green Acre becoming more and more interested.

Mrs. Greenleaf followed up the Summer School at Eliot this autumn with Sunday afternoon meetings for the study of "Gleanings."

Mason Remey and Horace Holley also have helped with many of the groups and new contacts are always being increased. The young people in this region have been very active and six of them have joined the Eliot community as the result of a half-year's efforts, in and around Green Acre.

A set of six books has been placed in the Portland Library for the use of interested residents.

New Hampshire:

Several people have been interested in the Bahá'í Faith in Manchester and Dover, and groups are forming. Six books have been placed in the libraries of each city for their use.

In Ashuelot, the large group has been broken up on the eve of forming an Assembly, by the death of three believers and five others have moved away. These were all believers. This leaves three believers now with two interested to study with them. The Feasts have been regularly held here among the believers for several years.

Vermont:

A public meeting was arranged in Newport at The Women's Club, and Lorol Schopflecher gave an interesting and well-received talk, and "Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era" was sent to the Library for the use of those who had expressed interest, which was announced at the meeting. This is new territory.

Massachusetts:

An interesting Inter-Community Teaching Conference was held last autumn in Boston, Eliot and Worcester participating. A most helpful series of talks and discussions was followed by refreshments, and Roy Wilhelm spoke on "Making Contacts." In the evening Mme. Orlova spoke to a large audience in the Victoria Hotel, on "The Bahá'í Faith." This Conference was so enthusiastically received that Boston decided to continue with public meetings twice monthly.

Northfield:—Marion Holley of Visalia, California, spoke to a group of 30 from surrounding towns, after a picnic lunch held on the grounds of The Youth Hostel. The two in charge of The Hostel were deeply interested and have asked for another meeting there. Marion also spoke to a large group gathered at Monson, who greatly enjoyed her intelligent presentation of The Faith, and they have all kept up their interest.

Agnes Alexander made a brief visit to Boston, Springfield and Worcester, telling us of her experiences at Haifa.

Upton:—A new group of seven deeply interested people was recently
formed here, and a meeting well attended was held for questioning. They decided to begin the study of “Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era” with “Promulgation of Universal Peace” for reading and reference.

Amherst:—A new territory is being opened. An interested friend arranged with the librarian of a large, beautiful Memorial Library, a true community center for all town activities and educational work, for Mountfort Mills to speak on “The World Crisis and Solutions.” The audience was most representative of this famous old college town. One in the audience was so interested that he wrote a long detailed report of Mr. Mills’ talk and sent it to the Amherst and Springfield newspapers. He ended his report by saying that of all the series of lectures lasting through the college year, he considered Mr. Mills’ talk the most excellent.

I have omitted our large annual Inter-State picnic gathering which is always held in June in the large, beautiful Forest Park near Springfield. In the spacious Mansion we meet, children, young people and older, to lunch together which provides a happy reunion of many members of the various Bahá’í Communities, groups and isolated believers, with all possible of the newly interested people, some well attracted, and friends from surrounding towns. This series was designed to confirm those who do not study themselves, on Administration and the Guardianship, and resulted in three believers forming a group in Three Rivers.

We have made out a new teaching plan for this region:—we have turned our attention to the radio, to prepare to arrange a series of talks that shall extend over a large area of New England, hoping to find a great many through one series of broadcasts, given in five different centers, as near the same time as possible, in order to form groups more quickly than formerly and more extensively. Winter weather prevents effective work all winter long here, so we are working to get this plan well on the air and groups formed before another autumn.

While considering the work and outlining our talks, an opportunity came surprisingly soon. The Springfield newspaper announced that a new station WSPR, a small station, had opened in Springfield, offering 15 minutes each morning for a devotional period. By the kind and complete cooperation of the announcer, the station was opened to the Bahá’í Faith. Then two hectic weeks preparing the six talks followed, using mostly the direct quotations of Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, under the subject, “The Divine Remedy Brought by The Divine Physician, Bahá’u’lláh.” Each talk was linked with the preceding one by the announcer in place of music, and at the end an invitation was given by WSPR to those interested to send for copies of the talks. Several responses were received. Personal calls keep up their interest, and even further journeys will be made to meet others who sent for talks.

Encouraged by this success, we are now preparing a series of talks for the educational periods which The National Radio Corporation has announced in the newspapers recently,—to be ready as soon as possible to give these broadcasts from five central points of New England, that we may the better take advantage of the time:—A series consisting of a most impressive framework of Bahá’í information to hold “The Pearl of Great Price” is the ideal toward which we are striving, so the Message is given, the public will receive it with reverence, understanding and interest. We believe with the aid of Bahá’u’lláh, this will be done.

We have tried to plan wherever possible close, sustained follow-up work
for all these groups.

Pasco:—Arrangements were started last summer for group teaching in Pasco, which will be carried forward extensively this summer. This is also a new area.

A new kind of search has been carried out by us in this district:—We have tried to gather home groups from the surrounding towns through friends, their relatives, and their newly interested inquirers, in two of our homes this past year, which give fine promise for another year.

Connecticut:—

A new representative group including men of high position has been formed in Hartford at the home of an early believer, and Mountford Mills is the speaker and teacher. We are anticipating great results from this successful beginning.

The work in Hartford has suffered greatly as we have not been able to find a teacher to settle there and teach, as we had planned to do.

Another Inter-Community Teaching Conference is planned for March 26th in New Haven, with basket supper, and two sessions,—one in the afternoon, one in the evening, so we may have the help of the men. Worcester, Springfield, and isolated believers as well as the groups are participating. A very fine program is ready, and in the evening Mrs. Bolles is going to tell us of her experiences in German Teaching work, and in Haiti. The fellowship at supper is most enjoyable for all and renews old friendships. We have work and pleasure, happily combined.

Florence Morton, Secretary
Amelia Bowman
Helene Archambault
Alice Bacon
Hebe Struven

Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan

During the year now drawing to a close, the Regional Teaching Committee of the states of Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan has been able to render assistance to a number of communities just opening to the Bahá’í Cause.

Warrenville, III., a village of about 250 inhabitants in the Fox River Valley, has seen several interested souls, through whom two well attended public meetings were arranged. The responsive friends are now attending study classes in nearby Batavia and Aurora.

Batavia, Ill., a town of 5000 inhabitants, has one declared Bahá’í. This friend has arranged public meetings and weekly study classes, which are attracting the key men and women of the community.

Aurora, Ill., another city in the Fox River Valley has two Bahá’ís. No public meetings have been held as yet, but weekly study classes are in progress and these are attracting a small but fine group of people. Yorkville, Ill., has two believers, this is a small village, also in Wheaton, Ill., there is one believer. No public meetings have been held in these two towns, but these friends meet with the Batavia and Aurora Bahá’ís, they also have meetings in their homes, and together they are doing splendid inter-group work which shows promise of developing real Bahá’í centers.

In Waukegan, Ill., a group of eight men and women have been attending a weekly study class during the winter months, and all have signified their desire for membership as full-fledged Bahá’ís as soon as they have reached the proper stage of development.

Maywood, Ill., Group and Grand Rapids, Michigan Group, as you know have been progressing beautifully until now they are ready for real Spiritual Assembly Life. The Committee has given assistance to both groups on various occasions.

The North Shore communities of Kenosha, Racine and Milwaukee have been furnished with speakers for nearly all Sunday public meetings.

Madison, Wis., group has been busy and energetic all winter. Teachers have been sent monthly to assist and many people have been deeply attracted to the Cause.

Peoria, Ill., Milwaukee, Wis., have opened up new towns as the Assembly questionnaires do not doubt will convey to your committee, Chicago, Ill., although not having opened up new territory, continued work in Oak Park this year with most satisfactory results.

The Committee will not report on local Assembly activities as the questionnaires sent directly to each Assembly will completely cover work done in each instance.

The Committee is happy indeed to have been permitted to serve in this work of opening new territory and assisting those communities already established, and wishes to express its deep appreciation of the privilege.

Florence Rolfe
Edris Rice-Wray Carson
Robert Thiebs
Monroe Ida
Charles Reimer
Sarah S. Wallrath, Sec'y.

New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

(Continued)

At the first meeting of the Regional Teaching Committee, which met at the home of Mrs. Mildred Motahedeh, plans were formulated for carrying out the teaching program of the National Spiritual Assembly.

It was suggested that each member of the Regional Committee bring to the attention of the Local Spiritual Assemblies the result of our consultation and ask their cooperation in helping to carry out the plan. The plan was brought to the attention of the Spiritual Assemblies of Montclair, Newark, Jersey City and Teaneck, N. J.

All of the Assemblies decided that the best way they could help in the teaching work this year was to concentrate on plans they had already developed and also that if, during the year, anyone was free to do additional work it would be brought to the attention of the Regional Member of New Jersey.

One of the friends from the Jersey City Assembly, Mr. Bernard B. Gottlieb, took charge of a class held at Elizabeth, New Jersey, and the work here has been carried on with a number of people attending these classes about once every two or three weeks.

Mr. Gottlieb was also assigned to work with two friends in Paterson, N. J., Mr. James Morten and Mr. Malson and plans were arranged to carry on a series of classes at one of the hotels. This work was finally started during the first part of March and is coming along very nicely.

At Redbank, N. J., a class has been formed and Mr. Archie Tichenor took charge of this class and several friends there are becoming actively interested in the work.

At Atlantic City, N. J., two or three friends in cooperation with Mr. William De Forge have been holding a class meeting about once a month and this work is still active.

At Colonia, N. J., a class has been held at the home of Mrs. Pattison. Miss Esther Foster and Mrs. Louise Talbot have been cooperating with Mrs. Pattison and Mrs. Olivia Kelsey has given several public talks to this group and good newspaper publicity was given to these meetings. This group is active and is continuing their work.

A class was started at the home of Mrs. Hoar, at Montclair, N. J., and one or two meetings have been held there. Mr. Philip Sprague of New York spoke.
Tentative plans were formulated to begin a series of lectures at Ridge-wood, N. J., under the supervision of Mr. Charles Krug and the committee hopes to carry these plans out in the very near future.

The teachers from the Spiritual Assembly at Teaneck, carried on Fireside Groups in Bogota, N. J., Englewood, N. J., and Teaneck, N. J.

All of the friends in these different groups have cooperated enthusiastically in this work and while the committee is not able to report the possible formation of any new Assemblies this year, the friends as well as the committee, feel that the work will result in several new groups and possible formation of Assemblies during the coming year.

Baha'i literature for all of these meetings has been supplied by different groups and members cooperating in the teaching work.

INTER-AMERICAN TEACHING

The written instructions of our Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, have inaugurated a new chapter of Inter-America Committee work. A definite program has been outlined and it is hoped that all the believers will read carefully the following quotations from letters received during the past Winter from the Guardian and thus become informed of Shoghi Effendi's earnest desires and hope that the friends cooperate with the program and help to carry forward his exact instructions.

November 18, 1937

"The Guardian hopes that the National Spiritual Assembly has given careful consideration relative to the various aspects of the teaching plan, especially the question of Baha'i publications in Spanish which is, of course, of paramount importance. It is quite indispensable to have a sufficient quantity of literature in Spanish if the friends wish to effectively teach in South American states. The ways and means for meeting this problem the Guardian prefers to leave to the discretion of Inter-America Committee, working under the close supervision and guidance of the National Spiritual Assembly. He hopes that a satisfactory decision will be soon reached in this matter.

December 19, 1937

"The matter of Spanish Baha'i publications is, indeed, most vital, as the teaching work in South and Central America cannot possibly advance until there is a sufficient supply of books and pamphlets available for distribution among the Spanish speaking masses throughout that continent.

"It is also most important that those who undertake to teach in South America should have a sufficient knowledge of Spanish, so that they may be able to reach the masses, and not merely a few individuals.

"The National Spiritual Assembly in conjunction with the Inter-America Committee must endeavor to carry out these two points, preliminary to any extensive teaching campaign throughout Latin America. The ground should first be carefully prepared, so that the revenues which the friends are ready to expend for the furtherance of the teaching work in that continent may yield the best and maximum result."
Rosell, mother gave her talk stopping after every sentence or two to enable Dr. Rosell to translate. He had already written out a complete translation into Spanish of mother's paper, so he was able to interpret rapidly. It was a distinguished company of men and women, engineers, business men, naval and military officers, and their wives, and also a number of young men and girls. After mother had finished, I gave my talk on the Temple which Dr. Rosell translated almost ex-temporaneously, and we passed around pictures of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the Temple. The meeting was then thrown open for questions. A naval captain, relative of the Garcia Rosells, inquired about the type of services to be held in the Temple. He was pleased to hear that there was no clergy in the Bahá’í Temple, as you have already told us, he said, we must know with our own understanding and not by the understanding of any in the world. There were questions concerning immortality and whether the Bahá’ís belived in reincarnation. One young man wanted to know the Bahá’í definition of religion. Dr. Portal, a physician who had lived twenty years in Cerro de Pasco, remarked to me that these principles were very good, very important. There seemed to be a considerable amount of interest aroused as people began to discuss our answers, more questions were asked and the engineers present were especially interested in the construction of the Temple. A young lieutenant and his wife were especially interested to find out more about these teachings, so I gave them a copy of Esselmont. We had brought only a half a dozen copies with us which were distributed in no time, but we said if they would come back the next Saturday, we would have more books and would tell them more. A young man studying to be a lawyer said that absolutely nothing was known about this in Peru. He suggested that I write an article about it for the newspaper. I told him that I had written one, sent it to the leading newspaper but had received no answer. He said there were many fanatical and conservative people here and suggested that if my article were translated into Spanish, some newspaper would publish it. I have complete confidence in Dr. Ovidio Garcia Rosell. We had been somewhat anxious about offending anyone in this very Catholic country, but no one criticized or attempted to argue with us on any point. This was largely due to Sra. Garcia Rosell’s wisdom in selecting the audience. She said there were few liberal people in Lima, but she would try to secure the most receptive ones, and we found them to be intelligent, charming and responsive. All thanked us for our efforts and many said they would be interested and grateful if we could give them more of our time. Sra. Garcia Rosell promised to advise them of the next meeting. We were delighted that our audience had been entirely Peruvians and if it were not for the Rosells we would have met only Americans and English in Lima. If a Bahá’í teacher could come here with a knowledge of Spanish, a great work could be done. We are hoping Mrs. Stewart can come soon. There is also a crying need for more Spanish translations of Bahá’í literature. We have only the Esselmont book so far but hope to get Shoghi Effendi’s, ‘World Religion’ translated and printed here this summer.

“Another meeting was held on Saturday, July 24th, at the Garcia Rosell home. Again the group was comprised of about twenty people, some the same as in the first audience and other new ones. Mother read a paper which was a book review of ‘Security for a Failing World,’ which Dr. Rosell translated sentence by sentence as she went along. Then I read a paper on ‘Science and Religion’ in Spanish. We gave away five more Esselmonts and proposed the formation of a study group to take up ‘Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era’ chapter by chapter. A professor of economics from San Marcos University said he would read Bahá’u’lláh’s teachings on the subject of economics with much interest. Sra. Rosell promised to carry on after we left.”

Bahía

Also an act of selfless devotion was given to the Bahá’í Faith, by Miss Eve Nicklin of New Castle, Penn., who set sail for Brazil intending to make it her home permanently and to assist Miss Leonora Holsapple in carrying out the work in Bahía. Immediately upon her arrival, she began studying Portuguese and teaching kindergarten, thus becoming self-supporting. Just as she was establishing herself and preparing to teach the Cause, which was the purpose in giving up both her home and her profession, the Brazilian government announced that all persons not resident two years in Brazil must leave. Thus was her career abruptly ended, and the return journey taken with the knowledge that her old affiliations were no more. Nevertheless, this intrepid soul immediately started a new life by serving and teaching in West Virginia at Way- side Farm in Parkersburg. Here she combined teaching in a pioneer state, with earning her living, and is ready to go to a foreign country whenever another opportunity offers.

Mexico

More news comes from Mexico through Miss Beatrice Irwin, our brilliant teacher:

“Through the medium of illustrated news articles, four Bahá’í Forums held at the International Club (April and May last), a three weeks’ window exhibit of Bahá’í literature at Miraachi’s, also an address and world broadcast on the Bahá’í Temple, given before 1,000, at Brotherhood Festival, Institute of Impenonal Life, Mexico City on July 1, 1937, it was possible not only to attract hundreds of souls to the Faith, but also to establish a more serious study of the Bahá’í teachings among a few progressed souls. In this connection some recent comments may be of interest. Dr. Gonzalé Z. Burns, Director of the ‘Institute for Impenonal Life’ writes: ‘We are very glad to know of the Teachings of Bahá’u’lláh and the big principles they embody,’ Senora Paladino writes: ‘I like the “Cleaneings” best of those books I have studied. This is really a sublime Revelation, and claims my deepest respect,’ Senora Rodriguez of the International Club says: ‘Thank you for the receipt of recent literature.’ The Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Masonic Library says: ‘I am eager to improve my English, so that I might be able to translate Abd-bal-Bahá’s “Propulagation of Peace.”’

“These persons number among the five regular subscribers to World Order resident in Mexico City, and are doubtless promoting knowledge of Bahá’u’lláh’s Teaching within the wide sphere of the various activities.”

Mrs. Frances Stewart, Secretary of the Inter-America Committee, sent a most interesting account of her experiences in taking the Bahá’í Message to Mexico last summer, which was published in full in Bahá’í News for April, 1938.

The result of this visit has been the founding of the first Latin-American Assembly. The election of officers took place under the direction of our National Spiritual Assembly and on April 21st the following offices were voted upon: Signor Pedro Espinosa, Chairman; Signorcita Maria del Refugio Ochoa, Vice-chairman; Signor Andres Basurto, Secretary; Signorina Maria Luisa B de Jurado, Corresponding Secretary; and Signorina Zenaida Jurado, Treasurer.
A signal victory for the Seven Year plan is thus gained. Shoghi Effendi in his plea to the believers at the 1936 Convention spoke of the progress of the faith in both North and South America. During the remaining years of that Plan they are to advance in knowledge of the Baha’i Faith together. The unity of the Guardian’s expression must be made our own. Man-made boundaries have naught to do with the Divine Plan. The Oneness of mankind must become our pattern and he who advances along this path, fully cognizant of Shoghi Effendi’s wishes, will find sacrifice the gateway to spiritual achievement.

In the Tablet to the Americas, Baha’u’llah says: “O people, avail yourselves of the Day of God. Verily it is better for you to meet Him in this Day than in any upon which the sun rises, were you of those who know!”

Louise A. Mathews, Chairman
E. R. Mathews
Frances Stewart, Secretary
Signor F. Caldeiron

ROLL OF SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLIES
Elected April 21, 1918

Glendale, Arizona, Mrs. Emma Jones, Route 1, Box 460.
Phoenix, Arizona, Mrs. Zahrah Scheney, P. O. Box 4053.
Berkeley, California, Mrs. Laura Kelley Allen, 537 Santa Barbara Road.
Geyersville, California, Mrs. John D. Bosch.
Glendale, California, Mrs. Zina S. Larson, 461 West Vine Street.
Los Angeles, California, Mrs. Margaret Campbell, 7058 Hawthorne Avenue.
Oakland, California, Mr. Lorne H. Matteson, 160 Athol Avenue.
Pasadena, California, Miss Emmalu Weyer, 402 Waldo.
Sacramento, California, Miss Elizabeth L. Duffy, 1821 M Street.
San Francisco, California, Miss Nadeen G. Cooper, 748 Page Street, Apt. 7.
Montreal, P. O., Canada, Miss Anne Savage, 99 Guilbault Street.
Monton, N. B., Canada, William F. Byrne, 234 Dominion Street.
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, William Suter, 301 Metropolitan Building.
St. Lambert, P. O., Canada, Mrs. Emerie Sala, 194 Riverside Drive.
Vancouver, B. C., Canada, Miss Doris Skinner, P. O. Box 744.
Colorado Springs, Colorado, Mrs. Gladys Roberts, 915 North Hancock Avenue.
Denver, Colorado, Dr. C. E. Meyer, 4495/6 Perry Street.
New Haven, Connecticut, Mrs. Elsa Isaacs, 559 Whalley Avenue.
Washington, D. C., George D. Miller, 1717 Kilbourne Place, N. W.
Jacksonville, Florida, Miss Kathryn L. Vermillion, 707 Post Street.
Miami, Florida, Miss Dorothy Loganlin, 2020 S. W. 6th Street.
St. Augustine, Florida, Mrs. Allston Speisegger, 20 River Road.
Augusta, Georgia, Mrs. C. T. Sego, Bransford Road.
Honolulu, Hawaii, Mrs. Elma Adolphson, 712 17th Avenue.
Maui, Hawaii, Mrs. Mary T. Panton, Sprecklesville.
Chicago, Illinois, Mrs. H. E. Walrath, 4639 Beacon Street.
Evanston, Illinois, Miss Virginia Russell, 2622 Prairie Avenue.
Maywood, Illinois, Mrs. Gladys M. Amerson, 1413 Washington Boulevard, Box 123.
Peoria, Illinois, Mrs. Marion Rhodes, 142 High Street.
Springfield, Illinois, Mrs. Anna K. Jurgens, 1136 North 4th Street.
Urbana, Illinois, Mrs. H. J. Snider, 506 W. Penn Avenue.
Wilmington, Illinois, Mrs. Virginia Campbell, 125 Fourth Street.
Winnetka, Illinois, Mrs. Willis Hilpert, 455 Chestnut Street.
Indianapolis, Indiana, Mrs. Golda Mae Cooper, 1 West 28th Street.
South Bend, Indiana, Mrs. Sarah M. Russell, 1631 Lincoln Way West.
Topeka, Kansas, Miss Fern Latimer, 814 West 8th Street.
Elk River, Maine, Louise Thompson.
Baltimore, Maryland, Mrs. Mildred Elmer, 838 Park Avenue.
Cabin John, Maryland, Mrs. Margaret R. Patzer, P. O. Box 133.
Boston, Mass., Miss Louise D. Wright, 82 Ivy Street, Brookline, Mass.
Worcester, Mass., Mrs. Parnell M. Holmes, 103 Webster Street.
Detroit, Michigan, Mrs. Jessie B. Hall, 49 E. Willing Street.
Flint, Michigan, Miss Elizabeth J. Phelps, Box 355.
Grand Rapids, Michigan, Miss Virginia Nel, 2446 Cherrywood Court, Wyoming Park.
Lansing, Michigan, George E. Angell, R. F. D. 3, Box 540.
Muskegon, Michigan, Mrs. Iva Smack, 132 Allen Avenue.
Minneapolis, Minnesota, Mrs. Helen W. Frink, 1216 Nicollet Avenue.
St. Paul, Minnesota, Julian Abas, 235 Fuller Avenue.
Kansas City, Missouri, Miss Betty Becker, Hotel Ricardo.
Jersey City, New Jersey, Arthur W. Foster, Baha’i Center, 41 Tonnele Avenue.
Montclair, New Jersey, Miss A. E. Van Buren, 19 Walnut Crescent.
Newark, New Jersey, Mrs. F. W. Clark, 21 Milford Avenue.
Teaneck, New Jersey, Mrs. Ethel Crane, 116 Cane St., Bogota, N. J.
Binghamton, New York, Miss Roberta Maybin, 178 Court Street.
Buffalo, New York, Mrs. Morris S. Bush, 406 West Utica Street.
Geneva, New York, Mrs. Lucy Heist, 46 Park Place.
New York City, N. Y., Miss Bertha Herklotz, Room 615, 119 West 57th Street.
Rochester, New York, Mrs. P. R. Meinhard, 335 Wilmot Road.
Yonkers, New York, Mrs. Dorothy W. Jackson, 72 Rossiter Avenue.
Cincinnati, Ohio, Miss Hilda Stauss, 3640 Epworth Avenue, Westwood.
Cleveland, Ohio, Mrs. Dale S. Cole, 3174 Corydon Road, Cleveland Heights.
Columbus, Ohio, Mrs. Margarate Accbo, R. F. D. 1, Reynoldsburg, Ohio.
Dayton, Ohio, Mrs. Helen McCoy, 24 Lexington Avenue.
Lima, Ohio, Mrs. Elma Miessler, 1019 Lima Trust Building.
Toledo, Ohio, William Thiele, 402 Rockingham Street.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Mrs. A. Entzminger, 423 N. 10th St.
Pittsburgh, Pa., Mrs. Bishop Brown, P. O. Box 9, Ingomar, Penna.
Nashville, Tennessee, Miss Nellie J. Roche, 713 Nashville Trust Bldg.
Monroe, Washington, Mrs. Leonia Sprau, Box 277.
Seattle, Washington, Mrs. Doris Foye, P. O. Box 228.
Spokane, Washington, Mrs. Isabelle N. Campbell, 1427 South Madison Street.
Kenosha, Wisconsin, Louis J. Voelz, 6108 Sheridan Road.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Mrs. Jeanette A. Clark, 1814-A North Oakwood Avenue.
Racine, Wisconsin, Harold R. Olsen, 1332 Rusk Street.
“THAT RARIFIED ATMOSPHERE OF SELFLESSNESS AND DETACHMENT”

To the American Bahá’í Community.
Beloved friends:

Let us consider together dispassionately but devotedly an aspect of our Bahá’í life which over a period of years has by Shoghi Effendi been repeatedly emphasized.

“Again I earnestly appeal to every one of you, and renew my only request with all the ardor of my conviction,” he wrote more than ten years ago, “to make, before and during the coming Convention, yet another effort, this time more spontaneous and selfless than before, and endeavor to approach your task—the election of your delegates, as well as your national and local representatives—with that purity of spirit that can alone obtain our beloved’s most cherished desire. Let us recall His explicit and often-repeated assurance that every Assembly elected in that rarified atmosphere of selflessness and detachment is, in truth, appointed of God, that its verdict is truly inspired, and that one and all should submit to its decision unrestrainedly and with cheerfulness.”

Later the Guardian employed this significant phrase: “the elector is called upon to vote for none but those whom prayer and reflection have inspired him to uphold.”

These appeals, these instructions, reveal the spiritual character of the Bahá’í community in its sacred effort to form the nucleus and trace the pattern of the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh. While our methods resemble those by which political bodies are elected and maintained, the spirit and intention is utterly different. Every individual believer is expected to arise to a higher realm in his or her passionate devotion to the Faith in these, its days of inanity and tender growth.

Whenever, therefore, the element of electioneering enters the life of the Bahá’í community, its effect is prostrating and harmful until by their loyalty and their courage the believers, with the aid of their administrative institutions, overcome such a negative condition through the positive force of unity and understanding. Aside from the consideration that electioneering involves denial of the elector’s right, aside also from the undeniable fact that it seeks influence unduly for or against individuals in the election, the most important and grievous aspect of the matter is that it involves the integrity of the Bahá’í institution itself. Nothing could be more serious in this Formative Period than efforts to transform the character of the organic Bahá’í institutions by surrounding them with a political atmosphere. The task they are called upon to perform cannot be accomplished without the sustaining and guiding power of the Holy Spirit.

The present hour in human history is too crucial, the future too dark, for the realization of our collective hopes by any but spiritual intentions.

Indeed, we have likewise these warning words of Shoghi Effendi to point out the sad result of failure to attain the Bahá’í goal: “Should such a representative and responsible body fail to realize this fundamental requisite for all successful achievement, the whole structure is sure to crumble, and the Great Plan of the Future, as unfolded by the Master’s Will and Testament, will be rudely disturbed and grievously delayed.”

At all times, the Bahá’í community stands between the two opposed possibilities of glorious success and lamentable failure. We are not passengers on a ship being passively borne to the goal, but responsible workers, and the pure intention and energetic loyalty of the whole community is required if either local or National Assemblies are to play their part.

That a real deepening of spiritual life is required at this time was revealed to us all by the Guardian’s cablegram to the Convention, in which he said: “... summoning (to) their aid vitalizing influence prayers meditations which Author their Faith Himself revealed, let them, delegates, visitors alike, draw nigh unto Bahá’u’lláh that He may draw nigh unto them.”

But the subject of electioneering methods is itself but one aspect of the larger problem involved in the attitude which makes for rumor and suspicion within a community consecrated to truth and responsible decision. If that attitude can be removed by spiritual means, the question of electioneering will never arise. The unique importance of prayer and meditation lies in its power to make the soul firm and steadfast, immune to negative suggestion in any form. No administrative action in the form of penalty and punishment can serve as substitute for that immunity within the body of the believers themselves.

Therefore the National Spiritual Assembly, “whose inescapable responsibility is to guard the integrity... of the entire community,” as Shoghi Effendi stated in his letter of January 30, 1938, wishes to emphasize the spiritual nature and origin of true integrity, and make appeal for a more conscious and widespread realization of what citizenship in the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh means. The power to act through Bahá’í institutions does not consist of the authority vested in those institutions, but of the general power of unity existing among the entire community of believers. That unity is the ultimate source of achievement in all the affairs of the Bahá’í Faith.

If there be any who have offended in the past, let them repent in prayer to Bahá’u’lláh. Let them learn to employ their God-given opportunities to build and not to destroy, to share truth and not to instigate rumors or to seek to conceal personal motives behind a mask of fine words.

The Guardian’s cablegram, quoted above, carries both assurance and warning to every American Bahá’í. His words are to be pondered and cherished in the depths of the heart; and this communication from the National Spiritual Assembly is intended solely as a reminder to all individuals and not made a fresh occasion for rumors concerning personalities.

Yours faithfully,
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.
EFFORT IN CONTINUITY

In this issue of Baha'i News is presented the National Committees appointed for the year beginning July 1. The friends, and particularly the local Assemblies, are requested to acquaint themselves with the wide range of activities which the various Committees include, and take all possible steps toward useful contact and cooperation.

The year is all too brief in which to accomplish the truly vital and difficult tasks already set under the previous announcements reporting the Temple and Teaching plans.

Likewise is this issue begins a new and important department entitled "The Charter of the New World Order" consisting of excerpts from the Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Baha and the Guardian's written and authoritative interpretation of the Will. Study and meditation upon these words will deepen our conception of the universal character of the Faith and purify our understanding of and service to a Revelation blending a spiritual and a social Teaching. The full capacity of the Baha'i community will attain the field of action when we succeed in reconciling within ourselves and among ourselves these two aspects of life in the New Age, conjured after so long a period of historical separation.

The Guardian's explanation of two important current questions raised by the National Spiritual Assembly, already reported to the local Assemblies in the Bulletin, is also reprinted here for the information of all believers.

Absence from local communities on account of attendance at the Summer Schools and other reasons has made the summer months a time of somewhat slackened effort, even though devoted to intensive planning for the year's work. If the community is fewer in numbers at this time, that does not mean relaxation of effort by those who remain. It is effort in continuity, conscious of the difficult tasks to be performed, that alone can produce the concentration of will able to accomplish otherwise impossible results. Let us also be on our guard lest our attention become directed to minor developments during the year, losing sight of the essential aims carefully explained in the first two issues of Baha'i News published since the Convention. Those two statements, dealing first with the Annual Budget and the Temple construction plan, and second with details of teaching, must be kept present in consciousness throughout the year. Memory is the foundation of spiritual progress and social achievement.

The Guardian, fully aware of the Divine powers always awaiting to assist the efforts of unity and pure attention, has plainly stated over a period of years his expectations with respect to the American Bahá'i community. He knows what can be accomplished when the requisite spiritual conditions have been prepared.

The most unassuming individual and the most unassuming local community may well surpass all and set a new and higher standard of action for all their co-workers. The National Spiritual Assembly will reinforce with all possible resources and power the efforts of the friends. Let us humbly seek to be as flowers of fragrance or fruit of attainment upon the Tree of Life.

Yours faithfully,
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

LETTERS FROM THE GUARDIAN

1. To the National Spiritual Assembly.

"The Guardian has read very carefully the letters your Assembly has received from the Spiritual Assemblies of Urbana and Chicago reporting the criticisms that have been advanced by Rev. John Elder, a missionary from Iran. While he is certain that such attacks from Church missionaries are destined to increase in number and force in the future, he feels that for the present they do not constitute a challenge so grave and widespread as to justify any strong action by your Assembly. Later on, when the very progress of the Cause on the one hand, and the corresponding decline in ecclesiastical organizations on the other, will inevitably incite Christian ecclesiastical leaders to vehemently oppose and undermine the Faith, the believers will then have a real chance to defend and vindicate the Cause. Under present conditions it would be inadvisable for the American Community to give such issues too much prominence."

"It would, however, be very helpful for the friends to know that the question which the above-mentioned missionary has raised in connection with the marriage of Baha'u'llah and the provisions in the 'Aqdas' regarding the institution of marriage have been explained by 'Abdu'l-Baha in a Tablet which the Guardian hopes to have translated and published in conjunction with all the other statements in the Bulletin and the new department entitled 'The Charter of the New World Order.'"
with the 'Agdas'. Moreover, as regards Bahá'u'lláh's marriage, it should be noted that His three marriages were all contracted before He revealed His Book of Laws, and even before His declaration in Baghdad, at a time when Bahá'i marriage laws had not yet been made known, and the Revelation not yet disclosed."

"As regards those Persian or Oriental non-believers who become genuinely interested in the Cause in America, they can be admitted to study classes, but every care should be taken by the Assemblies to fully test their sincerity and the genuineness of their desire to join the Community before they are given the necessary facilities that will enable them eventually to be regarded as voting members of the Faith."—May 25, 1938.

2. To Individual Believers (published with the Guardian's consent).

"You have asked whether our prayers go beyond Bahá'u'lláh; it all depends whether we pray to Him directly or through Him to God. We may do both, and also can pray directly to God, but our prayers would certainly be more effective and illuminating if they are addressed to Him through His Manifestation Bahá'u'lláh. "Under no circumstances, however, can we, while repeating the prayers, insert the name Bahá'u'lláh where the word 'God' is used. This would be tantamount to blasphemy."—October 14, 1937, to A. W. Bodmer.

"You have asked as to what point in man's evolution he becomes conscious of self. This consciousness of self in man is a gradual process, and does not start at a definite point. It grows in him in this world and continues to do so in the future spiritual world. "Man can certainly recall past experiences in his evolution, and even when his soul leaves this world it will still remember the past. "The Guardian wishes me to answer you that he sees no objection to the friends coming together for meditation and prayer. Such a communion helps in fostering fellowship among the believers and as such is highly commendable.

"With reference to psychic phenomena referred to in your letter; these, in most cases, are an indication of a deep psychological disturbance. The friends should avoid as much as possible giving undue consideration to such matters."—November 20, 1937, to Amelie Willard Bodmer.

"The believers ought to give the Message even to those who do not seem ready for it, because they can never judge the real extent to which the Word of God can influence the hearts or minds of the people, even those who appear to lack any power of receptivity to the teachings."—January 14, 1938, to Amelie Willard Bodmer.

"THE CHARTER OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER"

"The creative energies released by the Law of Bahá'u'lláh, permeating and evolving within the mind of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, have, by their very impact and close interaction, given birth to an Instrument which may be viewed as the Charter of the New World Order which is at once the glory and the promise of this most great Dispensation."—Shoghi Effendi.

In order to promote a more direct and intimate spiritual association with the provisions of the Master's Will and Testament on the part of the American Bahá'í Community, the National Spiritual Assembly will publish a series of excerpts from the Will, together with selections from the interpretive writings of the Guardian. The friends are urged to give deep thought to this new department in Bahá'í News.

THE GUARDIANSHIP

"Divorced from the institution of the Guardianship the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh would be mutilated and permanently deprived of that hereditary principle which, as 'Abdu'l-Bahá has written, has been invariably upheld by the Law of God. 'In all the Divine Dispensations,' He states, in a Tablet addressed to a follower of the Faith in Persia, 'the eldest son hath been given extraordinary distinctions. Even the station of prophethood hath been his birthright.' Without such an institution the integrity of the Faith would be imperilled, and the stability of the entire fabric would be gravely endangered. Its prestige would suffer, the means required to enable it to take a long, an uninterrupted view over a series of generations would be completely lacking, and the necessary guidance to define the sphere of the legislative action of its elected representatives would be totally withdrawn."—Shoghi Effendi.

"O my loving friends! After the passing away of this wronged one, it is incumbent upon the Aghsán (Branches), the Afán (Twigs) of the Sacred Lote-Tree, the Hands (pillars) of the Cause of God and the loved ones of the Abhá Beauty to turn unto Shoghi Effendi—the youthful branch branched from the 'Aqdas.'"—Shoghi Effendi.
from the two hallowed and sacred Lote-Trees and the fruit grown from the union of the two offshoots of the Tree of Holiness,—as he is the sign of God, the chosen branch, the guardian of the Cause of God, he unto whom all the Aghsan, the Afnián, the Hands of the Cause of God and His loved ones must turn. He is the expounder of the words of God and after him will succeed the first-born of his lineal descendants.

"The sacred and youthful branch, the guardian of the Cause of God, as well as the Universal House of Justice, to be universally elected and established, are both under the care and protection of the Abhá Beauty, under the shelter and unerring guidance of His Holiness, the Exalted One (may my life be offered up for them both). Whatevers they decide is of God. Whoso obeyeth him not, neither obeyeth them, hath not obeyed God; whoso rebelleth against him and against them hath rebelled against God; whoso opposeth him hath opposed God; whoso contendeth with them hath contended with God; whoso disputeth with him hath disputed with God; whoso denieth him hath denied God; whoso disbelieveth in him hath disbelieved in God; whoso deviateth, separateth himself and turned aside from him hath deviated, separated himself and turned aside from God."—'ABDU'L-BAHÁ.

"No Guardian of the Faith, I feel it my solemn duty to place on record, can ever claim to be the perfect exemplar of the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh or the stainless mirror that reflects His light. Though overshadowed by the unailing, the unerring protection of Bahá'u'lláh and of the Báb, and however much he may share with 'Abdu'll-Bahá the right and obligation to interpret the Bahá'í teachings, he remains essentially human, and cannot, if he wishes to remain faithful to his trust, arrogate to himself, under any pretense whatsoever, the rights, the privileges, and prerogatives which Bahá'u'lláh has chosen to confer upon His Son. In the light of this truth, to pray to the Guardian of the Faith, to address him as lord and master, to designate him as his holiness, to seek his benediction, to celebrate his birthday, or to commemorate any event associated with his life would be tantamount to a departure from those established truths that are enshrined within our beloved Faith.'

"'He is the Interpreter of the Word of God.' 'Abdu'l-Bahá, referring to the functions of the Guardian of the Faith, asserts, using in His Will the very term which He Himself had chosen when relating the argument of the Covenant-breakers who had challenged His right to interpret the utterances of Bahá'u'lláh. 'After him,' He adds, 'will succeed the first-born of His lineal descendants.' 'The mighty stronghold,' He further explains, 'shall remain impregnable and safe through obedience to Him who is the Guardian of the Cause of God.' 'It is incumbent upon the members of the House of Justice, upon all the Aghsan, the Afnián, the Hands of the Cause of God, to show their obedience, submissiveness and subordination unto the Guardian of the Cause of God.'”—SHOGHI EFFENDI.

"O ye the faithful loved ones of 'Abdu'l-Bahá! It is incumbent upon you to take the greatest care of Shoghi Effendi, the twig that hath branched from the fruit given forth by the two hallowed and Divine Lote-Trees, that no dust of despondency and sorrow may stain his radiant nature, that day by day he may wax greater in happiness, in joy and spirituality, and may grow to become even as a fruitful tree. . . The Glory of Glories rest upon you."—'ABDU'L-BAHÁ.

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(1938-1940)

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IN MEMORIAM
Death proffereth to every confi­dent believer the cup that is life indeed.
It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of
gladness. It confereth the gift of
everlasting life."—Bahá'u'lláh.
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ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS
Pittsburgh, one. New Haven, one.
Los Angeles, one. Chicago, one. Cin­cinnati, one. Milwaukee, one.
New York, two Youth.

It is for the believer to adapt to the
pains of the Assembly and not for the
Assembly to adapt its arrangements to
the individual believer.

FOR CONSULTATION
The following questions are sug­gested by the National Assembly for
consultation at Nineteen Day Feasts,
in accordance with the announcement
published in BAHÁ'Í NEWS a few
months ago.
Does the Assembly make certain that
the sick and distressed among the be­lievers are given comfort and solace?
Has the Assembly given due atten­tion to the vital importance of the
Seven Year Plan and discussed it fre­quently with the community?
Are the Assembly Minutes and
Financial Records carefully main­tained?

Baha'i Summer School in
Australia
From Haifa News Letter
The first Bahá'í Summer School in
Australia was held at "Bolton Place,"
Yerrinbool, N. S. W., at the kind in­vitation of Drs. Stanley and Mariette
Bolton. It was with the greatest joy
that the sessions were opened on Sun­day, January 9, 1938. The chairman,
Dr. Stanley Bolton asked Mr. and Mrs.
Hyde Dunn, Australian pioneers, to
open with prayers, after which he welcomed all friends assembled.

The following greetings were read and joyously received: “Convey Summer School attendants hearty congratulations loving fervent prayers success deliberations.—SHOGHIL.”

“Greetings and love to all assembled at first Bahá’í Summer School. May all your deliberations be under the guidance of the Kingdom of Abhá.—Mr. and Mrs. Hyde Dunn.”

Greetings were also conveyed to the School by Mrs. Maysie Almond of Adelaide, S. A., and Miss Greta Lampri of Hobart, Tasmania, and many others. These two souls had traveled hundreds of miles to be present at the first Summer School. These two ladies had corresponded for the past several years and had never met until this precious time. Both spoke of the joy in being able to be present with the other friends to study this great Cause of Bahá’ulláh. The meeting then closed with prayer.

On Sunday afternoon, January 9, all the friends, residents of the local community and visitors afar, gathered at the Yerrinbool Public Hall to attend a lecture given by Mrs. L. Gapp of Sydney, the subject being “Unity.” The chairman, Dr. Mariette Bolton, before introducing the speaker, complimented the local residents of Yerrinbool, for having completed their hall to correspond with opening of the Bahá’í Summer School. The hall was built by the local community of combined volunteer labor. She extended to them a Bahá’í welcome and announced that the lecture was given under the auspices of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Australia and New Zealand. Mrs. L. Gapp most ably spoke on “Unity,” and being a delegate to the Pan Pacific Conference at Vancouver, Canada, gave a word description of her impressions received while journeying through Canada and the United States. During her trip across the continent, she contacted numerous Bahá’í communities and was received with love and harmony. Mrs. Gapp informed the friends that she wished to declare her belief in the Manifestation and intended studying the Teachings so as to help the Cause of Bahá’ulláh. After the lecture, Bahá’í literature was distributed to all present, and then all assembled outside the hall for a photograph to be taken.

Commencing on Monday morning and continuing for two weeks, the program arranged by the Yerrinbool Bahá’í Summer School Committee was followed. Those who had been allotted subjects and unable to attend, most willingly compiled their lectures on paper and forwarded them to the School to be read. The sessions were opened each morning at 9:30 with prayers for fifteen minutes and then the subjects followed for two hours, each speaker taking an hour on the selected subject. At the commencement on Monday morning, four dear souls of the local community came to “Bol­ton Place” and expressed a desire to learn of the Teachings.

On Friday evening, January 14, the local community of Yerrinbool held a social evening in order to raise funds for their hall. To this function the Bahá’ís were invited and attended, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Several of the local community mentioned that this time of the year is their busy season with their fruit, but that they would like to be able to attend some of our sessions but could not do so during the daytime. They then suggested that if we cared to hold a night session as well as our day session, they would attend and that they would grant us the use of their hall. This was carried out the following night when Dr. Mariette Bolton gave them a talk on Bahá’í history, after which community singing was enjoyed by all.

On Sunday morning, January 16, the regular fortnightly Yerrinbool Bahá’í Sunday School was held at “Bolton Place,” at which time the visiting Bahá’ís spoke to the children. On Sunday afternoon, a round table talk and discussion was enjoyed and then followed by singing.

On Monday, January 17, we commenced the studying of the Tablets of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, after which Mrs. Hyde Dunn spoke to us on Bahá’í Administration. In the afternoon, the Bahá’ís were invited to the home of a local resident where all spent a pleasant time talking of the Teachings and completed the afternoon by saying healing prayers for the host.

On Tuesday, January 18, the Bahá’ís journeyed by motor car to Canberra, the Capital of Australia, which is 120 miles from Yerrinbool. Upon entering Canberra, the prayers “upon entering a city” were recited, after which the Greatest Name was said 95 times.

On Wednesday, January 19, after two hour session, a picnic was given to all the children of the local community, at which 23 children were present, all having a happy time. The Feast was then conducted and in the evening all journeyed 12 miles to Bowral, at the invitation of an investigator. A most pleasant hour was spent in spreading the Teachings.

**ACTIVITIES IN IRAN**

**From Haifa News Letter**

In our News Letter of March, 1938, we referred to the services of Agha Mowhebat’ulláh Há’í, in Iran. It will be remembered that a group of seven young Bahá’ís, including Agha Há’í himself, obtained permission, last year, from our beloved Guardian to travel to Haifa. The Government authorities in Tihraín having refused to grant passports to these believers, the latter decided to make it possible for one of them to go on a teaching tour in Iran. In this noble and praiseworthy way they turned their disappointment into a new determination. Thus in compensation for their profound sadness in being deprived of their visit to Haifa, there sprang in their hearts a new vision—the vision of visiting fellow-believers in distant and lonely spots of the land, revitalizing their spirits in the Faith and conveying the Message to souls thirsting for heavenly Truth. The National Spiritual Assembly of Iran approved of their plan and appointed Agha Há’í to go on a teaching tour for seven months.

Our beloved Guardian has recently received a detailed account of the successful teaching tour undertaken by this faithful and devoted believer. The gist of this account is as follows:

Agha Há’í visited 27 towns and villages, some of the latter being in remote and infrequent localities. In all these places, he met the believers, revived their spirits, organized their activities and established Spiritual Assemblies where none existed before.

The Bahá’í population of these villages varies from twenty-five to as many as 1,450 in a single village. It is noteworthy that in two villages near Abadeh, non-believers refer their difficulties and disputes to the Spiritual Assembly of the believers, and beg the latter to act as a court of justice for them. The said Spiritual Assembly also helps the poor and the needy non-believers from its own charity funds.

The last two Bahá’í News Letters of the National Spiritual Assembly of Iran are replete with glad-tidings about the growth and development of Bahá’í institutions. We gather that according to instructions given by our beloved Guardian a Central Bahá’í Youth Committee has been organized. The duties of this Committee are as follows:

1. To be informed of the activities of Bahá’í Youth throughout Iran.
2. To be in communication with Lo-
cal Bahá'í Youth Committees appointed by the Bahá'í Spiritual Assemblies.

3. To translate into Persian, foreign news and subject matter that is of interest to the Bahá'í Youth and an encouragement to them to serve the Faith.

4. To suggest useful projects for the progress and upliftment of the Bahá'í Faith in Iran.

In accordance with the instructions given by our beloved Guardian, a “Bahá'í World” Committee has been formed in Tehran for the purpose of collecting the necessary materials—such as appropriate articles and photographs—and sending them to the Editorial Committee, in America, of this very valuable biennial Bahá'í publication.

The Spiritual Assembly of Tehran is actively engaged in devising proper means and methods of inculcating in individual believers the desire and enthusiasm for spreading the Message. At the same time trained Bahá'í teachers are fearlessly promulgating their Faith throughout the breadth and the length of the country.

We learn that the International Symposium of the Bahá'í Youth of Tehran was held in that city with great success. A special program previously approved by the Spiritual Assembly was carried out in an atmosphere of love and spirituality.

The Nineteen Day Feasts are celebrated regularly by the friends.

We have received a list of 58 resolutions that were passed by the Bahá'í Youth Groups of Iran when the International Symposium was held on the 25 of February, 1938. The following are some of the most outstanding resolutions:

1. To correspond with the Bahá'í youth throughout the world.
2. To edit a monthly magazine and call it “The Bahá'í Youth Magazine.”
3. To establish a Translation Board for the purpose of translating Bahá'í sacred literature from Persian into foreign tongues and vice-versa.
4. To enlarge the field of promulgating the Bahá'í Faith by publishing appropriate articles in daily newspapers.
5. To prepare a registration card giving full information about every individual believer.
6. To appoint a special census committee for the Bahá'í Youth.
7. To centralize in various localities Bahá'í books and literature so that beginners in the Faith may benefit thereby.
8. To establish Bahá'í reading rooms and libraries.
9. To collect the writings and the poems of the early believers.
10. To inculcate in the minds of every individual believer the independence of the Bahá'í Faith from all other faiths.
11. To prepare and edit a Persian “Bahá'í World,” concerning Bahá’í activities in Iran.
12. To organize a Bahá'í Summer School.
13. To send more Bahá'í teachers throughout Iran.
14. To appoint a committee for the purpose of finding employment for those believers, if any, who are without work.
15. To collect funds in order to build a Bahá'í Hospital in Tehran.
16. To organize classes for the purpose of training Bahá'í teachers.
17. To acquaint the Bahá'í Youth with the wonderful plan of World Order according to the Teachings of Bahá'ulláh.
18. To familiarize the believers with the Bahá'í Calendar.
19. To organize an Esperanto Class.

MARTHA L. ROOT IN INDIA

(Continued)

Reports of the teaching work through Southern India from October 15, 1937—when I arrived in Bombay, the short visits and lectures in Bombay, Surat, Poona, the trip across the continent of India from Bombay to Calcutta and across the sea of Bengal to Burma, and the work in Burma have been written. Also a report was given of the work in Calcutta, December 3-12 at the Second Indian Cultural Conference and the First Convention of Religions held in Calcutta. Likewise the work of the Bahá'ís of Calcutta, the press articles and the public lectures.

CALCUTTA

However, I should like to add another word about Calcutta. There is a reference to Bengal in the Tablet which 'Abdu’l-Bahá wrote to Mr. Pritam Singh which is very encouraging—I cannot quote it and there is not time to send and get it before I mail this, but it was to the effect that spreading the Cause in Bengal will help in spreading the Cause all over India. It was beautifully expressed, in a couplet, which translated reads:

The Indian nightingales will all break forth into sweet songs.

By the Iranian sweet which will be carried to Bengal.

I should like to emphasize what great opportunities come in presenting the Bahá'í Faith in great congresses. The call is raised to thousands, the newspapers carry the resume of the lectures and there are innumerable opportunities to speak individually with people of capacity, the thinkers of India; for it is usually the progressive, liberal souls, those determined to help make a better world, who go to such congresses.

A great scholar, Professor M. H. Hidayat Hosain of the Royal Asiatic Society Library of Calcutta, a leading Orientalist of the world, has written about Qurruatu'-'Ayn. Perhaps he is one of the first great Indian scholars to write about the Faith. He said that he had met the fine Iranian Bahá’í teacher, Ibn Asdaq, who came to India about 1902 or-03. “He was so charming, so spiritual, so cultured!” said Professor Hosain, “and we read the Iqán together in Persian!” This very sentence throws an illuminating light to us to-day, on the qualities that a Bahá’í teacher should possess. We must all be Bahá’í teachers to-day, and the great Scholars of this and the coming generation will be quickened or left unawakened perhaps by the way we present the cause to them.

Another point, if some Bahá’ís from Iran, Bahá’ís of capacity, would give up their businesses in Iran and come and settle in Southern India and build up their businesses in all the different cities of the South here, it might advance the Cause tremendously in these critical days. People in our United States have given up their businesses to move and settle in other States. It is an important goal. There is a great cultural affinity between Iran and India, Iranians could do a glorious work here.

The Bahá’í Cause has made remarkable strides in Calcutta since I visited that city in 1930. They have a good hall, fine meetings and the membership seems to have increased five times its number in 1930.

SHANTINIKETAN, India, at the International University of Dr. Rabindra Nath Tagore.

Mr. Isfandiar Bakhhtiari of Karachi, a member of the National Spiritual
Assembly of India and Burma, and I visited Shantiniketan on February 13, 14, 1938. We were guests in the School Guest House. It was a great privilege to meet Dr. Tagore and to hear him talk with deep love and appreciation of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá whom he had met in Chicago in 1912. I am writing the interview for Bahá’í World, volume VII. Dr. Tagore said that the Bahá’í Faith is a great ideal to establish and that they in Shantiniketan welcome all the great religious aims and will be most glad if a Bahá’í-Chair of Religion can be arranged in their school.

He and Mr. Bakhtiari spoke of Iran (Mr. Bakhtiari is an Iranian, he came from Yezd to India about twenty years ago), and of Dr. Tagore’s trip to Iran. The Poet asked particularly about the progress of the Bahá’í Faith in the Land of Its Birth, and praised the tolerance and fineness of the Bahá’ís.

Dr. Tagore’s School has a very excellent selection of Bahá’í books in the Library and they take great interest to have it as complete and up-to-date as possible.

A lecture was given in the hall before the whole student body and the professors. Questions were asked and answered. They brought all the Bahá’í books for an exhibition in the hall, and near the close of the lecture I explained the books, one by one. Mr. Bakhtiari was invited and chanted some Bahá’í prayers in Persian. (Many of the cultured people of India know Persian, and the Urdu language, which is used by several millions of people, is akin to Persian).

The Associated Press and the United Press used interviews and one professor whom I had known in Marburg University and who knows the Cause well wrote an article about the lectures for the Associated Press of India.

When can a Chair of the Bahá’í Faith be established at Shantiniketan? Bahá’ís must help in this.

TRIVANDRUM, TRAVANCORE. Mr. Bakhtiari and I worked in Trivandrum, December 19-23, 1937. I do not know that any Bahá’í teachers had ever visited Trivandrum and given lectures and press interviews before. It is a very progressive State where the young Maharaja of Travancore, twenty-six years old, has recently opened the Hindu State Temples to peoples of all castes—a most courageous, thrilling move that may help untouchables in other States likewise to receive similar privileges.

We had a charming, illuminating audience with the Maharaja of Travancore and his very cultured progressive mother the Maharani of Travancore, at the Palace. I am sure they know very well all the modern religious movements, for they are most liberal Hindus, most awake to the needs of world unity. (I am writing an article about the audience.)

Mr. Clarmont P. Skrine, British Resident of Madras States, received us graciously, at the British Residency in Trivandrum. He has known much about the Bahá’í Teachings and met many Bahá’ís during his visits to Iran. We learned from him that the late F. H. Skrine of London who wrote a book about the Bahá’í Faith nearly thirty years ago was his father. The Resident told us his father had been very interested in the Cause.

We lectured in the Theosophical Hall of Trivandrum. The President of the Lodge, Professor R. Srinivasan, Principal of the Maharaja’s College of Science arranged it. Dr. and Mrs. Jayaram Cousins were present and both spoke a little. Dr. Cousins, one of the great scholars of Travancore, said that thirty years ago they had been given Eric Hammonds’s book “The Splendour of God” and that they have always loved this Bahá’i book. Mrs. Cousins who is a friend of Lady Blomfield stopped over in Haifa on her way to India and visited Shoghi Effendi. She spoke with enthusiasm Shoghi Effendi, his spirit, his culture, his charm. Dr. Cousins sometimes accompanies the Maharaja on the latter’s trips abroad. I hear from others, but I do not know, that the great Dewan (Prime Minister) of Travancore is a fervent Theosophist.

One reason that we went to Trivandrum just at this time was because the Ninth All-India Oriental Conference, which convenes only once in two years, was to be held there December 20-22, and it seemed most important to try to get the Bahá’í Teachings to as many Oriental scholars as possible—for who will be the Professor Edward G. Browne, the Count Gobineau, the Baron Rosens of India if we do not interest the scholars; We wish the great Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, Zoroastrian scholars to write about the Bahá’í Faith in its relation to their own Faiths. I gave a very short talk in the Conference on the Bahá’í Faith from the standpoint of great Oriental scholars. Mr. Bakhtiari gave a short talk about Qurrátull’-‘Ayn, Iran’s great woman poet.

Articles about the Cause were prepared for the press from the very first day we arrived, and then the Travancore Journalists’ Association gave a tea in our honour in their clubhouse. They wrote several articles and they will write articles in future about the Cause. They wish news of the progress of the Cause in different parts of the world.

(To be continued)
"DRAW NIH unto BAHÀ'U'LLAH"

Put away the cups of Paradise and all the life-giving waters they contain, for I, the people of Bahá'í have entered the blissful abode of the Divine Presence. — Gleanings, pg. 32.

He Who is everlastingly hidden from the eyes of men can never be known except through His Manifestation, and His Manifestation can adduce no greater proof of the truth of His Mission than the proof of His own Person. Gleanings, pg. 49.

It behooves us, therefore, to make the utmost endeavor . . . that we may recognize Him only by His own Self. Gleanings, pg. 27.

Meditate diligently upon the Cause of thy Lord. Strive to know Him through His own Self and not through others. For no one else besides Him can ever profit thee. Gleanings, pg. 148.

Say: The first and foremost testimony establishing His truth is His own Self. Next to this testimony is His Revelation. For whose faineth to recognize either the one or the other He hath established the words He hath revealed as proof of His reality and truth. Gleanings, pg. 105.

This is the Day when the loved ones of God should keep their eyes directed towards His Manifestation, and fasten them upon whatsoever that Manifestation may be pleased to reveal. Gleanings, pg. 171.

"MARCHING TOWARDS THEIR GOAL"

Letter from Shoghi Effendi

Dear co-workers:

I wish to reaffirm in person my sense of joy and gratitude, as expressed in my last cable to your Assembly, at the new spirit of alertness and determination which you have so clearly demonstrated while yet on the threshold of your year of stewardship in the service of the Cause of Bahá'í. I am filled with fresh hopes, and yearn to witness, ere the present year draws to a close, not only the fulfillment of an unexampled record of service but the revelation of such depths of consecration as will astonish, nay thrill, both the members of your own community and the rest of the Bahá'í world. Pregnant indeed are the years looming ahead of us all.

The twin processes of internal disintegration and external chaos are being accelerated and every day are inexorably moving towards a climax. The rumblings that must precede the eruption of those forces that must cause "the limbs of humanity to quake" can already be heard. "The time of the end," "the latter years," as foretold in the Scriptures, are at long last upon us. The Pen of Bahá'u'lláh, the voice of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, have time and again, insistently and in terms unmistakable, warned an unheeding humanity of impending disaster. The Community of the Most Great Name, the leaven that must leaven the lump, the chosen remnant that must survive the rolling up of the old, discredited, tottering order, and assist in the unfoldment of a new one in its stead, is standing ready, alert, clear-visioned, and resolute. The American believers, standard-bearers of this world-wide community and torch-bearers of an as yet unborn civilization, have girt up their loins, unfurled their banners and stepped into the arena of service. Their Plan has been formulated. Their forces are mobilized. They are steadfastly marching towards their goal. The hosts of the Abhá Kingdom are rushing forth, as promised, to direct their steps and reinforce their power. Through their initial victories they have provided the impulse that must now surge and, with relentless force sweep over their sister-communities and eventually overpower the entire human race. The generality of mankind, blind and enslaved, is wholly unaware of the healing power with which this community has been endowed, nor can it as yet suspect the role which this same community is destined to play in its redemption. Fierce and manifold will be the assaults which governments, races, classes and religions, jealous of its rising prestige and fearful of its consolidating strength, will seek to silence its voice and sap its foundations. Unmoved by the relative obscurity that surrounds it at the present time, and undaunted by the forces that will be arrayed against it in the future, this community, I cannot but feel confident, will, no matter how afflictive the agonies of a travelling age, pursue its destiny, undeflected in its course, undimmed in its serenity, unyielding in its resolve, unshaken in its convictions.

Your true brother,

July 5, 1938. Shoghi.
THE ANNUAL BUDGET

During the first three months of the present Baha’i year the sum of $14,-
477.77 was received by the National Baha’i fund. The budget calls for
$103,000.00 per year or $37,000.00 per three month period, leaving a shortage of
$23,022.23. In other words, we are getting less than 45 per cent of the requirements.

In analyzing these figures, and in consideration of the number of recog­
nized believers, we find that the average contribution amounted to $4.80
for the three month period, or $1.60 per month, or exactly 5 cents per day,
for each believer, which is no more than the cost of a cup of coffee.

If every believer will help to bring the average up to 11c or 12c per day,
our obligation toward the completion of the Temple will be fulfilled, the
teaching work will progress and the heart of our beloved Guardian will be
gladdened.

Shall we fail in this, our most sacred obligation? Shall we be confronted
with remorse and sorrow for having missed our opportunity, which will
never recur, the greatest privilege of our generation, and which will be
remembered and revered in millenniums of Baha’i history?

It is toward this end that our prayers and meditation must be directed,
which will give us happiness in the realization that all and each have
united to exercise our greatest privilege. If we do this we cannot fail.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

FAITH AND DEEDS

O Son of My Handmaid!
Guidance hath ever been in words, and now it is given in deeds. That is,
every one must strive to show forth deeds that are pure and holy, for in
words all partake, whereas such deeds as these are special to Our loved ones.
Strive then with heart and soul to distinguish yourselves by your deeds. In
this wise We counsel you in this holy and resplendent Tablet.—BAHA’U’LLAH

He wishes you particularly to impress the believers with the necessity of maintaining the flow of their contributions to the Temple, and also to stress the importance of the institution of the National Baha’i Fund which, in these early days of the administrative development of the Faith, is the indispensable mediator for the growth and expansion of the Movement. Contributions to this fund constitute, in addition, a practical and effective way whereby every believer can test the
measure and character of his faith, and to prove in deeds the intensity of his
devotion and attachment to the Cause.

—SHOGHI EFFENDI.

Each and every believer, undaunted by the uncertainties, the perils and the
financial stringency afflicting the nation, must arise and insure, to the full meas­
ure of his or her capacity, that continuous and abundant flow of funds in­
to the National Treasury on which the successful prosecution of the Plan
must chiefly depend.—SHOGHI EF­FENDI.

TEACHING—“Unto Every One the Duty”

Teaching the Cause of God has ever been the basis of vital existence for
the followers of Baha’u’llah. The instructions of ‘Abdu’l-Baha on this point multiply in memory and expand in meaning as one attempts to recall
them, reaching their great summation in the closing paragraphs of His Will:
“Of all the gifts of God the greatest
is the gift of Teaching. . . . Of such
gift how can we deprive ourselves?”

Nay, may we understand this in a narrow
sense. “God hath prescribed unto
unto every one the duty of teaching
His Cause. Whoever ariseth to dis­
charge this duty, must needs, ere he
proclaimeth His Message, adorn him­
self with the ornament of an upright
and praiseworthy character, so that his
words may attract the hearts of such
as are receptive to his call. Without
it, he can never hope to influence his
hearers. . . . If he be kindled with the
fire of His love, if he forgeteth all
created things, the words he uttereth
shall set on fire them that hear him.”
The Guardian re-stated it in these
terms to Baha’i youth: “They should
attract people to the Cause not so
much through the exposition of its
principles and teachings but through
the power of their individual lives.”

But penetrating as our insight may
have been in the past through the aid
of such instruction, and however dedi­
cated our lives to the diffusion of His
holy Faith, surely the heart of every
believer must quicken with fresh joy
to the opportunities of these present
days, so “unutterably precious.” We
have been prepared in thought and
resolution for some years for this
hour. We have come gradually to un­
derstand, without the shock or para­
sis of fear to which an unwitting
world must be subject at the climax,
that “nothing short of the fire of a
severe ordeal, unparalleled in its in­
tensity, can fuse and weld the discor­
dant entities that constitute the ele­
ments of present-day civilization, into
the integral components of the world
commonwealth of the future . . .”

These words of Shoghi Effendi date
back to 1931; the continuous influence
of others like them, growing imper­
ceptibly in emphasis and scope, have
brought us safely to the last enuncia­
tion, the gravity of which we know in
our inmost beings cannot be over­
weighted. “The time of the end,
the latter years, as foretold in the
Scriptures, are at long last upon us.”

And now at long last, too, the “gift
of teaching” becomes a diviner gift,
a more cherished mission, the privi­
gle to carry the essence of life to
cavernous reaches of death, to replace
despair by faith, hopelessness by
knowledge, and stricken terror by the
strong courage of attachment to God’s
untailing Will. This is the distinc­
tion of the closing years of Baha’u’llah’s initial century. This is the spirit
which will inform all whom the Di­
vine Plan has claimed as instruments of its fulfillment. This consciousness
is the spring of sustained, undeviating
action, from its first surge to the
mighty culmination.

The American believers, standard­
bearers of this world-wide community
torch-bearers of an as yet unborn
 civilization, have girt up their loins,
unfurled their banners and stepped
into the arena of service. Their Plan
has been formulated. Their forces are
mobilized. They are steadfastly march­
ing towards their goal. The hosts of
the Abha Kingdom are rushing forth,
as promised, to direct their steps and
refine their power. Through their
initial victories they have provided the
impulse that must now surge and, with
relentless force sweep over their sister­
communities and eventually overpower
the entire human race.” “. . . They
must not throughout these six remain­
ing years, allow themselves to be de­
lected from the course they are now
steadily pursuing.”

We are far today from that fecun­
dity of effort which will “astonish,
may thrill, both the members of your
own community and the rest of
the Baha’i world.” However great the
achievements of the past, they are but
traces, merest foreshadowings of a ma­
ts urge. Yet the news from every
part of the American continent is al­
ready gathering momentum, and to
every Assembly, group and individual
believer, this record is sure to bring
re-enforcement, stimulation, and the
release of energy into a host of new
and varied patterns of accomplishment.

The Faith continues its penetration
into Virgin States and areas. From
Laramie comes the enrollment of Mrs.
Ada M. Padner, first Bahá’í of Wy­
oming, who learned of the Cause
through the joint efforts of the Lily­
whites and Mrs. Ruth Moffett. She
writes: ‘Christ’s Teachings were very
penetrating and vital to my life and I
thought I really knew Christ, but I
have found out that I really did not
fully understand until I became a
Bahá’í . . . . Signing the card is the
most sacred duty I have ever done
in my life . . . .’ This warm attraction
is already being turned by our new
friend into teaching, for a study group
meets weekly in her apartment.

Exceptional results have been ob­
tained by Miss Rezsi Sunshine, dur­ing a three-months’ stay in Arkansas.
Several weeks were spent in Little
Rock, Eureka Springs, and Hot
Springs, and in each city books were
requested by the public libraries. Miss
Olive Black, librarian in Eureka
Springs, wrote to Miss Sunshine: ‘I
have read the book, Security for a
Failing World, . . . . and I think it
should be in every School, College,
University, and Public Library in the
United States. It is the sanest ex­
position of the Divine purpose of life
I have ever read . . . . I shall not miss
an opportunity to recommend it to all
my friends and patrons.’ In addition,
contacts were made with five or six
presidents of Women’s Clubs, and
with the Rabbi of the Reformed Temple
of Little Rock, all of whom promised speaking opportunities in the Fall.
Because of the summer heat, Miss
Sunshine is temporarily in Massa­
cusetts, but plans to return to Arkansas
to continue her outstanding work.

A final report of the visit of Mrs.
Terah Smith and Miss Marguerite
Reimer to North Carolina includes
some interesting episodes. In addition
to contacts in Raleigh previously re­
ported here, Miss Reimer spoke to the
student body of the North Carolina
State College for Negroes in Durham
which, like Duke University, is en­
dowed by the Duke fortune. Also in
this city, Mrs. Smith made ‘an ad­
dress before the personnel, number­ing about eighty, of the North Caro­
lina Mutual Life Insurance Co. This
company is capitalized and directed
directly by Negroes. Each Saturday
they hold a Forum which fosters all
types of education. The previous lec­
tures had been on the Prophets:
Moses, Buddha, Confucius, and Mu­
hammad. So the stage was properly
set for the introduction of the Faith.

The enthusiastic interest was thrilling.
After open discussion one of the of­
icials gave a summation which showed
a remarkable understanding of the
Teachings and the inner reality of the
Cause.’

Mrs. Ruth Moffett has also report­
ed extensive teaching activities in the
South. During April she and two
friends travelled more than 3400 miles
in eleven States and fifty cities. Lec­
tures were given before twenty-five
universities and colleges and over ten
radio stations. A Bahá’í study group
was organized in Montgomery, Ala­
bama, and visits were made to twenty
libraries to discuss the placement of
Bahá’í literature. The cities visited by
Mrs. Moffett included: New Orleans,
Mobile, Fairhope, Pensacola, Mont­
gomery, Tuskegee, Birmingham, Tel­
ladega (Alabama), Atlanta, Chatt­
aooaga, Nashville, and Camden (Ken­
tucky).

A method which might well serve
as a model for many individual be­
lievers has been adopted by Miss Mil­
dred F. Varnum, a member of the
Bahá’í community of New York City.
She has returned to her ‘home town’
in Bangor, Maine, and intends to re­
main until the Cause is established.
The local newspaper gave her excel­
 lent publicity, featuring the Faith as
the reason for her return, and a meet­
ing is planned for August in the Town
Hall or Church supported by her
grandfather. She writes: ‘I am
thrilled with this privilege of serving
Bahá’u’lláh in this my beloved Maine
where I was born and my forebears
were among its pioneers.”

A somewhat similar plan is being
followed by Miss Marion Holley in the
San Joaquin Valley, California, a ter­
ritory in which her mother, Grace B.
Holley, did pioneer work. Two teach­ing
circuits were arranged in April and
May for Mr. Joseph Bray and Miss
Beatrice Irwin, with fireside groups
in Woodlake, Bakersfield, and Fresno.
Miss Irwin also spoke to the High
School senior class and to three hun­
dred Grammar students in Woodlake,
as well as to a study class of the Con­
gregational Church in Bakersfield.
There have since been several ex­
changes between this class and the
Bahá’ís. The success of these circuits
has grown out of the efforts of three
isolated believers, Mrs. Estelle Wa­
caser, Mrs. Horace Tillyer, and Mrs.
Sylvia Dewey.

Most stimulating news has come
from Mr. and Mrs. Ward Calhoon
of the Milwaukee community, who
turned a vacation trip to Cuba into a
 teaching campaign. They were assist­
ed in every decision by the inspira­tion of Bahá’u’lláh, choosing in this way
a steamship agency in Miami where
they met the President of the Cuban
Chamber of Commerce, and by him
were given several valued introduc­
tions in Havana. This gentleman had
published an article on the Calhoons

The architect’s beautiful vision emerges into more impressive outer expression as
the units of the gallery section are assembled in their final position.
and the principles of the Faith in the Sunday Advance, a large newspaper of Havana, and articles were also carried by the only English newspaper, the Havana Post, and by three Cuban papers. Several important contacts were made in Havana and deep interest was aroused. While passing through Florida, the Calhoons spoke to the Bahá'ís in Jacksonville, St. Augustine, and Miami, showing motion pictures of Bahá'í activities and the Temple.

Other believers have also reported the extension of Bahá'í contacts while on vacation. Mrs. John Becktel of Kansas City, accompanied by Miss Carolyn Christensen, visited relatives for three days in Billings, Montana, and was able to speak of the Cause and distribute literature to thirteen people. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schoeney of Phoenix cooperated with the Teaching Committee by calling on isolated believers in Santa Rosa and Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Another vital phase of teaching progress is the consolidation of Bahá'í Groups throughout the continent. Perhaps the most notable work during this period was done in Duluth, Minn., when the believers cooperated with Mr. Philip Marangella and Miss Josephine Kruka for three weeks in May. A series of five public talks were arranged at the Spalding Hotel, and in addition Mr. Marangella spoke at the Y. M. C. A., the morning service of the A. M. C., and the Saturday Luncheon Club of business men and women. The Duluth Group "now numbers eight declared believers, and with the new students who were attracted we hope to have an Assembly." Two new enrollments have been listed for Knoxville, and with the transfer of Mrs. Louise Caswell's membership, the Knoxville Group now has seven members. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Guy have reported the establishment of a Group in Orlando, Florida, which includes residents of Pine Castle. It is hoped that membership may be sufficiently increased in one or the other of these cities to allow the election of an Assembly by next April. Scranton, Pa., has a new Group of ten, resulting from the teaching work of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Ives and Mrs. Inderlied of Binghamton. Long Beach, California, has reorganized a Group of seven, and is receiving much help from the Los Angeles Assembly. Roseville, Michigan, now has five members and recently arranged meetings for Miss Lydia Zamenhof. Madison, Wisconsin, has reported its fifth enrollment. In Helena, Montana, a Group was organized last April with eleven believers.

Meantime a great number of devoted Bahá'ís in isolated areas are carrying forward the banner of the Divine Plan. Although it is impossible to mention them all, these few references may hearten other isolated friends. Mrs. Elizabeth Carpenter of Santa Paula, with the help of Mrs. Marich Carpenter, has arranged weekly meetings throughout the year in her home which reached a high point with a violin concert by Mr. Roderick White, followed by a talk on "Bahá'u'lláh, the Greatest Musician," by Mrs. Buelah Lewis. The splendid exhibit of Bahá'í books, pictures, and Persian and Arabic texts, which is represented by a photograph in this issue, was arranged in Santa Paula at the Dean Hobbs Blanchard Memorial Library.

Mr. Kenneth Christian and two fellow Bahá'í students at Cornell University, Stuart Cody and Henry Setz, with the cooperation of friends from nearby centers, scheduled public lectures during the school year of 1937-38 for Mr. Harlan Olier, Dr. Heist, Mr. Philip Marangella, Mrs. Terah Smith, Dr. Emeric Sala, and Mr. Allen McDaniel. Accompanying Mr. McDaniel's talk on the Temple was a three-day exhibit of the Temple Model in Willard Straight Hall lobby, and it is estimated that 3000 people saw it. Several hundred leaflets were distributed, good publicity in three papers was obtained, and the faculty has invited Mr. McDaniel to return next year.

A report from the Regional Teaching Committee of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, British Columbia, and Alaska demonstrates a splendid cooperation between this Committee and the individual friends, in carrying the Faith to new areas. Several study groups are being formed in British Columbia, in Victoria by Miss Audrey Applegate of Vancouver, in Westminister, in West Vancouver through Mrs. Monroe, and in towns of the Okanagan Valley such as Armstrong, where there are already four believers. Both Miss Doris Skinner and Mr. Rowland Estall have planned teaching visits to the Valley, where they will extend Bahá'í contacts in Vernon, Penticton, Nelson, Trail, and Kamloops. Also in this region pioneer work is being advanced in Tacoma, to which city Mr. Charles Knight of Seattle has recently moved, in Wenatchee, and through weekly visits of Dr. and Mrs. Speno, in Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint, Idaho. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Seymour of Monroe have gone to Juneau, Alaska, for the summer.

Thus do we see in every part of this great continent the evidences of the self-sacrificing efforts of the believers. More and more are finding in action the gift of confirmation, in teaching the light of inspiration and guidance, in concerted effort under the standard of the Divine Plan a strength and blessing which only unity confers. For the American Bahá'ís, spiritual heirs of the heroic founders of our Faith, inherit too that glorious promise of the Báb: "God will assist all those who arise to serve Him!" Our gratitude for the opportunity of service in such unequalled days can recognize no bounds.

National Teaching Committee.

STATUS OF ASSEMBLIES IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

Regarding the Spiritual Assembly of Mexico City, the general principle is that the N. S. A. of America should strive to prepare and train all groups in Central and South America to attain the status of an Assembly, and, once formed, to endeavor to consolidate their position. These Assemblies, however, as soon as established, will
cease to be formally under the jurisdiction of the N. S. A. of the U. S. and Canada.—Shoghi Effendi, May 25, 1938.

MEETINGS OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

It has been found desirable to revise the schedule of meetings published in a recent issue of Bahá’í News. The new schedule follows, and it is pointed out that the plan calls for the formal public meeting on the evening before the business sessions of the Assembly begin, and a regional conference on the Sunday afternoon falling within the dates given, wherever local conditions make a conference feasible.

October 7, 8, 9, Knoxville, Tenn.
December 9, 10, 11, Urbana, III.
February 3, 4, 5, Los Angeles.

PUBLIC TEACHING BULLETIN
"A NEW WORLD ORDER"

For several years the National Spiritual Assembly has issued occasional numbers of a bulletin containing only excerpts from Bahá’í literature and intended for non-believers. Copies have been mailed out to lists of interested persons compiled by the Contacts Committee and received from other sources, and copies have also been purchased by a number of local Assemblies.

The Assembly has decided to develop this bulletin in order to make it more useful for teaching work. Hereafter it will be issued as a single sheet, printed on both sides, and carrying no date but merely a serial number, which will greatly extend the period of time in which copies can be used. Moreover, the bulletins will be sold in quantity, not less than 50 copies per order, at a cost of 1c each.

Orders and payments should be sent directly to the Treasurer of the National Spiritual Assembly. This bulletin is not handled by the Publishing Committee.

Advance orders are desirable, in order to determine how many to print.

ECONOMY IN TEACHING PLANS

While the requirements of the National Fund are not being met, and the future progress of Temple construction not yet assured, the National Assembly wishes to advise National and Regional Teaching Committees, Summer Schools and local Assemblies to exercise all possible economy in teaching work, by giving preference to nearby teachers where invitations involve traveling and living expenses. The budget supporting the Seven-Year Plan is our first concern.

REFERENCES TO THE FUND AT NINETEEN DAY FEASTS

Questions having arisen as to propriety of mentioning the Bahá’í Fund, and receiving contributions, at Nineteen Day Feasts, the National Assembly is of the opinion that under the Guardian’s explanation of the threefold character of this Feast, the consultation period should be used as much as possible for promotion of the Seven Year Plan in all its phases. But the regularity of contributions to the Fund should not be contingent upon personal attendance at the Nineteen Day Feast.

IN MEMORIAM

Death proffers unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It confereth the gift of everlasting life.—BAHÁ’U’LLAH.

Charles Johnson, Mauston, Wisc.
Miss Dorothy A. Fleu, St. Paul.

Mrs. Marne Brown, New York.
Walter H. Petersen, Los Angeles.
Mrs. Rose A. Windover, Grand Rapids.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


ASSEMBLY ROLL

Oakland, Calif. Change of address. New address, Lorne H. Matteon, Secretary, 217 Bank of Commerce Bldg.
Indianapolis, Ind. Change of address. New address, Mrs. G. M. Cooper, Corresponding Secretary, 2116 Central Ave.

"THE CHARTER OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER"

"The creative energies released by the Law of Bahá’u’lláh, permeating and evolving within the mind of Abdu’l-Bahá, have, by their very impact and close interaction, given birth to an Instrument which may be viewed as the Charter of the New World Order which is at once the glory and the promise of this most great Dispensation."—Shoghi Effendi.

In order to promote a more direct and intimate spiritual association with the provisions of the Master’s Will and Testament on the part of the American Bahá’í Community, the National Spiritual Assembly will publish a series of excerpts from the Will, together with selections from the interpretive writings of the Guardian. The friends are urged to give deep thought to this new department in Bahá’í News.

The House of Justice

It would be helpful to bear in mind certain basic principles with reference to the Will and Testament of Abdu’l-Bahá, which together with the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, constitutes the chief depository wherein are enshrined those priceless elements of that Divine Civilization, the establishment of which is the primary mission of the Bahá’í Faith...
To dissociate the administrative principles of the Cause from the purely spiritual and humanitarian teachings would be tantamount to a mutilation of the body of the Cause, a separation that can only result in the disintegration of its component parts, and the extinction of the Faith itself.  

It hath been ordained by God that in every city a House of Justice shall be established; the members must be according to the Number of Bahá’u’lláh, and if the number exceed this, no matter. The members of the House must regard themselves as trustees and representatives of God in the created world. And when they enter the House, they must consider themselves as being in the Presence of God, the Supreme, the Most exalted, as seeing Him Who is unseen, and strive to fulfill for the good of the public the Trust placed in them for the sake of God, as though they were managing their own affairs and choosing that which is best.

That the Spiritual Assemblies of today will be replaced in time by the Houses of Justice, and are to all intents and purposes identical and not separate bodies is abundantly confirmed by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá Himself. Not only will the present-day Spiritual Assemblies be styled differently in future, but will be enabled also to add to their present functions those powers, duties and prerogatives necessitated by the recognition of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh, not merely as one of the recognized religious systems of the world but as the State Religion of an independent and Sovereign Power. And as the Bahá’í Faith permeates the masses of the peoples of the East and West, and its truth is embraced by the majority of the peoples of a number of the Sovereign States of the world, will the Universal House of Justice attain the plenitude of its power, and exercise, as the supreme organ of the Bahá’í Commonwealth, all the rights, the duties, and the responsibilities incumbent upon the world’s future superstate.

And now, concerning the House of Justice which God had ordained as the source of all good and freed from all error, its members must be elected by universal suffrage, that is, by the believers. Its members must be manifestations of the fear of God and day-springs of knowledge and understanding, must be steadfast in God’s faith and the well wishers of all mankind. By this House is meant the Universal House of Justice, that is, in all coun-
tries, a secondary House of Justice must be instituted, and these secondary Houses of Justice Must elect the members of the Universal one. Unto this body all things must be referred. It enacts all ordinances and regulations that are not to be found in the explicit Holy text. By this body all the difficult problems are to be resolved and the guardian of the Cause of God is its sacred head and the distinguished member for life of that body. Should he not attend in person its deliberations, he must appoint one to represent him. Should any of the members commit a sin, injurious to the common weal, the guardian of the Cause of God hath at his own discretion the right to expel him, whereupon the people must elect another one in his stead. This House of Justice enacts the laws and the government enforce them. The legislative body must reinforce the executive, the executive must aid and assist the legislative body so that through the close union and harmony of these two forces, the foundation of fairness and justice may become firm and strong, that all regions of the world may become even as Paradise itself. Unto the Most Holy Book every one must turn and all that is not expressly recorded therein must be referred to the Universal House of Justice. That which this body, whether unanimously or by a majority doth carry, that is verily the Truth and the Purpose of God himself.

An attempt, I feel, should at the present juncture be made to explain the character and functions of the twin foundations that support this mighty Administrative Structure—the institutions of the Guardianship and of the Universal House of Justice. Their common, their fundamental object is to insure the continuity of that divinely-appointed authority which flows from the Source of our Faith, to safeguard the unity of its followers and to maintain the integrity and flexibility of its teachings. Acting in conjunction with each other two inseparable institutions administer its affairs, coordinate its activities, promote its interests, execute its laws and defend its subsidiary institutions.

The interpretation of the Guardian, functioning within his own sphere is as authoritative and binding as the enactments of the International House of Justice, whose exclusive right and prerogative is to pronounce upon and deliver the final judgment on such laws and ordinances as Bahá’u’lláh has not expressly revealed. Neither can, nor will ever, infringe upon the sacred and prescribed domain of the other. Neither will seek to curtail the specific and undoubted authority with which both have been divinely invested.

No wonder that He Who through the operation of His Will has inaugurated so vast and unique an Order and Who is the Center of so mighty a Covenant should have written these words: "So firm and mighty is this Covenant that from the beginning of time until the present day no religious Dispensation hath produced its like." "Whatsoever is latent in the innermost of this holy cycle," He wrote during the darkest and most dangerous days of His ministry, "shall gradually appear and be made manifest, for now is but the beginning of its growth and the day-spring of the revelation of its signs."

COMMITTEES OF THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY 1938-1939

Revisions and Further Appointments

Contacts

Additional members:
Mrs. Vera Eisenhart
Mrs. Ethel Furbush

Regional Teaching

For Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. Mr. Stanley Kemp unable to serve.

Additional members:
Mrs. Louis Speno
Mrs. Alta Kruger
Mrs. Mae McKenna

For Ohio, Indiana, Western Pennsylvania. Mrs. Myron Potter unable to serve. One or two new members to be added.

For Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin. Mrs. Dudley Blakeley unable to serve.

Additional member:
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick

For New York, New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania.

Additional member:
Archie G. Tichenor

The Bahá’í World—Volume VIII

Additional members:
Mrs. Mariam Haney
Miss Florence Mattoon
Mrs. Victoria Bedikian

1 Shoghi Effendi, The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh.
2 Bahá’u’lláh, Aqdas.

4 Shoghi Effendi, The Dispensation of Bahá’u’lláh.
Study Outline
Mrs. Alice Cox, Chairman
Miss Imogene Talbott
Mrs. Marion Rhodes
Mrs. H. Emogene Hoagg

Teaching and Training Children
Additional member:
Miss June Miller

Green Acre Summer School—1939
Mrs. Amelia Bowman, Chairman
Miss Marjory Wheeler
Mrs. Mary Francis Baral
Mrs. Beula Proctor
Harlan Ober
Harold Bowman
Miss Lorna Tasker

Green Acre Youth Week—1939
Mrs. Evelyn Loveday, Chairman,
Elliot, Maine
Duncan McAlar
Miss Betty Shook
Miss Hazel Bowman
Rinaldo Quigley

Geyserville Summer School—1939
John D. Bosch, Chairman
Leroy Iraas, Vice-Chairman
N. F. Ward, Secretary
George O. Latimer
Mrs. Amelia Collins
Mrs. Ella G. Cooper
Siegfried Schopflecher
Irwin Sommerhalder
Miss Joy Allen
Mrs. Sara Kenny
Rowland Estall
Clarence Iverson

Loubelen Summer School—1939
L. W. Eggleston, Chairman
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick,
Secretary
Mrs. Dorothy Baker
Miss Gareta Busey
Bishop Brown
Edmund Miesler
Mrs. L. W. Eggleston
Carl Scheffler
Clarence C. Niss
Kenneth Christian
Mrs. Dorothy Graf

Temple Librarian
Harry E. Walrath

Publishing Announcements

The Committee is pleased to report a new title added to the series of Teaching Literature pamphlets:

Religion and The New Age, by A. G. B. Sold only in lots of 100 copies.

Editions have also been obtained of two pamphlets in wide demand:

Tests: Their Spiritual Value, by Mamie L. Seto. Per hundred, $1.50 net.
Radiant Acquiescence, by Orcella Rexford. Per hundred, $1.50 net.

Since the Guardian has recommended Sale’s translation of the Qur’an as most suitable for study by believers, the Publishing Committee informs the friends that they can order a copy at any local bookstore. Ask for “The Koran,” translated into English from the original Arabic by George Sale. The Publisher is Frederick Warne and Co., Ltd., London, with an American office at 381 Fourth Avenue, New York. This New York office does not sell single copies retail, but sells only to bookstores. The work can be obtained for $1.00 per copy, but including illustrations and Preliminary Discourse the cost is $4.00.

Archives Announcements

In 1936 the National Spiritual Assembly requested the Archives and History Committee to make an effort to obtain a history of each local Bahá’í Community, prepared under the auspices of the Local Assembly.

Following this, a request was made through Bahá’í News for local histories to be prepared and forwarded to the Committee, and some suggestions were given as to the particular subjects to be emphasized in the historical write-up. To date fifteen Assemblies have responded. Some of the local histories received have been quite detailed and complete, particularly the one prepared by the Philadelphia Assembly.

The request is renewed that each Local Assembly which has not already done so, appoint a committee or an historian to prepare a history of the Cause in its own Community. Perhaps the most valuable sources of information will be files of Assembly minutes and correspondence or memories of the early believers. The committee would greatly appreciate receiving many more of these records during the current Bahá’í year.

Thirty-two of the seventy-eight local Spiritual Assemblies have filled out and returned the Questionnaire which was mailed by the National Spiritual Assembly last year and to the Secretaries of the newly formed Communities after April 21st of this year. While the information entered in the Questionnaire supplies only a brief summary of local history, the cumulative information which would be available should all Assemblies respond would be considerable.

Approximately half of the communities that have returned the Questionnaire indicate that a local archives committee is included among the standing committees of the Community. Such a committee or a local archivist in each Assembly, would, in time, prove very useful, not only in organizing and preserving local records but in assisting the National Committee in the collection and preservation of the Tablets of 'Abdu’l-Bahá. The letters of the Guardian and sacred relics brought back by American believers who have visited the Holy Shrines.

Recent Gifts to the Archives

The most precious Bahá’í possessions of the National Bahá’í Archives
consist of the following gifts of the Guardian, coming from the International Archives:—Three original illuminated Tablets in the Hand-Writing of Bahá'u'lláh, one a prayer, and two Tablets to ʻAbdu'l-Bahá from His Father. The last gift received was the Locks of the Hair of Bahá'u'lláh, which were arranged and preserved by the hands of the Greatest Holy Leaf. These gifts have come from Haifa within the last four years.

Within that time the number of the Master's original Tablets which have been given to the National Archives has increased from approximately 1,000 to 1,600. Four years ago, aside from the Guardian's letters to the National Spiritual Assembly, there were few letters from the Guardian in the National Archives. Now there are several hundred.

Since the Convention a gift from Mr. Ernest Harrison of Montreal has been received, consisting of what he believes to be a complete Baha'i library in English. Also the original negative and positive copy of the motion picture film of ʻAbdu'l-Baha taken in New York City has been sent to the archives by the National Spiritual Assembly. This was formerly in the possession of Mr. Roy Wilhelm.

ARCHIVES AND HISTORY COMMITTEE

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The National Youth Committee urges each local Youth Group to participate in the activities planned for the current year.

Study Days. In development of the plan adopted last year, the following Study Days have been arranged:

September—The Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh. First half.

October—The Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh. Second half.

(Use the Study Outline on this subject published by the Publishing Committee.)

November—Some Answered Questions. Part I.

January—Some Answered Questions. Part II.

March—Some Answered Questions. Part III.

April—Some Answered Questions. Part IV.

May—Some Answered Questions. Part V.

(Study Outlines and questions are being prepared for use in connection with the five parts of Some Answered Questions, and will be made available by the Youth Committee.)

Youth Bulletin. This will be continued, and young people are requested to assist by obtaining subscriptions and manuscripts.

Mid-winter Conference. Sub-secretaries have been requested to arrange at least one conference on a regional basis this winter.

Sub-secretaries are also requested to arrange a meeting of area members, submit Study Day reports obtained from all groups and report all youth activities.

Two meetings. These are to be held locally as Feast or public meetings, based on The Dawn-Breakers, with about three talks. Possible subjects: 1, on the Fore-runners of the Bab; 2, on Táhirih, Vahid, Qudus. This is an international effort.

Fourth Annual International Bahá'í Youth Day. The date is to be February 26, 1939, the subject "The Unfoldment of World Civilization." Complete outlines will be published in Bahá'í Youth for December.

ESPERANTO CONGRESS

The Congress held at Cleveland, July 1, 2 and 3 was of exceptional interest to Bahá'ís as well as to Espe­rantists on account of the presence of Miss Lidia Zamenhof. Miss Zamenhof was listed in the program as Bahá'í speaker, and found many opportunities to promote the Faith. A letter from the National Spiritual Assembly was presented to the delegates.

The following two resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"To Miss Lidia Zamenhof, talented daughter of the beloved founder of our language, we wish to express our deepest gratitude for the inspiration of her presence and for her unselfish cooperation in the various Congress activities.

"To the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada, we convey our feeling of appreciation for the great part they have played in making it possible to have Miss Zamenhof in America to spread the Cause of Esperanto throughout this country."
“DRAW NIGH UNTO BAHÁ’U’LLAH”

Shake off, O heedless ones, the slumber of negligence, that ye may behold the radiance which His glory hath spread through the world.—Gleanings, p. 186.

Were any man to ponder in his heart that which the Pen of the Most High hath revealed and to taste of its sweetness, he would, of a certainty, find himself emptied and delivered from his own desires, and utterly subservient to the Will of the Almighty.—Gleanings, p. 343.

I have, moreover, with the hand of divine power, unsealed the choice wine of My Revelation, and have wafted its holy, its hidden, and musk-laden fragrance upon all created things.—Gleanings, p. 328.

How great the multitude of truths which the garment of words can never contain! How vast the number of such verities as no expression can adequately describe, whose significance can never be unfolded, and to which not even the remotest allusions can be made!—Gleanings, p. 176.

I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy Name... to write down for every one who hath turned unto Thee... the recompense decreed for such as speak not except by Thy leave.—Prayers and Meditations, p. 293.

“THE GRACE THAT SUSTAINS”

With this issue of BAHÁ’I NEWS is included a special insert reprinting the Guardian’s messages received since January 10, 1936. The friends are asked to note carefully that the last two messages in the series—the letter dated September 10 and the cablegram dated September 24, 1938 are now published in BAHÁ’I NEWS for the first time, though both were immediately sent to the local Assemblies.

With reference to these successive messages, establishing and developing the Seven-Year Plan, the National Spiritual Assembly sent to local Assemblies the following statement in the October bulletin:

While we have all read and meditated on these messages singly, their meaning and power as a whole are overwhelming. In letter after letter, cablegram after cablegram, Shoghi Effendi has developed the theme of devotion, sacrifice, understanding and mighty action for this very period of the severest danger humanity has ever suffered. The existence of the Bahá’i Community itself, and its destined capacity to become the instrument for the release of God’s blessing of world order and peace, depend entirely upon our individual and collective response to these directions, warnings and supreme appeals. Nothing can diminish the authority and influence of Divine truth, but that authority can and will be exercised through others if we, the present community of believers and servants, fail to perform our holy task.

“Therefore the National Spiritual Assembly, profoundly conscious of the gravity of the hour, implores the local Assemblies, communities and groups to grasp and incorporate in their very souls the vital import of the Guardian’s words. Shoghi Effendi has created a new and higher reality for the American Bahá’ís. He summons us to such heroism and such unity as we have never achieved before. This station of the true Bahá’í and of the true Bahá’í community must now be realized on earth, here and now.

“Let the Spiritual Assemblies appreciate the vital nature of their responsibility; let all individual Bahá’ís, without exception, seek consecration for service to the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh. Let suitable occasions be made at once for the study of Shoghi Effendi’s words. Let individuals steep
themselves in the successive messages, for the enclosed reprint will be sent to the entire American Bahá’í community in the next issue of Bahá’í News. Let there be daily prayer. Let the Nineteen Day Feasts, the Anniversaries and every teaching meeting be illumined with the Light of Faith and the melting enthusiasm of determined action.

“What lethargy has seized us, to permit the Seven-Year Plan to lag so seriously behind its schedule? Are we sick or crippled, in this, the Day of God? Is there not a Remover of difficulties, a Healer, a Divine Physician Whom we claim to love and obey? Beloved friends! The religion of God has been revealed not to make us complacent, but to teach and inspire us how to act and how to achieve! A few Assemblies, stirring with this new influx of power, have already raised their standard of sacrifice for the National Fund. Can any Assembly, community, group or individual believer dare to remain outside the creative, protective and accomplishing spirit which the Guardian symbolizes and by his words, conveys?

Anniversary of the Birth of Bahá’u’lláh

“Now, in order to unite and concentrate the devotion and energy of the entire American Bahá’í community, the National Spiritual Assembly appeals to have November 12, the Anniversary of the Birth of Bahá’u’lláh, observed with an ardor that will consume every veil of irresolution and of spiritual ignorance, that by the Divine power the American Bahá’í community may be completely transformed. Every believer should resolve to attend, and attend in that humility which is essential in those who approach the Throne of God. Not words but inward and outward deeds now determine the station of faith in Bahá’u’lláh. The National Spiritual Assembly longs for the privilege of sharing with the Guardian the news that his repeated appeal has at last kindled the flame of sacrifice in the heart of America!”

“Loyalty to World Order”

The cablegram received September 24 is clearly more than any re-emphasis laid on the importance of the Seven-Year Plan. The Guardian here calls upon the American Bahá’í community to separate itself in heart and soul from the disturbances seizing upon the peoples, races and nations, and manifest, individually and collectively, the true Bahá’í attitude upon current world events.

One realizes that the channel of grace that sustains the System of God’s Order will be clogged if we fail to heed this vital command. It is apparent that Bahá’ís are to act and speak as true Bahá’ís during these crucial times, not descending into the dark vortex which is, actually, separation from God. It is not our part to be victims of mass psychology in these days of despair, but to reflect that Light that shines to illumine the regeneration and the unification of the world of mankind.

To a lesser degree, the same forces sundering the peoples and nations are likewise making for division within each nation, and therefore the command applies to conditions in this continent and not merely to international affairs. The spirit of the Faith implies voluntary and complete aloofness from all elements of dissension and political influence, local, national or worldwide.

But co-equal to the warning stands the all-powerful assurance that obedience widens and deepens the channel of that Divine grace! Bahá’ís are to be amazed by the power of the Faith in these times, awed by its victory through any and every pure instrument, even the weakest and humblest soul.

The Guardian’s cablegram is a message to the entire American Bahá’í community. May we all be completely loyal and responsive to this impressive command.

National Spiritual Assembly.

“HEARTENED (BY) MESSAGE”

The following cablegram was received from the Guardian on October 14, in reply to a cabled message sent to
him from the National Assembly gathered at Knoxville, Tennessee.

"Heartened (by) message. Praying added fervor, deepened longing, acceleration Temple construction, increasing momentum teaching force. May both culminate (in) placing, (at) appointed time, final contract heralding consummation (of) hopes born thirty years ago (in) the hearts (of the) American believers."—Shoghi.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE TEACHING BUDGET

The friends will have noted in the June issue of BAHÁ’I NEWS that one of the three major items of the 1938-39 Budget is $30,000 for teaching in North and South America. Due to past confusion in our understanding of the teaching budget, the National Spiritual Assembly has thought it well to point out that budgeting is based not upon the actual possession of funds, but upon the analysis of what amounts are needed to accomplish the work. Budgeting does not make such amounts available, and teaching projects can be financed and funds voted only as the believers make this possible.

Last year, for example, the National Budget called for $30,000 for teaching; yet only $11,000 was actually spent. It might be of further interest to know that the teaching fund must cover all expenses connected with the National Teaching Committee, the Regional Committees (twelve in number), the Inter-America Committee, the distribution of free literature, the Library Committee with its placement of literature in public libraries, and the financing of Summer School programs.

Surely it is evident that we, as American Baha’is, cannot fulfill the Guardian’s great hopes for us, nor transpone into the world of actuality the glorious pattern of the Divine Plan, without that supply of funds which constitutes, at the present time, the life-blood of these nascent institutions you are laboring to erect. And these are the further words which Shoghi Effendi has addressed to us: "Contributions to this fund constitute, in addition, a practical and effective way whereby every believer can test the measure and character of his faith, and to prove in deeds the intensity of his devotion and attachment to the Cause."

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

"THIS OPPORTUNITY OF TEACHING"

It is now some three months since the arrival in this country of Shoghi Effendi’s stirring announcement that "the time of the end," "the latter years," as foretold in the Scriptures, are at long last upon us." In the heart of every believer the impact of these words has reverberated for weeks, and each of us is seeking to understand them, to relate them to the events which surround us, to discover those "depths of consecration" which conceal the secret of our future persistence, obedience and faith. Now, at this moment, the prophetic warnings of the Old Testament arrest us as never before, since we are the very people of this Book, that "generation of the half-light" whose lives are set by the will of God, in the midst of "a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time..." (Daniel, 12)

One miracle of this opportunity of teaching, the immense scope of which we can gradually perceive as we meditate upon the Tablets of the Divine Plan, is that our exertions are now, and will increasingly become, the very source of life to this fated generation. "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it." (Amos, 8) To ease this restlessness, to assuage the pangs of such distress, to be providers for the hungry offspring of earth’s most terrible famine—this is to teach the Cause of God today. Shall we not, therefore, receive in eagerness the news of every advance along the vast frontier of our teaching program, as it penetrates not only into pioneer territories but into new areas of deprivation, wherever they exist?

The news of greatest import for the unfoldment of the Seven-Year Plan is

TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION—III

Closer view of completed gallery sections. One or two pylons may also be finished before winter. The final work on this contract will go forward rapidly in the spring of 1939.
the growing activity of groups of the friends. For not by individual effort alone, no matter how sacrificial, can this monumental labor be accomplished. The heights to which heroic individuals may arise will continue to stimulate, to shame, or to inspire us all to a like standard of dedication. But only when each unit of our Administrative Order attains the full orbit of its activity, when every local Spiritual Assembly is reaching out for wider responsibilities of teaching, when Committees are functioning in wholeness and efficiency, when each Bahá’í Group is pressing forward to achieve its natural goal of Assembly status, and when the whole body of the Cause in America is performing in vigor, part linked to part in a mighty movement of coordination—only then will these two continents feel the full pressure of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. It is thus with great joy that we note the signs of this very symphony of motion.

The Binghamton Assembly has extended its interest from its own community to neighboring cities, notably Scranton, Syracuse and Ithaca. During June and July speakers including Mrs. Inderlied, Mrs. Terah Smith, Mrs. Palmatier, and Mrs. Vergason were sent on several occasions to Scranton, and two carloads of the Binghamton friends joined the new Scranton Bahá’ís in a farewell picnic for the Ives. A three-day youth conference was held in Binghamton the end of May, with an average attendance of fifty, including representatives from New York City, Syracuse, Scranton, and Ithaca, five of whom became confirmed believers during the sessions. Nor has this widened scope lessened the local activities of the community, for Binghamton was able to send forty-seven to the annual picnic at the McDaniel Farm, to meet for informal suppers and discussion on an average of three times a week at the summer cottage of Mrs. Noyes, and now starts the coming season with a new Center, seven students preparing for membership, and the determination to double its numbers within the year. In this resolve Scranton and Syracuse likewise share.

The Lima Assembly maintains a Contacts Committee of nine which last Fall began pioneer work in adjacent towns. Lima now reports the acceptance of the first three believers from Celina and Montezuma. Also, a home group has just recently been opened for a Bahá’í study course at Wapakoneta. A Pioneer Center in Cleveland has just recently been joined to the roll of Bahá’í Groups through the tireless efforts of the Philadelphia Assembly and seven believers are now meeting weekly.

A new Group has also been announced at Hinsdale, N. H., as the result of the fusion of seven isolated believers of Hinsdale, Ashuelot, and Bernardstown. An application for Group status has come from Arlington, Va., a pioneer state, where several former Bahá’ís of Washington, D.C., have organized a unit of Bahá’ís.

It is hoped in each of these localities that the friends may find such stimulus in community functioning as to enable them speedily to grow into local Spiritual Assemblies. As Hinsdale has written: "We have considered ourselves a Group for some time, but believe we feel more a unit already for just getting ourselves organized."

While on this subject, the work of the Madison Group claims mention, in arranging two fifteen-minute broadcasts for Marguerite Reimer on stations WIBA and WBIA. Her subjects were "The Bahá’í House of Worship" and "The Objectives of the Bahá’í Faith." It was estimated by the latter station that its broadcast had a listening audience of seventy thousand.

Perhaps the most interesting use which any of us has yet made of radio is planned jointly by the Vancouver Assembly and the Regional Teaching Committee of that area. By employing a larger station than was last year used in the series prepared by the Vancouver Assembly, it will be possible to reach all fireside groups in British Columbia simultaneously with ten weekly broadcasts, developing a presentation of the Faith which can be used as a basis for further local study and discussion. Congratulations to Vancouver for initiating a teaching method of prime importance!

The report of the Regional Committee of Alabama and Florida contains heartening news of the penetration of the Cause into the South. A weekly newspaper for colored people, The Florida American, has recently been started in Gainesville, Fla., by two Bahá’ís, Miss Bessee Marie Garrison and Mr. L. M. Bennett, with the hope that it will become a real teaching medium. A front-page column was devoted in the second issue to "The History of the Martyrdom of the Bahá’í." In Hollywood, Fla., Mrs. Amelia W. Bodmer is using the opportunities of a Trailer Park to scatter the Message throughout America. During the past year eighty-seven visitors, who came to inspect her trailer, have heard the Cause and received literature. Six of these, actual residents of Hollywood, are now seriously studying it and two of her students, Willis and Hannah White of Dania, have just registered as believers.

Miss Alma Knoblock recently spent several months in Bristol, Augusta, and Taylor, S. C. Aside many fireside groups, a direct presentation of the Faith was arranged for two hundred students of the Theological Class of Cook’s College, given jointly by Miss Knoblock and Miss Clair Glover of Augusta.

Pioneer work is now being carried on by Miss Virginia Taylor of Cheviot, Ohio, in Louisville, Ky., to follow up the fine contacts made there by Mrs. Grace Ober. Five visits were made in May and June, two Bahá’ís were located, and the campaign was closed for the summer with a picnic of fifteen interested women. A study class was planned by Miss Taylor to begin in September.

A model of the Temple was recently displayed in a furniture store in Albuquerque, N. M., resulting in an opportunity for a further showing at the New Mexico State Fair, October 9-16. The following voluntary letter was addressed to Dr. Morris by the store: "It may interest you to know that your temple model displayed in our window has drawn a lot of comments, and while at first we put it in our window merely to accommodate you, frankly it has surpassed all expectations from a publicity angle." Surely another talking point for local Publicity Committees! Thus do the followers of Bahá’u’lláh, singly and in groups, advance in the teaching program they have set themselves. "In these days," the Master wrote many years ago, "the most important of all things is the guidance of the nations and peoples of the
world." How much truer have these words become in our own tumultuous period. How much more apparent that every believer "is holding in his hand a trumpet, blowing the breath of life over all the regions." In these times of war and the rumor of war, should we not read again that last magnificent teaching Tablet addressed "To the believers of God and the maid-servants of the Merciful of the Bahá’í Assemblies in the United States of America and Canada"? For here is the true definitions of the "armies of God," and these are the sole instructions to ensure the victory. May each of us become an active soldier in the army of Bahá’u’lláh, worthy of the title of His "apostle," and eager for a part in His conquest—the establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth!

MEMORIAL TO KEITH RANSOM-KEHLER

The National Spiritual Assembly has recently transmitted $1,000 for the cost of constructing the Memorial to Keith Ransom-Kehler at Isphan, Iran, where this heroic Bahá’í soul ascended to the Kingdom.

The conditions which appeared to make it impossible to carry on the construction work have recently changed; and the National Assembly hopes to have news from Iran that work on this first International Bahá’í Memorial has begun.

GERMAN EDITION OF REVISED ESSLEMONT BOOK

With the Guardian's consent, the National Spiritual Assembly has sent funds sufficient to purchase and save for the Cause the types of the new edition of the Esslemont book in German translation which had to be abandoned in Europe some time ago on account of unfavorable conditions. It is hoped that the edition can soon be printed in Switzerland or some other country where copies could be circulated.

"THE CHARTER OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER"

"The creative energies released by the Law of Bahá’u'lláh, permeating and evolving within the mind of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, have, by their very impact and close interaction, given birth to an instrument which may be viewed as the Charter of the New World Order which is at once the glory and the promise of this most great Dispensation."—SHOGHI EFFENDI.

In order to promote a more direct and intimate spiritual association with the provisions of the Master's Will and Testament on the part of the American Bahá’í Community, the National Spiritual Assembly will publish a series of excerpts from the Will, together with selections from the interpretive writings of the Guardian. The friends are urged to give deep thought to this new department in Bahá’í News.

The Hands of the Cause of God

It is incumbent upon the members of the House of Justice, upon all the Aghán, the Afán, the Hands of the Cause of God to show their obedience, submissiveness and subordination unto the guardian of the Cause of God, to turn unto him and be lowly before him. He that opposeth him hath opposed the True One, will make a breach in the Cause of God, will subvert His Word and will become a manifestation of the Center of Sedition. Beware, beware, lest the days after the ascension (of Bahá’u’lláh) be repeated when the Center of Sedition waxed haughty and rebellious and with Divine Unity for his excuse deprived himself and perturbed and poisoned others. No doubt every vainglorious one that purposeth dissension and discord will not openly declare his evil purposes, nay rather, even as impure gold, would he seize upon diverse measures and various pretexts that he may separate the gathering of the people of Bahá. My object is to show that the Hands of the Cause of God must ever be watchful and so soon as they find anyone beginning to oppose and protest against the guardian of the Cause of God cast him out from the congregation of the people of Bahá and in no wise accept any excuse from him. How often hath grievous error been disguised in the garb of truth, that it might sow the seeds of doubt in the hearts of men! O ye beloved of the Lord! It is incumbent upon the guardian of the Cause of God to appoint in his own lifetime him that shall become his successor, that differences may not arise after his passing. He that is appointed must manifest in himself detachment from all worldly things, must be the essence of purity, must show in himself the fear of God, knowledge, wisdom and learning. Thus, should the first-born of the guardian of the Cause of God not manifest in himself the truth of the words:—"The child is the secret essence of its sire," that is, should be not inherit of the spiritual within him (the guardian of the Cause of God) and his glorious lineage not be matched with a goodly character, then must he (the guardian of the Cause of God), choose another branch to succeed him.

The Hands of the Cause of God must elect from their own number, nine persons that shall at all times be occupied in the important services in the work of the guardian of the Cause of God. The election of these nine
must be carried either unanimously or by majority from the company of the Hands of the Cause of God and these whether unanimously or by a majority vote, must give their assent to the choice of the one whom the guardian of the Cause of God hath chosen as his successor. This assent must be given in such wise as the assenting and dissenting voices may not be distinguished. (secret ballot)

O friends! The Hands of the Cause of God must be nominated and appointed by the guardian of the Cause of God. All must be under his shadow and obey his command. Should any, within or without the company of the Hands of the Cause of God disobey, and seek division, the wrath of God and His vengeance will be upon him, for he will have caused a breach in the true faith of God.

The obligations of the Hands of the Cause of God are to diffuse the Divine Fragrances, to edify the souls of men, to promote learning, to improve the character of all men and to be, at all times and under all conditions, sanctified and detached from earthly things. They must manifest the fear of God by their conduct, their manners, their deeds and their words.

This body of the Hands of the Cause of God is under the direction of the guardian of the Cause of God. He must continually urge them to strive and endeavor to the utmost of their ability to diffuse the sweet savors of God, and to guide all the peoples of the world, for it is the light of Divine Guidance that causeth all the universe to be illumined. To disregard, though it be for a moment, this absolute successor. This assent must be given in such wise as the assenting and dissenting voices may not be distinguished.

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national Assembly after the Convention explain how free literature can be obtained.

Another source of confusion arises in connection with orders for Bahá'í photographs, Greatest Name cards,ringstones, etc. These are to be obtained from the Photograph and Sales Committee, H. E. Wairath, Chairman. The most important work published by the Committee this year is the Guardian's translation of "Prayers and Meditations by Bahá'u'lláh." Together with "Gleanings From the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh" it constitutes the source of inspiration and guidance to Bahá'ís.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


IN MEMORIAM

Death profferth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bower of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.—Bahá'u'lláh.


LOUHELEN SUMMER SCHOOL, 1938

The first of May, Mrs. Emogene Hoagg came to Louhelen Ranch, and before the first summer school session conducted a study class two nights a week for the Flint community, and also spoke before a number of groups in nearby towns.

The two youth sessions attracted more young people than previous years and from a greater number of cities.

The laboratory session through the contact and publicity courses and public meetings made it possible to reach several hundred people. Twelve towns were contacted by members of the session and resulted in Kenneth Christian's speaking before two Rotary Clubs and in engagements being made for August speakers.

There was a demand for our Bahá'í speakers, so Mr. Carl Scheffler came a week before the August session, and spoke before Rotary Clubs in Lapeer, Imlay City and Port Huron, to the Carvan Club in Saginaw, and to groups in Flint, Clio and Marysville.

ANOTHER TEMPLE MODEL ON EXHIBIT

This display was arranged by Drs. A. L. and E. Lenore Morris in the American Furniture Company store at Albuquerque, N. M.

Robert Gaines of Urbana also gave several informal talks in August to youth groups.

During the August session Mr. McDaniel and Mr. Ober each spoke before men's clubs in a number of towns previously contacted. Mr. McDaniel spoke over the radio in Port Huron.

During the entire season through these many contacts and the meetings at the summer school between 850 and 900 people heard of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. Efforts are being made to continue the follow-up work in these many places.

In September, at the Flint flower show, the Louhelen Summer School displayed a model of the Bahá'í Temple surrounded by flowers. This attracted much attention.

The week following the August session Mrs. Caswell and Mr. Ober made contacts and did follow-up work in Saginaw, Pontiac, Port Huron and Fenton. Mr. Ober gave a talk over the radio in Port Huron.

MISS ZAMENHOF IN DETROIT

A detailed report of Miss Zamenhof's work in Detroit has just been received by her Esperanto Committee and as it contains some further Bahá'í news, I am sending in a short report at this time.

You will remember that one of the Detroit groups that she addressed upon her arrival was called True Kindred and we had no explanation as to the sort of organization this might be. This report explains that it is an auxiliary Masonic organization. She spoke to another Masonic group later on, called "High-Twelve." I also learn that her newspaper publicity included the following: 32 clippings from 19 presses of 7 languages. They are mailing me photostat copies of this publicity for forwarding to the National Publicity Committee. Apparently, no one took care of this, at the time, for the Bahá'ís, so that the photostat copies are to take the place of the originals.

A vacant store in Convention Hall on the ground floor was hired for the class. It had two windows and in one was put an exhibit of Bahá'í literature and in the other that of Esperanto. Many people passed by these windows daily and stopped to watch the classes in session and to examine the display of unusual literature. Some pictures were sent me, one showing the people at the window, which I shall turn over to the Publicity Committee.

Miss Zamenhof gave four public Bahá'í talks in English in this class room. They were announced to her classes, and outside of a few Bahá'í friends they constituted the principal part of her audience. 'Abdu'l-Bahá's portrait was placed on the wall of the class room.

Practically all of the talks she gave in nearby cities were arranged by the Bahá'ís. I will add to those already reported, Flint and Marysville, Mich. This fact, together with those mentioned herein, show a remarkable cooperation between the two groups of Bahá'ís and Esperantists.

The report ended with an eloquent testimonial to Miss Zamenhof herself.

DELLA C. QUINLAN, Chairman, International Auxiliary Language Committee.

REGIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

of Eastern Canada

Through a suggestion made by Mrs. Loveday in Green Acre during 1937 that Moncton, her former home, would be a fertile ground for pioneer work, Mrs. Howard Coby Ives after communicating with the National Teaching Committee went to Moncton. She opened a vigorous campaign availing herself of every opportunity.

Through her untiring efforts an Assembly was formed in Moncton on April 21st and this we feel was the most outstanding event in Canada during the past year. During the first six weeks of her stay Mrs. Ives gave public lectures, radio addresses and formed a study class. One of the radio broadcasts was given from Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island where in a few hours visit she was able to contact the Mayor and several other leading citizens. This visit by air was due entirely to the efforts of Miss Ruth Wilson (then a non-Bahá'í).
BAHÁ'Í NEWS

YOUTH STUDY DAYS
The Youth Committee, in accordance with its plan for seven Study Days, has prepared Study Outlines based on five sections of "Some Answered Questions" for use by local Youth groups. The other two Study Days are to be devoted to "The Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh" by Shoghi Effendi, and Study Outlines for that topic can be obtained from the Baha'i Publishing Committee for 10c per copy.

Study Outline for Some Answered Questions

Section I

I. Preliminary readings:
4. "Supplementary Bible Interpretations."
   A. The Promise of all Ages.
   B. The Bahá'í Revelation, Thornton Chase.

II. General Questions Answered by Section I:
1. Is nature a law unto itself?
2. Does man's existence prove a Creator superior to himself?
3. Does not man have innate knowledge of right or wrong sufficient for his progress?
4. Is Abraham considered a Manifestation?
5. How did Moses' knowledge affect the scientists and Greek philosophers and doctors of that time?
6. Did Christ abrogate Moses' Teachings by His own?
7. Explain Muhammad's Teachings on warfare, polygamy.
8. What effect did Muhammad's Teachings have upon the world at large?
9. Who taught the Bab?
10. Was Bahá'u'lláh a Babi?
11. Did Bahá'u'lláh perform miracles as proof of His Station?
12. Who sent Bahá'u'lláh from Persia and where was He sent?
13. Where was Bahá'u'lláh when He wrote to the crowned heads of the world?
14. What was His purpose in writing to them?
15. Do only the friends of the Cause agree upon His greatness?
16. What qualifies a true seeker after truth?
17. How do we know that the world is awaiting two Manifestations?
18. When is lunar time used in the interpretation of the Bible? To what time does it refer?
19. To what does the "Reed" mentioned in the Bible refer?
20. Explain "measuring the Temple of God."
21. Are there symbolic and outward meanings for all the verses in the Bible?
22. Were the same physical phenomena apparent with the martyrdom of every Prophet?
23. To whom does the term "Four and twenty Eders" refer?
24. Doesn't the 11th Chapter of Isaiah refer to Christ?
25. What is the "Holy City of Jerusalem"?
26. What prevented the people from knowing Christ when He came?
27. How does our material life going in cycles show a spiritual impetus?
28. What is the perfection of development for each of the kingdoms — mineral, vegetable, animal and man?
29. What is True Wealth?

III. Review Questions:
1. Summarize each chapter, dividing Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13 if necessary.
2. Use preceding Questions for review also.

ASSEMBLY ROLL
The following corrections are made on the list of local Assemblies:

Grand Rapids, Mich., the Corresponding Secretary is now Mrs. Ella Edge Eaton, 1865 Plainfield Ave., NE.

CORRECTION
The Guardian's cablegram received September 24, 1938, was received in garbled form. The word "supranational" was intended to be "supranational", and the believers are requested to correct their copies of the text accordingly.
MESSENGERS FROM THE GUARDIAN

From Letters and Cablegrams Received by the National Spiritual Assembly,
January 10, 1936—September 24, 1938

"THIS IS TRULY PROVIDENTIAL"

Dearly-beloved co-workers: This new stage in the gradual unfulfillment of the Formative Period of our Faith into which we have just entered—the phase of concentrated teaching activity—synchronizes with a period of deepening gloom, of universal impotence, of ever-increasing destitution and widespread disillusionment in the fortunes of a declining age. This is truly providential and its significance and the opportunities it offers us should be fully apprehended and utilized. Now that the administrative organs of a firmly established Faith are vigorous and harmoniously functioning, and now that the Symbol (i.e., the House of Worship) of its invincible might is lending unprecedented impetus to its spread, an effort unexampled in its scope and sustained vitality is urgently required so that the moving spirit of its Founder may permeate and transform the lives of the countless multitudes that hunger for its teachings. That the beloved friends in America, who have carried triumphantly the banner of His Cause through the initial stages of its development, will in a still greater measure prove themselves capable of meeting the challenge of the present hour, I, for one, can never doubt. Of the evidences of their inexhaustible vitality I am sufficiently and continually conscious. My fervent plea will not, I feel certain, remain unanswered. For them I shall continue to pray from all my heart.—SHOGHI.

January 10, 1936.

THE GUARDIAN’S MESSAGE TO THE 1936 CONVENTION

Convey (to) American believers abiding gratitude efforts unitedly exerted (in) teaching field. Inaugurated campaign should be vigorously pursued, systematically extended. Appeal (to) assembled delegates ponder historic appeal voiced by 'Abdu’1-Bahá (in) Tablets (of the) Divine Plan. Urge earnest deliberation with incoming National Assembly (to) insure its complete fulfilment. First century (of) Bahá’í era drawing to a close. Humanity entering outer fringes most perilous stage its existence. Opportunities (of) present hour unimaginably precious. Would to God every State within American Republic and every Republic in American continent might ere termination (of) this glorious century embrace (the) light (of the) Faith of Bahá’u’lláh and establish structural basis of His World Order.—SHOGHI. Cablegram received May 1, 1936.

"FRESH CONQUESTS AND UNPRECEDEDENTED TRIUMPHS"

I fervently hope and pray that the year into which we have just entered may be signalized by fresh conquests and unprecedented triumphs in the teaching field within the United States and beyond its confines. A systematic, carefully conceived, and well-established plan should be devised, rigorously pursued and continuously extended. Initiated by the National representatives of the American believers, the vanguard and standard-bearers of the radiant army of Bahá’u’lláh, this plan should receive the whole-hearted, the sustained and ever-increasing support, both moral and financial, of the entire body of His followers in that continent. Its supreme immediate objective should be the permanent establishment of at least one center in every state of the American Republic and in every Republic of the American continent not yet enlisted under the banner of His Faith. Its ramifications should gradually be extended to the European continent, and the scope should be made to include those countries, such as the Baltic states, Poland, Greece, Spain and Portugal, where no avowed believer has established any definite residence. The field is immense, the task gigantic, the privilege inestimably precious. Time is short, and the obligation sacred, paramount and urgent. The American community must muster all its force, concentrate its resources, summon to its aid all the faith, the determination and energies of which it is capable, and set out, single-minded and undaunted, to attain still greater heights in its mighty exertions for the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh.—SHOGHI. May 30, 1936.

"THE UTMOST EFFORT"

"I cannot refrain from adding a few words to renew and reaffirm my fervent plea to you, and through you to every individual member of the American Bahá’í community, to exert the utmost effort in order to further the cause of teaching throughout the American continent. Every possible assistance, whether moral, financial, or administrative, should be continuously, generously, and systematically extended to this most urgent, this sacred and meritorious Cause. My heart yearns to learn of any speedy and effective action which the valiant members of that community may determine, whether collectively or severally, to undertake. The invisible hosts of the Bahá’í Kingdom are arrayed and ready to rush forth and ensure the triumph of every stout-hearted and persevering herald of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh."—SHOGHI.

July 5, 1936.

"TIME IS SHORT"

...entreat (the) American believers (to) ponder anew (the) urgency (to) rededicate themselves (to the) task (of the) complete fulfilment (of the) Divine Plan. (The) National Assembly’s energetic leadership (and) careful planning (are) ineffectual unless supplemented by vigorous action by every believer, however humble, however inexperienced. Time is short. (The) sands (of a) chaotic, despairing civilization (are) steadily running out. Founded on (the) unity (and) understanding so splendidly achieved, functioning within (the) framework (of the) administrative Order, (so) laboriously erected, inspired (by the) vision (of the) Temple edifice (so) nobly reared, galvanized into action (by the) realization (of the) rapidly-deteriorating world situation, (the) American Bahá’í Community should rise as never before (to the) height (of the) opportunity now confronting it. Audaacity, resolution (and) self-abnegation (are) imperatively demanded. Impatiently and prayerfully waiting.—SHOGHI.

Cablegram received July 30, 1936.

"INTENSIFY TEACHING WORK A THOUSANDFOLD"

I am eagerly awaiting the news of the progress of the activities initiated to promote the teaching work within, and beyond, the confines of the American continent. The American believers, if
they wish to carry out, in the spirit and the letter, the parting wishes of their beloved Master, must intensify their teaching work a thousand fold and extend its ramifications beyond the confines of their native land and as far as the most distant outposts of their far-flung Faith. The Tablets of the Divine Plan invest your Assembly with unique and grave responsibilities, and confer upon it privileges which your sister Assemblies might well envy and admire. The present opportunity is unutterably precious. It may not recur again. Undaunted by the perils and the uncertainties of the present hour, the American believers must press on and prosecute in its entirety the task which now confronts them. I pray for their success from the depths of my heart.—SHOGHI
July 28, 1936.

"UNSPAKEABLY GRATEFUL"

American Bahá'í Community, c/o Bahá'í, New York:

Overjoyed, unspeakably grateful (for) American believers' signal response (to) my reiterated appeal, (The) inaugurated campaign (is) fraught with consequences involving the immediate destinies (of the) American community. (The) shadows encircling sore-tried human society (are) noticeably deepening. (The) world crisis (is) inexorably moving towards climax, challenging the torchbearer (of) Bahá'í civilization (to) scale loftier heights (of) individual heroism, (to) scatter more widely throughout the length and breadth (of) the American continents, (to) participate more strenuously (in) concerted effort organized by National, Regional (and) local agencies dedicated to the prosecution (of) noble enterprise, (to) pour forth more abundantly (their) resources in support (of) the fund created for its furtherance, (and) resolve more determinedly (to) conquer whatever obstacles might retard its ultimate fruition. (The) Dawn-Breakers (in) previous age have on Persian soil signalled by their acts (the) birth (of the) Faith (of) Bahá'u'lláh. Might not American believers, their spiritual descendants, prove themselves in turn capable (of) ushering in on world scale the civilization of which that Faith is (the) direct source and sole begetter.—SHOGHI
Cablegram received October 29, 1936.

"THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE UNDERTAKING"

Dear and prized co-workers:

I cannot allow this communication to be sent without adding a few words in person and stress afresh the significance of the undertaking in which the entire Bahá'í community has embarked. The promulgation of the Divine Plan, unveiled by our departed Master in the darkest days of one of the severest ordeals which humanity has ever experienced, is the key which Providence has placed in the hands of the American believers whereby to unlock the doors leading them to fulfill their unimaginably glorious Destiny. As the proclamation of the Message reverberates throughout the land, as its resistless march gathers momentum, as the field of its operation widens, and the numbers of its upholders and champions multiply, its potentialities will correspondingly unfold, exerting a most beneficent influence not only on every community throughout the Bahá'í world, but on the immediate fortunes of a travelling society. The repercussions of this campaign are already apparent in Europe, India, Egypt, Iraq and even among the sore-tried communities in Persia and Russia. The Faith of God is gaining in stature, effectiveness and power. Yet, until, however, the great enterprise which you are now conducting runs its full course and attains its final objective, at its appointed time, can its world-encompassing benefits be fully apprehended or revealed. The perseverance of the American believers will, no doubt, ensure the ultimate realization of these benefits.—SHOGHI
November 14, 1936.

"A COMPLETE REDEDICATION"

Dearly-beloved co-workers: Pressure of work in connection with my recent translation of the prayers and meditations of Bahá'u'lláh has been responsible for the unfortunate delay in acknowledging the receipt of your communications all of which testify most strikingly to the vigor, the efficiency and the exemplary loyalty with which you are conducting and coordinating the manifold teaching and administrative activities of our beloved Faith. The program of the teaching campaign is most remarkable and reassuring: the uninterrupted prosecution of this holy enterprise and its extension to the South American continent and the islands of the Pacific will no doubt attract unimaginable blessings and must entail far-reaching consequences. In the course of this year, when the American believers are commemorating the 25th anniversary of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's visit to America, a mighty impetus should be lent to this campaign which you have so splendidly initiated. A complete rededication to its ideals, its purposes and requirements on the part of all individuals and Assemblies, can alone befit such a nation-wide celebration. I pray that you may fulfill your high destiny.—SHOGHI
March 22, 1937.

"NOW FURTHER REINFORCED"

Deeply moved your message. Institution (of) Guardianship, head cornerstone (of the) Administrative Order (of the) Cause (of) Bahá'u'lláh, already ennobled through its organic connection with (the) Persons of Twin Founders (of the) Bahá'í Faith, is now further reinforced through direct association with West and particularly with (the) American believers, whose spiritual destiny is to usher in (the) World Order (of) Bahá'u'lláh. To my part (I) desire (to) cooperate and contribute community (of) American believers on acquisition (of) tie vitally binding them to so weighty an organ of their Faith.—SHOGHI
Cablegram received March 30, 1937.

"WITH ADDED FERVOR"

Accept. Deeply touched (by) American believers' spontaneous expression of ever-increasing devotion to crowning institution (of) World Order (of) Bahá'u'lláh. Noblest contribution individual believers can make at this juncture to consecrate newly-acquired tie is to promote with added fervor unique plan conceived for them by 'Abdu'l-Bahá.—SHOGHI
Cablegram received April 5, 1937.

THE GUARDIAN'S MESSAGE TO THE 1937 CONVENTION

Dual gift Providentially conveyed (upon) American Bahá'í community invests recipients with dual responsibility fulful historic mission. First, prosecute uninterrupted teaching campaign inaugurated (at) last Convention in accordance (with) Divine Plan. Second, resume with inflexible determination exterior ornamentation (of) entire structure (of) Temple. Advise ponder message conveyed (to) delegates (through) esteemed co-workers, Fred Schopfthofer. No triumph can more befittingly signalize termination (of) first century (of) Bahá'í era than accomplishment (of) this twofold task. Advise prolongation (of) Convention sessions (to) enable delegates consult National Assembly to formulate feasible Seven-Year Plan (to) assure success Temple enterprise. No sacri-
enable placing without tract.

greatly blessed, (so) repeatedly honored.—Shoghi. Cablegram received May 1, 1937.

"THE CALL HAS GONE FORTH ... THE PATH IS CLEAR"

The responsibilities which, under your direction and in response to my plea, the American community is now assuming over and above the task they have already undertaken in connection with the Divine Plan, proclaiming in unmistakable terms their unwavering determination to prove themselves worthy of the sublimity of their mission, and of their privileged position among their sister communities in both the East and the West,—the twofold task they have arisen to perform will, if carried out in time, release the potentialities with which the community of the Greatest Name has been so generously and mysteriously endowed by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá to carry out in its entirety and to its final consummation this dual enterprise would shed on the closing years of this first century of the Bahá’í Era a luster no less brilliant than the immortal deeds which have signalized its birth, in the heroic age of our Faith. To the American believers, the spiritual descendents of the heroes of God’s Cause, I again address my plea to arise as one soul and to prosecute with unrelaxing resolve the high mission with which their immediate destiny is inextricably interwoven. The call has gone forth, the path is clear; the goal manifests and within their reach. Though their responsibilities be pressing and heavy and the obstacles formidable and manifold, yet the spirit of our invincible Faith will enable them to conquer if they arise unitedly and determinedly and persevere till the very end.—Shoghi. June 4, 1937.

SEVEN YEAR PLAN

Immeasurably gratified National Assembly’s initial step presentation Seven-Year Plan. Successful operation Temple enterprise necessitates carrying out faithfully energetically following successive steps. First, expedite preliminary investigations. Second, utilize Fred’s historic munificent donation by immediate signature contract for next unit. Third, redirect with added force nationwide appeal to entire community insure uninterrupted completion first unit and accumulation sufficient funds enable placing without delay final contract. Fourth, place final contract as soon as half required sum available in National Treasury. Fifth, re-emphasize supreme obligation triumphant consummation so vital a part of American believers’ twofold task by May, 1944. Advise communicate above message all believers stimulate universal response Assembly’s future endeavors.—Shoghi. Cablegram received July 4, 1937.

"AN INESCAPABLE ... RESPONSIBILITY"

Much heartened (by) compelling evidences accelerated speed with which teaching campaign inaugurated throughout Americas (is) now progressing. Greatly cheered (by) realization no more than five States and three Canadian Provinces remain still deprived (of) radiant Light which unfolding, divinely conceived Plan is rapidly diffusing. In a world perilously near cataclysmic convulsions destined experience, at a time when forces of repression are launching their assaults and conspiring (to) undermine foundations, (of) most powerful strongholds (of) Faith (of) Bahá’u’lláh in land of its birth and in heart of both Asiatic and European continents, an inescapable, well-nigh staggering responsibility rests on America, its one chief remaining citadel. Who among its stalwart defenders will arise, untrammelled (and) unafraid, to implant its banner in those States, Provinces (and) Countries where its standard is still unhoisted? Entreat afresh American community heed vital urgency (of) my impassioned plea (and) spur efforts bring speedy termination (of) first Stage in evolution (of) so important (a) phase of dual task they have so enthusiastically shouldered.—Shoghi. Cablegram received August 4, 1937.

CONVENTION DELEGATES INCREASED TO HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE

Election of hundred seventy-one delegates for this year’s and future Conventions absolutely essential. Admitted expansion American community vitally demands it. Appeal delegates unable attend in person exercise conscientiously ballot right by mail. Increased participation by believers in Convention proceedings reinforces authority and broadens basis national representatives and knits them closer to entire body electorate. Advise share message American believers.—Shoghi. Cablegram received November 21, 1937.

"ALL SHOULD ARISE"

To this letter ... I wish to add a few observations connected with the wider and more challenging issues with which the American believers as a body are now being confronted. As I lift up my gaze beyond the strain and stresses which a struggling Faith must necessarily experience, and view the wider scene which the indomitable will of the American Bahá’í community is steadily unfolding, I can not but marvel at the range which the driving force of their ceaseless labors has acquired and the heights which their belief has attained. The outposts of a Faith, already persecuted in both Europe and Asia, are in the American continent steadily advancing, the visible symbols of its undoubted sovereignty are receiving fresh luster every day and its manifold institutions are driving their roots deeper and deeper into its soil. Bless and honored as none among its sister communities has been in recent years, preserved through the ineradicable dispersions of Divine Providence for a destiny which no mind can as yet imagine such a community cannot for a moment afford to be content with or rest on the laurels it has so deservedly won. It must go on, continually go on, exploring fresh fields, scaling nobler heights, laying firmer foundations, shedding added splendor and achieving added renown in the service and for the glory of the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh. The seven year plan which it has sponsored and with which its destiny is so closely interwoven, must at all costs be prosecuted with increasing force and added consecration. All should arise and participate. Upon the measure of such a participation will no doubt depend the welfare and progress of those distant communities which are now battling for their emancipation. To such a priceless privilege the inheritors of the shining grace of Bahá’u’lláh cannot surely be indifferent. The American believers must gird up the loins of endeavor and step into the arena of service with such heroism as shall astound the entire Bahá’í world. Let them be assured that my prayers will continue to be offered on their behalf. —Shoghi. November 25, 1937.

"CERTAIN VITAL REQUIREMENTS"

The Seven Year Plan, with which the immediate fortunes of the American Bahá’í community are so closely interwoven, demands, at this critical stage in its development, serious and prayerful consideration of certain vital requirements, without which such a stupendous task can never be brought
"A YEAR HAS ALMOST ELAPSED"

A year has almost elapsed since the Seven Year Plan has been launched with characteristic vigor and noble enthusiasm by the American Bahá’í Community. For no less than six consecutive years this two-fold and stupendous enterprise has been set in operation, must, if the American believers are to prove themselves worthy of their high calling, be wisely conducted, continually reinforced and energetically prosecuted to its very end. Severe and unprecedented as may be the internal tests and ordeals which the members of this Community may yet experience, however tragic and momentous the external happenings which might well disrupt the fabric of the society in which they live, they must not throughout these six remaining years, allow themselves to be disheartened from the course they are now steadily pursuing. Nay, rather, as the impelling forces which have set in motion this mighty undertaking acquire added momentum and its potentialities are more fully manifested, they who are responsible for its success must as time goes on evince a more burning enthusiasm, demonstrate a higher sense of solidarity, reveal greater depths of consecration to their task, and display a unyielding determination to achieve its purpose. Then, and only then, will the promise of the Divine Plan, be worthily accomplished and fulfilled.

The wider its range the more striking will be the evidences of Divine assistance. The moment, therefore, has arrived when the Bahá’ís of both Continents should be so thoroughly infused with the all-conquering Spirit of Bahá’u’lláh that He may draw nigh unto Bahá’u’lláh that He may draw nigh unto Him. The moment is the earnest appeal voiced by Him in those Tablets, in which He exhorts them, “in these countries, capitals, islands, assemblies and churches, to enter the Abhá Kingdom. The scope of your exertions must needs be extended. The wider its range the more striking will be the evidences of Divine assistance.” The moment is the moment, therefore, when the Bahá’ís of both Continents should be so thoroughly infused with the all-conquering Spirit of Bahá’u’lláh that He may draw nigh unto Bahá’u’lláh that He may draw nigh unto Him. The moment is the earnest appeal voiced by Him in those Tablets, in which He exhorts them, “in these countries, capitals, islands, assemblies and churches, to enter the Abhá Kingdom. The scope of your exertions must needs be extended. The wider its range the more striking will be the evidences of Divine assistance.”

On this auspicious occasion when number elected representatives American Bahá’í Community is well-nigh doubly reinforced moved convey on eve Thirtieth Convention to all delegates friends expression most loving welcome stop Gathered within House of Worship which enterprise perservering loyalty self-abnegation American believers reared and adorned summoning their aid vitalizing influence prayers meditations which Author their Faith Himself revealed let them delegates visitors alike draw nigh unto Bahá’u’lláh that He may draw nigh unto them stop Community American believers whose hearts have been stirred by tragic tale events immortalizing early history their Faith whose minds have been enriched by further measure fundamental Bahá’í Teachings whose hands have been fortified by fashioning instruments wherein embryonic World Order can mature must at so critical stage in fortunes declining civilization seek purge galvanize their souls through daily prayer meditation that can best sustain them in discharge task still initial stage development stop As token my gratitude to such community entrusted beloved co-worker Mrs. Collins locks Bahá’u’lláh’s most precious hair arranged preserved by loving hands Greatest Holy Leaf to rest beneath dome of Temple nobly raised by dearly beloved believers in American continent—Shoghi.

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I heartily welcome and am deeply touched by the assurances conveyed in your last communication, and am particularly rejoiced to learn of the steps already taken by your Assembly to insure the uninterrupted progress of the ornamentation work on the Temple. The determination and zeal which you have so clearly evinced in taking these initial steps augur well for the continued expansion and ultimate fruition of the two-fold enterprise you have undertaken to accomplish. Individual believers and local Assemblies will assuredly be greatly heartened and rein-
vigorated by the splendid initiative that has marked the beginning of your year's stewardship in the service of this glorious Cause. The high expectations we all cherish will no doubt be fulfilled.—SHOGHI.
May 25, 1938.

"PRAYING INSTANTANEOUS RESPONSE"

Rejoiced thankful initiative resourcefulness newly elected National Assembly prompting them signalize inauguration period stewardship by launching third stage in progressive unfoldment seven year plan. Such far-sighted action evokes in me deepest longing that they will not alone accomplish placing final contract but will have also ere expiry allotted year embarked on concluding stage by insuring uninterrupted prosecution of closing phase of an enterprise which for no less than thirty years has engaged attention and challenged resources of entire American Bahá'í community. Praying instantaneous response sustained support all those whom destiny has primarily associated with Revelation in so gloomy epoch of this luminous symbol of Bahá'ulláh's transcendent Sovereignty.

—Cablegram received June 6, 1938.

"MARCHING TOWARD THEIR GOAL"

Dear co-workers:
I wish to reaffirm in person my sense of joy and gratitude, as expressed in my last cable to your Assembly, at the new spirit of alertness and determination which you have so clearly demonstrated while yet on the threshold of your year of stewardship in the service of the Cause of Bahá'ulláh. I am filled with fresh hopes, and yearn to witness, ere the present year draws to a close, not only the fulfilment of an unexamined record of service but the revelation of such depths of consecration as will astonish, nay thrill, both the members of your own community and the rest of the Bahá'í world. Pregnant indeed are the years looming ahead of us all. The twin processes of internal disintegration and external chaos are being accelerated and every day are inexorably moving towards a climax. The rumbles that must precede the eruption of those forces that must cause "the limbs of humanity to quake" can already be heard. "The time of the end," "the latter years," as foretold in the Scriptures, are at last long upon us. The Pen of Bahá'u'lláh, the voice of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, have time and again, insistently and in terms unmistakable, warned an unheeding humanity of impending disaster. The Community of the Most Great Name, the leaven that must leaven the lump, the chosen remnant that must survive the rolling up of the old, discredited, tottering order, and assist in the unfoldment of a new one in its stead, is standing ready, alert, clear-visioned, and resolute. The American believers, standard-bearers of this world-wide community and torch-bearers of an as yet unborn civilization, have girt up their loins, unfurled their banners and stepped into the arena of service. Their Plan has been formulated. Their forces are mobilized. They are steadfastly marching towards their goal. The hosts of the Abhá' Kingdom are rushing forth, as promised, to direct their steps and reinforce their power. Through their initial victories they have provided the impulse that must now surge and, with relentless force sweep over their sister-communities and eventually overpower the entire human race. The generality of mankind, blind and enslaved, is wholly unaware of the healing power with which this community has been endowed, nor can it as yet suspect the role which this same community is destined to play in its redemption. Fierce and manifold will be the assaults which governments, races, classes and religions, jealous of its rising prestige and fearful of its consolidating strength, will seek to silence its voice and sap its foundations. Unmoved by the relative obscurity that surrounds it at the present time, and undaunted by the forces that will be arrayed against it in the future, this community, I cannot but feel confident, will, no matter how afflicting the agonies of a travelling age, pursue its destiny, undeflected in its course, undimmed in its serenity, unyielding in its resolve, unshaken in its convictions.

—SHOGHI.
July 3, 1938.

"UNBROKEN SOLIDARITY, UNQUENCHABLE ENTHUSiasm"

Dear and valued co-workers:
I feel truly exhilarated as I witness the ever-recurrent manifestations of unbroken solidarity and unquenchable enthusiasm that distinguish every stage in the progressive development of the nation-wide enterprise which is being so unflinchingly pursued by the whole American Bahá'í community. The marked deterioration in world affairs, the steadily deepening gloom that develops the storm-tossed peoples and nations of the Old World, invest the Seven-year Plan, now operating in both the northern and southern American continents, with a significance and urgency that cannot be overestimated. Conceived as the supreme agency for the establishment, in the opening century of the Bahá'í Era, of what is but the initial stage in the progressive realization of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Plan for the American believers, this enterprise, as it extends its ramifications throughout the entire New World, is demonstrating its power to command and all the resources and utilize all the facilities which the machinery of a laboriously evolved Administrative Order can place at its disposal. However we view its aspects, it offers in its functioning a sharp contrast to the workings of the moribund and obsolete institutions to which a perverse generation is desperately clinging. Tempestuous are the winds that buffet and will, as the days go by, fiercely assail the very structure of the Order through the agency of those who in this forefend task is being performed. The potentialities with which an almighty Providence has endowed it will no doubt enable its promoters to achieve their purpose. Much, however will depend upon the spirit and manner in which that task will be conducted. Through the clearness and steadiness of their vision, through the unvitiated vitality of their belief, through the incorruptibility of their character, through the adamantine force of their resolve, the matchless superiority of their aims and purpose, and the unsurpassed range of their accomplishments, they who labor for the glory of the Most Great Name throughout both Americas can best demonstrate to the visionless, faithless and restless society to which they belong their power to proffer a haven of refuge to its members in the hour of their realized doom. Then and only then will this tender sapling, embedded in the fertile soil of a Divinely appointed Administrative Order, and energized by the dynamic processes of its institutions, yield its richest and destined fruit. That the community of the American believers, to whose keeping so vast, so delicate and precious a trust has been committed will, severally and collectively prove themselves worthy of their high calling. I for one, who in my association with them have been privileged to observe more closely than perhaps any one else the nature of their reactions to the momentous issues that have confronted them in the past, will refuse to doubt.

—SHOGHI.
September 10, 1938.
LOYALTY TO WORLD ORDER
OF BAHÁ'U'LLAH

Loyalty to world order Bahá'ú'lláh, security its basic institutions, both imperatively demand all its avowed supporters, particularly its champion builders of American continent, in these days when sinister uncontrollable forces are deepening cleavage sundering peoples, nations, creeds, classes; resolve despite pressure fast crystallizing public opinion abstain individually collectively in word, action, informally as well as in all official utterances publications from assigning blame, taking sides, however indirectly, in recurring political crises now agitating, ultimately engulfing human society. Stop. Grave apprehension lest cumulative effect such compromises disintegrate fabric, clog channel grace that sustains system God's essentially suprational (super-rational [?]) supernatural order so laboriously evolved, so recently established—Shoghi.

Cablegram received September 24, 1938.
"DRAW NIGH UNTO BAHÁ’U’LLAH"

"Blessed is the man that hath acknowledged his belief in God and in His signs, and recognized that ‘He shall not be asked of His doings.’ Such a recognition hath been made by God the ornament of every belief, and its very foundation. Upon it must depend the acceptance of every goodly deed. Fasten your eyes upon it, that haply the whisperings of the rebellious may not cause you to slide. . . Whoso hath not recognized this sublime and fundamental verity, and hath failed to attain this most exalted station, the winds of doubt will agitate him, and the sayings of the infidels will distract his soul. He that hath acknowledged this principle will be endowed with the most perfect constancy." Gleanings, pgs. 86-87.

"Had this people attained unto a drop of the crystal streams flowing from the words: ‘God doeth whatsoever He willeth, and ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth,’ they would not have raised any unseemly cavils. . . . The Cause of God, all deeds and words, are held within the grasp of His power. ‘All things lie imprisoned within the hollow of His mighty Hand; all things are easy and possible unto Him.’ He accomplisheith whatsoever He willeth, and doeth all that He desireth. ‘Whoso sayeth ‘why’ or ‘wherefore’ hath spoken blasphemy.’ . . . Have they not heard that which He hath revealed: ‘He shall not be asked of His doings?’ In the light of these utterances, how can man be so bold as to question Him, and busy himself with idle sayings?" Kitáb-i-Á’in, pgs. 170-171.

"Thine is the authority to command whatsoever Thou wiltest. I bear witness that Thou art to be praised in Thy doings, and to be obeyed in Thy behests, and to remain unconstrained in Thy bidding." Prayers and Meditations, pg. 319.

"I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art my Companion in my lowliness, to rain down upon Thy loved ones from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will cause them to be satisfied with Thy pleasure." Prayers and Meditations, pg. 17.

POTENTIAL SPIRITUAL POWER HOUSE

The potential power resources of America are being studied and surveyed with a view to their more efficient utilization through development, coordination and integration. Vast resources of water power now lie idle in the streams which course down the mountain slopes—east and west. Under ground are large areas of coal, gas and oil; fuels for the future generation of steam and for the production of electric energy. As our material civilization expands, its daily needs multiply and we become increasingly dependent on the electric current to light our homes, offices, factories and farms, to furnish transportation and communication from place to place, and to move our machinery in the home, workshop, mine or field.

Little do we realize the complete coordination of a multitude of parts, the harmony of adjustment of diversified elements and the unity of action required for the operation of an electric system. A closed valve, a thrown switch or a missing cable may throw an entire community into darkness and despair.

Communities are still dependent largely on local generating stations. To ensure dependability of service, especially in case of possible damage from storms and breakdowns from unforeseen sources, systems are being connected and developed into so-called "grids" which cover a region or section of the country. Thus the various sources of power are inter-connected so that the production of electric energy is augmented, assured, and protected for every part of the region; any person or family may have light, heat or power anywhere and at any time.

The Bahá’ís scattered throughout America, as isolated believers, in groups, or in communities, are potential units of spiritual power. As isolated believers, they are the nuclei for the development of power centers, which expand with the growth of the communities. Such growth is a measure of the harmony and unity of action among the believers, who constitute the elements of the spiritual power house. Personal antagonisms, selfish actions, disobedience of the Administrative order and lack of cooperation bring about maladjustments and even breaks in the spiritual power system—often to such extent that spiritual power is not radiated out to the community, but the community itself becomes inert, inactive and darkened.
What a mighty task has been set before us by our Guardian in the Seven Year Plan! Each and every believer must begin with the self, cleansing and purifying and raising the self to the place of selfless service, obedience and cooperation. Then, and only then, do we become suitable units to function in the spiritual power house. The local Spiritual Assemblies have the responsibility of so uniting and harmonizing these elements into a smoothly running, efficiently operating generating station of spiritual power, which should gradually radiate the Power of the Spirit throughout their communities.

In time, these spiritual power houses, the Baha'i communities will spread throughout the length and breadth of the land and through the National Spiritual Assembly become interconnected into one great spiritual superpower system.

National Spiritual Assembly.

Enrollments and Transfers


In Memoriam

Death proffers unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It besuith joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life. —Baha'u'llah.

Charles Walline, Kenosha.
Mrs. Emma Lindstrom, Kenosha.
B. Frank Bierly, Seattle.

Assembly Roll

Detroit, Mich., change of address. Mrs. Jessie B. Hall, Secretary, new address, 4121 Mitchell Street.

For Consultation

Occasional questions are suggested by the National Spiritual Assembly for discussion at Nineteen Day Feasts.

Do your teaching methods reflect full study of all local possibilities? Are there Baha'i books in the Libraries? Is publicity sent to the press? Can more Fireside study groups be established? Do you have copies of all Baha'i books and pamphlets on hand for sale to believers and inquirers?

What proportion of the community contributes to the Fund? Why does any Baha'i refrain from assisting the

"This Decisive Hour"

Cablegram from Shoghi Effendi

(The virtual termination (within the) appointed time (of the) ornamentation (of the) gallery section (of the) Mashriqu'l-Adlkar triumphantly ushers in (the) final phase (of the) major task courageouslyshouldered (by the) champions (of the) Seven Year Plan. (The) accumulation of no more than one-third (of the) funds required (for) completion (of the) last remaining unit (is) sufficient prerequisite (for) placing contract. On such (an) auspicious occasion in (the) evolution of (the) divinely-ordained Institutions within (in the) Faith (of) Baha'u'llah, and at so critical (a) stage in (the) disintegration (of the) man-made institutions beyond its pale, (the) American community (is) summoned afresh (to) rise (to the) level (of the) heroism this twofold opportunity demands. (The) poignant memory (of the) ever-loved Greatest Holy Leaf, inseparably linked to (the) American believers' Temple exertions, impels me (to) offer, (at) this decisive hour, one thousand pounds in her name and as token (of) her debt of gratitude for their response (to her) last appeal addressed to them (in the) evening of her life. (I am) confident (that the) Temple Construction Fund, which from now on will ever bear her name and be consecrated (to) her memory, will, following this offering, swell (to) such proportions as will carry forward (the) stupendous undertaking (to) a glorious consummation. —Shoghi.

Cablegram received November 29, 1938.

"The Outstanding Building... of the World"

In reply to the letter written the Postmaster of Wilmette by the National Spiritual Assembly conveying the appreciation of the Convention for the Wilmette design for Air Mail Week, the Postmaster wrote on September 7: "We felt that in choosing this (Temple) for our design, we were taking the outstanding building not only of Wilmette, but of the world, seeing that there is no other to compare with it in architecture.

"We also wish to thank you and your followers for the interest shown by them in mailing these cachets to their friends during Air Mail Week."

Publishing Announcements

The Publishing Committee announces a new pamphlet, copies of which have been secured from the National Spiritual Assembly of the British Isles:

Baha'u'llah, by H. M. Bahnayni. Paper covers. Per copy, $0.20

The following books and pamphlets are emphasized:

Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Baha, excerpts made under instruction of Shoghi Effendi. Paper covers. Sold in lots of ten copies only. Ten copies, $1.00

Baha'is Peace Program, 'Abdu'l-Baha's Tablet to the Committee on Durable Peace, the Hague, and His Tablet to Dr. Ford. Bound in fabricoid, $1.00. Paper covers, $0.50

Baha'u'llah and The New Era. J. E. Esselmont, revised edition. Copies bound in fabricoid are once more available. Per copy, $0.75

Foundations of World Unity, selections from the Public Addresses delivered by 'Abdu'l-Baha in America as reproduced in the two volumes of 'The Promulgation of Universal Peace'. Bound in cloth. Per copy, $0.75

A World Faith, nine articles by different authors presenting various aspects of the Teachings for inquirers, recommended by the Guardian for teaching work. Paper covers. Per copy, $0.25

Note: The manuscript on prophecy approved by the Reviewing Committee last year has not yet been turned over to the Publishing Committee for publication in the series of Teaching Literature pamphlets. This information is given on account of numerous inquiries received.

Radio Committee

The Radio Committee urges cooperation from Assemblies, groups and individual teachers. They are requested to send the Radio Committee copies of all radio talks that are presented, not, of course, including those that may have been secured from the Radio Committee itself. The Radio Committee is developing as many talks as possible and acts as clearing house for this type of teaching material.

Assemblies, groups and teachers are also requested to report their broadcasts, mentioning the results secured, what subjects are most successful, how many inquiries are received for copies
The creative energies released by the law of Bahá'u'lláh, permeating and evolving within the mind of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, have, by their very compact and close interaction, given birth to an Instrument which may be viewed as the Charter of the New World Order which is at once the glory and the promise of this most great Dispensation.—Shoghi Effendi.

In order to promote a more direct and intimate spiritual association with the provisions of the Master's Will and Testament on the part of the American Bahá'í Community, the National Spiritual Assembly will publish a series of excerpts from the Will, together with selections from the interpretive writings of the Guardian. The friends are urged to give deep thought to this new department of Bahá'í News.

World Unity

Should differences arise they shall be amicably and conclusively settled by the Supreme Tribunal, that shall include members from all the governments and peoples of the world.

"O ye beloved of the Lord! In this sacred Dispensation, conflict and contention are in no wise permitted. Every aggressor deprives himself of God's grace. It is incumbent upon everyone to show the utmost love, rectitude of conduct, straightforwardness and sincere kindness unto all the peoples and kindreds of the world, be they friends or strangers. So intense must be the spirit of love and loving-kindness that the stranger may find himself a friend, the enemy a true brother, no difference whatsoever existing between them. For universality is of God and all limitations earthly. Thus man must strive that his reality may manifest virtues and perfections, the light thereof may shine upon everyone. The light of the sun shineth upon all the world and the merciful showers of Divine Providence fall upon all peoples. The vivifying breeze reviveth every living creature and all things endured with life obtain their share and portion at His heavenly board. In like manner, the affections and loving-kindness of the One True God must be bountifully and universally extended to all mankind. Regarding this, restrictions and limitations are in no wise permitted.

"Wherefore, O my loving friends! Consort with all the peoples, kindreds and religions of the world with the utmost truthfulness, uprightness, faithfulness, kindness, good-will and friendliness; that all the world of being may be filled with the holy ecstasy of the grace of Bahá, that ignorance, enmity, hate and rancor may vanish from the world and the darkness of estrangement amidst the peoples and kindreds of the world may give way to the Light of Unity. Should other people and nations be unfaithful to you show your fidelity unto them, should they be unjust toward you show justice toward them, should they keep aloof from you, do not let them affect you to yourself, should they show their enmity be friendly toward them, should they poison your lives sweeten their souls, should they inflict a wound upon you be a salve to their sores. Such are the attributes of the sincere! Such are the attributes of the truthful.

"O ye beloved of the Lord! It is incumbent upon you to be submissive to all monarchs that are just and show your fidelity to every righteous king. Serve ye the sovereigns of the world with utmost truthfulness and loyalty. Show obedience unto them and be
their well-wishers. Without their leave do not meddle with political affairs, for disloyalty to the just sovereign is disloyalty to God Himself."

"In every Dispensation," writes 'Abdu'l-Bahá, "the light of Divine Guidance has been focussed upon one central theme... . In this wondrous Revelation, this glorious century, the foundation of the Faith of God and the distinguishing feature of His Law is the consciousness of the Oneness of Mankind."

"Let there be no mistake. The principle of the Oneness of Mankind—the pivot round which all the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh revolve—is no mere outburst of ignorant emotionalism or an expression of vague and pious hope... . It does not constitute merely the enunciation of an ideal, but stands inseparably associated with an institution adequate to embody its truth, demonstrate its validity, and perpetuate its influence. It implies an organic change in the structure of present-day society, a change such as the world has not yet experienced... . It calls for no less than the reconstruction and the democratization of the whole civilized world—a world organically unified in all the essential aspects of its life, its political machinery, its spiritual aspiration, its trade and finance, its script and language, and yet infinite in the diversity of the national characteristics of its federated units.

"It represents the consummation of human evolution—an evolution that has had its earliest beginnings in the birth of family life, its subsequent development in the achievement of tribal solidarity, leading in turn to the constitution of the city-state, and expanding later into the institution of independent and sovereign nations."

"The principle of the Oneness of Mankind, as proclaimed by Bahá'u'lláh, carries with it no more and no less than a solemn assertion that attainment to this final stage in this stupendous evolution is not only necessary but inevitable, that its realization is fast approaching, and that nothing short of a power that is born of God can succeed in establishing it.

"So marvellous a conception finds its earliest manifestations in the efforts consciously exerted and the modest beginnings already achieved by the declared adherents of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh who, conscious of the sublimity of their calling and initiated into the ennobling principles of His Administration, are forging ahead to establish His Kingdom on this earth."

THAT MYSTIC CHAIN

Did not the attitude of the Greatest Holy Leaf, as she approached the close of her life, bear eloquent testimony to the incomparable share which her steadfast and self-sacrificing lovers in that continent have had in lightening the burden which had weighed so long and so heavily on her heart? And finally who can be so bold as to deny that the completion of the superstructure of the Mashriqí-ádhistán—the crowning glory of America's past and present achievements—has forged that mystic chain which is to link, more firmly than ever, the hearts of its champion-builders with Him Who is the Source and Center of their Faith and the Object of their truest adoration?

SHOGHI EFFENDI (The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 93, 94).

LOUHELEN SUMMER SCHOOL.

From July 9 to 19, the Louhelen Summer School Committee conducted an unusual course of study—a Laboratory course which was designed to prepare individuals for the teaching field. The response from those in attendance at this experimental session was so great that plans are already under way to gradually pattern all the Louhelen sessions in the future after the Laboratory Session this summer.

Four basic courses made up the program of study. Mrs. H. Emogene Hoag gave her course on "The Three Worlds." Kenneth Christian gave a course on the organization and systematic study of the teachings. This completed the work of the morning. In the afternoon a course in public speaking was conducted. In the evening Mrs. Alice Bacon and Marguerite Reimer gave a course in public speaking, radio, and personal contacts.

The chief difference between the Laboratory Session and other sessions was the emphasis on personal study by all the students present and the absence of the lecture-note-taking method. It was this practical, supervised study and research that brought such enthusiasm response from those present at the Summer School. Some individuals literally studied into the morning hours.

The success of this new venture has caused the Louhelen Committee to start more definite preparations whereby Louhelen may actually become a school for intensive and scholarly study of the Faith. In view of this, the first major need which presents itself is an adequate library. The following works are needed:

1. Books and materials on Comparative Religions, especially books and materials on Christianity and Islám.
2. Books and articles on the subject of Science and Religion, the Influence of Religion, etc.
4. Copies of all Bahá'í publications.
5. Copies of compilations made by individuals.

The aim of the Louhelen Committee is to build up a large extensive, and complete Library which will meet all the needs of the Bahá'í student. As soon as such a Library is established as part of the School, there will be a place for intensive research and study.

LOUHELEN SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

"ENDEAVOR TO SPREAD A NETWORK OF BAHÁ'IS"

To the believers of the U. S. and Canada:

There has lately been referred from the National Spiritual Assembly a resolution adopted by the last Convention requesting "the National Assembly to endeavor to spread a network of Bahá'ís in virgin territory of North America." Beloved friends, the National Teaching Committee has no choice but to refer this resolution back to you!

To establish such a network is one of the two avowed purposes of the Seven Year Plan, the very aim of the Guardian in his series of impassioned messages, dating from that first historic cablegram of May 1, 1936. "Would to God," he appealed "every State within American Republic and every Republic in American continent might ere termination this glorious century embrace light Faith of Bahá'u'lláh... ."

Beloved friends, our Guardian is never vague in his claims upon us, nor does he underestimate the power which is ours for the asking. Not one of us presumes that, of himself alone, he is equal to the standard of hero-
ism required. Yet not one of us would dare to doubt Shoghi Effendi's confidence that we can attain it, through the help of Almighty God! Our goal is plain to us all; how shall we reach it?

Fortunately we have the answer from the Guardian himself, and it is as a reminder that the Committee publishes again excerpts from his memorable words.

May 19, 1936: "Convention plea addressed to American believers cannot achieve its purpose unless dauntless pioneers promptly rise and, forsaking homeland, permanently reside countries where light of Faith not yet penetrates."

June 4: "To the American believers, the spiritual descendants of the heroes of God's Cause, I again address my plea to arise as one soul and to prosecute with unrelaxing resolve the high mission with which their immediate destiny is inextricably interwoven."

June 26: "As the Guardian's telegraph clearly reveals, this teaching plan has two chief objectives: first, to establish a center in every State within the U. S. A. and then in every State throughout the American continent. "

"What the Guardian would strongly advise is, first, to concentrate heart and soul on the first part of this teaching program, namely, to have at least one center established in those States of the American Republic where there are as yet no believers. This task can best be accomplished by means of settlement in these States by at least one believer."

November 14: "An effort should be made to facilitate, as much as possible, the extension of the teaching work by helping those who are financially unable to reach their destination, and once there to encourage them to settle and earn the means of their livelihood."

August 4, 1937: "Who among its stalwart defenders will arise, untrammeled (and) unafraid, to implant its banner in those States, Provinces (and) Countries, where its standard is still unhonored?"

Shoghi Effendi has stripped the blindness of inertia from our eyes, has directed us toward an unquestionable goal, and has defined the means whereby we may assuredly succeed. What more is there for him to say? The Cause needs pioneers! The Cause needs single-hearted individuals who, with pure motives and simple faith, accept the promise of Divine assistance in establishing new ties and homes. It needs young couples whose lives are not yet entrenched, and who believe that in obedience to the Will of God they may discover their deepest happiness, and win their most enduring security. It needs us all, and not one of us wishes to escape! But above all, if the network is to be laid down, and the initial stage of the Divine Plan consummated, there must be volunteers who, like the early followers of the Master, dared to risk their futures because He asked it.

"Forsaking home, kindred, friends and position a handful of men and women, fired with a zeal and confidence which no human agency can kindle, arose to carry out the mandate which `Abdu'l-Bahá had issued. . . . These men and women have been instrumental in extending, to a degree as yet unsurpassed in Baha'i history, the sway of Bahá'u'lláh's universal dominion. . . . It would be impossible for me to unfold in this short compass the tale of such heroic actions. Nor can any tribute of mine do justice to the spirit which has enabled these standard-bearers of the Religion of God to win such laurels and to confer such distinction on the generation to which they belong." (World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 87-88).

The National Teaching Committee would direct attention also to a statement previously prepared and issued in Baha'i News, September, 1937, page 3. It is prepared to lend every aid in its power to those friends who gallantly arise in this pioneer service.

May not our generation, too, earn the praise of the Guardian? Are we not also faithful to the mandate of 'Abdu'l-Bahá?

Beloved friends, the following article was written for us by Albert and Alice Entzminger, who have preceded us in the arena of service. Our love and gratitude go to them for their dauntless spirit in establishing the Faith in the pioneer State of Oklahoma. May their account inspire us to follow in this path!

Faithfully yours,

TEACHING COMMITTEE

"THE GREAT URGE"

"Let your exertions, henceforth, increase a thousand-fold. . . . "The scope of your exertions must needs be extended. The wider its range the more striking will be the evidences of Divine assistance. . . ."—`Abdu'l-Bahá.

"The moment this Divine Message is carried forward by the American believers . . . this community will find itself securely established upon the throne of an everlasting dominion. . . . Then will the whole world resound with the praises of its majesty and greatness."—`Abdu'l-Bahá.

It was during the late summer of 1936 when Shoghi Effendi's first appeals had stirred the American believers, that we felt the great urge to respond to his call. But the fact that we were both new and inexperienced in the Cause made us hesitate. Also at the same time we were bound in an unhappy situation, release from which seemed well-nigh impossible. But the urge persisted and finally in inspiration we addressed our first letter to the Guardian, expressing to him the joy that was ours in having received in this Day the glorious Message of Bahá'u'lláh. In our letter, also, we made mention of our great desire to serve, however humble that service might be, saying nothing, however, of the obstacles which lay in our path.

It was but a few weeks later when suddenly in a most miraculous manner things began to happen, and almost before we realized it we found ourselves freed from the difficulties that had bound us. It was then we laid our entire problem before the National Teaching Committee, offering to them our services wherever they might think it best for us to go. Soon their suggestion was received that we, a family, take up our residence in Oklahoma City where, according to their records, Baha'i work had been done some years previously.

So it was that in January, 1937, through the assistance of both the National Teaching Committee and our own Geyserville Community, we left California to become Oklahomans. Just the day before our departure came the reply from the Guardian, and we recognized through what Power these doors had been opened to us.

A week later we found ourselves, a family of four, in Oklahoma City in the midst of winter, without acquaintance and without means of livelihood. On the train the four of us had contracted the flu and we were ill on arrival; so our first thought was to rush to a hotel and to bed. Our prayers for healing brought response and a few days later our problem became one of finding a home. Having left our furniture and practically all our personal effects in California, we required a furnished house; but just at that time, with two children, without work, and without the needed references, this was no easy matter. But again Bahá'u'lláh was with
us. One day during a blizzard we set out, and at the first place we called we found not only a clean, delightful little cottage, but a genial landlord who hesitated not at all that we were strangers and who also welcomed children. You may be sure we made great haste to move our baggage to our new home. From the first the children adapted themselves marvelously to the different climate, to the new school system and the city life. Almost immediately we were able to make contacts, and we were amazed at the surprising number of instances we were able to give the Message to strangers who came to our door.

At once we started to look up the contacts which had been furnished us by the Teaching Committee and found, much to our surprise, true believers. Our joy knew no bounds. These devoted souls had responded to the fine work done by Orcella Rexford and Edwina Powell, and although they had not communicated or been in touch with the Baha'i world and were thus completely isolated, their faith in Baha'u'llah remained firm. With their immediate cooperation we were soon able to form a study-class, meeting each Sunday afternoon, to be followed later by still another class on week-day afternoons. Later, in the month of September, these small classes evolved into a registered Baha'i Group of nine.

Significant also was the manner in which, after five months of fruitless effort, employment was finally obtained. Here definitely there was another lesson that we were to learn. We had felt that the first thing was to find work, and because this was our understanding we brought upon ourselves many misgivings which could well have been spared us, had we fully realized that the paramount thing was really submission to God's will. For undoubtedly God had other plans. Not until our study classes were well launched, and a physical infirmity of long standing, incorrectly diagnosed by California doctors, was completely and miraculously corrected by our new-found Baha'i friends, was a position finally secured. And this long sought position, with a newly-organized company, could not under any circumstances have been available before; it became so on the very first day that we were physically able to accept it!

Many, indeed, were the other evidences of Divine Aid that we received,—in our contacts, in our material needs, in the many beautiful and inspiring messages of encouragement and support. Never shall we forget these first months in Oklahoma, for indeed it was then that we were privileged to feel the exhilaration of His Nearness and receive the assurance of His never-failing help. Always there was response to our prayers for strength and guidance, and this response came to us in such manner that we lived in a veritable "valley of astonishment."

As we write these words our stay in Oklahoma City has been but eighteen months, and the Group of nine which was organized in September, 1937, is now a Baha'i Community of ten, for on April 21st of this year was elected the first Spiritual Assembly in this State. Also we are hopeful that very soon our number will be increased. During this time, Bahá'ís from all parts of the country have come to our assistance. Many were the letters that we received, often with names of friends for us to contact. The Teaching Committee has kept us well supplied with literature and has written frequent letters of advice and stimulation.

"How great, therefore, is the bounty of the Abba Beauty Who, notwithstanding our utter unworthiness, hath through His grace and mercy breathed into us in this divinely-illumined century the spirit of life, hath gathered us beneath the standard of the Beloved of the world, and chosen to confer upon us a bounty for which the mighty ones of bygone ages had craved in vain." "The souls of the well-favored among the concourse on high, the sacred dwellers of the most exalted Paradise, are in this day filled with burning desire to return to this world, that they may render such service as lie in their power to the threshold of the Abba Beauty."—(Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 18).

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

The National Publicity Committee is tremendously impressed by the number of individual believers who singly and alone have opened up new publicity channels over various parts of the country. A great deal of this new publicity material which has come to the National Press Books since May first this year has been the result of long and arduous effort.

From the newspapers of Eagle River and Manitowoc, Wisconsin, have come long articles on the Temple
and the Cause through the efforts of Mrs. Ruth Moffat. Some of these carried a picture of the Temple.

Miss Marguerite Reimer with the assistance of Mrs. William Russell, was successful in having numerous articles on the Cause published in connection with her radio talks given this summer in Madison, Wisconsin. These articles gave summaries of her talks. This type of publicity was effectively negotiated also by Mrs. Olivia Kelsey in Columbus, Ohio.

The Corpus Christi (Texas) Daily Chronicle rewarded Mrs. Kathryn Frankland's continuous efforts, last August, by giving her a permanent column under the name, Loom of Reality. This column is a compilation of quotations from outstanding public figures on subjects of general interest which always include quotations from the Teachings.

Many of the believers have given good publicity to the Cause by contributing to Editor's columns which are open to comments from the paper's readers on any subject. Mr. C. H. Pettit of Bucyrus, Ohio, has had several such articles on various phases of the Teachings as well as direct articles in the news space of Bucyrus papers. Mrs. Margaret Atwater of Miami, Florida, has continued in her success during the summer in having articles published in a "To the Editor" column which give the Teachings without mentioning names. One of Mrs. Atwater's articles on "Baha'u'llah, the Manifestation of God" was printed with her by-line in Phoenix, Arizona. Clinton Bugbee of Phoenix has been instrumental in having published a picture of the Temple with a long description of the building as well as other accounts of the Cause. It is interesting to note that a very long article on the Temple and the precepts of the Cause was reprinted from the Duke City News of Albuquerque, New Mexico in a Fernandina, Florida newspaper on June 24th mentioning that Dr. Lenore Morris had moved and opened Baha'i headquarters in Albuquerque.

So far, we have heard from two of the three Summer Schools. A great deal of fine publicity was obtained in newspapers of seven communities neighboring the Geyserville Summer School as well as many outstanding articles on the sessions, personal and the Faith in the Geyserville paper. A part of the splendid publicity received in the papers in and around Davison, Michigan, concerning the activities at Louhelen Ranch was stimulated through the efforts of Mrs. Wendell E. Bacon, who directed a laboratory course in publicity. This gave practical experience to those who attended this session in July. The members of the class went to work on articles and releases and were successful in having some of them published in the papers of neighboring communities. Davison, Michigan, last month celebrated its founding; in connection with the celebration, the Davison newspaper printed a long article by Mr. Eggleston on the history of the Baha'i Summer School at Louhelen Ranch.

Among the pioneer workers who have succeeded in obtaining effective publicity during the summer months is Mrs. C. N. Wells of Pinelot, California. She had had several articles published on the Cause. Mrs. Catherine Hall of San Diego, has had great success by having the picture of the Temple published in seven newspapers with accompanying articles of explanation, in San Diego and Ocean Beach.

Maywood, Illinois, has received publicity through the published list of its monthly Baha'i activities as well as the picture of the Temple. Lima, Ohio, had a similar idea in making up an article on the weekly Baha'i activities. The meetings of Lida Zamenhof brought a good deal of notice from the papers there.

In the International section of the Press Books there are many pages given over to the tremendous volume of publicity that our beloved Martha Root has obtained in India. Lengthy articles, some of which are in English, from no less than nine East Indian cities on phases of the Cause, its principles and laws, give us added incentive to strive in this country for greater publicity results. Mrs. Stuart French's Cape Cruise resulted in an article about the Faith in a paper of Oslo, Norway. Several clippings from the North-China News give accounts of the Teachings and also a review of Lorol Schofielder's book, "Travel and Adventure the World Over."

Mrs. Esther Segu of Augusta, Georgia, has found effective the reporting of the Nineteen Day Feasts giving a short discussion of Baha'i beliefs or activities all over the world. She uses a short line quoted from the Teachings or from other Holy Books as the closing paragraph of these notices and articles.

The newspapers of Omaha, Nebraska, have used many articles on the Cause and several pictures through the efforts of Dorene Halliday. Marvin Newport succeeded in opening new channels for publicity in Liberty, New York, published items on the Faith. The Drs. Morris are receiving more and more notice for the Cause in the press of Albuquerque, New Mexico. One long article was a direct quotation from Baha'u'llah. Through the efforts of Mrs. Mathews and Mrs. Little a newspaper in Chattanooga, Tennessee, published a long article on the Cause.

Many more believers have succeeded in spreading the Cause through this means during the summer months; Mrs. Johnson of Batavia, Illinois; Mrs. Bertha Kirkpatrick in Ann Arbor, Michigan; Mr. and Mrs. Meese in Benton Harbor, Michigan and Mrs. Lorol Jackson and Mrs. Edwina Powell in Helena, Montana.

Although only forty Assemblies out of seventy-eight have been heard from thus far, since May first this year, there is evidence of great activity. We would like to mention some of the outstanding work accomplished during the summer which is usually a slow season. Flint, Michigan, published five outstanding articles on "World Economics—a Solution" which ran as a series. Scranton, Pennsylvania, has reported many Baha'i activities and meetings through the efforts of Mrs. Helen Interlief, Boston and Springfield, Mass.; St. Paul, Minnesota; Teaneck, New Jersey and many others.

The National Publicity Committee issued a general bulletin in August. It includes a general survey of the services offered to any and all believers who have any opportunity to obtain publicity openings. These services include releases on the Cause and pictures of the Temple. This picture ser-
vice includes both mats and glossy prints. There is an advance publicity service for Bahá'í speakers and teachers to help build up meetings and to interest the public.

We urge the local listing of Bahá'í Centers, groups and isolated believers as a means both of spreading the Cause and of assisting visiting believers in locating the friends.

We have outlined the valuable possibilities of reviewing articles from the World Order Magazine for use in local papers. There are many dignified ways of publicizing the Cause when one sets one's ingenuity to the task, may we all become conscious of this need.

The Bahá'í News Service address has been changed to 125 Fourth Street, Wilmette, Illinois. Those desiring the last bulletin may receive it upon request through this address.

BAHÁ'Í NEWS SERVICE COMMITTEE,
VIRGINIA CAMELON, Chairman
NINA MATTHESEN
EDNA EASTMAN
MARY HAGGARD
EDNA TRUE

YOUTH STUDY DAYS

As reported last month, the Study Outlines prepared for use by the local Youth groups are being published in Bahá'í News so as to be available to all. The second Outline follows:

Study Outline for Some Answered Questions

Section II

I. Suggested Preliminary Reading from other Bahá'í Sources:
1. Bahá'í Scriptures, pp. 7-11; 17-19; 21-23; 31-32; 34-36; 124-130; 379-383; 447-448; 478; 495.
3. Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, in index see Adam, Christendom, Christians, Fulfilment of Prophecies, Gospel, Jesus Christ, Judgment Day, John 1:1, Manifestations, Prophecies, Return.
6. The Kitáb-i-Id-rí, revealed by Bahá'u'lláh, 20-22; 24-28, 56-58; 61-62; 64-65; 80-81; 89; 118-121; 130-134.
7. The Promise of all Ages, Christophil, pp. 70-119.

10. Do Bahá'ís consider learning and knowledge as important?
11. Do Bahá'ís believe in the Trinity? Why?
12. What can we believe about the story of Adam and Eve?
13. Are our sins forgiven today because Christ died upon the cross?

INTERNATIONAL AUXILIARY LANGUAGE COMMITTEE

The International Auxiliary Language Committee has the following to report for the summer and the beginning of the new season of 1938-39.

The Esperanto course at Green Acre was not well attended, only ten persons enrolling as reported by Miss Orloff, who was assisting Miss Zamenhof. These ten, however, were very enthusiastic and enjoyed both the course and Green Acre. The Committee wish to thank the National Spiritual Assembly and the Green Acre Committee for their co-operation for the course itself and the hospitality extended to Miss Zamenhof, and for the welcome given to the Esperantist visitors from Boston.

After leaving Green Acre, Miss Zamenhof visited Boston from September 6th to the 13th and had a very busy program there. The following is a schedule of her time:

Tuesday, Sept. 6—Talk on Dr. Zamenhof under auspices of the Boston Esperantists.
Wednesday, Sept. 7—9:30 A.M.—Radio Broadcast, interviewed by Station WORL.
11:00 A.M.—Received at the City Hall by the Mayor of Boston.
8:00 P.M.—Attended the regular Nineteen-Day Bahá’í Feast.

Thursday, Sept. 8—9:00 P.M.—Talk before Discussion Group, composed of young Jewish men and women, graduates of college.
Friday, Sept. 9—5:45 P.M.—Worldwide radio interview over Short Wave Station WIXAL.
8:00 P.M.—Talk under auspices of Boston Bahá’ís.

Saturday, Sept. 10—10:30 A.M.—Talk from pulpit of Temple Israel, by special invitation of Rabbi Harry Levi, a great friend of Esperanto and admirer of Dr. Zamenhof.
7:30 P.M.—Reception by group of Polish Jews.

Monday, Sept. 12—8:00 P.M.—Talk under auspices of Boston Bahá’ís.
Tuesday, Sept. 13—8:00 P.M.—Talk before group of Jewish girls, high school graduates.

These were her formal engagements, but there were many other sandwiched in between these, when Miss Zamenhof talks to individuals on the Cause.

From Boston she has gone to Cleveland to give her Esperanto course there. Her address is c/o C. R. Cairns, 1861 East 86th Street.

Some interesting information has just come to me from Oklahoma City. A New York Esperantist was out there this summer on business. Having advertised for contacts with persons interested in learning Esperanto he was able to start a class of from 40 to 50 persons from the responses he received. Mrs. Entzminger got into touch with him and the family joined the class, so that these contacts will be open to this very alive Bahá’í Community. I will quote from her letter to me—“Our joy, at this opportunity of making new acquaintances of this type, is indescribable and we give thanks to Bahá’ú’l-Ábah with all our hearts for this miraculous opening.

When we came here to Oklahoma City over a year ago we tried to find contacts through Peace groups, Race-Amyty groups, etc., but we could find nothing that was not controversial. In fact the Race Amyty Society were forced to disband almost before they could meet, due to threatening letters repeatedly sent to members. So you see with what joy we welcome this new activity.” Mrs. Entzminger mentions a Latin teacher in a Junior High School and an attorney, as active in this Esperanto group. If this is a fair sample of the people contacted, they will present a fine opportunity for the Entzmingers who are so well able to take advantage of it.

Della C. Quinlan, Chairman.

MARTHA L. ROOT IN INDIA

(Continued)

Madras. Mr. Bakhtiari and I worked in Madras, December 25-January 3, 1938. We met the few friends and talked about how to promote the Faith, and had the Feast. We visited all the large libraries to see what Bahá’í books they have. The University of Madras Library has an excellent collection and the Librarian, Mr. S. R. Ranganathan, is keenly interested in books of Bahá’í kind. He is in correspondence with American Bahá’ís, the N. S. A., but up to this time he had never met a Bahá’í. His face is full of light. He said the Bahá’í books are drawn out and much read. (We later found many who have been reading the books.)

Adyar Theosophical Library, at Adyar, Madras, has also a good collection of Bahá’í books, and we found that many university students living in that section have been reading these books. We visited editors of all the leading newspapers of Madras and all used interviews followed by other articles about the Faith and resumés of our lectures later. Over two hundred articles about the Bahá’í Faith have appeared in the newspapers of Ceylon and India from September 13 to February 13, 1938. (I urge all Bahá’í teachers when possible, to carry a type-written and make out good resumés of all lectures and give out to all newspapers. When one speaks, one may speak to hundreds, but through the press one can reach tens of thousands and sometimes hundreds of thousands.)

A large public lecture was given in Ranade Hall, a cultural centre whose directors are connected with the university and some newspapers. Dewan Bahadur K. S. Ramaswami Sastri, retired District Sessions Judge and one of the brilliant scholars of Madras presided; the lecture was under the auspices of the South Indian Cultural Association. In introducing us he spoke concisely about the Cause, quoted the “Dawn-Breakers” and Words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá—has since presided again and has written for me to use in the West, two short articles, which were really his introductions; these are most interesting because they show the Bahá’í Faith in its relation to Hinduism. He is a great Hindu scholar who has arisen to write about the Faith. I lectured in the Y. M. C. A. in Madras, Mr. Bakhtiari chanted and we both spoke before the Brahmo-Samaj Society of Madras. Brahmo-Samaj is a very quickened spiritual movement of India, a little like our Unitarianism of the West, its members are always friendly and very sympathetic to the Bahá’í Teachings. The Madras Brahmo-Samaj has since translated into Telugu language, “What is the Bahá’í Movement?” booklet and one thousand copies are being distributed. This is the first booklet, I think, that has ever been published in Telugu, and it is a fruit of the visit to Madras.

Also, two thousand booklets, “The Dawn of the New Day” translated into Tamil language are being published (were to be finished by February 15), Mr. Ishaaq Pahlavan, a devoted faithful Bahá’í in Madras agreed with this. The Tamil newspaper that published the booklet used the history and principles in a nearly three column article that has a circulation of twenty thousand. We felt very happy about these booklets because Tamil is much used in Southern India, Ceylon, Straits Settlements and a large colony in Durban, South Africa.

Mr. Bakhtiari, Mr. Pahlaván and I went out to Adyar to three sessions of the International Theosophical Convention held December 26 to January 3, 1938; we met many friends. The Vice-President of the International Theosophical Society, Mr. Dutta, said to me that the Bahá’í Teachings are the highest essence of Hinduism. Mr. Bakhtiari who did such great work returned to Karachi the evening of January 3rd.

As Madras is such an important spiritual and cultural centre in Southern India, Mrs. Shírin Fozdar and I came to Madras when we were returning from Colombo and stayed for six days, January 18 to 23, met the press, lectured in Pachaiyappa College of Madras University, also gave a public lecture in the P. S. High School, Mylapore Section, to several hundred students; lectured at an annual meeting of the Brahmo-Samaj ladies, and Shírin spoke at an evening meeting of the Brahmo-Samaj and broadcast. Some of the young men who had been interested in the Cause went to Madras in March of last year, arranged a meeting in their school where we spoke and they said they would form a study class. Mr. Pahlaván has a meeting sometimes for
ANNUAL REPORT, IRAN

The following reference to the Annual Report of the National Spiritual Assembly of Iran was written by the editor of the circular letter issued by the Haifa Spiritual Assembly in August, 1938:

The Report is divided into nine sections. The first section deals with the teaching of the Faith. We learn that no less than thirty-three Bahá’í teachers were engaged in different parts of the country in the promotion of the Faith. These teachers included three women volunteers and three members of the National Spiritual Assembly. In addition, the said Assembly, on numerous occasions, encouraged the believers in various ways to convey the Message to souls thirsty for it. The Spiritual Assembly of Tehran passed a number of resolutions urging the believers to redouble their efforts in fulfilling their paramount duty of teaching the word of God.

The Report quotes from a number of communications addressed by various Bahá’í teachers, and local Spiritual Assemblies to the National Spiritual Assembly, recording the results of their activities in their various fields of service. The gist of their contents is a tale of love and devotion and sacrifice mirroring forth the unity of the believers, the strength of their organizations, the spirituality pervading their activities and above all their courage and steadfastness in conveying the Message in an environment charged with persecution and evil intentions.

The results of the teaching activities have been very encouraging, indeed, as a number of new believers have joined the Faith and seven new Spiritual Assemblies have been established.

In the second section of the Report we learn that twelve historical sites in various parts of the country—sites connected with the hallowed history of the Faith—have been acquired by the National Assembly. These sites include part of a house in Shiraz known for having been occupied at one time by the Báb, and a number of burial places of Bahá’í martyrs. Steps have been taken to purchase similar sites, one of them being the shop in which the Báb sold merchandise in Shiraz.

The following excerpts from the third section of the Report will convey to the friends in the West the conditions under which their brothers and sisters live and labor in many parts of Persia.

In Sangsar, nine believers including five members of the Spiritual Assembly of that town were imprisoned for sixty-two days, the reason being the closing of their shops on the Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Báb—a Bahá’í Holy Day. On being released the believers were threatened that should they take another Bahá’í Holy Day and close their shops they would not be allowed to open them again and would be forbidden to conduct the same type of business anew.

In a village in the district of Khurāsān and Fārs a number of believers, old and young, were critically beaten with sticks and stones.

In Jahrom, a town in the district of Fārs, a Bahá’í child was stopped in the market place by a group of people and cruelly beaten. As the father ran to protect his child he too was set upon and beaten.

In the village of Marwast, near Yazd, while a handful of friends were assembled in the house of a believer who was sick in bed, all of a sudden a number of policemen and two soldiers all armed, entered the house and attacked the believers with sticks and clubs and the butt of their rifles inflicting painful injuries. Having satisfied their fiendish natures, they left the house taking away with them two Bahá’í books, a carpet and some articles of furniture.

In Kirmānšāh, the authorities have forbidden the believers to hold their meetings. It was in this town that Dr. ’Abdu’l-Hájí Jáwíd, a Bahá’í and an officer in the army, was demoted to the rank of an ordinary soldier and sentenced to two years service in the army. In our News Letter of February, 1938, we reported the case in detail. It was in this connection that the officer questioning Dr. Jáwíd made the remarkable statement: “Well, let us put the truth aside now. To-day, His Majesty the King says that no one has the right to use the word Bahá’í in the column headed by ‘religion’ (in the identity card). Anyone who disobeys this rule will be punished.”

In all the foregoing cases, no action was taken by the Government to redress the injustice done to the believers or to put a stop to further oppressions. Having made in vain several representations to the Government concerning the persecutions suffered by the believers, the National Spiritual Assembly wrote directly to the Prime Minister exposing the situation clearly and courageously. The letter to the Prime Minister brings out the following points:

(a) Discrimination is made between believers and non-believers by the officials in every government department. Whenever a Bahá’í applies for a position, as soon as he says that he is a Bahá’í, his application is rejected,
The work of building the Hazrat-ul-Quds (Baha'i Hall) in Tihra is now in process of construction. The Nineteen-Day Feasts are being observed more and more diligently in most Baha'i centers in the country. In Tihra, sixty-four such meetings are held regularly.

TABLET OF BAHAI'ULLAH

He is the Almighty
My hair is My Ambassador. Proclaiming at every moment upon the Branch of Fire in the Rose Garden of Holiness and Light, perchance the people of the world become severed from the dust soaring toward the Seat of Nearness, the Station wherein the Light emanated from the Beauty of God, the Mighty, the Unconstrained. O Thou, ye servants of Fire! Sing and praise, then become rejoiced and hasten ye toward the Adored One while crying: There is no God but God, the Knowing, the Wise, the Loving.

He is the Wise
My Hair is My Fire. Therefore it is enthroned upon the seat of My cheek and is pasturing upon the Rose Garden of My Face. This is the station wherein the Son of Inron stripped from himself the garment of all save Him, and attained to the Lights of Holiness from the Fire of God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Forgiving.

He is the Mighty, the Beloved
My Lock is My Chain—whosoever clings to It shall never err from everlasting to everlasting, for therein is hidden the Guidance which leads to the Light of Beauty.

He is God
My Hair is My Attributes—in which My Beauty is Concealed! Perchance the Eyes of the strangers from among My servants may fall (rest) on it, thus have We hidden from the Infidels the Beauty which is Shining and Exalted.

He is the Eternal
My Hair bears witness to My Beauty—that I am God and there is no God beside. Verily I have been Single, the Unique, the Omniscient, the Loving, the Unending, the Self-Subsistent God before the beginning of Creation. O ye people of Immortality, Listen ye to what emanates from those disheveled, waving, flying locks (tresses) upon the Sinai of Fire in the Tabernacle of Light on this throne of Manifestation. Verily, there is no God beside Me. Verily I have been the King, the Sovereign, the Peerless, the Everlasting, the Exaustless, the Ancient, the Holy.

In the Beginning before there was no Beginning. O ye Inhabitants of the heavens and the earth, should ye purify your ears ye would hear from My Tresses, that verily there is no God but He. He is unique in His Essence, and barred from any reference; not withstanding this how did they oppose this Beauty when His Bounty encircled all those who are in the seas of command and creation. Wherefore be ye just in yourselves in judging this Faith which is firmly founded in love for this Youth who is riding upon the snow white camel between the heaven and earth, and be firm and steadfast in Truth.

This is the Tablet read by Mrs. Thomas Collins in presenting at the Convention the Guardian's gift of locks of Baha'u'llah's Hair. The Tablet is shared with the believers with the Guardian's permission.

ANNUAL CONVENTION IN IRAQ
(From the Bahai News Letter published quarterly by the N. S. A., at Baghdad.)

Annual Convention
The eighth Annual Convention of the Bahai's was held in Baghdad on Friday evening, April 22, 1938. Fifteen delegates and a number of friends attended. All those present felt the soft breezes of Divine guidance dominating and directing their deliberations for the promotion of the interests of the mighty Cause of Baha'u'llah. Who, through His infinite grace and power, has caused us, His weak and lowly servants, to gather together, in the midst of an unbelieving and chaotic world, to praise His Name and participate in the establishment of His unique New World Order.

The Convention lasted four hours, during which the secretary of the N. S. A. first read the Beloved Guardian's foregoing telegram and his letter of April 1, 1938; then the Annual Report was delivered—different recommendations being submitted, in the course of the discussion that ensued, for consideration by the incoming N. S. A.; and last, but not least, the new N. S. A. was elected.
The Annual Report, which was brief, revealed the efforts of the outgoing N. S. A., which were mainly directed toward the construction of the new Haziratu'l-Quds, (i.e., Bahá’í Headquarters); the formation of the first Spiritual Assembly in Huwaydir and Ya’qubahyih; and the safeguarding of the interests of our beloved Faith in this country.

**News Items**

A magazine published at Karachi, India, entitled “Mira” (East and West), contains in its issue dated July and August, 1938, a Frontispiece reproducing a photograph of Abdu’l-Bahá, and the following articles of Bahá’í interest: The Bahá’í Faith and the Modern World, by T. L. Vaswani; A University of the Spirit, Martha L. Root; and Three Bahá’í Leaders, a report of a meeting held by Miss Root.

A significant contribution to Bahá’í periodicals is “Penda Siperore,” a magazine founded by Refo Chapari at Tirane, Albania, and printed in the Albanian language. The title is the Albanian translation of “The Supreme Pen.” Mr. Chapari, who translated some Bahá’í books into Albanian while a resident in New York many years ago, has been most active in service since returning to his native land.

The Committee on International Auxiliary Language reports that the articles on International Language published in recent issues of World Order have been very helpful to the Spiritual Assembly of Oklahoma City in making new contracts.

“With a heart overflowing with exultation and love from this Blessed Spot, I am sending,” writes Miss Adelaide Sharp from Shiraz, “the greetings and love of the friends to the Spiritual Assembly of this city.” Last night a number of believers and myself lighted candles at the Holy Shrine and prayed in behalf of the National Spiritual Assemblies, and each represented a different country.”

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Colby Ives, who have traveled and taught so extensively in many parts of America in recent years, have established residence in Toronto and become members of the local community.

The Editorial Committee of The Bahá’í World wishes the friends to cooperate by sending to Kenneth Christian, State School of Agriculture, Morristown, N. J., all possible information concerning references to the Faith in current books and magazines.

The Bahá’í communities of New York, Chicago and Vancouver were recently favored by a brief visit from Miss Kitty Carpenter, a Bahá’í of New Zealand.

On Sunday, October 2, 1938, the W. P. A. Federal Music Project of New York City rendered a Swedish Program which was broadcast over a local station. This program rendered “Persian Legend: Quarrat’ul-Ayn,” composed by Count Axel Wachtmeister, whose inspiration was received from the noble life of that Bahá’í martyr and pioneer.

Mrs. Frances Stewart, who sailed for Buenos Aires some weeks ago for several months of teaching activity on behalf of the Inter-America Committee, has begun to send interesting accounts of her experiences. The Inter-America Committee will report her activities in Bahá’í News as soon as possible.

Miss Josephine Kruka sailed for Finland on June 22, with the ardent intention of establishing the Faith in the land of her family origin. In letters written since her arrival there, Miss Kruka reports that in Finland the national religion is closely associated with national patriotism, which has prevented the use of newspaper or radio facilities. Despite these obstacles, Miss Kruka has confirmed a young minister and has held meetings in the home of a friend who received the Message from her in Duluth some years ago.

Miss Beatrice Irwin has returned after several months spent in London, where she resided at a Unity Feast held August 31. Miss Irwin reports that she is still receiving communications from contacts she made in Mexico during 1937.

Several months ago a group of the Cleveland friends became interested in Braille. Since then nine of the smaller books have been transcribed including Hidden Words. The copies are used locally but it is intended to place others at the disposal of libraries. Mr. A. C. Engelder, member of the National Braille Committee is directing the work and Mr. Alolph Fehér and Mrs. Carrie Turner, Braille experts, serve as coaches and editors.

**Annual Election**

The result of the election of the N. S. A. for 1938-1939 was as follows, the officers being elected in the first meeting of the Assembly at the close of the Convention:

Mr. Munir H. Wakil, Chairman; Mr. David S. Toeg, Vice-Chairman; Dr. Jamil I. Baghdadi, Secretary; Mr. Salim E. Joory, Treasurer; Mr. Adib R. Baghdadi, Mr. Jial Shiri, Mr. ‘Abdu’l-Razzaq ‘Abbas, Mr. Husayn A. Shihadi, Mr. Salman Dloomy.

The vacancy in the membership of the N. S. A., recently occasioned by the transfer of Mr. A. R. ‘Abbas to Mosul, has been filled by Mr. Ibrahim Shiri, who was elected by the delegates.

**New Haziratu’l-Quds: Letters from the Guardian**

The great importance which the Beloved Guardian attaches to the new Haziratu’l-Quds at Baghdad can be realized from his letter, in Arabic, dated April 1, 1938, addressed to the N. S. A. It reads:

“I am directed by the Beloved Guardian to write you that a sum of £50 is enclosed herewith as a contribution toward the completion of the Haziratu’l-Quds. He firmly hopes that the entire believers and Spiritual Assemblies of that region will, with utmost earnestness, unity and concord exert their efficacious endeavors to procure the means for the achievement and completion of this great enterprise.”—N. Zeine.

“May God, through His all encompassing power, aid you to complete this momentous enterprise.”—Shoghi.

In a subsequent letter dated May 13, 1938, Shoghi Effendi stresses the urgency of the undertaking as follows:

“He (the Guardian) said, ‘To complete this momentous enterprise during this year, without delay or retardation, is one of the paramount, sacred and bounden duties of the trustees of the National Assembly of that region. Steadfastness, earnestness and inducement of the friends in all the Bahá’í Centers in ‘Iraq, he further pointed out, ‘are attractive of steady Divine confirmations.’”

**Bahá’í News**
BAHA'I NEWS
Published by
The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahais
of the United States and Canada
General Office: 130 Evergreen Place, West Englewood, New Jersey

NO. 122 JANUARY, 1939

“TRIUMPHANTLY USHERS IN FINAL PHASE OF THE MAJOR TASK”

New Temple Contract Placed—Summary of Seven Year Plan

The Guardian's cablegram of November 29, 1938, quoted in the last issue of Baha'i News, establishes for the American Bahais a new and higher spiritual summit from which to survey the progress already achieved and the task still to be completed in fulfillment of the Seven Year Plan. The hour is fateful and propitious, calling for complete understanding of all the elements of the Plan, both in Temple construction and in teaching effort, and summoning all believers to a supreme consecration of the Plan, both in Temple construction and in teaching effort, and summoning all believers to a supreme consecration of the spirit in service to the Faith of Bahai.

Local Assemblies, National Committees, groups, traveling teachers, members of organized communities and isolated believers—all alike are to grasp the essential facts, assist in clarifying the vital issues and seize this potent occasion to create the means of final victory in the courageous and steadfast soul of the American Bahai community. Surpassing is the confirming power that has been released; unequalled must be our determination to be worthy instruments in the hands of that world-transforming Destiny manifested by Bahai.

Gallery Section Near Completion—Work Begins on First Story

When the Seven Year Plan was created for us by the Guardian, only the Temple dome and clerestory had received their exterior decoration. The gallery, first story, surrounding stairs and metal doors and window grills were all still to be undertaken. The total cost of these successive contracts, as reported in the special announcement inserted in Baha'i News of June, 1937, was $350,000.

During that year the contract for decorating the gallery section was placed at an estimated cost of $125,000, and at the present time this contract is completed except for portions of the nine pylons, which will be done in the spring of 1939.

The National Spiritual Assembly recently was informed that savings both in time and cost could be effected if a contract were placed for the execution of the hand-carved models required in the exterior decoration of the first story; if, in other words, instead of waiting until a contract could be given for all the work on the first story, a contract were given for the first stage in that work. Such a contract has been given to Mr. Earley by the Temple Trustees, in the amount of $21,000, and the believers are therefore informed that work on the first story is now under way.

Before taking this important step, the opportunity was reported to the Guardian, and his approval was re­ceived in the following cablegram on November 29: "Approve placing immediate contract (for) models. Delighted. Unbounded gratitude. —Shoghi." Incidentally, a further saving in cost has been effected in the decoration of the first story by purchasing all the quartz in advance under a special agreement with the owners of the quarry.

Future Temple Contracts

The unfinished Temple work is to proceed under the following schedule:

1. Models for first story (already contracted) $21,000.00
2. Quartz for first story (already contracted) 5,000.00
3. Molds for first story 29,000.00
4. Casting and applying units to first story 93,000.00
5. External staircase, metal work, including outside doors 75,000.00

Total future cost in Seven Year Plan $225,000.00
Plus gallery contract (funds on hand) 125,000.00

Total Temple cost in Plan $350,000.00*

Considering now that figure of future cost $225,000.00
We have on hand in the Bahiyih Khanum Fund as of December 10, 1938 $37,047.20

General Office: 130 Evergreen Place, West Englewood, New Jersey
Balance necessary from contributions before end of Seven Year Plan (for Temple) $187,952.80

The Annual Budget

The Annual Budget reported for the current Baha'i year contains the item of $75,000 for Temple construction, and this item stands unchanged either by the Guardian's cablegram published last month or by the placing of the new contract for models. We must bear in mind that each year of the Seven Year Plan is charged with its vital share of the total responsibility. The successive contracts are placed as funds are available, and consequently there must be a certain rate of income during the first five years of the Plan if the work is to be completed by the end of the first century of the Baha'i Era. That rate, the Temple work alone, is $75,000 each for the third, fourth and fifth years of the Plan.

From the 1938 Convention to the October meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly at Knoxville, the contributions received under the Annual Budget provided little surplus for the new Temple Fund. The following message addressed by the Guardian to the National Assembly on October 14, sent in reply to a heartfelt cablegram despatched to him from that meeting, augmented the determination of the members to strive for the success of the Seven Year Plan: "Heartened (by) message. Praying (for) added fervor, deepened longing, acceleration (of) Temple construction (and) increasing momentum (in) teaching force. May both culminate (in) placing, (within) appointed time, final contract heralding (the) consummation (of) the hopes born thirty years ago (in) the hearts (of) the American believers."

A Twofold Task

"Increasing momentum" must also be our determined ideal in the field of teaching. Are we collectively responding even yet to that appeal cabled to the Convention in 1936: "Would to God every State within American Republic and every Republic in American continent might ere termination (of) this glorious century embrace (the) light (of the) Faith of Baha'u'llah and establish structural basis of His World Order."

In our inexpressible gratitude for the bounty we have received from the Guardian's recent donation to the Fund, and his association of future construction with the Greatest Holy Leaf, may we hold the balance between our services to Temple and those we are privileged to render in promoting the teaching work.

National Spiritual Assembly.

* Estimated cost. The estimate of cost for gallery section was higher than actual cost so far.

With every fresh crisis that plunges a helpless humanity deeper and deeper into the morass of despair and degradation, the pioneers of the nascent Faith of Baha'u'llah are elevated to nobler heights of triumph, evince a rarer spirit of self-abnegation and courage, and disclose more compelling evidences of their capacity and power.

Every operation to matter how indirectly connected with the dual responsibilities assumed by the American believers, must continue to be conducted and supported with that self-same assiduity, sternness of purpose and steadiness of vision that have garnered them thus far so rich a harvest. A work so auspiciously begun, so efficiently organized, so rapidly extended, so uniquely blessed, can never be allowed, however somber the clouds looming on the international horizon, to fall into obsolescence or to appear to have sustained the least injury from the world-shaking forces that now batter on the tottering institutions of human society. The adamant determination of those who support it will enable it to yield at the appointed time its destined fruit. Your true and grateful brother, SHOGHI.

November 27, 1938.

"THIS HISTORIC ENTERPRISE"
A Letter from Shoghi Effendi

"With reference to the ornamentation of the gallery section of the Temple; the Guardian wishes me to express his entire satisfaction at the rate at which the work is progressing, and also to assure your Assembly of his approval of the suggestion made by Mr. Earley, which will have the effect of expediting considerably the work of the ornamentation of the first story."

"He further wishes me to stress the importance of placing the contract for the models and molds before the completion of the present contract, as this, he strongly feels, will save much time, and would in addition enable your Assembly, in the meantime, to accumulate more funds and thus insure the uninterrupted progress of the ornamentation of the rest of the Temple."

"He would, in closing, urge your Assembly, and wishes, through you, to renew his plea to the entire body of the American believers, to spare no effort to bring this historic enterprise to final consummation at the appointed time. They would certainly be failing in one of their most vital obligations, at this crucial period in the development of the Cause, if they allow the work of that sacred edifice to suffer any setback. But there is surely no ground
for any such doubt. Rather, there is every reason to believe that the American Bahá'í Community, the range and quality of whose achievements have raised it to so unique and enviable a position among its sister communities throughout the West, will, as in the past, endeavor with one accord to fulfill, to the very last and with that same spirit of abnegation and heroic resolve that have characterized its previous accomplishments, all its obligations and responsibilities under the Seven Year Plan."

November 27, 1938.

**BAHÁ'Í ANNIVERSARIES**

A Letter from Shoghi Effendi

"The Bahá'í day starts and ends at sunset, and consequently the date of the celebration of Bahá'í feasts should be adjusted to conform to the Bahá'í calendar time. For further particulars on this subject you should refer to the section entitled 'Bahá'í Calendar' in 'The Bahá'í World.'

"The Guardian would advise that, if feasible, the friends should commemorate certain of the feasts and anniversaries at the following time:

- The anniversary of the Declaration of the Báb on May 22, at about two hours after sunset.
- The first day of Ridvan, at about 3:00 P.M. on the 21st of April.
- The anniversary of the Martyrdom of the Báb on July 9 at about noon.
- The anniversary of the Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh, on May 29 at 3:00 A.M.
- "The Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá on November 28, at 1:00 A.M.
- "The other anniversaries the believers are free to gather at any time during the day which they find convenient."

November 27, 1938.

**"THE CHARTER OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER"**

*Arise and Teach*

"O ye that stand fast in the Covenant! When the hour cometh that this wronged and broken winged bird will have taken his flight unto the celestial concourse, when it will have hastened to the Realm of the Unseen and its mortal frame will have been either lost or hidden near the dust, it is incumbent upon the Ahnán, that are steadfast in the Covenant of God, and have branched from the Tree of Holiness; the Hands, (pillars) of the Cause of God, (The Glory of the Lord rest upon them), and all the friends and loved ones, one and all to bestir themselves and arise with heart and soul and in one accord, to diffuse the sweet savors of God, to teach His Cause and to promote His Faith. It behooveth them not to rest for a moment, neither to seek repose. They must disperse themselves in every land, pass by every clime and travel throughout all regions, Bestirred, without rest and steadfast to the end they must raise in every land the triumphal cry "O Thou the Glory of Glories"! (Yá-Bahá'u'l-Abhá), must achieve renown in the world wherever they go, must burn brightly even as a candle in every meeting and must kindle the flame of Divine love in every assembly; that the light of truth may rise resplendent in the midst of the heart of the world, that throughout the East and throughout the West a vast concourse may gather under the shadow of the Word of God, that the sweet savors of holiness may be diffused, that faces may shine radiantly, hearts be filled with the Divine spirit and souls be made heavenly.

"In these days, the most important of all things is the guidance of the nations and peoples of the world. Teaching the Cause is of utmost importance, for it is the head corner-stone of the foundation itself. This wronged servant has spent his days and nights in promoting the Cause and urging the peoples to service. He rested not a mo-
ment, till the fame of the Cause of God was noise abroad in the world and the celestial strains from the Abád Kingdom roused the East and the West. The beloved of God must also follow the same example. This is the secret of faithfulness; this is the requirement of servitude to the Threshold of Bahá!

"The disciples of Christ forgot themselves and all earthly things, forsook all their cares and belongings, purged themselves of self and passion and with absolute detachment scattered far and wide and engaged in calling the peoples of the world to the Divine Guidance, till at last they made the world another world, illumined the surface of the earth and even to their last hour proved self-sacrificing in the path of that Beloved One of God. Finally in various lands they suffered glorious martyrdom. Let them that are men of action follow in their footsteps!" 1

The promulgation of the Divine Plan, unveiled by our departed Master in the darkest days of one of the severest ordeals which humanity has ever experienced, is the key which Providence has placed in the hands of the American believers whereby to unlock the doors leading them to fulfill their unimaginably glorious Destiny. As the proclamation of the Message reverberates throughout the land, as its relentless march gathers momentum, as the field of its operation widens, and the numbers of its upholders and champions multiply, its potentialities will correspondingly unfold, exerting a most beneficent influence not only on every community throughout the Baháí world, but on the immediate fortunes of a travelling society. The repercussions of this campaign are already apparent in Europe, India, Egypt, Iraq and even among the sorely-tried communities in Persia and Russia. The Faith of God is gaining in stature, effectiveness and power. Not until, however, the great enterprise which you are now conducting runs its full course and attains its final objective, at its appointed time, can its world-encompassing benefits be fully apprehended or revealed. The perseverance of the American believers will, no doubt, insure the ultimate realization of these benefits."

"To the American believers, the spiritual descendants of the heroes of God's Cause, I again address my plea to arise as one soul and to prosecute with unrelaxing resolve the high mission with which their immediate destiny is inextricably interwoven. The call has gone forth, the goal manifest and within their reach. Though their responsibilities be pressing and heavy and the obstacles formidable and manifold, yet the spirit of our invincible Faith will enable them to conquer if they arise unitedly and determinedly and persevere till the very end."—SHOGHI EFFEendi.

EXTENSION TEACHING
BY LOCAL ASSEMBLIES

The National Teaching Committee is overjoyed to report a nation-wide movement on the part of Local Spiritual Assemblies to undertake extension teaching. Although for some years this method has been discussed as a likely one for creating new centers of Baháí life, never until now has it really been tried on a large scale. In the past weeks letters have poured in, telling of plans, naming prospective cities, reporting with enthusiasm new efforts made. Of one thing there can be no doubt, those Assemblies that have dared to pioneer are speedy transformed. Their rewards are an unprecedented vitality, the zest of hope in untouched horizons, the discovery of prayer as a constant guide, and that same unfailing confirmation which the Master has promised to every "fearless warrior, who armed with the power of true Knowledge, hastens unto the field . . ."

But more than this, the entrance of Assemblies, of whole Baháí communities into the extension of the Seven-Year Plan guarantees a security in achievement, a solid, steadily-advancing growth which no onslaught can hope to obstruct or impair. If your own Assembly has not yet awakened to its part in this mighty program, perhaps the following news will arouse it. And surely these words written by Shoghi Effendi, as he defined in 1923 the structure of National and Local Assembly life, bear also on the requirements of our day most pointedly: "But let us be on our guard—so the Master continually reminds us from His Station on high—lest too much concern in that which is secondary in importance, and too long a preoccupation with the details of our affairs and activities, make us neglectful of the most essential, the most urgent of all our obligations, namely, to bury our cares and teach the Cause, delivering far and wide this Message of Salvation to a sorely-stricken world."

The Assembly in Glendale, Arizona, has voted to sponsor pioneer work in Mesa, a Mormon community about twenty miles distant. 2

Los Angeles has agreed to carry forward the work begun last year by the Regional Committee in Las Vegas, Nevada. At the same time San Francisco will work in Reno, Nevada. Thus two major efforts will converge on this new State. Los Angeles has an active Extension Committee which is introducing a course of six lectures by different teachers in several nearby towns, as well as in Bakersfield, 125 miles away.

Oakland has undertaken responsibility for new contacts in Lodi, Stockton, Turlock, Modesto, Fresno and Woodlake, all cities of the San Joaquin Valley. It has also offered its help in Reno.

In the Northwest the Assemblies have assumed teaching responsibilities as follows: Monroe in Everett, Washington; Vancouver in West Vancouver and New Westminster; Seattle in Tacoma; Spokane in Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint, Idaho; Portland, in a circuit of Oregon cities including Salem, Eugene, and Medford. In this area the Regional Committee is cooperating with Assemblies in coordinating, routing, and maintaining up-to-date information on available teachers. It has been suggested that local teaching programs be so planned that speakers may also work in outside territory, wherever possible on circuits, as this has proved the most promising way of making new contacts.

Oklahoma City will extend its work to El Reno, about twenty-five miles away. The believers here have been thrilled at an astonishing development of Esperanto classes, and by cooperating on committees have made many new and liberal friends. Esperanto is now being taught not only in eight city districts, but in outlying cities such as El Reno, Edmond, and Shawnee.

Detroit has begun weekly study groups in Grosse Poite and Dearborn, and has plans for Highland Park. Detroit has likewise emphasized cooperation with the Esperanto Society, as a follow-up of Miss Zamenhof's visit.

Miami, Florida, is discussing extension work with much interest, with definite plans expected soon. Weekly public meetings have been greatly stim-

1 Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.
2 Bahá'í Administration, p. 37.
led by a display of the Temple model.

"St. Paul, Minn., is sponsoring extension work in Hudson and Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The friends are also helping the new Group in Duluth.

Toronto has arranged a series of twice-monthly public meetings in Hamilton, Ontario. Speakers during October were Marzieh Carpenter and Mabel Ives.

Lima has an Extension Committee of thirteen, now at work in Wapakoneta, Van Wert, Celina, Montezuma, Delphos, and Bluffton. The following suggestions from the chairman, Mrs. Kepler, will assist us all: The members place their chief reliance upon prayer, using the Teaching Tablets, the Tablet of Ahmad, and prayers for guidance at every meeting and during contacts by co-members. Calls are made upon new contacts frequently, and a record is kept noting the reactions. Pamphlets are sometimes left with the offer to return to discuss them. The new friends are invited to public contacts by co-members.

There is a variety of other notable news from Assemblies. One of the most stimulating reports has come from New Haven, where “many events have conspired to turn an ineffectual, lukewarm community into a virile, awakened, inspired group.” Again the real secret is prayer. The 1938-39 teaching program is all-inclusive, with its study classes, fireside and youth groups, and public meetings. Extension work by fireside teaching is carried on in Milford, Washington, Wallingford, Norwich, and Waterbury. It is New Haven's goal to have nine functioning Assemblies or Groups in Connecticut by 1944! The community is also active in its association with non-Baha'i organizations, an especially fruitful contact having been made at an interfaith discussion at the Jewish Community Center. The celebration of Ridvan also demands mention. During each day of this period a gathering was held in a different home, each host inviting his own guests and arranging his own program. Much diversity resulted, including a Persian dinner, a memorial for the Holy Mother, reading of the Creative Word with recordings of Wagner’s "Parsifal," original poetry, etc. Another interesting meeting was a talk on the early history of the Faith in New Haven, by the chairman of the Archives Committee. The proof of vitality is growth: in the past year nine new believers have enrolled and two have been re-instated!

Springfield, Ill., has written enthusiastically of a month's visit from Marga Reimer, during September and October. Three radio broadcasts were given, four public talks, and a lecture for a negro Forum. Miss Reimer also met twice a week with the believers, giving valuable teaching suggestions.

Cincinnati has developed many fine contacts this past year through public and fireside meetings scheduled for visiting teachers. These have included Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Mrs. Margery McCormick, Mrs. Louise Caswell, Mrs. Grace Ober, Mr. Louis Gregory, and Mr. Harlan Ober. A study class has been formed which promises a bright future.

Pasadena, Calif., is experiencing a rebirth as a result of community prayer. Three weekly study classes are now conducted for inquirers; a monthly public meeting is fast growing in attendance; three new members have been accepted; and on December 3rd a wonderful Amity Dinner was given, the full account of which has not yet reached us. This Assembly also hopes to begin extension work soon.

Springfield, Mass., has reported the visit of Mrs. Amelia Collins, who spent some time in Paxton. A guest at one meeting was the daughter of Edward Bellamy. Various other informal groups met with Mrs. Collins at Montson, Three Rivers, and Paxton, and many new friends were introduced to the Cause from these and other nearby cities.

A comprehensive report from Binghamton, N. Y., for August and September brings news of this Assembly's far-flung interests. Binghamton believers are assisting in Scranton, Syracuse, Ithaca, and Norwich. Six have enrolled during this period and others are studying, with new classes also for teen-age girls and children. The most interesting activity was the Baha'i participation in the World Congress of Youth held at Vassar College, August 16th-23rd. Miss Ida Noyes, Binghamton's youth chairman, spent the entire week, as did Mrs. Frances Stewart of Utica, who was hostess for the South American delegation. A Temple model was displayed and over 3,000 pieces of literature were distributed. President and Mrs. MacCracken of Vassar became acquainted with the Faith, Mrs. Roosevelt inspected the Temple model, Professor Howson of the Department of Religion asked for a picture of the Temple to be hung in the Vassar Library, and books are to be sent also. Several other Baha'is from Binghamton and New York City visited the conference, and two informal discussion groups were held. One of the guests was a Chinese girl, the 'heroine of Shanghai.'

Baha'i participation in the Canadian National Exhibition was also most noteworthy. This Exhibition, from August 26th to September 10th, is the world's largest annual fair and this year it had a record attendance. With the help of Montreal and Toronto, a beautiful exhibit of the Temple was arranged (photograph in December issue), designed by Mr. W. S. Maxwell. About 5,000 pieces of literature were given to visitors from as far afield as South Africa. It is hoped that this effort will result in increased Baha'i activity throughout Canada.

In Michigan exceptional work is being done by Marzieh Carpenter and the Eggelstens. Conferences have been made in eleven cities and Mrs. Carpenter has spoken before thirty-two groups, including Rotary, Kiwanis, Shriners, Exchange, Women's, Church, and school groups.

Eighty-eight Baha'is from sixteen communities of California and Arizona met in a Regional Conference at Bakersfield, California, on the weekend of October 15th-16th. The activities included a tea for new people; two radio talks; a teaching conference on "Pioneer Teaching in the Seven-Year Plan"; a Baha'i luncheon in the open air; and a public meeting Sunday afternoon, when Mrs. Reuel Lewis and Mr. Leroy Iaas spoke on "A Baha'i Interpretation of World Crisis." The teaching conference has led to a remarkable impetus in spirit and extension work, in those communities which sent delegates. All were happy at the following cable from Shoghi Effendi, in reply to a conference greeting: "Ap-
precipitate message. Praying complete realization highest hopes.

The San Joaquin Valley was also visited during August by Miss Claudia Coles Aldridge of London, England, who spoke four times at fireside groups in Bakersfield, on the radio there, and in Fresno, Woodlake, Three Rivers, and Atascadero.

The reports from our smaller Groups and pioneer areas and teachers are as brimming with good news as all of the others. There Groups have recently organized in Bexley and Circleville, Ohio, and in Marysville, Michigan. The Marysville and Fort Huron Bahá'ís have sponsored four radio broadcasts since spring, with Allen McDaniel, Harlan Ober, and Marzieh Carpenter as speakers. They also arranged a two-week exhibit of the Temple model in three business localities, and during this time an article was prepared on the Temple which was read over the local radio station. In Jamestown, N. Y., there are six registered believers. Recently a talk was sponsored on the practical function of religion in the life of a business man, to which many contacts were made for future club meetings. In this time an article was prepared on the practical function of religion in the life of a business man, to which many contacts were made for future club meetings.

Some years ago a letter received from Haifa stated that "Shoghi Effendi feels that in any locality where the number of adult declared believers reaches nine, a local Assembly should be established. He feels this to be an obligation rather than a purely voluntary act."

A contact with the Phoenix Club, a liberal group, opened many doors. Weekly meetings with an attendance of twenty to forty are held at the Marlborough Hotel and the Winnipeg Free-Press gave much space for publicity. There were also engagements at various clubs, with invitations for the Spring. Mrs. King met several people who had contacted the Cause in other cities. A Jewish rabbi had heard of it in Buffalo, a newspaper man in Cleveland; three Junior College teachers had known Mrs. Ives in Moncton; an Esperanto teacher had met Bahá'ís in Minneapolis. Study classes will be carried on by Miss Lillian Tomlinson, who already has motored with several friends to visit the Temple, and a loan library is established at her home. There are also Bahá'í books at the Phoenix Club and in the Metaphysical Library.

Mrs. Lulee Mathews recently spent three weeks at Mrs. R. D. Little in Covington, La., during which time two intensive study classes were carried on and several talks were given. A lovely gift was made by Mrs. Mathews of a Fellowship House, to be used not only by the Bahá'ís but as a Community Center. The building was dedicated on the anniversary of the Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Mrs. Little writes: "Although the little house seems very unimportant in size we all feel that it is destined to achieve great things. It will supply a great need and will through this make it possible to promote and demonstrate the Bahá'í teachings. All are deeply touched...."

The Group in Albuquerque, N. M., has reported its activities at the New Mexico State Fair, October 9th to 16th, in connection with an exhibit of the Temple model. One believer was in constant attendance and hundreds of registrations were obtained, which are being catalogued for future work. Two thousand picture postcards of the Temple were given and on Children's Day each child received one. Many of the visitors spoke of having seen the Temple in Wilmette. The friends report that the Fair was attended by many who had spent their lives in isolated ranch and mountain homes, and also by those of varied racial groups, such as Spaniards, Mexicans, Indians, and Negroes. These were delighted with the universal viewpoint of the Faith and accepted literature with gratitude. Buffet suppers are now being held for those newly-interested, and the believers report a great stimulation to their work since the Fair. Surely these few Bahá'ís have won the admiration of us all with their real sacrifice of time and means.

Other new areas have their pioneer teachers. In Huntington, West Virginia, Harold Hunt of Washington, D. C., has found employment and is making many fine contacts. Speaking engagements have been arranged for Stanwood Cold at the International Club of Marshall College and the YMCA Forum. Mr. Hunt was also able to introduce the Faith to Commander Hughes of the U.S.S. Penney. Miss Nayan Hartfield has been working in Greenwood, Miss., with an isolated believer, Mrs. Bivins. During October new contacts were made in Little Rock, Ark., by Mrs. Iva Snack of Muskogon, during a short visit. The Teaching Committee has also received advice that Miss Rezi Sunshine has returned to Arkansas. In Fort Sam Houston, Texas, a weekly study class is held, according to Mr. H. R. Hurlbut.

A teaching trip through Ohio was made by Charles Mason Remey in October. He also spent several days in Urbana, speaking four times at the University of Illinois, and for the first public meeting to be arranged in Danville, a city in which Urbana has begun extension teaching.

Mrs. Ruth Moffett was scheduled on the Ohio-Pennsylvania circuit in October, when five new study groups were formed. In August she made forty-two talks in Eagle River, Wis., leading to a study class of about twenty-five persons of great capacity. Classes were also held for ten days on the Puza Estate, outside of Eagle River, which was dedicated as a future Bahá'í Summer School.

An extensive trip through the Southern States was made by James Stone, Jr., of Tenafly, N. J., in connection
with his business, from July to September. During his short trip in each city Mr. Stirling attempted to locate the isolated believers, traced through the libraries those who had read Baha'i books, and developed many new contacts. His report will greatly assist in future plans for these undeveloped areas.

Lorrol Jackson is now in Butte, Montana, holding weekly study classes and assisting an Esperanto group of young people. She forwarded in October the registration of Irene Caldwell, age seventeen, who has been reared in the Faith.

Beatrice Irwin writes from London, where she arrived on August 14th, that she spoke about the Temple during a television broadcast arranged by the British Broadcasting Company.

This account by no means completes the important and exciting news on hand. Especially the splendid organization of our Regional Committee will have to be considered in a later review. But enough has been related to thrill us all with the movement alive in the Cause, as it advances in its quest for the men and women of the future. Potential world citizens: America is filled with them! We have only to be diligent and faithful in the search, and Baha'u'llah Himself will surely guide us.

**National Teaching Committee.**

**"DRAW NIGHT UNTO BAHAA'ULLAH"**

"Supreme ascendancy is to be attributed, this Day, to none except God, He Who hath no peer nor equal, Who is the Most Powerful, the All-Subduing!"—Gleanings, pg. 36.

"Should any created thing lay claim to any existence, when confronted with the infinite wonders of Thy Revelation, so blasphemous a pretension would be more heinous than any other crime in all the domains of Thine invention and creation." Prayers and Meditations, pg. 133.

"Thou art, O my God and the Exultation of my heart, the One Who hath adorned Thy Tablet, of which none is aware except Thee, with the mention of this Day which Thou didst call after Thy name, that haply none may on that day be seen save Thy most august Self, and naught else be brought to mind except Thy most sweet remembrance." Prayers and Meditations, pg. 277.

"This is the Day, O my Lord, which Thou didst announce unto all mankind as the Day wherein Thou wouldest reveal Thyself, and shed Thy radiance, and shine brightly over all Thy creatures." Prayers and Meditations, pg. 275.

"This is the Day whereon naught can be seen except the splendors of the Light that shineth from the face of Thy Lord, the Gracious, the Most Beautiful." Gleanings, pg. 29.

"Deny not Thy loved ones, O my Lord, the sweet savors of this Day wherein the mysteries of Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, were unveiled, and all that had been enshrined within the treasures of Thy wisdom was revealed. This is the Day, O my Lord, whereon every atom of the earth hath been made to vibrate and to cry out: 'O Thou Who Art the Revealer of signs and the King of Creation! I, verily, perceive the fragrance of Thy presence. Methinks Thou hast revealed Thyself, and unlocked the door of reunion with Thee before all who are in Thy heavens and all who are on Thy earth.' Prayers and Meditations, pg. 279.

"Canst thou discover any one but Me, O Pen, in this Day? . . . Lo, the entire creation hath passed away! Nothing remaineth except My Face, the Ever-Abiding, the Resplendent, the All-Glorious." Gleanings, pg. 29.

**Enrollments and Transfers**


**IN MEMORIAM**

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the beaker of gladness. It confereth the gift of everlasting life. —Baha'u'llah.

Mr. Mark Grass, Omaha.
Mr. Edward Angell, Atlanta, Mich.
Mrs. Nettie L. Napier, Nashville.
Mrs. E. B. Zimmermann, Milwaukee.
Mrs. Anna Eliza Ripley, Milwaukee.
Mr. J. P. Blazek, Sr., San Francisco.

**Assembly Roll**

Elliot, Maine. Until further notice, address communications to Mrs. Lionel Loveday, Acting Secretary.

**BAHA'I EXHIBIT AT NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR**

**Toronto, Ont.** New Secretary, Miss Elsa Beecroft, 443 Jarvis Street.

**Committee Appointments**

Index

Bishop Brown, Chairman, P. O. Box 9, Ingomar, Pa.
Miss Alice N. Parker
Mrs. Ruth Randall Brown
Kenneth Chapin

Library

Appointment of another Officer:

Mrs. S. H. Sims, Secretary, Leroy Apartments, Red Bank, N. J.

Child Education

Mrs. Robert Lewis added to committee.

New England Regional Teaching

Mrs. H. Chamberlain added to committee.

**Child Education**

Five outlines have been prepared and reviewed for the teaching and training of children in study classes and in the home. One of these, "To Live the Life," is now available in mimeographed form, and deals with the code of life as given by the Master. These twenty-four lessons are adapted to children of ages 7 to 10, or more. Each lesson includes an introduction to the lesson, a story from scriptures or accepted Baha'i sources, and memory passages from the Words of Baha'u'llah. Each lesson is prepared in two sheets, attractively designed in the outline of the House of Worship, and is...
so arranged as to make a complete book of 48 pages for each child when the course has been completed. When ordering, ask for one complete set for each child in the group, price 20c per set. Suggestions for the teacher will be included without extra charge and without special mention. The committee requests that the complete order be sent at one time whenever possible in order to effect a saving in postage. The twenty cent rate includes postage. Address orders to the secretary, Miss El­core Georgenson, 615 W. Elm St., Lima, Ohio.

Four more outlines are in the making and notices will appear when they are ready for distribution. They will cover the following subjects:

Baha’i Principles; 12 lessons, adapted to all ages.

Baha’i Founders; 18 lessons, ages 9 to 15.

Dawn Breakers; 12 lessons, ages 7 to 12.

Creation; 15 lessons, ages 5 and 6.

A column in Baha’i News entitled: ‘‘For Parents and Teachers’’ has been provided for use by the Child Education Committee. The friends are invited to contribute freely to this department.

DOROTHY BAKER, Chairman
ELCORE GEORGENSON, Secretary.

SUMMER SCHOOLS
Green Acre

The following courses will be given during the 1939 season. The teachers will be announced next month.

Islam; The Meaning of Life; Positive Living; The Dawn Breakers; The Seven Valleys for Answered Questions; Administration; Humanity’s Coming of Age; A Laboratory Course on Teaching.

There will be two teachers each week, morning courses, with afternoons free for study, and interesting lectures, panel discussions, open forum group, etc., in the evenings.

The summer school will run for nine weeks. Youth week comes July 24-29, and is under the direction of the Youth Week Committee.

The Green Acre Committee is making a special effort to have plenty of activity over the weekends, and to make the Sunday meetings a magnet to interest new friends from nearby towns and cities.

Loubelen

Preliminary Announcement (subject to change)
First Youth Session, June 24-29

Morning
I. Character; a sequence in a spiritual psychology
(Baha’i standards of conduct)
Miss Flora Hottes of Kenosha
II. a. The promise of All Ages
(Baha’i Principles and History)
Rinaldo Quigley of New York
(proposed)

b. The Prophet of Arabia.
(Facts about Muhammad and His Teachings)
M. N. Fironzi of Geneva, N.Y.

Afternoon
III. Laws of Baha’u’llah
(Social as distinguished from spiritual Laws)
Clarence Niss of Milwaukee.

The above courses to continue through four days. The fifth day to be given over to a forum conducted by Mr. Niss on the subject Building Community Life. This is designed to introduce young people to Baha’i Administration and to awaken the consciousness of the privilege and meaning of becoming citizens of the World Community of the Most Great Name.

Laboratory Session, July 1-11

Morning
I. 9-11 Applied Administration
(Actual practice in selecting a Local Assembly, appointed committees of which will do publicity and contact work in neighboring towns, hold a Nineteen Day Feast, arrange a public meeting; also conduct an annual convention and deal with other typical administrative problems. This is an opportunity for obtaining a deeper understanding of both the spirit and application of Baha’i Administration and for establishing a closer link between Local and National Assemblies.)
To be in charge of N. S. A. and conducted by one of their members appointed by the N. S. A.
II. 11-12 Study

Afternoon
III. 1:30-3:00 The Three Worlds
(Research in Baha’i Teachings)
Teacher to be announced.
IV. 4:00-5:30 Public Speaking
Mrs. Made Beagle of Flint.

General Session, August 6-13

Morning
I. The Administrative Order of Baha’u’llah
Teacher to be announced.
II. Islamic Culture and Religion
Mrs. Helen Bishop (proposed)
III. The Art of Living (As illustrated by lives of historic Baha’is)
Mrs. Alice Bacon of Monson, Mass. (proposed)

Afternoon
IV. What is the Baha’i Faith?
(a series of talks on various phases of the Faith)
Albert Windust of Chicago (proposed)

Second Youth Session, August 16-20
(Titles of courses as in first youth session, above)

Proposed teachers—
I. Mrs. Virginia Cameron, Wilmette
II. a. Robert Gaines of Urbana, Illinois
b. Mrs. Helen Bishop of San Francisco
III. Carl Scheffler, of Evanston, Illinois

PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baha’i Scriptures—After the last few copies are sold, no more of the book in its present form will be available, as the Guardian wishes certain alterations to be made before a new edition is printed.

Portals of Freedom, by Howard C. Ives—less than 100 copies of this book are on hand, and friends wishing it are urged to send orders immediately. Per copy, $2.25.

Ithirah The Pure, by Martha L. Root—A study of the great Baha’i heroine by one who has traveled to the places in Iran which are consecrated to her memory. Miss Root’s book was completed in India and published in that country. Per copy, paper covers, $0.50; cloth binding, $0.75.

INTER-AMERICA COMMITTEE

Mrs. Francis Benedict Stewart has arrived in Buenos Aires, South America, and has begun her arduous labors as a Baha’i teacher in Latin America. The Inter-America Committee wishes to share with all the friends extracts from her first two letters:

“My heart knows that next April 21st a Spiritual Assembly will be formed here. I only had to suggest that I had come to make plans to bring the people together to teach the Baha’i Faith, the response was immediate. They are arranging that I may have an exhibit of Baha’i literature. A very fine man has been elected President with many liberals about him, I have an introduction to him as well as to many of the foremost educators.”

“Last week I addressed six different groups, besides having countless personal interviews. This week has been glorious! A group of well known men in the field of science and education invited me to address them and all are
clamoring for the books. A well known astronomer spent an evening fascinated with the cycle of manifestation and the evolution of civilization. I have appointments for every hour of next week as I am gathering together those who have expressed the desire for deeper study and from this we shall bring forth our permanent group I feel sure.”

LOULIE A. MATHEWS, Chairman.

YOUTH STUDY DAYS

The third Outline in the series prepared for the Youth Study Days is as follows:

The Five Aspects of Spirit

Preliminary Questions—
1. Is there any difference between your soul, mind, and spirit?
2. How is one aware of spirit?
Review Questions—
1. What are the five divisions of the spirit? Describe them. What are the differences between them?

The Divinity Can Only Be Comprehended Through the Divine Manifestations.

Preliminary Questions—
1. Can we know God?
2. What do Bahá’ís believe about divinity?
3. Why is it necessary to have prophets of manifestations come to mankind?

Review Questions—
1. Can we comprehend God? Why?
2. What is the only way we can learn about God?
3. How does the Bahá’í belief about divinity differ from Anthropomorphism?

The Three Stations of the Divine Manifestations.

Preliminary Questions—
1. Are some prophets of manifestations greater than others?
2. What is the difference between a manifestation and an ordinary man?
3. Have there always been manifestations?
4. Does a manifestation die like other men?

Review Questions—
1. What are the three stations of divine manifestations?
2. Does God think in terms of time?

The Human Conditions and the Spiritual Condition of the Divine Manifestation.

Preliminary Questions—
1. Do manifestations have distinct personalities as mankind does?
2. Are manifestations different from other people throughout their lives?

Review Questions—
1. How can a manifestation be compared to a mirror?
2. Is the spirit affected by hardship?

The Knowledge of the Divine Manifestations.

Preliminary Questions*
1. Is the knowledge of a manifestation limited?
2. How do they get their knowledge?
3. Why must the manifestation have knowledge of all things?

Review Questions—
1. What are the two kinds of knowledge?
2. What are the differences between them?

3. Why must the manifestation have knowledge of the realities of all things?

The Universal Cycles.

Preliminary Questions—
1. What are cycles? What causes them? How often does a new cycle begin?
2. How old is the world?
3. What happens to people who lived in cycles past?

Review Questions—
1. Explain the meaning of cycles?
2. What is the relationship between a cycle and a manifestation?
3. What has happened to past cycles?
4. What cycles are we in now?

The Power and Influence of the Divine Manifestations.

Preliminary Questions—
1. Of what importance is a manifestation in the daily life of man?
2. What causes mankind to be more enlightened at some times than at others?

Review Questions—
1. What causes the enlightenment of mankind?
2. How can one compare the appearance of a manifestation to the coming of spring?

The Two Classes of Prophets

Preliminary Questions—
1. Is one prophet as great as another?
2. Why is it necessary to have religion renewed?

Review Questions—
1. What are the two kinds of prophets?
2. To what category do Buddha and Confucius belong?
3. What is the relationship between the two kinds of prophets?
4. Why must religion be renewed?

Explanation of the Rebuttes Addressed by God to the Prophets

Preliminary Questions—
1. In the Bible and other holy books we read rebuttes addressed to the prophets. Since they are our inspirations to whom we are to look for guidance, why is this?
2. The prophets are supposed to be faultless, yet they often confess their sins and faults—why?

Review Questions—
1. Why does God address rebuttes to the prophets?
2. For whom are these rebuttes meant?
3. Does a manifestation have faults?

Explanation of the Verse of the Kitab-i-Áqdas. “There is no associate for
the Dawning-place of command in the Supreme Sinlessness."

Preliminary questions—
1. Explain sinlessness.
2. Are the manifestations free from sin?
3. Can a human being become sinless?

Review questions—
1. What are the two kinds of sinlessness? Explain them.
2. What body besides the manifestation may have essential sinlessness?
3. What is the meaning of "He does what He wishes"?

INTERNATIONAL AUXILIARY LANGUAGE COMMITTEE

Although the report of Miss Zamenhof's work in Cleveland has not been sent in yet and for this reason a final report on that phase of the activity of this Committee cannot be made, we have something of real interest to report which took place during her last days in America.

Miss Zamenhof arrived in New York, November 15 and was here for two weeks awaiting the sailing of her steamer for Poland. During the second week of her stay she addressed the first meeting arranged by the Brooklyn Teaching Committee, to which the Esperantists of that Borough were invited. They responded so well and showed such interest and attraction that the Committee wish to bring it to the attention of the Baha'is; as it implies, that now is the time for us to interest the Esperantists in the Baha'i Faith. They were more receptive than formerly, and this is due undoubtedly to Miss Zamenhof's devoted and self-sacrificing service during the last year. Now, while this condition exists, is the time to contact them. And very fortunately, an occasion has just arisen by which the Baha'is can not only contact the Esperantists but also reach entire strangers by means of classes in this auxiliary language.

They have been filming in Hollywood a play in which the Lunts appeared on Broadway about two years ago, called 'Idiot's Delight.' To avoid a difficulty which would have prevented the film's being shown in the European countries, parts of this film are spoken in Esperanto and the scene transferred to a mythical country. Clark Gable and Norma Shearer are the stars. Any one will readily appreciate the publicity that this will give to Esperanto and the large number of strangers that one can attract to a class advertised in a local paper. To have this happen just at the moment when the Esperantists themselves are showing interest in our Faith, cannot be a coincidence. It must be the "Assistance of the Blessed Perfection." Such an opportunity will not come our way again; an opportunity which can be used in the smallest town as well as in the largest city. Where there are Esperantists in a city, they will be glad to cooperate by teaching the class. Where there is none, it is a simple matter for a Baha'i to teach the class by studying a lesson or two ahead of the students. An easy textbook can be bought from the Esperanto Association in Washington, for 20c each, with a reduction for an order of 20 books.

Another opening which the Committee would urge the Baha'is to use through Esperanto, is the Youth Hostel Movement. It originated in Germany over twenty years ago, but is not more than five years old in this country. It is growing rapidly and has a definite need of members who can speak Esperanto. Any young person who can speak it who became a member would be considered a definite asset and welcomed accordingly. Because of the small numbers of Esperantists in America, none of them young with the exception of the Cleveland members, this need cannot be met by them. Which leaves the field clear for the Baha'is. It is needless to stress the value of this opportunity for our young people who wish to spread the Cause, not alone in our own country but in Europe as well. The headquarters of this movement are in Northampton, Mass., if you wish to get in touch with them.

Baha'is will find that the people who join their Esperanto classes in turn belong to other groups and societies, with whom contacts can be made. For instance, the Quakers and International Rotary endorse Esperanto. In Boston, when the Esperantists observed the birthday of Dr. Zamenhof, the Baha'i cooperated with them, and Dr. Ali-Kuli Khan was the principal speaker on the program. One of the younger Esperantists, who is president of a Portuguese organization consisting of fifty persons, has asked that Dr. Khan come and speak to them.

Certainly, "This is the Day whenon naught can be seen except the splendors of the Light that shinneth from the face of thy Lord, the Gracious, the Most Bountiful." Della C. Quinlan, Chairman.

THE SONG CELESTIAL

Letter from the Guardian

With Shoghi Effendi's consent is published this excerpt from his letter to Mr. Howard Colby Ives dated June 30, 1939:

"The announcement of the forthcoming publication of The Song Celestial
has rejoiced and refreshed the heart of our beloved Guardian. He fervently hopes that this latest production of your able pen will bring wide response from the believers, and that they will cooperate in giving it the publicity it truly deserves, and thus help it realize the purpose for which it has been written, namely, to introduce the Faith through the presentation of the Teachings in an attractively artistic form.

MEETING AND CONFERENCE AT URBANA

The December meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly included a public meeting, luncheon with the Spiritual Assembly and a regional Conference representing friends from a large number of centers.

The public meeting, held in a parlor of the Woman's Building, University of Illinois, was arranged by the Baha'i Young Group of the University. The speakers were introduced by Miss Sweeney, an undergraduate. Allen B. McDaniel presided, Harlan Ober spoke on The Spiritual Remedy for World Strife, and Horace Holley on World Community: A New Creation. Beautiful and appropriate music was contributed by Sol Cohen and Julius Cohen.

Mrs. Marjory McCormick presided at the Conference Sunday afternoon, which concluded with a buffet supper. About seventy Baha'is were present, representing the following cities: Urbana, Chicago, Milwaukee, Kenosha, Peoria, Wilmette, Winnetka, Springfield, Detroit, Washington, Boston, Montreal, Dubuque, Los Angeles, West Englewood, New York. Twenty-five different believers spoke briefly on some subject provided in the agenda, which is evidence of the true spirit of consultation.

BAHA'I FELLOWSHIP HOUSE
At Covington

From Mrs. Louie Mathews comes the following report on the establishment of a public meeting place devised to accomplish a difficult teaching task in a prejudiced environment.

Covington, Louisiana, is a small city seventy-five miles from New Orleans. Marion Little makes her home there and there is no group or Assembly in the state and in order to have a focal point from which to spread the teachings, it was decided to establish a small community house here in order to make a practical demonstration of Baha'i ideals.

An old unused shop standing at the entrance of St. Paul's College was leased very inexpensively. A wooded tract bordered by a small stream made a natural boundary line; it was dilapidated but not irredeemable, so we went to work painting and plastering and raking while a fireplace, pantry and a tight roof were built by a local carpenter. Long steps were placed at the entrance so that in summer with the doors open the meetings could take place under the trees.

The newspapers gladly ran articles describing it and praising the enterprise, but they refused to use the word "Baha'i" as this section of the country is dominated by clergy and they did not think it a wise move. On December 10, 1938, it was completed and invitations to the dedication were sent to all the ministers and priests as well as to the people.

As Marion Little is well known and looked up to by all the various religious bodies, she was elected as chairman. The name of "Fellowship" according to the Baha'i use of the word was explained and the quotation which inspired it was read: "Consort with all the people with love and fragrance for fellowship is the essence of unity and unity is the source of order in the world." The twelve Baha'i principles followed, with a short explanation of each.

Then the Mayor of the city was introduced. He graciously thanked us for our gift to Covington of such a center and recommended all citizens to help make it a success.

There followed a splendid address by Mr. Pitcher, the superintendent of schools. He stressed the need in every community of such a center actuated by the Baha'i spirit and said that he had caught a little of its fire. Miss Olga Kaufmann, a moving spirit in the Thesophic group, read the golden rule as given down the ages. Mrs. Anna Smith, a former teacher of Latin in the high schools and a believer, read a paper showing the trend towards universality in many centers today, the coming of age of the people and supported her conclusions with many quotations from the Baha'i writings. In closing Louie Mathews spoke on the differences between the ideals of fellowship in the new day, and those to which we were accustomed, the depth of insight that must be used to bring a spiritual amalgamation about, and read from The Baha'i World Mr. Holley's article, a portion of which was printed in the St. Tammany Farmer. Mrs. Ellis, well known as lecturer and teacher, and who has come into the Faith, read 'Abdu'l-Baha's prayer for the Americas.

About sixty attended and all expressed enthusiasm for the project and entered into the spirit, differences were laid aside and a spirit of fellowship appeared among those present.

Baha'i meetings and classes have been arranged and the rooms have been offered to other groups. It is hoped that all the friends will pray that it may be the means of attracting the people of the state of Louisiana and bringing to them the knowledge of the future World Order of Baha'u'llah.

NEWS ITEMS

The National Assembly requests believers who send in copies of letters received from the Guardian to submit also a copy of their letter to him.

The Nineteen Day Feast falling on December 31 was this year observed by the New York Baha'i Community from 9 P. M. to midnight. Following the program of readings and the consultation, a buffet supper was served until eleven-thirty, when the moving picture film of 'Abdu'l-Baha was shown. His voice record played, and the meeting ended with prayers.

An interested group was gathered together by Orellia Reed at Wilmington, Delaware, a few months ago, and a study class organized which has been conducted by Mrs. Huff of Philadelphia.

The Spiritual Assembly of Yonkers has arranged to have one of the believers listed in the telephone directory under "Baha'i" as well as under the believer's personal name, thus enabling traveling believers and interested local persons to make contact readily with the Faith. The general question of a permanent local address for Baha'i correspondence is still unsolved in the majority of communities. It is hoped that each Assembly will make effort to establish some address not subject to frequent alteration as secretaries move or new officers are elected.

Local Assemblies are requested to notify the National Teaching Committee which members of the community reside in nearby towns. This information will enable the Committee to develop helpful plans and suggestions for the extension of Assembly teaching. The data is helpful also in connection with the election of new Assemblies where none of Baha'i is now voting members of a community, reside outside its civil limits.

From Mr. Ouiskoule, our Baha'i brother of Shanghai, has come some copies of a leaflet he has prepared containing an "Equation of Baha'i and Gregorian Calendar" with explanatory text. He is also distributing the pamphlet...
he pamphlet "Some Principles of the Bahá'í Faith," and this teaching work will have the loving prayers and best wishes of all the friends.

ACTIVITIES IN THE BRITISH ISLES

Teaching Report

In accordance with the plan made by the N.S.A. at the beginning of the year, teaching has been arranged in Bradford and Torquay. In Bradford, Mr. Norton has given a room in his warehouse for Bahá'í meetings, and several have already been held. The plan is for a teacher to go there every two weeks. The Manchester Spiritual Assembly will send one every month and the N.S.A. will do the same. In Torquay Mrs. Stevens is holding meetings, and will be assisted by Mrs. Slade for a short while in November. The secretary of the N.S.A. recently visited Manchester, Bradford, Torquay (where an address was given to the Psychology Club) and Brighton. An invitation has been received to present the Faith to the Bournemouth Psychology Club.

The London Spiritual Assembly has appointed regional teaching groups to work in their own districts, and several fireside meetings are held regularly. Four new believers have been declared.

In Manchester new people are coming to the meetings, and the children's class on Sundays is very popular. Three new believers have been declared.

Three new believers were declared at Summer School, and we take this opportunity of welcoming them. They were Mrs. Ward of Torquay, Mrs. Rosalind Vance of Sowberry Court, and Miss Bonney of London.

Summer School, 1939

The following plans have already been made for next year's Summer School. The date is July 22nd to August 12th, and the place is High Leigh, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, about thirty miles north of London. A prospectus and full programme will be published later, but in the meantime the friends are urged to try and come during the bank holiday week-end, as we have to guarantee an attendance of fifty during that period. The rates are eight shillings per day inclusive, and there are plenty of single rooms available.

A Bahá'í Newspaper

The National Spiritual Assembly has approved plans for the publication of a monthly newspaper. It will be called The New World Order and a design for the front page has been made by Mr. Donald Millar. It will be sold for threepence per copy or an annual subscription of three and sixpence including postage. The paper is chiefly a means of contact and publicity, and the first number will be sent to five thousand people. It will contain an editorial, short articles, quotations from the Bahá'í Writings, excerpts from current speeches and other material which will help to create a body of opinion in favor of the universal principles of Báb and Bahá'u'lláh. It is intended to follow up the contacts which will be established by those people who respond to the first number.
THE RAREST PRIVILEGE EVER CONFERRED BY PROVIDENCE UPON THE AMERICAN BAHÁ'Í COMMUNITY

Letter from Shoghi Effendi

Dearly beloved co-workers:

I have, in a recent cable addressed to your Assembly, felt it necessary to stress the paramount need of maintaining the proper balance between the Temple construction work and the teaching activities which have been initiated and are being so energetically conducted under your direction in accordance with the Seven Year Plan. The twofold aim you are now pursuing should at no time become obscured, nor should either one of the dual responsibilities you have assumed be allowed to preponderate over the other. The urgency of the task connected with the ornamentation of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar has been rightly recognized, and its immediate needs have been generously and promptly met. A similar, not a mightier effort should now be energetically and promptly made. A similar, yet a mightier effort should now be energetically and promptly made.

The period ahead is short, strenuous, fraught with mortal perils for human society, yet pregnant with possibilities of unsurpassed triumphs for the power of Bahá'u'lláh's redemption Cause. The occasion is propitious for a display, by the American Bahá'í Community, in its corporate capacity, of an effort which in its magnitude, character, and purpose must outshine its past endeavors. Failure to exploit these present, these golden opportunities would blast the hopes which the prosecution of the Plan has thus far aroused, and would signify the loss of the rarest privilege ever conferred by Providence upon the American Bahá'í Community. It is in view of the criticalness of the situation that I was led to place at the disposal of any pioneer willing to dedicate himself to the task of the present hour such modest resources as would facilitate the discharge of so enviable a duty.

The Bahá'í World, increasingly subjected to the rigors of suppression, in both the East and the West, watches with unceasing astonishment, and derives hope and comfort from the rapid unfoldment of the successive stages of God's Plan for so blest a community. Its eyes are fixed upon this community, eager to behold the manner in which its gallant members will break down, one after another, the barriers that obstruct their progress towards a divinely-appointed goal. On every daring adventurer in the service of the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh the Concourse on high shall descend, "each bearing aloft a chalice of pure light." Every one of these adventurers God Himself will sustain and inspire, and will "cause the pure waters of wisdom and utterance to gush out and flow copiously from his heart." "The Kingdom of God," writes 'Abdu'l-Bahá, "is possessed of limitless potency. Audacious must be the army of life if the confirming aid of that Kingdom is to be repeatedly vouchsafed unto it... Vast is the arena, and the time ripe to spur on the charger within it. Now is the time to reveal the force of one's strength, the stoutness of one's heart and the might of one's soul."

Dearly-beloved friends! What better field than the vast virgin territories, so near at hand, and waiting to receive, at this very hour, their full share of the onrushing tide of Bahá'u'lláh's redeem-
ing grace? What theatre more befitting than these long-neglected nine remaining states and provinces in which the true heroism of the intrepid pioneers of His World Order can be displayed? There is no time to lose. There is no room left for vacillation. Multitudes hunger for the Bread of Life. The stage is set. The firm and irrevocable Promise is given. God’s own Plan has been set in motion. It is gathering momentum with every passing day. The powers of heaven and earth mysteriously assist in its execution. Such an opportunity is irreplaceable. Let the doubter arise and himself verify the truth of such assertions. To try, to persevere, is to insure ultimate and complete victory.

January 28, 1939.

Shoghi

LETTER FROM THE GUARDIAN

The Guardian’s letter of January 28, 1939, the postscript of which, in his own hand, is reprinted above, contains other passages here brought to the attention of the friends:

Regarding Ahmad Schrab’s recent compilation of the reported words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá published under the title “I Heard Him Say,” the Guardian wishes the believers to ignore this book, as it is wholly unreliable, as evidenced by a passage in which the Master is reported to have indirectly stated that Bahá’u’lláh, the First Letter of the Living, had survived the Báb.

Concerning the nature of the activities to be conducted in the Foundation Hall; for the present, the Foundation Hall can be used for the holding of administrative gatherings, feasts, and public meetings, but the auditorium should be reserved exclusively for purposes of worship.

He is also delighted at the progress of the ornamentation work on the Temple and has every reason to hope that the recently inaugurated Bahá’í Khánum Fund will receive such steady flow of contributions from the individuals, groups and Assemblies as to insure the completion of the entire exterior decoration on that unique edifice even before the time fixed under the Seven Year Plan. He wishes you to send him two large size photographs showing the latest progress of the ornamentation, for the Mansion in Bahji and for the international Archives of M. Carmel.

In conclusion, I wish to renew once more his plea contained in his successive messages to the American believers regarding the paramount urgency of intensifying the campaign of teaching in Northern and particularly in Southern America. Now that the Temple work is progressing so satisfactorily and may well be completed before the year 1944, the American believers should concentrate with added determination on the fulfilment of the second task they have pledged themselves to accomplish under the Seven Year Plan. The teaching campaign which under the guidance and exemplary leadership of your Assembly has been steadily advancing is far from having attained the objective and will require much greater self-sacrifice and resourcefulness than have so far been displayed. The remaining five years will have indeed to witness a renewed and added consecration by each and every one of the friends in the supreme task of opening up not only the remaining states and provinces in the United States and Canada, but also the Latin countries of South America, where the difficulties of language, and the age-old religious conservatism of the masses, coupled with the growing economic and political nationalism of their respective governments, create barriers which the combined and united exertions of the American believers, reinforced by Divine confirmations, alone can remove.

The Guardian will ever pray that the American Bahá’í Community may continue to be sustained in its efforts for the attainment of this high and noble objective. For there can assuredly be no victory more brilliant and befitting with which they can celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of the Faith, than the triumphant termination of the inter-American campaign of teaching.

A DEEPENING OF SPIRIT

To the American Bahá’í community has come from the Guardian three communications which call for a deepening of our personal and collective life in the Faith: the cablegram of January 26, a general letter dated December 25, 1939, and the letter dated January 28, reprinted above.

“Nine Holy Souls”

Within the brief period from the receipt of the cablegram to the meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly at Los Angeles on February 3, the inspiration to arise as a pioneer teacher had seized upon a number of friends. These offers were received with gratitude and admiration. In addition, one believer has offered to contribute the expense of settling a teacher in Alaska for one or two years. This effect is evidence of the spirit of consecration which has been quickened in the Bahá’í community.

It was found possible to take action on these unoccupied areas, and other actions will be reported after the next meeting.

Miss Honor Kempton will proceed to Alaska, Miss N. Grace Bissell to Vermont, and Miss Helen Griffing to Nevada, with the loving best wishes and full cooperation of the Teaching Committee and the National Assembly. Their sacrifice and devoted efforts to establish the Faith in those areas will no doubt be prayerfully followed by all their coworkers.

These facts were reported to the Guardian by cablegram, and on February 11, Shoghi Effendi sent the following cabled reply:

“Heart flooded (with) joyous gratitude (at) realization American believ-
ers (are) rising magnificently (to meet the) challenge (of this) utterly precious hour. Convey (to) Alaska, Nevada (and) Vermont pioneers (my) immense appreciation (of their) marvelous, instantaneous, exemplary response. Prayers continually accompany them.”

“The Advent of Divine Justice”

This is the title of the Guardian’s general communication to the American Bahá’ís, in the form of the printed pamphlet which will be sent as soon as possible to all the believers. Members of communities will receive them through their Spiritual Assembly, members of groups through their correspondent, and the isolated friends direct.

It would appear that in “Bahá’í Administration” the Guardian had described and created our functions and duties within the community, in “The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh” he had revealed the relations of the community to the entire world, and now he creates the realities of the spiritual life in action to obtain the universal goal of the Cause of God.

**Temple Construction**

The February meeting acted also to further the other precious aim, that of completing the exterior of the House of Worship before the end of the first century of the Bahá’í Era.

From the National Fund the sum of $8,000 was appropriated to the Bahá’í Khanum Fund, and the Temple Trustees were authorized to enter into a contract with the John J. Earley Studios for making the molds required for the first story. Thus, there are three contracts proceeding simultaneously: that for the gallery section, almost completed; that for the first story models, begun in December, 1938; and the new contract for molds. In addition, the quartz needed for the castings of the first story units is being acquired by monthly purchases under very favorable conditions, an economy that will not show until the next contract, that for casting the units and applying them to the first story surface, is under way.

The January issue of Bahá’í News summarized the steps in Temple construction. To bring the report to date, the financial statement of March 1 gives this information about the Bahá’í Khanum Fund.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Balance on hand, March 1 1939</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Available for Molds contract</td>
<td>$22,137.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand, March 1</td>
<td>$51,840.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserved for Models contract</td>
<td>$13,091.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve for Gof contract</td>
<td>$13,091.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expended in February</td>
<td>$4,820.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expended in February... 4,820.30

Cash on hand, March 1... 51,840.02

Reserved for Gof contract... $13,091.71

Reserved for Models contract... 16,610.95 29,702.66

Available for Molds contract... $22,137.36

These figures are very impressive, in that they show that the Gallery and Models contracts are financially provided for in full, and of the $29,000 needed for the Molds contract the sum of $22,137.36 is now on hand. The purchase of quartz need not alter these figures, as the monthly payment is small and can readily be appropriated from the National Fund.

However, gratifying as it is, the question of Temple construction still requires the following sums through new donations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Balance needed for Molds contract</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Needed for casting and applying units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Needed for external staircase and metal work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$6,862.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>95,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75,000.00</td>
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<td>$176,862.64</td>
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The first of these three items will be payable in four or five months, and the second item will be needed immediately after the models and molds are completed, unless the contract for casting and application is to be divided into a series of smaller and partial contracts.

**Formation of New Assemblies**

The February meeting considered a very large number of applications from groups requesting authority to form a new Assembly on April 21.

Of these, authority was given to the groups of Huntington Park, Calif., Scranton, Pa., Helena, Mont., Knoxville, Tenn., Jamestown, N. Y., East Cleveland, O., and Wauwatosa, Wis. Since the meeting, the group in Eagle River, Wis., has qualified. At the March meeting it is hoped that authority can be given several more groups.

**Annual Convention**

Plans for the Convention were adopted, and the Convention Call has already been issued to the local Assemblies. The Thirty-first Annual Convention will open Thursday morning, April 27, and continue through Sunday morning, April 30, with a public meeting in Foundation Hall Sunday afternoon.

**Los Angeles Meeting**

In addition to the regular meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly, a rich and varied program had been prepared. Thursday, February 2, a radio broadcast shared jointly by Horace Holley, Allen B. McDaniel and Roy C. Wilhelm. This was the last in the radio series conducted by the Los Angeles Assembly leading up to the public meeting Thursday evening. This meeting was held in the Music Room, Hotel Biltmore, and those attending exceed-
ed 550. Allen B. McDaniel presided, Horace Holley spoke on "World Community: A Divine Creation" and George O. Latimer on "The Future Civilization." On Saturday, the members had the pleasure of luncheon with the Spiritual Assembly of Los Angeles. Sunday afternoon was devoted to the Regional Conference, which dealt with an agenda containing fourteen interesting topics. About 200 believers were present, and all remained for supper after the conference. Monday afternoon a number of believers with the members of the National Spiritual Assembly gathered for prayer and devotion at the shrine of Thornton Chase and the graves of Thomas Collins and Elmore Ducket.

These few words fail to describe the importance of such gatherings for consultation and for fellowship and devotion, which tend so much to unify the deeper consciousness of the believers and make them an instrument for more inspired service.

The World's Fairs

The World's Fairs being conducted this year at San Francisco and New York are a remarkable coincidence in relation to the vast stimuli given to teaching at the present time. The Teaching Committee presented a beautiful design of a Bahá'í exhibit, and this was authorized. Further interesting details will be available very soon. The New York Assembly through its Committee reported a number of projects under way. The space necessary for a paid exhibit at the latter Fair is extremely expensive, but it is hoped to surmount this obstacle and also have the Faith represented in several other ways.

Inter-America Teaching

Reports were presented which show that Mrs. Stewart has had far-reaching results from her mission carried out under the direction of the Inter-America Committee. Study groups have been established at Buenos Aires, Montevideo and Valparaiso, the details of which will be reported as soon as possible. It is hoped that Mrs. Stewart can prolong her visit to South America and consolidate the results already achieved.

Action was also taken to adopt a regular schedule for printing Spanish translations of the Bahá'í literature, and a member of the newly formed Assembly in Mexico City is being invited to attend the Convention as the guest of the National Assembly, thus bringing this group into closer touch with the American believers and enabling their representative to consult with the Inter-America Committee and the National Assembly on plans for extending the Faith throughout Latin America.

May we all become so open to the power of the Spirit that we can begin to realize what confirmations await every sacrificial act, and every ardent effort, every increase in the unity of the Bahá'í Community!

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

BAHÁ'Í NEWS

A Bahá'í News Editorial Committee, consisting of Allen B. McDaniel, Harlan Ober and Horace Holley, has made recommendations to the National Spiritual Assembly which have been approved and adopted, as follows:

1. That the contents of each issue be arranged according to the following departments:
   A. The Guardian.
   B. The National Spiritual Assembly.
   C. The Temple.
   D. National Committees, beginning with the Teaching Committee.
   E. Summer Schools.
   F. International.
   G. Miscellaneous items.

2. That the National Assembly request committees, in preparing their reports intended for publication, to give the right value to news items, as at present some committees write extensively about comparatively unimportant matters, and other committees will deal with an important matter in a few words.

3. That news concerning local Assembly activities be solicited and published.

4. That a summary of the actions be published after National Assembly meetings.

5. That the Convention issue be no longer called "Bahá'í News" but be a bulletin carrying the Annual Reports and be entitled "Annual Reports of the National Spiritual Assembly, Trustees and Committees"; that the first page contain the Guardian's words about the Convention, and that any special statement concerning the Convention which the National Assembly might issue with the Convention Call be also included.

HOW TO SUBMIT ITEMS FOR PUBLICATION IN BAHÁ'Í NEWS

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes Bahá'í News to reflect the varied activities of the American Bahá'í Community, and at the same time constitute the means by which the Guardian's messages, the plans of the National Assembly itself, and important news from other lands, can be brought to every American Bahá'í.

In order to stimulate the flow of news items available for publication,
the following procedure has been adopted and is now recommended to the friends.

1. All activities conducted directly under the jurisdiction of the local Spiritual Assembly should be reported by the Assembly itself, and submitted as news and not as part of a communication to the National Assembly dealing with other matters. Individual members of the local community should report their activities to the local Assembly, which can work them into their general news reports.

2. Teaching activities conducted under a Regional Committee should be reported to that Committee, which in turn should forward all teaching news to the National Teaching Committee, and the National Teaching Committee prepares regular news reports for Baha'i News based upon all this information.

3. Other National Committees, like the Baha'i News Service, Radio Committee and Child Education Committee, the Committee on Braille Transcription, and the Committee on International Auxiliary Language, should receive from individual believers, groups and Assemblies such news items as are specialized in each committee. For example, make reports on publicity direct to the Baha'i News Service; and each of these committees will then, as frequently as possible, prepare general news reports for Baha'i News.

4. The remaining National Committees, like the Summer Schools and Publishing Committees, will prepare their own news items and submit them for publication.

5. In order to fix a uniform publishing date for Baha'i News the friends are informed that hereafter it will appear the first of each month, and all items intended for a certain issue must be received not later than the twenty-third day of the preceding month.

6. The National Spiritual Assembly prefers each issue to consist of eight pages, which calls for simplicity and brevity of treatment in the handling of all items and reports.

**"DRAW NIGHT UNTO BAHAA'ULLAH"**

I render Thee thanks, O Thou Who hast lighted Thy fire within my soul, and cast the beams of Thy light into my heart, that Thou hast taught Thy servants how to make mention of Thee, and revealed unto them the ways whereby they can supplicate Thee, through Thy most holy and exalted tongue, and Thy most august and precious speech. But for Thy leave, who is there that could venture to express Thy might and Thy grandeur; and were it not for Thine instruction, who is the man that could discover the ways of Thy pleasure in the kingdom of Thy creation? (Prayers and Meditations, p. 283).

In all Dispensations the law of prayer hath constituted a fundamental element of the Revelation of all the Prophets of God. . . . Moreover, in the traditions the terms 'sun' and 'moon' have been applied to prayer and fasting, even as it is said: 'Fasting is illumination, prayer is light.' (Kitab-i-Iqan, p. 39).

That which Thou didst ordain for Thy handmaidens as circle round the throne of Thy majesty, and gaze, at eventide and at dawn, on Thy beauty. (Prayers and Meditations, p. 79).

For Thine ardent lovers Thou hast, according to Thy decree, reserved, at each daybreak, the cup of Thy remembrance, O Thou Who art the Ruler of Rulers! These are they who have been so inebriated with the wine of Thy manifold wisdom that they forsake their couches in their longing to celebrate Thy praise and extol Thy virtues, and flee from sleep in their eagerness to approach Thy presence and partake of Thy bounty. (Prayers and Meditations, p. 143).

My remembrance of Thee, O my God, quencheth my thirst, and quietest my heart. My soul delighteth in its communion with Thee, . . . I give thanks to Thee, O my God, that Thou hast suffered me to remember Thee. What else but remembrance of Thee can give delight to my soul or gladness to my heart? Communion with Thee enableness to dispense with the remembrance of all Thy creatures, and my love for Thee empowereth me to endure the harm which my oppressors inflict upon me. (Prayers and Meditations, p. 195).

Commune intimately with His Spirit, and be thou of the thankful. (Gleanings, p. 280).

**CHILD EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

A correction of last month's news column is regretfully offered. The price of each course, including "To Live The Life," posted in the January News at 20c per copy, will be 25c. Mailing charges in the United States and Canada are included in this rate.

In addition to this course, "To Live The Life," adapted to ages 7 to 10, two more courses are now in mimeographed form and ready for distribution. "Baha'i Principles," adapted to children from 8 to 15, is offered in twelve lessons, each lesson stating a suggested presentation for the teacher, an applicable story from scriptural Books or accepted Baha'i publications, and a suggested memory passage in keeping with the theme of the lesson. This outline should be purchased for the teacher only. For the children themselves, however, a set of twelve pictures for coloring, portraying the theme of each lesson. Each individual child may have one of these sets at 10c per set. Each lesson will deal with one of the principles, and the color plates will coincide with the lesson in every case.

"Baha'i Founders," ages 9 to 15, in 18 lessons, is a text book course, based on "Baha'u'llah and the New Era." Each chapter of the text, "Baha'u'llah, 'Abdu'l-Baha, and the Guardian, and the chapter on the qualities of a Baha'i, are used with stimulating questions and memory passages. It is suggested that each child have both text book and course. No hand work. Course 25c.

The friends are requested to order as nearly as possible each time in full amounts because of the very definite saving in express costs. Address orders to the secretary, Miss Elyce Georgenson, 615 W. Elm St., Lima, Ohio.

A careful study of the teaching of tiny tots is being made, with the view of making definite recommendations in a spring number of the News.

The Parents and Teachers column, to begin in the April issue of Baha'i News, will seek to discuss, in the light of the Baha'i Faith, our common problems in teaching and training children. The friends are invited to submit questions of general interest, or to contribute to the column. For this department, address the chairman, Mrs. Dorothy Baker, 615 W. Elm St., Lima, Ohio.

**FINAL REPORT ON MISS ZAMENHOF**

A very good report of Miss Zamenhof's activity in Cleveland has been sent in lately, making it possible for this Committee to complete their report of her work.

The Cleveland Spiritual Assembly arranged a reception and public meeting for Miss Zamenhof at International House, which was well attended. She also spoke at their rooms one evening and at a meeting which she herself ar-
ranged, on a Sunday afternoon at the home of one of the Esperantists. There were 20 persons present and Mrs. Moffat was the second speaker. I understand that this Esperantist is definitely interested and is corresponding with Miss Zamenhof about the Revelation. The following quotation from the letter sent from the Cleveland Spiritual Assembly is relevant to the interest aroused: "Miss Zamenhof during the entire (Esperanto) course included some hint of the teaching so near to our hearts and I am sure we shall see the maturing of the many seeds planted during her stay."

Her Esperanto propaganda, in the charge of a group of young High School and college students, was very well planned and an immense amount of work went into it. Unfortunately, they did not reap the reward which such labor merited, as her arrival in Cleveland coincided with the breathless days before the Munich Conference. Although she was interviewed by the 3 principal papers, Cleveland Press, Plain Dealer, and Cleveland News, also Urban Newspapers, Inc., nothing appeared. In spite of the fact that one paper had an illustrated article all set up, ready to print. However, she did receive generous publicity from the foreign language press and foreign English publications. A representative of the Polish press met her at the Union Station on her arrival. Another publicity item is her interview over Station WHK by Professor Frank Tomich of Kent College.

This last is representative of the good arrangements that the Esperantists made for her talks. She spoke for them at Cleveland College, Schaufler College, Henry George School, Shaker Heights High School, Lincoln Boule-

YOUTH STUDY DAYS

The Fourth Outline in the series prepared for the Youth Study Days is based on Part IV of "Some Answered Questions."

Suggested Preliminary Readings: Reality of Man, pp. 6-36; index references to Evolution, Soul, Mind and Spirit, Immortality and Healing, in "Baha'i Scriptures" and "The Proclamation of Universal Peace."

Questions raised by non-believers? Do Baha'i accept the Darwinian theory of evolution? Is not man a species of animal, sharing the same powers and senses? In man's vertebral column there is an indication that he once possessed a tail. Does this not prove that our ancestors were apes? How long has man existed? Has man always had a soul? God "Made man in His image." Are we then not all parts of the Divine Spirit? Is the Christian doctrine of the Holy Trinity accepted by Baha'is? Can human nature be changed? Are all men born with equal capacities? Can we know God? Does God forgive sin? If a man consciously performs good deeds throughout his life, is this sufficient for salvation? Is the course of our lives predestined? Has man free will? Can we speak with the dead? (See pp. 206, 215, 223, 229, 230, 239-67-74, 241, 249, 247, 256-58, 261-77-82, 269, 276, 283, 287, 292.)


ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


ASSEMBLY ROLL

Denver, Colo., change of address. New address, Dr. C. E. Meyer, Secretary, Route 2, Box 226, Arvada, Colo.

Oakland, Calif., change of address. New address, Mr. Lorne H. Matteson, Secretary, 1082 East 33rd Street.
Tenth Annual Convention, India and Burma

Every year the days of Ridvan are days of happiness and joy for the Bahá'ís. They hold their annual Convention in these days to consult together on recent developments in the Holy Cause in India and Burma. With a world full of chaos and class hatred and a country torn with communal riots and charged with a spirit of division and disunity on all sides these lovers of the Abba Beauty gather together calmly and without any regard to the struggle that rages around them, to discuss ways and means to promote the Divine Teachings of “Oneness of Humanity” and of “World Peace” in a world which, though yearning for such beneficent Teachings, yet ignores them out of sheer craze for war which seems to be the sure and culminating end of the present muddle.

The delegates and visitors all arrived a day previous to the date of the Convention. The representatives had come from Bombay on one side and from Rangoon on the other. One of the distinguishing features of this year’s Convention was the presence of our most beloved sister, Miss Martha L. Root. She is love incarnate and her loving influence gave the delegates and the visitors a fresh impetus. She joined us in public lectures and inspired us with a spirit of sacrifice that is peculiar to her.

After the office-bearers of the Convention had been elected a cablegram was sent to the beloved Guardian supplicating for his blessings and prayers for the success of our deliberations. He sent us the following encouraging reply and our hearts flow with gratitude for his unique favors for us—

Assure Convention Delegates Loving Fervent Prayers Success Deliberations Dearest Love Martha.

—Shoghi.

Telegrams were also received from Bombay and Calcutta Bahá’ís, congratulating the Convention and the incoming National Spiritual Assembly.

Mr. R. K. Oliani read the Annual Report in the Persian on behalf of the National Secretary. The Treasurer also presented his report. The delegates then took up the general discussion of the Report and after discussing the various propositions suggested in the Report recorded them as recommendations for submission to the new N. S. A.

The most important of these recommendations are probably those of a Summer School in India and Burma and of the 6-year Teaching Plan.

Evenings were devoted to public lectures in the various public halls of the town. The subjects were well chosen and the speakers gave interesting and impressive talks to the audiences.

On April 27 these lectures were arranged in Khaliqdina Hall in the heart of the city under the chairmanship of Mr. Hattim Alvi, present Mayor of Karachi. Miss Martha Root spoke on the Teachings of the Divine Educator, Bahá’u’lláh; Abbas Ali Butt spoke on Bahá’í Faith and the Oneness of Humanity and Prof. Pritam Singh recounted the History of the Bahá’í Faith. The Chairman wound up with an elaborate exposition of the Divine Faith and impressively supported the views expressed by the speakers.

On April 28, Theosophical Hall had a fairly good audience and the lectures began under the chairmanship of Mr. Durgadas Advani, the then Mayor of Karachi. Miss Martha Root gave an account of her world tours in the interest of World Peace; Mrs. Shirin Fozdar explained the Bahá’í Faith in its bearing on the World Unity; and Mr. H. M. Manji addressed the audience on Divine Remedy for Economicills. April 29 was the 9th day of Ridvan and the Friends of Karachi were all on holiday. They all gathered in the Hazrat-ul-Qods and we had a sumptuous dinner followed by a tea-party in the afternoon to which about 500 of the important personages of the town were invited. The garden of the Bahá’í Hall was gaily decorated and tables were laid on the lawns. By 5 p.m. the guests had all arrived and tea, pastry, ice-cream and other refreshments were served. Beloved Martha was aglow with divine splendor moving here and there among those noble guests and talked to them about the Divine Faith in her own sweet manner.

The President of the local Spiritual Assembly thanked the guests for their presence there; Mr. Mehrban Jamshed on behalf of the local Bahá’í Youth Group presented an address of welcome to Miss Martha Root in which glowing tribute was paid to her incomparable services for the Holy Cause. In her moving reply Miss Martha Root surveyed the progress of the Bahá’í Faith in the five continents of the world. She was followed by Abbas Ali Butt who traced the progress of the Faith in India and Burma. Mr. Pradhan, the first Principal of the Shivaji High School, moved by a lovely reminiscence of his meeting with Abdu’l-Bahá while returning from Europe, rose up and in words expressive of his noble emotions thanked the Bahá’ís of Karachi for their hospitality and incidentally spoke of the greatness of the Bahá’í Faith and of its suitability for the present-day world.

On April 30 public lectures were again held in the Theosophical Hall under the chairmanship of Mr. Jamshed Nusserwanjee Mehta, a great citizen of Karachi and for a long time the Mayor of that town. Miss Martha Root spoke on “How we can work for World Peace”; Prof. H. C. Kumar spoke on the “Oneness of Humanity” and Prof. Pritam Singh delivered a speech on “The relations of Bahá’í Faith with other Religions.”

On May 1 two of the interested Hindu friends arranged for public lectures in the Jain Temple under the chairmanship of their chief religious
leader, Muni Maharaj. The temple was full to its capacity and the audience heard the Baha'i Message with wrap attention. Miss Martha Root, Mrs. Shirin Fozdar and Mr. H. M. Manji spoke impressively and conveyed the Message of Bahá’í to these noble souls. In the afternoon public lectures were held in the Bahá’í Hall under the chairmanship of Prof. H. C. Kumar. Miss Martha Root spoke on “Teaching the Bahá’í Faith”; Mr. Hishmá’ulláh Kóreishí spoke on the “New World Order” and Abbas Ali Butt spoke on the “Power of the Holy Spirit.”

May 2 was the last day of Ridvan and once more the friends of Karachi had gathered in the Bahá’í Hall to observe the Day. After the formal meeting they dispersed in groups in the gardens, some having a peaceful Holy Wasp. Their sonorous voices rose in varying cadence once from one corner of the garden and then from the other and it seemed as if the whole atmosphere was charged with the spirit of real joy and happiness. Dinner was served and was followed by chanting of prayers in the garden. Meanwhile some of the Hindu friends came and carried Miss Martha Root, Mrs. Shirin Fozdar and Mr. H. M. Manji to Shar­da Mandal where to an audience of students and scholars they spoke on the “Progress of the World of Humanity” and delivered the Message in most interesting and attractive words. At 6 p.m. Messrs. Hishmá’ulláh Kóreishí and H. M. Manji were invited to speak at the Karia High School to the students and teachers of the Bahá’í Faith. At 7 p.m. Mr. Sohrab Kátrik, one of the leading Parsees of Karachi and President of the Young Men’s Zoroastrian Association, had arranged for Bahá’í lectures under the auspices of his Association in Katrik Hall under the chairmanship of Mr. P. C. Tarapore, editor of the Daily Gazette. Miss Martha Root spoke on the Challenge of Tomorrow and Mrs. Shirin Fozdar spoke on the Bahá’í Faith and its relation with the Zoro­astrian religion. Mr. Sohrab Kátrik thanked the lecturers and the chairman and garlanded them, presenting them each with a copy of the Jubilee Book as a memento of the occasion.

On May 3 at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Momenz­adhí gave a tea party to which he invited the Iranian Consul-General H. E. Áqá Fahimi and his wife, Mr. Hatim Alvi, Miss Martha Root and members of the N. S. A. After the tea Miss Martha Root, Mrs. Shirin Fozdar and Mr. H. M. Manji spoke impressively of their impressions of Iran during her tour in that holy country.

On May 4 Mr. Sohrab Kátrik in­vited Miss Martha Root, Dr. and Mrs. Fozdar and the President of the local Spiritual Assembly, Mr. Isfandiar K. B. Bakhitiari, to a tea party to which he had also invited some of the notables of the town. After refreshments conversa­tion turned on the Bahá’í Faith and the guests and the host all expressed their appreciation of the Divine Teachings.

On May 5 Mr. Pradhán gave tea to Miss Martha Root, Mrs. Shirin Fozdar and some of the delegates to the Convention. He was very kind and his lovely daughter left nothing undone to serve her guests with the delicacies which she had prepared with her own hands. The talk about the Divine Faith was really very uplifting and impressive.

Martha L. Root in India

Colombo, Ceylon.—Dr. and Mrs. Fozdar and I went to Colombo, Cey­lon, for ten days, January 5 to 16, 1938. It was my second trip to Colombo since September 13. The press used many favorable and long articles about the Bahá’í Faith, the editors and journalists were our true friends. A newspaper in Tamil language also published the history and principles translated into Tamil. I spoke before the Rotary Club of Colombo and was broadcast from the luncheon table. Shirin spoke over the radio about Quránu’l-Ayn and sang one of the latter’s poems. A gramophone record was made of this song. Both broadcast speeches were printed in full in the Colombo papers. One public lecture was given in Colombo University under the auspices of the University Col­lege Economics Society, and another public lecture took place at the Rama­krishna Mission School. We spoke before the teachers of a Buddhist school for girls, and Dr. and Mrs. Fozdar spoke at the Parí Club. Some very fine Muslim people invited us to their homes, so also did some Christians, Hindus and Buddhists. We invited a number of people to our hotel. The Mayor of Colombo called. Shirin spoke before the Women’s Interna­tional Club. It was all a most worthwhile visit to Colombo. Dr. Fozdar after helping us much, returned from Colombo to his hospital work at Ajmer.

Bangalore.—Mrs. Fozdar and I came via Madras to Bangalore and Mysore where she had been ten months before. Three Bahá’í lectures were scheduled for the three days of our stay, January 24, 25, 26, at the Mythic Society, a high Cultural Society in Bangalore, in Daly Memorial Hall, a building given by the Maharaja of Mysore. The Secretary of the Mythic Society, a lawyer, Mr. S. Srikan­th, ably presided at the three lectures; all were reported in the Bangalore Post. Questions were asked and answered and each day the audience increased. Teachers from the Fort High School present invited us to come over to their school and speak to seven hundred boys. The Dewan of Mysore, an Ir­anian, a Muslim, is so fine in his char­acter that Bahá’ís could well say he is “Bahá’í” in spirit, in the sense that he seems to have all the perfections in activity.” He received us and did everything to help us—he helps the Muslims, the Hindus, the Jews, the Christians. He invited us to a great garden party where he was the guest of honor and introduced us to some friends as Bahá’ís. The Vice-Chancel­lor of Mysore University and his wife were in Bangalore and invited us to their home; he was most kind and help­ful both times Mrs. Fozdar came. One of the Magazines in Bangalore promises to publish three articles about the Cause. One man in Bangalore said in fun: “The people swarm like locusts to eat the Bahá’í Teachings!” It was not quite like that, but certainly people were interested and you can see from this account that we found friends everywhere who helped us to spread the Fragrances of the Teachings.

Mysore City.—The next days, Janu­ary 27, 28, 29, were spent in Mysore City. Mrs. Fozdar and I each gave two lectures in the University and she spoke to an Educational Association. One Professor who presided at my lect­ure said that he had read seven or eight Bahá’í books carefully, and that when a distinguished Ramakrishna Swami spoke in that same University Hall on “Modern Religions” and did not mention about the Bahá’í Faith, this Professor who was acting as Chairman said that one of the most important modern religions had been left out and he gave the history of the Bahá’í Movement.—I told the audience it was like that in our country; at the World’s Parliament of Religions, in Chicago, Exposition, in 1893, a Pro­fessor, founder of Beirut University, has spoken about the Bahá’í Faith and now we have thousands of Bahá’ís in America.

(To be continued)
"POTENTIALITIES OF GOD'S CREATIVE PLAN"

Dearly-beloved co-workers:

I was deeply stirred by the news conveyed in your recent cable. The abiding assurance I derived from its contents eases the burden of my cares and fortifies me in my tasks. The illustrious community of the American believers, contemptuous of risk or peril, is driving ahead, relentlessly and with its whole vigor, towards the dual goal which the Seven Year Plan has set before it. The virtual completion of the contract for the gallery section of the Mashriqu’l-Adhkar, the inauguration of the First Story Construction Fund, the signature of the contract for the models of the Main Story, the prompt response to the Fund newly associated with the memory of the Greatest Holy Leaf, the consequent placing of a further contract for the construction of the molds, the acceleration of pioneer teaching activity and the resultant penetration of the Faith into practically every State and Province in the United States and Canada—all these have, in the course of the second year of the Seven Year Plan, followed in amazingly swift succession. With dramatic swiftness, with unyielding resolve, with uncompromising fidelity and superb courage, the community responsible for such a unique demonstration of Bahá’í initiative and enterprise is overcoming the barriers, whether material or moral, that threaten to interfere with the execution of its declared purpose.

The task regarded as an essential preliminary to the crusade destined to embrace the whole of Latin America is now in full swing and is being rapidly carried out. A further step, designed to hasten the conclusion of the final phase of the ornamentation of the Temple, has also been taken. As the days roll by, as the perturbations of an imperiled civilization are more alarmingly manifested, the potentialities of God’s creative Plan correspondingly unfold, and the valor and heroism of its intrepid supporters are more widely and convincingly demonstrated. With every successful effort to muster its young and scattered forces, to perfect its methods, to extend the range of its operations, to deepen its spiritual life and to scale loftier heights of individual heroism, there will, I cannot but feel confident, be granted to this community a greater opportunity to prove its worth, and a fuller measure of celestial strength to enable it to reenact, on the soil of the United States and Canada and throughout the entire Western Hemisphere, those stirring exploits that have shed such luster on the apostolic age of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. Though much has thus far been achieved, yet the processes now set in motion through the evolution of the Plan are still far too rudimentary to permit even a faint glimpse of the brilliancy of the epoch in which ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s own Plan must come to fruition. Not ours to attempt, at the present moment, a survey of the distant scene, or to seek to visualize its glories, or to dwell on the consequences of the eventual attainment of an as yet far-off goal. Ours is the solemn, the inescapable duty to labor faithfully and unremittingly to insure that no opportunity is being missed, that no avenues are left unexplored, that might, however indirectly, contribute to the furtherance of those tasks that claim so insistently our immediate attention. That those into whose hands this dynamic Plan has been entrusted are aware of the essential character of their obligations and will discharge worthily their duties, no one, viewing the range and quality of their achievements, can entertain the slightest doubt.

Your true and grateful brother,

Shoghi.

February 8, 1939.

THE ONENESS OF MANKIND

The Guardian, in "The Advent of Divine Justice," has created a new and higher standard of loyalty to the principle of the Oneness of Mankind on the part of the American Bahá’í Community, and has specifically declared that this standard must become the keynote of the policy of the National Spiritual Assembly in its capacity of the national representative and the director and coordinator of the affairs of the community. The National Spiritual Assembly must set the example and facilitate the application of this vital principle to the lives and activities of those whose interests it safeguards and represents.

This new standard involves the obligation to encourage and protect the members of the racial, religious and class minorities comprising the Ameri-
can Baha'i Community.

Its application in Baha'i affairs requires the participation of, and the sharing of responsibility by, these minority elements in the conduct of the activities of the Faith through the various institutions, including Assemblies, Conventions, Conferences and Committees.

The Guardian declares that in cases where individuals belonging to these minorities are already qualified and fulfill the necessary requirements the communities are to arrange their affairs so that representation of as many of these divers elements as possible is to be secured.

It is recorded that the National Assembly has already taken a number of actions in accordance with the spirit of this instruction, namely, in preparing the program of the Annual Baha'i Congress following the 1939 Convention, and in publishing two leaflets compiled from the Master's words concerning race amity and the reconciliation of Christians, Jews, and Muhammedans.

The National Assembly understands that this recent instruction from the Guardian is to be considered by the believers in the light of his previous clear instructions concerning the character of Baha'i elections and the qualifications of the membership of Assemblies, described in the following words: "only those who can best combine the necessary qualities of unquestioned loyalty, of selfless devotion, of a well-trained mind, and of recognized ability and mature experience." It is for the believers to realize each for himself the extreme desirability of fostering the minority elements in the Cause and contributing to the safeguarding of human life in America as a vital spiritual privilege and responsibility in the light of the Guardian's urgent appeal. The horizon of our Baha'i love is to be extended, and our understanding of the true nature of Baha'i unity is to be deepened and demonstrated in action. The ideal is to develop the Baha'i Community that it will become the haven of refuge for the grief-stricken and oppressed of all religions, races and classes in the land.

The National Assembly is confident that the believers will take the Guardian's counsel to heart, and pray for wisdom in their effort to apply it to every aspect of their individual and collective Baha'i life. The American Baha'i Community must needs take a great step forward toward the goal of the World Order of Baha'u'llah.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

TEACHING ACTIVITY

"The companions of God are, in this day, the lump that must leaven the peoples of the world. They must show forth such trustworthiness, such truthfulness and perseverance, such deeds and character that all mankind may profit by their example. . . . Vie ye with each other in the service of God and of His Cause."

These Words of Baha'u'llah, drops only from the ocean of new bounties showered upon us by our Guardian, speak to us simply but directly of the responsibility which, for so many years, we have negligently carried. "Children of the half-light" we have been in many ways, content to serve this precious Faith with half our minds and bodies, loath to loosen our grasp upon the world around us and sail "on the ark of complete independence, with . . . faces set toward the Day-Spring of Beauty." Such is our history; but to-day is there one soul among us, throughout this American continent, who can any more doubt that the time for choosing has come? Is this not truly the judgment, when God is requiring us to judge ourselves and elect our destiny? "How great is the Cause, how staggering the weight of its Mess-

GOLDEN GATE INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION

BAHA'I HOUSE OF WORSHIP

ILLINOIS

DEDICATED TO THE UNITY OF RELIGION AND THE ONENESS OF HUMANKIND

Descriptive Card for Baha'i Exhibit Prepared by Directors of Temple of Religion.
Another visitor to Arkansas is Marvin Newport, lately of the New York community, who spent ten days in early January in Little Rock, en route to California. Through meeting a prominent young lawyer, talks were arranged for the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs which aroused great interest and received outstanding publicity. Many receptive persons were introduced to the Faith, including a columnist on the Arkansas Democrat who discussed it for four hours and asked for literature.

Mr. Newport also spoke in Hot Springs to a group of eighteen, brought together by Miss Sunshine, and to several classes of the Synagogue in Little Rock. He reports that future prospects are promising, especially as many liberal leaders stated they were aware of the need for inter-racial amity, if the State is to progress.

Prior to arriving in Arkansas, Marvin Newport did other important work in Colorado, Minn., where he had attended school. He was invited to speak before the Women’s Club, Chamber of Commerce, the College Assembly, of two hundred students, and the College class on comparative religions. The Superintendent of Schools became so interested that he requested books for the College and public libraries, and the “whole town was buzzing Banā’i!”

Mr. Newport also made personal contacts and addressed clubs and schools in Grand Rapids, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Peoria.

Texas is another fertile region at this time. Five new believers have been listed at Dallas and four at Fort Worth. Minn. Orlova has. been for some weeks in this area, addressing several large groups, one of more than a hundred in the home of Mrs. Roy Curby. In El Paso, Miss Myriam Grabler has secured employment and is hoping to establish a study class.

Houston has become, since December, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ward Calhoun of Milwaukee. Having chosen to pioneer, these friends have received
most wonderful confirmations. Mr. Calhoon found immediate employment as director of public relations in a large store, and in this position has met many persons who were later invited to fireside groups. These are held almost nightly and in addition, a room has been rented in the Y. W. C. A, where weekly study classes are now held. The first class had an attendance of eleven, the last reported drew nineteen. With the aid of Mrs. Kathryn Frankland and Mr. Klus, the work is progressing rapidly and we have just had a report of two newly-confirmed believers.

The following sentences written by Mr. Calhoon carry to us all the inspiration which descends so bountifully upon the “daring adventurer in the service of the Cause.” “Bahá’í work is progressing wonderfully; in fact the miraculous, or rather apparently miraculous ways new prospective truth seekers are being ushered into my presence would sound like a fairy tale, if I had the time to relate the many such instances which are happening here almost daily. . . . The unusual speed in acceptance has almost startled us. Last night at a fireside meeting, two stated their desire to become voting Bahá’ís, and at a previous meeting another stated that he felt like a potential Bahá’í. . . . Bahá’u’lláh has showered such significant bounties and assistance on our humble efforts we are almost ashamed to lift our faces in prayer to Him, when we consider how undeserving we are of such unquestionably great assistance on our humble efforts we are almost ashamed to lift our faces in prayer to Him, when we consider how undeserving we are of such unquestionably great assistance.

The words of Shoghi Effendi take on new meaning when related to experiences like these: “God’s own plan has been set in motion. . . . The powers of heaven and earth mysteriously assist in its execution. . . . Let the doubter arise and himself verify the truth of such assertions.”

A wonderful report has been forwarded by Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Eggleston of a teaching campaign conducted from October 16th to December 16th, in cities surrounding Loudon, Roanoke. A total of 43 talks were scheduled for Mrs. Marziah Carpenter, in thirteen towns, before non-Bahá’í organizations such as Rotary, Lions, Exchange, Shriners, University Women’s, Zonta, other Women’s Clubs, and High Schools. She was booked as a Bahá’í and at all times delivered direct Bahá’í talks. The results were most outstanding, from the standpoints of newspaper publicity, response, requests by other clubs for similar talks, and a greatly increased interest in the Faith and the Summer School. In fact, the publicity and interest obtained could not have been duplicated, it was felt, had Mrs. Carpenter spoken from Bahá’í platforms. The Committee attributes much of this success to a combination of efficient business methods and especial reliance upon prayer. “Every hour for some ten hours daily, members of the nearby Flint community and others have offered successive prayers, every contact made, and every talk given, has been preceded by especial supplication.” This drive included exhibits of the Temple model and placement of books in libraries. It is hoped to follow with another speaker before the coming Summer School sessions.

Mrs. Gayle Woolson has spent the months of December and January in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where she has found many opportunities for teaching which have carried her also to the near communities of Marion, Mt. Vernon, and Iowa City. Her public engagements have included such groups as Rotary, Optimists, High Twelve (Masonic), Hi-Y Clubs of four high schools, Coe College, and Phonetic Club of Syrian girls.

Meantime in Davenport, Iowa, Mrs. Gertrude Struven has been following up the work which she and Mrs. Woolson did, by spending at least one week a month there. During each visit of a study class is held, a radio talk given, and personal teaching is carried on with eight or ten persons. There are now two believers registered.

Also in Iowa, we are informed by Mrs. Ruth Moffett, a study group of twenty-two meeting in Independence, under the chairmanship of a well-known Unity leader.

This year finds a new and thriving Bahá’í community at Eagle River, Wis., where the work of Mrs. Moffett has resulted in a Group of eleven believers. The Regional Secretary, Mrs. Margery McCormick, recently visited them and reported almost twenty-five people studying the Cause faithfully since last October. These friends have applied for Assembly status, because “the majority felt that with world conditions being as grave as they are, they would like all the spiritual assistance that might come from functioning as a Bahá’í Assembly.” Thus do our new friends set us an example in Administrations.

Bahá’ís are spending the winter season in two cities of South Carolina. In Columbia are Miss Maud Mickle and Miss Alta Wheeler of Buffalo, who are holding two fireside groups weekly. They have also contacted key individuals, including the President of Allen University, the professor of sociology at the University of South Carolina, and the secretary of the Esperanto society. Meantime in Charleston Miss Louise Thompson and her sister, of Effort, are continuing the work begun a year ago by Mrs. Hoagg, Mrs. Bodmer, and Miss O’Neill, with personal contacts and small study groups. Much stimulation to their teaching is anticipated from the visit of Mr. Charles Mason Remy, who left Washington in late January for a month’s trip to the
groups and isolated believers of Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas. Mention should also be made of Mrs. Olga Mills, who has settled for the winter in Tryon, North Carolina.

Mrs. Mabel Ives has forwarded a fine report of teaching in Toronto and Hamilton, Ontario, in which she and Mrs. Ives have assisted since their move to Toronto the middle of October. Two or three study classes are held weekly, one of these at the King Edward Hotel with an attendance of fifteen to twenty. A Youth class is following the 36-lesson course, and some seventeen young people are vitally interested. To this work Miss Elsie Beecroft, lately of New York City, is valuably contributing. At the Sunday public meetings, attracting capacity audiences, Howard and Mabel Ives have been alternating as speakers. Three new believers recently enrolled.

The Toronto Assembly is also conducting extension work in Hamilton, and hopes to open two or three other neighboring cities. The Seattle Assembly has accepted thirteen believers this year, as the result of intensive fireside groups, and reports that "their vision and understanding of the New World Order was marvelous." Seattle has also begun a correspondence campaign for developing out-of-city contacts.

Eliot, Maine, is sponsoring extension teaching in Portsmouth, Dover, and Salmon Falls, N. H.; and in South Berwick and Portland, Me. A weekly study class of eight or nine has been formed in Portland. On November 6th a dinner was given at Mrs. Greenleaf's home, which was attended by sixty persons from these cities and visitors from Boston and Buffalo.

The New England Regional Committee is cooperating with the Radio Committee to open Vermont through radio. A registration was recently received from a new Bahá’í who first heard the Cause mentioned on the Springfield radio broadcast some months ago. Radio talks are also being arranged in Portland, Manchester, and Bangor.

These notes by no means represent the scope nor do they impart the full momentum of the Seven-Year Plan, as it surges forward on the teaching front. They are a cross-section merely, attesting nevertheless to the exertions, the ambition, the ingenuity and devotion of hundreds of our fellow-believers. Beloved friends, even this is not enough. The Guardian is requiring more of us: indeed, we have been as a people asleep to this very hour. Now, by the bounty of Bahá’u’lláh, he wakens us!

"The field is indeed so immense, the period so critical, the Cause so great, the workers so few, the time so short, the privilege so priceless, that no follower of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh, worthy to bear His name, can afford a moment's hesitation." "There is no time to lose. There is no room left for vacillation. Multitudes hunger for the Bread of Life... To try, to persevere, is to ensure ultimate and complete victory"—National Teaching Committee.

"DRAW NIGH UNTO BAHÁ’U’LLÁH"

"Every man of insight will, in this day, readily admit that the counsels which the Pen of this wronged One hath revealed constitute the supreme animating power for the advancement of the world and the exaltation of its peoples." (Gleanings, p. 93.)

"The ordinances of God have been sent down from the heaven of His most august Revelation. All must diligently observe them. Man's supreme distinction, his real advancement, his final victory, have always depended, and will continue to depend, upon them. Who so keepeth the commandments of God shall attain everlasting felicity." (Gleanings, p. 289.)

"They whom God hath endowed with insight will readily recognize that the precepts laid down by God constitute the highest means for the maintenance of order in the world and the security of its peoples. He that turneth away from them, is accursed among the abject and foolish... "Know assuredly that my commandments are the lamps of My loving providence among My servants, and the keys of My mercy for My creatures... Were any man to taste the sweetness of these words which the lips of the All-Merciful have willed to utter, he would, though the treasures of the earth be in his possession, renounce them one and all, that he might vindicate the truth of even one of His commandments, shining above the day spring of His bountiful care and loving-kindness.

"Say: From My laws the sweet smelling savour of My garment can be smelled, and by their aid the standards of victory will be planted upon the highest peaks. The Tongue of My power hath, from the heaven of My omnipotent glory, addressed to My creation these words: 'Observe My commandments, for the love of My beauty...' Think not that We have revealed unto you a mere code of laws. Nay, rather, We have unsealed the choice Wine with the fingers of might and power." (Gleanings, pp. 331-332.)

"Happy is the lover that hath inhaled the divine fragrance of His Best-Beloved from these words, laden with the perfume of a grace which no tongue can describe." (Gleanings, p. 332.)

TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION

Sculptor carving central panel over doorway.
BAHÁ'Í EXHIBITS AT THE WORLD'S FAIRS

At this date, only a preliminary announcement can be made on the important subject of these two Baha'i Exhibits. In a later issue, illustrations and full descriptions will be given to the friends.

*Golden Gate International Exposition:* Here there are two different exhibits in the Bahá'í booth taken in the Homes and Gardens Building, and one in an accessory building of the Hall of Religion. The latter exhibit consists of the Temple model, accepted for display by the Exposition without cost to the Fund. The photograph of this model appears in the present issue of Baha'i News.

The booth in the Homes and Gardens Building includes an area of 19 feet by 7½ feet, beautifully designed, as will appear when an illustration is available. This exhibit features the Temple model and also includes Bahá'í literature and free literature for distribution to visitors.

A public meeting will be held in the Auditorium of the Hall of Religion once a month. Bahá'ís will also conduct frequently the Inter-Denominational Vesper Services held Sunday afternoons.

A broadcast of the Bahá'í Exhibit and the Temple was given from the Fair grounds on February 28, arranged by Mrs. Silvia Matteson King and Miss Claudia Coles Aldridge. The script, in the form of a fifteen-minute interview, was prepared by Mrs. King and Miss Aldridge, and delivered by the latter.

*New York World's Fair:* A contract has been signed for a space measuring fifteen by ten feet, in the Communications Building. Mr. John J. Earley is preparing the design, for installation before the Fair opens on April 30.

**LETTER FROM THE GUARDIAN**

With regard to the Racine Assembly's request for an explanation of the passage on page 231 of the "Gleanings," beginning with the words: "From it (the earth) have We created you," etc., this is a verse from the Qu'ran and the quotation mark has been wrongly omitted from the text and should be added after "time." Bahá'u'lláh in quoting this passage seeks to refute the argument of the Muslims, who attach a purely literal interpretation to this verse of the Qu'ran, and therefore consider it as implying bodily resurrection. To these Muslims, He says, that you who literally believe that the human body will return to dust and will be raised from it again, and therefore attach so much importance to this mortal world, how then can you wax so proud, and boast over things which are but perishable and consequently void of any true and lasting value.

The Guardian is delighted at the steps which the N. S. A. has taken to arrange for a Bahá'í exhibit at the World's Fair to be held in San Francisco next spring, and also at the New York World's Fair, on both of which occasions, he hopes, the Faith will be effectively represented and given effective and widespread publicity. He would urge your Assembly never to miss such opportunities of presenting the Cause to the general public, and would, in particular, recommend that such Bahá'í exhibits should in future be frequently and regularly held in various parts of the country, as they can be of far-reaching benefit to the teaching work in America.

In conclusion, he wishes me to stress, now that the Temple Fund is swelling through the munificent and steady flow of contributions from the believers, the necessity for the N. S. A. to exert every effort to place the contract for making the molds* before the coming Annual Convention, so that the assembled delegates, who will be meeting under the glorious dome of our beloved Temple next April, may have the full assurance that the ornamentation work on that Edifice will continue to progress with full pace throughout the coming year, and that they may also have a tangible proof of your Assembly's unsparing determination and inexhaustible resourcefulness to carry out that task to full and speedy completion.

February 7, 1939.

**SETTLEMENT OF THE NINE AREAS**

Within two days after the Guardian cabled that the immediate obligation is to complete the settlement of the unoccupied areas, the National Assembly found it possible to announce that the necessary arrangements had been made. Three pioneers were reported in Baha'i News for March. The action taken at the meeting held March 24, 25 and 26, in consultation with the Teaching Committee's representative, authorized the following settlements:

- Mr. and Mrs. Hilbert Dahl, West Virginia; Mr. Harold Hunt, West Virginia; Mrs. Marguerite Reimer Sears, Utah; Mr. and Mrs. Allah K. Kalantar, Delaware; Mr. Rowland Estall, Winnipeg; Miss Doris Skinner, Calgary; Mrs. Beulah S. Proctor, Nova Scotia; Miss Evelyn Ciff, Nova Scotia; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McNally, Rhode Island; Mrs. H. Emogene Hoagg, South Carolina.

"Assure each pioneer immeasurable gratitude" was Stoghi Effendi's immediate cabled response.

The significance of this achievement is doubtless not clearly realized by any believer at present, but we may with reverence note that one great step has been taken in the prosecution of the Master's Divine Plan. The way is open for concentration of effort upon the other American nations and peoples, and the international responsibility of the American Bahá'í Community has definitely begun.

**FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS**

*The Importance of Child Training*  

Bahá'u'lláh enjoined education upon all. During the days of the historic visit of our beloved Master on this continent, He spoke many times of the training of Bahá'í children. He said, "Encourage the children from early childhood in the study of every science, and urge them to acquire every art, in order that through the favor and assistance of God, the heart of every one may become a mirror reflecting the mysteries of beings, and fathom the reality of everything, and that he may gain world-wide renown in sciences, knowledge and arts."

The Bahá'í parent knows that scientific education is not enough. The spiritualization of character to the point at which it dominates one's manner of living is in great achievement. "Divine education," stated 'Abdu'l-Bahá, "is the sum total of all development. It is the safeguard of humanity. The world of nature is a world of defects and incompleteness. The world of the Kingdom is reached by the highway of religion and is the heaven of all divine virtues." "Make ye an effort" He further writes, "so that these children may be trained and educated and that each of them may become perfect in the world of humanity."

A child is like a green branch, tender and easily trained. The sacred duty of every Bahá'í parent is the development of the little children under the supreme guidance of the Manifestation of God through His life-giving Word. And if, through the divine education, belief is
PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Advent of Divine Justice, by Shoghi Effendi: In addition to the paper-covered edition, distributed by the National Spiritual Assembly without charge, a permanent edition, bound in fabrikoid, is now available. Per copy, $0.75.

Character: A Sequence in Spiritual Psychology, by Stanwood Cobb: This work, consisting of material prepared originally for a Course at Lounhelen Summer School, and in part published serially in World Order Magazine, can now be obtained in book form through the Publishing Committee. Per copy, $1.25.

Volume IV, World Order Magazine: The annual bound volume is now ready. The price is $2.50, postage additional. If the twelve copies of the magazine are furnished, the binding cost is $1.25. For details, write the Publishing Committee.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The Bahá'í World, Editorial Committee: The address of Mrs. S. W. French, Chairman, is now 786 Chester Road, San Marino, Calif.

International Auxiliary Language Committee: Mrs. Luella Beecroft has been added to the Executive Committee.

GREEN ACRE SUMMER SCHOOL

July 3-8: "Laboratory Course," directed by Alice Bacon and Helen Bishop.


"Islam," Prof. Stanwood Cobb.


"Positive Living," Orella Rexford.

July 24-29: Youth Week.


"Prayer and Meditation," Mr. and Mrs. Willard MacKay.

THE CONVENTION

Time and Place: Thursday, April 27, to Sunday noon, April 30, at Foundation Hall, Bahá'í House of Worship, Wilmette.

Housing Committee: Mrs. Carl Henn, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill.

Hotels: Evanston Hotel (headquarters of the National Spiritual Assembly); Hotel Orrington, Ridgeview Hotel, The Evanshore.

Convention Photograph: 2:00 P.M., Saturday, April 29, on Temple grounds.

Friday Feast: Saturday evening, April 29.

Bahá'í Congress (Public Meeting): Sunday afternoon.

Pre-Convention: Foundation Hall will be open Wednesday evening for delegates who arrive that day and wish opportunity for an informal gathering. The Chicago Assembly also invites delegates and friends to attend an Aumni banquet Wednesday evening (April 26) in the Blue Room, Auditorium Hotel. Make reservations through Mrs. Kathryn Mortens, 430 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago. Tickets, $1.25.

Post-Convention: Reception by Chicago Assembly Monday evening, May 1, at Bahá'í Center, 116 South Michigan Avenue.


"Spreading the News Behind the News," Elsa Blakely.


"History in the Making," Dr. Glenn Shook.

Aug. 21-26: "Administration," Horace Holley.

"Humanity's Coming of Age," Lorae Schopflocher.

Aug. 28-Sept. 2: Esperanto Course, directed by Roan Orloff.

"Laboratory Teaching Course," Dr. Genevieve L. Coy.

Sunday Devotional meeting at 11:00 A.M., Agnes O'Neill, Chairman.

Wednesday from 3:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M., course on "Pointers on Public Speaking" to be arranged.

Saturday afternoons, a Teaching Seminar, Lorae Schopflocher, Chairman.

July 15: Bahá'í Convention (Laboratory Course) directed by Harlan Ober.

Aug. 26: Bahá'í Convention (Laboratory Course) directed by Harlan Ober.

TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION

Completing the clay model of a unit to go on the first story.

Prayer and Meditation daily, 9 to 9:15 A.M.

Classes: 9:30 to 10:45 A.M., and 11 A.M. to 12:15 P.M.

Evening Activities

Monday: Stories from Dawn-Breakers—Louis Gregory, Chairman.

Tuesday: Open for visiting with local community.

Wednesday: Cultural Subjects—Color Organ, etc., Dr. Glenn Shook, Chm.

Thursday: A Bahá'í Views the News—Lorna Tasker, Chairman.

Friday: Panel Discussions—Amelia Bowman, Chairman.

Saturday: Resume of courses given during the week by teachers.

Sunday: Concerts, interspersed with readings from the Writings, poetry, etc.

Youth Week

Note: A special rate of $10.00 will be given youth, up to twenty-five years of age, who enroll for Green Acre Youth Week.

Sunday, July 23:

8:00 P.M.—Symposium. Subject and speakers to be announced.

Monday through Saturday, July 24-29:

9:00 A.M.—Devotions.

9:30 A.M.—"Bahá'í Life." (Talks to be based on recent compilation made by National Youth Committee) Norman Smith.


2:00 P.M.—Laboratory Course on the Organization and Systematic Teaching of the Bahá'í Faith.
IN MEMORIAM

It is clear and evident that when the veils that conceal the realities of the manifestations of the Names and Attributes of God, may of all created things visible or invisible, have been rent asunder, nothing except the Sign of God will remain—a sign which He, Himself, hath placed within these realities. This sign will endure as long as is the wish of the Lord thy God, the Lord of the heavens and of the earth. If such be the blessings conferred on all created things, how superior must be the destiny of the true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation.—BAHA'I.

Mr. Otto Schneckloth, Muskegon.
Mrs. Molly Mosher, Foster, Quebec.
Mrs. Janette Niles, Miami.
Mrs. Gladys Eldora, Husted, Muskegon.
Mrs. Nellie King, Teaneck.
Mr. Greenville Talbott, New York.
Mrs. Marion L. Vernon, Jackson­ville.

ITEMS OF NEWS

The National Spiritual Assembly of the British Isles has begun publication of a monthly entitled The New World Order intended for non-believers. This interesting and ambitious Bahá'í vehicle will surely receive the best wishes and cooperation of the friends. The subscription price is 3 shillings, 6 pence a year. Postal orders are to be sent to "The Editor," 46 Bloomsbury Street, London, W. C. 1, England.

A booklet entitled "Mrs. Eddy's Successor" by Saxby Vouler Fenfold, has been issued by New Canaan Publications, New Canaan, Conn. The author, a student of the Bahá'í Teachings, but not an enrolled believer, is seeking to bring the Cause to the attention of Christian Scientists. The booklet was issued without consultation with any American Bahá'í body, and therefore has no recognition as a Bahá'í publication. The text, however, does disclose excellent knowledge of many aspects of the Teachings.

MARTHA L. ROOT IN INDIA

(Continued)

One Professor said: "What we professors and students need is a great quickening of religion in our inner life. If the Bahá'í Faith brings that, we will study it."

We met one Professor who is a relative of Qurratu'll-Ayn and he has made a deep study of the Bahá'í Teachings.

The Mysore University Library in the past year has gathered quite a good selection of Bahá'í books and these are being read by the students. The Librarian and the former librarian are most friendly to our cause. I believe that great scholars from Mysore will write about the Teachings.

One Professor in the University is the Director of Broadcasting and Mrs. Fozdar and I both gave radio talks which were sent out to six newspapers and magazines in India. A young private secretary from a neighboring state told us that when he visited the Hill Palace of the Maharaja of Mysore in 1933, there was a book on the table, the life of 'Abdu'l-Bahá which he carefully studied. The Mysore University Library will have pictures of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and a picture of the Bahá'í Temple at Wilmette to hang on the Library wall.

Mrs. Fozdar, as I said, had been to Bangalore and Mysore ten months earlier and made many friends and this helped us very much. May she go again and many times to Southern India! She is not only a very fluent speaker but they called her the Bahá'í nightingale of India when she sang the Qurratu'll-Ayn songs!

Hyderabad, Deccan.—Then we came to Hyderabad, Deccan where we were the guests of the State and stayed in the State Guest House. We arrived at 5 p.m., and at 6:30 o'clock I broadcasted. This radio talk was published in full in their newspapers.

I broadcast again and Mrs. Fozdar gave a radio speech about Qurratu'll-Ayn and sang. A gramophone record was made of her speech and song and the talk was published. We gave a public lecture the second evening under the auspices of the Writers' Association of Hyderabad. We spoke before the Hyderabad Ladies' Association to two hundred and fifty members and the wife of the second son of the Nizam presided. This beautiful young Princess is a grand-niece of the late Sultan Abdul Hamid of Turkey. Lady Akbar Hydari, wife of the Prime Minister is President of this Association.

I spoke in Osmania University and at the same time Shirin spoke at the Nizam's College. Excellent articles appeared in the newspapers. The Secretary of the Prime Minister, a Cornell man, had attended a Bahá'í Conference in Geneva, N. Y., where he had been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Willard McKay. There he had met Miss Mary Maxwell; he said he felt even then she had a very high destiny and that she was the most radiant girl he had ever met. We were invited to the home of the Prime Minister and to the home of Sir Amin Jung; the latter had received Mrs. Schopflocher, later myself, then Keith and then Mr. Schopflocher. He loves the Teachings and says they do not take away from any other Faiths. Says if he would be able, he would go to the Bahá'í Convention in Karachi in April, but he is quite ill. The Bahá'ís of Hyderabad never once helped us, and came with us to the station when we left. They came to the public lectures and brought booklets for distribution. Mrs. Fozdar spoke to a large group in a private home the last evening and broadcasted. We were in Hyderabad only three days, evening of January 31 to early morning of February 4.
THE GUARDIAN'S CABLEGRAM TO THE THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION

Brilliant conclusion (of) second year (in) Seven Year Plan evokes universal admiration (of) the Baha'i world. Deeper (its) spiritual consciousness (and) mitigates (the) hardships (of) its increasingly harassed communities. Closing phase (of) Temple ornamentation already entered. Initial stage (of) Intercontinental Teaching Campaign successfully terminated. Firm anchorage (of) the institutions (of) the Administrative Order permanently established (in) every State (and) Province (of) North American continent. Mexico, lying (in the) forefront (of) the southward marching army, recently enlisted. Pedro Espinosa's auspicious attendance (at the) Convention (is) welcome evidence. Settlement (of the) Central American republics (is) next step (in) progressive, systematic penetration (of) Latin America. Upsurge (of) Baha'u'llah's impelling Spirit can not, will not, be stemmed (nor) impeded. Methodical advance along (the) line traced (by) pen (of) 'Abdu'l-Baha irresistible. Guatamala, Honduras, Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Cuba, Dominica (and) Haiti immediate objectives. Though politically unsettled, religiously intolerant, socially backward (and) climatically inhospitable, these unexplored territories hold forth inestimable prizes (for) audacious adventures (in the) path (of) Baha'i service. Dearly-beloved Martha's unrivalled experience, indomitable faith (and) indefatigable labors will soon reinforce (the) powers released (for) contemplated campaign. Task admirably laborious, hour laden with fate, privilege incomparable, precious divinely-promised aid unfailing, reward predestined immeasurable. Appeal all believers, white and Negro alike, (to) arise (and) assume rightful responsibilities. Urge prolongation (of) sessions (of) Convention (to) enable delegates (to) exercise (their) inalienable right (to) deliberate (and) formulate recommendations designed (to) aid incoming National Assembly resolutely (to) prosecute (this) momentous enterprise. Fervor (of) prayers intensified.

SHOGHII

Received April 28, 1939.

"STERNER, MORE GLORIOUS CHAPTER"

THE THIRD YEAR OF THE SEVEN YEAR PLAN

"Momentous deliberations of Thirty-First Convention," Shoghi Effendi cabled in reply to the message sent him by the Convention, "opening sterner, more glorious chapter in corporate life of ever-advancing, steadily-expanding American Baha'i community."

The third year of the Seven Year Plan transports us to a greatly enlarged theatre of Bahá'i activity, calls for a correspondingly increased responsibility and effort, and gives us assurance of a predestined reinforcement from the Divine Power.

This new intercontinental area of Baha'i teaching has been clearly described by Shoghi Effendi in "The Advent of Divine Justice," which brings into full action the Master's Plan for America, and the Guardian has also strongly accent the purer attitudes and higher qualities that must characterize the new humanity created by the Faith of Baha'u'llah.

"Brilliant conclusion of second year in Seven Year Plan evokes universal admiration of the Baha'i world," Shoghi Effendi assured the delegates and friends in his message to the Convention. All present were immersed in the mighty sea of the vision of achievement, and the hearts of delegates and visiting friends were shaken by the forces released for the guidance of the American Bahá'ís throughout the coming year. At the Convention our Baha'i host was augmented by four members of the Spiritual Assembly of Mexico City, the first Latin-American Baha'ís to attend the annual meeting, and also by the honored Mr. and Mrs. Sabet of Tehran, thus creating an international gathering.

Now the National Spiritual Assembly, after studying the recommendations of the delegates and the reports of committees, presents to the American Baha'i community the schedule of
K. Summer Schools. The function of the race unity activities of former years is to be enlarged in order to fulfill the Guardian’s instructions concerning all minorities.

M. Youth activities. Child training.

IV. Temple Construction. The annual budget contemplates the completion of the exterior decoration by 1942, and the success of this schedule of operations represents a vital aspect of the Seven Year Plan. For the coming year, the following task is assigned:

A. Completion of gallery contract.
B. Completion of first story molds contract.
C. Completion of first story molds contract.
D. Completion of purchase of quartz needed for first story.
E. Begin casting and application of external decoration to first story. This item has paramount importance, for delay in beginning this part of the work would interfere with the schedule adopted for the Seven Year Plan.

The keynote of Bahá’í effort and policy for the current year has been sounded by Shoghi Effendi in his words: “Sterner, more glorious chapters.” The element of self-discipline and sacrifice replaces the irresponsible happiness the American Bahá’ís have enjoyed in the past, with their freedom from physical oppression and the social ostracism heaped upon their co-workers in other lands.

“The Advent of Divine Justice” prepares us for the mighty task, strengthens our courage, centers our energies, and guides our steps along the true path. The Guardian has given a vast bounty to the American Bahá’í community. Our only adequate gratitude must be expressed through the carrying out of each year’s allotment of the Seven Year Plan.

The National Spiritual Assembly places this brief statement of plans and policies in the hands of the Bahá’í community with a heartfelt prayer that each local Assembly will continuously strive to promote its schedule, that groups will identify themselves with its success, and that each individual Bahá’í will feel that upon him or her there lies a weighty responsibility throughout the year.

Alone among the peoples of earth, the Bahá’ís are an organic body, moved by one Spirit. If we fail in the least part of the common task, it can only be because we ourselves prevented the Spirit from accomplishing its mission. Therefore, let us deepen our Bahá’í lives from day to day, and contribute with all our power to that unity which is the sole instrument through which the Spirit works.

“The one chief remaining citadel, the mighty arm which still raises aloft the standard of an unconquerable Faith, is none other than the blessed community of the followers of the Most Great Name in the North American continent. By its works, and through the unfailing protection vouchsafed to it by an almighty Providence, this distinguished member of the body of the constantly interacting Bahá’í communities of East and West, bids fair to be universally regarded as the cradle, as well as the stronghold, of that future New World Order, which is at once the promise and the glory of the Dispensation associated with the name of Bahá’u’lláh.”—SHOGHI EFFENDI, The Advent, pp. 5, 6.

CONVENTION CABLEGRAM TO THE GUARDIAN

Thirty-first Annual Convention (of) American Bahá’ís, one hundred sixteen assembled delegates with host (of) visiting friends, reverently greet beloved Guardian, deeply conscious (of) their increased responsibilities (at) opening (of) third year (of) inaugurated Seven Year Plan, supplicate renewed power (to) fulfill your highest hopes, consolidate established foundations and meet challenging issues (of) Bahá’u’lláh’s glorious Faith in western hemisphere. Rejoined (by) historic event (of) presence (of) two believers (from) Tehran and four members Mexico City Assembly. Thrilled (by) report (of) eighty-one volunteers (for) pioneer service. Entreat prayers your unerring guidance extend rapidly revivifying influence (of) Revealed Word to surely
distracted humanity (and) thus achieve America's spiritual destiny. Undying love, loyalty and obedience.

THE GUARDIAN'S CABLED REPLY

Inexpressibly moved, grateful (for) stirring, unique message. Monumen tal deliberations (of) Thirty-first Convention opening, stern, more glorious chapter in corporate life (of) ever-advancing, steadily-expanding American Bahá’í community. Admiration heightened, confidence immensely fortified (by) fresh revelations (of) community’s latest strength hastening inevitable hour signaling spiritual conquest (of) entire Western Hemisphere.

Shoghi Effendi

The first roll call disclosed the presence of 107 delegates. Before the end of the day, 117 had registered, and at election time Friday afternoon the second roll call was answered by 125.

The Convention was formally opened by Allen B. McDaniel, Chairman of the outgoing National Spiritual Assembly. Mr. McDaniel was elected Convention Chairman and Horace Holley its Secretary. Mrs. Julia Sobel served as reporter of the transactions.

The Agenda

Opening of Convention by Presiding Officer of the National Spiritual Assembly.

Roll call of delegates.

Election of Convention officers.

Convention message to the Guardian.

Supplementary Reports of the National Spiritual Assembly: Secretary, Treasurer, Trustees.

Annual election, Friday, April 28, 3:30 P. M.

Convention photograph, Saturday, April 29, 2:00 P. M.

Ridván Feast, Saturday evening, April 29.

Bahá’í Congress, Sunday, April 30, 3:30 P. M.

For Consultation

The Seven Year Plan: Entering the Third Year:

Temple construction schedule.

Teaching Plans:

Pioneer Settlement.

Assembly extension activities.

Regional activities.

Special projects.

Inter-America Teaching:

Mexico

Central America.

South America.

Loyalty to World Order of Bahá’ulláh:

Cablegram of September 24, 1938.

Cablegram of March 24, 1939.

Child Education.

Public Exhibits:

World’s Fairs.

State Fairs.

Teacher Training:

Summer schools.

Local communities.

The Advent of Divine Justice.

These items were followed, and time was found for consultation on each of the topics. By vote of the delegates, the Saturday afternoon session was continued until 6:30 P. M. The message to the Guardian, however, was transferred to the opening, in the hope that his reply could be received before the meetings concluded.

The Guardian’s Cablegram

The two messages received from Shoghi Effendi are reprinted in another section of this issue. The second cablegram indicates that the first was not sent in reply to the Convention’s message to the Guardian, but was his greeting and advice to the delegates. His reply was not received in time to announce at the Convention.

Early in the meeting it was voted to precede consultation on each subject with a reading from appropriate passages in “The Advent of Divine Justice,” the power and majesty of which sustained the consciousness of the believers on a high level.

A description of the sessions written afterward, even a verbatim report of all discussion and remarks, would fail utterly to re-create the quality of the radiant and soaring spirit which so firmly united the delegates and visiting friends.

An Inter-Continental Gathering

The presence of four members of the Spiritual Assembly of Mexico, and of two honored guests from Tehran, symbolized the widening of the horizon of Bahá’í effort by the American Bahá’í community in prosecution of the Seven Year Plan. Their remarks, their prayers, their gracious presence, all contributed to the inspiration of the swiftly passing day.

Indeed, a great part of the discussion centered upon the topic of Inter-American teaching, which now ranks equally with the teaching work to be accomplished in North America.

The Teaching Committee’s report that eighty-one Bahá’ís have volunteered for pioneer work, and that twenty-seven pioneers have been sent out, was concrete evidence of the new motion which the Guardian has communicated to the Faith in America.

The walls of Foundation Hall were specially arranged with a display of the Master’s Tablets of the Divine Plan, and with a most interesting exhibit made by the Committee on Child Education.

Reports

The publication of the Annual Reports in advance of the Convention left but few to be presented during the sessions: a supplementary report of the National Assembly, its financial statement, and remarks concerning the properties administered by the Trustees. The Seven Year Plan was fundamentally the sole concern of the Thirty-First Convention, with its threefold branches of Teaching in North America, Teaching in Latin America, and completion of the exterior decoration of the Temple.

Significant was the sound of actual construction work proceeding on the gallery contract during the sessions, and joyous was the sight of the new work so far advanced since the Seven Year Plan was adopted only two years ago. Within two years, the friends have contributed almost one-half of the entire sum estimated for the entire construction work to be achieved before 1944.

Bahá’í Amity

The Guardian’s vital statement on the Bahá’í responsibility for the application of the principle of the oneness of mankind had impressed the friends deeply before the Convention opened, and the passages in “The Advent of
Divine Justice" bearing upon this urgent matter were pondered and discussed at length. A resolution calling upon the National Assembly to constitute Bahá'í Amity activities was the fruit of this consultation, which brought forth the sincere views of white and colored friends.

Among the matters which came up during the sessions reference can be made to the following:

The need for a more informative and complete form of annual financial statement.

The availability of a number of Bahá'í designers, architects and engineers for consultation and recommendation in connection with the function of the Temple Technical Committee.

The recommendation that the annual budget for the coming year be fixed at as large a figure as feasible.

The suggestion that local Assemblies provide Latin American Teaching Committees, and that contacts be made with Latin American students in American universities.

Presentation of the spiritual principle of donating to the Bahá'í Fund.

The recommendation that the principle of the oneness of mankind be applied to the living conditions of delegates during the Convention period.

Consultation on the first cablegram received from the Guardian. Consultation on his cablegram received September 24, 1938, which stressed the need of believers rising above the level of the subtle waves of propaganda now engulfing the world.

Consideration of the Guardian's wish as reported by pilgrims, that a National headquarters be established in the vicinity of the Temple.

Presentation of the Guardian's views on the attitude of believers in the event of war, with the recommendation that the National Assembly publish these views.

The Bahá'í attitude on voting in civil elections was discussed.

The Child Education Committee reported three new outlines for the year, and offered a few simple instructions for their use. The outlines were presented merely as techniques for reaching the child mind rather than as rules and teachings of a final nature. The freedom of every teacher to proceed with ingenuity and variation was made clear, and it was pointed out that any course of the kind had only relative value and perfection. Formal arrangements as used in Sunday Schools were discouraged.

Parent education is the new trend of this committee. An editorial column in Bahá'í News will suggest to parents from time to time new ways of inculcating faith in the heart of a child, and of producing those attributes so necessary to the Bahá'í life.

Discussions on children's clubs and activities, devotion, home problems, and techniques for the scientific approach to creation added greatly to the general stimulus to child training. The committee voiced the hope that the friends would continue to make suggestions throughout the year.

Members of the Youth Committee also ably described the important activities fostered by the youth of the Faith, who have brought about the special Youth programs at Summer Schools, the publication of a Youth quarterly, and many special local activities as well as the International Youth Day.

Explanations about the Bahá'í exhibits at the two World's Fairs, and a report on the preparation of a traveling exhibit for State Fairs were presented.

The three Summer Schools were discussed, and representatives of each Summer School Committee reported on current plans.

Consultation on the work of the Radio Committee.

In greater detail was presented the various activities of the National Teaching Committee, with reports on various phases of the work by individual members and teachers.

Ridvan Feast

Foundation Hall was thronged by Bahá'ís and attracted friends for the celebration of the Feast of Ridván, Saturday evening. A beautiful program had been arranged by the local Assemblies of the Temple area, with readings, remarks from a number of friends, and addresses by Mr. Sabet and Mr. Espinosa. Then followed material refreshment and fellowship among the friends.

Locks of Bahá'u'lláh

With reverence the believers heard the reading of the Tablet on the Hair of Bahá'u'lláh, and gazed upon the precious locks which the Guardian last year committed to the care of the American Bahá'ís.

Unforgettable were the presentations of teaching work in various parts of Latin America by individual believers who found the doors open for establishing the Faith in the hearts of individuals. The recommendation that pioneer teachers be settled in Central America was an immediate result of the Guardian's cabled advice and instruction. A number of pioneer offers were frequently presented to the gathering.

Inspiring also were those remarks by teachers who have served the Cause
THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY
1939-1940
Allen B. McDaniel, Chairman
Dorothy Baker, Vice-Chairman
Horace Holley, Secretary
Louise G. Gregory, Recording Secretary
Roy C. Wilhelm, Treasurer
Siegfried Schopflocher, Assistant Treasurer
Amelia E. Collins
Leroy Joas
Harlan Ober

in France, Belgium, Hungary, and accounts of pilgrimages to Haifa.

Annual Election

The tellers reported that the nine highest names recorded as result of the counting of ballots were: Allen B. McDaniel, Horace Holley, Dorothy Baker, Roy C. Wilhelm, Amelia E. Collins, Leroy Joas, Louis G. Gregory, Siegfried Schopflocher, Harlan Ober.

Thanks and appreciation were recorded for the services rendered by Miss Julia Sobel, the Wilmette Housing Committee, the Publicity Committee, and the Assemblies of the Temple area.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States and Canada

The month covered by this supplementary report has been notable in the swift development of events, signifying a great acceleration in the field of Baha'i action.

Communications from the Guardian received in this period include, first, the following cablegram dated April 1: "Assure each pioneer inmeasurable gratitude. Such vigorous response, in such perilous times, to so vital a call, opens brilliant epoch in the formative age of the Faith of Baha'u'llah. Impeled congratulatory Assembly for its wise, efficient stewardship."—And second, a letter dated March 17, which informs us that the roll of pioneers has been augmented by the names of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Bidwell, who had informed Shoghi Effendi that they have established residence in Greenville, South Carolina, in order to raise up a Baha'i community in that State.

To the number of local groups qualified to form new Assemblies, the groups at Albuquerque can now be added.

From Miss Martha Root has come a bundle of newspaper clippings describing her activities in Australia, with a schedule indicating some thirty public meetings during the first few weeks after her arrival from India.

The far country of Lapland has been illuminated with the light of the Faith by the indefatigable energy of Mrs. Lorrol Schopflocher, who has been traveling in that land and spreading the Message in recent months.

The reprint of the Master's address at the Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at Chicago in 1912, already mentioned, has now been made, and copies are available to delegates and friends. In a few words, 'Abdu'l-Baha gave the American people so many years ago the reality of human oneness, and now it is our privilege to ponder His message on race unity with deeper understanding, and share it with the leaders of opinion throughout the country. Similar reprints of striking Baha'i texts are to follow as rapidly as conditions justify, thus adding to our teaching literature a series of expositions that cannot fail to command the attention of awakened souls.

The present Convention is privileged to receive visits from co-workers from other lands. Mr. and Mrs. Sabet are here from Tihiran, on a visit that will take them to a few of the larger cities and perhaps also include both World's Fairs.

Moreover, we have as honored guests not one, as had been anticipated, but four members of the new Spiritual Assembly of Mexico City: Pedro Espinoza, Mrs. Refugio Ochoa, Miss Zanay da Jurado, and Mrs. Maria Luisa Jurado, radiant in their enthusiasm and ardent in their service to the Faith. This visit is a great historic event, for it marks the true beginning of that new inter-continental teaching task which the Guardian has expounded for us in "The Advent of Divine Justice." We join hands and hearts with these co-workers from Baha'u'llah's own native land, and with the co-workers from the newest country blessed with the institution of a Spiritual Assembly. The Master, surely, beholds with joy from on high a gathering so blessed and so pregnant with promise of future achievement.

Our foundation has been firmly laid in nearly ninety local Spiritual Assemblies, in the House of Worship rapidly nearing completion, in three Summer Schools, and in a Baha'i community which has acquired a great diversity of experience and manifests a rich variety of gifts. Each successive general communication from the Guardian has clarified our vision, deepened our aims and extended our horizon of consciousness. And now, as the world trembles on its collapsing basis, the American Baha'i community, numbering some thirty-five hundred souls, is bidden to exemplify the coming of the Kingdom to mankind. In reverence and in true humility we can but turn to the words of Baha'u'llah:

"O people of Baha! Ye are the breezes of spring that are wafted over the world. Through you we have adorned the world of being with the ornament of the knowledge of the Most Merciful. Through you the countenance of the world hath been wreathed in smiles, and the brightness of His light shone forth. Cling ye to the cord of steadfastness, in such wise that all vain imaginings may utterly vanish. Speed ye forth from the horizon of power, in the name of your Lord, the Unconstrained, and announce unto His servants, with wisdom and eloquence, the tidings of this Cause, whose splendor hath been shed upon the world of being."

"This is the day in which to speak. It is incumbent upon the people of Baha to strive, with the utmost patience and forbearance, to guide the peoples of the world to the Most Great Ho-

NEWLY ELECTED ASSEMBLY CABLES GUARDIAN


Sent April 30, 1939.

THE GUARDIAN'S CABLE TO INCOMING ASSEMBLY

Welcome (with) deepest satisfaction Convention's vigorous, instant response. Confident newly elected Assembly will with still greater distinction discharge twofold obligation meet subsequent needs Temple construction (and) insure complete success newly undertaken campaign (in) Central America. Prayers. Love. SHOGHI.

Received May 5, 1939.
rizon. Every body calleth aloud for a soul. Heavenly souls must needs quicken, with the breadth of the Word of God, the dead bodies with a fresh spirit.”

Horace Holley, Secretary.

THE STATUS OF PILGRIM’S NOTES

It was moved, seconded and voted to record the view that in the light of the Guardian’s general instruction, as quoted below, the National Assembly cannot sanction the publication and distribution through official Bahá’í channels of notes and records of pilgrims, as—

“Bahá’u’lláh has made it clear enough that only those things that have been revealed in the form of Tablets have a binding power over the friends. He says: ‘May be matters of interest can in no way claim authority. This basic teaching of Bahá’u’lláh was to preserve the Faith from being corrupted, like Islam which attributes binding authority to all reported sayings of Muhammad. This being a basic principle of the Faith we should not confuse Tablets that were actually revealed and mere talks attributed to the founders of the Cause. The first have absolute binding authority while the latter cannot in any way claim our obedience. The highest thing this can achieve is to influence the activities of the one who has heard the saying in person.”

He would also urge you to attach no importance to the stories told about ‘Abdu’l-Bahá or to those attributed to Him by the friends. These should be regarded in the same light as the notes and impressions of visiting pilgrims. They need not be suppressed but they should not also be given prominence or official recognition.

“He has also said that whenever he has something of importance to say, he invariably communicates it to the National Assembly or in his general letters. His personal letters to individual friends are only for their personal benefit and even though he does not want to forbid their publication, he does not wish them to be used too much by the Bahá’í News. Only letters with special significance should be published there.”

MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

The National Spiritual Assembly has adopted the following schedule of meetings for the current Bahá’í year. One meeting number is included than has been held in recent years. Detailed plans will be reported later concerning the public meetings and regional conferences the schedule provides.

April 29, April 30, May 1, 1939—Evanston.

June 16, 17, 18, 1939—West Englewood.

July 15, 16, 1939—Green Acre.

September 2, 3, 4, 1939—Toronto.

Public meeting September 1.

October 13, 14, 15, 1939—San Francisco. Public meeting October 12.

December 1, 2, 3, 1939—West Englewood. Public meeting and regional conference at New York, November 30.


February 29, March 1, March 2, 1940—West Englewood.

April 5, 6 and 7, 1940—West Englewood.

April 24, 1940—Evanston.

“NEWLY UNDERTAKEN CAMPAIGN CENTRAL AMERICA”

A strong foundation has been laid for Inter-America teaching work during the past few years, with the establishment of a Bahá’í community in Mexico City, the formation of study groups in South America by Mrs. Stewart, the teaching and publicity accomplished by Miss Beatrice Irwin, Mrs. Louise Mathews, Mrs. Nellie S. French, Mrs. Joel Stebbins, Mr. Philip Marangella and Mr. William deForge, and the schedule of translation and publication into Spanish developed with the cooperation of the Spiritual Assembly of Mexico City.

A new and more powerful impulse has been given this activity by actions taken in consultation with the Inter-America Committee since the Convention. It has been decided to apply the language qualification as indicated by the Guardian, and also to make certain that each pioneer can enter the country under conditions making it possible to remain long enough to establish a Bahá’í group.

The definite projects already approved include: Mrs. Louise Caswell to remain six months in Panama for study and survey of conditions. Mr. Philip Marangella is to proceed to Cuba. Miss Eve Nicklin will return to Brazil for settlement in Rio de Janeiro. Antonio Rocca will go as pioneer to Honduras. Mr. Mathew Kasah has notified the National Assembly of his departure for Panama.

Other important projects are under consideration and in process, and will be reported as soon as possible.

An entirely new phase in the development of the Seven Year Plan is definitely under way, and its success requires the most ardent support of the entire American Bahá’í community.

GEYSERVILLE SUMMER SCHOOL

Program of Thirteenth Annual Session

July 2-23, 1939

Devotions: 9:00 A. M. daily, Bahá’í Auditorium.

Unity Feasts: The annual reunion of believers and guests, 12:00 noon, Sunday, July 2 and July 16.

Study classes: 10:00 A. M. to 12:00 noon daily, except Sundays, in Bahá’í Auditorium.

Courses of Study: The Advent of Divine Justice.

1. The Spiritual Unfoldment of Humanity.

2. Bridges of Human Relationships.

3. World Order of Bahá’u’lláh.

Program of first week to be repeated the third week.

Public meetings: Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 8:00 P. M.

Children’s activities: Study classes daily, 9:45 A. M., except Sundays.

Youth Panel discussions: Daily except Sundays.

Subjects—The Young Bahá’ís in the world today; The practice of Bahá’í teaching.

Accommodations

Reservations should be made immediately through Miss Ruth Westgate, Herbert Hotel, 161 Powell Street, San Francisco.

Rates per person: $2.00 per week in outside rooms; $3.00 per week in upstairs room of dormitory; $5.00 per week in first floor rooms of dormitory.

GREEN ACRE RESERVATIONS

Special rate during Youth Week for young people up to 25 years of age, $10.00.

The rate for room and board at Green Acre Inn, $13.00 to $22.00 per week. Corner rooms on second or third floor, $22.00 single, $20.00 as double room.

Front rooms, second floor, $20.00 single, $18.00 double.

Other main hall rooms, second floor, $18.00 single, $16.00 double.

Rooms in wing, second floor, $16.00 single, $14.00 double.

Rooms on third floor, $14.00 to $20.00.

Ten dormitory rooms, $13.00 double.

Cottage rooms, first floor, $15.00 single, $13.00 double. Second floor, $15.00.
The above rates include room and board per week.

Reservations should be made as soon as possible through Mrs. Flora Valentine, Manager, 142 Regent Street, Saratoga Springs, N. Y., to June 1. After June 1, address Green Acre Inn, Eliot, Maine.

LOUHELEN SUMMER SCHOOL
Special Notice

Those coming to the Laboratory Session of Louheilen Summer School are requested to bring as far as possible: "Some Answered Questions", "Bahá’í Scriptures", "Gleanings", "Promulgation of Universal Peace", "Foundations of World Unity", "Hindustan", Mrs. Haig’s outline entitled "Conditions of Existence: Servitude, Prophethood, Deity". Also please study in advance pages 6-9 in this outline (formerly entitled "The Three Worlds").

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Library Committee announces that the following books are available for presentation to new public, college and university libraries: The Bahá’í World (current volume), Some Answered Questions, Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era, Foundations of World Unity, Security for a Failing World. Several of these titles will be sent to any librarian who will place our books on her circulating shelves.

We suggest that traveling teachers contact us for library information on the states which they plan to visit. Also, would the teachers try to drop a card immediately upon making a library contact giving the librarian’s name and address to facilitate placing books? Books will reach the library within a week or so.

All library information is welcomed by this committee; lists of Bahá’í books already on the shelves; reports of circulation; librarian and reader receptivity; a brief summary of local Bahá’í activity. This enables us to judge library needs. It is also important that we do not duplicate books already available.

We supply book reviews to be published in local newspapers. We advise that you secure the librarian’s approval and cooperate with her at all times before publishing any announcement or reviews. Make the librarian a friend of the Cause whenever possible.

This committee would like to make our library records as complete as possible to be of greater service to teachers, and to enable us to indicate
NO GREATER DEMONSTRATION

A STATEMENT BY THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE

"No greater demonstration can be given to the peoples of both continents of the youthful vitality and the vibrant power animating the life, and the institutions of the nascent Faith of Bahá'u'lláh than an intelligent, persistent, and effective participation of the Bahaí Youth, of every race, nationality, and class, in both the teaching and administrative spheres of Bahá'i activity."

Who among the Bahá'í youth of America has failed to thrill at these stirring words of Our Guardian in "The Advent of Divine Justice," as he calls us to active participation in the teaching program of the National Spiritual Assembly?

"Though lacking in experience and faced with insufficient resources, yet the adventurous spirit which they possess, and the vigor, the alertness, and optimism they have thus far so consistently shown, qualify them to play an active part in arousing the interest, and in securing the allegiance, of their fellow youth in those countries."

Thus does he tell us that we, too, have a part to play in the establishment of the Faith in the countries of Latin and South America.

"Through such a participation the critics and enemies of the Faith, watching with varying degrees of skepticism and resentment, the evolutionary processes of the Cause of God and its institutions, can best be convinced of the indubitable truth that such a Cause is intensely alive, is sound to its very core."

It is to this second requirement that the National Youth Committee wishes to call attention at this time. Some young people, no doubt, are already familiar with Spanish, having studied it in high school or college. Many others who are still in school will make it a point to include this in their program of study when returning to classes next year.

For the benefit of the remaining young people who have finished their schooling, we recommend that each Youth Group, wherever possible, provide its members with the means for studying these two languages. It may be possible to do this by employing government-paid teachers, or by sharing the cost of lessons once or twice each week. Whatever method is used, we should keep always in mind our objective, which is to prepare ourselves for service under the Inter-America Committee.

There can be no doubt that if we do this we shall have taken another significant step toward the fulfillment of our destiny "under the shadow of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh," and it is hoped that every young Bahá'í in America will arise to "intelligent, persistent, and effective participation ... in both the teaching and administrative spheres of Bahá'i activity."

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


*In the March issue this enrollment of 8 was by error assigned to Cincinnati.

IN MEMORIAM

It is clear and evident that when the veils that conceal the realities of the manifestations of the Names and Attributes of God, nay of all created things visible or invisible, have been rent asunder, nothing except the Sign of God will remain—a sign which He, Himself, hath placed within these realities. This sign will endure as long as is the wish of the Lord thy God, the Lord of the heavens and of the earth. If such be the blessings conferred on all created things, how superior must be the destiny of the true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation—Baha'u'llah.

Mrs. Corinne Westerman, Peoria.
Mrs. Elma Miessler, Lima.
Mrs. Cora Lyon Houston-Brown, San Antonio.
Mr. Will C. Allen, Berkeley.
Mr. Omar Wolfe, Racine.
Mr. Mathew A. White, Phoenix.
Mrs. Elizabeth Rudißle, Bellingham, Washington.
MY PLEA, MY SUPREME ENTREATY

Letter from Shoghi Effendi

Dear Co-workers:

I have in two recent, successive messages, called to your Assembly, giving expression, as far as it lay in my power, to the feelings of overpowering gratitude which the response of so many pioneers to the call of teaching has evoked in my heart. I have moreover felt impelled to convey my congratulations to the members of your Assembly who, through their resource, unity and single-mindedness, have lent so needed and timely an impetus to the mighty work associated with the second year of the Seven Year Plan. There can be no doubt whatever that what the American believers, no less than their elected national representatives, have accomplished, the long and assiduous care of the former and the potent methods employed by the latter, have witnessed to the uprising of a new spirit on which the defamers of the Cause may well pause to reflect, and from which its lovers cannot but derive deep joy and solace. I again wish to thank with all my soul those whose acts have stirred the imagination of friend and foe alike.

In my desire not to omit anything that might help to spur on or reinforce the community of the American believers as they move on to their destiny, I feel it necessary to add a word of warning in connection with the work that has been so splendidly begun lest it should be jeopardized or frustrated.

The initial phase of the teaching work operating under the Seven Year Plan has at long last been concluded. They who have pushed it forward have withstood the test gloriously. By their acts, whether as teachers or administrators, they have written a glorious page in the struggle for the laying of a continent-wide foundation for the administrative Order of their Faith. At this advanced stage in the fulfilment of the purpose to which they have set their hand there can be no turning back, no halting, no respite. To launch the bark of the Faith, to implant its banner, is not enough. Support, ample, organized and unremitting, should be lent, designed to direct the course of that work and to lay an unassailable foundation for the fort destined to stand guard over that banner.

The National Spiritual Assembly, the National Teaching Committee, the Regional and local teaching committees, no less than the itinerant teachers, should utilize every possible means calculated to fan the zeal, enrich the resources and insuring the solidarity and permanency of the work, of those who, actuated by so laudable and shining a spirit of self-sacrifice, have arisen to face the hazards and perils of so holy and historic an adventure. Indeed every believer, however humble and inexperienced, should sense the obligation to play his or her part in a mission that involves so very deeply the destinies not only of the American Bahá’í community but of the nation itself.

Whether through the frequency of their visits, the warmth of their correspondence, the liberality of their support, the wisdom of their counsels, the choice of the literature placed at the disposal of the pioneers, the members of the community should, at this hour when the sands of a moribund civilization are inexorably running out, and at a time when they are preparing themselves to launch yet another stage in their teaching activities, insure the security and provide for the steady expansion, of the work initiated in those territories so recently set alight from the torch of an inextinguishable Faith. This is my plea, my supreme entreaty.

Your true and grateful brother,
April 17, 1939.

Shoghi

The following portion of the same letter was written by the Guardian through his secretary:

Before closing I wish to express once again the feelings of unbounded satisfaction and gratitude that fill the heart of our beloved Guardian at the repeated evidences of the steady extension of pioneer teaching in both the Northern and Southern America, and at the unanimous and unconditional response made to his recent teaching appeals by the individual believers, local Assemblies, regional and national teaching committees and last, but not least, by the distinguished members of your own Assembly who have assuredly spared no effort to coordinate, and reinforce the activities and
sources of the entire community towards the accomplishment of the colossal task set forth by the Seven Year Plan. Such exemplary response, truly reminiscent of the intrepid faith, fearless courage and irreproachable fidelity so characteristic of the immortal pioneers of the Heroic Age of the Cause, indeed befits the high spiritual rank which the American believers so deservedly and incontestably enjoy. It surely cannot but excite the envy and the admiration of all their sister communities, whether in the East or in the West, and, in particular, offer true and abiding solace to those of their co-religionists who, though harrassed and persecuted, turn their eager and conﬁdent hearts to their dear American brethren, whose inestimable privilege it is now to compensate, through their heroic exploits, what their disabled fellow-believers are prevented from accomplishing for the further spread and greater glory of their faith.

PRAYER FOR THE TEMPLE

O God! O God! We implore Thee with throbbing heart and streaming tears to aid each one who strives in the erection of the house of the Lord wherein Thy Name is mentioned at morn and eventide.

O Lord, send down Thy benediction on whosoever serves this ediﬁce and aids in the upraising of this Temple for the unity of all sects and religions. Conﬁrm him in every good deed among mankind; open the doors of riches and wealth unto him; and make him an inheritor of the treasures of the Kingdom which perish not; cause him to be a sign of giving unto the people; uphold him by the sea of Thy bounty and generosity, which forever surges with the waves of Thy grace and favor. Verily, Thou art the Generous, the Bountiful, the All-Glorious!—'Abdu'l-Bahá.

"MUST Usher in... THROUGH LIVING SACRIFICE"

The objectives chosen for the Third Year of the Seven Year Plan were previ­ously set forth in the ﬁrst volume of Bahá’í News. The objectives are nothing else but the progressive steps of progress which every American Bahá’í Community must undertake in the pursuit of its one and clearly deﬁned goal. The speciﬁc nature of the observable actions is thoroughly outlined in the Annual Budget for 1939. The ﬁrst step consists in thorough, widespread, inquiring and concerted efforts to impress the friends with the need of consideration of the details of that Plan. The entire American Bahá’í Community, and not merely parts of it here and there, must be fully conscious that the value and signiﬁcance of the present Bahá’í year depend upon our success in achieving this minimum of result.

The next step beyond knowledge of the Plan is the spirit of consecration by which every dormant faculty will be quickened and the latent capacities awakened to the plane of decisional action. We are but dimly aware of what one consecrated personality can accomplish through the power of the Holy Spirit, though we have before us the inspiring record of the Bahá’í heroes, saints and martyrs to attest the validity of the supreme miracle. Even less have we become aware of what a united Bahá’í Community can achieve, when imbued with one spirit, resolved upon one goal, concentrated upon one effort and advancing along one path. The Third Year Plan, marking the successive stages to the Advent of Divine Justice, is not a period of time which we can traverse passively as passengers in a ship. It is a period of spiritual struggle, each soul with itself, for the attainment of that Victory which the Divine Will can alone achieve through humble and devoted servants. The Third Year is already advanced. We now have but eleven months remaining. The task can not be laid down a single day, but every hour has its vital part. Through living sacrifice we are to reveal ourselves as Bahá’ís, and not by doctrinal belief alone.

The necessities of the Seven Year Plan, in fact, are our Divine protection from the visible and invisible po­ne­ slings of a collapsing civilization. Our tasks and difficulties are our mysterious endowment of grace from on High. In single-heartedness of devotion and consecration of effort we shall stand within the Providence of assurance in this Day when the foundations of the nations tremble and are hid low.

Therefore let us employ, more unit­edly, more courageously and more de­terminedly than ever before, those blessed means given us to acquire capacity to serve the Faith of Bahá’u’l-

"OFFICIAL INAUGURATION... WORLD MISSION"

Newly-launched Central American campaign marks official inauguration (of) long deferred World Mission constituting 'Abdu'l-Bahá’s distinctive legacy (to) the Bahá’í Community (of) North America. Chosen Community broadening its basis, gaining (in) stature, deepening (in) consecration. Its vanguard now entering arena monopolized (by) entrenched forces (of) Christendom’s mightiest ecclesiastical institutions. Laboring amidst race foreign in language, custom, temperament embracing vast proportion (of) New World’s ethnic elements. American believers’ isolated overseas teaching enterprises hitherto tentative, intermittent, now at end. New epoch opening, demanding exertions incomparably more strenuous, unfaincreasingly sustained, centrally directed, systematically organized, ef­ficiently conducted. Upon alacrity, tenacity, fearlessness of (present pro­secutors of the) unfolding mission depend speedy (and) fullest revelation, in the First and (the) Second Centuries, (of the) potentialities of the birthright conferred (upon) American believers. Convey (to) pioneers (in) North, Middle (and) South America my eagerness (to) maintain with each direct, personal contact. Assure Teaching (and) Inter-America Com­mittees (my) delight (at) successive testimonies (of) believers’ glowing spirit reflected (in) Minutes, letters (and) reports recently received. En­treat every section (of) community (to) labor unremittingly until every nation (in) Western Hemisphere (is) illumined (by) rays (and) woven (into) fabric (of) Bahá’u’lláh triumphant Administrative Order.

Received May 28, 1939. Shoghi.
Bahá’í News

Cablegram from Shoghi Effendi

Progress reflected (in) recently published National Reports inspiring, significant. Convey (to) responsible Committees abundant gratitude, heartfelt congratulations. Advise mail one copy (to) each Community (of) Bahá’í World as example worthy emulation, as source (of) abiding comfort, as stimulus (of) greater exertions, nobler perseverance.

Shoghi

Received May 9, 1939.

National Archives Announcement

Among the gifts made to the National Archives during the Convention were two collections of the Tablets of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, one of these comprising thirty original Persian Tablets addressed to Mrs. Agnes S. Parsons, and the other, eighteen original Persian Tablets to Mrs. Marie A. Watson. Both collections are accompanied by typed copies of original translations, and both were presented by Miss Leone S. Clair Barnitz of Washington, in whose keeping these Tablets had been placed by Mrs. Parsons.

A number of sacred relics which belonged originally to members of the Holy Household were presented by Mr. Roy Whilhelm and by Miss Jessie E. Revell. The gifts made by the latter were formerly the possessions of Miss Elizabeth H. Stewart, who received them from Persian believers.

For Parents and Teachers

Prayer

There is no habit as necessary to the spiritual well being of our children as the habit of prayer.

From Mr. Harry Ford, superintendent of schools in Little Falls, New York, comes a helpful statement based on his own experience. “Prayers may come as naturally from the child as the songs that flow through his lips when he feels physical and mental happiness. . . . Prayer may be a part of helping a child catch happy thoughts or see lovely things. When he is filled with joyous feelings, it is easy to instill the idea of a kind God, a just God, a loving God. . . . Early he may feel the need of help in being good, in heeding the instructions of parent or teacher, in being kind and gentle. What greater help can he find than talking it over, conversation with God Who has given the promise of help?”

Teach the child the value of the
pause, the 'rest' in the symphony of life. (Later we may call it meditation.) The pause renders the soul receptive toward God.

"The child loves the rhythmic sounds that come from the read or repeated word, even before he can understand them. There are many simple prayers from Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá. They may be read to the child. If he wants to repeat or learn some of them, it is an indication that his capacity has developed to a point where he can benefit by such learning."

As children grow older, sit down with them until prayer becomes a habit. Bahá'u'lláh enjoins: "Chant (or recite) the Words of God every morning and evening. The one who neglects those who understand."

There are many simple prayers from Bahá'u'lláh and His agreement, and he who turns away from it today is of those who have turned away from God."

However, it is well, even as adults, to measure our capacity; how much more the capacity of the child! Bahá'u'lláh makes this further statement: "To chant but one verse with joy and gladness is better for you than reading all the Revelations of the Omnipotent God with carelessness.

Burden not the soul so as to cause exhaustion and languor, but rather refresh it that thus it may soar on the wings of Revelation, to the dawning place of proofs. This brings you nearer to God, were ye of those who understand." This is very important, for the child's spirit should be made bright with prayer.

To the Bahá'í child there is a world of meaning in one short prayer. A mid-western mother reports that Carol, aged five, astonished a neighbor by taking the hand of her small child who was unhappy, saying, "Come, we will sit down and have a prayer to remove difficulties, and you will be happy again!"

Every child is a little bundle of growing habits, and every day is important in forming them. You may use a verse from the supplications of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, or even a single line from the matchless utterance of His Holiness, Bahá'u'lláh; it is all good. The important thing is to get started.

Summer Reading

Vacation days for the children are here, and summer reading offers innumerable opportunities to broaden the sympathies, appreciations and qualities desirable in child mind and heart. A brief story and book list is suggested below, and to this every mother or teacher, with the help of a good reference librarian, may add.

The important thing is to get started.


One further word. While the suggestive power of the story book is not to be minimized, again and again let us remind ourselves that familiarity with the words of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and our Guardian are more effective in moulding character than every other branch of learning. Before introducing these meaningful stories to the children, it is suggested that some of the more simple, direct quotations that seem related to the themes of the stories be read to them, and a few lines memorized. Summer lessons in faith may thus be combined with the happy reading hour.

PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Bahá'í World, Vol. VII

The international Bahá'í record for the period 1936-1938 is now in print. The current volume is larger than any previous volume, containing 920 pages. There are 152 illustrations, frontispiece in six colors of the Seal of Bahá'u'lláh, map showing teaching areas.
84 reproductions of documents and 58 reproductions of music, a total of 294 halftone plates.

The Guardian has given special emphasis to this work, both in its value to believers in keeping them informed of events throughout the Bahá’í world, and as an impressive medium for teaching. Bound in cloth. Per copy, $3.00 net.

Advent of Divine Justice

This is now available in fabrikoid at $0.75, and in paper cover at $0.25 per copy.

Goal of New World Order

An Esperanto translation of the Guardian’s letter has been made by Miss Lidia Zamenhof. A mimeograph edition. Per copy, $0.15.

The Image of God

A four-page folder reproducing the Master’s address on the oneness of mankind to the Annual Convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 1912. Prepared by the National Assembly for Bahá’íanity teaching. Sold only in lots of 100. For 100 copies, $2.00 net.

Security for a Failing World

The well-known book by Stanwood Cobb brought out in a paper-bound edition at a lower price which should make it possible to use it more extensively in teaching. Per copy, $0.75.

Character

This work, by Stanwood Cobb, the Publishing Committee can now supply, but as the Committee does not carry stock, but fills orders through another source, cash should be sent in ordering it.

Concerning this book, the Guardian wrote to Prof. Cobb the following on December 15, 1938, which is published with the Guardian’s consent:

“He fully approves of the method you have adopted of presenting the teachings indirectly in that book, and in a way that would not seem propagandic, and trusts that this will serve to attract the interest of the non-Bahá’í leaders to the Cause. The book, the Guardian feels, is not only of considerable value to the teaching work, but should also prove of special interest to the believers, and in particular to the young Bahá’ís, who can derive from its perusal the knowledge and guidance necessary for the training and upbuilding of their character. The friends should therefore welcome this new publication, and endeavor to use it in their studies, and also as a means for the teaching and spread of the Cause.” Per copy, $1.25.

Baha’i Catalog

A new catalog is available, corrected to April 1, 1939. Copies will be supplied to Assemblies on request, and Assemblies are urged to make use of them, but with discrimination.

Study Outline

The Dispensation of Bahá’u’lláh

The compiler requests the friends using this Outline to note the following corrections: Page 13, Lesson I, No. 4; False p. 9; Lesson VI, No. 4; True p. 40; Lesson VIII, No. 5; False p. 56; No. 7, True p. 55.

INTER-AMERICA TEACHING

The Inter-America Committee shares with the believers the following excerpt from a letter written by Mrs. Frances Benedict Stewart dated Buenos Aires, May 19, 1939.

“The group here is delighted that I am remaining one more month and I spend one afternoon a week with the people helping in translations and then we meet every Friday evening for our regular Bahá’í Study Group, meeting at the home of Miss Elizabeth Howard Saavedra—a wonderful young woman, widely known and dearly loved here. Her ancestors are of the old colonial families and her grandfather an admiral of the Argentine Navy. She is tireless in introducing me to very important people and the Bahá’í interest grows every week. I have met with Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, English, German, Jewish and American groups and out of each are people prepared for this message and anxious to write of it to friends in their respective home lands. Tonight I am invited to the home of Mr. who was the Ambassador from Czechoslovakia. He and his wife and two wonderful sons have invited a group of friends to hear me speak of the Bahá’í Cause. Among their guests will be some French, Belgians and Yugoslavs. May Bahá’u’lláh give me the right words, for these are all very important people in this city and can be a great force for the Cause here. Somehow my heart is very happy and I feel much will come from this gathering. After every group meeting people come up to me and urge me to meet other groups—to come to their homes to meet individuals they know would be interested in this message and so the Blessed Name is being repeated more and more each day and I feel so certain the Cause will have deep roots here and grow into a great Tree of Blessing to the whole nation.”
NATIONAL PRESS BOOK REPORT

Since the last Press Book report of November 1938, many news clippings have been mailed in to this Committee indicative of a great increase of publicity work in pioneer territory.

From the state of Arizona, Phoenix and Glendale have mailed in a large number of splendid news articles from Coolidge, Mesa, and Tucson as well as from Phoenix and Glendale. A picture of the Temple with a long article on the Temple appeared in the Coolidge Examiner. Such an article and picture appeared also in the Glendale News among other articles of explanation on the Faith. Mesa is a new project, and the friends have succeeded in obtaining space for publicity in the Mesa Journal Tribune.

Miss Georgy Fitzgerald of Los Angeles has been most successful in obtaining publicity for the Cause during the National Assembly meeting there in February. Many, many articles, pictures of the Temple and National Assembly members were printed not only in Los Angeles papers but also in Santa Monica, Hollywood and Huntington Park papers. This year, news clippings have also come from Riverside, Whittier and Long Beach through the efforts of the Los Angeles friends. Los Angeles has covered a large amount of territory with very effective publicity.

Mrs. French still writes her column, Loom of Reality, with great success. Most outstanding was the newspaper publicity in connection with Pasadana’s Amity Banquet last December. Both the Pasadena Star-News and the Pasadena Post carried long accounts of the speeches after the dinner and long articles about the dinner before the event.

Glendale, California, through the efforts of Mrs. Shirley Wardle succeeded in obtaining newspaper space concerning the meetings of Mrs. Helen Bishop.

San Francisco obtained publicity in large amounts for their January meeting on the Oneness of Mankind. Miss Lucy Marshall has now taken over the publicity work of Mrs. Kevah Munson who has moved to Los Angeles. Many papers in towns near and far have been successfully contacted by the San Francisco publicity committee. We covered the splendid work done for the Glendale session in the last report. San Francisco also reached as far as Reno, Nevada where the papers carried Baha’i publicity at the time of Mrs. Seto’s teaching visit there. The papers of Budde carried a picture of the Temple with an article.

In Canada, the Hamilton and Toronto, Ontario, papers have carried a great deal of publicity due to the successful efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Ives. Mrs. Gertrude King of San Francisco stopped last year in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and stopped at the editor’s office. The result was a short notice of her visit and a mention of the Cause.

Mrs. Anna L. Duffy has consistently obtained space for long articles on the Cause in the Norwich, Connecticut, Bulletin.

Washington, D. C., obtained space for a picture of the Temple showing the actual work on the gallery section.

Margaret Atwater of Miami has been successful in her efforts in Gainesville as well as Miami. Long articles signed with her name have appeared from time to time all this last year. Jacksonville, Florida has obtained space for meeting notices with quotations from the writings in the Times-Union. There also appeared in a German paper, the Florida’s Deutsches Echo, in Miami, two articles on the Cause by Margaret Atwater; one article on the Temple with a picture and one on Bahá’í, the Manifestation of God, also with a picture.

Outstanding work is being done in Key West, Florida by Mrs. Elizabeth Greenleaf, who is the only Baha’i in that city. Recently she was successful in having the picture of the Temple printed with a long article on the Temple and the Faith.

Our international section of the Press Book has grown to include an article on Esperanto appearing in a South African paper written by Miss Roan Orloff of Boston. Phillip Marengello made a teaching trip to Havana, Cuba and obtained publicity in a Cuban paper. The picture of ‘Abdu’l-Baha was printed and notices about Mr. Marengello. While in Dubu, last spring, he was instrumental in receiving a great deal of publicity for the Cause in a Finnish paper.

William DeForge of Teaneck made a trip to Santo Domingo last fall and was responsible for a publicity article in Spanish. A long article in a San Juan, Puerto Rico paper also was due to his effort.

Marvin Newport who was responsible for such splendid publicity work last summer in Liberty, New York, has done equally fine work in many places since then. In the early autumn he visited Coleraine, Minnesota where he obtained space for a picture of the Temple and an article. He visited Pekin and Carlinville, Illinois where he interviewed the local papers in carrying articles on the Cause. Later he stopped in Little Rock, Arkansas, and was instrumental in having an item printed about the Cause.

In Illinois there are several pioneer ventures that have included newspaper interest. Some clippings from Moline, came from the effort of Mrs. Gertrude Struven of Wilmette and Mrs. Gayle Woolson of St. Paul. Newspapers of Batavia, Aurora and St. Charles carried many articles and pictures both of the Temple and of Mr. Holley who spoke at a large pioneer public meeting in St. Charles. This great amount of publicity was due to the efforts of the members of the publicity committee of Maywood. Maywood also did a splendid piece of publicity work in the local papers arranging the reproduction of the Temple picture many times as well as various articles on the Cause.

Nina Matthiesen of Bristol, Wisconsin, gave a set of Bahá’í books to the public library of Antioch, Illinois—a neighboring town—and was responsible for placing the book reviews of these books with the local paper, which were printed. Newspaper clippings on the Cause have also been received from Marion, Illinois.

Many neighborhood papers in Chicago have printed notices, reports and articles on the Cause through the efforts of Mrs. Katherine Mortensen.

Mrs. Gaines of Urbana did an outstanding piece of publicity work in Champaign and Urbana when the National Assembly met there in December. Long articles on the meetings, the personalities and the Regional Teaching Conference were printed in the three local papers. Danville, Illinois, is a pioneer teaching project of Urbana, this year, and the Danville Commercial-News has carried quite a number of pictures of speakers and the reports of meetings held there.

Mrs. Gertrude Struven has been most successful in obtaining space for progress pictures of the Temple and a number of articles on events at the Temple as well as explanatory articles on the Cause in the Wilmette Life. This publicity has come about after years of patient and consistent work.

Peoria and Springfield have had publicity in relation to a number of public meetings with out-of-town speakers, some of them members of the National Assembly.

It is with great deference that we speak of the very splendid work being done by Mrs. Gayle Woolson in Iowa. She has spoken to a large number of
organizations. These meetings have been reported in the papers with some principles of the Cause mentioned from time to time. Long articles on the Temple with pictures have been printed in many papers. She has sent us innumerable clippings from papers of five Iowa towns near Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Mt. Vernon, Marion, Davenport and Iowa City papers, and other activities. Mrs. Woolson was also instrumental in obtaining publicity for the Cause in Hudson, Minnesota, where she and Miss Steinmetz held meetings and did pioneer work under the auspices of the St. Paul Assembly. St. Paul itself has been successful in having notices of its meetings printed and several large pictures of the Temple.

In a St. Louis, Missouri, paper there appeared a large picture of the Temple.

A number of Bahá'í groups and assemblies in Michigan have obtained publicity for the Cause through the public meetings held with Mrs. Margery McCormick and Mrs. Ruth Moffett. Battle Creek, Ludington, Grand Rapids, Grosse Point, Detroit, Grand Haven, Muskegon, Ann Arbor and Marysville have all carried on publicity work through the work of circuit teachers.

Butte, Montana, has received numerous mentions in newspapers through the agency of Bahá'í public meetings and other activities. Mrs. Lorol Jackson and Mrs. Edwina Powell have assisted in this effort.

The Red Bank, New Jersey, Standard has carried a large number of articles on the Cause as a result of the successful efforts of Mrs. Stuart Sims. Teaneck, New Jersey has continued its usual persistent and continuous publicity effort by arranging for the printing of notices and articles.

In New York state, Ithaca, Washington Heights, Syracuse, Rochester, Yonkers, Geneva, Binghamton and Buffalo have been active in obtaining publicity for the Cause in local papers. Mrs. Marzieh Carpenter assisted with public meetings in Buffalo. Her picture and a report of the meeting were printed.

In a Plainsville, Ohio, paper there was space given to the principles of the Cause. Mrs. Ruth Moffett was responsible for this work. The Lima School of the Air is given much space in Lima, Ohio. The friends have been ingenious in arranging effective display ads for the newspapers. They have been most successful also in obtaining space for long articles on local activities with pictures of speakers.

The newspapers of Columbus, Cincinnati, Toledo and Dayton, Ohio, have carried notices of Bahá'í activities and notices about the Cause through the efforts of the friends in each of these cities. The items about Convention delegates seem to be of special interest to newspapers.

Philadelphia and Scranton, Pennsylvania, have been consistently active in arranging for space for comment on Bahá'í activities and explanations of the principles of the Cause.

Knoxville, Tennessee, papers have accepted items on Bahá'í activities and ideals through the successful efforts of Mrs. Louise Caswell. Mr. Klus of Chicago has received mention for the Cause in a Houston, Texas, newspaper.

Sound Bend, Indiana, has been active and successful in obtaining newspaper space for the reporting of Bahá'í meetings, notices of activities and explanations of the Bahá'í principles.

In the state of Wisconsin we have received many publicity clippings from Kenosha, Racine, and Milwaukee. Kenosha has found effective publicity in reporting in some detail the outline of Forum discussions held every week.

Mrs. Russell of Madison has continued to receive space for articles on the Cause.

Although the National Press Book, so far this year, has had clippings from only fifty-one Assemblies, nevertheless its pages are filled with newspaper articles and notices from many pioneer centers where there are only groups or isolated believers.

The Press Book that will go to Shoghi Effendi will be on display at the Convention. We hope that the Friends will take the time to look through its pages and share with us the thrill of watching the growing interest in the Bahá'í Cause.

**BAHA'I NEWS SERVICE.**

**IN MEMORIAM**

By the sorrows which afflict the beauty of the All-Glorious! Such is the station ordained for the true believer that if to an extent smaller than a needle's eye the glory of that station were to be unveiled to mankind, every beholder would be consumed away in his longing to attain it—BAHÁ'U'LÁH.

Mr. Henry Grasmere, Montclair.

Mrs. Shahnaz Waite, Los Angeles.

Miss Emma Reed, Boston.

Mrs. Doris Richards, Yonkers.

**ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS**


**NEWS OF THE EAST AND WEST**

The monthly news letter of the National Spiritual Assembly of Iran contains the following excerpt from a letter received from the Guardian on the characteristics of a Bahá’í.

"Today the greatest foundation and most reliable criterion is good deeds, not words. Whatever body of men has
this basis is confirmed and has Truth on its side, and whatever group lacks it is deprived of God's bounty. All fame, all argument, if not supported and accompanied by good deeds and conduct and worthy morals, is rejected and repudiated by the entire world.

"Good conduct, a spirit of fellowship, affection, union, cooperation, purity of heart and honesty are the distinguishing characteristics of the friends. For these qualities, of which the people of the world are deprived, are the first and last convincing proof of this Cause. This is the reliable touchstone, and the only distinguishing feature of Bahá'ís as compared with other peoples. It is the prime object of all Prophets, and the sole distinguishing characteristic of the friends. The friends, a new sovereignty, a new name and recognition, and the innumerable disasters borne by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, is not the creation of a new brotherhood, but the realization of the oldest desires of the past, that is, the brotherhood of man."

The following account of Youth Activities is taken from the Bahá'í News Letter of the National Spiritual Assembly of India and Burma, March, 1939.

"We are overjoyed to report that five of our youth groups participated in the 4th Annual Youth Symposium on February 26th. The program chocked out by the American Youth Committee was adopted at all centers with some modifications suited to our Country. Youth Plans for the whole year have also been formulated. There will be three meetings during the year and weekly study classes in which "Some Answered Questions" will be studied according to the outline published in the Bahá'í News of America. Iranian and Urdu translations of this outline may be called for direct from the National Secretary. We give below the proceedings of those Groups' meetings which have come to our hands before going to press.

"Karachi:—The Symposium was held on February 26th; and although the weather was abnormally bad, the attendance was most satisfactory. Press publicity had preceded the meeting. Prof. H. C. Kumar was in the chair. The following program was gone through:

1. Opening Prayer by Jamshid Pur-i-Khursandi; (2) Poems and Prayers by Children; (3) Ibrahim Manji, Duties of the Youth (in Gujarati); (4) Shah Beltram Mazkori, Universal Faith (in Iranian); (5) Farid­doon Yazamedi, Lost Horizon and the History of the Bahá'í Faith (in Urdu); (6) Azezullah Rastani, Oneness of Religions (in Iranian); (7) Mehrab Janshed—Oneness of Religions (in English); (8) The President summed up and concluded his speech with the following words: 'The Remedy for the ills of the world today is the Teachings of Bahá'u'lláh.' The meeting came to a close with a chanting of prayers in English by Rustam Arshar Janshadi and in Persian by Farid­doon Yazamedi. Light refreshments were served.

"Bombay:—The Bahá'í Youth Group of Bombay observed the Fourth Annual World Bahá'í Youth Symposium on February 26; in the Bahá'í Hall when Mr. Jannudas Mehta, M. L. A., presided. The Hall was packed to its utmost capacity and many prominent ladies and gentlemen were present.

The proceedings opened with a prayer by Miss Daulat Jamshid Hakimian. In explaining the real significance of the Symposium the president said that the Bahá'í Youth all over the world today observed this day with great eclat and the real object of doing it was to convey the Message of Peace and Unity, as propagated by Bahá'u'lláh, the Founder of the Bahá'í Faith, to the leading citizen of the world. He further said that it was a praiseworthy object and we should all greatly admire and encourage their efforts in this direction.

"Mr. K. B. Manavi spoke in Gu­jerati on 'The Horizon Regained.' Dr. K. M. Irani explained in English the fundamental Teachings of the Bahá'í Faith, Miss Meherangiz Boman Irani told the audience what real leadership ought to be like. She was followed by Mr. Shaukat Hashmi who spoke in Urdu on the Bahá'í Teachings.

"The President in his closing remarks, said that what greatly attracted him towards the Bahá'í Faith was its principle of the Independent Investigation of Truth. This same Teaching is in the Bhagwát Gita but as it is not followed in practice it needed reiteration and therefore Bahá'u'lláh has laid great stress on it. There is no coercion whatever in the Bahá'í Faith. Every one is free to investigate and find out the Truth for himself or herself and then to accept it.

"Miss Koochangiz Kationars proposed a vote of thanks to the chair and Miss Boman Irani garlanded the President. After Mr. Rustom M. Naimi had recited the closing prayer, the friends partook of light refreshments and the meeting dispersed.

"Poona.—The Bahá'í Youth, as usual, showed exceptional zeal and devotion in the observance of the Annual Youth Symposium. An impressive meeting was held at the National Hotel, opposite Railway Station. Extensive press publicity had been done and the meeting was well attended. Bahá'í Literature was tastefully exhibited and the display roused the interest of some sincere seekers who finally carried away some books with them. The following program was gone through:—

(1) Prayer; (2) "Abdu'l-Bahá's Faith (a lecture); (3) Thy Remembrance is my Remedy (a song); (4) Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá; (5) Word Order (a lecture); (6) Reading from the Hidden words of Bahá'u'lláh; (7) Benediction (with music). Light refreshments were served.

""Bahá'í Magazine: Herald of the South" is published quarterly by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Australia and New Zealand, at Box 447 D, G. P. O., Station, Adelaide, South Australia, subscription rate five shillings. The Editors are L. V. Clark and D. M. Dugdale.

The latest issue received, dated January, 1939, contains an Editorial, 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Warning To the Jews (the interview with a Jewish Rabbi in Washington, D. C.), Answered Questions, a series of questions with brief answers taken from Bahá'í literature, Arms and Purposes of the Bahá'í Faith, continuation of Esperanto translation of "The Goal of a New World Order," words of Bahá'u'lláh on This Day, Current Topics, by E. A. Blundell, Thou Hast Asked, by Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick.

Our distinguished International Bahá'í teacher, Miss Martha L. Root, is arriving at San Francisco from Auckland, N. Z., on board the Mari­posa, due in that city on June 13. The National Spiritual Assembly will consult with her as to how best may be fulfilled the Guardian's wishes as expressed in the Guardian's first cablegram to the Convention. Miss Root plans to spend two weeks at the Geyersville Summer School after a stay in San Francisco. She is accompanied by Dr. and Mrs. Bolton, two Bahá'ís of Austra­lia, who will leave the boat at Los Angeles. They also will attend the Summer School.
Dearly-beloved friends:

The concerted activities of the followers of Baha'u'llah in the North American continent assume, as they multiply and develop, a dual aspect, and may be said to fall into two distinct categories, both equally vital and complementary to each other. The one aims at the safeguarding and consolidation of the work already achieved; the other is designed to enlarge and multiply and develop, a dual aspect, the structural machinery of their Faith, and multiplying its administrative agencies, and are legalizing the status of the newly established institutions. Slowly and patiently they are canalizing the spirit that at once directs, energizes and safeguards its operation. They are exploiting its potentialities, broadcasting its message, publicizing its literature, fostering the aspirations of its youth, devising ways and means for the training of its children, guarding the integrity of its teachings, and paving the way for the ultimate codification of its laws. Through all the resources at their disposal, they are promoting the growth and consolidation of that pioneer movement for which the entire machinery of their Administrative Order has been primarily designed and erected. They are visibly and progressively contributing to the enrichment of their unique community life, and are insuring, with magnificent courage and characteristic promptitude, the completion of their consecrated Edifice—the embodiment of their hopes and the supreme symbol of their ideals.

As to those into whose valiant and trusted hands—and no believer, however humble is to think himself barred from joining their ranks—the standards of a forward marching Faith have been entrusted, they too with no less zest and thoroughness are pushing farther and farther its frontiers, breaking new soil, establishing fresh outposts, winning more recruits, and contributing to the greater diversification and more harmonious blending of the elements comprised in the world-wide society of its followers.

The Edifice of this New World Order, which the Bab has heralded, which the mind of Baha'u'llah has envisioned, and whose features 'Abdu'l-Bahi, its Architect, has delineated, we, whatever our capacities, opportunities or position, are now, at so precarious a period in the world's history, summoned to found and erect. The community of the Most Great Name in the Western Hemisphere is, through the nature of its corporate life and the scope of its exertions, assuming, beyond the shadow of a doubt, a preponderating share in the laying of such a foundation and the erection of such a structure. The eyes of its sister communities are fixed upon it. Their prayers ascend on its behalf. Their hands are outstretched to lend whatever aid lies within their power. I, for my part, am determined to reinforce the impulse that impels its members forward to meet their destiny. The Founders of their Faith survey from the Kingdom on high the range of their achievements, acclaim their progress, and are ever ready to speed their
eventual triumph.

Far be it from me to understate the gigantic proportions of their task, nor do I for one moment overlook the urgency and gravity of the times in which they are laboring. Nor do I wish to minimize the hazards and trials that surround or lie ahead of them. The grandeur of their task is indeed commensurate with the mortal perils by which their generation is hemmed in. As the dusk creeps over a steadily sinking society the radiant outlines of their redemptive mission become sharper every day. The present world unrest, symptom of a world-wide malady, their world religion has already affirmed must needs culminate in that world catastrophe out of which the consciousness of world citizenship will be born, a consciousness that can alone provide an adequate basis for the organization of world unity, on which a lasting world peace must necessarily depend, the grandeur of which is itself inaugurating a new world civilization which will mark the coming of age of the entire human race.

Fortified by such reflections, the American believers, in whichever section of the Western hemisphere they find themselves laboring, whether at home or abroad, and however dire and distressing the processes involved in the disintegration of the structure of present-day civilization, will, I feel convinced, prove themselves, through their lives and deeds, worthy of that priceless heritage which it is their undoubted privilege to proclaim, preserve and perpetuate.

Your true and grateful brother,

SHOGHI.

May 22, 1939.

The following passages are also from the Guardian's letter of May 22:

In connection with the Baha'is' exhibition at the San Francisco Golden Gate Exposition, he feels deeply appreciative of the efforts exerted by the N. S. A. in conjunction with the San Francisco Assembly for the arrangement of such an attractive and impressive display and has every reason to hope that the exhibit your Assembly is now holding at the World's Fair in New York will prove equally successful, and result in giving the Faith a befitting and widespread publicity. He welcomes your offer to send him photographs of this last exhibit at New York, and would also appreciate your giving him a report on the public interest shown on both occasions.

He wishes me, in conclusion, to stress the paramount importance, now that the teaching campaign in the United States and Canada has been successfully extended to embrace every State and Province in these two countries, of insuring by all means available the systematic and vigorous penetration of the teaching force in the Latin Republics of Central America—the opening up of which he has, in his recent cabled message to the Annual Convention, set as the chief immediate teaching objective facing the Community of the American believers during this year. Since the nine hitherto unoccupied territories in the North American Continent have at last been definitely settled, and following the formation during this past year of the first local Spiritual Assembly in the heart of Mexico, this southward penetration of the teaching campaign is but a natural and logical step which should now be resolutely and unfaithfully pursued.

That this new and crucial stage in the Inter-American teaching campaign is infinitely more difficult and challenging than any teaching attempt undertaken so far collectively by the American believers, fraught as it is with problems which they have never had the opportunity to tackle before, and might for this reason appear at first quite beyond their present-day resources and strength, the Guardian himself has readily admitted in his "Advent of Divine Justice." But through full resolve to the existence of such obstacles and difficulties, whether religious, political, racial, or otherwise, he feels absolutely confident that these barriers, no matter how insuperable they may prove to purely human attempts and endeavors, cannot in the long run offer any effective resistance to the onward march of the invincible army of Baha'u'llah which, however insignificantly small and poorly equipped materially it may appear, is endowed nevertheless with such celestial strength as will undoubtedly enable it to break down one by one every barrier it may encounter in its spiritual conquest for the redemption and guidance of human souls.

It is the assurance of such divinely-promised victory, stressed time and again and in language indeed unmistakable by Baha'u'llah and 'Abdu'l-Baha, coupled with the ever-growing evidence of the incomparably glorious teaching achievements accomplished by the American believers in recent years, and in particular during the last two decades following the ascension of 'Abdu'l-Baha, that fill the Guardian with confidence and courage, and impel him to set up such an admittedly high goal before the American Baha'i Community, thus leading it, resolutely and infallibly, ever onward towards the high spiritual destiny which has been, irrevocably and yet so deservedly, chosen for it by God in this glorious age and dispensation.

The supreme objective of the American believers in the year just entered is to insure the uninterrupted prosecution of the Temple construction work and to accomplish the present and perhaps the most difficult stage in the Inter-American teaching campaign recently and officially inaugurated. The scope of the dual task ahead is now clear and defined. It is now for the newly-elected Assembly to devise ways and means for its efficient, complete and speedy execution.

May 14, 1939.

THE BAHAI' WORLD

VOLUME VII

The National Assembly expresses the hope that every believer will make the effort to own a copy of this international record of the Faith for the period 1936-1938. Nothing gives us a more impressive view of the Baha'i World Commonwealth in its crucial early days. The two Frontispiece Illustrations, the maps and great variety of photographs, the special articles—all have their part in deepening in believers their sense of solidarity with Baha'i communities in all lands.

The importance of this work has been stressed by the Guardian. "This unique record of world-wide Baha'i activity attempts to present to the general public, as well as to the student and scholar, those historical facts and fundamental principles that constitute the distinguishing features of the Message of Baha'u'llah to this age. I have, ever since its inception, taken a keen and active interest in its development, have personally participated in the col-
UNIVERSAL DIVINE GUIDANCE

The thoughtful American Bahá’í can discern three successive stages in the evolution of the Bahá’í community since the Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

The first stage represented the formation of the Administrative Institutions and the Administrative Order on a local and national scale. We learned how to establish Assemblies, conduct the Convention, coordinate the activities of Committees and individual believers, and realize our Bahá’í life in terms of a new, spiritual Society.

During the second stage, the Guardian, through his “World Order” letters, enlarged our conception of the Faith and created the vision of the Administrative Order as the fulfillment of the universal ideal of World Peace. We came to realize that the institutions formed during the first stage, and the community fostering them and protecting them, constituted the pattern and nucleus of the World Commonwealth, the creation of which is the unique mission of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh.

In “The Advent of Divine Justice” we are witness to a third stage, now coming to consciousness throughout the Bahá’í community, characterized by the spiritualization of our personal and collective will—the consecration of our lives, together with our Administrative Institutions, to the essential task of establishing the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh throughout the Americas and eventually throughout the world.

This present, third stage, now in its preliminary phases, is to gather the real fruit of all that has gone before. It represents the culmination of our intentions as declared believers. It challenges the capacity of our concentrated energies. It tests our sincerity. It claims the utmost from every Assembly and Committee. It promises the way of spiritual glory, but it demands a greater sacrifice than we have ever made before.

As new conditions become manifest in the successive seasons of the year, and in the successive stages of individual life, so new conditions have been created for our Bahá’í lives and activities, which we must each make effort to realize, appreciate, and to which inwardly and outwardly we must learn how to respond.

The mighty aims laid down for us by the provisions of the Seven Year Plan are not a program nor schedule which we ourselves adopted and which, therefore, we might later choose to abandon. They were created by Bahá’u’lláh Himself, and made implicit in His Tablet to the Americas; made explicit by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in His series of Tablets we now term “America’s Spiritual Mission,” and they were brought into the field of action by the Guardian in “The Advent of Divine Justice” and those preceding and later letters and cablegrams which unfold the Seven Year Plan.

The American Bahá’í community is therefore under Divine Guidance. Unlike other communities, groping their way through the wilderness of confusion and error, the believers tread the path illumined by the Sun of Truth. The end is known and assured. The means are at hand. It is for us to proceed steadily, and in perfect unity, along that blessed Path through all the days of life on earth.

Can we not, realizing the stupendous nature of this blessing, learn how to conduct our Bahá’í affairs in a profounder spirit of awareness, live our Bahá’í lives in a more powerful station of assurance, and perceive the successive plans and budgets adopted by the National Spiritual Assembly as nothing else than those steps by which the entire community is to advance toward the ultimate goal? Without this awareness that there is no end without means, no collective action without instrumentalities, the plan and budget reported by the National Assembly in the May issue of BAHÁ’Í NEWS have no likelihood of success. They must be viewed and felt in the light of the Divine Plan itself. They must be upheld as the only existing, the only possible, means of transforming faith and loyalty into visible achievement.

The capacity of local Assemblies to quicken the consciousness of the friends, enable the daily processes of Bahá’í community life, stand firm on the necessity of complete success in our collective undertaking—this is the foundation we are to lay if we be of those truly elected to serve the Cause of God. To teach in America and Latin America, and to complete the Temple—these are the twofold aims given us under Divine Guidance. When we undertake these aims with unity and consecration, success will be achieved.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

BAHÁ’Í TEXTS FOR THE NINE OUTER DOORS OF THE MASHRIQUL-ADHKAR*

1. The earth is but one country; and mankind its citizens.
2. The best beloved of all things in My sight is Justice; turn not away therefrom if thou desirest Me.
3. My love is My stronghold; he that entereth therein is safe and secure.
4. Breathe not the sins of others so long as thou art thyself a sinner.
5. Thy heart is My home; sanctify it for My descent.
6. I have made death a messenger of joy to thee; wherefore dost thou grieve?
7. Make mention of Me on My earth that in My heaven I may remember thee.
8. O rich ones on earth! The poor in your midst are My trust; guard ye My trust.
9. The source of all learning is the knowledge of God, exalted be His glory.

CHILD EDUCATION

OBDIENCE

‘Abdu’l-Bahá once said: “The fathers and especially the mothers, must always think how they can best educate their children; not how to fondle and embrace them and thus spoil them. By every means at their disposal they must inculcate into their growing bodies, minds and spirits, the principles of sin-

* Selected by Shoghi Effendi at the request of the National Spiritual Assembly.
cerity, love, trustfulness, obedience, true democracy, and kindness toward all races; thus hereafter the world of civilization may flow in one mighty current and the children of the next generation may make secure the foundation of human solidarity and good will."

As we read these words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, we note that in enumerating the various attributes He would have parents cultivate in their children, He includes obedience. It is well to consider, in this New Day, when enlightened parents are breaking away from the old idea of blind obedience on the part of the child and are attempting to set him free from too much adult dominance in order that he may develop his own personality and initiative, that parents do not make the mistake of too little restriction and become lax. The more obedient a child is, the more true freedom he may enjoy, for extreme liberty is licence. Of this Bahá'u'lláh wrote: "Know ye that the embodiment of liberty and its symbol is the animal. That which beareth man is submission unto such restraints as will protect him from his own ignorance, and guard him against the harm of the mischief-maker."

Mrs. Amy Dwelly, formerly associated with the Merrill-Palmer Nursery School, writes for us: "From infancy on, obedience can and should be taught. This magnificent lesson, however, cannot be learned suddenly or without effort. One of the secrets of teaching a child to obey is to begin when he is very young by giving him a few important commands that he understands perfectly and seeing to it that he always obeys them. Too many don'ts; no's and can'ts confuse and puzzle a very young child with the result that he usually ignores them all. The few well chosen commands given to a child should be related to his health, safety and spiritual well being, but these should be always obeyed. The successful parent does not nag, but he is consistent."

'Abdu'l-Bahá said to the children one day, "Be obedient unto thy father and mother, caressing brother and sister, and day by day adding to thy faith and assurance."

Elsewhere He says, "The integrity of the family bond must be constantly considered and the rights of the individual members must not be transgressed. The rights of the son, the rights of the father, the rights of the mother, none of them must be transgressed, none of them must be arbitrary. This sort of mutual respect and understanding, such as one expects to find in every Bahá'í family, is the soil in which sincere obedience will flourish.

Upon all Bahá'ís entrusted with the training of a child, is placed the divine responsibility of teaching him obedience to God's Commands, so that he will indeed be, "fully prepared to render instant, exact and complete obedience." This is beofcial to himself. Bahá'u'lláh wrote: "O ye peoples of the world! Know assuredly that My commandments are the lamps of My loving providence among My servants, and the keys of My mercy for My creatures."

"Observe My commandments, for the love of My beauty. Happy is the lover that hath inhaled the divine fragrance of His Best Beloved from these words, laden with the perfume of a grace which no tongue can describe. "Think not that We have revealed unto you a mere code of laws. Nay, rather, We have unclosed the choice Wine with the fingers of might and power."

More important still, as your child grows older, he will take his place in the great army of Bahá'u'lláh in this Day of God. The victories of any army are commensurate with the obedience of its soldiers. Consider an army of a country. How impossible to capture a city if each soldier were occupied with his own concerns! Even when a man is sincerely sure that he is right, his disobedience can cause loss to the entire army.

Vahid at Yazd commanded his servant Hasan to convey the treatises of the Báb to a certain place on the road to Mihriz, warning him that in no wise must be change his course. Nabil tells us: "No sooner had Hasan mounted his horse and prepared to leave than the cries of the sentinels reached his ears. Fearing lest they capture him and seize the precious manuscripts in his possession, he decided to follow a different route from the one which his master had instructed him to take. As he was passing behind the fort, the sentinels recognized him, shot his horse, and captured him. Meanwhile Vahid chose the same route that he had advised his servant to take, and, arriving safely at that spot, was surprised to find that Hasan was missing. Vahid knew immediately that he had disregarded his directions and had been captured by the enemy."

And so the treatises penned by the hand of the martyred Báb were lost.

Obedience! To the words of Bahá'u'lláh, the Master, the Guardian! Obedience to the Administrative channels of their grace! A reverence for law; nay, a love and gratitude for law: this, parents, is the greatest protection, the most profound benefit, and the fondest heritage that you can bequeath to your child, the spiritual soldier of tomorrow.

CHILD EDUCATION COMMITTEE.
WORLD ORDER MAGAZINE

With the intensification of teaching effort, the friends are urged to realize how World Order Magazine provides material adapted for the presentation of the Faith to special groups or persons with special interests and backgrounds.

In the May issue, for example, “Transition in World Economy” by Emeric Sala and “The World of Tomorrow,” by Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, are of distinct interest to those who follow international affairs. “The Destiny of America,” an excerpt from the Guardian’s “The Advent of Divine Justice,” in the June issue has unique value in clarifying one of the major issues of the day.

The June issue also presents “Rejoice, O Israel,” by Alice Simmons Cox, admirably suited for the enlightened Jew who feels overwhelmed by the tragic condition of his race in so many parts of the world. A series of Questions and Answers by Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick began in June with a brief statement on “Is Pacifism the Answer to War?” In the July issue the questions answered is “How Can Capital and Labor Be Reconciled?”

Coinciding with the first pioneer work among the Indians is published “The Vanishing American,” by Pasupuleti Gopala Krishnaya in July, an article casting a new light on the social and religious consciousness of this indigenous race. “Mankind Is One,” by Doris McKay, also appearing in July, can be used effectively in connection with Race Unity teaching. This article concludes her series entitled “The Oneness of Religion” which (based upon the course given at Green Acre in 1938) has assembled important excerpts from many Holy Books in relation to the Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh, and clarified the unity and progressive character of religion.

For the student of psychology, “The Crisis of the World Psyche,” by Wilfrid Barton, in the July issue, offers material of extreme importance. A series on the Seven Valleys, beginning in July with “The Valley of Search,” by Zoe Meyer, will successively present studies, by different Bahá’í authors, of the spiritual truths revealed by Bahá’u’lláh in “Seven Valleys.” “Do We Believe in God,” by G. A. Shook, begins a series of philosophic essays dealing with fundamental concepts of thought and experience. “Islam,” by Ali-Kuli Khan represents the fullest exposition of the history of that Faith which has yet appeared through Bahá’í channels.

NEW PLANS FOR PIONEER TEACHING

The latest developments in Pioneer teaching and settlement in areas which require assistance:—

Mr. Gerard Sluter is proceeding to Guantanamo, and Mrs. Antono Rocca to Honduras. Mrs. Stewart is extending her stay in Buenos Aires, which the Guardian desires. Mr. Philip Marangella has gone to Cuba. Miss Mary Hartfield is engaged in the establishment of herself in St. Louis, Mo., Miss Jane Reasoner will work among the Blackfoot Indians, near Calgary, Alberta. Miss Honor Kempn has transferred her residence to Anchorage, Alaska, from Juneau.

Mr. Mathew Kassab has settled in Panama, and is now working under the supervision of the Inter-America Committee. Other important plans for teaching in Latin America and North America are in progress, and further reports will be made from time to time.

In the light of the Guardian’s recent message, the historic importance of these valiant efforts is manifest.

LOUHELEN SUMMER SCHOOL

GENERAL SESSION

August 6-13, Inclusive
(Class Begin Sunday, August 6, at 9 a.m.)

Morning Program

Devotions (Before Breakfast)

1. The Administrative Order of Bahá’u’lláh, Mr. Curtis Kelcey.
   (Presentation and discussion of the spirit and procedure of Bahá’í administration)
2. The Culture of Islam, Mrs. Helen Bishop.
   (Arabia before Muhammad, the revelation of the Qur’an, and the institutions and culture of Islam)
3. The Art of Living, Mrs. Alice Bacon.
   (Bahá’í standards of conduct)

Afternoon Program

4. What is the Bahá’í Faith?
   (A series of talks on various phases of the Faith)
5. Recreation, sociability, study.

Evening Program

Talks on The Bahá’í Peace Program, Mrs. Marnzieh Carpenter.

Rates for General Session

(Including Meals)

Per day, per person, single room $2.15
Per day, per person, double room 1.80
Per day, per person, dormitory 1.50

SECOND YOUTH SESSION

August 16-20, Inclusive
(Class Begin at 9 a.m., Wednesday, August 16)

Morning Program

Devotions (Before Breakfast)

1. Character Building, Mrs. Virginia Camelon
   (Bahá’í standards of conduct)
2. The Promise of All Ages, Mr. Ed. Messler.
   (Bahá’í principles and history)
3. The Prophet of Arabia, Mrs. Helen Bishop
   (Facts about Muhammad and His Teachings)

Afternoon Program

3. Laws of Bahá’u’lláh, Mr. Carl Scheffler
   The present day application of the laws of Bahá’u’lláh and how they lead to the New World Order.
   The above courses to continue through four days, the fifth day to be given over to an all day forum conducted by Mr. Scheffler on the subject Building Community Life. This will introduce young people to Bahá’í Administration and to the privileges and responsibilities of Bahá’í citizenship.
4. Recreation, forum, conferences.

Evening Program

5. World Order Letters of Soghi Effendi, Mrs. Marzieh Carpenter.

Rates

(Including Meals)

Per day, per person, $1.20

General Information

Please make reservations as soon as possible with Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Louheilen Ranch, Davison, Michigan. Louheilen Ranch is located on M-15 about 50 miles from Detroit, 10 miles from Flint, and 3 miles south of Davison.

Those coming by bus or train to Flint can be met at Flint if notice is sent to Mrs. Eggleston in advance.
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The Bahá’í World—Volume VIII
(1938-1940)

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with members of the Baha'i Community

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(The following list includes those local groups who have appointed a secretary. Additions and corrections will be made from time to time, and any errors or omissions should be reported.)

Alabama. Mrs. Fannie McEnge, care of Tuskegee Institute, Ala.
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St. Lambert, one. Los Angeles, four. Pasadena, four. Philadelphia, one.
Urbana, one. Glendale, Calif., one. Lima, three. Cleveland, five. Phoenix, one and two youth. San Francisco, two.
Milwaukee, one. Washington, one.

IN MEMORIAM
It is clear and evident that when the veils that conceal the realities of the manifestations of the Names and Attributes of God, may of all created things visible or invisible, have been rent asunder, nothing except the Sign of God will remain—a sign which He, Himself, hath placed within these realities. This sign will endure as long as is the wish of the Lord thy God, the Lord of the heavens and of the earth. If such be the blessings conferred on all created things, how superior must be the destiny of the true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation.—BAHÁ’U’LLAH.

Mrs. Fatty B. Moore, New York.
Mr. Joseph G. Gray, San Francisco.

SHAHNAZ WAITE
On June 2, the Spiritual Assembly of Los Angeles received the following telegram from Shoghi Effendi:
“Passing Shahnaz, beloved pioneer, deeply lamented. Record (of her) outstanding services imperishable. Reward assured. Ardent prayers.”

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE
Time will be saved if letters intended for the National Assembly or World Order Magazine be addressed, during July and August, to Green Acre, Eliot, Maine.

NEWS OF EAST AND WEST
Bahá’í News Letter No. 2, issued by the National Spiritual Assembly of Egypt, is devoted to an account of the remarkable events accompanying the Bahá’í burial of Mohammed Effendi Soliman at Ismailia, on December 9, 1938.
This believer has informed his friends and relatives that a Bahá’í funeral service should be performed after his departure. He also drew up a will stating that his heirs should submit to the jurisdiction of the Spiritual Assembly. Arrangements were made for the funeral ceremony, and the police department was informed. A non-Bahá’í brother of the deceased then attempted to persuade the believers that the Muslim ceremony should be performed. The dispute was taken to the police, who upheld the documents prepared by the deceased and turned over to the Assembly. The relative then became so infuriated and threatening that he was detained in the police headquarters, and the Bahá’í ceremony was duly carried out.
However, a crowd of some 3,000 persons gathered and despite police protection, the Bahá’ís could not carry the coffin into the cemetery. The po-
The Spiritual Assembly of France has issued a circular letter from which the following passages are gleaned:

"Cette année, qui suit celle de l'Exposition, a amené moins d'Amis à Paris. Nous avons pourtant eu la visite, non seulement de plusieurs Amis iraniens, mais aussi du Dr. Mac Cormick, de Mr. et Mrs. Grieve, de Miss Story, de Mrs. Lynch et tout dernièrement de Mrs. Dary, de Wisconsin, revenant d'Haïfa.

"Le groupe de Lyon continue son action et déploye toujours le même ardeur pour obtenir des adhérents. Madeleine Migette est allée à Genève pour assister à la Semaine de la Paix où l'on traitait des religions chrétiennes; Mrs. Lynch et elle-même y parleront de la Cause, la faisant ainsi connaître en un nouveau milieu.

"Le petit cercle de Marseille est toujours pour son avancement; des Amis travaillent à Orléans et sur la Côte d'Azur où nous espérons bientôt avoir un groupe très intéressant avec, à sa tête, un homme éminent.

"Nous continuons notre œuvre d'édition de nos précieux livres. Les Entretiens d'Abdul-Baha à Paris en 1911 et 1912 viennent d'être publiés en langue française, traduits de l'anglais par Madame Hesse et ronéoépigraphes par Mrs. Lynch. Le prix de cet ouvrage, qui forme un fort volume, est de 15 francs plus le port."

"Nous venons de faire paraître la Dispensation de Bahá'u'lláh, écrite par le Gardien Shoghi Effendi et traduite en français par M. Karakaya. Cet ouvrage, ronéoépigraphes, comprend quatre parties: le Báb, Bahá'u'lláh, Abdul-Baha, et l'Ordre Administratif. Le prix en est de 5 francs plus le port."

"Monsieur Fernandez, un de nos grands sympathisants, vient d'écrire un article documenté sur la Cause qui paraîtra prochainement dans une importante encyclopédie des Religions."

"Un livre qui remporte un grand succès, Islam, par l'orientaliste universellement connu Henri Massé, donne un aperçu fort réussi sur le Bahá'isme."

"La Conférence de la Jeunesse bahá'íe qui devait se tenir pendant les vacances de Neël, a été remise à la Pentecôte, en Mai, sur la demande de groupes et Amis habitant la province ou l'étranger. Nous ne doutons pas qu'il aura le même succès que les années précédentes et nous invitons tous les Amis qui pourront se déplacer à ce moment, à nous faire la grande faveur d'y assister et de nous aider de leurs précieux concours."

The Spiritual Assembly of Mexico City has taken steps to secure legal recognition from the government. "The study of the laws has been terminated according to the instructions received from the Guardian through the medium of Mr. and Mrs. Mathews, and they have been presented to the Mexican Government. We had an interview with the chief of the Department so as to render the usual declarations, and we are only waiting for their resolutions. We also inaugurated the winter courses for the Bahá'í teachers on the 6th of February and these will end on April 15, so we will soon have expert and excellent teachers."

The Spiritual Assembly of Cincinnati dedicated its new public Bahá'í Center, 206 East University Avenue, on May 23. "The Assemblies in this region have been asked to send a representative to assist in the service and we also wrote to Shoghi Effendi asking for his special prayers. The Cincinnati Assembly was incorporated on November 22, 1938."

While in Beduuna this spring, Mrs. Louise Erickson succeeded in having the local newspaper, Royal Gazette, publish the text of "Treasured Memories," by Lilian McNeill, which appeared in the January issue of World Order Magazine. This article was an intimate account of the late Queen Marie's acceptance of the Bahá'í Faith.

With the cooperation of the Boston Assembly and the National Library Committee, Duncan McAlear has accomplished a remarkable service in placing Bahá'í literature in Libraries of Massachusetts. "During the past few months I have interviewed the Librarians of 21 Libraries in Eastern Massachusetts and placed . . . a total of 49 books. There are now Bahá'í books in 32 Libraries in 26 cities and towns in Massachusetts. . . . I find most of the Librarians very receptive to the Bahá'í Message and willing to cooperate with us in the placing of the books."
Bahá'í News

Published by
The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís
of the United States and Canada
General Office: 130 Evergreen Place, West Englewood, New Jersey

NO. 128

AUGUST, 1939

NATIONAL OFFICE IN THE TEMPLE AREA

The National Spiritual Assembly announces that beginning October 1, 1939, the Office of its Secretary will be maintained in the former Bourgeois studio (now part of the Temple property) at 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

This action was taken subject to approval by the Guardian, whose endorsement was conveyed in the following cablegram, received June 22:

"Delighted welcome transference (to) Temple area. Loving appreciation."

The members wish to point out that this step, which represents the beginning of the establishment of a National Administrative Office in the Temple area, conforms to words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá revealed in the series of Tablets now known as "America's Spiritual Mission," and to several passages in the Guardian's general communications. Of these latter, the following are cited:

"The seat round which its spiritual, its humanitarian and administrative activities will cluster are the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár and its Dependencies."—The World Order of Bahá'ú'lláh, pp. 156-157.

"But however inspiring the conception of Bahá'í worship, as witnessed in the central Edifice of this exalted Temple, it cannot be regarded as the sole, nor even the essential, factor in the part which the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár, as designed by Bahá'u'lláh, is destined to play in the organic life of the Bahá'í community. Divorced from the social, humanitarian, educational and scientific pursuits centering around the Dependencies of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár, Bahá'í worship, however exalted in its conception, however passionate in fervor, can never hope to achieve beyond the meagre and often transitory results produced by the contemplations of the ascetic or the communion of the passive worshiper. It cannot afford lasting satisfaction and benefit to the worshiper himself, much less to humanity in general, unless and until translated and transfused into that dynamic and disinterested service to the cause of humanity which it is the supreme privilege of the Dependencies of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár to facilitate and promote. Nor will the exertions, no matter how disinterested and strenuous, of those who within the precincts of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár will be engaged in administering the affairs of the future Bahá'í Commonwealth, fructify and prosper unless they are brought into close and daily communion with those spiritual agencies centering in and radiating from the central Shrine of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár. Nothing short of direct and constant interaction between the spiritual forces emanating from this House of Worship centering in the heart of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár, and the energies consciously displayed by those who administer its affairs in their service to humanity can possibly provide the necessary agency capable of removing the ills that have so long and so grievously afflicted humanity. For it is assuredly upon the consciousness of the efficacy of the Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh, reinforced on one hand by spiritual communion with His Spirit, and on the other by the intelligent application and the faithful execution of the principles and laws He revealed, that the salvation of a world in travail must ultimately depend."—General letter dated October 25, 1929, included in Bahá'í Administration.

THE VISIBLE EVIDENCE

Every member of the American Bahá'í community is urgently requested to ponder the importance—nay, the immediate necessity—of meeting the requirements of the Annual Budget adopted in order to achieve the tasks set for us this year under the Seven Year Plan.

As reported in Bahá'í News for May, the total Budget of $150,000 falls into three separate classifications: $35,000 for Administration; $40,000 for teaching in North and South America; and $75,000 for new Temple construction.

What is apparently not yet clearly realized is the fact that the essence of the Seven Year Plan consists of the Guardian's clarion call for two tremendous tasks in addition to all those activities which a few years ago represented our normal Bahá'í schedule of undertakings. These "normal" activities can be maintained on an Annual Budget of $35,000, or less than $3,000
in contributions per month. The growth of the American Bahá'í community has been such that an average of $3,000 per month can be confidently anticipated by the National Spiritual Assembly from year to year. It is the difference between this $35,000 and the total Budget of $150,000 which represents the vital distinction between collective spiritual success and our mutual failure to meet the Guardian's appeals.

**Community Prayer and Consultation**

And now, that this paramount issue may be energetically handled, the National Spiritual Assembly wishes each and every local Assembly to devote three successive Nineteen Day Feasts, beginning with that to be observed on August 20, to prayer and discussion, during the consultation period, for the furtherance of the Budget for the Third Year of the Seven Year Plan. A spirit of deep devotion is needed, and such a unified response that the members of the community will feel that they are, indeed, drops in the one Ocean of a regenerated mankind, and leaves on the one Tree of fruitful service under the heat and light of the arisen Sun.

The members of the National Spiritual Assembly likewise make appeal to the local groups and isolated believers to ponder their own capacity to join in the mighty effort, whose aim is the continuance of Temple construction beyond the present contracts which will soon be completed, and the sending and maintenance of pioneer teachers to all areas which Shoghi Effendi has named for settlement this year.

**National Spiritual Assembly.**

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND**

The friends are informed that the National Spiritual Assembly has increased its monthly offering to the International Fund, through the Guardian, from $190 to $285. The heartfelt hope is expressed that the sacrifice of the believers will make it possible to increase greatly its contribution.

**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

The schedule of National Assembly meetings has been revised as follows:

The meeting to be held February, 1940, will be on the 23, 24 and 25, at Wilmette.

The 1940 Convention will be held on April 25, 26, 27, and 28, with the Public Meeting on Sunday evening instead of afternoon. A meeting of the National Assembly will precede, on April 24, at Wilmette instead of Evanston.
of belief, inevitable and right for an early stage of development, which began and ended with the expression of the sincerest sentiment.

One meaning of this present, so crucial era, is that our personal and group faith must be raised from feeling and mental speculation to the plane of will. We must learn how to live religiously, in the vital vigor of work and sacrifice for one common aim, and not merely select from our religion a few attitudes that seem best fitted to our human personality. Only when it arrives at the fusion of will is faith mature and complete. Resolution brings thought and feeling to their degree of fruitfulness. Action, imbued with thoughtfulness and pure sentiment, has become the criterion of faith.

The Guardian has patiently prepared the community for fitness to fulfill the Seven Year Plan. The letters published in Baha’u’llah Administration expounded the principles of the administrative order. The letters more recently published in The World Order of Baha’u’llah revealed the larger implications of the institutions which had been raised. There is no turning back to the era of details and procedures now that the Plan has been begun. We are committed to a definite and a supreme task. By achieving each portion of it within the allotted time we cling to the robe of His mercy and blessing. We make our destined contribution to the victory of His Faith upon earth.

The newer and younger believers can assimilate the essential truths of the Teachings and of the administrative order far more swiftly and more readily than those who were obliged to learn them by experience and in relation to actual problems that existed and had to be solved. We can not turn back to the past, nor can they who now in increasing numbers join our ranks. The third year of the Seven Year Plan is already one-quarter gone, and we have not yet responded adequately to its allotted task. How to create capacity for action is the paramount question of these days and weeks.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

BRIEF OUTLINE OF PROCEDURE ON APPEALS

I. When a Local Spiritual Assembly acts in its juridical capacity, the final verdict and the points in brief should be given to the party concerned in writing and placed on the Assembly file. The party at interest is encouraged to accept the decision.

II. If appeal is made, the N.S.A. will acknowledge the appeal and immediately obtain from the Local Spiritual Assembly its filed information.

III. The party at interest is given opportunity to point out any miscarriage of justice in the verdict.

IV. The National Spiritual Assembly may then sustain the decision of the L.S.A. or indicate to it, points justifying reconsideration, or it can reverse the original decision.

V. The National Spiritual Assembly acts directly only in matters which it considers of national importance and concern.

For additional information the friends are urged to study the following references in Baha’u’llah Procedure: Sec. 4; Sheet 15, 16, 17, 18.

THE FORMATION OF NEW ASSEMBLIES

The National Spiritual Assembly completes the details of procedure to be followed when new Assemblies are formed.

1. Groups having nine or more declared believers, all resident in the same civil community, are to apply before February 1 for authority to form an Assembly on April 21 of that year.

2. Any member of the group who is a voting believer in an already established adjacent community must withdraw from that community before joining the group applying for the right to form a new Assembly.

3. When a group is qualified to form an Assembly, all its members are obliged to join in asking for the authority to elect.

4. All established Assemblies are to report their voting list to the National Assembly by February 1 each year, and the voting list is not to include the names of any believers who have joined a group which is planning to form a new Assembly on April 21.

5. Applications from groups, and voting lists of established communities, must be in the hands of the National Assembly by February 1.

6. Groups which form a new Assembly on April 21 cannot be represented at the Convention held that same year.

7. Groups authorized to form a new Assembly will receive notice from the National Assembly not later than April 1, together with copies of the proper form for use in reporting its formation to the National Assembly.

In a recent letter written by the Guardian to the National Assembly he emphasizes one aspect of the matter as follows: “He wishes me to stress the fact that from now on any group that is formed must belong to one civil community, as otherwise endless confusion and misunderstanding would ensue. The limits of each civil community must be clearly recognized, and no overlapping should be allowed under any circumstances.”

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY,
NATIONAL COMMITTEES
(Corrections and revisions of list published in Bahá'í News of July, 1939)

Library
Duncan MacAlear added.

Inter-America
Myrtle Dodge appointed Recording Secretary.

Bahá'í News Service
Mrs. Edna Eastman (now Mrs. D. Lindsey Atkins) and Robert Thiess unable to serve.

Reviewing
Mrs. Patrick Quinlan and Helen Campbell added. Mrs. Doris Holley unable to serve.

Child Education
Mrs. Peggy True added.

Youth
Margaret Kunz, Chairman.
Mrs. Annamarie Kunz Honnold, Editor.
Mrs. Mac Dyer, Business Manager.

Regional Teaching
Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia
Mrs. F. Woodward Hipsey, Secretary. New address, 4512 Wentworth Road, Baltimore, Md.

Oregon, Washington, Idaho, British Columbia
Stanley Kemp unable to serve.

ASSEMBLY ROLL
(Corrections and revisions)
Montreal, P. Q., Canada, Wm. Suter, 1396 St. Catherine Street, W. Baltimore, Maryland, Miss Mildred Elmer, 2214 Roslyn Avenue.

Local Bahá'í Groups
(Additions and corrections)
California, Miss Mary Lillian Penn, 1744 Second Avenue, San Diego; Mrs. Juanita Storch, 4770 Sonoma Highway, Santa Rosa.
Georgia, Miss M. Doris Ebbert, 1049 Juniper Street, N. E., Atlanta.
Illinois, Mrs. G. E. Terry, 1522 McRose Avenue, Waukegan.
Montana, Mrs. Evalina Caldwell, 1354 Hobson Street, Butte.
Texas, Mrs. C. W. Nichols, 317 East Myrtle Street, San Antonio.

A MESSAGE FROM THE TEMPLE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
“The Bahá'í House of Worship stands as a flaming beacon and a symbol of hope amidst the gloom of a despairing world.” We are wondering if those who are asked to speak in that hallowed spot and proclaim the Message of Bahá'u'lláh to a suffering humanity realize the great privilege that is theirs. One of the prayers revealed by “Abdu’ll-Bahá is that “our voices may be raised from great assemblies and from our doors may stream the flood of God's praise.” Here in the Temple, this opportunity is presented to the speaker. It is our earnest plea that any of the friends who is invited by the Temple Program Committee to address a public meeting in the Bahá'í House of Worship will exert every effort to accept this invitation, even to the point of personal sacrifice.

As the Guardian declares in The Advent of Divine Justice: “Every instrument in the administrative machinery which, in the course of several years, they have so laboriously erected must be fully utilized, and subordinated to the end for which it was created. The Temple, that proud embodiment of so rare a spirit of self-sacrifice, must likewise be made to play its part, and contribute its share to the teaching campaign designed to embrace the entire Western Hemisphere.”

MISS MARTHA L. ROOT RETURNS FROM THE EAST
With grateful joy is announced the fact that Miss Root, after heroic and most remarkable teaching activities in India, China, Japan and Australia, will arrive at San Francisco from Honolulu during August. After her arrival the National Spiritual Assembly will consult with her in order to carry out the Guardian's wish that her great experience be drawn upon for the promotion of Inter-American teaching.

ARTICLE ABOUT BAHÁ'ÍKHANUM
The institution of the Bahá’í Khánun Fund for Temple construction has led to many interested inquiries for copies of the beautiful article concerning the Greatest Holy Leaf written by Mrs. Marjory Morten for The Bahá’í World. It is readily available in a recent volume of that work. As the Guardian has written through his secretary, “the friends who are keen to have a copy of the article will do well to purchase the volume in which it appears.”

RECENT OBSERVANCES OF BAHÁ'Í ANNIVERSARIES
Following the date of May 29, when the Anniversary of the Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh was observed by a number of communities at the early morning hour indicated by the Guardian, the National Assembly has received communications emphasizing the confirmations which came to those who found it feasible to carry out the Guardian's wishes.

By conducting the Anniversaries at the definite hour given by Shoghi Effendi, the observance is made continuous for twenty-four hours around the world, an unbroken chain of holy devotion binding the members of the World Faith more firmly to its Author and Source.

CHILD EDUCATION
TRUTHFULNESS
“Truthfulness,” “Abdu'l-Bahá asserts, “is the foundation of all human virtues. Without truthfulness progress and success in all the worlds of God are impossible for any soul. When this holy attribute is established in man, all the divine qualities will also be acquired.”

Mrs. Amy Dwelly sends us the following suggestions for teaching truthfulness:
1. Always be truthful with the child himself, even in the smallest details.
2. Refrain from teasing him when he is too young to understand that you are joking. It is taking an advantage of a little child to tell him fabulous tales just because he is gullible enough to believe anything a grown person tells him.
3. Guard against accusing a child of untruths. Often he may simply be telling a manufactured story about something he has imagined. Pleasantly help him to see the difference.
4. Refrain from unduly harsh discipline which makes the child afraid to tell the truth. Examples such as the following are numerous. Little Jenny, an orphan, spilled some pudding on her dress. Disgusted, she stared with frightened eyes at the nurse. “I didn't do it,” she exclaimed. A few days later, we had Jenny in an ice-cream parlor, where she again dropped food on her dress, making a stain. This time she looked up not with fear but with regret in her eyes and said, “I did it. I'm so sorry.” In the first instance the child was afraid of punishment and therefore attempted to escape by denial. In the second, she had no fear and therefore responded naturally.

It is especially important to separate fear from the adventures in truthfulness in order that courage and fearlessness may become the habit. Dr. Stanwood Cobb, in relating his early ex-
perience at Roberts College in Turkey, speaks often of the habit of untruth into which his fearful and oppressed young students had fallen, and of their complete emancipation from this form of spiritual illness when unnecessary causes for fear and distrust were removed, and encouragement to fearlessness replaced them. Long before adulthood the young soul may become conscious of the sovereignty of standing alone if necessary against a world for the sake of truth. Consider how the mother of Ashraf is immortalized by Bahá'u'lláh Himself for urging her son to the highest act of truthfulness, a testimony of his faith even in the face of death itself.

"Call thou to mind the behavior of Ashraf's mother, whose son laid down his life in the Land of Zánjan. He, most certainly is in the seat of truth, in the presence of One Who is the Most Powerful, the Almighty.

"When the infidels so unjustly decided to put him to death, they sent and fetched his mother, that perchance she might admonish him, and induce him to recant his faith, and follow in the footsteps of them that have repudiated the truth of God, the Lord of all worlds. . . ."

"And when addressing him she said: 'My son, mine own son! Fail not to offer up thyself in the path of the Lord. Beware that thou betray not thy faith in Him before Whose face have bowed down in adoration all who are in the heavens and all who are on the earth. Go thou straight on, O my son, and persevere in the path of the Lord, thy God. Haste thee to attain the presence of Him Who is the Well-Beloved of all worlds!"

"On her be My blessings, and My mercy, and My praise, and My glory. I Myself shall attone for the loss of her son—a son who now dwelleth within the tabernacle of My majesty and glory, and whose face beameth with a light that envelopeth with its radiance the Maids of Heaven in their celestial chambers, and beyond them the inmates of My Paradise, and the denizens of the Cities of Holiness. Were any eye to gaze on his face, he would exclaim: 'Lo, this is no other than a noble angel.'"

So closely, then, is truthfulness bound to our loyalty to God Himself! Even a young child could be taught to say and to practice these admonitions of His Holiness, Bahá'u'lláh: "Let your eye be chaste, your hand faithful, your tongue truthful, and your heart enlightened." "Let truthfulness and courtesy be your adorning."}

**Child Education Committee**

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**BOOK EXHIBIT NEAR TEMPLE ARRANGED DURING CONVENTION**

**LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

The Library Committee is happy to report that librarian receptivity is far greater than at any previous period. Believers write that they are finding no difficulty in placing books in new libraries.

We should like to avoid all misunderstandings with librarians concerning these gift sets. Therefore, will the believers always interview the head librarian and try to secure her written confirmation that she will accept the books before writing to this committee? We also ask you to try to judge the library needs closely before offering the complete gift set. In less important libraries, we suggest that the librarians are offered the basic set of *Foundations of World Unity* and *Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era*. Follow up the circulation of these books before placing additional books on library shelves. In this way, we can meet the book demands where the need and receptivity is greater.

The friends have responded enthusiastically to the appeal for library pioneering, and our activities have more than doubled in the past several months. A total of 84 libraries have accepted books for their shelves. These libraries included 16 college and university libraries, and 68 public libraries. It is gratifying to report that much of this activity was in the Southern and New England States. One of the most outstanding library pioneers is Duncan McNair of the Boston Assembly who has devoted a day a week to library interviews for some time. Through his efforts, a survey was made of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and about forty libraries were supplied with books. He is now planning a similar survey in Vermont, Maine, and Rhode Island; in cooperation with the North Eastern Regional Committee. He reports excellent receptivity everywhere, and has sent in many written confirmations from librarians, and Library Boards.

The Vermont project will interest other groups. They are planning to place an Exemplum furnished by the Regional Teaching committee in 25 important libraries, and will call on the library committee for other books where the need is greatest. This is a splendid idea, and the library committee is willing to cooperate with other Assemblies or committees undertaking similar projects.

Southern college and university librarians have been most responsive. The librarian at Southern University, Baton Rouge, wrote that there was great interest in the Bahá'í teachings there. A professor in the Department of Religion at Goucher College, Baltimore has asked for two sets of books, one for Goucher College and the other for the University of Virginia. He intends to study the teachings during his summer vacation. Dillard University, Tuskegee Institute, Telledega College, Atlanta University, Fisk University,
Miles Memorial College, and others have graciously accepted books.

We are also happy to tell the believers that the Department of Education for the Philippine Islands accepted a set of books for the National Library at Manila. A set of books was sent to Finland recently. Books have also been requested for the Juneau, Alaska, library, and for the Canal Zone Library, Panama. Another request is for the Chinese Embassy at Washington.

This brief summary indicates the widespread activities of library pioneers.

NEW LIBRARY BUILDING AT LOUHELEN SUMMER SCHOOL

Gifts from two believers have made it possible to erect and partially complete a simple library building at Louheilen Ranch. This will fill a real need for even in its unfinished condition it will furnish a quiet place for study which will be greatly appreciated by all attending the school. It is called the Memorial Library.

The school is also grateful for gifts of Bahá’í books which have been made by a few individuals and Assemblies. It is the wish of the committee to build up a good working library to include Bahá’í books and general books for reference in subjects related to the Bahá’í teachings. Gifts of new or used books in good condition will be acceptable.

Louheilen School Committee.

THE GUARDIAN’S WORDS ABOUT “CHARACTER” BY STANWOOD COBB

The following excerpt is reprinted with Shoghi Effendi’s permission, from a letter written to Prof. Cobb on January 9, 1939:

“He has noted with particular satisfaction the references made to the Master and the Cause, and trusts this will serve to attract the attention of many thoughtful leaders to the Faith, and awaken widespread and genuine interest in the teachings. A single seed when planted at the right time and the right way will take root, grow well, and yield abundant fruitage. Your book, likewise, is of such simple and beautiful expression, and presents the spiritual ideals and teachings of the Cause in an indirect but most effective and convincing language that every serious and unbiased reader is bound to be impressed by its perusal, and to be stimulated to investigate and study the Cause. This volume represents your experiences of many years as a Bahá’í, and is the fruit of your labors as a student of the teachings in the field of educational philosophy. May it serve to inspire the educationalists of our time to assist in spreading and vindicating those spiritual ideals which Bahá’u’lláh and the Master have set as the highest and noblest goal of every education.”

INTER-AMERICA REFERENCE LIBRARY

The following works have been selected for the new Inter-America Reference Library, established by Mrs. Mathews at Colorado Springs. They are recommended to believers preparing themselves for later teaching work in the Inter-America field:


The People and Politics of Latin America, by Prof. Williams.

The Other Spanish Christ, by John A. MacKay.

Union Now, by Clarence K. Streit.

Venezuela, by Erma Ferguson.

Guatemala, by Erma Ferguson.

Handbook of Latin American Studies, edited by Lewis Hanke.

Some, if not most of these titles, can doubtless be found in the local public library.

PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS


Translation of French Foot-Notes in The Dawn-Breakers, by Emily M. Perigord. A necessary reference to accompany the reading and study of The Dawn-Breakers, with reproduction of letter written by the Guardian to the translator, included with Shoghi Effendi’s approval. Paper bound. Per copy, $0.75.

Christians, Jews and Muhammadans, Bahá’í Reprint No. 2, consisting of excerpts from the Address delivered by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Temple Emmanuel, San Francisco. Pamphlet, 8 pages, paper cover. Sold in lots of 100 only. For 100, $2.50 net.

The above are new titles. The Committee also refers particularly to A Traveller’s Narrative, translated by Edward G. Browne from the manuscript given him by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá as an accurate source of information about the early days of the Faith. Per copy, $2.50.

CREDENTIALS FOR TRAVELING BELIEVERS

In view of the fact that an imposter, claiming to be a Bahá’í, has recently visited several communities and obtained funds from believers, it is again pointed out that traveling believers should have credentials from their local Assembly or, if they are isolated believers or members of unorganized groups, credentials from the National Assembly. In cases of doubt, local Assemblies and groups should always request credentials from visitors.

BRaille TRANSCRIPTIONS

This Committee reports the helpful work being undertaken by the Cleveland group of volunteer workers who are transcribing into Braille for the blind, and proof-reading and binding the transcriptions.

This group, which is composed of members of the Cleveland community, have organized to establish a Reserve Braille Library where transcriptions of some of the smaller pamphlets can be held in readiness to send out on short notice, for loan or donation, to blind believers or seekers.

Mr. A. C. Engelder is the organizer of this group and the teacher of book-binding. The proof-readers of Braille literature are Mrs. Turner and Mr. Adolph Feher.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


IN MEMORIAM

It is clear and evident that when the veils that conceal the realities of the manifestations of the Names and Attributes of God, may of all created things visible and invisible, have been rent asunder, nothing except the Sign of God will remain—a sign which He, Himself, hath placed within these realities. This sign will endure as long as is the wish of the Lord thy God, the Lord of the heavens and of the earth. If such be the blessings conferred on all created things, how superior must be the destiny of the true believer,
whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation.—BABA'U'L-LAH.

Mrs. Margaret Campbell, Los Angeles.

Miss Lillian James, Chicago.

THE NINETEEN DAY FEAST FOR ISOLATED BELIEVERS

The isolated believer must celebrate the Nineteen Day Feast alone unless he is fortunate enough to be able to meet with a believer in a nearby city or town. When we are alone the Cause is apt to take secondary importance in our daily lives, but when we know that we are a part of the great body of isolated believers all celebrating the Feasts there is an added warmth and nearness in the hour devoted to it. It might be advisable to recall some of the instructions about Nineteen Day Feasts and their observance.

"Only members of the Bahá’í Community, and visiting Bahá’ís from other Communities, may attend these meetings, but young people of less than twenty-one years of age, who have studied the teachings and declared their intention of joining the Community on reaching the age of twenty-one may also attend.

"Regular attendance at the Nineteen Day Feast is incumbent upon every Bahá’í, illness or absence from the city being the only justification for absence. Believers are expected to arrange their personal affairs so as to enable them to observe the Bahá’í Calendar." (Baha’i News, Aug., 1925.)

Shoghi Effendi has said that the Bahá’ís should regard this Feast as the very heart of their spiritual activity, their participation in the mystery of the Holy Utterance, their steadfast unity one with another in universality raised high above the limitations of race, class, nationality, sect, and personality, and their privilege of contributing to the power of the Cause in the realm of collective action.

"Their privilege of contributing to the power of the Cause in the realm of collective action," can be the thought of every isolated believer as he celebrates the Nineteen Day Feast. Throughout the country and world the Communities celebrate the Feasts but great power could be added if the hundreds of isolated believers would join them in praying for the establishment of the World Order of Bahá’ulláh.

The Spiritual Assembly of Wilmette kindly shares with the friends the following news:

"During the Convention this last year, Mrs. Mineola Hannen who has served as housing chairman for several years was able to arrange for the accommodations of 125 friends in the homes of 34 Wilmette residents. After the Convention, each of these residents was personally contacted and thanked for her and his hospitality and kindness to the visiting Bahá’ís and tactfully given an opportunity to express any opinion.

"We were delighted when they all, without exception remarked upon how happy their relations with the Bahá’ís had been and how exceptionally gracious and courteous they felt the Bahá’ís were always.

"As a result of these contacts the Wilmette Community decided to invite those who had indicated a special interest to a special meeting at the Hannen home near the tower of peace.

"On the evening of June 2nd, such a meeting was held when 39 guests and resident Bahá’ís attended. Mr. Ed. Struven introduced the subject with a brief talk on the Temple. Mrs. Corinne True and Mrs. Maxwell carried on the theme with short talks on the Teachings.

"The social period which followed when refreshments were served was opened to questions from the visitors and guests. Their response was of interest and the Community feels that the meeting was successful.

"Another such meeting will be held shortly for those who showed a particular interest in the Cause and more particularly for some of those who had been invited but expressed regret because of a previous engagement. Some of these we know to be genuinely interested.

"We expect a fireside group to materialize from these contacts. Many of the friends who attended the Convention assisted with these contacts, probably unknown to themselves."

A number of interesting letters have been received by Mrs. Lorol Schopfholder testifying to the quickening effect of the teaching work she has carried on in Finland, Lapland and other countries of Northern Europe. From a letter written by a clergyman is quoted: "Allah-u-Abáh. I wish you all the greatest blessings in the Prophet’s name. You (addressing the Green Acre believers) are so fortunate to be gathered together to discuss the most important present-day affairs under the leadership of those inspired through the grace of the Prophet. It is now a year
since my eyes opened to behold these great truths (Miss Kruka first gave him the Message) and since then I have been a thirsty deer searching deeply in order to quench the thirst."

A gathering at Green Acre was privileged to hear details about Mrs. Schopflocher's unusual experiences, which it is hoped will be made available in a later issue of BAHÁ’I NEWS.

From Mrs. Bertha Matthiesen comes a letter relating recent phases of her teaching activities in Europe.

"Following Shoghi Effendi's instructions I spent three months in the North, one month in Copenhagen, two in Stockholm, and due to a hotel strike, only a few days in Norway. The North offers opportunity for a more or less free teaching field. It takes long residence, however, to accomplish satisfactory work.

"I returned to Budapest via Vienna and on the evening of April 21, in Alag, Hungary, we established a Spiritual Assembly. There were present twelve believers, one of whom is a minor. There is a wonderful opportunity for a worker in Hungary, but it should be one who understands European conditions.

"After Budapest I remained in Vienna for a month and was often with the friends, individually of course."

From the National Spiritual Assembly of the British Isles we have this news of the annual election.

"Immediately following the election, the N.S.A. met to elect its officers with the result that it is now organized as follows:

Chairman: Miss Grace Challis.
Vice-Chairman: Mr. Arthur Norton.
Secretary: Mr. David Hofman.
Treasurer: Mrs. K. V. Brown; Mr. Balyuzi, Mrs. Langdon-Davies, Mr. Lee, Mr. Sugar, Miss Wellby.

"The Ridvan Feast on Saturday evening was a happy occasion when the friends were entertained by Lady Blomfield at her home in Hampstead."

The N.S.A. of Australia and New Zealand reports the sessions of the Second Annual Summer School.

"The second Bahá’í Summer School in Australia was held at Bolton Place, Yerrinbool, from January 7 to 15, 1939. Friends from other States arrived at Yerrinbool on Jan. 7th, and those from Sydney on January 8th. It was most gratifying that there was an increase of numbers over last year. On Sunday, January 8th all friends gathered at Bolton Place at 11 a.m. The Chairman, Mr. Stanley Bolton, opened the first session, asking Mr. O. Whitaker to recite the Prayer for all Nations, after which Mrs. Mariette Bolton spoke and extended a welcome to all present. The following cable from our Beloved Guardian was read:— "Assure attendants Summer School special prayers, signal success, urge intensely study Teachings, deepen spirit Bahá’í Fellowship, extend scope activities. SHOGHILI."

"Our Guardian's words of encouragement and assurance of his prayers were received with gratitude and joy by the friends. The chairman then read greetings from the National Spiritual Assembly of Australia and New Zealand, the local Spiritual Assembly of Sydney, also from Mr. and Mrs. Hyde Dunn, the Australian Pioneers, Miss Margaret Stevenson, Miss D. Burns, Miss E. A. Blundell and Miss F. de Lisle of Auckland, New Zealand; Mrs. Miller of Perth, W. A.; Mrs. M. Dixon and Mrs. Wheeler of Melbourne, Vic.; Miss Elfie Baker of Goldsbrough and Mrs. M. Almond of Adelaide, S. A.; Miss Greta Lamprell and Miss Jensen of Hobart, Tasmania. Mrs. M. Dewing of Auckland, N. Z.; Miss Dorothy Dugdale and Miss Ethel Dawe of Adelaide, who attended the Summer School, personally gave greetings and love from their respective communities. The meeting then closed with a Prayer for Unity. Afterwards luncheon was served.

"On January 8th at 2.30 p.m., the friends and local residents assembled in the Yerrinbool Public Hall where a lecture entitled, 'The Bahá’í Message to Mankind' was given by Mrs. O. Routh of Sydney. Although it was a very hot day everyone listened most attentively. The chairman, Mr. O. Whitaker, invited all visitors to attend the Summer School sessions. Bahá’í literature was distributed. Afterwards, outside the Hall, all gathered to be photographed.

"Some of the friends in Australia and New Zealand who were unable to attend the Summer School kindly contributed to the programme by sending in papers on Bahá’í subjects which were read and much enjoyed. Those sending in papers were: Mr. Miller, Mr. David Miller, Mrs. M. Almond, Mrs. Dixon, Miss M. Rowling, Miss Greta Lamprell, Miss F. de Lisle, Miss D. Burns, Miss E. A. Blundell.

"The session began each morning at 9.30 a.m. with a devotional period followed by the subjects and helpful discussion. On Monday evening, January 9th, the friends visited the home of a local resident. During this happy time many subjects on the Summer School Programme were discussed, closing with prayer.

"On Tuesday afternoon, January 10th, the friends journeyed to Mittagong, seven miles from Yerrinbool, where they had been invited by an investigator to attend a Conference of the Student Christian Movement, held at Frensham College, one of the State's leading colleges for Ladies. There were 300 attending the Conference, and the Bahá’ís were asked and answered many questions on the Bahá’í teachings. The Conference was also told of the coming of Miss Martha L. Root to Sydney. In the evening the Bahá’ís were invited to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dains of Bowral, where they had invited some 20 people, among whom were Clergy and a representative of the local newspaper. Here again questions were asked, during the evening discussion, which were answered by the Bahá’ís.

"On Wednesday, January 11th, at 3.30 p.m. the friends gathered at the home of a local resident to hear a radio broadcast by Miss Ethel Dawe of Adelaide. In the evening a round table discussion took place, followed by prayers.

"On Friday evening the local residents held a Social in their Hall to which the Bahá’ís were invited. A most enjoyable evening was spent by all.

"On Sunday, January 14th at 10 a.m. the children of Yerrinbool residents were invited to the Bahá’í 'Rose Garden' Sunday School, held at Bolton Place. Some of the visiting Bahá’ís spoke to the children. On Sunday afternoon a picnic was held at which over 60 friends were present. This brought the 1939 Bahá’í Summer School to a close in the spirit of love and harmony in which the session began. All those who have had this privilege of time set apart for 'intense' study of the 'Teachings' will go away strengthened to 'extend their scope of activities,' which is our beloved Guardian's desire and prayer for us all."
Dearly-beloved co-workers:

A triple call, clear-voiced, insistent and inescapable, summons to the challenge, all members of the American Bahá’í community, at this, the most fateful hour in their history. The first is the voice, distant and piteous, of those sister communities which now, alas, are fettered by the falling chains of religious orthodoxy and isolated through the cruel barriers set up by a rampant nationalism. The second is the plea, no less vehement and equally urgent, of those peoples and nations of the New World, whose vast and unexplored territories await to be warmed by the light and swept into the orbit of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. The third, more universal and stirring than either of the others, is the call of humanity itself crying out for deliverance at a time when the tide of mounting evils has destroyed its equilibrium and is now strangling its very life.

These imperative calls of Bahá’í duty the American believers can immediately if only partially answer. Their present status, their circumscribed resources, delbar them, however great their eagerness, from responding completely and decisively to the full implications of this threefold obligation. They can neither, individually nor through their concerted efforts, impose directly their will upon those into whose hands the immediate destinies of their persecuted brethren are placed. Nor are they as yet capable of launching a campaign of such magnitude as could capture the imagination and arouse the conscience of mankind, and thereby insure the immediate and full redress of those grievances from which their helpless co-religionists in both the East and the West are suffering. They cannot moreover hope to wield at the present time in the councils of nations an influence commensurate with the stupendous claims advanced, or adequate to the greatness of the Cause proclaimed, by the Author of their Faith. Nor can they assume a position or exercise such responsibilities as would enable them by their acts and decisions to reverse the process which is urging so tragically the decline of human society and its institutions.

And yet, though their influence be at the present hour indecisive and their divinely-conferred authority unrecognized, the role they can play in both alleviating the hardships that afflict their brethren and in attenuating the ills that torment mankind is none the less considerable and far-reaching. By the range and liberality of their contributions to mitigate the distress of the bereaved, the exiled and the imprisoned: by the persistent, the wise and judicial intervention of their elected representatives through the authorities concerned; by a clear and convincing exposition, whenever circumstances are propitious, of the issues involved: by a vigorous defence of the rights and liberties denied; by an accurate and dignified presentation of the events that have transpired: by every manner of encouragement which their sympathies may suggest, or their means permit, or their consciences dictate, to succor the outcast and the impoverished; and above all by their tenacious adherence to, and wide proclamation of, those principles, laws, ideals, and institutions which their disabled fellow-believers are unable to affirm or publicly espouse; and lastly, by the energetic prosecution of those tasks which their oppressed fellow-workers are forbidden to initiate or conduct, the privileged community of the American Bahá’ís can play a conspicuous part in the great drama involving so large a company of their unemancipated brethren in the Asiatic, the European and African continents.

Their duties towards mankind in general are no less distinct and vital. Their impotence to stem the tide of onrushing calamities, their seeming helplessness in face of those cataclysmic forces that are to convulse human society, do not in the least detract from the urgency of their unique mission, nor exonerate them from those weighty responsibilities which they alone can and must assume. Humanity, helpless and impotent, is admittedly hovering on
the edge of an awful abyss, ready to precipitate itself into that titanic struggle, that cruel whose chastening fires alone can and will weld its antagonistic elements of race, class, religion and nation into one coherent system, one world commonwealth. "The hour is approaching," is Bahá'u'lláh's own testimony, "when the most great commission will have appeared . . . I swear by God! The promised day is come, the day when tormenting trials will have surged above your heads, and beneath your feet, saying: 'Taste ye, what your hands have wrought.'" Not ours to question the almighty wisdom or fathom the inscrutable ways of Him in whose hands the ultimate destiny of an unregenerate yet potentially glorious race must lie. Ours rather is the duty to believe that the world-wide community of the Most Great Name, and in particular, at the present time its vanguard in North America, however buffeted by the powerful currents of these troublous times, and however keen their awareness of the inevitability of the final eruption, can, if they will, rise to the level of their calling and discharge their functions, both in the period which is witnessing the confusion and breakdown of human institutions, and in the ensuing epoch during which the shattered basis of a dismembered society is to be recast, and its forces reshaped, re-directed and unified. With the age that is still unborn, with its herculean tasks and unsuspected glories, we need not concern ourselves at present. It is to the fierce struggle, the imperious duties, the distinctive contributions which the present generation of Bahá'ís are summoned to undertake and render that I feel we should, at this hour, direct our immediate and anxious attention. Though powerless to avert the impending contest the followers of Bahá'u'lláh in the American continent in their efforts to completely emancipate their fellow-Bahá'ís on the one hand, and to speedily rehabilitate the fortunes of their fellow-men on the other, be in the main unsurmountable, such impediments cannot as yet be said to exist that can frustrate their efforts to fully discharge the second duty now incumbent upon them in the inter-continental sphere of Bahá'í teaching. The field, in all its vastness and fertility, is wide open and near at hand. The harvest is ripe. The hour is over-due. The signal has been given. The spiritual forces, mysteriously released, are already operating with increasing momentum, unchallenged and unchecked. Victory, speedy and unqualified, is assured to whosoever will arise and respond to this urgent and vital call. In this field, as in no other, the American believers can most easily evince the full force of their latent energies, can exercise in their plentitude their conspicuous talents, and can rise to the highest level of their God-given opportunities.

Fired by their zeal, their love for and faith in Bahá'u'lláh, armed with that Holy Charter, wherein 'Abdu'l-Bahá's mandate investing them with their world mission is inscribed; piloted through the instrumentality of those agencies which a divine, a smoothly functioning administrative Order has providentially placed at their disposal: disciplined and invigorated by those immutable verities, spiritual principles and administrative regulations that distinguish their religious beliefs, govern their individual conduct and regulate their community life; aspiring to emulate the example of those heroes and martyrs, the narrative of whose exploits they have admired and pondered, it behooves all members of the American Bahá'í community to gird themselves as never before to the task of fittingly playing their part in the enactment of the opening scene of the First Act of that superb Drama whose theme is no less than the spiritual conquest of both the Eastern and Western Hemispheres. Their immediate task, under the Seven Year Plan, the object of which is the establishment of a minimum of one Bahá'í center in each of the Republics of Middle and South America, has now been gloriously ushered in through the settlement of one pioneer in most of the Central American Republics, and bids fair to be recognised by posterity as the original impulse imparted to an enterprise that will go round the world. That impulse must, as time goes by, communicate itself to the farthest extremities of Latin America, and must be reinforced in every manner, by as many of the American believers as possible. The broader the basis of this campaign, the deeper its roots, the finer the flower into which it shall eventually blossom. That its call may be heeded, that its implications may be recognized and its potentialities progressively unfold, is my earnest prayer, and the supreme longing of my heart.

Your true brother,

July 28, 1939.

SHOGHI

“FULFIL UNFLINCHINGLY THE REQUIREMENTS”

Letter from Shoghi Effendi

Dear and valued co-workers:

The readiness of your Assembly, as expressed in your recently called message, to transfer the National Bahá'í Secretariat to the vicinity of the Temple in Wilmette has evoked within me the deepest feelings of thankfulness and joy. Your historic decision, so wise and timely, so surprising in its suddenness, so far-reaching in its consequences, is one that I cannot but heartily and unreservedly applaud. To each one of your brethren in the Faith, throughout the United States and Canada, who are witnessing, from day to day and at an ever-hastening speed, the approaching completion of their National House of Worship, the great
Mother Temple of the West, your resolution to establish within its hallowed precincts and in the heart of the North American continent the Administrative Seat of their beloved Faith cannot but denote henceforward a closer association, a more constant communion, and a higher degree of co-ordination between the two primary agencies providentially ordained for the enrichment of their spiritual life and for the conduct and regulation of their administrative affairs. To the far-flung Baha'i communities of East and West, most of which are being increasingly proscribed and ill-treated, and none of which can claim to have had a share of the dual blessings which a specially designed and constructed House of Worship and a fully and efficiently functioning Administrative Order invariably confer, the concentration in a single locality of what will come to be regarded as the fountain-head of the community's spiritual life and what is already recognized as the mainspring of its administrative activities, signals the launching of yet another phase in the slow and imperceptible emergence, in these declining times, of the model Baha'i community—a community divinely ordained, organically united, clear-visioned, vibrant with life, and whose very purpose is regulated by the twin directing principles of the worship of God and of service to one's fellow-men.

The decision you have arrived at is an act that befittingly marks the commencement of your allotted term of stewardship in service to the Cause of Baha'u'llah. Moreover, it significantly coincides with the inauguration of that world mission of which the settlement of Baha'i pioneers in the virgin territories of the North American continent has been but a prelude. That such a decision may speedily and without the slightest hitch be carried into effect is the deepest longing of my heart. That those who have boldly carried so weighty a resolution may without pause or respite continue to labor and build up, as circumstance permit, around this administrative nucleus such accessories as the machinery of a fast evolving administrative order, functioning under the shadow of, and in such close proximity to, the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar, must demand, is the object of my incessant and fervent prayer. That such a step, momentous as it is, may prove the starting point for acts of still greater renown and richer possibilities that will leave their distinct mark on the third year of the Seven Year Plan is a hope which I, together with all those who are eagerly following its progress, fondly and confidently cherish.

The American believers, while straining to accomplish befittingly this particular task, must simultaneously brace themselves for another sublime effort to discharge, ere the present year draws to a close, their manifold responsibilities allotted to them under the Seven Year Plan. The placing of yet another contract for the casting of the ornamentation of the First Story of the Temple, the permanent settlement of the six remaining Republics of Central America, and the extension of continual support, both material and moral, to those weaker States, Provinces and Republics that have been recently incorporated in the body of the Faith, combine to offer, at this hour when the fate of civilization trembles in the balance, the boldest and gravest challenge that has ever faced the community of the American believers both in the propagative and administrative spheres of Baha'i activity. In the field of pioneer teaching, and particularly in connection with the opening of the Republics of Haiti, Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Dominica and Guatemala, the utmost encouragement should at all times be vouchsafed by the elected representatives of the community to those who, out of the abundance of their hearts, and in direct response to the call of their Faith and the dictates of their conscience, have renounced their comforts, fled their homes, and hazard ed their fortunes for the sake of bringing into operation the majestic Plan of 'Abdu'l-Baha, while special support should be extended to those who ap-
CLOSER VIEW OF COMPLETED GALLERY SECTION

The Guardian also welcomes your Assembly's decision to maintain the plan of holding public meetings and regional conferences in various parts of the country, and also views with approval your Assembly's decision to include the city of Toronto in the schedule of the N.S.A. meetings for this year.

In closing I wish to express the Guardian's unbounded satisfaction at the most gratifying news of the opening up of the three Central American Republics of Cuba, Panama and Honduras to the light of the Cause, and to urge your Assembly, on his behalf, to make a special, and indeed supreme effort for the settlement, in the course of this year, of the six remaining Republics of Central America. Whatever the cost and sacrifices which such admittedly difficult campaign would entail, and however tentative the efforts of those pioneers who offer themselves for service in these religiously conservative, politically unsettled, and climatically inhospitable countries, the one supreme and immediate objective is to insure laying down, ere the termination of the current year, and in each one of these Republics such foundations, rudimentary though they may be, as would provide future Bahá’í teachers working in these regions such means and openings as would considerably facilitate their task of further extending the scope and consolidating the foundations of the Cause in Central America.

Whoever feels the urge to volunteer for pioneer work in either one of these

sured that with every step it takes and with each stage it traverses, a fresh revelation of Divine light and strength will guide and propel it forward until it consummates, in the fulness of time and in the plenteitude of its power, the Plan inseparably bound up with its shining destiny.

Your true and grateful brother,  
SHOGHI  
July 4, 1939.

LETTERS FROM THE GUARDIAN

The Guardian wishes me to express his approval of the budget of $150,000 fixed by the N. S. A. for teaching work and Temple construction during the current Bahá’í Year, and trusts that the individual believers as well as all the local Assemblies will cooperate in raising that sum, and thus make it possible for your Assembly to carry on, regularly and uninterruptedly, its twofold national tasks in this third year of the Seven Year Plan.

The Guardian also welcomes your Assembly's decision to maintain the plan of holding public meetings and regional conferences in various parts of the country, and also views with approval your Assembly's decision to include the city of Toronto in the schedule of the N. S. A. meetings for this year.

In closing I wish to express the Guardian's unbounded satisfaction at the most gratifying news of the opening up of the three Central American Republics of Cuba, Panama and Honduras to the light of the Cause, and to urge your Assembly, on his behalf, to make a special, and indeed supreme effort for the settlement, in the course of this year, of the six remaining Republics of Central America. Whatever the cost and sacrifices which such admittedly difficult campaign would entail, and however tentative the efforts of those pioneers who offer themselves for service in these religiously conservative, politically unsettled, and climatically inhospitable countries, the one supreme and immediate objective is to insure laying down, ere the termination of the current year, and in each one of these Republics such foundations, rudimentary though they may be, as would provide future Bahá’í teachers working in these regions such means and openings as would considerably facilitate their task of further extending the scope and consolidating the foundations of the Cause in Central America.

Whoever feels the urge to volunteer for pioneer work in either one of these

apar to be best qualified for the strenuous labors which pioneering under such exacting circumstances demands. Care should be exercised lest any hindrance, should, for any reason be placed in the way of those who have, whether young or old, rich or poor, so spontaneously dedicated themselves to so urgent and holy a mission.

Towards this newly-appointed enterprise a more definite reorientation is needed. To its purposes a more complete dedication is demanded. In its fortunes a more widespread concern is required. For its further consolidation and speedy fulfillment a larger number and a greater variety of participants are indispensable. For its success a more abundant flow of material resources should be assured.

Let the privileged few, the ambassadors of the Message of Bahá’u’lláh, bear in mind His words as they go forth on their errands of service to His Cause. "It behoveth whosoever willeth to journey for the sake of God, and whose intention is to proclaim His Word and quicken the dead, to bathe himself with the waters of detachment, and to adorn his temple with the ornaments of resignation and submission. Let trust in God be his shield, and reliance on God his provision, and the fear of God his rainment. Let patience be his helper, and praise-worthy conduct his succourer, and kindly deeds his army. Then will the concourse on high sustain him. Then will the denizens of the Kingdom of Names march forth with him, and the banners of Divine guidance and inspiration be unfurled on his right hand and before him."

Faced with such a challenge, a community that has scaled thus far such peaks of enduring achievements can neither falter nor recoil. Confident in its destiny, reliant on its God-given power, fortified by the consciousness of its past victories, galvanized into action at the sight of a slowly disrupting civilization, it will—I have no doubt—continue to fulfill unflinchingly the immediate requirements of its task, as-
Central American States should be encouraged to do so and while the N. S. A. is conscientiously bound to facilitate his settlement it has also the right of exercising its own discretion whenever there are a number of similar applicants, through extending special financial support to all those pioneers whom it considers to be best qualified for the task.

This present phase of the inter-continental teaching campaign, coinciding as it does with the steadily rising tide of uncertainty and gloom throughout the world, acquires a special significance, and offers indeed a unique challenge to the community of the American believers, who, as the undisputed "vanguards of the Faith in the West" are now called upon to demonstrate in fields hitherto unexplored and through exploits as yet unrivaled by any of their sister-communities throughout the West, the efficacy of this new saving grace of God revealed in this age through the person of Baha'u'llah.

The Guardian will continue to pray that the members of the American Baha'i community may arise and meet the challenge of the present hour with such audacity, such self-sacrifice and such unflagging determination as truly benefits their incontestably high spiritual position, and in a manner that would evoke the admiration and excite the envy not only of the entire body of their co-religionists, but of the whole unbelieving world outside.

July 4, 1939.

He wishes you now to ask all the newly-incorporated local Assemblies to have a photograph of their Assembly taken and sent through your Assembly to Haifa. These Assembly pictures are needed to accompany the certificates of incorporation when published in the next issue of The Baha'i World.

In closing he wishes me to stress once again the vital importance of the present stage in the collective teaching undertaking of the American believers represented in the opening up and definite settlement of the Central American Republics—which, as emphasized only recently in his cable message to the N. S. A. constitute the chief and immediate teaching objective of the American believers throughout the present Baha'i year. No effort, he feels, should be spared to open up, however tentatively, each of the remaining Central American Republics in the course of the remaining eight months, and every facility and encouragement extended by the N. S. A. to all those who volunteer to settle and work in these territories. Only through such systematic teaching effort, guided by the N. S. A. and collectively supported by the entire body of the friends, can the Inter-American teaching campaign, which ushered in the period of the world spiritual mission of the American believers, forge ahead, be steadily extended in its southward penetration, and the high teaching goal set up by the Seven Year Plan completely attained at the appointed time. Let us take courage, and consecrate our all to the furtherance of this divinely-appointed task.

July 29, 1939.

WORK BEGUN ON TEMPLE MAIN STORY

New Contract Approved By the Guardian

Gallery Section Completed

A mighty achievement has been accomplished by the American Baha'i Community in the completion, by August, 1939, of the external decoration of the gallery section of the House of Worship. Despite rising costs of labor and freight rates during the work, the contract has been completed at a total cost of $125,250, the original estimate having been $125,000. Had these additional costs not been offset by rigorous economy, the final figure would have been about $130,000.

The believers can rejoice that so great a step toward the final goal has been taken. We enter now the final stage in the vast undertaking which, as the Guardian has emphasized, has been before us for not less than thirty years. Undoubtedly spiritual blessings will descend even more abundantly to inspire all our activities for the Faith with the completion of such a large part of the external decoration.

Continuous Construction Imperative

The fundamental meaning of the Seven Year Plan is that it requires, and makes possible a continuous, even accelerating, march toward its two objectives of Teaching and Temple completion. There can be no spiritual depression to interfere with this rapid march, no matter what conditions exist in the social world.

Therefore the plan had been adopted, submitted to the Guardian and approved by him, of continuing Temple construction without interruption throughout the calendar year of 1939. Under a new contract amounting to $10,000, the Earley Studios will complete, by December 31, the ornamentation of the lower one-third of all nine pylons of the main floor of the House of Worship. Other contracts made from time to time thereafter will no doubt bring the external decoration to entire completion well before the end of the First Baha'i Century.

Considerable Saving In Contracts For Models and Molds

The final estimated cost of these two contracts for making the models and molds called for by the external design of the first, or main, story, is $40,000, or $10,000 less than the original estimate, due in large measure to the fact that the Temple Trustees found it financially possible to place both these contracts at practically the same time.

These two contracts apply directly to the external decoration of the first story and bring the work to the point where the units can be cast and applied to the surface of the structure. From now on, beginning with the modest contract for $10,000 already reported, the results of this expenditure of $40,000 will produce results visible to the world.

Donations of $13,000 Required

To meet the terms of the new contract, and at the same time carry out necessary filling and leveling of grounds, an amount estimated at $13,357.94 is required through contributions to the National Fund between now and December 31. That sum is much less than was set up for Temple construction for the period May 1 to December 31, 1939 in the current Annual Budget. The Budget was in fact adopted to provide for the necessary expenses of Teaching and Temple, if the Budget is maintained, there will be no occasion for special appeals.

However, in advance of receipt of funds sufficient to maintain the Budget, the National Spiritual Assembly reports that it has assumed the obligation to meet Temple construction costs by December 31 to the extent of $13,357.94, in full confidence that the guidance of the Guardian, and the readiness of the Baha'i community to sacrifice for the fulfilment of the Seven Year Plan, will discharge this obligation to the penny.

The Guardian's Approval

The Guardian's approval, conveyed in a cabled message received August 7, 1939, is as follows—

"Delighted approve placing contract (for) pylons (of) main story. Praying response (of) believers (will) insure uninterrupted completion entire edifice. Loving gratitude."—Shoghi
TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Since Convention time, when the great news was released of the completion of the initial phase of the Seven Year Plan, our Bahá’í pioneers have pressed forward irresistibly in their spiritual quest for the North American continent.

Miss Honor Kempton, who stopped in Juneau, Alaska, from April 18th until May 30th, has now moved to Anchorage, where she is making arrangements to open a circulating library. Her whole journey has been an adventure in stimulating and important contacts, including Alaska’s most famous aviator, the owner of a Bank in Fairbanks; an Engineer of Mines who worked on the Temple in the early days; a Finnish woman to whom the Faith came as thrilling news, of interest not only to herself but to her brother still living in Finland. In Seward Miss Kempton attended the marriage of a boat friend from Juneau, on route to her new home in McKinley National Park. "I got up early one morning of her wedding day and went to her sisterroom and read Bahá’í Tablets on Marriage to her. ... Later she told me how it had moved her and had made her think." In Anchorage Miss Kempton has received the friendly interest and advice of the newspaper publisher, the president of the First National Bank, and a number of others. She has met Sidney Laurence, Alaska’s famous artist, a member of the Royal Academy with work in the Louvre. She has also visited Palmer, in the Matanuska Valley colony, where literature was presented to Dr. Albrecht, one of the colony’s best-known pioneers, and to the minister of the United Protestant Church. Perhaps Miss Kempton’s happiest occasion was her first fireside meeting, when she spoke at length of the Faith to the young woman who manages her apartment building. "I shall never forget my exaltation and joy. I tried to be calm and quiet, but oh, how I was seething inside for pure joy. ... I am hoping she will be the first Alaskan Bahá’í ... As she left she turned and said: 'This is my birthday and I think you have given me the most beautiful birthday gift I have ever received.'"

In connection with this stirring report of Alaska, mention should be made of the liberal offer of Mr. and Mrs. Rafollah Y. Motahedeh of New York City, to defray the expenses of a pioneer in Alaska for a year.

Another most important Alaska news item is that Miss Betty Becker of Kansas City sailed for Juneau the end of July, after a visit to the Geyserville Summer School. She will settle there as the second pioneer for Alaska.

The pioneer work in Canada has received tremendous impetus through the settlement of Miss Doris Skinner in Calgary in April; Mr. Rowland Estall in Winnipeg in May; Mrs. Beulah S. Proctor and daughter in Halifax in April, followed later by the Grenville Wades of Moncreif; a cross-continent business and teaching trip of Mr. Emeric Sala; the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard King to Winnipeg and Regina; and new plans of the Regional Committee of Eastern Canada and Newfoundland for teaching in the Maritime Provinces.

Three weeks after his arrival in Winnipeg, Mr. Rowland Estall wrote that these were weeks "of the most rapid and astounding development of a Bahá’í community that I have ever witnessed. Two hours after I arrived I met Emeric Sala who had come here from Montreal the day before. Half an hour later we were talking to Miss Lilian Tomlinson, in her home, about the Cause and the future development here just as though we were any other Teaching Committee, meeting to consider ways and means for a teaching campaign in a long-established Bahá’í city." Using contacts made by Mrs. Sylvia King "during her previous visit in which she laid such a remarkable foundation for this work." Mr. Sala arranged a lecture before the Phoenix Club on May 31st. Charles Clay, literary editor of the Free Press, "was chairman and gave one of the best introductory talks on the Faith I have heard from anyone." Mr. Estall spoke briefly on the principles. "Towards the end of the meeting in walked Sylvia and Leonard King who had just arrived, so Sylvia wound up a successful evening with a talk on Bahá’í methods of attaining these objectives. You can hardly imagine the impression it created in the minds of the audience to have three speakers, from Montreal, San Francisco and Vancouver respectively, converge on their little club in one evening to tell them about the Bahá’í Faith. I felt as though Bahá’ílách was taking no chances, like a generalmarshalling all his forces at one point for a simultaneous and decisive attack which could only result in victory. Winnipeg was 'tapped' for the Faith that night. Two students are about ready to accept the Faith, and will be the first to join with Mr. Estall in forming a Bahá’í Group. He writes: "My earlier doubts and hesitation, even at this short distance, appalled me!"

Other reports from Mr. Sala and Mrs. King describe the pioneer work which was next arranged by these pioneer workers. One day was spent in Regina by the Kings, during which plans were completed for a public lecture at the Hotel Saskatchewan, with Mr. A. T. Hunter, past president of the Institute of International Affairs, as chairman. A telephone call to an interested student in Saskatoon laid the basis for Mr. Sala’s visit there also, on June 19th. Through a chain of circumstances after his arrival, he was invited to speak to nine members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. "I knew that I was assisted, for these intelligent young men and women listened with real interest to the most challenging claims of the 19th Century’s Revelation. They took all the pamphlets I had and expressed interest in a study group."

The lecture in Regina, which was announced over the radio, was attended by about fifty people, "and it was one of the most successful meetings I have ever had." Mr. Sala continues. "I spoke about forty minutes, beginning with an indirect approach, but feeling, as I went on about the station and the mission of Bahá’í, that the audience continued to follow me and that the challenge made met with no resentment. The question period lasted another forty minutes. We had about 100 pamphlets on hand. Every one was taken."

So far as teaching records are concerned, no public Bahá’í work has ever been done previously in these two cities of Saskatchewan.

Miss Doris Skinner secured a position within two weeks after her arrival in Calgary, Alberta. Both Mr. Estall and Mr. Sala have stopped over for fireside meetings and contacts. An isolated believer in the southern part of Alberta, Miss Elizabeth Conlon, has offered to invite a group for Miss Skinner to teach. The latter writes: "Really I don’t know why more Bahá’ís don’t do pioneer work; it is quite the most exciting experience I have ever had. I wouldn’t go home again for anything."

Mrs. Beulah Proctor has been joined in Halifax, Nova Scotia, by Mr. and Mrs. Grenville Wade, transferred from Montreal. "Mr. Wade has made some excellent contacts with professors of the University here which will materialize in the fall when classes open again, for he has been invited to give some round table talks to the men." In connection with a new position, Mrs. Proc-
tor spent ten days in Liverpool, making many contacts. "I should say that there are about twelve people really interested in the Cause there... One man, a chef in a small place where I went to eat, accepted the Cause as soon as I had finished telling him the story... I have been invited to give a talk about the Bahá’í Faith to the Women’s Institute later on and also to give a talk to men and women of the town some Sunday afternoon."

Teaching in Hamilton, Ontario, has continued through the efforts of the Toronto Assembly with Mrs. Mabel Ives and Mrs. Mary Barton, resulting in the first declared Bahá’í, with at least four others "on the way." Mrs. Barton writes: "There is a great joy and thrill in being out in the pioneer teaching field, indescribably rewarding; but certainly it makes one tremendously humble about one’s own poor efforts in relation to the importance and greatness of the work, and without turning constantly to Bahá’ulláh, one couldn’t go on, for there is no adequate sufficiency in one’s own strength and capacity."

"The friends will be happy to know that through the generosity of one of the believers, Mrs. Ives will be able to continue her teaching work uninterrupted for another year."

Our pioneers of Providence, Rhode Island, Mr. and Mrs. Don T. McNally, are now holding Wednesday fireside meetings for a young group. Contact with the radio station has resulted in a suggestion from its managers that "we bring talks on science, religion and education, and they would try to introduce the Cause from that angle. They are from Chicago and have seen the Temple. We are trying to arrange for a Temple display in October... The experience of coming here has been the most glorious adventure of our lives and we are now so fully aware of the power of Bahá’ulláh and of our inability to do anything ourselves... One really must get out in the world to know the real value of being a Bahá’í and experiencing the fellowship that exists within those sacred twelve principles."

Mr. and Mrs. William Sears are now well established in Salt Lake City where they have recently purchased a home. Mr. Sears has been made assistant manager of radio station KUTA in Salt Lake City. Recent Bahá’í visitors have included Mrs. Sylvia King, who spent twelve days, and Mrs. Helen Bishop, who spoke before the young people’s group at the Unitarian Church, "We love Salt Lake City and feel that a slow beginning is a firm ending. So far I have a small list of about fifteen who have been given a picture of the Cause... We expect in the fall to do some extensive radio work. Until then we will continue doing ground work."

Miss Helen Griffing, in Reno, Nevada, has had the assistance of three Bahá’í teachers, Mrs. Mamie Sebo, Mrs. Helen Bishop, and Miss Joy Allen. "For a pioneer who is supposed to be enduring suffering and hardships I’m having the time of my life." Excellent contacts are being made among all classes of people, and it is reported that Miss Griffing already has many friends, as she is taking an active part in community life. Three of these new friends attended the Geyserville Summer School with Miss Griffing in July. From Charleston, West Virginia, come the first reports from Mr. and Mrs. Hilbert Dahl. Preliminary contacts are being made, and books have been accepted by the YWCA library. "After we have become more settled the way will undoubtedly open for the institution of a coordinated effort... Remember West Virginia is your home."

Miss Nyeo Grace Bissell, who has settled in Rutland, Vermont, reported in April that "contacts have been made with the city librarian, the newspaper editor, and the Zonta Club, as well as with several private individuals." She continues, "I am overwhelmed when I think of the great bounty of being allowed to come to Vermont. I love this State and even today, with a heavy snowfall—unseasonably late—it is glorious to me."

This sampling of the reports which are flowing into the Teaching Committee from all parts of America, not only from pioneer teachers, but from the whole army of Bahá’í’s followers, is a striking proof of the confirmation vouchsafed to Bahá’ís in this chaotic time. Almost alone among peoples, we who are dedicated to the unfolding of the Divine Plan, have reason to anticipate the future with eagerness. For these are the very words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, addressed to us in the Divine Plan: ‘The full measure of your success is as yet unrevealed, its significance still unapprehended. Ere long, ye will, with your own eyes, witness how brilliantly every one of you, even as a shining star, will radiate in the firmament of your country, the light of Divine Guidance, and will bestow upon its people the glory of an everlasting life.”

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE.

INTER-AMERICA TEACHING

Since the Convention, several of the plans that were in the air, have become events, and others have been ratified by the National Spiritual Assembly, to be carried out in the coming months.

Three sub-committees have been formed: Eastern States, Middle, and Pacific Coast area, respectively. These co-workers will discover contacts among the Pan-American societies, which are reaching out to our southern neighbors, and fostering good will or material reciprocity.

In August, Miss Eva Nicklin, cooperating with the Administrative Order, will settle in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, as a permanent resident. Mr. Philip Marangello is leaving for Havana; and, for at least one year, will advance the New World Order in Cuba. Mr. Gerard Shute, now of Toronto, has left for Guatemala.

In Mexico City, Mr. Pedro Espinosa, and the friends, are working on the translations into Spanish of Some Answered Questions; Foundations of World Unity; Wisdom of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá; Bahá’í Procedure. The booklet of Prayers may be bought from the Publishing Society or from the Assembly in Mexico.

Our representative to Panama, Mr. Mathew Kaszub, is gaining newspaper publicity of excellent type, and is giving a series of lectures in the School of Arts and Trades. We are watching the post for the next page of his refreshing, "Tropical News—published 9 degrees north of the Equator..."
"I had a good announcement in all three newspapers about my lecture in the Theosophical Hall. This was not in the religious section of the paper, so, happily, I was not messed up with the sectarians. The subject was *Cycles of Civilization*. I went out to Gamboca this afternoon, Sunday, the 4th of June, but my audience had gone to an important funeral, so there were only a few high school children. I also believe in burying the dead! I did talk to a few of the live ones,—who were not following corpses . . ."

In Selano, Nueva Vizcaya, Philippine Islands, Mr. Felix Madella is waiting for the Spanish registration cards to give students in the class. Already, he has petitioned for letterheads printed with the suggested form: "The Philippine Spiritual Assembly, The New Scientific and Spiritual Religion, the Baha'i Teaching, Which is Bringing New Life to a Spiritually Dead World." He writes: "I am proud to inform you that one of my co-workers on the Baha'i Movement will donate at least six hectares of land on a beautiful site on the top of a very low hill and along the sides of a National Road . . . to help us start and push to put up a temporary, semi-permanent building and to buy an adjacent suitable lot for our Reading Baha'i-Room . . ."

From Buenos Aires, comes another letter from Mrs. Frances Benedict Stewart, in part, as follows: "May 25th was celebrated as the great, national patriotic holiday of Argentina— the winning of the Revolution against Spain. Early in the morning, a friend and I (Maria Casati of the Baha'i Group) went to see a parade of poor, miserable, exploited Indians that came from Patagonia, and from the northern forests, to beg schools, lands, and food for their tribes. . . . The Committee in charge invited me to meet the Indians and I held a long interview with them, and told them that the great Prophet for the New Age had demanded Justice for them also, and that a new spirit of unity and love was pervading and silently working in all corners of the earth. One Indian said he wanted to talk to me alone, for he is a descendant of an ancient chief of the Incas, and he wanted to tell me of an ancient legend when all mankind would unite and worship the Great Spirit together! . . . His wife, a German woman, soon after I began unfolding the Great Message, interrupted me, saying: 'Yes, I heard of the Bab, of Baha'u'llah, of Abdu'l-Baha in Germany, and have longed to know more of their mission.' They feel the Message must be carried to the Indians of all America and possibly this man can do it!"

"Then last week I was given a book, Dr. Ricardo Rojas, the professor in Latin-America and Spanish literature of the University here, and a famous writer wrote, *The Christ Invisible*. I read it and found the last few chapters a wonderful prophecy that these are the days of the Apocalypse and Revelations, that chaos is engulfing a wandering humanity and only 'A New Spiritual Messenger and a New Message adapted to this New Age' could save humanity! I, of course, used his book as my introduction and then I gave him the glorious Message, that both the 'New Prophet' and 'The New Spiritual Message' have been given to the world! Well, he was fascinated and then I told him I was soon sailing, he stood up and said, 'No, not yet, for I must know more of them.'"

Shoghi Effendi, in a letter dated May 12, 1939, sends the following instructions through his secretary, "The importance of establishing the Faith in that republic (i.e., Panama) as already stressed by the Guardian in his last general letter, cannot be overemphasized, and whatever the obstacles that may have to be faced by future Baha'i pioneers in that country, the task of insuring the spiritual conquest of that territory, of whose far-reaching possibilities as a radiating center for the diffusion of the light of the Cause throughout Central and South America Abdu'l-Baha has so explicitly written in the Tablets of the Divine Plan, must be vigorously and systematically pursued. . . . In closing, Shoghi Effendi wishes me to stress the all-importance of the teaching work in Central America. While the teaching campaign in South America should be continually and vigorously prosecuted, special attention, he feels, should be directed to Central America, aiming at the permanent establishment of at least one believer in each one of its republics, before the end of the present year."

**KNOXVILLE BAHAI COMMUNITY**

(Spiritual Assembly Newly Established April 21, 1939)

**BAHAI DIRECTORY**

The following changes are reported:

**Local Assemblies.**

Los Angeles, Mrs. Mary Hotchkiss Bode, Corresponding Secretary, 963 No. Doheny Drive.

Berkeley, Mrs. Helen B. Rutledge, 2828 Stuart Street.

Albuquerque, N. M., Miss Elizabeth R. Cox, 410 So. Pine Street.

Miami, Mrs. Dorothy B. Loganin, P. O. Box 1975.

San Francisco, Miss Myrtle Dodge, 2139 Pacific Avenue.

**National Committees.**

Teaching Committee, Miss Charlotte M. Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.

Reviewing Committee, Genevieve L. Coy, Chairman, 117 West 10th Street, New York, N. Y.

International Auxiliary Language, Mr. Hugh Rouse.
PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Work Is Worship

Fall study classes for children are soon to be under way. An interesting suggestion comes to us from the Children’s Workshop Community at Biltmore, Holland. Here children of mixed ages, sexes, religions, and social opportunities are gathered in a community life of work, study and play, with partial responsibility in government.

The little citizens have built their own furniture, hot-houses and equipment, and each year raise flowers and vegetables in their gardens.

They learn many languages, being European children, among them Esperanto, which they speak fluently and use as a medium of correspondence with children everywhere.

The natural bents of the children are studied and fostered, and always with an emphasis of cooperation rather than competition.

The success of the experiment is evidenced by the increase in numbers from a mere handful to one hundred and twenty in a short space of time.

This experiment is interesting to Bahá’ís both from the point of view of its cosmopolitan nature, and because of its emphasis on happy, cooperative work. American Bahá’í groups may find it possible to experiment in some small way in this direct method of teaching the ideal of work is worship. Bahá’í parents, if not group leaders, are in an excellent position to do this most happily.

A few simple rules should be of assistance to parent and teacher.

1. Choose work as nearly as possible adapted to the child.
2. Keep the spirit of it happy.
3. Insist upon regularity.
4. Encourage always, but praise the work only when the praise can be sincere.
5. Compare new work with old, thus developing the urge for improvement and new achievements.
6. Cultivate the love of doing hard things, but never strain a child beyond his actual ability.
7. Motivate the work; that is, plan ahead with the worker what shall be done with it when finished.
8. Keep the spiritual basis always alive. Teach them a few of the Utterances of Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá on work.

“Work done in the spirit of service is worship.”—‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

“The best of men are they that earn their livelihood by a profession, and expend on themselves and on their kindred, for the love of God, the Lord of all worlds.”—Bahá’u’lláh.

“...it is incumbent upon every one of you to engage in some one occupation, such as arts, trades, and the like. We have made this your occupation, identical with the worship of God, the True One. Reflect, 0 people, upon the mercy of God, and upon His favors; ... Waste not your time in idleness and idleness, and occupy yourselves with that which will profit yourselves and others besides yourselves. ... Every soul who occupies himself in an art or trade, this will be accounted an act of worship before God.”—Bahá’u’lláh.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


IN MEMORIAM

... The true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation. BAHÁ’U’LLÁH.

Mrs. George Wiles, Nashville.
Mrs. Walter Covington, New York.
Mr. Walter Patzer, Waterbury, Connecticut.
Mr. Joseph C. Bray, San Francisco.
Dr. William Young Allen, Berkeley.

MANUSCRIPTS FOR REVIEW

The National Spiritual Assembly requests Bahá’í authors to submit their manuscripts for review to the National Assembly and not directly to the Reviewing Committee. The material is to be in final form, as the function of correcting manuscripts and improving the writing has not been extended to the Reviewing Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

National Committees are requested, through their chairmen, to provide ten copies of the Minutes of each meeting, one copy for the Guardian and nine for the members of the National Assembly. Committees which do not meet for consultation are to provide ten progress reports every three months.

*In correction of name misspelled in a previous announcement.

PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Publishing Committee wishes to announce that the two volumes of Proclamation of Universal Peace, the American edition of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, hitherto sold separately at $2.50 per copy, can now be supplied bound together as one volume, with cloth cover, for $2.50 complete—one-half the former cost.

These are the days when the fundamental verities which the Master released for the American continent have become the outstanding problems and topics for discussion. The combining of these two volumes into one will make it easier for every active believer to possess a copy.

An Index to Bahá’í Procedure has been supplied by the Index Committee, and copies will be inserted in all unsold copies of the Procedure, but the friends who already possess a copy can obtain the Index for 50c. Assemblies are requested to stock a supply for local sale, as the Committee is not equipped to sell these small cost items on individual order.

Bahá’í Procedure, with Index. $0.75
The Reality of Man, a compilation, new edition. $0.50
Vol. II of Proclamation of Universal Peace (only a few copies on hand) at special price of 1.25 net
Study Outline on Public Speaking 0.10 net
Study Outline on the Essential Principles of Creative Writing 0.10 net

MARTHA ROOT

IN INDIA

(Continued)

Pooma.—We left on an early train for Poona and arrived there in the night. Poona is a Bahá’í paradise and one of the high spiritual lights in India. The first morning, February fifth, we had a beautiful program of welcome in the Bahá’í Hall in the National Hotel. The pupils from the Bahá’í school marched to the hall. All Bahá’ís were present, and after the program tea was served.

The entire stay was so well arranged that even New York and Tibrin would say “Bravo!” I think the plan could with profit be carried out in other cities. At 7 P. M. that first day, the President of the Local Spiritual Assembly gave a tea in the Bahá’í Hall for twenty-four journalists of India. I had prepared my speech, (the resume), to journalists very carefully and made carbon copies. I spoke on
Journalism and the Cause and then read to them my interview and distributed it to them. Shirin spoke and there was a resumé of her talk. Questions were asked and some of the journalists came each day afterwards and were very interested. (If it had been a big reception we could not have spoken intimately of journalism and the Cause and what Bahá’ís said about the press.)

The next forenoon, Sunday, at ten o’clock, a great lecture was staged in the cinema theatre, “Deccan Talkies” to more than a thousand people, 99 per cent of whom were university and college students. Many came who could not get into the hall. We had the loudspeaker. Mr. K. F. Nariman, one of the very popular men in India, was the Chairman, and he was sympathetic to the Faith. Fourteen copies of the resumés of our speeches were given to the journalists whose papers represented several different languages. A number of students and journalists came to the hotel afterwards to ask further.

In the afternoon we visited the Bahá’í School to meet the pupils.

The following morning, Monday, the Bahá’í school presented a Peace Play and Bahá’í Songs for us. In the afternoon a tea was given in the Bahá’í Hall by the Local Spiritual Assembly President to the educators of Poona. I spoke to these professors about the Bahá’í Faith in various universities of the world and what great scholars have said and written about it. At each tea there was a fine and beautifully arranged exhibition of Bahá’í books and we explained the books for they were interested. Shirin spoke on Qur’án’-i-Ayn and sang, and we both gave resumés to the reporters. The professors said they would gladly arrange lectures in their schools when we come again.

The third afternoon the tea by the President was for the lawyers of Poona. We had a talk and discussion followed; they, too, said they would arrange lectures when we return, for most of them belong to clubs.

One lawyer said in fun: “I belong to Brahmo-Sangh but we are a little lazy in working, (but I say ‘it is all right, for the Bahá’ís are promoting all the ideals for which we stand!’)

That night the Bahá’ís gave a farewell party for us. In the times in between lectures and interviews we had a number of heart to heart talks about Haifa and about promoting the Cause.

The Bahá’í School in Poona is a model and I believe great Bahá’í spiritual teachers for the Cause will come out from that school. They are getting a marvelous training there.

The Secret of the very wonderful Bahá’í work in Poona is mobilized Unity for service! The Holy Spirit is with them, attracted by their unity. The Bahá’í world over the five continents has been gripped at times by Poona’s work, and travelling over India three times as I have, I have met a number of fine people who said they first heard of the Teachings when staying for a few days in the National Hotel of Poona. I must give tribute to Poona because since 1915, when I first met them, I feel they are “living the life” up there.

Bombay.—Early the morning of February ninth we entrained down to Bombay. Bombay is the “Mother City” of all the Bahá’í work in India. Many dear Bahá’í friends met us at the station with smiles and garlands of sweet jasmines and roses and fragrant bouquets. Such a great program was planned, but alas, as all the chairmen and most of the journalists of Bombay were at Haripura for two weeks to the fifty-first Congress of India, it was thought best by all of us that we postpone the intensive campaign in Bombay until March twenty-first. However, in these three or four days there we had a glorious welcome reception in the Bahá’í Hall and they asked us to tell about the tour. We lectured in C. L. High School, Dadar, Bombay, to more than five hundred students and met with the Bahá’í friends who are arranging our program. We spoke Sunday in Bahá’í Hall to a large audience. We were so happy to see all the friends. There are nearly eight hundred Bahá’ís in Bombay.

My baggage from Shanghai—those suitcases that I had to leave behind when I fled as a refugee from Shanghai bombings on August 17—arrived in Bombay. February fourth, thanks to our dear Bahá’í brother Mr. Ous­kouli of Shanghai who saved them for me and sent them on. I was very, very thankful to get those bags.

I received a telegram from our beloved Guardian. He approves the publication in India of my little book, Tahirih, Iran’s Greatest Woman. He suggested I stay in India until about January first and then proceed to Aus­tralia and New Zealand for a prolonged tour. So I expect to sail December 29 for Australia and New Zealand, disembarking first at Perth.

Our Guardian wishes Shirin Fozdar to go to United States to speak, and I hope she can leave in December. The Bahá’ís of our country will be so happy to have her come. She left February 14, for her home in Ajmere and I have come to Surat to visit the blessed family, Mr. N. R. Vakil and his wife and two daughters and to do some writing. It is heavenly to be with them and a great help to my work. Mr. Vakil was the first Hindu in India to become a believer and he is one of the great Bahá’ís of this world. Our loved Guardian has said he hopes the two young daughters will some day come to Iran and to the United States as Bahá’i teachers. He is a very distinguished lawyer and deeply spiritual. They will come some time when his health will permit. Mr. Vakil and family with a few others may go to America on their next trip. I shall write about the work in Surat and in Bombay in my next report.

I thank from the depths of my heart and soul the N. S. A. members in India and Burma for their love and their wonderful help and the splendid way they have planned the work in India. The Cause is progressing very much in India, and I truly believe that India will become a strong Bahá’í country, standing in line with the nations leading in the new world order. Allah-u-Abdub Deep and abiding love to all of you.
HEIRS OF BAHÁ’U’LLAH’S COVENANT

"Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! Darkness hath fallen upon every land, and the forces of mischief have encompassed all the nations. Through them, however, I perceive the splendors of Thy wisdom, and discern the brightness of the light of Thy providence.

"They that are shut out as by a veil from Thee have imagined that they have the power to put out Thy light, and to quench Thy fire, and to still the winds of Thy grace. Nay, and to this Thy might be a witness! Had not every tribulation been the vehicle of Thy providence, no one would have dared oppose us, though the powers of earth and heaven were to be leagued against us. Were I to unravel the wondrous mysteries of Thy wisdom which are laid bare beclouded asunder.

"Glorified be Thou, then, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name to assemble them that love Thee around the Law that streameth from the good-pleasure of Thy will, and to send down upon them what will assure their hearts.

"Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. Thou art, verily, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting."—BAHÁ’U’LLAH.

Beloved friends:

Our lives, in these days of the manifestation of the Divine Will, are immersed in mystery. Beneficent powers, supremely enthroned above the world of violence and denial, await to employ the Bahá’í community for the steady consolidation of The Most Great Peace. We must be more conscious of the sustaining power of God than ever before, more humble, more expectant of spiritual victory, more alive in the world of the soul than in the realm of physical personality.

That ours collectively is a significant and noble mission the Guardian attested in these words, written July 28:

"Though powerless to avert the impending contest the followers of Bahá’u’lláh can, by the spirit they evince and the efforts they exert, help to circumscribe its range, shorten its duration, allay its hardships, proclaim its salutary consequences, and demonstrate its necessary and vital role in the shaping of human destiny. Theirs is the duty to hold, alight and undimmed, the torch of Divine Guidance, as the shades of night descend upon, and ultimately envelop, the entire human race."

In part, this unique mission given to a small and unassuming body of human beings must be exemplified in the world of public action, through the steady prosecution of Temple construction and the activities of the Teaching and Inter-America Committees. Nothing can divert our attention from the oft-reiterated command to continue the twofold task throughout the remaining years of the Seven Year Plan.

In part, this unique mission is spiritual, subjective, exemplified by capacity to attain a purer consciousness and a more consecrated being. Without this deepening of our lives, this individual striving for union with the Holy Spirit, the public work of the Cause will fall lamentably short of its full purpose. Therefore, pending the formulation and announcement of any particular general plans that might appear to be proper and befitting for the community of the faithful in time of war, let us give each one full attention to the need of fresh inspiration for our inner life. Let us ponder again the mighty Teachings on the regeneration of the soul. Let us strive for worthiness to drink of the Elixir that is the source of man’s real existence. Let us realize that without inspiration from on high we can not exemplify the firmness, the courage, the radiance and the wisdom of those who, in the very hour of battle, carry within themselves the evidences that God has ordained the Most Great Peace.

Our guidance for these special days is, of course, derived from the words of the Guardian. Nevertheless there is a Tablet revealed by the Master, translated by Shoghi Effendi on January 28, 1919, perusal of which cannot but illumine our hearts at so crucial a time.

"This world war has come to an end. We trust that at least it will lead to the preliminaries of Universal Peace, just as it is plainly foretold in the
Blessed Tablets.

"The greatest means for its realization is in the entreaty and supplication of the friends to the Kingdom of God. Ye should all implore and pray, supplicate and beseech that through the grace of God this world-consuming war may be changed into a world-illuminating Peace. It is certain that the entreaty and supplication of these servants will be acceptable at the Divine Threshold, for we wish naught save the tranquillity of the world of existence, purpose nothing but unity among men and at nothing save the eradication of ignorant prejudices, so that all religions and races, embracing one another, may gather under the shade of the pavilion of the Oneness of God.

"O ye sons and daughters of the Kingdom! the most pressing need today is harmony and unity among the friends of God. Strive your utmost for this. Not until this intimate unity is realized can universal harmony be established. Therein lies the reasons of Christ's saying: 'Ye are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has lost its savor, wherewith shall it be salted.' Exert ye a great deal of effort on this momentous question."

Since that Tablet was revealed the organism of Bahá'ís has forever been established by the Guardian as Head of the administrative order. The phrase "intimate unity," however, reveals deeper layers of spiritual association that must be attained in prayer and communion.

In essence, we have come to a great and mighty hour in the history of mankind. All things are to be changed, and all things will be in perturbation. The condition of pure, conscious faith alone will be immune to the forces of destruction. "Glorified be Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name to assemble them that love Thee around the Law that streameth from the good-pleasure of Thy will, and to send down upon them what will assure their hearts." These words, taken from a prayer of Bahá'u'lláh, may well be realized as the expression of that constant prayer our souls must learn how to become.

National Spiritual Assembly.

SUFFERINGS OF THE BELIEVERS IN TURKISTAN AND CAUCASUS

The National Spiritual Assembly has learned with deep grief of the sufferings of the Bahá'í communities in Turkistan and Caucasus. Some years ago their Assemblies and Committees were dissolved, as reported at the time, and their literature and records confiscated. At present many of the friends have been imprisoned, including women, and some have died in incarceration, while the majority have been deported to Iran and a few to Siberia. Bahá'í activities and teaching are forbidden.

The American Bahá'ís can assist at this time only through such contributions as the National Assembly may find it possible to offer for the relief of the Bahá'í refugees within Iran. As evidence of the unbroken and unbreakable solidarity of the believers throughout the world, it is hoped that sums adequate to the importance of the case, and commensurate with the number of those in want, may from time to time be dispatched with the love of the American friends. A contribution in the amount of one hundred pounds sterling for the relief of these believers was recently cabled to the Guardian as a donation from the American Bahá'ís through the National Spiritual Assembly.

PUBLIC MEETING AND REGIONAL CONFERENCE AT TORONTO

The meetings at Toronto coincided with the receipt of the Guardian's cabled message of August 28, and with the outbreak of international war. A deep sense of responsibility permeated all the meetings, those of a public or regional character as well as the business sessions of the Assembly itself.

On Friday evening, September 1, a public meeting was held at the King Edward Hotel, arranged in consultation with the Toronto Assembly. The subject announced was "Order for a Chaotic World."

The lecture hall was well filled when the meeting began, and a large number of newly attracted friends, as well as a number attending their first Bahá'í gathering, shared with the Bahá'í community in constituting the audience. Mr. Allen B. McDaniel presided at the meeting, presenting Mr. Harlan Ober who spoke on "The Oneness of Man-kind—the Foundation" and Mrs. Dorothy Baker whose subject was "The World Tomorrow." A beautiful spirit was manifest, and the gathering dissolved into small groups who remained in intimate discussion long after the meeting was over.

Another public meeting, specially arranged, consisted of an illustrated lecture by Mr. McDaniel on the Bahá'í House of Worship, delivered at the Theosophical Center on Saturday evening, September 2.

A regional teaching conference, with Mr. George Spendlove presiding, was held at the King Edward Hotel, Sunday afternoon, September 3. The conference dealt with many vital questions, with chief emphasis laid on the meaning of the Guardian's latest cablegram, the needs of the National Fund, and the importance of developments in the National Teaching and Inter-America activities.

MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

To assure the necessary concentration of effort at meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly, when matters of such extreme importance require attention, it has been decided to publish the following memorandum as notice to the friends.

No interruption whatsoever in the business of the National Assembly is to be permitted during sessions. Plans for consultation and interviews are to be submitted in advance. Individual members of the Assembly are not to make personal engagements during business sessions. The pressure upon individual members having proved detrimental to the transaction of Assembly business. In dealing with the believers, the Assembly expects to receive matters in written or documentary form and not submitted in the form of oral statements reported to an Assembly officer or member.

RECTITUDE OF CONDUCT

Such a rectitude of conduct must manifest itself, with ever-increasing potency, in every verdict which the elected representatives of the Bahá'í community, in whatever capacity they may find themselves, may be called upon to pronounce. It must be constantly reflected in the business dealings of all its members, in their domestic lives, in all manner of employment, and in any service they may, in the fu-
tute, render their government or people. It must be exemplified in the conduct of all Baha’i electors, when exercising their sacred rights and functions. It must characterize the attitude of every loyal believer towards non-acceptance of political posts, non-identification with political parties, non-participation in political controversies, and non-membership in political organizations and ecclesiastical institutions. It must reveal itself in the uncompromising adherence of all, whether young or old, to the clearly enunciated and fundamental principles laid down by ‘Abdu’l-Baha in His addresses, and to the laws and ordinances revealed by Baha’u’llah in His Most Holy Book. It must be demonstrated in the impartiality of every defender of the Faith against its enemies, in his fair-mindedness in recognizing any merits that enemy may possess, and in his honesty in discharging any obligations he may have towards him. It must constitute the brightest ornament of the life, the pursuits, the exertions, and the utterances of every Baha’i teacher, whether laboring at home or abroad, whether in the front ranks of the teaching force, or occupying a less active and responsible position. It must be made the hallmark of that numerically small, yet intensely dynamic and highly responsible body of the elected national representatives of every Baha’i community, which constitutes the sustaining pillar, and the sole instrument for the election, in every community, of that Universal House whose very name and title, as ordained by Baha’u’llah, symbolizes that rectitude of conduct which is its highest mission to safeguard and enforce.

So great and transcendental is this principle of Divine justice, a principle that must be regarded as the crowning distinction of all Local and National Assemblies, in their capacity as forerunners of the Universal House of Justice, that Baha’u’llah Himself subordinates His personal inclination and wish to the all-compelling force of its demands and implications. “God is My witness” He thus explains, “were it not contrary to the Law of God, I would have kissed the hand of My would-be murderer, and would cause him to inherit My earthly goods. I am restrained, however, by the binding Law laid down in the Book, and am Myself bereft of all worldly possessions.” “Know thou, of a truth,” He significantly affirms, “these great oppressions that have befallen the world are preparing it for the advent of the Most Great Justice.” “Say,” He again asserts, “He hath appeared with that Justice wherewith mankind hath been adorned, and yet the people are, for the most part, asleep.” “The light of men is Justice,” He moreover states, “Quench it not with the contrary winds of oppression and tyranny. The purpose of justice is the appearance of unity among men.” “No radiance,” He declares, “can compare with that of justice. The organization of the world and the tranquility of mankind depend upon it.”—Shoghi Effendi, The Advent of Divine Justice, pp. 22-23.

CONSOLIDATION OF TEACHING IN SETTLED AREAS

While news from our Baha’i “front” continues to mount in zest and achievement, including recent registrations of the first resident Baha’is of Delaware, Rhode Island, and Alaska, the consistent consolidation of teaching throughout the rest of the American continent cannot be neglected. Its scope has now outgrown our reports; the following items are but brief samples of the splendid work of Assemblies, Groups, and individuals in every part of the land.

The Temple models are gaining greatly in usefulness. In upper New York State a model was exhibited at the Syracuse Museum of Fine Arts and at the Museum in Schenectady, with accompanying talks by Mr. Allen McDaniel. It will also be shown at the New York State Fair from August 26th to September 9th. In Wichita during March, an exhibit at the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company prepared the way for a lecture series by Mrs. Gayle Woolson, and in April this model traveled to Kansas City for a week’s display. Milwaukee arranged for space at the Wisconsin State Fair in August. The New England Regional Committee is planning a series of exhibitions in the Fall. A picture of the prize-winning floral display at the Sacramento Flower Show, in connection with a Regional Conference there in April, has already been reproduced. From Redbanks, N. J., Mrs. Ellen Sims has sent a thrilling account of the display in the local newspaper office, and later in a miniature World’s Fair at the largest department store in Newark. She writes: “All small communities would be pleasantly surprised at the good will which results from the exhibition of our beautiful Temple. . . . I believe that this display promoted a better spirit on the part of the business men and local citizens towards the Baha’i Faith. Publicity was secured in two newspapers. . . . The radio talk was also most successful. . . . We have just received word from Newark that the Temple is the outstanding display at the Fair-o-Scope, and has attracted
great attention.

Interesting work has been accomplished by Mr. Duncan McAlear, with the active help of the Boston Assembly, the New England Regional Committee, and the National Library Committee. Early this year he conducted libraries in many towns and cities of suburban Boston, placing books and receiving requests for book reviews and autobiographical sketches of the authors. Later he placed literature in twelve New Hampshire libraries in cities of over 10,000 circulation. He now plans to contact 25 to 30 other libraries throughout the Region, especially in Vermont.

Our Bahá’í Groups have flourished during the new year. Atlanta has organized a Group of eleven members. Omaha has increased to nine with the registration of a teacher of Spanish. San Diego has added a member to become five. Through the recent assistance of Mrs. Nellie S. French and Mr. Marvin Newport, Madison now numbers seven. Waukegan has organized with eight. After two years of patient teaching by Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Wells, with visitors from Los Angeles and elsewhere, Big Bear Lake is a Group of eight believers. In Atascadero (California) nine registered Bahá’ís are preparing for Assembly status in April.

The teaching campaign in Wichita was a fine success. Mrs. Gayle Woolson spent a month there until April 22nd, giving three public lectures after careful advance publicity arranged by the Regional Committee. A study class was formed, and also four direct Bahá’í talks were given to civic clubs. In Atascadero (California) nine registered Bahá’ís are preparing for Assembly status in April.

The visiting campaign in the east has continued. Mrs. E. Carpenter of Santa Barbara Group and Mrs. C. E. Carpenter of Santa Paula, was a weekend campaign in the new territory of Ojai and Ventura. Principal speakers were Miss Virginia Orison of Los Angeles, and Mrs. Louise Caswell was invited to address 200 delegates to the Business and Professional Women’s Convention on “Woman’s Place in the New World Order.” Many inquiries resulted from her account of the life of Táhirih.

Orcella Rexford has reported a Bahá’í talk in Miami to 300 persons, in Jacksonville to 250, and in Atlanta to over fifty. Study classes have been organized as a result of each lecture.

The visit of Stanwood Cobb to Montreal and St. Lambert in February deserves special mention. In lectures to the Faculty Club of McGill University, Sir George Williams College, two high schools, and at several Bahá’í public meetings, “a vision of the beauty and scope of the Bahá’í ideal of education was presented for the first time to many people.” It is felt that Dr. Cobb “will leave a lasting impression in Montreal.”

As an example of the spirit of self-sacrifice which motivates our Bahá’í teachers, it is recorded that Mr. Walter H. Blakely has returned to the Teaching fund three hundred dollars advanced to him for pioneer work in Alabama.

A report of 1938-39 has been received from the New York Teaching Committee, and may well serve as a model to Assemblies of well-directed and intensive work. “The region was divided into six sections with separate committees. . . . The activities included all kinds of meetings, public meetings of varying sizes, study groups, fireside meetings, indirect approaches and intimate personal meetings. All helped their uses and values. . . . About ten different fireside groups have been held each week (in Manhattan). Most of these were for new seekers. . . . In Harlem five fireside groups have been held with one Sunday meeting. . . . Enthusiastic meetings have also been held in Long Island and there will soon be an Assembly in this section.”

The three believers of Covingdon, although a contrast in size to large communities like New York, are setting a potent example by meeting each morning at Fellowship House for prayer. Mrs. Marion Little writes: “This I feel will cause the power of the Holy Spirit to radiate through this region by the use of the Word of Bahá’u’lláh.”

Such an example is perhaps the best conclusion to a teaching survey. Incomplete though it must be, the account of our corporate activity is a thrilling one, certainly to impart vigor and freshness to future work. Beloved friends, may we not push on with highest confidence, remembering the promise of Shoghi Effendi: “I, for my part, am determined to reinforce the impulse that impels its members forward to meet their destiny. The Founders of their Faith survey from the Kingdom on high the range of their achievements, acclaim their progress, and are ever ready to speed their eventual triumph.”

INTER-AMERICA TEACHING

The Inter-America Committee through its chairman has received the following thrilling letters from different parts of the world. The first from Wilfred Barton on his way to Montevideo.

“The passengers on the S.S. Uruguay are German, English, French, Spanish, Brazilians, colored and white. They are friendly and seem to have no hostility to each other, the predominant attitude and atmosphere is dejection and hopelessness. I have had opportunity to give the Message to a number of them, received with sympathetic attitude of mind. I think we should all bear in mind, whenever the war passions and sabre rattling threaten, that ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’i predicted future glory for the German nation, of course spiritual glory. When we stopped at the Barbados I asked a colored boy, Mr. Ridley Wento, to have lunch with me and he asked to have Bahá’í literature sent him. I think the Barbados will be a wonderful post for teachers in the Faith. Besides your many contacts in Trinidad I have made a new one. C. O. Waterman, Trinidad, he would be glad to attend a study class when a teacher goes to that island. Arriving in Río de Janeiro I found Mrs. C. M. Cooper at home and had a splendid evening with her, whenever a new library can be formed here, she will be glad to take it again. I expect to meet Miss Holtsapple and the Worleys tomorrow.

“The New York believers gave me a very special send off. I cannot express how deeply their presence and their demonstration touched me, and what I felt for that group of staunch and devoted believers, perhaps we shall some day attain to the station set for...
us by the Master when He says 'The believers should become enamored of each other.'

From the Philippines have come two recent letters, one from Felix Maddela and the other from Alejandro N. Maza. From the former comes the following: "We have hard time here to finish our work, some members want to wait to hear more suggestions before enrolling in Spiritual Assembly, maybe you think this is best? However, I have suggested to the group that if we desire to be a part of Inter-America work we should write a joint letter to the Guardian of the Bahá'í Faith, Shoghi Effendi, and hear good advice and good words that would help us to wait till literature and enrollment cards come. We desire the authority to translate Principles and World Religion, then we take boat and go forth to convert other islands, these are the dialects into which they must go, Ilocano, Tagalog, Visayan, Cagayan and others. We could not finance printing but gladly do the work. Please write quickly and not wait at all as all eager to hear from you." From Sr. Maza.

"I am now vice-chairman of our group and therefore write to tell you, I wish to call your respective attention to send me many books and pamphlets so I could study night and day the beautiful scientific and spiritual principles of my religion. Then I would be able to tackle all questions asked me even by the clergy and our many antagonists. Hoping for immediate action I remain," (signed) Alejandro N. Maza.

And the following touching letter from the Argentina.

"I am disposed to work upon your books here. I am not looking so much for the benefit the sale would bring, but because I am sincerely and deeply interested in divulging the Bahá'í spirit, myself I am not able to make material sacrifices, for the motifs already expressed, be assured when I can I will do more.

"I beg to state that I am of Swiss nationality, and came to the Argentine in 1915, here I have to fight very hard for living never having learned the knavish tricks that lead to making money. Reading your letter and the booklet that you sent to me, a new ray of hope entered by soul. Since a boy I have loved goodness that speaks to me of God. But since reading of the Bahá'í Faith new ideas come into my mind, all of a sudden I am awake and alive and I live to promulgate the big Faith and science of Bahá'u'lláh. This is my sincere wish to work for this cause—please help me to do it. Excuse my bad English, but hope you will understand my meaning. Awaiting your good news, I remain yours," (signed) F. Schneepal.

Recent appointments ratified by the N.S.A. are:

Mrs. Louise Caswell and Mrs. Cora Oliver arriving in Panama City in time for Congress of Nations to be held there.

Mrs. Gayle Woolson and Mrs. Ford sailing in October for Costa Rica. Mr. Antonio Roca going overland to Honduras. John Eichenauer, Jr. leaving for San Salvador to enter school in that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Shaw of San Francisco have sailed for Haiti.

From Balboa in the very heart of the Canal Zone comes news of our first believer in that country, the first believer from central America, he is Sr. Joseph Wantuk, taught by our first pioneer to Panama, Mathew Kazab. He is an American citizen, married, with one child and in active business. He is the first fruit of the Divine Message and will surely assist the teachers and visitors to that land. Speaking both English and Spanish he will be able to form groups of both races. He has written a full declaration of Faith.

We are thrilled to announce the departure for Montevideo of Mr. Wilfred Barton. He will assist the group left by Mrs. Francis Stewart and endeavor to find work in some orchestra so that he can remain.

Our great pioneer teacher Mrs. Francis Stewart has just returned from South America after an intensive effort which has left six groups and countless individuals studying the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. Her last letter written from sea is quoted in part:

"It was surely the will of Bahá'u'lláh—my staying on these additional weeks in Buenos Aires—and I am so happy I did. The Bahá'í work became an endless chain, as newly interested friends told others and our own weekly meetings finally had up to 60 attending the study sessions and still when I spoke at the last meeting, the evening of July 7th, several new people were present, telling me not to go yet for they knew of so many others that are prepared for this Cause. On this occasion, July 7th, I referred to the Martyrdom of the Bab and translated passages from that glorious message to the Letters of the Living. I had announced the names of the local committee that would remain in charge of the regular study work and urged all to cooperate and assist them in all ways so that soon it may be possible to establish the first Bahá'í Spiritual Assembly of Argentina that in turn would take the Cause to the entire Republic.

"On July 11th our ship started the all day journey down the great rivers of Argentina and at 10 P.M. we passed the distant lights of Buenos Aires at an hour that the Bahá'í Com-

Temple Model on Display at Joseph's, Florist, San Francisco
spirit and principles of the Divine Plan to a home region.

The suggestion is that each Assembly, alive to its responsibility within its own city limits and in nearby communities, should survey these areas which so literally depend upon its resourcefulness and conscientious administrations of the teaching program for that news which is the priceless introduction to God's guidance and Word. Through the use of a map, mounted on cardboard and displayed for all to see, the soldiers of the campaign could be charted, just as we chart the centers of Bahá'í life throughout the continent. Based on the position of each believer, as well as upon those factors which determine normal regions of activity in any city, the Assembly could then outline its pioneer plan. Contacts could be made, neighborhood newspapers utilized, firesides established, teaching circuits arranged; in fact, all the techniques of our national and international work could be locally applied. Such a program, comprehensive in scope, effective in method, aimed to cut down and eventually to obliterate the blank spaces on our Bahá'í maps, could well rally and direct the energies of every individual. Thus each Spiritual Assembly, at the head of its own "army of life," might join the heroic campaign in which our valiant brothers are already engaged.

This, or a similar project, the National Teaching Committee would recommend to Assemblies and Groups for study and action. For it must surely be apparent that the intent of the Guardian, already written in "The Ad­vent of Divine Justice," is for each one of us to carry his full weight in the tremendous opportunity vouch­safed to America.

"It is the bounden duty of every American believer, as the faithful trustee of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan, to initiate, promote, and consolidate, within the limits fixed by the administrative principles of the Faith, any activity he or she deems fit to undertake for the furtherance of the Plan. All must participate, however humble their origin, however limited their experience, however restricted their means, however deficient their education, however pressing their cares and preoccupa­tions, however unfavorable the environ­ment in which they live. . . . Let these words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, gleaned from the Tablets of the Divine Plan, ring likewise in their ears, as they go forth, assured and unafraid, on His mission: . . . Exert yourselves; your mission is unspeakably glorious. Should success crown your enterprise, America will assuredly evolve into a center from which waves of spiritual power will emanate, and the throne of the Kingdom of God will, in the plenitude of its majesty and glory, be firmly established."

National Teaching Committee.

CHILD EDUCATION

Justice

"Each man has been placed in a post of honor which he must not desert," wrote 'Abdu'l-Bahá. "A humble work­man who commits an injustice is as much to blame as a renowned tyrant. Thus we all have our choice between justice and injustice. I hope that each one of you will become just and direct your thoughts toward the unity of mankind, that you will never harm your neighbors nor speak ill of anyone; that you will respect the rights of all men and be more concerned for the interests of others than for your own." This is the standard that we desire for our children. Let them memorize it!

The first justice is concerned with their thinking. Bahá'u'lláh wrote: "The source of all these utterances is justice. It is the freedom of man from superstitions that he may discern the Manifestations of God with the eye of oneness, and consider all affairs with keen vision." With this statement in our minds, how are we to apply the principle of justice? Yesterday the basis of child guidance was a set of rules set down by great-grandmother, grandmother, and a whole host of anxious relatives. Today we have Teachings direct from God. Let us, then, as 'Abdu'l-Bahá has said, "Be willing to clear away all that we have superstitiously learned, all that would clog our steps on the way to Truth; we must not shrink, if necessary, from beginning our education all over again."

The first step to justice for a Bahá'í child, then, is to grow in the knowledge of the Word, so that he will possess a true measuring rod of Truth.

The second justice has to do with the child's social relations. Bahá'u'lláh has told us, "Consort with the followers of all religions in a spirit of friendliness and fellowship." And again, "Close your eyes to racial differences, and welcome all with the light of oneness."

"The purpose of justice," He declares, "is the appearance of unity among men." "No radiance can compare with that of justice." Does this not mean, then, that our children should be permitted to play with all of the little children of the earth, regardless of color, race, or creed?

The third justice must regulate the child's affairs. To allow our children...
to work and play with many others is not enough. If the children quarrel, for instance, we have no right to prefer our own to other children, for this is detrimental to all. Bahá'u'lláh reminds us, “Decide justly between men and be ye the emblems of justice amongst them.” Mrs. Peggy True, in a recent letter to this column, reminds us that justice can be taught from a window! We often see one child taking advantage of another. This is the ideal opportunity to teach justice by insisting upon fair play, whether the child be our own or a friend. Very often, in quarrels, she writes, children have their own methods of establishing justice. One boy who was playing selfishly with a steam-shovel, aroused the animosity of the group with his own greediness. “We will not play with you,” they insisted, “unless you take your turn with the rest of us.” Soon he was left to himself, and in due time was quite willing to divide fairly with the group, in order to have the enjoyment of their companionship.

The rights of others are a very important part of justice. Bahá'u'lláh tells us, “Lay not on any soul a load which you would not desire for yourself.” And again, “They who dwell within the Tabernacle of God, and are established upon the seats of everlasting glory, will refuse, though they be dying of hunger, to stretch forth their hands and seize unlawfully the property of their neighbor, however vile and worthless he may be.”

From Mrs. True comes also the suggestion that a common injustice on the part of parents is comparison. It is not fair to either child to say, “John isn't as bright as Mary,” or, “Henry can play the piano and swim beautifully, but Jack can't do either.” Instead of comparing one child with another, let us praise all of the gifts quite impersonally as to their relation to others. Let us also compare each child’s progress with his own past record; as, “How much better Mary swims now than she did last year.” Bahá'u'lláh points out this type of injustice in “Gleanings” when he says, “The whole duty of man in this Day is to attain that share of the flood of grace which God poureth forth for him. Let none, therefore, consider the largeness or smallness of the receptacle. The portion of some might lie in the palm of a man's hand; the portion of others might fill a cup; and of others even a gallon-measure.”

Reward and punishment is an ever-present problem. The parent, being in a position of authority, becomes the exponent of the words, “O people of God! That which trained the world is Justice, for it is upheld by two pillars, reward and punishment. These two pillars are the sources of life to the world.” Neither flabby lawlessness on the one hand, nor unreasoning dictation on the other, should be regarded as wholesome. Divine Justice will exact from a whole world obedience to divine law, and the pillars of reward and punishment will “maintain the world in uprightness and protect the nations.”

How can the child understand Divine Justice, if these pillars are entirely unknown to him, and his relations to society is fundamentally lawless from the beginning?

Every child is a potential governor in the New World Order. Will he be ready? Will his every thought and deed be just? Will he have regard for law? Will his membership exalt his House of Justice to a God-like stature? Will he be a “Trustee of God on earth”? “Bestir yourselves, O people, in anticipation of the days of Divine Justice, for the promised hour is now come.”

We will be aided in all of our efforts to establish justice among this new little generation, for Bahá'u'lláh says, “Should thou cause the rivers of justice to spread their waters amongst thy subjects, God would surely aid thee with the hosts of the unseen and the seen, and would strengthen thee in thine affairs.” We would find this as true today as when spoken to Sultan 'Abdu'l-Aziz. The Kingdom of God is primarily the Kingdom of Justice; let us then prepare ourselves and our children for this Kingdom, so that the Most Great Peace may be established in the world.

MAKING BAHA'I HISTORY

Four women of the era of Bahá'u'lláh may together, develop almost any constructive idea! Returning from the Convention in Georgia Wiles's car a plan was discussed that has already borne fine fruits.

A Summer School for the South has not yet seemed a possibility, so why not try a traveling Baha'i Institute? So after much consultation and the careful laying of local plans, Georgia Wiles and the Regional Secretary, left Nashville, Tennessee, on the morning of Sunday, June 18, with Knoxville as the first objective.

We were received with open arms by the Knoxville Baha'is and their friends, about thirty in all, (including two babies of seven months each and their grandmothers!) at the suburban home of Mrs. Eva Weiss. We had a beautiful meal, an abundant picnic supper, eaten indoors because of a sudden storm, then were called to the porch to see the perfect arch of the rainbow, and we joyfully accepted it as a promise of many confirmations on our journey.

Monday afternoon we enjoyed an informal meeting with Baha'is and non-Baha'is at the home of Mrs. Earl Shedderly. In the evening, at the Andrew Johnson Hotel, with Mrs. Louise Caswell presiding, some 18 persons heard the Message, given under the general subject of “This Changing World.”

Mrs. Terah Smith, of Atlanta, spoke on “Seeing Beyond the Impending Crisis,” Mrs. Georgia Wiles, of Nashville, on “The Individual's Responsibility to the New World Order,” and Nellie Roche's subject was “The New World Order.” This program, in general, was carried out in Atlanta and Augusta. In both these cities Louise Caswell spoke also. Characteristic of Bahá’í meetings there was much conversation after the program, and all seemed loth to separate.

Leaving her classes in Spanish at the University of Tennessee for the most important work, Louise Caswell went with us to Atlanta, where we first enjoyed a delightful supper as guests of Miss Rena Gordon, a radiant Bahá’í from Montreal, whose business has taken her to Atlanta.

Later, there were present a company of 21, 8 Baha'is and the others present members of the new class studying the Teachings under Terah Smith. Orcella Rexford has conducted classes in Atlanta, recently, and most of those present had become interested in the Bahá’í Faith through her.

Arriving in Augusta for luncheon, we were welcomed by Dr. Marie Kershaw, our hostess, and her house guest, Miss Alma Knobloch. A delicious luncheon and much conversation inspired us all.

Then to the lovely and hospitable home of Esther Segel near along the fragrant pine trees, where we were her guests for the night. At five, a company of some thirty women, mostly non-Baha'is, came in for tea. Miss Alma, and all four of us spoke, and the company lingered until after seven o'clock!

Then back to the Bahá’í Center, which serves also as the office and home of Dr. Kershaw, and an audience of twenty-five, in terrific heat, listened most attentively to our talks. We were delighted to have in that audience one colored believer, a teacher, who had brought a young friend with her.

At Georgia Wiles' suggestion, sev-
eral of us stopped on our way home at the grave of Dr. Zia Bhagdadi for prayers, and we all felt a strong spiritual sense of oneness.

Next morning we held a meeting of the Regional Teaching Committee at the office of Dr. Kershaw, with much discussion and much work accomplished.

Arriving in Atlanta too late to dress, we went travel-stained to the home of Mrs. Whitaker, the mother of Mrs. Thelma Allison, a colored believer of the Nashville Community, and had a most impressive meeting with twelve present, three non-Bahá'ís, five colored persons, and seven white.

Due to the activities of Communists, laws in Georgia and especially Atlanta, are drastic prohibiting interracial gatherings, even in private homes, but a beautiful spirit of love and unity was felt here by all of us. Everywhere we found the greatest spirit of enthusiasm and dedication to the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh. In Knoxville, we found that the believers are rapidly developing themselves to administer the affairs of the Community, that they may be prepared for the day when Louise Caswell leaves them, and great things can be expected from that Community.

In Atlanta and Augusta, we found earnest groups of highly intelligent and well-educated people, vitaly interested in the study of the Teachings, and in the application of the Teachings to their daily lives.

And when in Atlanta and in Augusta, in the heart of the deep South, we find the colored and white races meeting together in love and unity, and now in this New Day, seeking to create between themselves and for the example of others, a new interpretation of their older relationship of mutual dependence, and of loving service one to the other. We believe that through the power of Bahá'u'lláh, we of the South are greatly blessed that to us has been given the delicate task of leading others to a realization of the Oneness of Mankind, when, given more time, we can bring together, under the Shield of Bahá'u'lláh, the two races most widely separated, and yet most closely knit together by many precious ties! It is one of the Mysteries and Bounties of God!

This is all a long way from a Summer School, but everything must have a beginning, so at least our pioneering has begun, and the Summer School even now has a small savings account in the bank.

As we rode along at high speed over a fine road, and in safety, we, four women, felt awed at our priceless privilege of being granted this opportunity of contributing our time, money, and energy to spread the Bahá'í Faith. For Who but Bahá'u'lláh has given women their opportunities in this day for self-development, for the freedom of thought and action made possible by their financial independence?

It was a loving and joyous service in His Name, and Georgia Wiles and the Secretary arrived home after travelling nearly twelve hundred miles, tired, but jubilant!

**Nellie J. Roche**, Secretary, Regional Teaching Committee, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, City of Birmingham, Ala.

**BÁHÁ'Í DIRECTORY**

The following additions and revisions should be noted:

**National Committees**

Inter-America—Mrs. Sara M. Kennedy, Secretary, new address, 1941 North Serrano Street, Los Angeles, Calif.

Regional Teaching Committee of California, Arizona and Nevada—Mrs. Valeria L. Thornton, Secretary, new address, 506 No. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, Calif. Mrs. Shirley Warde unable to serve. Miss Emmalu Wever added to Committee.

Green Acre Youth Week—Miss Ida Noyes, Chairman, Miss Betty Shook, Norton, Mass., Secretary, Miss Hazel Bowman, Miss Deane Kaitt, Miss Jane Carton, Miss Zabelle Ogasapian, Lucien McComb.

Green Acre Summer School—Mrs. Harold Bowman, Chairman, Miss Marjorie Wheeler, Secretary, 84 Pleasant Street, Worcester, Mass., Miss Lorna Tasker, Mr. Harold Bowman, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ford, Mr. Harlan Ober, Mr. Howard McAnally.

Louhelen Summer School—Mr. L. W. Eggleston, Chairman, Mr. Carl Scheiffer, Mr. Edmund Meisler, Mr. Clarence Niss, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Miss Flora Hottes, Mrs. Florence Holsinger, Mr. Dorothy Graf, Mrs. Helen Eggleston, Mr. Kenneth Christian, Miss Gareta Busey, Mrs. Dorothy Baker. (Committee Secretary to be appointed.)

Annual Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Bahá—Mr. William deForge, Chairman, Mr. Andrew Joachim, Miss Jean Silver, Mr. Bernard Gottlieb, Miss Ophelia B. Crum, Mr. Norman Smith, Mr. Carl Krug, Miss Bertha Herklotz.

Youth—International Correspondent, Miss Betty Shook, Norton, Mass., Acting Regional Secretary for the West, Miss Fayrook Ioas, 12 Tenth Avenue, San Mateo, Calif., Regional Secretary for the East, Joseph Noyes, 43 Davis Street, Binghamton, N. Y., Miss Ann Rutledge added as Associate Member.

Regional Teaching Committee of Missouri and Kansas—Miss Velma Vetter added.

World Order Magazine, Editorial Office—Address changed to 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill.

**Local Assemblies**

Montreal, Quebec—Until further notice send communications to Mr. E. V. Harrison, 30 Staynor Avenue.

Oakland, Calif.—Change of address. Miss Gladys Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.

Eliot, Maine—Change of address. Mrs. Georgie d'Arcie, Mountain View Farm, Springvale, Maine.

Baltimore, Md.—Change of address. Miss Mildred Elmer, Secretary, 3302 Clifton Avenue.

**ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS**

“VIGOROUS, CONSTANT INTER-ACTION”

In a cablegram received October 3, 1939, the Guardian hails as an “historic act” the action of the National Spiritual Assembly in transferring its central Office to the Temple area, “signaling auspicious conjunction (in) heart (of) North American continent (of the) institutions (of) Haziratu’l-Quds (and) Mashriqu’l-Adhká’r, the twin foci (of) steadily evolving American Bahá’í community life”. The remainder of that message specifically describes and interprets their distinctive and also their joint significance.

The resulting condition, in the considered view of the National Spiritual Assembly, is one which involves not merely the national Bahá’í institutions and a relatively few believers, but likewise the local Bahá’í institutions and the entire Bahá’í community. What we now witness is a symbolic representation of the ever-deepening relationship between the social and the spiritual Teachings revealed by Bahá’u’lláh. What we are to realize is that this relationship is no mere formal tie between institutions, but a blending of motives in every Bahá’í heart. We Bahá’ís are being summoned to a higher plane of conscious faith, a new reality created by Bahá’u’lláh for the inauguration of that World Civilization, His Kingdom.

We must, each one, and day by day, endeavor with all our hearts to attain balance between personal feeling and social responsibility, between freedom and discipline, between love and justice — the unique achievement of the Bahá’í life.

For the Mashriqu’l-Adhká’r may be likened to a projection of the profound level of spiritual reverence which God has established as the endowment of the human soul; and the Haziratu’l-Quds similarly may be likened to a projection of that social relationship which arises during the maturity of the human race. We can feel and realize the corresponding aspects of reality in our own personal lives, and this sense of intimate association between the person and the community is the sign of the Kingdom. For no citizen nor subject of any political body on earth can experience the working of a Divine destiny in his loyalty to that political entity.

The occasion, indeed, calls for a new and clearer understanding of some of the passages which the Guardian has inserted, like gems, in the pure gold of his exposition of the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh:

“Those priceless elements of that Divine Civilization, the establishment of which is the primary mission of the Bahá’í Faith... the essential unity that underlies the spiritual, the humanitarian, and the administrative principles enunciated by the Author and the Interpreter of the Bahá’í Faith... To dissociate the administrative principles of the Cause from the purely spiritual and humanitarian teachings would be tan-

CABLEGRAM FROM SHOGHI EFFENDI

Hail historic act signaling auspicious conjunction (in) heart (of) North American continent (of the) institutions (of) Haziratu’l-Quds (and) Mashriqu’l-Adhká’r, (the) twin foci (of) steadily evolving American Bahá’í community life. (The) former henceforth regarded (as) national Seat upon which all administrative channels (of) Bahá’í activity must increasingly converge. (The) latter permanently recognized (as) ordained Source from which rays (of) spiritual guidance will radiate. Upon (the) vigorous, constant inter-action (of the) dynamic forces which these complementary institutions embodying administrative machinery and incarnating (the) Soul (of the) Bahá’í community can release (the) effectual prosecution (of the) Seven Year Plan as well as (the) success (of) ultimate World Mission unquestionably depends. May (the) community responsible (for the) establishment (of) these nascent institutions progressively contribute (to) acceleration (of) their growth and derive fullest benefit (from) their eventual fruition.

SHOGHI RABBANI.

Received October 3, 1939.
tamount to a mutilation of the body of the Cause, a separation that can only result in the disintegration of its component parts, and the extinction of the Faith itself...

Not only will the present-day Spiritual Assemblies be styled differently in future, but they will be enabled also to add to their present functions those powers, duties, and prerogatives necessitated by the recognition of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh, not merely as one of the recognized religious systems of the world, but as the State Religion of an independent and Sovereign Power... The administration of the Cause is to be conceived as an instrument and not a substitute for the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh... it should be regarded as a channel through which His promised blessings may flow...

For Bahá'u'lláh has not only imbued mankind with a new and regenerating Spirit, He has not merely enunciated certain universal principles, or propounded a particular philosophy... In addition to these He, as well as 'Abdu'l-Bahá after Him, has, unlike the Dispensations of the past, clearly and specifically laid down a set of Laws, established definite Institutions, and provided for the essentials of a Divine Economy... a pattern for future society, a supreme instrument for the establishment of the 'Most Great Peace,' and the one agency for the unification of the world, and the proclamation of the reign of righteousness and justice upon the earth... this priceless gem of Divine Revelation... shall evolve within the shell of His law, and shall forge ahead... till it embraces the whole of mankind... That the Cause associated with the name of Bahá'u'lláh feeds itself upon those hidden springs of celestial strength which no force of human personality, whatever its glamour, can replace; that its reliance is solely upon that mystic Source with which no worldly advantage, be it wealth, fame, or learning can compare; that it propagates itself by ways mysterious and utterly at variance with the standards accepted by the generality of mankind, will... become increasingly apparent...

Therefor e as each one makes a mighty effort to attain his own degree of perfection, may we never overlook the truth that all sincere effort of every kind and quality, is for Bahá'í distinctioned by its useful effects upon the unity and power of the entire community. May the American Bahá'í community become as one body striving, with thousands of ardent hands, to fashion the Mashriqí-Adídkár as its supreme instrument of prayer, and augment its social institutions as its instrument of brotherhood and of peace.

**Cablegram from Shoghi Effendi**

Martha's unnumbered admirers throughout Bahá'í world lament with me (the) earthly extinction (of) her heroic life. Concourse on high acclaim her elevation (to) rightful position (in) galaxy (of) Bahá'í immortals. Posterity will establish her as foremost Hand which 'Abdu'l-Bahá's will has raised up (in) first Bahá'í century. Present generation (of) her fellow-believers recognize her (to be the) first, finest fruit (which the) Formative Age (of the) Faith (of) Bahá'u'lláh has as yet produced. Advise hold befitting memorial gathering (in) Temple (to) honor one whose acts shed imperishable lustre (on) American Bahá'í community. Impelled share with National Assembly expenses (of) erection (of) monument (in) symbolic spot, (the) meeting-place (of) East and West, to both (of) which she unsparingly dedicated (the) full force (of her) mighty energies.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**MARTHA L. ROOT**

The National Spiritual Assembly shares with the American friends a spirit of profound grief in the recent loss of our co-worker, Miss Martha Root, whose days of service on earth ended September 28, in Honolulu, while a guest of Mrs. Kathryn Baldwin. Her passing significantly took place on an island between the eastern and western continents; this great Bahá'í hero belonged to the world. The following heart-stirring message came from our Guardian on October 3:

"Martha's unnumbered admirers throughout Bahá'í world lament with me (the) earthly extinction (of) her heroic life. Concourse on high acclaim her elevation (to) rightful position (in) galaxy (of) Bahá'í immortals. Posterity will establish her as foremost Hand which 'Abdu'l-Bahá's will has raised up (in) first Bahá'í century. Present generation (of) her fellow-believers recognize her (to be the) first, finest fruit (which the) Formative Age (of the) Faith (of) Bahá'u'lláh has as yet produced. Advise hold befitting memorial gathering (in) Temple (to) honor one whose acts shed imperishable lustre (on) American Bahá'í community. Impelled share with National Assembly expenses (of) erection (of) monument (in) symbolic spot, (the) meeting-place (of) East and West, to both (of) which she unsparingly dedicated (the) full force (of her) mighty energies."

The Honolulu Advertiser wrote: "Miss Root was born in Richwood, Ohio, August 10, 1872... She was an international Bahá'í teacher, journalist, author, and lecturer, who literally carried the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh to every part of the earth... She was an ardent Esperantist, and attended their congresses both in Europe and America. Some idea of the scope of her work may be glimpsed from the fact that she lectured in more than 400 universities of the world. She was received by kings, queens, princes and princesses, presidents, statesmen, and writers... The Bahá'ís of Tehran regard her as an angel of purity and as a true Bahá'í—that is—a possessor of all human virtues. One fruit of her visit to Persia was the writing of the life of Iran's greatest woman, 'Táhirih, the Pure.' She also prepared for publication a story called, 'White Roses of Persia.'... This disciple of Bahá'u'lláh started life as a newspaper woman, and in that career achieved exceptionally high rank by virtue of unusual intelligence and extraordinary energy... The amount of good she did can not be overestimated."

It would be impossible for the Bahá'í world to trace in its full and rich detail her untiring services. In 1919, we find her visiting every important South American city. Possessing no Spanish or Portuguese literature, and without speaking knowledge of these languages, she was, with the help of translators, heard and read by thousands, and because of her, the first Bahá'í booklet in Portuguese was prepared by Brazilians for publication.

In Europe and Asia, thousands heard her message, from the humblest firesides, to the palaces of royalty. To Thomas Masaryk, first president of the Republic of Czechoslovakia, Martha gave the Bahá'í Teaching; and to King Faisal of Iraq; to Y. S. Tsao, president of the Tsing Hua University, who translated many Bahá'í writings into Chinese; to Prince Paul and Princess Olga of Yugoslavia; to Nishanuma, head of the Board of Religions of Japan; and to Queen Marie of Rumania, of whose interview the Guardian himself wrote:
MEMORIAL GATHERING FOR MARTHA L. ROOT

PROGRAM

Baha'i House of Worship
11:00 A. M. October 29, 1939

1. Prayer—Prayers and Meditations by Baha'u'llah, page 3
   Mary Lesch

2. Reading—Gleanings from the Writings of Baha'u'llah, pages 155-6
   Marjory McCormick

3. Reading—America's Spiritual Mission, first two pages
   Carl Scheffler

4. Reading—America's Spiritual Mission, pages 9-11
   Albert Windust

5. Reading—Tablet revealed to Martha L. Root, Star of the West, Vol. X,
   page 29, Cornine True

6. Reading—National Assembly's Tribute
   Horace Holley

7. Voice Record—Martha's Farewell to Baha'is of Australia

8. Reading—Shoghi Effendi's cablegram concerning Martha's passing
   Horace Holley

9. Reading—Baha'u'llah's Prayer for the Departed
   Gertrude Buikema

OUR BAHAI PIONEERS

That our Baha'i pioneers, in the field and at home, are resolved to support
the Guardian's call to "hold aloft (the)
Torch whose infant Light heralds birth
(of) effulgent World Order;" no one
who reads the swiftly-mounting file of
teaching reports can doubt. The Ameri­
can community is at work with the
highest determination to spread the
Faith in every part. The following
notes are but highlights, inadequate
representations of the achievements and
spirit which the stress of our times calls
forth.

In Rhode Island the Cause has been
established through the ceaseless efforts
of Mr. and Mrs. Don T. McNally, re­
inforced by the confirming power of the
session at Green Acre. Mrs. Helen
Wilson of Pawtucket and Miss Elena
Marsello of Providence have registered
as believers, and enrollment cards have
been requested for two others. Mrs.
McNally has been invited by a colored
Episcopal minister to teach a class of
fifteen girls in the church. Library
books have been placed and are in use.
"It is interesting to note that the Cause
has attracted both Negroes and whites,
Catholics, Christian Scientists, and two
who termed themselves atheists, in ad­
tion to our Jewish friends. Your
prayers and those of the many friends
are being answered and the true seek­
ers are being attracted, as though to a
center, by a mutual gravitation to our
great Cause."

Mrs. Beulah Proctor in Nova Scotia
was successful in arranging a Baha'i
exhibit at the Halifax Exhibition begin­
ing August 28th, featuring a large
picture of the Temple, with book dis­
play and Persian prints. She is also
conducting an enthusiastic youth class
which met for five weeks during the
Summer and has voted to continue this
Fall. Two of the larger department stores with rental libraries have agreed to place Baha'i books on their shelves.

A Temple model was displayed without cost in the Fine Arts building of the Utah State Fair in September, through arrangements of Mrs. Margarette Sears of Salt Lake City. Fireside meetings have resulted in two study groups, and Mr. and Mrs. Sears, who recently bought their home, have invited visiting teachers to stop to assist in this work. Much of their early success is due to the fine contacts made in the city by Mr. Sears, through his work in radio.

In far-away Juneau, Alaska, Miss Betty Becker is seeking employment and establishing contacts, both with those whom Miss Kempton had met and with new people. She has reported an initial fireside group with five inquirers, who have asked for weekly study. Despite certain unfavorable elements, such as the strangeness and transiency of many residents in this capital city, Miss Becker is working with the greatest confidence in future results.

Meanwhile in Anchorage Miss Honor Fettig has opened her bookshop and lending library, calling it "The Book Cache." She writes: "I know what a cache means in Alaska. They are familiar landmarks throughout the whole country. A little thatched hut built high up on stilts, to store the food away from the bears and wolves and to keep it dry. The law is that you may open up a cache and eat, but must never leave it empty; always leave something for the trapper or prospector who is lost or starving. So my cache will store books and I pray that it will never be empty." Her most thrilling news, however, is of the first Alaskan Baha'i, Miss Janet Whitenack, who had gone to Anchorage from New York to open a bookshop! On meeting Miss Kempton she relinquished her plans. During this meeting it was discovered that Miss Whitenack had studied the Cause in New York and she was immediately fired with renewed interest. A young woman, graduate of Syracuse University, she has moved to Fairbanks where she is already formulating plans for spreading the Teachings. In her own words: "The more I think about it, the more convinced I am that my whole life experiences, family background, training, education and travel all point to one thing—Baha'i service in the Far North."

A name recently added to our pioneer roll is Miss Martha Fettig, who reached Birmingham, Alabama, on August 1st. Immediate employment as a nurse was found and accepted, although it was in a branch of nursing particularly uncongenial. This job ended the middle of September but Miss Fettig has every expectancy of placement. She has discovered two friends who sponsored a fireside for Ruth Moffett in 1938, and who were present at the World Parliament of Religions in 1893 when the Faith received its first mention in America. Another testimony to the joys of pioneering is added by Miss Fettig: "I have found 'America's Spiritual Mission' a great help in spiritual stimulation and read parts of it every day. I will also say that on reaching Birmingham I felt an indescribable inner happiness which no doubt was due to the prayers of the friends."

Another new pioneer is Mrs. Katherine Moscrop of Vancouver, who began in September a visit of several months to Regina, Saskatchewan. She arrived just in time to arrange a small fireside on September 8th for Rowland Estall, who was passing through the city on business. Miss Frances Mennies and two former members of the Winnipeg Phoenix Club assisted her. "Nothing was allowed to go unchallenged, and it was most evident that these people were greatly impressed by the logical, sane and wonderful Teachings. I am indeed most fortunate to have such fine people so early, and may God help me to lead them to their goal."

A few days before this meeting Mrs. Moscrop, Mr. Estall, Miss Mac McKenna of Vancouver, and Miss Doris Skinner met together in Calgary, Alberta, to discuss the progress of the Faith in Canada. They represented four provinces. During this time a meeting of fifteen non-Baha'i was arranged by Miss Skinner, from which a study class is developing. Recently a radio talk was given in Calgary by Dr. Margaret Bolton. Many Baha'i books are being circulated. Recently the Teaching Committee has been advised of Baha'i work done in Regina by Mrs. Clarice Blair of Los Angeles, shortly after she became a believer a few years ago. Many people were interested and Baha'i literature was widely circulated. Undoubtedly this earlier effort will contribute to the spread of the Faith today.

The activities of Mr. Rowland Estall are heroic in scope. During his first business trip through western Canada as a manufacturers' agent, in addition to the talks in Calgary and Regina mentioned above, he spoke in Vancouver and West Vancouver. He had earlier laid the foundation of his business in visits to Toronto and Montreal, in both of which cities he lectured, as well as in St. Lambert. He also made excellent contacts with two University professors who, with a few others, have started an important social and religious reform movement in Canada and have published a popular textbook of the movement. During July Mr. Estall taught regularly in Winnipeg a study
group of six to eight inquirers, following an outline of seventeen lessons which he developed on the World Order, using as a basis of each discussion a different free literature pamphlet which was distributed. The first result of his Winnipeg work is the registration of Miss Lillian Teminson, Dr. Mariette Bolton also visited and spoke in Winnipeg to the Quota Club.

In Reno, Nevada, Miss Helen Griffin is constantly widening her contacts for the Faith through active cooperation and membership in public welfare and civic organizations. On August 27th a "magnificent meeting" with fifteen new people was arranged on short notice for Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bishop and Mrs. Forsyth Ward, returning to California from Louhelen. Mrs. Bishop, who had spoken in Reno during May as well, reported that group much the same, "We were astonished that the work was so promising and the questions so keen . . . Helen’s moving spirit is drawing the one Spirit to the work in Reno. Now she is making contacts at the University." Other recent visitors to Reno were Miss Dagmar Dole, who addressed the first weekly study class, and Mr. Frederick Kluss.

Cheering news has come from Mr. and Mrs. Hilbert Dahl in Charleston, W. Va. A number of contacts have been made with individuals and libraries in this city, Beckley and Parkersburg. Books were accepted by the West Virginia State College and its president has expressed his interest to have a Bahá’í speaker. "We are very happy, and thank God for the privilege of having become settled here for the purpose of endeavoring to serve in solidifying the outposts of the Cause on this continent. In the AEF in France I pioneered in going over the top of the infantry as an observer and scout, but there victory was problematical, whereas it is now assured, as our goal is God-given and victory already established by Bahá’u’lláh’s Word."

Nearby in Huntington, W. Va., Mr. Harold Hunt is expanding his teaching work. Fine publicity was received from a columnist of the leading newspaper, who wrote at length and very favorably of the Faith and its representative. As a result, literature was accepted by the Public Library and the librarian, as well as the librarian of Marshall College, have shown considerable interest. Recently Mr. Hunt spoke before the Townsend Club. He has been able to distribute a great deal of Bahá’í literature.

Miss Neysa Bissell has reported the deep interest in the Faith of two women of Rutland and Woodstock, Vermont. The Rutland Free Library has received a donation of books from the Regional Committee.

Working against unfavorable conditions of intense summer heat and the opposition of two ministers who publicly warned their congregations of the Cause, Mrs. Ruth Moffett has achieved notable results in Iowa. After a series of daily meetings, a study group of fifteen was begun in Independence. She then traveled to Waterloo where her campaign consisted of four public lectures and broadcasts on the radio, resulting in a regular class of ten. Both of these groups are meeting twice weekly. In addition, Mrs. Moffett gave several talks at Iowa State College, Cedar Falls.

The New England Regional Committee, through its very active secretary, Mrs. Amelia Bowman, has forwarded registrations of two new members in the Three Rivers Group and the fourth believer in the Portland Group. A Group also exists in Dover and another has just been formed in Portsmouth. Much impetus was given to this Region by the splendid courses at Green Acre. The Committee is planning a circuit for the Temple model through perhaps ten New England cities, and is also financing the placement of 25 copies of Esselmont in Vermont libraries by Mr. Duncan McAlear.

A teaching campaign was carried on one week in August by the Group at Big Bear Lake, California. Nightly public meetings were scheduled in the Community Auditorium, featuring Mrs. Beulah Lewis of Los Angeles. A display of the Temple model was arranged near the post office of this mountain resort, which became "the center of attraction with the vacationists." So effective was this work that it is planned to follow a similar schedule next year.

A multitude of items remain, before this teaching summary can claim even its most superficial completeness. There is nothing for it but to "continue in our next." Yet as we await further news of far-flung activities, may not each of us ponder these words of our beloved Guardian, anxious to discover how we may yet exert our forces to win and merit the heights his faith discerns for us:

"With every fresh crisis that plunges a hapless humanity deeper and deeper into the morass of despair and degradation, the pioneers of the nascent Faith of Bahá’u’lláh are elevated to nobler heights of triumph, evince a rarer spirit of self-abnegation and courage, and disclose more compelling evidences of their capacity and power." "Thiers is the duty to hold, aloft and unchained, the torch of Divine Guidance, as the shades of night descend upon, and ultimately envelop, the entire human race."

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE.

INTER-AMERICA TEACHING

Louise Caswell sailed for Panama from San Francisco on September 25th, on the S. S. City of Norfolk. John Eichenhauser, Jr., embarked at Los Angeles bound for San Salvador by the same steamer.

Antonio Roca left by motor for Honduras via Mexico. Mrs. Cora Oliver sailed from New York September 29th bound for Panama City. The N. S. A. has ratified the appointment of Mrs. Gayle Woolson and Mrs. Ford for Costa Rica in October.

Mrs. Nurse has arrived in Montevideo for a three-months stay with her son, and Mr. Wilfrid Barton is there also . . . living at present with the leader of our study group, Sr. Simon Rosenzweig. In Santos, Mr. Barton spent an evening with our friends from Washington . . . Mr. and Mrs. Worley. On his way to the Argentine here he also found Miss Holsapple had come down from Bahia to greet the Worleys.

Our teacher — fresh from Latin America — Mrs. Frances Benedict Stewart, has been asked to go to Washington and confer with the State Department. Also she had the opportunity of taking the pulpit Sunday night in a Presbyterian church. The ministers and rabbis of Utica all know that Mrs. Stewart is a Bahá’í and all ask her help in their work without any objections.

(Quotations from letters)

Guatemala City, 7A Ava, S 63.

"I am having splendid assistance from all three of the Theosophical So-
THE MASTERS TABLET ON
TEMPLE ACCESSORY BUILDINGS

Through his honor, Dr. Ameen U. Fareed to Mrs. Emma and Mr. J. F. Carmichael, Chicago, Ill.

HE IS GOD!

O ye two attracted ones of the Reality: ... I am hopeful by Divine Bounty and Grace, that the beloved ones of God may be confirmed in the building of the Mashriq'1-Adhkar and all its accessories, for the Mashriq'1-Adhkar has important accessories, which are accounted by the basic foundations. These are:

- School for orphan children.
- Hospital and Dispensary for the poor.
- Place for the incapable (i.e., home for the crippled).
- College for the higher Scientific Education.

The meaning is this that in every place first a Mashriq'1-Adhkar must be founded; then a School for the education for orphan children, and the poor; then the Hospital and Medical Dispensary must be founded; then the

CABLEGRAM FROM
SHOGHI EFFENDI

Deeply touched (by your) message. Gratefully appreciate Assembly's renewed evidence (of) devotion (and) solicitude (for) beloved Faith.

SHOGHI RABBANI.
Received October 17, 1939.

societies. I have been informed of their resolution, namely, to put at my disposal their hall ... and have invited me to give a talk on the Bahá'í Faith from their platform. ... Last night Sr. Baldizon introduced the Bahá'í Faith in a ten minute talk, quoting from the Spanish "No. 9." About 35 persons were present and many of them came afterwards and offered to join a class when I opened one.

(Signed) GERRARD SLUTER.
65 Bucaredi, Mexico City.

"A new public Bahá'í Center has been opened at the above address. We had far outgrown the small apartment in which my mother and I lived. Here we have children's classes, a youth group combined with our regular activities made our first week register fifty-five persons."

(Signed) PEDRO ESPINOSA.

PROGRESS IN TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION

The Temple Trustees are gratified to report that the contract given to the John J. Earley Studio in August, for the external ornamentation of the lowest third of the nine first story pylons, has been completed well ahead of the schedule date of December 31, and with a saving on the estimated cost.

From the progress report dated November 2:

"The entire quantity of 600 tons of the white quartz from Annapolis Rock, Maryland, has now been accumulated, at the rate of fifty tons per month for one year. This material is stored and on hand in the yard of the Earley Studio at Rosslyn, Virginia, and will be available for the ornamentation of the main story of the Temple next year.

"The casting of the last section of the lowest lift of the main story pylons was completed about the middle of the month (i.e., October). Subsequently, Mr. Earley's men have pointed up, cleaned and finished the surfaces of the nine sections of the pyramid ornamentation. Before leaving the work, the scaffolding was removed about the pylons and the foundation structure and grounds were cleared of material and debris so as to leave the structure in a presentable appearance until work is resumed next April."

The meaning is this that in every place first a Mashriq'1-Adhkar must be founded; then a School for the education for orphan children, and the poor; then the Hospital and Medical Dispensary must be founded; then the

CABLEGRAM TO
THE GUARDIAN


NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.
From San Francisco meeting, October 13, 14 and 15, 1939.

Home of the Cripple; then the College of higher Scientific Education. In every city a great Mashriq'1-Adhkar must be founded under this order. Now we hope, the Mashriq'1-Adhkar may be founded in Chicago. After its foundation the important accessories may gradually be founded. ... (Signed) 'ABBÁ' -BAHÁ'ABBÁ.

Translated by Dr. Ameen U. Fareed, Mount Carmel, Haifa, Palestine, November 25, 1908.

"THE NECESSARY FOUNDATION" FOR
INTER-AMERICA TEACHING

1. "These undertakings ... require ... on the part of the National Spiritual Assembly and of both the National Teaching and Inter-America Committees, painstaking investigations preparatory to the sending of settlers and itinerant teachers ..."

2. "The number of Bahá'í teachers, be they settlers or travelers, must be substantially increased."

3. "The material resources to be placed at their disposal must be multiplied, and efficiently administered."

4. "The literature with which they should be equipped must be vastly augmented."

5. "The publicity that should aid them in the distribution of such literature should be extended, centrally organized, and vigorously conducted."

6. "The possibilities latent in these countries should be diligently exploited, and systematically developed."

7. "The various obstacles raised by the widely-varying political and social conditions ... should be closely surveyed and determinedly surmounted."

8. "The careful translation of such important Bahá'í writings as are related to the history, the teachings, or the Administrative Order of the Faith, and their wide and systematic dissemination ... would appear to be the chief and most urgent measures to be taken simultaneously with the arrival of the pioneer workers in those fields."

9. "In countries where no objections can be raised by the civil authorities or any influential circles, this measure should be reinforced by the publication, in various organs of the Press, of carefully worded articles and letters, designed to impress upon the general public certain features of the stirring history of the Faith, and the range and character of its teachings."

10. "Every laborer in those fields, whether as traveling teacher or settler, should ... make it his chief and constant concern to mix, in a friendly manner, with all sections of the population ... study the approach best suited to them, to concentrate ... on a few ... and to endeavor ... to implant such
love, zeal and devotion in their hearts as to enable them to become in turn self-sufficient and independent promoters of the Faith in their respective localities."

11. "An effort ... can and should be made, not only by representative Bahá'í bodies, but also by prospective teachers, as well as by other individual believers to seize every opportunity to make the acquaintance, and awaken the genuine interest, of such people who are either citizens of these countries, or are in any way connected with them."

12. "Care ... should be exercised lest in their eagerness to further the international interests of the Faith they frustrate their purpose, and turn away, through any act that might be misconstrued as an attempt to proselytize and bring undue pressure upon them, those whom they wish to win over to their Cause."

13. "I would particularly direct my appeal to those American believers who may find it possible, whatever be their calling or employment to establish permanently their residence in such countries as may offer them a reasonable prospect of earning the means of livelihood."

14. "Should they find it impossible to take advantage of so rare and sacred a privilege, let them ... to appoint a deputy who, on that believer's behalf, will arise and carry out so noble an enterprise."

15. "As those who have been able to leave their homes and country. . . a special duty ... devolves upon them to keep ... in constant touch with the National Committee specifically entrusted with the promotion of their work, and to cooperate with their fellow-believers in those countries."


HOW TO LIST BAHÁ'Í PUBLICATIONS

A recent letter from the Guardian advises the National Assembly that all Assemblies, in issuing programs or any pamphlet containing a list of authorized Bahá'í literature, should place the writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá before, and not after, the works of any Bahá'í, including those of the Guardian himself. This is a mark of respect and in deference to the Master’s unique station.

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES AT SAN FRANCISCO

Between October 12 and 15 the National Spiritual Assembly, with the help and cooperation of the Assemblies of the Bay region, conducted three public meetings, a regional conference, and also met in consultation with the Teaching and Inter-America Committees on important current projects.

The first public meeting was held Thursday evening, October 12 at the Fairmont Hotel. The program included: Leroy Ioas, Chairman, and addresses by Dr. Herbert I. Priestly, Mrs. Dorothy Baker and Horace Holley.

On Sunday, October 15, a Vesper Service was held at the Temple of Religion and Tower of Peace, Treasure Island, and a public meeting was conducted in the same hall that evening.

The Vesper Service program: Mrs. Charles M. Cooper, Chairman, address by Harlan Ober, and readings by Mrs. Thomas Collins. Music by Roberta Butler McDaniel, soprano, Esther Hjelte, organist and Laura Kelsey Allen, violinist.


CABLEGRAM FROM SHOGHI EFFENDI

Weighty resolutions San Francisco meeting call forth emotions too deep for expression. Fonest hopes excelled. Indomitable courage (and) overflowing energy (of) the firmly-welded, providentially-directed American Bahá'í community impelling them out of space (and) surpass (the) limits (of) the theatre (of) action assigned (to) the third year (of) the Seven Year Plan. Welcome particularly recent action designed expedite termination (of) Divinely-founded Temple ordained (to) be the Ark destined (to) ride triumphant (the) tidal wave (of) world-encircling calamities and offering sole refuge (to) storm-tossed sufferers of sinful, steadily sinking civilization.

Kindly renew (to) every established (and) intending pioneer (in) enumerated Republics (and) dependencies (my) ardent plea (to) resolve (to) refuse, despite (the) deepening world confusion to abandon their posts (and) surrender (the) responsibilities solemnly assumed under (the) Mandate conferred by 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

SHOGHI RABBANI. October 23, 1939.

Sunday, October 15, 1939 was designated Bahá'í Day at the World's Fair.

The Regional Conference, with Mr. A. Y. Seto presiding, brought together a good number of believers with the members of the National Assembly, and an extensive agenda was presented for consultation, the essential items being: recent Messages from the Guardian, the Plans for the Third Year of the Seven Year Plan, progress of Temple construction, and current Teaching activities in North and South America.

CREDENTIALS OF BELIEVERS FROM THE ORIENT

The National Spiritual Assembly feels that Oriental believers visiting America should transmit their credentials to the Secretary of the National Assembly, so that proper credentials may be issued by the National Assembly for their use while in America. If, therefore, a Bahá'í from the Orient should hereafter present his credentials to any local Assembly, that Assembly is requested to see that the credentials are transmitted.

BAHÁ'Í LITERATURE

The Publishing Committee announces two new pamphlets.

Assurance of Immortality, a brief compilation on immortality very suitable for giving to non-Bahá'ís who suffer bereavement and need Divine assurance. Four pages, sold in lots of ten copies only. Price per ten copies $0.50

The Bahá'í Teachings On Universal Peace, a statement by the National Spiritual Assembly submitted to the United States Government in 1934 and to the Government of the Dominion of Canada in 1935 as basis for any necessary subsequent appeal for the exemption of Bahá'ís from active military duty in war. Sold in lots of ten only. 12-page pamphlet. Price per ten copies $0.50.

The friends are reminded of the extreme importance of the Guardian's The Goal of a New World Order as the Bahá'í exposition of the vital questions of international order and peace. Shoghi Effendi himself has attributed special importance to this pamphlet for public teaching use. Sold in lots of ten only. Price per ten copies $0.50.

BAHÁ'Í RING STONES

For a long time, Bahá'í ring stones have not been available, but notice is now given that the Photograph and.
Sales Committee is again in a position to fill orders. The stones are oval, some brown and some green, with the Baha’i text gold inlaid. The price each is $2.50 or $3.00, according to size. The ring stones can be obtained from Mr. Harry E. Walrath, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, Illinois.

**PROPERTY AT COLORADO SPRINGS TRANSFERRED BY MRS. LOULIE A. MATHEWS TO BAHAI TRUSTEES**

On September 4, 1939 Mrs. Loulie A. Mathews executed an Indenture of Trust under which title to property at Pine Valley, Colorado Springs, is to be vested in Trustees for the benefit of the National Spiritual Assembly, Mrs. Mathews retaining full use and control of the property during her life.

This munificent donation is an important contribution to the facilities of the American Baha’i community for service to the Faith, Mrs. Mathews having plans for developing at Pine Valley a School for the training of Baha’is for international teaching.

This plan was welcomed by the Guardian in a letter addressed to Mrs. Mathews on December 14, 1938: “The Guardian feels also deeply appreciative of your generous offering to the N.S.A. of your ranch in Colorado Springs. Your idea to turn this property into a training school for Inter-America teaching work, he feels, is splendid.”

**IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT MATERIAL FOR THE BAHAI WORLD VOL. VIII**

In order to comply with the instructions of the Guardian all material for The Baha’i World Vol. VIII, must be ready and in the hands of the chairman of the editorial staff by December first. Any manuscripts received after that date cannot be assured of either safety in transmission or acceptance by the Guardian. Many important assignments are still unfulfilled and the editors would emphasize the need for careful attention to the instructions of Shoghi Effendi.

Address all manuscripts to: Mrs. Nellie S. French, Chairman, 786 Chester Avenue, San Marino, California.

**FALL CLASSES OPEN FOR CHILDREN**

The Child Education Committee extends its thanks to the forty-three communities who responded to roll call this fall. Many expressed real regret that no organized work for children had yet been started in their cities, although a number of Baha’i children could be counted among their numbers. We call the attention of the friends to the appeal of the beloved Master during His sojourn among us, for active teaching among the children. For as few as two Baha’i children, He would often say, classes in spiritual education should be formed. These children are the next line of defense; they will become Baha’i teachers!

From, New York, Chicago, Milwau­kee, Oklahoma City, East Cleveland, Peoria, Urbana, Racine, Riverton, Philadelphia, Manoa, Cincinnati, St. Paul, Binghamton, Maywood, Helena, Flint, Wilmette, Toronto, and Lima, reports of organized work were received, and in addition to these have come encouraging accounts of work done by some parents with individual children removed from group life.

A few of our groups have kindly permitted us to share their pictures with the children. We hope for many more pictures, and reports of their noble and inspiring work.

**CHILD EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**WINTER SESSIONS AT LOUHELEN SCHOOL**

Louheilen is no longer merely a summer school! A winter session has been arranged, for those Baha’is who have sufficient pioneer spirit to face the inconveniences of December weather at the ranch in order to learn how to study and to teach the Faith of Baha’u’llah, both at home and abroad. For seven days, December 26th through January 1st, instructors, experienced in the field, they represent, will give courses in:

1. **Pioneer Teaching, especially in Central and South America.** This will include practical information for those who wish to prepare themselves to teach, sooner or later, in those localities.

2. **Study Methods for Deepening in the Faith,** a course which will provide a frame of reference for an orderly study of the teachings.

3. **Methods of Teaching without Public Speaking.** This will be valuable to local communities wishing to conduct classes in which the members themselves can take part. It will include instructions for actual study during the class period.


Because winter accommodations at the ranch are at present limited, not more than ten students can be registered for this session, and these must be willing to sacrifice a measure of personal comfort for this opportunity to increase their understanding of the Cause of Baha’u’llah and to teach it.

To make reservations for this session, write to Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Lou­heilen Ranch, Davison, Michigan. The rates are $2.25 per day.

**ARCHIVES COMMITTEE**

What is without doubt the most detailed and carefully prepared “Baha’i Reminiscences” to be written by any American believer, has been completed and placed in the National Archives by Mr. Charles Mason Remey. This work
was typed in duplicate on standard letter size paper, and consists, at present, of fifty-one bound volumes. It will grow in size as time goes on. In addition to the typed material this work is profusely illustrated with facsimiles of many historic Baha’i manuscripts and with numerous photographs.

As time goes on Mr. Remy’s Reminiscences will increasingly be regarded as an invaluable source book for future historians and biographers of the Cause.

It is hoped that this important gift will encourage many of the believers, particularly those who have been active as international teachers, to place a complete collection of their Baha’i papers and correspondence in the National Archives. It is particularly important just now, in order that the history of the achievement of the Seven Year Plan may be complete and may be preserved for posterity, that the Baha’i papers or manuscripts of the pioneer teachers in Central and South America, in Mexico, in Alaska, and in the United States and Canada, may come into the Archives of the National Spiritual Assembly under which these teachers are functioning. Doubtless this can be arranged in cooperation with the Teaching and Inter-American Committees.

The Archives and History Committee wishes to correct a former announcement with reference to the Tablets of ‘Abdu’l-Baha addressed to Mrs. Agnes S. Parsons, which were presented to the Archives recently by Miss Leona Barnitz of Washington. In this collection were forty-one original Tablets to Mrs. Parsons with an original translation of one Tablet and typed copies of original translations of the others; also, six original Tablets to other members of Mrs. Parsons’ family.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Library Committee would like to make the following suggestion to the various Assemblies in order to increase the circulation of the collections of Baha’i books in Main Public Libraries. Many readers do not visit the Main Libraries excepting for further reference study, and being unaware of the teachings, do not call for our books which are frequently not placed on open shelves. If these books are to be used more extensively, it seems necessary to call attention to them by placing more basic books in Branch Libraries. Some time ago, the Philadelphia Assembly made a survey of the thirty-six Branch Libraries in that city and presented a copy of Esslemont or Spirit of the Age to each of these libraries. The National Teaching Committee has asked this committee to bring this matter to the attention of the Assemblies in the hope that more Assemblies will try to arrange to place at least one basic book in as many Branch Libraries as possible this year. Since the library systems differ in their distribution of books to Branch Libraries, it is suggested that the Main Public Library be contacted before presenting books. In some large cities, as New York City, the Branch Libraries will accept books for their shelves which have been previously approved and accepted in the Main Library. In such library systems, the presentation can be made directly to the Branch Libraries. This committee will be glad to assist the Assemblies in giving information which will aid them in making the contacts and attracting the interest of the librarians to our books. Such a project would of necessity take a long period of time before its accomplishment, especially in the larger cities; but no matter how small a beginning is made, it will fill an urgent need.

ENROLLMENT AND TRANSFERS


IN MEMORIAM

“It is clear and evident that when the veils that conceal the realities of the manifestations of the Names and Attributes of God, nay of all created things visible or invisible, have been rent asunder, nothing except the Sign of God will remain—a sign which He, himself, hath placed within these realities. This sign will endure as long as is the wish of the Lord thy God, the Lord of the heavens and of the earth. If such be the blessings conferred on all created things, how superior must be the destiny of the true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation.”

Baha’u’llah.
BAHA'I DIRECTORY

Local Assemblies
Albuquerque, N. M., newly elected Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Amy Brady Dwyly, P. O. Box 185, Albuquerque, N. M.
Eliot, Maine, newly elected Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Dorothy Cress, Eliot, Maine.

Groups
Burbank, California. Correspondent, Mrs. Shirley Warde, 927 Lina Street, Magnolia Park, Burbank, Calif.
West Haven, Connecticut. Correspondent, Mrs. J. H. Steed, Sr., 505 Main Street, West Haven, Conn.

National Committees
Bahá’í News Service. Members added: Mrs. Laurence LeRoeque, Mrs. Hazel Rawitsch, Melvin Rawitsch. Gertrude Eisenberg unable to serve. Mrs. Virginia Camelon unable to serve as Chairman. New officers to be reported later.
Regional Teaching Committee of Tennessee. New member, Mrs. George Creech.
Regional Teaching Committee of Kansas and Missouri. New member, Mrs. Paul H. Brown.
Inter-America Committee. Miss Myrtle Dodge, Acting Secretary, 2139 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco, Calif. The Associate Members of the Race Unity Committee have been transferred to the Inter-America Committee, where their contacts with Latin American groups and individuals in the United States and Canada can be developed as a contribution to the promotion of the teaching work in the Latin American nations.


Youth Committee. Miss Fayrook Ioas, 12 Tenth Avenue, San Mateo, Calif., previously announced as Acting Regional Secretary for the West, is now Regional Secretary. Miss Barbara Rutledge added as Associate Member. This corrects the erroneous announcement of the addition of Miss Ann Rutledge to the Committee.

Louhelen School Committee. The Secretary is: Mrs. Walter Holsinger, 3319 Berwyn Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

NEWS OF EAST AND WEST

Page 8 of an attractive illustrated booklet published by Universal Atlas Cement Company consists of an illustration of the Temple, with accompanying description. Page 13 is a colored photograph of the Reception Room of the Company in New York, showing a mural of the Temple directly behind the reception desk.

American Astrology Magazine for November, 1939 contains an article entitled “New World Religion” by Dane Rudhyar in which the author writes many excellent ideas about the Faith.

Writing of the Bahá’í Exhibit at the Wisconsin State Fair (illustrated in this issue of Bahá’í News) the local Teaching committee says: “The Temple was a magnet and on the added potency of the Creative Words of Bahá’u’lláh, attracted many people. One of the great barriers of World Peace, Prejudice, was broken down in many instances through contact with visitors at the Booth. A number of books were on display and attracted great attention. Some 190 names were registered in the guest book, many of whom expressed the desire of attending classes and lectures, and about 1800 people stopped and asked questions about the Temple itself and the Cause.”

From far-off Baghdad on October 12 came this cablegram: “Sudden passing beloved Martha Root caused inexpressible grief. National Assembly extend heartfelt condolences (to) dear American Bahá’ís.”

The new Assembly of Helena, Montana writes that “Helena is awakening. We recently moved into a centrally located room and have attracted several new people of capacity. They have purchased books and study outlines and have attended study class regularly and show a genuine interest in the Cause. Already they have expressed their desire to become able to tell the world.”

Nearly ninety believers attended the meeting conducted by the Oakland Assembly on October 16 to commemorate the Visit made by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá to the Goodall home at Oakland in 1912. Dinner was served at the Women’s City Club, after which remarks were made by Mrs. Ella Goodall Cooper, J. V. Matteson, Miss Ella Bailey, Mrs. S. W. French, Louis G. Gregory, Mrs. Katherine Franklin, Mrs. H. Eno­gene Hoag, Lorne Matteson, Mrs. Matteson, Horace Holley, and Leroy Ioas. Arthur Ioas presided at the meeting.

The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the British Isles incorporated under The Companies Act, 1929, as an unlimited company without a share capital, on August 5, 1939. The incorporation papers are published as a Memorandum of Association, accompanied by Articles of Association corresponding to By-Laws. This action is an important achievement by the National Assembly. The document will no doubt be published in the next issue of The Bahá’í World.

Correction is made of an error on page 8 of Bahá’í News for August. The correct name should have been Miss Bertha Matthesien.

Oglethorpe University, Georgia, has selected the Book of Certitude (Tablet of Iqán) for preservation in the Crypt of Civilization. “The world’s most authentic sources of knowledge contained in books are being selected by a committee of experts for microfilming, page by page, so that they may be preserved for the world of the future. This work has been going on now for nearly two years and will culminate when the records are sealed with the closing of the Crypt in May, 1940. It is to remain inviolate until the year 8113 A. D.”

I implore Thee, O my God, by Thy Most Great Name, to enrapture the nations through the potency of the Word which Thou didst ordain to be the king of all words, the Word whereby the goodly pearls of Thy hidden wisdom were uncovered, and the gem-like mysteries which were wrapped up within Thee were unaveled. Deprive them not, by Thy grace and bounty, of the things Thou didst desire for them, and suffer them not to be far removed from the shores of the ocean of Thy presence.

Every existence, whether seen or unseen, O Lord, testifieth that Thy mercy hath surpassed all created things, and Thy loving-kindness embraced the entire creation. Look upon them, I entreat Thee, with the eyes of Thy mercy. Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate. Do with them as becometh Thy glory, and Thy majesty, and Thy greatness, and Thy bounteousness and Thy grace. Deal not with them according to the limitations imposed upon them, or the manifold vicissitudes of their earthly life.

BAHA’U’LLAH, Prayers and Meditations, pages 113-114.
BAHÁ'Í NEWS
For Bahá'ís Only
PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA
GENERAL OFFICE: 536 SHERIDAN ROAD, WILMETTE, ILLINOIS

No. 132 YEAR 96, BAHÁ'Í ERA January, 1940

BAHÁ'ÍS AND WAR

The following letter from the Guardian on this important subject was addressed to the N. S. A. of the British Isles, and is reprinted from the bulletin of that Assembly dated September, 1939:

"His instructions on this matter, conveyed in a letter addressed to your Assembly during last November were not intended for that particular occasion, but were meant for present conditions, and for any such emergency as may arise in the immediate future."

"It is still his firm conviction that the believers, while expressing their readiness to unreservedly obey any directions that the authorities may issue concerning national service in time of war, should also, and while there is yet no outbreak of hostilities, appeal to the government for exemption from active military service in a combatant capacity, stressing the fact that in doing so they are not prompted by any selfish considerations but by the sole and supreme motive of upholding the Teachings of their Faith, which make it a moral obligation for them to desist from any act that would involve them in direct warfare with their fellow-humans of any other race or nation."

"There are many other avenues through which the believers can assist in times of war by enlisting in services of a non-combatant nature—services that do not involve the direct shedding of blood—such as ambulance work, anti-air raid precaution service, office and administrative works, and it is for such types of national service that they should volunteer."

"It is immaterial whether such activities would still expose them to dangers, either at home or in the front, since their desire is not to protect their lives, but to desist from any acts of wilful murder."

"The friends should consider it their conscientious duty as loyal members of the Faith, to apply for such exemption, even though there may be slight prospect of their obtaining the consent and approval of the authorities to their petition. It is most essential that in times of such national excitement and emergency as those through which so many countries in the world are now passing that the believers should not allow themselves to be carried away by the passions agitating the masses, and act in a manner that would make them deviate from the path of wisdom and moderation, and lead them to violate, however reluctantly and indirectly, the spirit as well as the letter of the Teachings."

"THE PASSING OF DEAREST MARTHA"

In a letter dated October 20, 1939, addressed to Roy C. Wilhelm, Treasurer, the Guardian, through his secretary, refers to the passing of Miss Martha L. Root.

"The very sad and indeed distressing news of the passing away of our beloved Martha was a great shock to the Guardian, who feels unutterably sorry at this heavy blow sustained by the Cause. Her departure constitutes the heaviest blow which the teaching force not only in America but throughout the entire Bahá'í world has sustained since the passing of our beloved Master. May the memory of the distinguished services it had been her unique privilege to render in so many fields and over such a long and uninterrupted period of years serve as a source of continued inspiration to the present-day and future generations of..."
Baha’i teachers, to whom she will indeed ever be the very embodiment of those teaching qualities which only a few Baha’i teachers, whether in the East or the West, can claim to have attained.

"To you, and to all the dear American friends who are now so profoundly deploRING beloved Martha’s passing, the Guardian feels moved to convey the assurances of his deepest and most loving sympathy in your great bereavement. May Bahá’u’lláh comfort your grief-stricken hearts, and cause this calamity to further cement the unity, deepen the devotion and increase the resourcefulness of the American believers, and in particular those dear pioneers who are so indefatigably laboring in foreign and distant fields.

In the Guardian’s hand: “The passing of dearest Martha and the circumstances of her severe and painful illness have brought profound sorrow, grief-stricken hearts, and cause this letter to convey the assurance of his deepest and most loving sympathy in your great bereavement. May Bahá’u’lláh comfort your grief-stricken hearts, and cause this calamity to further cement the unity, deepen the devotion and increase the resourcefulness of the American believers, and in particular those dear pioneers who are so indefatigably laboring in foreign and distant fields.”

—Shoghi Effendi

December 13, 1939.

The strong and solid foundation upon which must be supported all Baha’i enterprises is the character of the Baha’i community here in North America itself. With every step the community takes in the direction of spiritual maturity, or ethical improvement or social unity, the power available for the tasks of the Seven Year Plan is augmented in a most mysterious way. The National Fund can only be replenished out of this great reservoir of Baha’i unity; and from this same reservoir also come those quickened souls who arise to plant the banner of His Faith in foreign lands.

It is the quality of our local community life which determines the mighty outcome of the forces struggling to establish the “advent of Divine Justice” in this age. We cannot hope for heroic souls to be nourished out of collective indifference, nor funds to be sacrificed in an atmosphere of personality, nor our numbers to be augmented by teaching aimed to bring groups under personal influence rather than within the orbit of Divine law.

From time to time, therefore, prayerful attention should be turned upon the character of our local community life, holding its every aspect and element up to the standard laid down by the Master and by Shoghi Effendi, to see what we might do to exalt these daily activities to the plane of radiance and understanding.

Have we by Assembly and community consultation adopted teaching plans reflecting the full wisdom and capacity of the believers? Are the members of the Spiritual Assembly fully conscious of the nature of their trusteeship in an institution created to serve the highest interests of the people? Do we, each one individually contribute to the spirituality and enthusiasm of Baha’i gatherings, or come to them cherishing some secret resentment or hope? Have we come to realize the duty laid upon us to keep informed of the Guardian’s messages and the national plans and activities reported through Baha’i News and other channels?

Special consideration might be given to the importance of the spirit that should animate all Baha’i teaching, whether in one’s own home as a fireside group or in groups and audiences not yet part of the Baha’i community. The rights of the individual believer were analyzed by the National Spiritual Assembly some years ago and a statement on the subject published in Baha’i News, later reprinted in Baha’i Procedure (Section Two, Sheet 20). This has apparently been taken by some of the friends to mean that the element of assembly authority does not apply to groups taught in one’s own home. If this were so, then groups could be maintained whose activities and aims might lie entirely outside the local Baha’i community. Teachings could be given out which might incline many new friends in the wrong direction.

The truth is, of course, that the qualification of faith under which we pledge “close association with the spirit as well as the form of the present day Baha’i administration throughout the world” renders any artificial separation of the individual from the community impossible. It is as the Guardian declared: “Shoghi Effendi would urge every Baha’i who feels the urge to exercise his right of teaching unofficially the Cause, to keep in close touch with the Local Spiritual Assembly of the locality in which he is working. The Local Spiritual Assembly while reserving for itself the right to control such activities on the part of individual...
Baha’is, should do its utmost to encourage such teachers and to put at their disposal whatever facilities they would need in such circumstances. Should any differences arise, the National Spiritual Assembly would naturally have to intervene and adjust matters.” (Baha’i Procedure, Section One, Sheet 16).

But all this is means to an end, and the end consists in developing the Baha’i community to become an ever-increasing power to establish the truth on earth. Let us open our minds and hearts, and pray for capacity to confirm and bring in persons of character, intelligence and spiritual vision, The Cause of God is for all mankind.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

THE DETERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

The National Spiritual Assembly feels it desirable to record a brief explanation of the twofold authority involved in the question of voting membership in the Baha’i community, the authority of the local Assembly, and that of the National Assembly.

The By-Laws vest original authority over membership in the local body, with the National Assembly serving as final authority when local decisions are appealed. However, in Baha’i Procedure is found the statement that local Assemblies, before removing names from the voting list, should refer the matter to the National Assembly and obtain its advice before taking action.

To remove any impression that this supplementary ruling involves a discrepancy in view of the statements in the By-Laws, the National Spiritual Assembly wishes to point out the following facts:

1. It is possible for a local Assembly to exercise original jurisdiction over the admission of believers to the voting list because the Guardian has laid down a set of qualifications of membership which is uniform throughout the entire Baha’i community, and the effect of which is to provide the local Assembly with a clear and simple code.

2. There are general qualifications covering the removal of members from the voting list, but nothing in the nature of a clear and simple code which all local Assemblies could apply in a uniform manner. Lacking anything in the nature of a judicial code, each Assembly would have to base action upon its own degree of experience and understanding; and the result would inevitably be to involve the matter of expulsion in overwhelming complication. In one locality a believer would be expelled for reasons which in another locality might seem entirely insufficient. In one city the factor of sentimentality might prevent the operation of any discipline, while in another city a rigid insistence upon Baha’i laws and principles might result in the operation of discipline at the expense of unity and spiritual truth.

3. The National Spiritual Assembly therefore retains the right and duty to give definite permission before the local Assembly can either suspend or expel any member of the Baha’i community.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

THE FORMATION OF NEW ASSEMBLIES

Official Notice to Assemblies and Groups

The National Spiritual Assembly completes the details of procedure to be followed when new Assemblies are formed.

1. Groups having nine or more declared believers, all resident in the same civil community, are to apply before February 1 for authority to form an Assembly on April 21 of that year.

2. Any member of the group who is a voting believer in an already established adjacent community must withdraw from that community before joining the group applying for the right to form a new Assembly.
3. When a group is qualified to form an Assembly, all its members are obliged to join in asking for the authority to elect.

4. All established Assemblies are to report their voting list to the National Assembly by February 1 each year, and the voting list is not to include the names of any believers who have joined a group which is planning to form a new Assembly on April 21.

5. Applications from groups, and voting lists of established communities, must be in the hands of the National Assembly by February 1.

6. Groups which form a new Assembly on April 21 cannot be represented at the Convention held that same year.

7. Groups authorized to form a new Assembly will receive notice from the National Assembly not later than April 1, together with copies of the proper form for use in reporting its formation to the National Assembly.

In a recent letter written by the Guardian to the National Assembly he emphasizes one aspect of the matter as follows: "He wishes me to stress the fact that from now on any group that is formed must belong to one civil community, as otherwise endless confusion and misunderstanding would ensue. The limits of each civil community must be clearly recognized, and no overlapping should be allowed under any circumstances."

**National Spiritual Assembly.**

**PUBLIC MEETING AND REGIONAL CONFERENCE AT NEW YORK**

The latest in the series of public meetings held by the National Spiritual Assembly in cooperation with local Assemblies was conducted at the Bahá'í Center in New York City Thursday evening, November 30, the hall being thronged with an interested and sympathetic audience.

**AFIELD WITH OUR REGIONAL COMMITTEES**

For some months, so great has been the volume of news received from every part of the United States and Canada, the National Teaching Committee has found it impossible to include in its monthly surveys an adequate description of the far-flung work of its thirteen Regional Committees. Yet the responsibility which has been imposed upon these units of the Administrative Order by Shoghi Effendi is great and serious. Writing on April 17th, 1939, he said: "The National Spiritual Assembly, the National Teaching Assembly, the Regional and local teaching committees . . . should utilize every possible means to fan the zeal, enrich the resources and insure the solidarity and permanency of the work, of those who . . . have arisen to face the hazards and perils of so holy and historic an adventure." And in *The Advent of Divine Justice*, addressing all who "are holding administrative positions" on any of the above-mentioned bodies, he admonished them "to bear in mind the vital and urgent necessity of insuring, within as short a time as possible, the formation . . . of groups, however small and rudimentary, and of providing every facility within their power to enable these newly-formed nuclei to evolve, swiftly and along sound lines, into properly functioning, self-sufficient, and recognized Assemblies." (p. 46.)

The role of the Regional Teaching Committees, in cooperation with their co-workers, is thus clear-cut and dynamic. It is in an effort to clarify their vision, strengthen their organization, and widen the scope of their indispensable services, that this series of articles has been undertaken. Each month we shall visit a different Regional Committee and by first-hand observation discover its method of operation and its achievements, confident that in each example there lies an important contribution for its fellows.

The Committee for Ohio, Indiana, and Western Pennsylvania, with membership of Florence Reeb, Secretary, Frank Warner, Helen McCoy, Mary Elmore, and Lothar Schurgast, was organized on July 16th. Its functions it conceived as assistance to the fifteen isolated believers, development of areas not taken over by Assemblies, and consultation with Assemblies or Groups (two as of July, 1939) at their request. A letter was therefore addressed to each Assembly in the region, stating the Committee's readiness to discuss teaching plans. A second letter was sent to each isolated Bahá'í, offering similar consultation as well as to provide teachers and free literature.

As a result, four joint meetings were held with the following Assemblies in their home communities: Columbus, Ohio, on August 13th; Dayton, Ohio, on September 10th; Indianapolis, Ind., on September 17th; and Pittsburgh, Pa., on October 22nd. Public meetings were sometimes scheduled in connection with the Committee's visit. Growing out of the teaching conferences were innumerable suggestions, most of them generally applicable, which are summarized below. In describing one such meeting, the Secretary wrote: "A very solemn and inspiring consultation period followed, each one expressing himself freely and frankly."
The work of organized communities was found to be of three kinds: consolidation, attraction of new people, and opening new cities.

1. Consolidate the community through (a) spreading the teaching responsibility among more believers; (b) classes for training teachers; (c) definite responsibilities for youth members; (d) quizzes on essential administrative principles.

2. Attract new believers by: (a) a contacts committee; (b) building up a mailing list of progressive and humanitarian people; (c) enclosing teaching pamphlets with mailed invitations; (d) asking each Bahá’í to mail a selected number of pamphlets monthly, according to a predetermined sequence; (e) fireside meetings to supplement public meetings, which should be viewed only as a starting point; (f) “spilling out” into new sections of the city.

3. Open new cities by: (a) finding a few sympathetic people and strengthening their interest by personal contacts, rather than promoting large public meetings; (b) utilizing club contacts; (c) making regular calls; (d) providing articles for newspapers; (e) establishing a strong nucleus as a foundation for later public work; (f) remembering at all times that “We are the planters; Bahá’u’lláh the Reaper; there is no way of measuring our work.”

As proof of the efficacy of these principles, teaching has been developed in the following new cities of the Region this year: Gahana, Groveport, Granville, Lithopolis, Urbana, Springboro, Troy, Piqua, and Chillicothe, all in Ohio.

As previously noted, the Committee also addressed a letter to the fifteen isolated believers, enclosing a questionnaire on the present status of their Bahá’í work and covering such points as the opportunities for speakers or fireside groups, and the need for literature in public libraries or for personal distribution. Two pamphlets were enclosed in each letter, one for the isolated believer and one to be given to a friend.

Seven replies to this preliminary inquiry, and to these a second letter was sent, including further literature and offering to forward The Advent of Divine Justice if not already received.

To those who had not replied, the Committee wrote a second letter, asking the following questions:

1. Have you signed a registration card as an isolated believer?
2. Have you ever been registered with a Bahá’í Community?
3. If so, which Community?
4. Is the address we have used your present address?
5. Are you receiving the Bahá’í News regularly?

With the passing of one who was the foremost exemplar, “the first, finest fruit” of the Formative Age, every Bahá’í pioneer and indeed, every servant of Bahá’u’lláh who in action or life is a teacher of the Cause, must feel a deepened determination to take up some measure of the great work to which she was dedicated. To Martha Reimer, the Master wrote His glorious promise: “... thou art sowing a seed that shall in the long run give rise to thousands of harvests. ...” Yet to each of us, however circumscribed, comes the solemn assurance that to “proclaim unceasingly His Cause... shall be better for you than all the treasures of the past and of the future, if ye be of them that comprehend this truth.” And from the efficacy of these words of Bahá’u’lláh no least follower less to withstand the urge to acquaint others with the warm, stimulating and essential truths they encompass. . . .” Lloyd Byars, former Bakersfield Bahá’, is also living in Salt Lake City and these three are sponsoring study classes on Administration and the Thirty-six Lessons. In September the Temple model was displayed at the Utah State Fair. “At first it seemed that we were going to buy space and have a booth, but after much investigation we found...
that we could enter it in the Fine Arts Building, free of charge since it was not in competition. The model is placed at a very strategic place in the building, in the center of the floor on a rather large table. Surrounding it are rows and rows of oil paintings covering the walls. They make an interesting background for the model.”

In Winnipeg, Rowland Estall is teaching an enlarged study group, following a course worked out with the President of the Phoenix Club which is built on the principles that “the average person does not think from ideas and principles to method and practice but in the reverse order, from practical things, institutions, methods back to principles and motives; that most people are better observers than philosophers and grasp the nature of causes only after observation of their effects; hence, that we can best introduce them to the Bahá’í Faith by outlining first, the nature of the Bahá’í World Community as it exists today and its past achievements, secondly, its ultimate purpose and principles and, only lastly, its motivating influence and source.” His course is thus divided into three parts: (1) Structure of the World Community; (2) World Civilization, the Goal; (3) A World Faith, the Foundation. A report will be made later as to the success of this method. Meantime many important contacts are being made. Mr. Estall has been invited to address the congregation of the Unitarian Church, whose minister is an Icelandic. “Incidentally there are some 10,000 Icelandic people in Winnipeg, which is second only in number to the population in Reykjavik, capital of Iceland.”

Katherine Moscrop left nine to twelve persons interested in the Faith and ready for a fireside meeting, as she departed from Regina, Sask., on December 8th to return to her home in Vancouver for the holidays. Two very helpful friends have been the public librarian, who accepted books for the library, and the retired Dean of Women of Regina College. A proprietor of a camera shop “was so interested in the architecture (of the Temple) and what it stood for that he is making a trip to Wilmette this winter just to see it. . . . He is a world traveler and has seen all the world’s important buildings, but nothing to compare with our own Temple.” On Armistice week-end Mrs. Moscrop visited Winnipeg and was able to assist Rowland Estall with several of his students. In summarizing her Regina experience, Mrs. Moscrop, who celebrated her first Bahá’í anniversary in October, wrote: “I don’t think I have ever been so happy and uplifted as I have been here. The spiritual joy and satisfaction experienced at times has been nearly overwhelming, and often I have felt strength and help coming to me when I need it most. Especially when teaching, I try to leave the channels free for power from above, and sometimes answers to questions will come to me in a miraculous fashion, truly the promises of the Master made manifest.” She hopes to return to Regina after January 1st.

In Calgary, Alberta, a regular study group has been meeting since September. “Among the different beliefs represented are Christian Science, Unity, Theosophy, Buddhist, Catholic, and British Israel, so you can see for yourself that anything can happen at our meetings, and it generally does!” It is apparent that our pioneer, Doris Skinner, has a nice sense of humor for she continues: “It is amazing, isn’t it, this power the Cause has to disrupt our quiet existence and transplant us in strange cities among strange people. I was discussing this with one of my class when she said she didn’t see how anyone had the courage. I carefully explained that it was not courage that was required, but rather that certain something called faith. She promptly replied, ‘That’s not faith you’ve got, that’s sheer luck,’ and thus blasted not only my masterly explanation but me too! The trials of a pioneer!”

Mrs. Beulah Proctor has forwarded a long and fascinating report of her Bahá’í exhibit at the Provincial Exhibition in Halifax, N. S. For a week beginning August 28 she was the only attendant, working from morning to 11 p.m. Persian prints were used, with the Greatest Name and a large sign captioned “Bahá’í Faith.” Much interest was aroused and many people have continued to follow up their contacts by calling upon Mrs. Proctor to borrow literature and discuss the Faith. Although Halifax is living under war conditions, with blockouts, planes overhead day and night, survivors from torpedoed ships arriving, and the city full of soldiers and sailors,—our pioneer is having fireside groups almost every night. Her most successful work continues with the youth, and the following account of one member seems too stimulating to omit, of “a student from Dalhousie University, an East Indian from Trinidad. . . . His father is the Missions minister for the United Church there and it was through the missions that he was sent to Halifax to get his letters so that he could continue teaching in Trinidad. After our friendship ripened he told me, ‘To listen to the missionaries there you were under the impression that you would be treated as an equal here, but I have been sadly awakened to the opposite of this.’ He had managed to go along for a year without mixed friendships. . . . Last Wednesday we (the
youth group) got onto the subject of oneness and equality of races... They all had certain limitations and believed in oneness up to the point of marriage, and then thought the line should be drawn there... R. asked if he might speak and said, 'I for one believe in different races marrying and since reading the Bahá’í books I notice that Bahá’u’lláh has said that He would raise up a race of men that our present people could not realize in their greatest imagination. It might interest you to know that the beginning of his promise is taking place in Trinidad. There is not racial prejudice and the offspring of these mixed marriages are beginning to show a finer type of mind and even appearance.' He went on to say that he was in love with a girl who was three-quarters Chinese and one-quarter colored, a musician, graduated from college with high honors... He told the story of his social life here and then said, 'I am going to study the Bahá’í Cause because it is the only religion that lives what it teaches. The only happiness I have had in your country I have had through Mrs. Proctor... I hope with all my heart that the National Teaching Committee will send a pioneer to Trinidad as they have one point they will not have to struggle with, and that is racial prejudice.'

The arrival of Mabel and Howard Ives and Mary Barton in Memphis, Tenn., brings another demonstration of the confirmations promised by Bahá’u’lláh. On their first Sunday in this new city, October 15, they attended the Unitarian Church. "The greatest thrill was hearing the minister read for a Scripture lesson from the words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, quite a long selection; no credit given to the author however!" The minister has since asked Mrs. Ives to take the pulpit in his absence. Many friends were made at the Church that first day and five women were found who had previously contacted the Faith, two in Wilmette, the others in Yonkers, Urbana, and through Marie Hopper. Later while dining in a restaurant, our pioneers were approached by a young woman who introduced herself as a former resident of Portsmouth; she was most eager to hear of the progress of the Cause and, although living twenty miles distant in Hernando, Miss., came for a discussion one evening. With this auspicious beginning, Mrs. Ives began the real work of arranging a campaign of six lectures for the first week of November, which drew an attendance of thirty to thirty-three. Fireside meetings were then held at the apartment of Mrs. Barton, and latest advice is that two study classes are meeting weekly. Thanksgiving week-end was spent with friends in Gulfport, Miss., where Mr. and Mrs. Ives were invited to conduct the Sunday morning service at the Gulf Park College.

West Virginia received a tremendous impetus with the visit of Stanwood Cobb, November 8-12, under the auspices of the Regional Committee. In Huntington Harold Hunt arranged a series of meetings, obtaining five excellent newspaper accounts. The first lecture was before the YMCA weekly forum of seventy-five representative professional and business men, on "America's Destiny of World Leadership." A return engagement has been asked by the forum. Twelve younger men met for informal discussion of the Faith in the studio of the society editor of the leading paper. A direct Bahá’í talk to the International Club of Marshall College; a public lecture that evening at the Governor Cabell Hotel, with about twenty-five inquirers; and a talk for the children of the City Home for Derelict Children completed the formal engagements, but in addition personal contacts were made with several leading citizens.

In Charleston Mr. Cobb addressed a luncheon meeting of the Civic Club, directly on the Faith, and received excellent publicity which included a summary of the Teachings. This meeting, plus two fireside groups in the Dahl home, were arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Hilbert Dahl. We quote from Mr.
Cobb's report: "... the individuals and groups interested in the Cause in both cities are people of culture, capacity and leadership. Any gains made ... will furnish splendid foundations for future expansion of the Cause in these cities. The work of the Dahls and of Mr. Hunt is especially to be commended ... The Dahls have made ... will furnish splendid foundations for future expansion of the Cause in these cities. The work of the Dahls and of Mr. Hunt is especially to be commended ... The Dahls have made one great gain for the forwarding of the Baha'i work in finally finding an ideal home high up on a hillside overlooking the city, where they can invite friends ... It should be noted ... that the western part of the State, dominated by Huntington and Charleston, is markedly progressing in wealth and industry. ... There is every indication that this region will advance very rapidly in the next twenty-five years." Mr. Hunt has already been invited to speak to the youth group of the Congregational Church on the Baha'i Faith, and is planning a regular study class as an outgrowth of this teaching campaign.

Just prior to Mr. Cobb's arrival, Louis Gregory spent three days in Charleston and talks were arranged for him at the First Baptist Church (where Mr. Dahl had spoken the week before), at a joint meeting of two High Schools, before a thousand students of West Virginia State College at Institute, and for the students of Bluefield State Teachers' College (also addressed by Mrs. Dahl). Bluefield College and the library at Beckley accepted books.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, although losing Gayle Woolson to the Latin America work, has gained as an isolated believer, Marvin Newport. During November these two worked jointly for nineteen days, during which period Mr. Newport spoke to nine dubs and schools, with other engagements arranged later. "Our aim has been to attract members of minority groups such as Negroes, Mexicans, Syrians, and in this aim we have met with success ..." Contacts were also made with several influential citizens who are reading literature. Two study classes, averaging nine or ten members predominantly youth, have been established. Mrs. Woolson summarized the work as follows: "Much was accomplished and I am so very happy over the excellent follow-up work Marvin is doing. He has attracted many people by his fine presentation of the Teachings, and by his zeal and untiring efforts. I am sure he will remain in Cedar Rapids until a firm Baha'i group is well established."

Although there is much other news of our pioneers, from Alaska, Vermont, Missouri, Rhode Island, etc., the limitations of our space demand that this account be closed. The splendid work done in Oklahoma City during the month's visit of Miss Roan Orloff, which resulted in many joint meetings of the Esperantists and Baha'is, will be left for the International Auxiliary Language Committee to report. Our Regional Committees have been most active, but their work, too, will be reported in another place, with the inauguration this issue of a monthly column devoted to the methods and achievements of each Committee. The news from our Assemblies, Groups, and isolated believers we shall have to postpone until the next survey, since it would minimize their exceptional contributions to hasten over them now.

As the teaching program has developed these past months, many believers have been reminded of earlier work done in pioneer areas. The Committee would ask that all accounts of such work be sent directly to the Secretary, Miss Charlotte Laidfoot, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, California, rather than to the pioneers themselves, in order that the record of American teaching achievement may be permanently preserved.

"Blessed is the spot, and the house, and the place, and the city, and the heart, and the mountain, and the refuge, and the cave, and the valley, and the land, and the sea, and the island, and the meadow where mention of God hath been made, and His praise glorified."

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE.

From San Salvador comes the news of our first believers through John Eichenauer, Jr. He says Luis O. Perez is the first declared believer; Emilio Bermudez, a city worker, is the second, and Jose Manuel Vela, a school teacher, is the third. Mr. Eichenauer expects to have a group as soon as Clarence Iverson reaches San Salvador.

On October 27, 1939, the Mexican Assembly's formal opening took place. Their new Assembly rooms consist of two large meeting rooms, a library, guest room and kitchen at a central location, No. 65 Bucareli, Apartment 2. They are now incorporated as the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai's of Mexico City.

The Chairman is Sr. Pedro Espinosa de los Monteros, and the Secretary, Senora Marie Luz Guinchard. As there is no word for "chairman" in Spanish, the word "president" has to be used.

They have a class for children registering twenty, and a youth group with more than thirty members. Literary and musical evenings are interspersed between classes and several times a week a lunch is served.

Our hearty congratulations on this extensive program. We may well emulate the spirit and enterprise of our first Latin American Baha'i Assembly.

From Panama, through Cora Hitt Oliver and Louise Caswell, came a little article on injustice towards minority groups and as this is one of the main issues with the Bahais today and one which we are constantly working to overcome—not only the world’s intolerance but indifference—the friends will be deeply interested in their reactions in Panama.

Mrs. Louise Caswell has already entered the University of Panama.

Mrs. Cora Hitt Oliver had a very interesting journey on a Grace Line boat. She wrote in part:

"I have been able to give the Message to the ship's Doctor, a young scientific engineer, on his way to Peru, and the wife of an army officer on her way to Panama. ... I have found in the library here (on the ship) two Baha'i pamphlets ... the trip has been very pleasant, smooth sailing and beautiful weather. I will write you frequently and keep you informed of all that I am doing."

Gerrard Sluter has another article in the Simeone on the Baha'i Faith. He is certainly very active.

Extract of letter received from Anthony Roca on his way to Honduras:

"I spent eight days among the Bahais of Mexico City. Their new center is beautiful. I found it impossible to take my car any further. I had to sell it and proceed by train. Crossing the border of Guatemala I was received in a very friendly manner and encountered no difficulties. There I stayed with our Baha'i brother, Gerrard Sluter. We were indeed happy to meet in a foreign land knowing that both of us have the mission to spread the New Faith to the people of Central America, those people so in need of this illumination. We exchanged ideas and talked over how we could best serve the Cause. Gerrard introduced me to his acquaintances and I believe that his work will soon result in the establishment of an Assembly though greatly hampered by lack of Spanish literature."

Central American posts now filled by the following:
Outline

The question people asked me here was 'Is it different from Catholicism?'

PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Publishing Committee wishes to report the preparation of two new Study Outlines, which are now published with the approval of the Study Outline Committee and the Reviewing Committee.

**Fundamentals of Baha’i Membership**, prepared by Study Outline Committee. This Outline fills a very important purpose, serving on the one hand to enable local Assemblies, groups and individual teachers to prepare students for enrollment in the Baha’i community, and on the other hand providing a most interesting survey of the fundamental Teachings for further study by believers already enrolled. Mimeo-graphed. Per copy, 35c net.

**Deepening the Spiritual Life**, prepared by Horace Holley. "The purpose of this Outline is to suggest an approach to the Baha’i Teachings by which the believer’s awareness of the spiritual life will be intensified. The aim is not to increase the believer’s intellectual knowledge, but to stimulate his capacity for realizing truth in terms of inner experience." References are given for daily meditation and weekly readings over a period of six weeks, with suggestions on how to use the Outline for groups or by single individuals. Sold only in lots of ten copies. For ten copies, 50c net.

**RACE UNITY**

In The Advent of Divine Justice Shoghi Effendi has called to our attention the dangers of racial prejudices and the great need in the world for freedom from these prejudices. These are his words:

"As to racial prejudice, the corrosion of which, for well nigh a century, has bitten into the fibre, and attacked the whole social structure of American society, it should be regarded as constituting the most vital and challenging issue confronting the Baha’i community at the present stage of its evolution. The ceaseless exertions which this issue of paramount importance calls for, the sacrifices it must impose, the care and vigilance it demands, the moral courage and fortitude it requires, the tact and sympathy it necessitates, invest this problem, which the American believers are still far from having satisfactorily resolved, with an urgency and importance that cannot be overestimated.

"To discriminate against any race, on the ground of its being socially backward, politically immature, and numerically in a minority, is a flagrant violation of the spirit that animates the Faith of Baha’u’llah. The consciousness of any division or cleavage in its ranks is alien to its very purpose, principles, and ideals. Once its members have fully recognized the claim of its Author, and, by identifying themselves with its Administrative Order, accepted unre­servedly the principles and laws embodied in its teachings, every differentiation of class, creed, or color must automatically be obliterated, and never be allowed, under any pretext, and however great the pressure of events or of public opinion, to reassert itself. If any discrimination is at all to be tolerated, it should be a discrimination not against, but rather in favor of the minority, be it racial or otherwise."

"Freedom from racial prejudice, in any of its forms, should, at such a time as this when an increasingly large section of the human race is falling a victim to its devastating ferocity, be adopted as the watchword of the entire body of the American believers, in whichever state they reside, in whatever circles they move, whatever their age, traditions, tastes, and habits. It should be consistently demonstrated in every phase of their activity and life, whether in the Baha’i community or outside it, in public or in private, formally as well as informally, individually as well as in their official capacity as organized groups, committees and Assemblies. It should be deliberately cultivated through the various and everyday opportunities, no matter how insignificant, that present themselves, whether in their homes, their business offices, their schools and colleges, their social parties and recreation grounds, their Baha’i meetings, conferences, conventions, summer schools and Assemblies."

"Let them call to mind, fearlessly and determinedly, the example and conduct of ‘Abdu’l-Baha while in their midst. Let them remember His courage, His genuine love, His informal and indiscriminating fellowship, His contempt for and impatience of criticism, tem-
pered by His tact and wisdom. Let them revive and perpetuate the memory of those unforgettable and historic episodes and occasions on which He so strikingly demonstrated His keen sense of justice, His spontaneous sympathy, for the down-trodden, His ever-abiding sense of the oneness of the human race, His overflowing love for its members, and His displeasure with those who dared to flout His wishes, to deride His methods, to challenge His principles, or to nullify His acts."

The following are words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá: "God is no respecter of persons on account of either color or race. All colors are acceptable unto Him, be they white, black, or yellow. Inasmuch as all were created in the image of God, we must bring ourselves to realize that all embody divine possibilities. In the estimation of God, all men are equal. There is no distinction or preference for any soul, in the realm of His justice and equity. God did not make these divisions; these divisions have had their origin in man himself. Therefore, as they are against the plan and purpose of God they are false and imaginary."

Again 'Abdu'l-Bahá says: "The diversity in the human family should be the cause of love and harmony, as it is in music where many different notes blend together in the making of a perfect chord. If you meet those of a different race and color from yourself, do not mistrust them, and withdraw yourself into your shell of conventionality, but rather be glad and show them kindness."

These words of Shoghi Effendi and 'Abdu'l-Bahá are clear. The National Spiritual Assembly has at once acted upon them and established the Race Unity Committee. One purpose of this committee is to help all Bahá'ís overcome our prejudices, for we all have prejudices in one degree or another. Shoghi Effendi tells us that freedom from racial prejudice "should be deliberately cultivated" by each of us in our every-day contacts. We must exert ourselves ceaselessly; we must sacrifice ourselves; we must use care and vigilance, moral courage and fortitude, tact and sympathy in solving this problem. The Race Unity Committee, in a series of short articles, will attempt to present material which will help us to understand and appreciate minority groups many of which are suffering very unjustly today. It is the hope of the Race Unity Committee that freedom from racial prejudice may really become the watchword of the entire body of the American believers.

**Race Unity Committee.**

**PRESS BOOK REPORT**

Reflecting the ever increasing fervor and activity of the friends, the 1939-1940 National Press Books are adding more new leaves between their already bulging covers. New groups of the reading public are being reached through the endeavors of pioneers in Central and South America as well as in the United States and Canada.

Unique is the work being done by Elsa Vento of the Toronto community in her articles taken from the *Wisdom of 'Abdu'l-Bahá* and the *Foundations of World Order* which she has translated into the Finnish language. These have appeared in full length in the *Vapaa-Sanakirja*, the independent Finnish paper in Toronto, the *Canadan-Untiset*, a weekly Finnish language paper of Port Arthur, Ontario, Canada and the *New York Times*, a Finnish paper with the largest circulation of any Finnish paper in the United States. Through these mediums the Teachings are reaching a new reading public.

Farther afield, two Panama papers, the *Star and Herald* and the *Panama Tribune* have published brilliant articles on the Cause by Mathew Kaszab. These were printed in English.

Gerrard Sluter has written articles in the Spanish language which have appeared in *Síntoma*, a paper as well as in the magazine, *Diogenes*. He included many paragraphs directly from the Teachings.

Pioneer work in the United States and Canada has achieved the publication of articles on the Cause in the following papers and localities: Charles- tone, N. C., through the *Hilpert Daily*; the *Lander Enterprise* of Lander, Wyoming, through Mrs. Lucie Jackson; *Edmonton Journal*, of Edmonton, Alberta, through Mrs. Bolton, of Sydney, Australia; *Cape-Cod Standard Times* of Hyannis, Mass., through Miss Rezzi Sunshine; *Rutland Daily Herald* and *North Adams Transcript* of Rutland, Vt., through Mrs. Louise Erickson of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Miss Bissell of Rutland, Vt.; *Delta*, Colorado; *Asheville*; *Butte*; *Ashville*; *Eagle River*; *Kensasha*; *Madison*; *Taylor*—*Bolivar* and *Evanston*; *Michigan*—*Grand Haven*, *Grand Rapids*, *Chico*, *Junction*, *Ft. Madison* and *Detroit*; *Massachusetts*—*Three Rivers* and *Springfield*; *Wisconsin*—*Racine*, *Eagle River*, *Kenosha*, and *Madison*; *New Jersey*—*Teaneck* and *Red Bank*; *Oklahoma*—*Oklahoma City*; *Ohio*—*Dayton*, *Columbus* and *Bucyrus*; *Georgia*—*Augusta*; *Tennessee*—*Knoxville*; *Connecticut*—*Waterbury* and *Norwich*; *Hawaii*, T. H.—*Honolulu*; *Florida*—*Jacksonville* and *Miami*; *Indiana*—*South Bend*; *New York*—*Yonkers*; *Colorado*—*Colorado Springs*; *Missouri*—*Kansas City*; also the *North China News.*

There is a great deal of publicity which we have not yet received from the friends. We urge you to send in three copies of all clippings with the name of the papers and dates cut from the papers themselves to the Bahá'í News Service, 125 Fourth Street, Wilmette, Illinois.

As these reports appear, they will feature various of the outstanding publicity received for the Press Books. Since there are so many splendid clippings, the Committee will report often.

**Baha'i News Service.**

December 2, 1939.

**WORLD ORDER MAGAZINE**

The monthly issues from August to October contain much material which can be used for teaching, and as background for the individual teacher meeting different types of inquirer.

"The Valley of Love", by Juliet Thompson, in the August number, was...


A compilation on Immortality, published in the October number, has since been reprinted as a leaflet. "They Met the Dawn," by Alice Simmons Cox, begins a series of three chapters presenting a study of the spiritual effects of Revelation upon the culture of the times. "The Valley of Unity," by Helen Pilleington Bishop, continues the series on the Seven Valleys of Baha'u'llah. G. A. Shook's "Science Contributes" is another study of the relations of culture, science, philosophy and religion in his series. Other articles are: "Man's Illusion," by Pearle U. Easterbrook, "The Concept of Federation," by Sirdar D. K. Sen, "The Time Has Arrived" by Ben Ellison, and "Truth and Society," by Horace Holley.

**PARENTS AND TEACHERS**

**RACE ATTITUDES**

Every Baha'i parent will be interested in Bruno Lasker's book, Race Attitudes in Children. We quote from it: "We may get a hint as to the sources of childish attitudes by carefully noting how children themselves describe their feelings toward other peoples. The following quotations are from the replies of boys to a questionnaire which asked them to write down the names of any peoples that they did not like and to state why they did not like them. . . . The test under review was taken by a teacher in the choir school of a church known throughout the country as a center of liberal Christianity in a cosmopolitan city; the answers, therefore, might be expected to be more tolerant than those which a similar questionnaire would produce under average conditions in a public school. This is what the boys say (in their own spelling):"

- "'Italians, Chinese, Mexicans, Japs and Portuguese and Germans (Spaniards and Russians being crossed out again after reflection). The Italians are a very unclean and sneaking race. The Chinese and Japs are a stealing and distrusting people. The Mexicans are a stingy and conspiracy people. The Portuguese are a very blood-thirsty and dishonest people. Germans are hateful because of their love for war and bloodshed."

- "'Jews. Because they live in dirty places. Chinese. Because they have such a bad reputation. Niggers. Because they are crooks and too free with razors. Italians. Because they are such a nasty and dirty people."

- "'Negro. I do not like the Negro because he fits with razers and are very sly. Chinese I dont know but I dont like they thats all. Mexican are very sly they sneak upon you. Japannese I dont like them. Jews I dont like them. Indians kill the white people and that is why I dont like them."

- "'Chinese Because I do not like to be knifed."

- "'Mexican Because they are lazy, like some of us."

- "'Negros — Unreasonable dislike probably. (This, to judge from the language and handwriting, from an older boy.)"

- "'black race — think they own the country red race — they kill Chinese — " "

- "'Japiness they steal Irish — they swair and lie Germans — crooks Chinese — to crafty Cannibal — Eat up people Serians — not clean people Germans — War makers Turkeys — torturers "I don't like Chinese because they stab you with knives "I don't like Italian's because they robb."

- "'Jewish A race that believes Jesus was not on earth Italian to dirty Black race. Do not know. Chinese You can never tell what they are going to do next."

Mr. Lasker mentions, as three of the causes of such attitudes, fear, combative-ness, and ridicule. Of the first, he writes: "One can fancy the lasting impression made upon children who have often been frightened by the warning, 'If you are not good the black man will get you.' Describing combative-ness as an incentive to prejudice, he quotes a high school teacher: 'I remember a scene at a roadside in southern New Jersey where one set of children, from 4 to 10 years old, was standing on a bridge and stoning another set of children who had been driven underneath the bridge, and were not allowed to come up. One of the groups was
colored, and the other white." Ridicule is the most subtle and, according to Mr. Lasker, is "a weapon of self-assertion." Life-long wounds often result, as in his stated case of Georg Brandes, the Danish writer, who, when walking in the street as a child, encountered the first ridicule of his Jewish blood. "I'd like to see a Jew," he later said to his mother, whereupon she held him to a mirror. He cried out, terrified, and with that cry, "became different."

Bahá’í parent, these subtle social weapons are all around your child. No suasion of parent or teacher can alone effect protection. Constant recourse to the Holy Utterances can protect him. Every child has a clean beginning. He is, at first, not soiled by prejudices. A young mother writes confidently to this column: "Very little children have no prejudice against other little children, no matter what race or color. It is a common sight to see small children in the nursery schools playing happily with each other."

The burning passages included in The Advent of Divine Justice point out to the discerning the travesty of present-day American life. Every Bahá’í parent sees again in them the need of waging honest war against the hosts of prejudice, "those strange illusions that take possession of the human heart." A few of these and other simple passages are suggested for your children. Do you think that they could memorize them? They will make your children proud of the garment of unity which is their great distinction. Keep the garment always shining and new with a few of these thoughts:

"Close your eyes to racial differences, and welcome all with the light of oneness."—BAHA’ULLAH.

"God maketh no distinction between the white and the black. If the hearts are pure, both are acceptable to Him."—‘ABDU’L-BAHÁ.

"In the estimation of God, there is no distinction of color; all are one in the color and beauty of servitude to Him."—‘ABDU’L-BAHÁ.

"The establishment of unity between the colored and white will be an assurance of the world’s peace."—‘ABDU’L-BAHÁ.

"Let all associate, therefore, in this great human garden, even as flowers grow and bloom together side by side without discord or disagreement between them."—‘ABDU’L-BAHÁ.

"This handful of dust, the world, is one home. Let it be in unity."—BAHA’ULLAH.

"Know ye not why we have created you all from the same dust? That no one should exalt himself over another."—BAHA’ULLAH.

"Regard ye not one another as strangers. Ye are the fruits of one tree; the leaves of one branch."—BAHA’ULLAH.

"Light is good in whatsoever lamp it is burning.
A rose is beautiful in whatsoever garden it may bloom,
A star is as radiant whether it shines from the East or the West."—‘ABDU’L-BAHÁ.

CHILD EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

LOUHELEN SCHOOL

Program of Winter Session

Pioneer Teaching, especially in Latin America.—Mrs. Frances Stewart.
Methods of Bahá’í Study.—Mrs. Bertha H. Kirkpatrick.
Methods of Teaching
(a). The Bible Approach.—Mrs. Ethel Neal Furshub.
(b). Direct Approach through the Creative Word.—Mr. Harry Jay.
The rate of $2.25 a day covers every effect protection.

1940 Summer Sessions

The dates of the regular sessions to be held at Louhelen Ranch next summer are as follows:
First Youth Session—June 26th through June 30th.
Laboratory Session—July 3rd through July 12th.
General Session—August 11th through August 18th.
Second Youth Session—August 21st through August 25th.
The ranch will be open to guests who stay on between the Laboratory Session and the General Session.

BAHA’I YOUTH

The October issue of Bahá’í Youth is Volume V, Number Three of the Quarterly published by the National Youth Committee. Its contents are commended to the friends, and not merely to members of local youth groups.

In the October issue we find: Extracts from Bahá’í Writings; Young Heavens Must Not Defect Our Course, Editorial, by M. K. ; the New Community, Hiram Hoskins; Bahá’í Internationalism, Herbert Berman; Plans and Suggestions for Youth Groups; Bahá’í Study Day Outlines Nos. 1 and 2; Louhelen Youth Sessions, 1939, Betty Scheffler; Geyersville Youth Session, John Eichenauer, Jr.; Green Acre Youth Session, Betty Shook; Third Annual Week-end Youth Conference; Getting Acquainted With Our Persian Brothers, book review, Margaret Swengel.

BAHA’I DIRECTORY

Additions and Corrections

Local Assemblies
Miami, Fla. The Secretary is now Mrs. Constance Milewicz, P. O. Box 7975.
Kansas City, Mo. Change of address, Miss Velma Vetter, Corresponding Secretary, 3108 Brooklyn Street.
Detroit, Mich. The Secretary is now Mrs. Charles B. Hall, 4121 Mitchell Street.
Milwaukee, Wis. Change of address. Mrs. Claire Fricke, Secretary, 1128 North 21st Street.

Groups
Norwich, Conn. Correspondent, Mrs. Anna Duffy, R. F. D. No. 6, Norwich, Conn.

National Committees
Race Unity. The Secretary is Mr. Clarence C. Niss, 2039 North Third Street, Milwaukee, Wis.
Reviewing. Dr. Genevieve L. Coy unable to serve. The Chairman is now Mrs. Helen Lien, Manuscripts are sent to Miss Helen Campbell, Secretary, 15 West 9 Street, New York, N. Y.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


IN MEMORIAM

"... The true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation."—BAHA’ULLAH.

Mr. Hans Silver, Racine.
Mr. C. Joe Wallace, Denver.
Mr. John Landus, Chicago.
Mrs. Ada C. Divine, Ithaca, N. Y.
Mr. Jim Stone, Fernandina, Fla.
Mrs. Mary B. Martin, Cleveland.
Dear co-workers:

The association of the First Mashriqui’l-Adhkär of the West with the hallowed memories of the Purest Branch and of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s mother, recently re-interred under the shadow of the Báb’s holy Shrine, inaugurates a new, and at long last the final phase of an enterprise which, thirty years ago, was providentially launched on the very day the remains of the Forerunner of our Faith were laid to rest by our beloved Master in the sepulchre specifically erected for that purpose on Mt. Carmel. The birth of this holy enterprise, pregnant with such rich, such infinite possibilities, synchronized with, and was consecrated through, this historic event which, as ‘Abdu’l-Bahá Himself has affirmed, constitutes the most signal act of the triple mission He bore the name of her whose ebbing life was brightened and cheered by those tidings that unmistakably revealed to her the depth of devotion and the tenacity of purpose which animate the American believers in the cause of their beloved Temple. And now, while the Báb’s world vibrates with emotion at the news of the transfer of the precious remains of both the Purest Branch and of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s mother to a spot which, watched over by the Twin holy shrines and in the close neighborhood of the resting-place of the Greatest Holy Leaf, is to become the focus of the administrative institutions of the Faith at its world center, the mere act of linking the destiny of so far-reaching an undertaking with so significant an event in the Formative Period of our Faith will assuredly set the seal of complete triumph upon, and enhance the spiritual potentialities of, a work so significantly started and so magnificently executed by the followers of Bahá’u’lláh in the North American continent.

The Plan which your Assembly has suggested to raise the sum of fifty thousand dollars by next April, which will enable you to place the necessary contracts for the final completion of the entire First Story of the Mashriqui’l-Adhkár, meets with my unqualified approval. It was specially in order to initiate and encourage the progress of such a plan that I felt impelled to pledge the sum of one thousand pounds in the memory of these two glorious souls who, apart from the Founders of our Faith and its Exemplar, tower together with the Greatest Holy Leaf, above the rank and file of the faithful.

The interval separating us from that date is admittedly short. The explosive forces which lie dormant in the international field may, ere the expiry of these fleeting months, break out in an eruption that may prove the most fateful that mankind has experienced. It is within the power of the organized body of the American believers to further demonstrate the imperturbability of their faith, the serenity of their confi-
dence and the unyielding tenacity of their resolve.

We stand at the threshold of the decade within which the centenary of the birth of our Faith is to be celebrated. Scarcely more than four years stand between us and that glorious consummation. No community, no individual, neither in the East nor in the West, however afflicting the circumstances that now prevail, can afford to hesitate or falter. The few years immediately ahead are most crucial. A resolve must be taken to solve the problems that beset our beloved Cause and to undertake a visit to the Holy Land. The Guardian particularly welcomes the appointment by your Assembly of a new Race Amity Committee, and fervently hopes that this will enable the friends to make the fullest possible response to the vital call for inter-racial unity and understanding, and specially to his instruction regarding the treatment of colored minorities within the community. It was also a matter of deep gratification to him to know that the number of recognized local Spiritual Assemblies throughout the United States and Canada had reached eighty-eight on the 21st of April of last year, and would urge that special effort be exerted by your Assembly to increase that number to one hundred by the next meeting of the Annual Convention.

With reference to the permission granted by the Marriage License Bureau of the City of Chicago to the Chicago Assembly to perform Bahá’í marriages, the Guardian considers this as an historic achievement, and trusts that it will open the way for the accordence of a similar recognition to other local Bahá’í Assemblies throughout the States. He would certainly approve that all incorporated local Assemblies make similar representations to their respective civil Marriage Bureaus for the legal recognition of Bahá’í marriage ceremonies. In the performance of a Bahá’í marriage, the chairman and secretary of the local Assembly should act as its representatives. The ceremonies themselves must be very simple. The marriage certificate, copies of which in Arabic and Persian are published in the Bahá’í World, and which bears the signatures of both parties and of their parents, should be translated and adopted by the American friends. This is indeed a tremendous step forward in the ultimate adoption and enforcement of the laws of Bahá’u’lláh in the West.

With regard to Munirih Khánum’s account of her life, concerning which certain questions have been raised by some of the believers; what has been written by Munirih Khánum herself in that account, and also the references to the subject made by Nabil in his Narrative should be taken as the accurate standard, and not what has been reported in Dr. Esslemont’s book.

Regarding the time for the holding of the nineteen Day Feasts and elections; the Guardian would advise your Assembly to urge the friends to hold such gatherings on the prescribed day before sunset. If impossible, then it is permissible to hold them on the preceding day. In connection with the nine holy days, however, the friends should consider it obligatory to celebrate them on the prescribed day before sunset.

The Guardian wishes your Assembly to abandon the practice of appointing associate members to some of the committees, as reported in the July news letter. Such a practice, he feels, tends to create confusion and misunderstanding. Those already associate members, however, may at the discretion of the N.S.A. be added to the full membership of the committees.

In connection with the request received by your Assembly from a Chicago believer for permission to be married in the Temple, Shoghi Effendi...
wishes your Assembly to abide by his directions on the subject as contained in his letter of January 29, 1939.

The news of the donation of two hundred copies of the last issue of the Bahá’í World made by our very dear Mr. Schopflocher to various national and local Assemblies outside of the United States was received with deepest appreciation by the Guardian, who feels confident that this action will create widespread enthusiasm throughout the Bahá’í world, and will also considerably help in giving due publicity to this invaluable international record of the Faith.

He also wishes me to express his deepfelt appreciation of the increase recently made by the N.S.A. in its monthly contribution to the International Fund. He will pray that your Assembly may be richly rewarded for this truly generous assistance you are extending toward the promotion and safeguarding of the interests of the Cause at its world-center in the Holy Land.

Regarding the construction of a memorial dedicated to the late Miss Martha Root at the cemetery in Honolulu: Shoghi Effendi highly approves of your Assembly’s proposal, and hopes that the contribution of one hundred pounds he has already cabled through Mr. Wilhelm for that purpose will serve to stimulate the friends to send in further donations that would enable the N.S.A. to erect a befitting monument in honor of our departed sister. He wishes you to impress upon the friends the necessity of their acting promptly and generously in this matter. He is eagerly awaiting for a copy of the design of the proposed monument.

As to the design itself he prefers to leave it to the discretion of the N.S.A. With reference to the matter of the consent of the parents to a Bahá’í marriage; as this is a vital binding obligation, it is the duty of the Assemblies to ascertain, before giving their sanction, that the consent obtained has been given freely by the parents themselves.

The Guardian approves of the recommendation made by the editors of World Order to publish in that magazine hitherto unpublished material from the Tablets of Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and hopes that in response to your request he will also be able to send you, from time to time, any such material he can gather from the Sacred Writings.

December 24, 1939.

“VIGOR AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY”

On January 19 the National Spiritual Assembly received from the Guardian a cablegram containing this significant instruction: “Urge Assembly focus attention (at its) forthcoming meeting (upon the) dual, vital, urgent obligation: (the) conservation (of the) vigor (and) spiritual health (of the) community and (the) intensification (of effort) aiming (at realization of) recently approved Temple Plan. Sleepless vigilance (to) ward off subtle attacks (of enemies (is) first prerequisite (to) sound unfoldment (of the) processes (of the) enterprise already operating.”

The believers in all lands are under the supreme favor of guidance from on High. They strive to uphold day by day, ideals and principles which relate to their own development and the illumination and harmony of mankind. But on the other hand, to aid the endeavors of those who outwardly claim allegiance but secretly try to destroy the Divine Edifice through enmity to its leader, would manifestly be the most grievous of errors.

Historically such disloyalty, synchronizing with the expansion of the Faith, had its appearance when some who were professedly loyal to the Báb, disobeyed His Covenant by refusing to accept Bahá’u’lláh as the expected One of the Béyân. They were urged on by a sordid ambition which brought them ignominy, oblivion and loss. Later the same condition became apparent after the ascension of Bahá’u’lláh when a few corrupt people violated His solemn Covenant by refusing to accept its Center, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. Again, a diminishing few, urged on by vaulting ambition and an obvious desire to organize within the Cause, a group that would circle around themselves, have refused to acknowledge the station of our beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, and the New World Order of administration called into being by the Will of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

Under the authority of the Guardian, the time has now come to act against these “insidious adversaries” who have even gone so far as to flout the Beloved’s Will and Testament, the very pillar of our unity, by claiming the right to use the term “Bahá’í” to designate their personal activities. The matter is therefore being taken to the courts, and as soon as possible their excuses will be made a matter of public record. It will be seen whether the present enemies of the Faith can succeed any better than those enemies who have preceded them: Suhbi-Ezel, Mohamet Ali, Kheirella and their like, whose denial of the Truth became historic facts beyond recall.

In connection with this legal action, we have this message from Shoghi Effendi in his cablegram of January 23: “Praying victory similar (to the) one recently won (over) Covenant-breakers (in the) Holy Land be achieved by American believers over insidious adversaries (in the) Covenant.”

Our community health and vigor consists of an abounding faith—a deep,
immovable conviction as to the fundamental truths which constitute the Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh. These fundamental truths are precisely those which the Guardian set forth as the qualifications of Bahá'ís:

“Full recognition of the station of the Founder, the Author, and the True Exemplar of the Bahá'í Cause, as set forth in 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Testament—unreserved acceptance of, and submission to, whatsoever has been revealed by their Pen; loyal and steadfast adherence to every clause of our Beloved's sacred Will; and close association with the spirit as well as the form of the present day Bahá'í administration throughout the world...”

Bahá'ís who have accepted these qualifications and not wavered in their devotion to them; Bahá'ís who realize that each individual believer should study and pray in order to remain in the spirit of the Faith, and whole-heartedly uphold the general activities of the Cause—these believers have health of spirit because they remain within the area of nearness where the Holy Spirit sends its beneficent rays.

Bahá'ís have this solid foundation for spiritual health; that their status as followers of Bahá'u'lláh and members of the Bahá'í community is safe and secure until they, themselves, create clear evidence that they do not accept the fundamental qualifications of a Bahá'í. Reflection upon this truth will reveal what a mighty blessing it is to belong within the Community of the Greatest Name. Every denier removes himself from the Cause.

Let us recall the Guardian's words two years ago: *draw nigh to Bahá'u'lláh, that He may draw nigh to us.* Therefore prayer and meditation are an element of health; association with the Bahá'í community is an element of health; sacrifice for the promotion of the great objective of the Seven Year Plan—Temple completion and teaching throughout the Americas—this, too, is an element of health. Finally it is to be cited the mysterious truth that to retain spiritual health we must not associate with any person who has ever been definitely pronounced a violator of the Divine Covenant.

The Báb's holy words to the Letters of the Living whom He was sending on their missions—these words are of the essence of health. Or turn again to page 63 of *The Advent of Divine Justice,* where the Guardian directs our attention to passages in the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh which “cannot fail to produce on the minds and hearts of any one...who approaches them with befitting humility and detachment, such powerful reactions as to illumine his entire being and intensify tremendously his daily exertions.”

Moreover, we have the unique holiness of the Guardian's successions of World Order letters to surround us with protection against the ignorance or malice of non-believers and against our own negative suggestions. A distinct part of the aim and purpose of those letters was to reveal the futility of the arguments of the deniers and violators. Thus, on the very first page of the first World Order letter: “I am indeed inclined to welcome these expressed apprehensions inasmuch as they afford me an opportunity to familiarize the elected representatives of the believers with the origin and character of the institutions which stand at the very basis of the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh. We should feel truly thankful for such futile attempts to undermine our beloved Faith—attempts that protrude their ugly face from time to time, seem for a while to create a breach in the ranks of the faithful, recede finally into the obscurity of oblivion, and are thought of no more. Such incidents we should regard as the interpositions of Providence, designed to fortify our faith, to clarify our vision, and to deepen our understanding of the essentials of His Divine Revelation.”

This theme is developed further in passages to be found in *The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh* on pages: 4, 8, 10, 15, 17, 18, 51, 72, 89, 90.

In conclusion, let us recall the Guardian's summary of the first four decades of the history of the Faith in America, in *America and the Most Great Peace.*

*Shoghi Effendi* shows us how the Cause progresses and evolves through a succession of trials and tests, victories and achievements. Each time a test is met by the friends, they are prepared for a new and greater victory.

It may be that another period of test is being initiated. If so, let us meet it, not merely with courage but with the very flame of passionate devotion to Him, the Most Powerful, the Most Mighty, the Most Merciful! National Spiritual Assembly.

**TEACHING IN THE SOUTHERN STATES**

Since receipt of the dynamic call to a higher level of Bahá'í Service by the beloved Guardian in his magnum charta of the New Hour of the Faith, the National Assembly, with the assistance of various Committees, has been studying most carefully all the aspects of our teaching work under the Seven Year Plan.

Undoubtedly the most challenging issues in connection with our teaching work in this country is that of the expansion of the Faith in the Southern States. The National Assembly, therefore, has asked the Regional Teaching Committee for the Southern States, the Race Unity Committee, and the National Teaching Committee to study this problem anew in the light of the Guardian’s stirring appeal and instruction in *The Advent of Divine Justice,* and publish for the friends, the results of their survey to serve as a general basis for our immediate teaching work in that area.

It is axiomatic that within the circle of the Faith itself, no such thing as color distinction can exist. There is only one spirit, the spirit of devotion to Bahá'u'lláh, and of seeking His grace. Within any Bahá'í Community, worthy of its name, there can be no consciousness of division or cleavage of any type within its ranks. “Once its members have fully recognized the claim of its Author, and by identifying themselves with its Administrative Order, accepted unreservedly the principles and laws embodied in its teachings, every differentiation of class, creed, or color must automatically be obliterated, and never be allowed, under any pretext, and however great the pressure, of events or of public opinion, to reassert itself.”

To bring to the world at large, this ideal state of society, is the most delicate and difficult of our teaching tasks. After careful study, the three Committees find their concerted view to be that the method approved by Shoghi Effendi, in the following excerpt from his letter to the National Assembly of March 22nd, 1937, is still the best way to meet our serious responsibilities in this Section—

“Regarding the problem of teaching in districts of mixed colored and white populations, the Guardian fully approves of the policy adopted by the N.S.A. to the effect that the teaching work should be carried simultaneously with the two races in the south without the slightest discrimination. For the Teachings are obviously not intended for only one race or one class. Your Assembly's suggestion that Bahá'í public meetings should henceforth be conducted separately for whites and colored and that study classes, resulting from such meetings should likewise be conducted separately until individuals of both races are truly...”
confirmed believers is splendid as it will undoubtedly help in removing the misunderstandings and obstacles that have thus far stood in the way of the expansion of the Faith in the Southern States. To alienate either the white or the colored race would be indeed unfair and unjustifiable. The solution proposed by your Assembly thus marks a step in advance over the methods which the friends have hitherto enforced in their teaching work in the Southern States. The Guardian therefore trusts that it will be brought fully to the attention of the friends, and that they will each and all arise to apply it in their future teaching activities.

"In this connection, however, he wishes me to stress the fact that the two races should ultimately be brought together, and be urged to associate with the utmost unity and fellowship and be given full and equal opportunity to participate in the conduct of the teaching as well as administrative activities of the Faith. Nothing short of such ultimate fusion of the two races can insure the faithful application of that cornerstone principle of the Cause regarding the oneness of mankind." (March 22, 1937. Bahá’í News No. 108, June, 1937).

In developing the public teaching work in this specific area, the National Teaching Committee and the Southern Regional Committees will take active steps to see that the directions of the Guardian that teaching should be carried forward simultaneously with both groups is carefully and rigidly adhered to.

The following concrete suggestions, approved by the National Assembly, are offered by the three Committees for the application of the Guardian's instructions—

1. Teachers shall work in close consultation with the Southern Regional Committees and shall undertake no public teaching projects without first receiving the Committee's approval and cooperation.

2. Teachers should be fully cognizant of the problems of the South.

3. Before making final plans for public speaking, the Teachers should survey the field of local race groups and liberal leaders, and contact them alike.

4. The general theme of public teaching should be the world ideal of the Faith as a whole, rather than one of the social principles, which might prove provocative, such as race union. The best results will be achieved if the Manifestation is established as rapidly as possible, as the Center of the Faith, and the Source of spiritual life today, as well as the Establisher of the true principles of living.

5. The most effective method of teaching in new areas is the Fireside Gathering, and discussion with friendly groups, rather than public campaigns. When fireside gatherings grow into study groups, they should be developed in consultation with the Regional Committees.

6. All public presentations of the Faith, such as radio talks, newspaper publicity, etc., should be developed through local Assemblies or Regional Committees.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

"A NEW FAITH RISING . . ."

Report of the National Teaching Committee

In 1853 an American lecturer, William Estall, anticipated with such remarkable clarity the rise of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh and the activities which characterize the Bahá’ís even today, that we are here reprinting his words, doubly interesting to us all because they were used to introduce Rowland Hall to his recent talk to the Unitarian Church in Winnipeg.

"I see a new faith rising in the hearts of men, and organizing itself in human society. It will have the human interests, the practical sense, the sanity of Confucius, but in the service of the grand ideals of a Marcus Aurelius or a Jesus; it will, with Buddha, loosen the cords that bind men so tightly to the earth, and master all other loves than the love of right and the love of love; and yet it will seek to organize right and love in the daily work of the world, and no service to man shall be so material or so low that it may not also be holy; it will, with Socrates, inspire to all science, but the darling effort of science shall be to find the way to those far and shining heights that shall be anew the object of the aspirations and worship of men—to ascertain the laws and true methods of advance. Under the stress of the new faith, wrought organically out of the present and the past, men will again look beyond themselves, will again be sanctified, will again feel a glow in the heart, and feel themselves happy in contributing ever so little to so divine a result."

Certain it is that Mr. Estall was happy in his address to the combined Unitarian and Federated Icelandic Churches, on October 29, 1939. His subject was "A New World Order," and he says: "I have never felt more inspired or free to speak without reservation of Bahá’u’lláh’s principles and plan for world regeneration." About seventy-five Icelanders heard him, while the Icelandic weekly, Heimskringla, carried a three-column article on the Faith. Several other speaking dates resulted from this contact. Mr. Estall is most enthusiastic about these new friends, for, as he writes: "The Icelanders . . . have a background of one thousand years of democracy and peace and it is evident in their lives.
which seem to have a strikingly noticeable spiritual refinement and integrity." His talk coincided with the publication in Iceland of Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, two pages of which arrived in printer's proof for the occasion! Mr. Estall is also conducting a weekly study class, has been asked to speak for the Theosophical Society, and has again resumed his business as manufacturer's agent.

The Regional Committee for Eastern Canada has forwarded a heartening account by Mrs. Emeric Sala of her visit to the Maritime Provinces from Nov. 14th to Dec. 8th. A highlight was her four-day stay in Halifax, N. S., where she was deeply impressed by the selfless devotion of our pioneers, Mrs. Beulah Proctor and her daughter Shirley. Each evening after work these two keep open house for all who wish to learn of the Faith, and there are many inquirers, especially as a result of the Halifax Exhibition. Other contacts are the officers from the warships in port. "As a naval base the city swarms with young French and English sailors. Beulah has contacted these young men over the counter. Though she is not permitted to speak of the Cause in the store, she invites them for tea . . . She speaks of the Faith, giving them a Bahá'í book or pamphlet, writing in it the Greatest Name, explaining its meaning. She says, as I heard her say with such quiet dignity and spiritual power: 'Call upon God by this Name if you should ever be in great danger and He will most assuredly help you. And if you must die, die with this word on your lips. You will be comforted and this comfort and protection will reach all those you love whom you leave behind.' I was shown a grateful letter of thanks for her hospitality written by a young officer. Below his signature he had written, 'Aláh-u-Abhá!' Here in Beulah, as strong as her deep faith, is the safety-zone for Halifax . . ."

Mrs. Sala then visited the Moncton, N. B., community. Three very active children's groups (ages five to fourteen), which include fourteen children, are led by three adults. The children celebrate the Feast days at their own meetings. Two members have had opportunities to teach the Faith as the fulfillment of the Bible, to Bible classes which they lead. "One of the ministers went so far as to say that should there be a fuller revelation of truth he did not wish to deprive his congregation or himself of it!" Mrs. Sala gave the initial talk to one of these groups. She also spoke for Moncton's first public meeting. Part of the program was a panel discussion in which seven of the believers took part. Excellent publicity was obtained, one paper running well over a half-column.

The Committee also forwarded the report of a teaching visit to Sherbrooke last July, by Mr. Ernest Harrison and Mr. W. Suter, to contact two men who have been studying Bahá'í literature for some time. One of them has introduced the Faith to about fifty citizens of Sherbrooke, although he has had to work slowly because of the Church. The other is now ready to register as a believer.

In the far South our pioneers are progressing rapidly in New Orleans. Frederick Babo wrote on December 25th: "Last week I visited Dillard University and had a most interesting talk with the librarian and learned that the four Bahá'í books in the library are out most of the time . . . The university is non-sectarian and the result of the contact was that the committee of public assemblies is going to act upon a lecture on the Bahá'í Movement before the entire student body . . ." Mr. Babo, who is employed by a radio station as announcer, was able to broadcast Bahá'í radio scripts three nights a week for almost a month. This privilege was later withdrawn, but not until he had encouraging response from the audience. He and Mrs. Logelin are in close touch with the Theosophical group. They and Miss Berk have been recently reinforced by Eloise McAlister, a Bahá'í from Miami, to whom Mr. Babo was married on January 6th.

Louisville, Ky., has had several Bahá'í speakers this Fall through the help of Miss Virginia Taylor. These include Mr. and Mrs. Clarence La Roque; Miss Davison, who spent a month in the city; Mrs. McCoy, Regional Committee member; and Mrs. Lorene Dustan of Cincinnati. A Bahá'í library has been established for the study class through a legacy from Mrs. Christine, to which the friends contributed in her memory.

Atlanta, Ga., now numbers seven believers, with a regular study class conducted by Mrs. Terah Smith. A lecture for Mrs. Dorothy Baker was scheduled by Mrs. Dorothea Fettig, although closely confined by her
work, is seeking radio openings and maintaining contacts made there and in Birmingham. She writes: "We do need more pioneers in the South!"

Harold Hunt held the first of his weekly public classes in Huntington, W. Va., on December 21st.

Difficult business conditions have been the lot of Miss Nayan Hartfield in St. Louis, Mo.: "I will not be discouraged, however, and will continue in obedience to prayers." Miss Opal Howell of Kansas City has spent a weekend in St. Louis, and several inquirers are studying the literature. The hardiness of our pioneers is reflected in these words from Bahá'u'lláh, sent to us by Miss Hartfield: "It behoveth thee to consecrate thyself to the Will of God... Do thou beseech God to enable thee to remain steadfast in this path, and to aid thee to guide the peoples of the world to Him Who is the manifest and sovereign Ruler...."

Winter in Alaska is no deterrent to our three Baha'i heroines. Miss Janet Whiteneck in Fairbanks has asked for literature and registration cards, as she anticipates a study group shortly. "The University Library near here and the Public Library have both agreed to place a set of Baha'i books on their shelves. Through my bookstore, I think I shall have many opportunities to reach people who are ready to become believers when they understand the Faith. It will be a wonderful experience to me and I am looking forward to it eagerly."

Miss Honor Kempston is deluged with opportunities to speak of the Faith in Anchorage. As proprietor of a bookshop, she contributes a weekly article in the Alaskan and has been able to mention Baha'i books occasionally; she has also spoken before the Women's Club. At a formal dinner given by the U. S. Commissioner, she was able to discuss the Baha'i view of racial prejudice, in connection with the move to bar Jewish refugees. She writes humorously: "Another thing is the surprise at myself—how positively fluent I am becoming in speaking of the Cause. I find myself waiting eagerly for an opportunity to argue for the Faith— it always comes. It is a joyous experience and I am truly grateful for such privileges." Several individuals are studying the Faith with deep attraction.

In Juneau Miss Betty Becker has been conducting a study group since early Fall; her problem is that regular residents are difficult to reach, and many of the students are transients. Two recent friends, however, have offered to arrange home meetings for her. On Christmas Day Miss Becker was invited to the Government Hospital for Indians, and a nurse has taken literature to distribute. Other interesting contacts have included the President of the Federation of Women's Clubs of Alaska, and the sister of Miss Green, former Baha'i librarian of Juneau.

Teaching in Montana has had a renewed impetus this year. The Spiritual Assembly of Helena has opened a Baha'i Center and sponsors weekly study classes which are well attended; a children's class is also held. Arrangements have been made to exhibit the Temple model at the Placer Hotel. On November 3rd, six of the believers visited Butte for an inter-community day of great happiness to all. In October Harlan Ober did fine work in Helena. Mrs. Lorrol Jackson is carrying forward her indefatigable teaching in Butte and reports that a two-weeks' book display in a downtown window has resulted in a number of inquiries.

Six new students of the Faith formed a study class last Fall in Laramie, Wyo., according to Raphael Lillywhite. Two of these have since asked to register as believers. There are already three adult believers in this city. Mr. Lillywhite is also assisting two students in Wadell, Colo., with literature.

Mrs. Kathryn Frankland has returned to Texas and is now in San Antonio, where Mrs. W. C. Nichols is working with her for the establishment of a Baha'i Group. Mrs. Mary Edson has established her home in Houston.

The Assembly in Albuquerque, N. M., was active even through the summer months, when three weekly classes were conducted by Dr. Lenore Morris. Six of the believers visited the Bressets in Las Vegas for a fireside meeting in the Fall. Listing in the Religious Directory of the University of New Mexico has been obtained.

Several travelling teachers have sent most interesting reports, only the highlights of which can be summarized in our allotted space. Mrs. Ruth Moffett advised us in September that she had just given a series of lectures in Eagle River and had organized a youth group of twelve members. Somewhat earlier she placed Baha'i books in the public libraries of Independence, Waterloo, Des Moines, Rhinelander, and Eagle River, presenting book reviews in each case to the librarians and local newspapers.

During the past months Miss Alma Knochloch has worked intensively in Georgia, at Augusta and Forest Hill; and in South Carolina, at Columbia, Spartanburg, Greenville, and North Augusta. She has been especially successful with youth in several of these communities.

During 1939 Miss Beatrice Irwin has assisted in the public teaching work of many Assemblies throughout the United States, particularly in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Washington, Baltimore, Wilmette, and California. Twenty-one talks were given in the East. She is at present in Southern California, where she has been able to contact several important men.

Mr. Louis Gregory was able to lend his support to innumerable communities, during his journey to and from San Francisco for the October meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly. Talks were given in the Bay Region, Southern California, Denver, Kansas City, Evansville, West Virginia, and Philadelphia. He has recently spent some time in Wilminton, Del., where he addressed the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and spoke for three firesides in the Kalantur home.

From Fairbanks to New Orleans, and from Halifax to San Francisco, the followers of Bahá'u'lláh on this continent are pressing forward with unprecedented ardor and concentration. While the reports of this mighty effort must arouse, in each one of us, a certain confidence, our overwhelming sense is of humility, in the face of such responsibilities as only the Guardian can adequately describe: "What the American believers have, within the space of almost fifty years, achieved is infinitesimal when compared to the magnitude of the tasks ahead of them. The rumbles of that catastrophic upheaval, which is to proclaim, at one and the same time, the death-pangs of the old order and the birth-pangs of the new, indicate both the steady approach, as well as the awe-inspiring character, of those tasks." (Advent of Divine Justice, page 9).

AFIELD WITH OUR REGIONALS

II. New England

The Regional Committee for Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, consisting of Mrs. Amelia Bowman, Secretary, Mrs. Florence Morton, Mrs. Elsa Isaacs, Mrs. H. Chamberlain, Mr. Charles Paul, Mr. Duncan MacAlear, Mr. Lou Keller, and Miss Marjorie

BAHA'I NEWS
BAHA'I NEWS

Wheeler, listed at its business meeting in September fourteen Groups and twenty isolated believers. Seven of these Groups had been newly organized since summer: Portsmouth, Dover, Salmon Falls, Portland, Providence, Norwich, and West Haven. This rapid expansion can be traced to the Committee’s constant emphasis on the importance of teaching in one’s own city. As a consequence, many believers who had been traveling from forty to sixty miles as members of nearby communities, determined to pioneer at home; the election of a Spiritual Assembly in West Haven this April will be a major result.

As its chief function, the Committee determined to aid these local Groups in several specific ways:

1. By making available a series of four lectures, as follows: October—"The Pathway to Peace and Freedom"; November—"The Torch of Divine Guidance"; December—"The Promise of All Ages"; and January—"The Promised Kingdom". We quote from the letter of announcement: "In these four talks it is hoped the entire picture of the New World Order will be unfolded and many new inquirers listening to these talks will be attracted to study and investigate and get a glimpse of the wonderful vision we have of the future, and ‘the approach of that recreated society, that Christ-promised Kingdom’."  

2. By correspondence in arrangements for exhibits of the Temple model.  

3. By correspondence throughout the year. The first general letter, outlining these plans, was mailed to twenty-two believers and Groups on October 5th, and brought immediate replies.

The circuit of the Temple model throughout New England was most ably executed. During October the model was exhibited in Providence, R. I., in the Simmons Florist Shop, surrounded by a Persian garden; it attracted such notice that the proprietor was enthusiastic in his praise and assisted in publicity. It was then displayed at the Library in West Haven, Conn., from October 26th to November 3rd, "beautifully decorated with smilax and white asters and Bahá’í books encircling it." Rutland, Vt., arranged the next exhibit, followed by Keene, N. H., in November. During the first week of December it was placed in a Nature Food Store in Springfield, Mass., and was then moved to Boston, to be exhibited at the Bahá’í Center until January 2nd. Portsmouth, N. H., next had the model for two weeks.

Future plans include stops in Dover, N. H., Portland and Bangor, Me. The Committee has been active in many other ways as well. Its plan for Vermont included placement of twenty-five copies of Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era in public libraries by Duncan MacAleave, who had previously carried out a similar project for the Library Committee in twelve libraries of New Hampshire. "Inasmuch as we hope in the future to have some radio broadcasts this seems very important groundwork to be done, for surely those who are interested will turn to their libraries for information too."

Another successful enterprise has been the arrangement of Inter-Community Conferences, at Worcester in May, Springfield on June 18th, and Green Acre the last week of August (a Regional Teaching Conference). Then in November, the pioneers of Providence and Rutland met with the Salmon Falls Group, after which a second meeting was scheduled in Portsmouth, which all these friends attended.

The Committee is also undertaking to write to each name forwarded from the New York World’s Fair Exhibit.

An impressive feature of the work in this Region is the Committee’s effort to keep every believer, no matter how isolated, closely in touch with the activities of his fellows and the progress of the Cause. Many letters have been sent, informing the friends of the year’s plans, the services available through the Committee, asking them to correspond with pioneers, advising them of the Green Acre program, and of the New York Regional Conference and Louiseh Winter School. Full cooperation was extended to the National Radio Committee, whose chairman is also a Regional member, and the Green Acre Summer School was made to play a central role in the development of the entire area. As a direct result of attendance at School, three believers enrolled in Rhode Island, a pioneer state, and three in Portsmouth, to form new Groups.

No Committee has given more thoughtful consideration to the needs of pioneers; Miss Neya Bissell and Mr. and Mrs. Don McNally have received every help and encouragement, and the remarkable growth of the Faith in Rhode Island, particularly, is attributable in a large measure to the cooperation between the pioneer teachers and the Regional Committee.

In estimating the accomplishment this year, it is plain that the New England Committee has excelled in spreading the Cause to new areas, through radio, publicity, library placements, and public or fireside talks. In addition, it has, through the consolidation of Bahá’í Groups, laid the foundation for future teaching and Administration, the uses of which must needs increase through such effective labors.

"Praise be to God, that the North-eastern states are in the utmost capacity. Because the ground is rich, the rain of the divine outpouring is descending. Now you must become heavenly farmers and scatter pure seeds in the prepared soil. The harvest of every other seed is limited, but the bounty and the blessing of the seed of the Divine Teachings is unlimited. Throughout the coming centuries and cycles many harvests will be gathered." (‘Abdu’l-Bahá in The Divine Plan.)

INTER-AMERICA TEACHING ACTIVITIES

From the Mexican Assembly comes our first copy of Bahá’í News in Spanish, (Novedades Bahá’ís). It is a six-page illustrated chronicle of their activities, which will be translated and sent to the Assemblies. We congratulate them on this splendid achievement.

They have recently entertained Clarence Iverson and his mother, and previous visits have been made by Miss Maria Bertha Bohman of Chicago, Illinois, Gerrard Sluter, and Antonio Roca. Printing, translating, and teaching takes all their time. Maria Luz Guinchard is planning to teach in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico.

Mr. Gerrard Sluter writes that he is greatly restricted by governmental rules. He has been informed recently that no outsider can obtain employment in Guatemala, nor has he secured the hoped-for permission to hold public meetings, but he is carrying on his work in the Theosophical Society, which is naturally difficult.

It may be remembered that ‘Abdu’l-Bahá prophesied of the pioneers, "Many a test will be visited upon you. Troubles will befal you, and suffering afflict you."

From San Salvador, where John Eichenauer, Jr., is in charge, comes overwhelming news. He has eleven Central American believers and our first Central American Indian. For the formation of an Assembly, he is awaiting Clarence Iverson of Phoenix, Arizona, who expected to arrive in San Salvador by January first.

Antonio Roca of Tegucigalpa, Hon-
duras, hoped to display a Temple model at the National Industrial Exposition, but due to the character of the exhibit, he could not accomplish it, so he had a picture painted of the Temple, 3x5 feet. This he has promised to photograph and send to us.

To Nicaragua Mr. Mathew Kasab was sent. On the Pacific Coast are two cities, Managua and Granada, separated only by thirty-five miles. He found these cities backward with illiteracy predominating, the people with no clothes, nor proper environment. By bus he crossed to Bluefields on the Atlantic side to look over the teaching field. His address is, care of Anna Crowell, Bluefield, Nicaragua.

Miss Gayle Woolson, 235 Fuller Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota, has at last started for Costa Rica, where she will be joined by Mrs. Amelia Ford.

From Mrs. Louise Caswell and Mrs. Cora Hitt Oliver, who are attending the University of Panama, we have excellent reports: great interest in the faculty in the University; a recent trip throughout the Canal Zone; and the initial step taken towards a journey to the interior to teach the Indians.

Miss Margaret Lentz has reached her post in San Domingo, where her address is Pension Martí, Avenida Independence 115, Ciudad Trujillo, Santa Domingo R. D., West Indies. She spent three days with Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Marangella in Cuba, where they are enthusiastically teaching the Faith.

Mr. and Mrs. Shaw from San Francisco are now in Jamaica. Their address is 45 Sherwood Drive, Constance Spring P. O., Jamaica.

Letters have been received from South America from Sr. Torno in which he speaks of the growing group. Wilfrid Barton has been visiting Buenos Aires and will now return to Montevideo. Mrs. Stewart has given us an address, Mr. Charles O’Hanlon in Rio de Janeiro, who will, she thinks, act as an agent in sending books through to Montevideo and Buenos Aires. Mr. Pilipak took three Baha’i Worlds on his recent trip to the city of Rio de Janeiro.

He finds it difficult to get packages and books farther. Miss Leonora Holzapple has left Bahia to teach throughout Brazil. Mr. Wilfrid Barton of Winnetka, Illinois, has paid a visit to our group in Buenos Aires. He reports most enthusiastic and active teaching work. We have in Mr. Salvador Torno a cultivated and very spiritual man in whom we have great confidence as a leader.

INTER-AMERICA COMMITTEE.
Louise A. Mathews, Chairman.

OPPORTUNITY PRICELESS

Christmas eve, (the) beloved remains (of) Purest Branch and Master’s Mother laid in state (in) Báb’s Holy Tomb. Christmas day, entrusted (to) Carmel’s sacred soil. (The) ceremony (in) presence (of) representatives (of) Near Eastern believers profoundly moving. Impelled associate America’s momentous Seven Year enterprise (with) imperishable memory (of) these two holy souls who, next (to) Twin Founders (of) Faith and (its) Perfect Exemplar, tower, together with Greatest Holy Leaf, above (the) entire concourse (of) the (faithful). Rejoice privilege (to) pledge thousands pounds my contribution (to) Bahá’í Khanum Fund designed (for) inauguration (of) final drive (to) insure placing contract next April (for) last remaining stage (in) construction (of) Mashriqul-Adhkar. Time (is) pressing, opportunity priceless, potent aid providentially promised unfailing.

—SHOGHI RABBANI.

Cablegram received December 26, 1939.

BAHA’I CALENDAR

Under this title in Baha’i News hereafter, the National Spiritual Assembly will list all Feasts, Anniversaries, National and Regional Meetings for the period of two months beginning with the date on that issue of Baha’i News. For example, in the present issue dated February, 1940, the Calendar lists all events of February and March.

Since it would not be feasible to include meetings of a merely local character, the regional classification will cover all meetings which concern three or more neighboring local Assemblies (Inter-Assembly meetings) as well as all such regional meetings as concern the entire area of any region.

National Committees, Regional Committees and local Assemblies should report items for the Baha’i Calendar by the twentieth of the month preceding date of issue (i.e., February 20 for March, March 20 for April, etc.).

Nineteen Day Feasts: February 7, Dominion; March 2, Loftiness; March 21, Splendor.

Anniversary: March 21, Feast of Naw-Ruz.

Period of Fasting: Nineteen days beginning March 2.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: February 23, 24, 25, 356 Sheridan Road, Wilmette; March 29, 30, 31, West Englewood, N. J.

TRUTH AND RUMOR

A society as large and diversified as the American Bahá’í Community will from time to time inevitably encounter the problem of rumors about happenings and personalities.

The National Assembly points out that there is a way by which every believer can determine whether a story involving the Cause is true or false. Through what channel has the story come? If international in scope, then the only authentic source of information is the Guardian. If national, the channel is the National Assembly. If local, it is the local Assembly.

By applying this simple test, believers can concentrate upon fact and truth and avoid the waste of energy which results from reliance upon unfounded rumor and gossip.

EXPLANATION OF TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

Questions are frequently asked about the details of the proper transfer of membership when a believer changes his residence.

1. From a community to a community. When a believer moves from a

FIRST MEETING IN HAZIRATUL-QUDS

The first meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly in its new National Office or Haziratul-Quds took place on January 20, 21 and 22, 1940, and in order to give suitable recognition to the occasion in the light of the Guardian’s words concerning the conjunction of the Mashriq-ul-Adhkar and Haziratul-Quds, the members of the National Spiritual Assembly carried out a special program of readings. The first part of this program was conducted in the National Office, and the second part in the Auditorium of the House of Worship, on Saturday morning. On Sunday morning, the Regional Conference being held in the Foundation Hall added its prayers to those already recited in celebration of the new establishment.

This program of readings will be compiled and issued to the Assemblies and groups as a memorial of the occasion.
city which has a Spiritual Assembly to another city which also has an Assembly, his local Assembly of the city he is leaving should give him a letter addressed to the Spiritual Assembly of the city where he is establishing his residence, certifying that he has been a voting member of that community. This letter enables the Spiritual Assembly in the city of his new residence to enroll him as a voting member without questioning his Baha'i status. Both the Assemblies concerned in such transfers should report them to the National Assembly.

2. From a community to the isolated list. When a believer moves from a city which has a Spiritual Assembly to a city which has no Assembly, his Assembly should report this fact to the National Assembly, and give the believer's new permanent address. The National Assembly then requests the Teaching Committee to send the believer an enrollment card applying for recognition as an isolated believer. When the record is completed, the believer will receive Baha'i News from the National Assembly direct. In this connection the word "isolated" is used whether the believer is alone in the city or whether the city has a group. The Local Assembly is to report this transfer to the National Assembly.

3. From the isolated list to a community. Any believer moving into a city which has a Spiritual Assembly, should apply to the National Assembly for a letter certifying that he has been enrolled as an isolated believer, and this letter when presented to the local Assembly will enable the Assembly to enroll the believer as voting member of the community without questioning his Baha'i status. The Local Assembly is to report this transfer to the National Assembly.

4. Travelling believers. A travelling believer should carry credentials from his local Assembly if he is a voting member of an organized community, or from the National Assembly if an isolated believer. All American Baha'is, however, who travel outside the United States and Canada, should have credentials from the National Assembly. Travelling believers, if members of an organized community, receive their copies of Baha'i News from their own local Assembly; if isolated, from the National Assembly.

BOOKS ON RACE RELATIONS

"O contending peoples and kindreds of the earth! Set your faces towards unity, and let the radiance of its light shine upon you. Gather ye together, and for the sake of God resolve to root out whatever in the source of contention amongst you. Then will the effulgence of the world's great Luminary envelop the whole earth, and its inhabitants become the citizens of one city, and the occupants of the same throne... There can be no doubt whatever that the peoples of the world, of whatever race or religion, derive their inspiration from one heavenly Source, and are the subjects of one God."

—BAHA'U'llAH, Gleanings, p. 217.

The need for racial unity is perhaps more apparent today than at any other time in the world's history. Baha'is everywhere are engaged in working for true brotherhood among all the races of the world. In our work we discover that one of the biggest obstacles to understanding between the various races is ignorance of each other. The White race knows very little about the actual accomplishments of the Negro race. The Yellow race is uninformed about the achievements of the White race. It is believed by many students of race problems that greater harmony and good-will cannot exist between the various races until they are better acquainted with each other's peculiar cultures. We must study the background, history, progress, accomplishments, and peculiar problems of every race. Only then can we achieve a deep and lasting appreciation for each other. Only then will we have a strong foundation on which to build race unity.

We are fortunate today to have many books from which we can learn much about other races. This month we shall mention a few books which will give us considerable insight into the Negro race.

In a small book called Negro Americans What Now? by James Weldon Johnson, the author calls attention to the fact that white people must be educated to an understanding of their Negro brothers. These are his words: "The ignorance of white people concerning us constitutes one of our greatest obstacles.—The greater part of white America thinks of us in stereotypes; most of these stereotypes coming to them second-hand by way of the representation of Negro life and character on the stage and in certain books. In the main they are exaggerated, false, and entirely unlike our real selves... White people must be educated. They must be taught the truth about us... White America must not only be made thoroughly conscious of the handicaps, injustices, and wrongs under which Negro Americans struggle, it must also be made familiar with the elements of strength and of excellence possessed by the race. And white Americans must learn not only about the material but also about the artistic and spiritual contributions that Negro Americans have made to our common cultural store."

In the book the Negro Genius by Benjamin Brawley we get a good picture of the artistic and spiritual contributions of the Negro race. Mr. Brawley describes the works of Paul Lawrence Dunbar, William S. Braithwaite, W. E. C. DuBois, Countee Cullen, Roland Hayes, Marian Anderson, and other Negroes of rare talent and genius. Race Relations by W. D. Weatherford and C. S. Johnson is a large volume giving many concrete facts and statistics about the achievements of the Negro people. The following paragraph telling of their recent progress is an example of what may be gleaned from this book: "In 1863, the year of emancipation, between 8 to 15% of the Negroes were able to read and write. In 1930, less than 18% were unable to read and write. In 1870 there were 3,300 schools for Negroes with 149,581 pupils enrolled. In 1930 in eight southern states there were in the public elementary schools 2,133,353 Negro students, in the high schools, 106,275, and in the colleges approximately 25,000. In 1911 there were 5,000 Negro graduates of colleges and nine doctors of philosophy; in 1933, the number of these graduates had mounted to 16,000 and the doctors in philosophy to 90. There are 89 Negroes listed in Who's Who in America. Up to 1930 Phi Beta Kappa had elected 116 Negroes to membership. Since then the number of Negroes in the

professional class had increased from 32,879 to 137,263, or 417.4%. This number includes 3,605 doctors, 56,829 teachers, 430 artists and art teachers, 210 librarians, and 425 authors and editors.†

"America's Tenth Man" (published by Conference on Education and Race Relations, 710 Standard Building, Atlanta, Georgia) is a pamphlet describing the Negro's part in American history. Figures are given showing what advancement Negroes have made in the fields of industry, education, business, religion, music, literature, art, and health. This is a pamphlet which every Bahá’í should own.

What the Negro Thinks by R. R. Moton is a very poignant portrayal of the discriminations, insults, humiliations, and abuses suffered daily by Negroes in theaters, restaurants, barber shops, hotels, and swimming pools. In politics, housing, employment, law courts, and in government, they are not given their full rights as American citizens. Likewise in railroads, street cars, elevators, waiting rooms, the Negro is usually given poorer accommodations than white travellers. Moton makes us aware of the problems of the Negroes. We cannot overlook these, but rather we must be informed of them and then strive to correct them.

It is the hope of the Race Unity committee that every Bahá’í will be stimulated to read some of these books.

Bahá’u’lláh says: "Close your eyes to racial differences, and welcome all with the light of oneness."

RACE UNITY COMMITTEE.

PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Books Around the World

"The world is one country, and mankind its citizens."

This month we have received from Miss Flora Hottes of Kenosha a well-selected book list. "For at least ten years or more," writes Miss Hottes, "children's books have been reflecting, in ever-increasing measure, the deepening world awareness of the fundamental unity of human kind. Now, a great and growing number of children's books, dealing with life in different countries, are real story books of high literary merit, exquisitely illustrated. These depict, with sympathetic knowledge, the racial spirit, national cultures, and religious faiths, not as antagonistic, but as essentially human and fundamentally similar. This is indeed a sign of the times."

†Weatherford & Johnson, Race Relations, pp. 454, 455.

Country Author Book

AFRICA

Alaska, and points FARTHEST

North

South

ARABIA

AUSTRALIA

AUSTRIA

BALKANS

CANADA

CHINA

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ENGLAND

FINLAND

FRANCE

GERMANY

HUNGARY

INDIA

IRAN

IRAQ

ITALY

JAPAN

MEXICO

NETHERLANDS

PALESTINE and SYRIA

POLAND

RUSSIA (U.S.S.R.)

SCANDINAVIA

SCOTLAND

SOUTH AMERICA

SPAIN

SWITZERLAND

*Singer Stevens

*Sprey (North) Carroll (South)

*French

*Ross

*Wiese

*Bemelmanns

*Morley

*Davies

*Dragoumis

*Miller

*Miler

*Shannon

*De Angeli

*O'Brien

*Handforth

*Holliester

*Trinka

*Kipling

*Ransome

*Adams

*Brink

*Emerson

*Hill

*Peck

*Petersham Seredy

*Bose

*Mukerji

*Singar

*Ratgesberger

*Ratgesberger

*Angelo

*Wheeler

*Coatsworth

*Wood

*Bannon

*Simon

*Troelstra

*Van Stockum

*Rihbany

*Rubinstein

*Kellogg

*Kelly

*Daugherty

*Fischer

*Hamsun

*Owen

*Atkinson

*Leaf

*Steen

*Tschielly

*Irving

*Sawyer

*Cormack

*Spyri

Boomba Lives in Africa

Lion Boy

Chee-cha-ko

One Day with Tuktu

Luck of the Roll and Go

Lance of Kanana

Back of Time

Buddy the Bear

Hansi

Donkey John of the Toy Valley

Boy in Serbia

Under Greek Skies

Fran of Albania

Young Trajan (Rumania)

Doby (Bulgaria)

Petite Suzanne

Silver Chief

Mei-Li

Beggars of Dreams

Castle Camp

Jenik and Marenka

Stalky and Co.

Swallows and Amazons

Vaino, Boy of New Finland

Anything Can Happen on the River

Jacques at the Window

Rudi of the Toll-Gate

Young Germany

Miki

Good Master

Totaram, a Village Boy

Jungle Beasts and Men

Ali Lives in Iran

Jasmine

Camel Bells

Nino

Giotto Tended the Sheep

Cat Who Went to Heaven

Great Sweeping Day

Manuela's Birthday

Popo's Miracle

Akie's Ten

Day on Skates

Hidden Treasure of Rasmoa

Adventuring in Palestine

Girl Who Ruled a Kingdom

Christmas Nightingale

Broken Song

Palaces on Monday

Children of the Soil

Children of the Northlights

Norwegian Farm

Denmark Caravan

Greyfriars' Bobby

Wee Gillis

Red Jungle Boy

Tale of Two Horses

Tales from the Althambra

Tono Antonio

Jacques the Goat-Herd

Heidi

*Books for younger children, through fourth grade.
PUBLIC MEETING AND REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The concluding public meeting and regional conference of the current Bahá'í year were conducted by the National Spiritual Assembly with the assistance and cooperation of the Spiritual Assembly of Chicago on January 19 and 21, 1940.

The public meeting was held in Kimball Recital Hall, 306 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago. The program, under the title of “World Crisis and Universal Peace,” included a talk on “The Spirit of the Americas” by Mrs. Dorothy Baker; on “Religion Plays Its Part” by Leroy Ison; and on “The Structure of World Peace” by Louis G. Gregory. Harlan Ober presided as chairman of the meeting. A large audience of Bahá'ís and non-Bahá'ís, the former from many different cities, contributed to the spiritual importance of the occasion.

The Regional Conference was held in Temple Foundation Hall Sunday, January 21, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Miss Sophie Loeding presiding. Among the subjects considered were: Teaching (Community, Pioneer, Regional, Youth); and National Fund in relation to the aims of the Seven Year Plan. Despite the severe weather, Assemblies, groups and isolated believers in the area were well represented. Each topic was first briefly presented by a chosen representative, then opened for general discussion.

IN MEMORIAM

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It confereth the gift of everlasting life.—BAHA’U’LLAH

Mr. Walter L. Bacon, Jacksonville.
Mrs. Harry Prutting, Brooklyn.
Mrs. Grace Krug, New York.
Mrs. Vera Ackerman, Montclair.
Mr. Magnus Poulson, Racine.
Mrs. Vera Reed, Lansing.
Mrs. Fannie Gadson Tombs, Augusta.
Dr. Elizabeth Ambrose, Washington, D.C.
Dr. Clara Sterling, Chicago.
Mr. J. H. Paquin, San Francisco.
Mr. George E. Ostburg, Boston.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS

“WELCOME PARTICULARLY RECENT ACTION DESIGNED EXPEDITE TERMINATION (OF) DIVINELY-FOUNDED TEMPLE . . .”

SHOGHI EFFENDI CONTRIBUTES TO BAH'IYIH KHANUM FUND

The Guardian of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh has by his cabled and written encouragement and approval, and by his munificent donation, assured the success of the next great undertaking in the completion of the House of Worship.

“ORDAINED (TO BE THE) ARK”

As reported in BAHA'I NEWS of November, the Guardian referred significantly to the Temple construction work in his message dated October 23:

“Welcome particularly recent action designed expedite termination (of) Divinely-founded Temple ordained (to be the) Ark destined (to) ride triumphant (the) tidal wave (of) world-en-circling calamities and offering sole refuge (to) storm-tossed sufferers of sinful, steadily sinking civilization.

This heart-stirring message was soon followed by the cablegram received December 26, which forever associates the House of Worship with the sacred memory of the Purest Branch and the Master's Mother, and gives us one more example of the Guardian's self-sacrifice in his unique service to mankind:

“PLEDE THOUSAND POUNDS”

“Christmas eve, (the) beloved remains (of) Purest Branch and Master's Mother laid in state (in) Báb's Holy Tomb. Christmas day, entrusted (to) Carmel's sacred soil. The (the) ceremony (in) presence (of) representatives (of) Near Eastern believers profoundly moving. Impelled associate America's momentous Seven Year enterprise (with) imperishable memory (of) these two holy souls who, next (to) Twin Founders (of) Faith and (its) Perfect Exemplar, tower, together with Greatest Holy Leaf, above (the) entire concourse (of) the faithful. Rejoice privilege (to) pledge thousand pounds my contribution (to) Bahá'íh Khanum Fund designed (for) inauguration (of) final drive (to) insure placing contract next April (for) last remaining stage (in) construction (of) Mashriqu'l-Adhkár. Time (is) pressing, opportunity priceless, potent aid providentially promised unfailing.”

“The PLAN . . . MEETS WITH MY UNQUALIFIED APPROVAL.”

This vital matter is more fully expounded in the Guardian's letter dated December 27:

“The Plan which your Assembly has suggested to raise the sum of fifty thousand dollars by next April, which will enable you to place the necessary contracts for the final completion of the entire First Story of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár, meets with my unqualified approval. It was specially in order to initiate and encourage the progress of such a plan that I felt impelled to pledge the sum of one thousand pounds in the memory of these two glorious souls who, apart from the Founders of the Faith and its Exemplar, tower, together with the Greatest Holy Leaf, above the rank and file of the faithful.

“The interval separating us from that date is admittedly short. The explosive forces which lie dormant in the international field may, ere the expiry of these fleeting months, break out in an eruption that may prove the most fateful that mankind has experienced. It is within the power of the organized body of the American believers to further demonstrate the imperturbability of their faith, the serenity of their confidence and the unyielding tenacity of their resolve.”

“FINAL COMPLETION OF THE ENTIRE FIRST STORY”

Since the Seven Year Plan was initiated, a vast amount of work has been done on the House of Worship: the gallery section completed, the models and molds for the first story practically completed, part of the nine first story pylons completed, and the quartz and steel needed for completing the exterior decoration of the first story purchased and paid for.

What remains to be done is the casting and application of the ornamentation to the first story, and the casting of the units which will constitute the surrounding staircase.

In the Bahá'í Khanum Fund as of January 22, we have a balance of $14,259.99 which can be devoted to the cost of this new construction.

The Guardian has given full approval to the signing of a contract for completing the first story and the surrounding steps by April 1 provided the National Spiritual Assembly has $50,000 on hand.

Deducting the $14,259.99 from this necessary $50,000, we have the amount that must be contributed to the National Fund by April first, over and above what is required for current expenses —$35,740.01.

The work to be done under this new contract will require about two years. During that two years, beginning April 1, 1940, there must be accumulated the balance required to meet the cost, or $55,816.78.

The execution of this proposed contract means that all the exterior ornamentation of the House of Worship, and the surrounding steps, will have been completed by 1942, and this will leave two years more to take care of the metal doors and some beautifying of the grounds.

The exact figures determining the new contract are as follows:

1. Cost of casting and application of units to first story . . . . . . $ 95,000.00
2. Cost of external stairs ........................................... 30,000.00
3. Total cost .......................................................... $125,000.00
4. Deductions for items already paid:
   External decoration on pylons, (lower portion) . . . . . . . . . . . . $10,104.65
   Quartz already purchased ......................................... 5,175.00
   Steel and wire already purchased ............................... 3,903.57
   Total ............................................................... $19,183.22
5. Amount to be contributed April 1, 1940 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $105,816.78
6. Less cash on hand before contract can be placed . . . . . . . . . . . . 50,000.00
7. Amount to be contributed in 1941 ................................ $ 55,816.78

(over)
"TIME PRESSING, OPPORTUNITY PRICELESS"

The inauguration of this vitally important Temple work means that between now and April 1, 1940, the National Fund must receive donations (in addition to the amount needed for maintaining all other activities) amounting to $35,740.01.

It is for each American Bahá’í to realize the urgency of the Guardian’s call and determine the degree of his or her sacrifice.

It is for the newer believers, who have entered into the blessings and opportunities provided for them by the sacrifices of those who preceded them, to realize that they have a special privilege.

It is for the Spiritual Assemblies to augment and intensify the effort of the National Spiritual Assembly to impress the Guardian’s deepest hopes upon every member of the local community.

It is for the Correspondents of groups to discuss the Plan with all other members of the group and take action.

It is for the pioneers in the field, who are so close to the realm of sacrifice where the Divine Will is all-potent, to reinforce the efforts of their fellow-believers with daily prayer.

Finally—to provide the occasion for consultation and collective action, that the holy flame ignited in the hearts by Shoghi Effendi may enkindle the entire Bahá’í community of North America—the National Spiritual Assembly requests the consultation periods of the Nineteen Day Feasts on February 7, and March 2 to be concentrated on the fulfilment of the Plan, and the nineteen day periods of the fast to be devoted to supplication for the attainment of the true spirit of sacrifice for the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh.

Our Beloved Temple
Words of Shoghi Effendi

It seems befitting, in connection with the Temple completion plan announced as an insert in this issue of Bahá’í News, to ponder again those words which the Guardian addressed to the American Bahá’ís on March 21, 1932, in the letter reprinted as The Golden Age of the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh.

“And finally, dearly-beloved brethren, let me once more direct your attention to the pressing claims of the Mashriqu’l-Adhkar, our beloved Temple. Need I remind you of the imperative necessity of carrying out to a successful conclusion, while there is yet time, the great enterprise to which, before the eyes of a watching world, we stand committed? Need I stress the great damage which further delay in the prosecution of this divinely-appointed task must, even in these critical and unforeseen circumstances, inflict upon the prestige of our beloved Cause? I am, I can assure you, acutely conscious of the stringency of the circumstances with which you are faced, the embarrassments under which you labor, the cares with which you are burdened, the pressing urgency of the demands that are being incessantly made upon your depleted resources. I am, however, still more profoundly aware of the unprecedented character of the opportunity which it is your privilege to seize and utilize. I am aware of the incalculable blessings that must await the termination of a collective enterprise which, by the range and quality of the sacrifices it entailed, deserves to be ranked among the most outstanding examples of Bahá’í solidarity ever since those deeds of brilliant heroism immortalized the memory of the heroes of Nayriz, of Zanjan, and of Tabarsi. I appeal to you, therefore, friends and fellow-disciples of Bahá’u’lláh, for a more abundant measure of self-sacrifice, for a higher standard of concerted effort, for a still more compelling evidence of the reality of the faith that glows within you.

“And in this fervent plea, my voice is once more reinforced by the passionate and perhaps the last, entreaty of the Greatest Holy Leaf, whose spirit, now hovering on the edge of the Great Beyond, longs to carry on its flight to the Abba Kingdom, and into the presence of a Divine, an almighty Father, an assurance of the joyous consummation of an enterprise, the progress of which has so greatly brightened the closing days of her earthly life. That the American believers, those stout-hearted pioneers of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh, will unanimously respond, with that same spontaneous generosity, that same measure of self-sacrifice, as have characterized their response to her appeals in the past, no one who is familiar with the vitality of their faith can possibly question.”

National Spiritual Assembly

Local Assemblies which, in addition, feel the need for additional meetings of the friends at more frequent intervals, can unquestionably contribute powerfully to the achievement of the mighty task.

The Guardian’s most recent word of instruction and counsel is in his cablegram received January 18:

"Urge Assembly focus attention (at its) forthcoming meeting (upon the) vitally urgent obligation . . . intensification effort aiming realization (of) recently approved Temple Plan . . . Victorics unsuspected (are) within reach (of) community. (The) sooner (they are) achieved, (the) sharper (the) contrast offered (with) distracting miseries afflicting (a) generation (which) Faith alone can (and) must eventually redeem.”

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It is for the Correspondents of groups to discuss the Plan with all other members of the group and take action.

It is for the pioneers in the field, who are so close to the realm of sacrifice where the Divine Will is all-potent, to reinforce the efforts of their fellow-believers with daily prayer.

Finally—to provide the occasion for consultation and collective action, that the holy flame ignited in the hearts by Shoghi Effendi may enkindle the entire Bahá’í community of North America—the National Spiritual Assembly requests the consultation periods of the Nineteen Day Feasts on February 7, and March 2 to be concentrated on the fulfilment of the Plan, and the nineteen day periods of the fast to be devoted to supplication for the attainment of the true spirit of sacrifice for the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh.

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National Spiritual Assembly.
Beloved Friends:

There are events in a spiritual Cause which have the special characteristic that they seem luminous with the light of inner significance. They shine through the twilight of our ignorance and incapacity. They are revealing of the vital importance of intention as well as of truth.

Such an event has now transpired in the Bahá’í Community of America. Let us endeavor to rise above the inevitable human feeling of grief and seek to apprehend it through the higher understanding that comes to us from the Manifestation and from those whose mission was created by Him.

Concerning those who leave their country to teach in foreign lands, Bahá’u’lláh has said: “They that have forsaken their country for the purpose of teaching our Cause—these shall the Faithful Spirit strengthen through its power. A company of Our chosen angels shall go forth with them, as bidden by Him Who is the Almighty, the All-Wise. How great the blessedness that awaits them who hath attained the honor of serving the Almighty! By My life! No act, however great, can compare with it, except such deeds as have been ordained by God, the All-Powerful, the Most Mighty. Such a service is, indeed, the prince of all goodly deeds, and the ornament of every goodly act. Thus hath it been ordained by Him Who is the Sovereign Reveler, the Ancient of Days.”

Again, we have these gemlike words from ‘Abdu’l-Bahá: “If you plant a seed in the ground a tree will become manifest from that seed. The seed sacrifices itself to the tree that will come from it. The seed is outwardly lost, destroyed, but the same seed which is sacrificed will be absorbed and embodied in the tree, its blossoms, fruit and branches. If the identity of that seed had not been sacrificed to the tree which became manifest from it, no branches, blossoms or fruits would have been forthcoming.”

It is in the light of such utterances that we should approach the message from Shoghi Effendi which conveys to us the mystery associated with the passing of May Maxwell in Rio de Janeiro while teaching the Cause:—

“'Abdu'l-Bahá’s beloved handmaid, distinguished disciple May Maxwell (is) gathered (into the) glory (of the) Abhá Kingdom. Her earthly life, so rich, eventful, incomparably blessed, (is) worthily ended. To sacred tie her signal services had forged, (the) priceless honor (of a) martyr’s death (is) now added. (A) double crown deservedly won. (The) Seven Year Plan, particularly (the) South American campaign, derive fresh impetus (from) the example (of) her glorious sacrifice. Southern outpost (of) Faith greatly enriched through association with her historic resting-place destined remain (a) poignant reminder (of the) resistless march (of the) triumphant army (of) Bahá’u’lláh. Advise believers (of) both Americas (to) hold befitting memorial gathering.”

Cablegram received Feb. 27, 1940.

And as to the radiant heroism that must characterize those who serve the Faith of God, how could it be more nobly expressed than in these words of Ruhiyyih Khanum:—

“Humbly grateful beloved mother
answered Guardian's call, turned southward (and) sacrificed (her) life for the) Holy Faith. Beg prayers (her) daughter may follow her footsteps."—RUB'AYYIH KHANUM.

Cablegram received March 4, 1940.

Now, we may be assured, there are

**LETTERS FROM**

The following excerpts from letters written by the Guardian through his Secretary to individual Baha'is are published with Shoghi Effendi's consent.

"Regarding the five steps of prayer outlined by the Guardian, and recorded by Mrs. Moffett in her booklet, the Call to Prayer, those, he wishes me to explain, are merely personal suggestions and need not, therefore, be adopted strictly and universally by the believers."—To Wilfrid Barton, June 30, 1938.

"In connection with your question regarding the reference made by 'Abdu'l-Bahá to 'His Highness Emmanuel' in Vol. III of His Tablets; this obviously refers to the Bahá'í Faith, as the text shows it clearly, and is in no way a reference to Swedenborg."—To Willard P. Hatch, May 9, 1938.

"With reference to your son's request for advice regarding the observance of the Bahá'í Fast; much as the Guardian realizes the difficulty which a believer of his position, attending a military school, will have to encounter if he wishes to strictly conform to the regulations of the Fast, he nevertheless would advise him to make every effort to obtain from the school authorities the necessary permission. In case his request is refused the only alternative for him would be to obey his superior."—To Mrs. Louise Caswell, October 27, 1938.

"Such hindrances (i.e., illness and outer difficulties), no matter how severe and insuperable they may at first seem, can and should be effectively overcome through the combined and sustained power of prayer and of determined and continued effort."—To Mrs. Alice S. Cox, February 6, 1939.

"As regards the celebration of the Christian Holidays by the believers; it is surely preferable and even highly advisable that the friends should in their relation to each other discontinue observing such holidays as Christmas and New Year, and to have their festival gatherings of this nature instead during the intercalary days and Naw-Ruz. . . . Concerning the question how long it takes for the spirit to properly disconnect itself from the body; there is no reference to that in the Writings. . . . The healing prayers revealed by Bahá'u'lláh can be effective even though used by non-believers. But their effectiveness is of course greater in the case of those who fully accept the Revelation."—To Mrs. Elizabeth Edwards, March 19, 1939.

"Concerning the idea of the Bahá'í World Order and the proper emphasis which should be laid on the social aspect of the Faith; the Guardian feels the necessity for all teachers to stress the fact that the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh can, under no circumstances, be divorced from the spiritual principles and teachings of the Cause; that the social laws and institutions of the Faith are inescapably bound up and closely interwoven with the moral and spiritual principles enunciated by Bahá'u'lláh, Who, Himself, indeed, has time and again emphasized the underlying oneness and the identity of purpose of all His spiritual, doctrinal, and social teachings. The Friends, while emphasizing both of these aspects, should, in particular, point out that they constitute parts of one and the same plan, and elements of a single, divine and world-embracing system."—To Leroy Ios, April 14, 1939.

"Concerning your question as to the status of those individuals whom the local Assembly or the N. S. A. have considered it necessary to deprive of the voting right and to suspend from local meetings and gatherings; such action which local and National Assemblies have been empowered to take against such recalcitrant members, however justified and no matter how severe, should under no circumstances be considered as implying the complete expulsion of the individuals affected from the Cause. The suspension of voting and other administrative rights of an individual, always conditional and therefore temporary, can never have such far-reaching implications, since it constitutes merely an administrative sanction; whereas his expulsion or excommunication from the Faith, which can be effected by the Guardian alone in his capacity as the supreme spiritual head of the Community, has far-reaching spiritual implications affecting the very soul of that believer. The former, as already stated, is an administrative sanction, whereas the latter is essentially spiritual, involving not only the particular relationship of a believer to his local or National Assembly, but his very spiritual existence in the Cause. It follows, therefore, that a believer can continue identifying himself a Bahá'í even though he may cease to be a voter of the Community. But in case he is excluded from the body of the Cause by an act of the Guardian he ceases to be a believer, and cannot possibly identify himself even nominally with the Faith."—To Harlan Ober, May 8, 1939.

"It is certainly most difficult to thoroughly grasp all the Surahs of the Qur'an, as it requires a detailed knowledge of the social, religious and historical background of Arabia at the time of the appearance of the Prophet. The believers cannot possibly hope, therefore, to understand the Surahs after the first or even second or third reading. They have to study them again and again, ponder over their meaning, with the help of certain commentaries, and explanatory notes as found, for instance in the admirable translation made by Sale, endeavor to acquire as clear and correct un-
standing of their meaning and import as possible. This is naturally a slow process, but future generations of believers will certainly come to grasp it. For the present, the Guardian agrees, that it would be easier and more helpful to study the book according to subjects, and not verse by verse and also in the light of the Bab, Baha’u’llah and ‘Abdu’l-Baha’s interpretations which throw such floods of light on the whole of the Qur’an.”—To Mrs. Gertrude Struven, August 22, 1939.

MOVING PICTURE FILM OF ‘ABDU’L-BAHÁ

Assemblies and individual Bahá’ís can obtain copies of the moving picture film of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, taken in 1912 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard MacNutt, Brooklyn, for $10.00 per copy, in the 16 mm. size which is now most convenient. It is non-inflammable film, can be sent through the ordinary mails, and exhibited without fire hazard or requiring a licensed operator. It can be shown on any standard 16 mm. projector.

The availability of the historic film of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá will no doubt lead many Assemblies to obtain a copy. Orders should be placed through Mr. Harry E. Walrath, Photograph and Sales Committee, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, Illinois.

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes this film to be shown only under conditions of dignity and reverence.

MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The National Spiritual Assembly asks the friends to give careful and prayerful thought about their connection with non-Bahá’í organizations, and endeavor, each for himself, to make any adjustment necessary in order to consolidate his spiritual and social life in the new World Order of Baha’u’llah. For, as the Guardian has instructed in recent years, it is not merely ecclesiastical or political organizations from which Bahá’ís are to withdraw, but also any other type of organization whose aims and influence are incompatible with the nature of the Faith.

Thus, in the letter reprinted in Bahá’í Procedure, Section One, Sheets 7 and 8, the Guardian explained:

“Formal affiliation with and acceptance of membership in organizations whose programs or policies are not wholly reconcilable with the Teachings is, of course, one of the questions. In the case of the World Fellowship of Faiths, however, Shoghi Effendi sees no objection if the American National Assembly decides to appoint one or two Bahá’í representatives to address some of the public meetings held under their auspices. To merely address such gatherings on a subject which is in harmony with the spirit of the Teachings does not constitute acceptance by the Bahá’í speaker of the entire program of the Fellowship. We should welcome and seize every opportunity that presents itself, however modest it may be, to give a wider publicity to the Cause, to demonstrate its all-inclusiveness and liberal attitude, its independence and purity, without committing ourselves, whether by word or deed, to programs or policies that are not in strict conformity with the tenets of
the Faith. Shoghi Effendi hopes that this principle will guide your distinguished Assembly in its dealings with various associations which will increasingly seek, in the days to come, the support of Bahá’í individuals and Assemblies for the attainment of their ends.”

AMENDMENT TO DECLARATION OF TRUST

Article V has been amended to read as follows: The central office of this trust shall be located in the Village of Wilmette, State of Illinois, U. S. A., site of the Bahá’í House of Worship.

BAHÁ’Í SCHOOL AT PINE VALLEY, COLORADO SPRINGS

In answer to inquiries, the announcement is made that there will be no sessions of the School to be established on the Mathews property open to believers this year. The activities at the School will be in the nature of consultation on future plans. Notice will be published when the School is open to Bahá’ís.

FIRST WINTER SESSION
LOUHELEN BAHÁ’Í SCHOOL

Dec. 26, 1939—Jan. 1, 1940

All those who attended the first winter session at the Louhelen Bahá’í School were deeply impressed with the inspirational spirit, the atmosphere conducive to concentrated study and the objective program of this session.

During the week, seventy-one different people, representing twelve towns of four states, were present.

The theme of this session was “Methods of Training for Acceptable Service.” The program included a series of lectures by Frances Benedict Stewart, on Latin American conditions and peoples, their history and culture, giving to all present a better understanding of these neighboring countries. The first part of the week was devoted to Study Methods and actual work on a frame of reference of Bahá’í literature, directed by Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick. The latter part of the week was spent discussing Teaching Methods, the various factors which condition the approach, and the points of contact. Ettel Nell-Furbush presented the Bible and Christian Science approach. Frances B. Stewart discussed the Catholic, Theosophical and Rosicrucian points of similarity and disagreement with the Bahá’í teachings. Harry Jay demonstrated his methods of conducting group study of the direct Word. He also proved his method of transferring this ability, by way of self-help outlines, to others who have no teaching training. A discussion of methods of developing teachers systematically was indicative of a felt need.

At the conclusion of the session, the students enthusiastically expressed an appreciation of the benefits derived from the exchange of ideas and they felt a very special stimulus to carry on their work.

Of this first winter session, one student stated: “This experiment is a real contribution toward the further development of the Bahá’í school.”

Florence Holsinger,
Corresponding Secretary,
LOUHELEN BAHÁ’Í SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

INTER-AMERICA NEWS

Mrs. Lorol Schopflocher is visiting our Centers in Mexico and Central America, and will report her journey through the Inter-America Committee.

Mrs. May Maxwell and Miss J. Bolles have gone to South America for a short visit.

Miss Leonora Holsapple left Bahía this winter for an extensive teaching tour. She placed Bahá’í literature in seven different book shops in Panamá, and also distributed literature in Maccio, holding meetings in both cities. She has translated and published Esselmont in Portuguese.

Mrs. Frances Benedict Stewart is leaving soon to spend a year in South America; we may, therefore, expect our first South American Assembly in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Mr. and Mrs. Emeric Sala of Toronto have left New York to settle inCaracas, Venezuela.

Mr. John Stearns goes this month to Quito, Ecuador.

Mr. Gerard Sluter, after excellent teaching efforts in Guatemala, reports formation of a study group.

Mr. Antonio Roca has completed his six-months’ teaching in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and through his efforts, the noted poetess, Angela Ochoa Velázquez, became attracted to the Bahá’í principles and has written a splendid article in the foremost publication of Honduras on the Faith.

Mr. Clarence Iverson has arrived in El Salvador and is assisting Mr. John Eichenauer, Jr., in the teaching work of San Salvador.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Laws of Seattle, Washington, are sailing on the Rakuyou Maru on the 21st of March for Santiago, Chile, where they will make their home.

Mr. Filapac, steward on the S.S. Uruguay now carries Bahá’í Worlds as far as Rio de Janeiro where Mr. Charles O’Hanion distributes them through the countries of South America. This is a definite gain since such large books take four to six months, otherwise, to reach their destination.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Blackwell are going to Haiti in the near future.

Miss Margaret Lentz of San Domingo writes of our first believer there, Maria Teresa Martin de Lopez. She intends to help Miss Lentz with Bahá’í work and, as soon as it can be arranged, will live with her and give all her time to the Cause.

The Assembly of the Philippine Islands is being formed with eighteen believers.

The new Inter-America Address Book has been completed.

LOULIE A. MATHEWS, Chairman.

A STUDY COURSE FOR TEMPLE GUIDES

The greatest attraction of the Bahá’í Faith in the Western World is the Temple. Those who come to it look to you and to me to tell them about the Bahá’í Cause. Nor can we leave it to the select few who voluntarily come in as guides and shoulder the load of the guide work. Nor will we if we look upon this as the golden opportunity that it is—a real test of our knowledge of the Teachings, and a real test of our loyalty to the Cause, to lay aside a part, a definite part, of our time and
devote it to this marvelous outlet for advancing the Teachings.

Whether you are a lecturer of note, whether you teach in your home, whether you have ever guided, whether you live near or far, the Temple stands there where you can give of your best efforts to those who are eager to hear and to know.

Shoghi Effendi has made it clear that a very high standard is set for guides for the Temple, and this standard has been followed in making up a Study Course for guides, seasoned or new, to study so that they may attain this standard, and use it as a means of making a proper presentation of the Cause and the interesting features of the Temple.

This course has been prepared by the Temple Guide Committee, under the direction of the National Spiritual Assembly, and gives in concise and complete form all the essential details that a guide must know to function properly, based upon the rapid advances being made in the Cause. This Course is up-to-date and contains not only useful and essential but interesting points about the Temple and excerpts from the Teachings that are an invaluable aid in guiding the many and varied types of people who come to the Temple, either through interest or curiosity.

Very shortly this Guide Course will be announced, with complete details as to place the meetings will be held, dates, etc.

The cooperation of believers in the Temple area is requested.

TEMPLE GUIDE COMMITTEE

RADIO ACTIVITIES

During the past year nearly 700 radio talks were sent out to all the Assemblies and Regional Committees at request of The National Teaching Committee. These included a different series to each Assembly in a State, suggesting in following letters, that these Talks might be exchanged between the Assemblies, thus securing a series acceptable to each different locality. We also expressed the wish that each Assembly try to secure small stations which cover their localities, which permit easier access to the public because their programs offer more free time. We did hope also to receive reports as to their successes, which Talks proved to be acceptable and effective in securing good response, and what Talks did meet with the approval of the most stations. To date, only a few comments have been received which leaves us guessing as to what kind of material to use, or what kind of Talks to compile to meet differing conditions.

In a few cities the Talks sent were most successful in opening the stations for frequent broadcasts during the year, one every week ever since the first contact, and several more series were compiled in accordance with their suggestions and sent to them for further use. A few sample Talks have been sent us by different teachers who were successful with them, for which we are very grateful. Others have written us that the names, “Bahá’í Faith,” “Bahá’u’lláh,” “Abdu’l-Bahá,” could not all be used in any one Talk, but it is generally agreed that “The Bahá’í Faith” and “Bahá’u’lláh, The Founder of The Bahá’í Faith” were permitted, to which all our separate Talks conform. Some stations are willing to accept the Principles and Teachings without any restrictions; others will grant time for only the most indirect approach which, wherever used, has gained for us the growing confidence of the radio officials so that later, more direct Talks were kindly permitted.

We have educational talks; a series on the essentials for world peace; several interviews that are popular; two different ones on The Temple, compiled from our Temple pamphlets, for use especially with the exhibition of The Temple model, which gives an important opportunity to introduce the public to our Faith even in quite new places, doubly impressed by The Temp-
people, with its accompanying exhibition to prove itself as established in the world; another series on "The Philosophy of Baha'u'llah" requested by one of the station program directors; a series on "The History of The Faith" is being prepared,—one ready for order. —"The First Woman Suffragist of the World, Famed in The East"—this series can be given on such periods as "Lives of Great Men and Women," which many stations have. A series on "The Prophecies" has just been prepared for us by Mrs. Elizabeth Greenleaf which has been requested several times, and this series will soon be ready for order; it is in two parts. We are anxious to have a series on "Comparative Religion"—a better subject might be given,—and this will announce that we are about to invite Mrs. Bishop to compile this series for us, as it has been requested in some places, and because our Committee is busy on the historical series and drama.

We shall welcome any and all Talks proven successful in order that we may build a Library for the practical and scientific presentation of our Faith, built upon actual experiences over the country. Do let us have the cooperation of every Assembly and Regional Committee, and please give us your criticisms freely and frankly. This is all pioneer work with unique and limitless opportunity and responsibility, but we are groping blindly because only by our combined efforts can we be successful in attracting all over this great continent our unseen audiences; and to do this most efficiently we believe we have to carry the Creative Words themselves which radiate their own powers. Therefore we have compiled as much as possible our Teachings in quotations, conforming to limitations set by stations. We are trying to be a clearinghouse of all kinds of Radio Broadcasts.

May we give you a suggestion arising from our experiences in New England? Here it has proven effective to choose a good center, a well-known station, and also one small station in one of our big cities, and Massachusetts led in this plan,—to succeed if possible in the presentation of our Interviews on "World Peace"—at a time when a peace-drive was planned throughout the state, while The Temple model was being exhibited also,—"The Temple of Light; A House of Prayer" and "America's Great Opportunity." The prestige of one large, well-known station in one city, and one small station in another large city, opened the way for other broadcasts in a Vermont city. If Managers or Program Directors in one large city have carried our Talks, their names could be used as references, and other stations will listen to our story without so much criticism or objection. It has proven easier by choosing a Baha'i who has had experience in meeting objections with the faith of the Dawn-Breakers, because program directors give us all kinds of wild objections, and doors do not open readily at best in the radio field, unless you pay for time. It calls for fearless refutation of their objections together with earnest prayers to God to open prejudiced ears. They are anxious to have all new material possible and do not like to be out-done by other stations, which is in our favor.

The follow-up work of these Talks is exceedingly important, or else our efforts are lost. This cannot be done unless at the end of the Talk, the announcer adds this,—"All those who wish a copy of this Talk, please send promptly to this station, their names and addresses," which fortunately is their custom. This brings immediately to us those who are interested, who are ready for a wise system of contact and teaching without the long, laborious efforts trying to find them. This work may be done by both Assemblies and Regional Committees, covering groups, isolated believers as well as individuals especially fitted for this type of work, together with the prayers of the Assemblies and all not participating, for the success of the broadcasts in their region. It also gives opportunity for believers to invite to their homes those they know will be interested in the Talk, or the groups.
Baha'i News

studying, to meet, hear the broadcast, then follow up with some reading perhaps, and discussion. Here is opportunity for a systematized effort of the Regional Committees to notify Groups everywhere to form fireside groups for neighbors and friends who would be impressed by a broadcast of the Message and distribution of our little pamphlets if thought wise—a United County Program.

From what has been learned in this field, we find that with the help of the Regional Committees, groups could easily multiply with every broadcast. With the cooperation of all Assemblies, and their most experienced teachers for first contacts with the stations, preparing the way for those with good voices, to be ready to read familiarly, as though speaking, the Talks, there is nothing we cannot expect from the vast resources of the station to reach all the inhabitants of this whole country. And no one can experience the work without coming to find that the Radio is Baha'u'llah's Own created mouthpiece given to us to spread His Revelation to the world, especially this Continent. We of the Committee fully believe this work has not yet begun to scratch the surface of its destined place in the preliminary work of teaching in new areas, and for the development of those cities where there are Assemblies, where consultation and legislation are a wise equipment for anyone starting out to do the broadcasting of our Faith in this difficult time of transition, when everything is subjected to doubt.

Who knows what vast results would accrue to our Beloved Faith if we all cooperated in this pioneer field in our own cities and states, to send the echo of the Call of Baha'u'llah here from the West back to the land of The Dawn-Breakers! And by air!

National Radio Committee.

Florence Morton, Chairman.

Parents and Teachers

Spring Classes Open for Children

The Child Education Committee is happy to learn of the increased number of groups now participating in the spiritual education of young Baha'is and their friends.

The parents are reminded by 'Abdu'l-Baha: 'It is incumbent upon you to train the children from their earliest childhood! It is incumbent upon you to beautify their morals!' To one of the teachers of the children in Washington, D. C., he said: 'The Tablets, for the children, in which the Tablets are read, the Teachings of His Holiness Baha'u'llah explained, and the Word of God read to the children, is exceedingly blessed.' "Undoubtedly meetings should be held regularly and invested with importance; so that day unto day its circle may be enlarged and be quickened with the breaths of the Holy Spirit. But firmness and steadfastness are necessary, that it may not continue for a few days and later on little by little be forgotten. Its continuation depends upon firmness." Baha'is parents are challenged by the lack of moral emphasis in the public schools. A news summary of WHCC, reporting on the article "Religion and Children in a Democracy" prepared for presentation and group discussion at a recent White House conference states: "Approximately one-half of the children and youth of America receive no formal religious instruction. Yet religion is presented as one of the fundamental essentials of the preservation of a democracy. The problem of the youth of the land is termed an unsolved problem... serious question is raised as to how the child's religious needs shall be met as he grows older. It is pointed out that religion was once a part of the integral education of children in this country, the first schools having been religious schools. But as a result of several factors, such as the rise of the district school, increasing curriculum demands, and sectarianism of American religion, teaching of religion was excluded from public schools.

The report then estimated that approximately half the child population received no religious instruction whatever, citing as an authority the Department of Research of the International Council of Religious Education which has calculated that in 1926 of an estimated 30,000,000 children between the ages of 5 and 17, approximately 16,000,000 received no form of religious instruction." This most important factor, then, of our children's preparation for life is lacking in the educational system. Baha'is parents do not accept this defeat. No day is without its precious benefit to the Baha'i child who knows that before he sleeps at night there will be time to draw near to Baha'u'llah with the loving and sympathetic help of a devoted Baha'i parent. Perhaps there is in his city a group of children who come together during the week in a class for study as well. With what joy must our beloved Master look upon such children. 'Make ye an effort,' He said, 'so that these children may be trained and educated and that each of them may become perfect in the world of humanity.' "There comes a time in the development of character when nobility of expression becomes habitual. We then hardly have to try to be good." "Cultivation by the farmer maketh of the grain the harvest, and the effort of the gardener maketh of the seed a noble tree. The gentle teacher promoveth the children of the school to a lofty altitude and the bestowal of the trainer placeth the little child upon the throne of ether." "Therefore, the beloved of God and the maid servants of the Merciful must train their children with life and heart and teach them in the school of virtue and perfection. They must not be lax in this matter; they must not be inefficient." Child Education Committee.

Special Announcement

A simple picture course for tiny tots is now in the hands of the Secretary, Miss Eloise Georgenson. This course has for its theme, God the Creator, and its pictures are designed for five-year-olds, having to do only with God's creations as the child knows them. Simple quotations accompany the pictures. Suggestions for their use will accompany each order. Each child will need his own set of pictures. Price, per set, ten cents. Name of course, "Creation." A Baha'i Prayer Booklet for children, in mimeographed form, is also ready for distribution through Miss Georgenson, 615 West Elm Street, Lima, Ohio. Price, ten cents.

Child Education Committee.

Publishing Announcement

Baha'u'llah and the New Era, Esselemt—French language edition. The Publishing Committee has received 200 copies of this work from the International Baha'i Bureau, Geneva. Paper covers. Price per copy...........$0.75

Study Outline, The World Order of Baha'u'llah, Horace Holley—Based on the volume of this name containing the Guardian's letters and on the excerpts from the Master's Will and Testament available in pamphlet form. This Outline was planned for use by Baha'i study classes and individual believers already familiar with the Guardian's book but desiring further knowledge of its most important topics. Sold only in lots of ten. Price per 10 copies ............$0.50.

National Press Book Report

Newspapers are mirrors reflecting the consciousness of a people. An increasing awareness of the Baha'i Community is being reflected in these mirr-
rors of the western hemisphere indicating a steady and vigorous growth of the Community.

A new field for publicity activity is opening up to many of the friends who have been changing their mode of living from city dwellers to country folk. Several of the friends have become "farm-minded" and have moved into isolated districts. Usually such locations are within easy driving distances of not one but several small farming communities which support weekly papers with a good sized circulation. To attract people in these localities whose lives necessarily differ in routine and interest challenges the ingenuity of the believers.

Among others, the Matthiasens, formerly of Chicago, have gone into an isolated farming district in northern Illinois. They have been successful in obtaining generous responses from the papers of both Antioch, Illinois, and Bristol, Wisconsin. Articles on the Cause and more specifically on personal Baha'i activities have been printed as well as pictures of the Temple. With the cooperation of the near-by Kenosha Assembly a large amount of Bahá'í publicity has been obtained in the Kenosha papers about the Bristol-Antioch group. Kenosha papers have large country circulation.

Allen McDaniel in Waterford, Virginia, has done much the same type of work from his farming community where he has become isolated. The Blue-Ridge Herald of Purcellville, Virginia, through the efforts of Mrs. C. L. Robey printed a picture of the Temple and comments on Mr. McDaniel's lecture there. The Loudown Times of Leesburg, Virginia, printed several articles about Mr. McDaniel's Temple lecture.

Isolated believers can take heart from the work that is being done in finding ways to approach newspapers. The February bulletin issued by this Committee gives suggestions to isolated believers and can be obtained upon request.

A noticeable amount of new publicity is coming in from the southern part of the United States through the efforts of pioneers. The Columbia (S.C.) Record through the efforts of Miss Alta Wheeler has printed Bahá'í notices. The Fayetteville (W. V.) Tribune printed a long article on the Cause through the efforts of the Hilbert Dahls. Both the Commercial Appeal and the Press-Scimitar of Memphis, Tenn., have carried many articles on Bahá'í activities and personalities with excerpts from the Writings through the endeavors of Mrs. Mabel Ives.

The Rutland (Vt.) Daily Herald printed notices of activities through Miss Neya Bissell who is pioneering in Vermont. Papers at both Saranac Lake and Lake Placid have carried articles through the efforts of Mrs. Louise Erickson. The enterprise group in Circleville, Ohio, has obtained sustained response from the local paper concerning the Cause. Both the Omaha (Neb.) Star and World Herald have printed splendid long, signed articles by Doreene Holliday.

In addition to those who have contributed to the Press Books as listed in the last report we would like to mention the following town and friends: State of California—Hollywood, Huntington Beach, South Gate and San Diego; State of New York—New Haven and West Haven; State of Illinois—Maywood and Urbana; State of Michigan—Ann Arbor, Grosse Pointe and Dearborn; Moncton, New Brunswick and Toronto, Ontario, Canada; State of New York—Jamestown, New Rochelle, and Syracuse, Tennessee, Chattanoogaa; State of Washington, Spokane.

Among newspapers from other parts of the world, the Rangoon Times (India) has a long article in English by Mrs. Shirin Fozdar. The Norges Kvinde, November 17th and the Aftenposten of November 24th of Oslo, Norway, carried articles on the passing of Martha Root.

This Committee has ready two new releases for general newspaper use and a six-page bulletin on publicity. These may be obtained by request. The National Press Books will close March 31st. We urge all the friends to mail in all their clippings by that date so that the Books may be arranged for Convention. If you do not know how to paste the clippings in preparation for mounting, we beg of you to ask us. It is very simple to paste the name of the paper and the date from the paper on to the top of the clipping, cutting the edges of both clipping and heading even with the column lines.

If we can be of any assistance please write us.

BAHÁ'Í NEWS SERVICE COMMITTEE.
February 22, 1940.

CINCINNATI BAHÁ'Í CENTER

The house at 206 E. University Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio, was given to the Cincinnati Bahá'í Assembly in December, 1938, by Miss Josephine E. Vogler in memory of her mother, Mrs. Carolyn Vogler, an early Bahá'í in Cincinnati, and Adelle Stuber, their spiritual mother, another early Bahá'ís of Cincinnati.

In order to accept this property the Assembly incorporated under the laws of Ohio, receiving papers under date of Oct. 17, 1938.

This meeting place is now known as the Bahá'í Center, and is used for our Feast meetings, weekly public meetings and has a fairly complete library of Bahá'í books, which the public is invited to use. The Center is used constantly for dinner meetings for attraction, discussion meetings, study classes and youth meetings.

The house was dedicated as the Bahá'í Center on May 23, 1939, and has been the means of increasing the activity of the Bahá'í community and the resulting increase in membership from 19 to 26.

JAMESTOWN ASSEMBLY ADOPTS PLAN TO INCREASE CONTRIBUTIONS TO NATIONAL FUND

A special report has been received from the Spiritual Assembly of Jamestown describing how it worked out ideas and plans to increase the community's support of the National Fund. This report reveals so much concentration of effort upon the important task, and such cooperation among the friends, that an outline is published for the information of other Assemblies.

Consultation started on receipt of general communications from the National Assembly reporting Budget needs and requesting assistance from local Assemblies. Suggestions included desirability of each believer contributing at every Nineteen Day Feast, even though the sum had to be small, that a local Budget be planned, and that there be unified action from the community in raising funds by personal effort. The Assembly figured the proportionate share of the local community in the National Budget of $150,000 by showing that this means an average contribution of $50 for the year from every American Bahá'í. This made it amount to $750 for the year for Jamestown, or about $40 per Bahá'í month. Consultation at the Nineteen Day Feast brought out a number of ways in which believers could earn extra money for the Fund, and above all gave emphasis to the spiritual elements in the relationship of Bahá'ís to the progress of their ad-
ministrative institutions. The result of this extensive and cooperative effort was to intensify the feeling of responsibility and devotion throughout the community.

INVITATION FROM
CHICAGO ASSEMBLY

Pre-Convention:
The Chicago Spiritual Assembly extends a cordial invitation to delegates, visiting believers and friends who will arrive before the Convention opens, to attend a banquet at half past six, Wednesday evening, April 24, at Chicago Women's Club, 72 East Eleventh Street, Chicago. We have secured well known and interesting speakers. Banquet tickets, $1.25. Music. Make reservations before April 17th through Mrs. Fred Mortensen, 6223 Eberhart Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Post-Convention:
Following their long-established custom, the Chicago Spiritual Assembly will tender a reception to all visiting and local delegates and friends, in the Chicago Bahá'í Center, 116 South Michigan Avenue, on Monday evening, April 29, at eight o'clock. We look forward to this annual event with pleasure of welcoming all visitors to the Convention in the Chicago Center on that evening.

BAHÁ'Í CALENDAR
March and April, 1940

Nineteen Day Feasts: March 2, Loftiness; March 21, Splendor; April 9, Glory; April 28, Beauty.

Anniversaries and Festivals: Feast of Naw-Ruz, March 21; Feast of Ridvan, April 21-May 2.

Period of Fasting: Nineteen days beginning March 2.

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: March 29, 30, 31, Alicia Avenue and Evergreen Place, West Englewood; April 24, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette.

Annual Election of local Spiritual Assemblies: April 21.

Annual Convention: April 25, 26, 27, 28, Foundation Hall, Bahá'í House of Worship.

BAHÁ'Í DIRECTORY

Local Assemblies
Phoenix, Arizona. New address, Bahá'í Center, 302 West Portland Street.

Maywood, Illinois. New address, Mrs. Gladys M. Amerson, Secretary, 901 South 7th Avenue.

Nashville, Tennessee. New address, Miss Nellie J. Roche, Secretary, 703 Commerce Union Bank Bldg.

Jamestown, New York. New Secretary, Mr. Fred H. Reis, Corresponding Secretary, 518 East 6th Street.

Detroit, Michigan. New address, Mrs. Jessie B. Hall, Corresponding Secretary, 2910 Superior Street.

Kansas City, Missouri. New address, Miss Velma Vetter, Corresponding Secretary, 6400 Pasco Street.

Columbus, Ohio. New address, Mrs. Margarete Acebo, Secretary, 77 Taylor Avenue.

Los Angeles, Calif. The Secretary is now Mrs. Oni Finks, 453 East Avenue 28.

Groups
Bristol, Wisconsin. Correspondent, Mrs. Nina Matthisen, Haven Heights Farm, Route 1, Box 240.

Pine Castle, Florida. New Correspondent, Mrs. Layli E. Hickey.


Moncton, N. B. Correspondent, Mrs. W. H. McEwen, 92 North Street.

Toledo, Ohio. Correspondent, Mr. William Thiele, 402 Rockingham Street.

Knoxville, Tenn. Correspondent, Mrs. Lessie McMichael, Reid Hotel.
National Committees
Teaching—Mrs. Mamie L. Seto added. 
Radio—Mrs. Nina Matthisen added. 
Temple Guides—Carl Scheffler unable to serve. 

International Auxiliary Language— 
David Earle added. 

Regional Committee of Tennessee, etc. New address, Miss Nellie J. Roche, Secretary, 703 Commerce Union Bank Bldg., Nashville. 

Regional Teaching Committee of Wisconsin, Michigan and Illinois. New member added: Mrs. Edward Struven. 

Convention Committee: Chairman, Miss Edna True. Sub-Chairman, Housing, Mrs. Carl Hanen. Sub-Chairman, Information Bureau, John Haggard. Sub-Chairman, Committee to provide meals during Convention, Mrs. H. E. Walrath. Committee on Devotional Service at Convention, Clarence Niss, Chairman, Dr. James W. Lewis, Dr. Malcolm M. King. 

Ridvan Feast: Program by Urbana Assembly. Feast by Chicago Assembly. 

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS

IN MEMORIAM
"... The true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation."—BAHA’U’LLAH. 

Mrs. Sutherland Maxwell, Montreal. 
Miss Julia Threlkeld, Los Angeles. 
Mrs. Florence Price, Colorado Springs. 
Mr. Robert S. Abbott, Chicago. 
Mrs. Janet French, Montreal. 
Mrs. Alfreld Warsaw, Washington, D. C. 
Mr. Charles Matthews, Seattle. 
Mrs. Myron Potter, Cleveland. 
Mr. Lester J. Kale, Binghamton. 

NEWS OF EAST AND WEST
The volume on Illinois, in the American Guide Series (the WPA books on the various States) entitled Illinois, a Descriptive and Historical Guide, published by A. C. McClurg and Co., Chicago, has an article on the Temple on page 414, and a photograph between pages 586-587. Although an effort is being made to correct an inaccuracy in the next edition, the Bahá’í references in this work, prepared and issued under Federal auspices, are most gratifying. The text was prepared by the staff of writers engaged in preparing the book. 

El Eco de Mexico, a magazine published at Los Angeles in Spanish, contains in the issue dated November 1, 1939, an article on the Cause entitled "Una Nueva Doctrina, El Movimiento Bahá’í," with illustration of the Temple and of Mrs. Charles R. Witt, Los Angeles Bahá’í. 

The Bahá’í Faith is represented in a new handbook entitled "Where Do You Belong?" which lists modern religious and philosophical movements. It is published by Marya Mason, care of Fellowship of Divine Truth, 219 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, and copies can be obtained for $0.30. 

Another reference to the Cause, in connection with the WPA, is the leaflet, Tour Topics, Volume 3, Number 78, November 12-16, 1939, which announced WPA Free Educational Chicago Tours for Chicagoans. Adult Educational Program of the Works Progress Administration, sponsored by the Chicago Board of Education. The Bahá’í Temple is on the list of these tours. 

A second article on the Faith has appeared in American Astrology, December issue, entitled "The New World Religion. 2, Bahá’í World Order," by Dane Rudhyar. Here is the result of an independent study of Bahá’í books by a non-believer who uses his own channel to convey his impressions to the public. Undoubtedly many are being acquainted with the Cause by this series of articles in American Astrology who might not otherwise have learned of it for many years. 

Mrs. Frances L. Wells, Correspondent of the group at Pine Knott, Calif., sends an interesting account of the display of the Temple model (see illustration in a late issue) which the group arranged for the last week in August, 1939, and extended two more weeks. The group, Mrs. Wells writes "took advantage of this wonderful opportunity by holding four public meetings, one of which was for youth. Mrs. Beulah Storrs Lewy, was our guest speaker for the occasion and we have had wonderful response as result of these fruitful gatherings... It is estimated that hundreds saw the Temple model and all the pamphlets we could get were given away. The map from the Year Book showing our many centers in the world was framed on the door together with a card setting forth the twelve basic Bahá’í Principles..."

The Universal Atlas Cement Co. has issued a bulletin to architects entitled Architectural Concrete Slabs which illustrates and describes the Bahá’í Temple as an example of the use of this material. The bulletin is also incorporated in the well-known reference book, Sweet’s Catalog. 

The Peoria Assembly conducted a meeting for Race Unity on January 25, the program of which was printed on the outside back cover of Bahá’í Reprint No. 1, The Image of God, an excellent idea. The speakers were Mrs. Dorothy Baker and Mr. Louis C. Gregory, Mrs. Alice Cox presiding. 

The New York Assembly continued its Latin-American teaching activities with a program given at the Bahá’í Center on January 17 entitled An Evening in Puerto Rico. Patria Aran Gosnell spoke on "Puerto Rico—Its Culture and People"; a puppet show based on a child’s story entitled Peres & Marina was given by Pura Belpré; illustrations from the story book were exhibited by Querco-Chiesa; a travelogue film was shown, dance selections were rendered by Mercedes Virella and piano selections by Alicia Morales. A program for Inter-Racial Unity was carried out by the New York Assembly on January 31, with addresses by Mr. James A. Rogers and Dr. Ali-Kuli Khan, Mr. Bruce Wendell presiding. 

The Indianapolis Assembly began an Esperanto class on January 15, with an able instructor secured through the WPA Adult Education Project. The friends believe that this class will provide many contacts for the believers. 

The weekly publication Newsweek included in its February 19 issue an article reprinting the Bahá’í marriage of Oscar P. Stone and Eleanor Samuels at Teaneck. The National Assembly has written the editor of Newsweek in order to correct errors of fact and opinion in their references to Bahá’í marriage. 

NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE BAHA’IS OF IRAQ
The Ninth Annual Bahá’í Convention was held Saturday evening, April 22, 1939, in Bagdad. Fourteen delegates attended, three others sending
One thing that distinguishes the Bahá’í Faith from all other institutions and movements which are found to have risen up in almost all the religious systems of the world is that Bahá’u’lláh has not only enunciated beneficial principles for the good of humanity. He has at the same time brought a full scheme and powerful organization to help in administrating and practising those principles. The Annual Convention is one of the potent factors of this administration. It provides an occasion for the whole body of the believers of a country to take part in the affairs of the Faith and to elect a body through their delegates to manage and carry out the wishes of the entire Community throughout the year.

The delegates to the 11th Annual Convention hailed from all parts of India and Burma. There were Messrs. Isfandiar Bakhtiar and Khasroove Ardshir Izydayr from Karachi, Messrs. Siyyid Mahmud Fassan and Ahmed Yazdani from Delhi, Mr. Siyyid Ghulam Mortaza Ali from Rangoon, Messrs. Siyyid Mahfuzul Haq Ilni and Habib Mehrali Manji from Bombay and Mr. Mujibur Rahman from Calcutta. These, with visitors from Bombay, Delhi, Lahore, Simla, Jaipur and the whole community of Calcutta, constituted a congregation whose hearts were washed clean of the hatred that seems to have gripped the world, by the throat and is killing it by strangulation.

The Convention was opened by Prof. Pritam Singh, the senior member of the outgoing National Spiritual Assembly and Mr. Isfandiar Bakhtiar read the opening prayer.

Mr. Isfandiar Bakhtiar and Mr. Habib Manji were elected President and Secretary of the Convention, respectively.

Mr. Habib Manji read the special prayer for the Convention and the proceedings began.

The following cablegram was then despatched to the beloved Guardian:

"Rabbani. Haifa. Convention supplies confirmations, directions Six-year Teaching plan."

The Secretary of the outgoing N.S.A. then read the annual report in Urdu and a discussion followed ending in several recommendations based on the Annual Reports and on the suggestions of the delegates. These recommendations related to the prosecution of the Six-Year Plan of Teaching and to other important affairs concerning the Holy Faith. Those of the recommendations that were accepted by the N. S. A. appear as resolutions in the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of that body.

The election of the N. S. A. took place on April 28 at 3:30 p.m. Messrs. Mujibur Rahman, Khusroove Ardshir Izadyar and Siyyid Mortaza Ali were
selected as tellers. As the name of each delegate was called out he placed his ballot in the box; the ballots of the absent delegates received by post were thrown in the box by the National Secretary. The results which were as follows were declared at 5 F. M. the same day:

1. N. R. Vakil.
2. Mrs. Shirin K. Fozdar.
3. Miss Hla Hla.
4. Isfandiar K. B. Bakhtiar.
5. Prof. Pritam Singh.
7. Mahuuzul Haq Imi.

The most encouraging feature of this year's Convention was the Cablegram from the beloved Guardian, which ran:

"Urge delegates' earnest deliberations aiming settlement unoccupied provinces, wider dissemination (of Literature), deeper consecration (for service. Fervently praying (for) unprecedented victories."

SHOGHI.

This blessed Cablegram showed us once more the way to prosecute the Six-year Plan of Teaching and how to conduct the affairs of the Holy Faith in general.

A telegram was received from Dr. M. E. Lukmani on behalf of the Spiritual Assembly of Bombay offering greetings and congratulations to the newly-elected National Spiritual Assembly.

Dr. K. K. Bhargava of Jaipur offered to buy at cost price the whole stock of Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era in Hindi for free distribution while Mrs. Shyama Bhargava sent a telegram requesting the Convention to accept a feast from her on the 9th Day of Ridvan. The feast was both grand and sumptuous and the friends enjoyed it very much more so because these detached souls from different parts of India and Burma had the occasion to meet at one table with the whole community of Calcutta and to have joyous talks with each other. To see these shining faces thus engaged in conversation was a real joy and a foretaste of the time when the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh will have its full sway in this world.

Evenings during the Convention days were devoted to public lectures and some very interesting and impressive speeches were delivered in Bahá'í Hall, Theosophical Society's Hall, and the Bahá'í Hall. On the whole, the Convention created a very good impression in the minds of those who came in contact with the servants of Bahá'u'lláh. These lectures were held during the days and at a time when the All-India Congress Committee had met to decide the affair of the Congress President. Naturally the whole atmosphere was charged with the political issue of the day and the attention of the people was diverted to these happenings.

SHOGHI.

As a justifying document, a copy of the marriage contract of Dr. Saleh issued by the Spiritual Assembly of Haifa and legalized by both Palestine authorities and the Egyptian Consulate in Jerusalem was enclosed with that petition. It is earnestly hoped that the year 96 shall, through Bahá'í confirmations and the guidance of our Guardian, inaugurate the far-reaching stage in the history of the cause.

NEW PUBLICATIONS (THE DAWN-BREAKERS)

The National Spiritual Assembly announces with much delight the start of publishing the Arabic translation of Nabil's history. Needless to remind the friends of the importance of the work undertaken by Judge Abdul-Galeel Bey.

This wonderful volume will constitute over 600 pages besides illustrations and Tablets.

Prices fixed were P.T. 25 (5 shillings) for each ordinary copy and P.T. 70 (14 shillings) for the De Luxe Edition besides postage.

It is hoped that early subscriptions will help its early appearance and be a cause of great service to the spread of the cause.

CABLEGRAM FROM THE GUARDIAN

"Praying (for) richest blessings (for) the Convention (and) unprecedented victories (for) the emancipation (of) the Faith."

SHOGHI.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF 96

Abdul Jallal Bey Saad, Chairman; Molléff. Saicedd Adham, Vice Chairman; and Treasurer; I. Abdullatif Sabry Eff., Secretary; Dr. Mohamed Saleh, Khalil Eff., Ayad, Abdul Rahim Yadd Eff., Ahmad Eff. Husni, Youssef Eff. Mustapha, Iskander Eff. Hanna.

MARTHA L. ROOT

IN INDIA AND BURMA

(Continued)

I came from Surat to Bombay, March 15.* Wrote a radio speech and broadcast it over The All-India Radio, March 17. Finished some writing for Bahá'í World Volume VII. Beginning March 21, Naw-Ruz, the Bahá'ís of Bombay had arranged a remarkable program. We had a Feast in Bahá'í Hall in the forenoon and another Feast for several hundred in the evening. The youth gave a Bahá'í play and original poems to welcome me. March 22, the former Mayor presided at a large gathering where I spoke under the auspices of the Social Workers' Society of Bombay.

Mrs. Shirin Fozdar arrived in Bombay March 23, and we spoke together on every program in that city. March 23, the L. S. A. of Bombay gave a reception in Bahá'í Hall for two hundred guests—journalists, educators, statesmen and others. The Mayor of Bombay came and at the close of our short talks. The press took photographs and used good articles. Lectures were given before Theosophical Societies, Brahma-Samaj, Buddhist Society, Arya Samaj, and an Oriental Institute. High Schools and a number of public lectures were given in the large Bahá'í Hall, centrally located. The Bahá'í community in Bombay is the "mother" group, the largest, the oldest, and all the friends did glorious work.

(To be continued)

*1938
THE PRINCIPLE OF TRUSTEESHIP IN THE BAHÁ'Í COMMUNITY

Beloved Friends:

On April 21, as the American believers gather for the election of their local Spiritual Assemblies, it will be well if we make effort to realize once more, and more deeply, the nature of our association with these divinely-created institutions of the future world order. A divine institution can never be assumed nor taken for granted: its potent force continues to exert itself as a commanding influence upon all its members throughout the duration of the cycle it was established to serve. Therefore, although there have been years of study and thought devoted by the Baha’i communities to the subject of administration, no one can feel that for him the subject is exhausted and his knowledge complete.

This is the year when the Guardian has urgently appealed for effort to elect one hundred local Assemblies in the United States and Canada. This call will bring many new Assemblies into existence. Whatever their present knowledge of Baha’i community affairs may be, actual experience is required before that knowledge can ripen into understanding. The first requisite, nevertheless, is the factor of knowledge—knowledge of what ‘Abdu'l-Baha and what Shoghi Effendi have said about the local, national and international institutions of the Faith. The Guardian’s letters published with the title of Baha’i Administration have by no means been absorbed into the collective mind and heart. They are a source of knowledge and inspiration to which we should turn time and again.

Knowledge, of necessity, begins as a catalog of facts, and then traverses a chapter of basic definitions. First the alphabet, then the words, then the sentences; and finally, the capacity to use language creatively as an instrument of feeling and thought. This experience we repeat when we enter the Faith. It is a new world, a new medium, and the final test of our knowledge lies in the way we act.

At the basis of Baha’i community life there lies the principle of trusteeship. Every Baha’i is first of all a trustee in relation to his capacity to serve the Faith. The divine law that conscious man serve His Cause brings about a complete reorganization of personal character. Secondly, every member of a Baha’i institution, whether Assembly or Committee, is a trustee in relation to the activities of that institution. No one can serve a divine institution with the primitive personal instincts. The principles of personal possession, personal control and personal influence, legitimate in their own limited fields, do not pertain to a Baha’i institution. There must be ser-
"THIS SUPREME, THIS INFALLIBLE ORGAN"

Words of Shoghi Effendi

The passing of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, so sudden in the circumstances which caused it, so dramatic in its consequences, could neither impede the operation of such a dynamic force nor obscure its purpose. Those fervid appeals, embodied in the Will and Testament of a departed Master, could not but confirm its aim, define its character and reinforce the promise of its ultimate success.

Out of the pangs of anguish which His bereaved followers have suffered, amid the heat and dust which the attacks launched by a sleepless enemy had precipitated, the Administration of Bahá'u'lláh's invincible Faith was born. The potent energies released through the ascension of the Center of His Covenant crystallized into this supreme, this infallible Organ for the accomplishment of a Divine Purpose. The Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Bahá unveiled its character, reaffirmed its basis, supplemented its principles, asserted its indissolubility, and enumerated its chief institutions. With that selfsame spontaneity which had characterized her response to the Message proclaimed by Bahá'u'lláh, America had now arisen to espouse the cause of the Administration which the Will and Testament of His Son had unmistakably established. It was given to her, and to her alone, in the turbulent years following the revelation of so momentous a document, to become the fearless champion of that Administration, the pivot of its new-born institutions and the leading promoter of its influence. To their Persian brethren, who in the heroic age of the Faith had won the crown of martyrdom, the American believers, forerunners of its golden age, were now worthy successors, bearing in their turn the palm of a hard-won victory. The unbroken record of their illustrious deeds had established beyond the shadow of a doubt their preponderating share in shaping the destinies of their Faith. In a world writhing with pain and declining into chaos this community—the vanguard of the liberating forces of Bahá'u'lláh—succeeded in the years following 'Abdu'l-Bahá's passing in raising high above the institutions established by its sister communities in East and West what may well constitute the chief pillar of that future House—a House which posterity will regard as the last refuge of a tottering civilization.

In the prosecution of their task neither the whisperings of the treacherous nor the virulent attacks of their avowed enemies were allowed to deflect them from their high purpose or to undermine their faith in the sublimity of their calling. The agitation provoked by him who in his incessant and sordid pursuit of earthly riches would have, but for 'Abdu'l-Bahá's warning, sullied the fair name of their Faith, had left them in the main undisturbed. Schooled by tribulation and secure within the stronghold of their fast evolving institutions they scorned his insinuations and by their unwavering loyalty were able to shatter his hopes. They refused to allow any consideration of the admitted prestige and past services of his father and of his associates to weaken their determination to ignore entirely the person whom 'Abdu'l-Bahá had so emphatically condemned. The veiled attacks with which a handful of deluded enthusiasts subsequently sought in the pages of their periodical to check the growth and blight the prospects of an infant Administration had likewise failed to achieve their purpose. The attitude which a besotted woman later on assumed, her ludicrous assertions, her boldness in flaunting the Will of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and in challenging its authenticity and her attempts to subvert its principles were again powerless to produce the slightest breach in the ranks of its valiant upholders. The treacherous schemes which the ambition of a perfidious and still more recent enemy has devised and through which he is still striving to deface 'Abdu'l-Bahá's noble handiwork and corrupt its administrative principles are being once more completely frustrated. These intermittent and abortive attempts on the part of its assailants to force the surrender of the newly-built stronghold of the Faith its defenders have from the very beginning utterly disdained. No matter how fierce the assaults of the enemy or skilful his stratagem they have refused to yield one jot or one tittle of their cherished convictions. His insinuations and clamor they have consistently ignored. The motives which animated his actions, the methods he steadily pursued, the precarious privileges he seemed momentarily to enjoy they could not but despise. Thriving for a time through the devices which their scheming minds had conceived, and supported by the ephemeral advantages which fame, ability or fortune can confer, these notorious exponents of corruption and heresy have succeeded in protruding for a time their ugly features only to sink, as rapidly as they had risen, into the mire of an ignominious end.

—The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, pages 89 and 90.

TRUE VICTORY

Shoghi Effendi's effort to free us from the political practices and methods of the old order is intended to develop us to that station of unity which Divine Guidance uses as its entrance into this troubled world. The true victory of Bahá’í life is victory over self, so exalting us above the personal plane that our participation in the choice of Bahá’í workers may express the Will of Bahá’u’lláh.

We glimpse this tremendous victory in The Adven of Divine Justice, which stands like a mighty gate at the entrance to the Kingdom—a gate that bars the way to the weak and the insincere—the gate flung open to all who expend themselves in service to His Faith.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

THE BAHÁ’Í CONCEPTION OF MARRIAGE

The following paragraphs are taken from a letter written by the National Assembly to the Editor of Newsweek in order to correct and complete its article on Bahá’í marriage published in its issue of February 19. They are re-
printed here for the information of the believers.

“The Bahá’í conception of marriage is a reconciliation of three vital principles: obedience to God, personal freedom of choice, and social responsibility. Marriage in the Bahá’í community is a divine institution; the two persons concerned marry because it is their will and desire; and before the Bahá’í Assembly will sanction the marriage it must have the written consent of all four parents, or of all parents who have survived. The followers of Bahá’u’lláh believe that marital love can not be isolated from the whole texture of personality, and therefore this love, to be real and permanent, must be subordinate to the love of the soul for its Creator.

“This conception, the Bahá’ís believe, renews and re-creates the institution of marriage, ridding it of any merely ecclesiastical ritualism and priestly authority on the one hand, and of all superficial civil license on the other. Bahá’í marriage has been observed in this country for many years, but always, until recently, in addition to the civil ceremony. Of late years a number of local Assemblies have incorporated as religious bodies, and authority to conduct a legal marriage derives from this new status.

“It might be added that Bahá’í marriage also reflects the underlying spirit of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh, which aims to produce a unified, harmonious society and not simply a new religious sect. We regard the teachings of Bahá’u’lláh as the psychological and sociological laws of the new era of history—the era characterized by world problems and the ultimate conflict between the human soul and materialism. The faith of the Bahá’ís is that the older, provincial culture and ethics can not solve world problems, and when this is more generally recognized, the Bahá’í Faith will be accepted as the World Faith of man.”

DEVOtIONAL PROGRAM
FOR CONVENTION

Thursday Morning, April 25th, 1940—
Prayer, Prayers and Meditations, page 190.
Reading, Gleanings, pages 35-40.
Reading, Gleanings, pages 215-216.
Prayer, Prayers and Meditations, pages 57-58.

Friday Morning, April 26th, 1940—
Prayer, Prayers and Meditations, pages 132-134.

Reading, Gleanings, pages 12-16.
Reading, Gleanings, pages 294-297.
Prayer, Prayers and Meditations, pages 42-43.

Saturday Morning, April 27th, 1940—
Prayer, Prayers and Meditations, pages 172-174.
Reading, Gleanings, pages 27-35.

Sunday Morning, April 28th, 1940—
Prayer, Prayers and Meditations, pages 310-312.
Reading, Gleanings, pages 264-270.
Prayer, Prayers and Meditations, pages 130-132.

LOCAL ASSEMBLIES
Digest of Annual Teaching Reports

Many years ago the friends in East and West were instructed by Shoghi Effendi to establish local Spiritual Assemblies, in a series of letters which grow in value and meaning as our experience unfolds. Certain memorable phrases may well motivate us today, as we labor to strengthen the support of these basic institutions and to increase the scope of their teaching responsibilities. “The members of the Spiritual Assembly must day and night endeavor to create love and unity among the believers, to glorify the
Cause of God and to propagate the Divine Faith," the Guardian wrote to the Eastern Bahá'ís in 1923. And to America on February 23, 1924: "The various Assemblies, local and national, constitute today the backbone upon the strength of which the Universal House is in future to be firmly established and raised. Not until these function vigorously and harmoniously can the hope for the termination of this period of transition be realized."

In view of these clear statements, we rejoice to discover in the annual reports received from the local Spiritual Assemblies, the evidences of original and active work on the part, not only of our larger Assemblies, but of the smallest and most remote. Confident that every community will profit by these reports, we have therefore compiled a number of excerpts which will certainly be useful to us all.

Berkeley, California, inaugurated a campaign of pioneering at home this year "which has served to stimulate, as well as concentrate, the energies of each individual member in one organized drive. For over nine months the Berkeley Bahá'ís have been playing a game. Just as children accomplish difficult tasks while pretending, we decided each to act the part of a pioneer Bahá'í at home. We tried to imagine what could happen in Berkeley if all of us who have worked here so long were removed, and one fresh pioneer Bahá'í arrived to open up Berkeley. It positively hurt to realize that with new courage, new vigor, and a new approach, this little city could soon hum with the news of the Cause. So we agreed to pretend that each one of us was a lone pioneer moving into Berkeley bag and baggage with two objectives uppermost: to spread the Message widely, and to make new Bahá'ís. Thus we started on the project unencumbered, with no past to pull us down, with no despair or discouragement."

The following methods were used in this united campaign:

1. Daily prayer at a stated time by all members of the Teaching Committee.

2. A series of firesides in different homes, with each host inviting his own circle of friends plus persons interested at former meetings. Fourteen firesides were given by Bahá'ís and five by non-Bahá'ís, with a total attendance of 309, of whom 225 were non-believers. This project constantly gathers momentum; it has spread the Cause to many parts of town and to many different types of people; several inquirers have become believers; many of the non-Bahá'ís are spreading the Faith in their clubs, making Bahá'í openings, and sending literature by mail to friends throughout the world.

3. Publicity: regular news articles; programs and literature sent to selected mailing list and to Fair contacts.

4. Luncheons, visits, gifts, attentions to those showing friendship for the Faith.

5. Three exhibits of the Temple model: at Architecture Hall of the University of California from January 22 to February 5, with an illustrated Temple lecture in conjunction with this at a professor's home; at "The Flower Shop," February 5 to 12, and at the Yazdi Shop beginning February 12.

6. 'Opening up' the University of California, with the Temple exhibit, short news items in the student newspaper, and a weekly discussion group at the YWCA sponsored by Bahá'í youth.

Los Angeles, California, also reports that its firesides have been the most successful teaching work. Eight regular groups are held, three of these in sections of the city not previously active. "We have divided the city into nine sections with the intention of opening at least one fireside group in each section. Have chosen teachers of experience, preferably the newer ones, accompanied by a relatively inexperienced assistant, who reads and gives a short talk on the subject, developing confidence." These groups stress "hospitality and warmth" and their success can be judged by the fact that thirty new Bahá'ís have been enrolled.

New Haven, Connecticut, writes: "As our Guardian has informed us that freedom from racial prejudice should be adopted as the watchword of the entire body of the American believers, and in accordance with the suggestions for pioneering at home, a deliberate attempt has been made to attract the negro race in this city. About forty homes of members of this race have been visited with the result that many friends have been made, several are making a study of our Bahá'í books, and one has become a member of our Community and is on our Local Spiritual Assembly." On November 16th Mrs. Bechtold spoke to thirteen colored women of a Neighborhood Reading Circle; also two believers spoke on the Faith at the African Methodist Episcopal Church. "Another attempt at pioneering has been an effort to bring the Bahá'í Braille books for the blind to them, and a set of fifteen volumes of the 'New Era' has been accepted at the State Board of Education for the Blind at Hartford."

James-town, New York, has started a Bahá'í University, the plan of which merits some detail. 'In a more than serious attitude, we conceived in the early days of our Community the necessity of a more deep and thorough study on certain of the Teachings. To do this, and not impair our regular public teaching work, we felt a distinctive title was necessary to understand the purpose of this effort. The word University stands for a comprehensive further study on a variety of subjects... The first term began September 17th with the following courses and instructors: Esperanto—Miss Onoloe Eddy; Public Speaking and Teaching Practice (including reading aloud)—Mr. John P. Stearns; Prayer and Meditation—Mr. and Mrs. Willard McKay. The Holiday Season intervened between the first and second term, which began January 7th and will continue through April 14th. The courses follow: Esperanto—Miss Eddy; Bahá'í Administration—Mr. Fred Reis; Bahá'í Expression—Mrs. Doris McKay; Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh—Mr. Willard McKay.

"Bahá'í Expression is a continuation of the public speaking, with emphasis on the Bahá'í application. It includes analysis of the seeker, psychological effects of teaching, background of seeker, and fireside efforts and methods. The University courses are presented every other Sunday evening, beginning at 7:15 and ending about 10:30. This gives us eight-three-quarter hour courses a term. Class methods vary with lesson matter and there are practically no rigid teaching methods. We find this a very successful venture in enlightening and deepening our Community membership's understanding of their Faith. Certain 'almost-persuaded' contacts are also permitted to attend University classes." Students gain practical experience through the monthly public meetings and fireside
groups which are sponsored by the Assembly.

Youth activities in Binghamton, New York, deserve special notice. The most notable project was the "June weekend" which was reported in Bahá’í News. We had thirty-two young people from out of town, some of them isolated youth to whom such an event was a source of inspiration, and some newly interested ones to whom it was a practical demonstration of Bahá’í fellowship. To our own friends it served to show that the Bahá’í Faith is something much bigger than just our local group. We hope this will be an annual affair. Since the Jamestown community gave the meeting at our June weekend, our youth group returned the favor by spending a weekend in their city in the early fall...

We also cooperated with Geneva in a series of three picnic meetings at which talks and discussion were led by members of our group, for which a group of young people from Geneva and Canandaigua were the audience... One other thing. A group of twenty-two members of a young people's Sunday School class from Endicott attended one of our youth group meetings early in December. They had been studying Comparative Religions, and wrote to ask if they might learn of the Bahá’í Faith by coming to us, instead of having someone come and speak to them... This seemed quite significant to us, as it was our first taste of the time when groups would come seeking!

Chicago has based its most successful teaching project on the new contacts made with visitors to the Temple Exhibits at Treasure Island and the Wisconsin State Fair. Last summer personal letters were sent to these names with enclosures of literature. A musical and reception was then arranged to which they were invited. "The response was most gratifying, about 150 people being present." Each month since a similar type of reception has been held, "with an enlarging and an increasingly interested audience." Entertainment has included technicolor pictures of Hawaii and the Holy Land. "At these gatherings the Bahá’í Faith was not specially stressed, although at each of them a few minutes were devoted to remarks about the Cause. The purpose of the meetings was primarily to establish a contact with people who had expressed an interest in the Exhibit and to further a friendly feeling between them and ourselves." The next event was the public meeting arranged for the National Spiritual Assembly, at which time announcement was made of a series of four lectures beginning January 29th, a comprehensive outline of the Faith by Mr. Horace Holley. The Teaching Committee next plans to arrange a class for intensive study. "We are greatly encouraged with the result of the continuity of effort with the same group of people and we are hopeful that at the close of the year the Message will have taken root in new soil.

Indiana, Indiana reports: "In the broadest sense we consider the complete reorganization of this Community to be the most successful achievement this year... We carefully reviewed the efforts and methods of the past two years... and took effort to create the necessary steps to evolve from a fireside group into one of larger dimensions." These steps included leasing a Bahá’í hall, sponsoring a public meeting for Mr. Holley in the American Legion Auditorium, and organizing a study group in Esperanto for local believers. It was provided by the Work Projects Administration. "You will note that our efforts are very definitely those of a group rather than individuals; this is one of the elements which we have striven to develop as much as possible... We are beginning to feel a greater sense of assurance and too, a closer and more intimate relationship of individuals as a Community, and believe that the fruits of this better organized and systematic action will be evident in the coming year.

Detroit, Michigan, produced twelve new believers this year by fireside group or personal contact work, and has also supplied thirteen members for pioneer work. "At the close of 1939 five of the community withdrew to start a group in Grosse Pointe, five in Dearborn and two in Lincoln Park all at the same time, which meant re-election to the Spiritual Assembly and reorganizing of committees. We have supplied one pioneer, Mr. S. C. Brandon, who went to Houston, Texas..." In addition, many activities have been carried on at the Bahá’í Center, which was acquired "for the first time in years" after the Temple exhibit at the Detroit Flower Show last March. These activities included a class in public speaking, two series of public meetings addressed by local believers, various public meetings for visiting teachers, Sunday afternoon teas bi-monthly, open feasts to attract inquirers, a children’s group, and a youth group. Considerable radio work has been done and "we are now working on a special series of Esperanto programs for radio." "Teaching work in Flint and at Lou...
play, for a month at the Public Library. A fine meeting was held for Mrs. Dorothy Baker last June, with seventy people present.

Jacksonville, Fla., obtains long articles each week in the largest newspaper which reaches three-quarters of the State. A monthly period for radio broadcasting is also arranged. A new city opened is Green Cove Springs, about sixty miles distant.

Dayton, Ohio, a community totaling only sixteen members, added five of these this year. “Our most successful effort is what we term Meetings of Attraction, designed to further the interest of newly-contacted people and also to attract new ones. A social and informative time is combined, using our own talent as well as Bahá’ís from nearby towns. These meetings, along with the firesides, have resulted in the enrollment of five new Bahá’ís.”

East Cleveland, Ohio, has its individual method of making contacts. “We attend every Sunday a group of modern thought people, at which time the chairman always asks us to read Bahá’í prayers, to take part in their discussion, and they announce regularly our Bahá’í meetings. As a result, seven of their members are coming to our weekly meeting, very much interested in our Bahá’í activities. They have manifested the desire to study and come with us to the Convention.”

Oklahoma City, with only twelve members, has been without any outside help this year, except for the visit of Miss Roan Orloff on behalf of Esperanto. Nevertheless, through Miss Orloff, a subsequent opportunity for Mr. Entzminger to address the Esperantists, and much individual work, the Bahá’ís have won many friends. A recent contact was made with the president of the Pan-American club which opens a new field of endeavor. “Truly many, many people here know of the Bahá’ís, and now it is for our Assembly to work on a plan to get those who are truly interested into classes.” Outside of Oklahoma City, contacts exist in Yale, Claremore, Tulsa, Lawton, and Chickasha, and interest is maintained through correspondence. Recently the Spiritual Assembly has offered to assist some fine new contacts in Tulsa, resulting from the visit of a Peoria believer, and the devotion of our Oklahoma co-workers is reflected in this personal comment on the action: “We are so eager to assist them that I, for one, would be willing to walk there. Oh, I mean it! Sometimes I get so full of the Bahá’í spirit that I could burst! Then I take up my pen, or put on my hat and coat and make a call on someone with whom I can talk about the Teachings!”

Here then, in the challenging reports of our local Spiritual Assemblies, we may observe pioneering in a variety of aspects — at home, among minority groups, with the blind, in outlying communities, and through the working out of diverse teaching and study methods.


NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Three more titles have been added to the new series of Bahá’í Reprints which have proved so useful in teaching work.

Industrial Justice, by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. Bahá’í Reprint No. 3. This makes readily available the famous chapter on Strikes in Some Answered Questions. Sold in lots of 100 only. Price per hundred, net $2.00

Religion a Living Organism, by Shoghi Effendi. Bahá’í Reprint No. 4. The Guardian’s explanation of how the Bahá’í Faith differs from Christianity or Islam by virtue of its teachings on world order. Sold in lots of 100 only. Price per hundred, net $2.00

A Pattern for Future Society, by Shoghi Effendi. Bahá’í Reprint No. 5. The Guardian’s brief but most suggestive summary (from Unfolding of World Civilization) of the elements making the future world commonwealth. Sold in lots of 100 only. Price per hundred, net $1.50

The announcement made two months ago about advance orders for copies of I. Mary Magdalen, by Juliet Thompson, is amplified by the statement that cash must accompany the orders.

WORLD ORDER MAGAZINE

The April number, the first of Volume VI, is an adaptation of the magazine to a new and more direct teaching function. The magazine aims at present to: 1, convey information to Bahá’ís about the teachings as they apply to important social problems and as they make possible a higher order of spiritual experience; 2, provide believers with material which they can use in their own teaching work; 3, give study material to groups and communities; 4, maintain a forum for
correspondence on matters pertaining to the teachings; 5, develop means to serve the National Committees which produce material intended for the believers to convey to the public—the Teaching, Inter-America, Radio, Race Unity and other Committees; 6, reflect the growth of the organic Bahá'í community, which will develop more and more knowledge, insight and dramatic activity; 7, offer an instrument for the administrative body to publish any official statements which might have interest for the public as well as the Bahá'í; 8, publish hitherto unpublished Tablets and Bahá'í Writings as they may be received from the Guardian.

The annual subscription has been reduced to $1.50, single copies 15c, eight copies of any one issue for $1.00. Foreign subscriptions, $1.75.

RACE UNITY
A Reading List

How Odd of God by Lewis Browne is a thoughtful analysis of the factors that have produced prejudices between the so-called Jews and Gentiles. Mr. Browne presents a concise, clear history of the Hebrew people, and explains the significance of the Torah or book of the Law, and the Talmud which is an extensive compilation of rabbinic law written through the centuries. Mr. Browne later analyses the constant segregation which the Jews have endured during the last 1900 years. He states: "In each instance it is clear that the segregation persists because of external pressure rather than internal wilfulness."1 The Jews have longed to be assimilated and accepted, but repeatedly they have been rejected and despised by those around them. The fate of the "New Christians" in Spain after 1492, of the "Marranos" in Portugal, and the unfortunate "Chuetas" in Majorca are good examples of the ceaseless persecutions suffered by the Jews. Mr. Browne says that "always everywhere they (the Jews) remain distinct from the rest of the population as though recent immigrants."2 The author finally points to Russia where race barriers no longer exist and where the Jews are accepted on an equal basis with all other peoples. This he sees as the ultimate solution of this age-old problem—a complete breaking down of racial prejudices coupled with a striving for true brotherhood. This, too, is the Bahá'í vision and hope.

Common Ground by Morris S. Lazarson is an attempt to point to the common beliefs and spiritual values of Protestants, Catholics, and Jews. The Bahá'í reader will profit greatly by reading this volume, for he will gather much factual material about the relationships between these three groups, and he will gain a new feeling of the need for a renewal of religious life in the world. Mr. Lazarson states the following: "We need a new dynamic in American life; something that will set us on our feet again; something that will override the selfish interests that tear the nation asunder; something so great and compelling that it will sweep us up by its life so that we may see beyond the lesser loyalties of personal or class interest, give us a vision of what we might be as a people and the strength to realize that vision." It must be, he says, only a dynamic of the spirit—that will bind the masses and the classes into one brotherhood; that will sweep away old prejudices and mold us into one people.3 All the way through this book the reader feels that the author has caught the Bahá'í idealism. He says: "Let us try religion in the largest sense. We have had churches and synagogues and cathedrals; we have had preachers and rabbis and priests—perhaps we have not had enough real religion."4 Again he remarks that all religious groups have two tasks which they can accomplish together: "Insistence upon the spiritual values as the basis of human life and the expression of those values in economics and politics and in human relations."5 The influence of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh is spreading, and many of our writers are catching the new spirit of this day.

There are a great many other books on this subject which will throw light on the problems of wiping out antisemitic feelings. Professor Herbert A. Miller recommends the following: Anti-Semitism Yesterday and Tomorrow by Lee J. Levinger; Jewish Experiences in America by Bruno Lasker; Christians Only by Heywood Broun and George Brit; and Mr. Emmanuel by Louis Golding. You are sure to find at least one or two of these books in your local library. The Race Unity Committee urges you to read as widely as possible on this subject so that you understand the meaning of its many problems may grow.

Shoghi Effendi wrote these words to a Bahá'í youth about a year ago: "Above all they (Bahá'í youth and of course, all Bahá'ís) should strive to get rid of all their ancestral prejudices, whether of race, creed, or class, and thus attract through the example of their lives many outsiders to the Cause. At a time when racial prejudice is becoming so widespread and intense, it

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1Lewis, Browne, How Odd of God, p.56.
2Lewis, Browne, How Odd of God, p.60.
3Lazarson, Morris S., p.259.
4Lazarson, Morris S., p.262.
5Lazarson, Morris S., p.302.
should be their constant endeavor to associate and mingle with the members of all races, and thereby demonstrate to the world at large the hollowness, nay, the stupidity of the racial doctrines and philosophies which are so increasingly poisoning the minds of individuals, classes and nations throughout the world. Only by the example of our lives can be achieved a lasting solution to the race problem. We must constantly "endeavor to associate and mingle with the members of all races." Finally we must unceasingly pray: "0 my God, Unite the hearts of Thy servants, and reveal to them Thy great purpose. May they follow Thy commandments, and abide in Thy law. Help them, 0 God, in their endeavor, and grant them strength to serve Thee. O God, leave them not to themselves, but guide their steps by the light of Thy knowledge, and cheer their hearts by Thy love even Vehil. Thou art their help and their Lord!"

RACE UNITY COMMITTEE.

BAHÁ'Í CALENDAR
April and May, 1940

Anniversaries and Festivals: Feast of Rídvan, April 21-May 2. Holy Days on which work should be suspended, first, ninth and twelfth day of Rídván.

Declaration of the Báb, May 23, 1844.

Birth of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, May 23, 1844.

Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh, May 9, 1892.

Work should also be suspended on these two anniversaries.

Annual election of local Spiritual Assemblies: April 21.

Annual Convention: April 25, 26, 27, 28.

Meeting of National Spiritual Assembly: April 24, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

Note: In this issue of Bahá'í News the first two instalments of the Bahá'í Calendar co-related with the Gregorian (civil) calendar are reproduced. The other seventeen Bahá'í months will appear similarly in the course of the coming year. These monthly calendars have been designed by Mr. Irving W. Stevens of the Chicago Bahá'í Community and the drawing were made by Miss William James of Toronto.

Frequent reference to this type of calendar will begin to give us the habit of thinking of dates in terms of the Bahá'í calendar. To use it correctly, follow the Guardian's instructions as to the hours when some of the Anniversaries are to be observed, the fact that the Bahá'í day begins at sunset, etc.

The Bahá'í Schools are assuming an increasingly important function in the educational program of the Faith. They have been steadily evolving from more or less general lectures, to the point where they provide definite Study Courses, attuned to the requirements of the Teaching Plan and to life in the New World Order.

Each of the Schools draws from a large section of the country and provides the opportunity for those broader and deeper contacts which mean so much in the development of the Bahá'í life. Not only have minds been stimulated and horizons expanded, but many deep and lasting friendships have had their beginning in the happy and constructive atmosphere of a Bahá'í School.

In planning your vacation have you considered the possibility of attending one of the Schools, sharing in its activities, and renewing your enthusiasm through contact with those who are finding the heavenly confirmations that come from service in the Cause?

The programs for the various sessions are as follows:

GREEN ACRE
July-August, 1940, Green Acre, Eliot, Maine

Morning Devotions Daily.

Classes: 9:30 to 10:45 and 11 to 12:15, except Sundays.


July 6-13—"The Laws of Bahá'u'lláh," Mr. Allen B. MacDaniel. "Science and Religion," Mr. and Mrs. Don T. MacNally.


August 5-10—"Race Unity," Mr. Louis Gregory and teacher to be announced. "Education," Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ford.


Sunday Morning Meetings.

Evening Activities.


Tuesday evenings, Open for visiting with local community.

Wednesday evenings, Fireside Groups, Chairman, Mrs. Harlan M. Bowman.

Thursday evenings, Panel Discussions, Chairman, Dr. Glenn A. Shook.


Saturday evenings, "Resumés," by Teachers of the week.


Green Acre Program Committee: Mrs. Harold M. Bowman, Chairperson, Miss Marjorie Wheeler, Secretary, Mr. Harlan Ober. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ford. Mr. Harold M. Bowman, Miss Lorna Tasker, Mr. Howard MacCausland.

Rates. Students—Room and board, $13-$22., according to size and location of room, 15% higher for guests not attending classes.

Daily rates, $2.00-$3.50.

Half rates for children under twelve years of age.

Special rates available for guests remaining the entire season.

Youth Week—August 12-17.

Students, $11.00. (Regular rates above apply to Youth not attending classes.)

The Bahá'í School at Green Acre, Eliot, Maine, had its beginning in 1894, when Sarah J. Farmer established conferences for the discussion of all aspects of spiritual truth. This school is under the supervision of trustees for the National Spiritual Assembly of Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada. The property includes an Inn, cottages, Auditorium, Bahá’í Hall, and large tracts of pine grove...
and land beside the beautiful Piscataqua River. The weekly rate for board and room is intended to make the classes available to the greatest number of students.

GREEN ACRE YOUTH WEEK
August 12-17

Sunday, August 12, 8 P.M., Symposium, Subject and speakers to be announced.
Party afterward, to welcome all Youth.

Monday Through Friday,
A.M. 7:45 Devotions.
10:45 "Administration," Leader to be announced.
P.M. 2:00 Forum, "Attitudes of Bahá'í Youth," Leader to be announced.
8:00 Social Activities.

Saturday, August 13
10:00 A.M. "Our Part In The Teaching Program," A Conference. Leader to be announced.

GEYSERVILLE
Fourteenth Annual Session
Bosch Place, Geyserville, California, July 7 to July 28, 1940

Unity Feast: The annual reunion of the Friends and their Guests at 12:00 noon.
Sunday, July 7, 1940.

Study Classes: 9:45 to 12:00 noon daily except Sundays, in Bahá'í Auditorium.

Courses of Study:
I. The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh.
II. The Cultures of Racial and National Groups in America.

The program for the first week is repeated during the third week.

Children's Program: Study at 9:45 A.M. daily except Sundays.
Public meetings: Tuesday and Thursday Evenings at 8:00 P.M.
Round Tables: Discussion on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 2:00 P.M.
Youth Panels: Discussion, daily except Sundays.

Accommodations: Reservations should be made immediately through Mrs. N. F. Ward, 2330 Rose Street, Berkeley, Calif.

Rates per person: $2.00 per week in outside and upstairs in the Dormitory, $5.00 per week in first floor rooms of the Dormitory.

LOUHELEN
First Youth Session—June 26-30, inclusive:
Course on Bahá'í Ethics, by Horace Holley.
Course on Study Methods, by Kenneth Christian.
Course on Fundamentals, by Arnold Ketels.
Forums conducted by Mrs. Kenneth Christian.
Spanish will be taught through all sessions.

Laboratory Session—July 3-12, inclusive:
Central theme: Prerequisites for teaching.
Methods of Study and Research, by Kenneth Christian.
Courses on Comparative Religions.
Course on Latin American History and Cultures.
Course on Teaching Methods.

General Session—Aug. 11-18, inclusive:
"The World of Tomorrow," A. Tichenor.
Course on the "Qur'an," Marzieh Gail.
Course on Latin American History and Cultures.

Lectures.

Second Youth Session—Aug. 21-25, inclusive:
Course on Bahá'í Ethics.
Course on The World of Tomorrow, A. Tichenor.
Course on Fundamentals, Flora Hotte.
Course on Latin American History and Cultures, by Marzieh Gail.
Forums.

At the Youth and Laboratory sessions, all attending will take part in an inter-America project showing the outstanding contribution of each of nine nations to the spirit of the new age.

ESSLEMON BOOK IN BRAILLE
List of Libraries in each of which has been placed one set (3 volumes) of the Braille edition of ten sets of the book Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era.

Wayne County Library, Department for the Blind, Detroit, Michigan.
St. Louis Public Library, St. Louis, Missouri.
Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio.
Perkins Institute for the Blind, Watertown, Massachusetts.
State Library for the Blind, Saginaw, Michigan.
Schenectady Public Library, Schenectady, New York.
Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, Indiana.
Miss O. B. Crum, Bahá'í Exhibit, New York World's Fair, New York.

RADIO TALKS AVAILABLE FROM RADIO COMMITTEE
Series A:—Introductory:—
1. "Federation of the Nations and Peace."—Talks 1 and 2.
2. "Peace Realists."
4. "The Bahá'í Goal of World Peace."
5. "Justice and Universal Peace."
7. "The Dawn of a New Day." (Historical.)

Series B:—
1. "Character the Goal of Education."
2. "Communion with the Infinite."
4. "True Modernism."
5. "Humanity Has Come of Age."
6. "The First Woman Suffragist of the East." (Historical.)

Series C:—Talks one and two:—"Prophecies Fulfilled in This New Age."
1. "Progressive Revelation."
2. "The New Name."

More intimate Talks to follow:—
1. "The Philosophy of Bahá'u'lláh." Talks 1, 2, and 3.
2. "Eternal Life and Immortality."
3. "Prayer: Man's Approach to God."
5. "Jewels in the Crown of Faith."

Series D:—(Another introduction.)
4. "The Spirit of This Age and Its Laws."
5. and 6 as in Series A, if desired; and 7.

We shall welcome most heartily all those Talks which have been effectively presented in any of our stations, as a great help in our collection for a Radio Library. These Talks could be very well used in Group teaching, as many report, in which case they will be 10 cents for each.

National Radio Committee.
Florence Morton, Chairman.

BAHA'U'LLAH

Local Assemblies
St. Lambert, Quebec. New Secretary, Miss Blanche Mosher, 278 Desaulniers Street.

Groups
Fruitport, Mich. (After April 21) Mrs. Mary Frazier, Correspondent.

National Committees
International Auxiliary Language—former Associate Members made full members of the Committee: Dr. C. R. Witt, Mme. Elsa Chaslon, Miss Lucy J. Marshall, Mrs. Anna Kincaid, Mr. A. E. Regal, Mrs. Mabelle Davis.

IN MEMORIAM

"... The true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation."—BAHA'U'LLAH.
Dr. Jeanette Matlisky, Portland, Oregon.
Mrs. May Ruth Graham, Circleville, Ohio.
Mrs. Mabel Hune, Cincinnati, Ohio.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


GREETINGS FROM NORWAY

Dear Baha'i Friends:
Already three years have gone since I sent my last greeting. It is difficult to get time for all one wants to do, but in my prayers every day my thoughts and good wishes embrace you all.

There is as yet little visible result of the Baha'i work done in Norway. However, I am going on translating and telling about the Cause whenever I find people wanting to listen. Copies of the Norwegian Esskemont are freely distributed. The pamphlet The World Religion by our beloved Guardian is published in Norwegian and is also freely distributed.

For more than a year there is a new Baha'i in Norway. Mrs. Agot Krantz Ramsli. Vaagevei 7, Kristiansund. Mrs. Krantz Ramsli has learned of the Baha'i Faith in America and she writes me that she distributes literature and promulgates the Teachings whenever possible.

Several dear friends, Mrs. Schöffer, Mr. and Mrs. French, Miss Bertha Matthiasen and Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins and their daughter Mrs. Dodge have made very welcome, although short, visits in Oslo these last years.

Last summer I went to England for the Baha'i Summer School, and it was a feast to meet so many of the English believers as well as hearing the good lectures and talks.

Words have just now come to me about the passing of our beloved sister Martha Root. I cannot express my feelings of loss and sorrow, and I send to all the friends, and especially to the American believers, her dear companions, my deepest sympathy and condolence. I have succeeded in getting a necrology of our dear sister in one daily paper and in a women's weekly, as well as in an Esperanto paper.

I gratefully acknowledge the receipt of News Letters and other communications from Haifa, Tihrid, Bagdad, India and Burma, Poona, Cairo, Geneva, United States and Canada, Auntie Victoria, Albuquerque, N. M., England, France, Australia, and from youth Groups in Iraq and America. Some time ago I received a copy of Advent of Divine Justice by Shoghi Effendi, which I have read and am rereading with the greatest interest and admiration. As there was no name of the sender I take this opportunity to express my appreciation, hoping the kind sender in some way will read this.

With loving greetings to each and all of my dear Baha'i brothers and sisters I am, humbly in His Service,
faithfully yours,

Johanna Schurbart.

MARTHA L. ROOT

IN INDIA AND BURMA

(Continued)

April 5, I came with Mrs. Shirin Fozdar to her home in Ajmer for one week's visit. Dr. Fozdar had arranged everything so well. They have interested many friends. We spoke at the Ajmer Women's Club, and I lectured in Government College, Ajmer. (Mrs. Fozdar had spoken there a short time before.) Every day friends came or we went to their homes. In Ajmer I wrote my speech, "What the Baha'i Faith Can Do For Poverty," for the Indore Conference.

April 14, I arrived in Indore to take part in the All-Faiths' League Convention. The Poona friends had so kindly mimeographed five hundred copies of my speech and forwarded them to Indore. The United Press in Indore sent out two hundred copies of my speech with advance interview to newspapers throughout India. It is still appearing in newspapers; only yesterday I received The Rangoon Times, with the entire speech. four columns, printed in the July 1, edition. In the first two weeks it came out in newspapers aggregating 300,000 copies altogether. In Indore I also published seven thousand copies for distribution, and Bombay gave us two thousand "Dawn of the New Day" for distribution at the Conference. Mrs. Fozdar arrived in Indore April 17. She is Honorary Secretary of this League. Interviews and her speech were sent out that day all over India.

We both spoke at the opening of the Convention, April 18, more than fifteen hundred people were present. I read the following cablegram from our beloved Guardian: "Martha Root, Care of Postmaster, Indore. Convey All-Faiths' League Convention expression my best wishes for success deliberation. May divine Guidance enable assembled representatives achieve their high purpose and extend range their meritorious activities. Shoghi." Baha'i literature was given out at every session during the four days. All religions were represented in the audiences, delegates coming from all parts of India; the thinkers of India were there! 1,500 people were present at every evening session and often more than 1,000 at the day session. There were 1,500 present when Shirin spoke and when I spoke on April 20.

(To be continued)
DEDICATION OF THE CONJUNCTION OF
THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE
HAZÍRATÚ’L-QUDS AND MASHRIQÚ’L-ADHKÁR
BY THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BÁHÁ’ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA
JANUARY 20, 1940

I. TABLET OF VISITATION,
BAHÁ’ULLÁH

The praise which hath dawned from Thy most august Self, and the glory which hath shone forth from Thy most effulgent Beauty, rest upon Thee, O Thou Who art the Manifestation of Grandeur, and the King of Eternity, and the Lord of all who are in heaven and on earth! I testify that through Thee the sovereignty of God and His dominion, and the majesty of God and His grandeur, were revealed, and the Day-Stars of ancient splendor have shed their radiant in the heaven of Thine irrevocable decree, and the Beauty of the Unseen hath shone forth above the horizon of creation. I testify, moreover, that with but a movement of Thy Pen Thine injunction "Be Thou" hath been enforced, and God's hidden Secret hath been divulged, and all created things have been called into being, and all the Revelations have been sent down. I bear witness, moreover, that through Thy beauty the beauty of the Adored One hath been unveiled, and through Thy face the face of the Desired One hath shone forth, and that through a word from Thee Thou hast decided between all created things, causing them who are devoted to Thee to ascend unto the summit of glory, and the infidels to fall in the lowest abyss. I bear witness that he who hath known Thee hath known God, and he who hath attained unto Thy presence hath attained unto the presence of God. Great, therefore, is the blessedness of him who hath believed in Thee, and in Thy signs, and hath humbled himself before Thy sovereignty, and hath been honored with meeting Thee, and hath attained the good pleasure of Thy will, and circled around Thee, and stood before Thy throne. Woe betide him that hath transgressed against Thee, and hath denied Thee, and repudiated Thy signs, and gainsaid Thy sovereignty and risen up against Thee, and waxed proud before Thy face, and hath disputed Thy testimonies, and fled from Thy rule and Thy dominion, and been numbered with the infidels whose names have been inscribed by the fingers of Thy behest upon Thy holy Tablets. Waft, then, unto me, O my God and my Beloved, from the right hand of Thy mercy and Thy loving-kindness, the holy breaths of Thy favors, that they may draw me away from myself and from the world unto the courts of Thy nearness and Thy presence. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. Thou, truly, hast been supreme over all things.

The remembrance of God and His praise, and the glory of God and His splendor, rest upon Thee, O Thou who art His Beauty! I bear witness that the eye of creation hath never gazed upon one wronged like Thee. Thou wast immersed all the days of Thy life beneath an ocean of tribulations. At one time Thou wast in chains and fetters; at another Thou wast threatened by the sword of Thine enemies. Yet, despite all this, Thou didst enjoin upon all men to observe what had been prescribed unto Thee by Him Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

May my spirit be a sacrifice to the wrongs Thou didst suffer, and my soul be a ransom for the adversities Thou didst sustain. I beseech God, by Thee and by them whose faces have been illumined with the splendors of the light of Thy countenance, and who, for love of Thee, have observed all whereunto they were hidden, to remove the evils that have come in between Thee and Thy creatures, and to supply me with the good of this world and the world to come. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate.

Bless Thou, O my Lord, my God, the Divine Lote-Tree and its leaves, and its boughs, and its branches, and its stems, and its offshoots, as long as Thy most excellent titles will endure and Thy most august attributes will last. Protect it, then, from the mischief of the aggressor and the hosts of tyranny. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the Most Powerful. Bless Thou, also, O Lord my God, Thy servants and Thy handmaids who have attained unto Thee, O Thou, truly, art the All-Bountiful, Whose grace is infinite. No God is there save Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

II. PRAYER FOR THE PUREST BRANCH, BAHÁ’ULLÁH

Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! Thou seest me in this day shut up in my prison, and fallen into the hands of Thine adversaries, and beholdest my son (The Purest Branch) lying on the dust before Thy face. He is Thy servant, O my Lord, whom Thou hast caused to be related to Him Who is the Manifestation of Thyself and the Day-Spring of Thy Cause.

At his birth he was afflicted through his separation from Thee, according to what had been ordained for him through Thine irrevocable decree. And when he had quaffed the cup of reunion with Thee, he was cast into prison for having believed in Thee and in Thy signs. He continued to serve Thy Beauty until he entered into this Most Great Prison. Thereupon I offered him up, O my God, as a sacrifice in Thy path. Thou well knowest what they who love Thee have endured through this trial that hath caused the kindreds of the earth to wail, and beyond them the Concourse on high to lament. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by him and by his exile and his imprisonment, to send down upon such as loved him what will quiet their hearts and bless their works. Potent art Thou to do as Thou wilt. No God is there but Thee, the Almighty, the Most Powerful.

III. PRAYER FOR MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF JUSTICE,
‘ABDU’L-BÁHÁ

O God, my God! We are servants of Thine that have turned with devotion to Thy Holy Face, that have detached ourselves from all beside Thee in this
glorious Day. We have gathered in this Spiritual Assembly, united in our views and thoughts, with our purposes harmonized to exalt Thy Word amidst mankind. O Lord, our God! Make us the signs of Thy Divine Guidance, the Standards of Thy exalted Faith amongst men, servants to Thy mighty Covenant. O Thou our Lord Most High! Manifestations of Thy Divine Unity in Thine Abhá Kingdom, and resplendent stars shining upon all regions. Lord! Aid us to become seas surging with the billows of Thy wondrous Grace, streams flowing from Thy all-glorious Heights, goody fruits up-on the Tree of Thy heavenly Cause, trees waving through the breezes of Thy Bounty in Thy celestial Vineyard. O God! Make our souls dependent upon the Verses of Thy Divine Unity, our hearts cheered with the outpourings of Thy Grace, that we may unite even as the waves of one sea and become merged together as the rays of Thine effulgent Light; that our thoughts, our views, our feelings may become as one reality, manifesting the spirit of union throughout the world, Thou art the Gracious, the Bountiful, the Bestower, the Almighty, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

AT MASHRIQ'U'LABADHKÁR

IV. "BLESSED REMAINS TRANSFERRED," SHOGHI EFFENDI

Blessed remains (of) Purest Branch and Master's Mother safely transferred (to) hallowed precincts (of the) Shrines (on) Mount Carmel. Long inflicted humiliation wiped away. Machinations (of the) Covenant-Breakers (to) frustrate plan defeated. Cherished wish (of) Greatest Holy Leaf fulfilled. Sister, Brother, Mother (and) Wife (of) 'Abdu'l-Bahá reunited (at the) one spot designed (to) constitute focal center (of) Bahá'í Administrative Institutions at Faith's World Center. Share joyful news (with) entire body (of) American believers.

V. TRIBUTE TO THE GREATEST HOLY LEAF, SHOGHI EFFENDI

No sooner had 'Abdu'l-Bahá stepped upon the shores of the European and American continents than our beloved Khanum found herself well-nigh overwhelmed with thrilling messages, each betokening the irresistible advance of the Cause in a manner which, not withstanding the vast range of her experience, seemed to her almost incredible. The years in which she basked in the sunshine of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's spiritual victories were, perhaps, among the brightest and happiest of her life. Little did she dream when, as a little girl, she was running about, in the courtyard of her Father's house in Tbiiran, in the company of Him Whose destiny was to be one day the chosen Center of God's indestructible Covenant, that such a Brother would be capable of achieving, in realms so distant, and among races so utterly remote, so great and memorable a victory.

The enthusiasm and joy which swelled in her breast as she greeted 'Abdu'l-Bahá on His triunphant return from the West, I will not venture to describe. She was astounded at the vitality of which He had, despite His unimaginable sufferings, proved Himself capable. She was lost in admiration at the magnitude of the forces which His utterances had released. She was filled with thankfulness to Bahá'u'lláh for having enabled her to witness the evidences of such brilliant victory for His Cause no less than for His Son . . .

The ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, so tragic in its suddenness, was to her a terrific blow, from the effects of which she never completely recovered. To her He, Whom she called "Agá," had been a refuge in times of adversity. On Him she had been led to place her sole reliance. In Him she had found ample compensation for the bereavements she had suffered, the desertions she had witnessed, the ingratitude she had been shown by friends and kindreds. No one could ever dream that a woman of her age, so frail in body, so sensitive of heart, so loaded with the cares of almost eighty years of incessant tribulation, could so long survive so shattering a blow. And yet, history, no less than the annals of our immortal Faith, shall record for her a share in the advancement and consolidation of the worldwide community which the hand of 'Abdu'l-Bahá had helped to fashion, which no one among the remnant of His Family can rival . . .

Bear thou this my message to 'Abdu'l-Bahá, thine exalted and divinely-appointed Brother: If the Cause for which Bahá'u'lláh toiled and labored, for which Thou didst suffer years of agonizing sorrow, for the sake of which streams of sacred blood have flowed, should, in the days to come, encounter storms more severe than those it has already weathered, do Thou continue to overshadow, with Thine all-encompassing care and wisdom, Thy frail, Thy unworthy appointed child.

Intercede, O noble and well-favored son of a heavenly Father, for me no less than for the toiling masses of Thy ardent lovers, who have sworn undying allegiance to Thy memory, whose souls have been nourished by the energies of Thy love, whose conduct has been molded by the inspiring example of Thy life, and whose imaginations are fired by the imperishable evidences of Thy lively faith, Thy unshakable constancy, Thy invincible heroism, Thy great renunciation. Whatever betide us, however distressing the vicissitudes which the nascent Faith of God may yet experience, we pledge ourselves, before the mercy-seat of Thy glorious Father, to hand on, unimpaired and undivided, to generations yet unborn, the glory of that tradition of which thou hast been its most brilliant exemplar.

In the innermost recesses of our hearts, O thou exalted Leaf of the Abhá Paradise, we have reared for thee a shining mansion that the hand of time can never undermine, a shrine which shall frame eternally the matchless beauty of thy countenance, an altar wherein the fire of thy consuming love shall burn forever.

VI. TABLETS FOR THE PUREST BRANCH, BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

"At this very moment," Bahá'u'lláh testifies, "My son is being washed before My face, after Our having sacrificed him in the Most Great Prison. Thereat have the dwellers of the Abhá Tabernacle wept with a great weeping, and such as have suffered imprisonment with this Youth in the path of God, the Lord of the promised Day, lamented. Under such conditions My Pen hath not been prevented from remembering His Lord, the Lord of all nations. It summoneth the people unto God, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful. This is the day wherein He that was created of the light of Bahá has suffered martyrdom, at a time when he lay imprisoned at the hands of his enemies."
Our Lord, O Lord, my God! I testify that Thou didst sacrifice Thyself before the face of thy Lord, the Almighty, the Unconstrained. Thou, in truth, hast been wronged, and to this testifiesth the Beauty of Him, the Self-Subsisting. Thou didst, in the first days of thy life, bear that which hath caused all things to groan, and made every pillar to tremble. Happy is the one that remembereth thee, and draweth nigh, through thee, unto God, the Creator of the Morn."

"Glorified art Thou, O Lord, my God!" He, in a prayer, astoundingly proclaims, "Thou seest me in the hands of Mine enemies, and My son blood-stained before Thy face. O Thou in Whose hands is the kingdom of all names. I have, O my Lord, offered up that which Thou hast given Me, that Thy servants may be quickened and all that dwell on earth be united."

"Blessed art thou," He, in another Tablet affirms, "and blessed he that turneth unto thee, and visiteth thy grave, and draweth nigh, through thee, unto God, the Lord of all that was and shall be ... I testify that thou didst return in meekness unto thine abode. Great is thy blessedness and the blessedness of them that hold fast unto the hem of thy outspread robe ... Thou art, verily, the Truth, the Knower of things unseen."

When Thou wast laid to rest in the earth, the earth itself trembled in its longing to meet thee. Thus hath it been decreed, and yet the people perceive not. ... Were We to recount the mysteries of thine ascension, they that are asleep would waken, and all beings would be set ablaze with the fire of the remembrance of My Name, the Mighty, the Loving."

VII. TABLETS FOR THE MOST EXALTED LEAF, BABA'ULLAH 'ABDU'L-'BAHA'

Concerning the Most Exalted Leaf, the mother of 'Abdu'l-Baha, Bab'ullah has written: "The first Spirit through which all spirits were revealed, and the first Light by which all lights shone forth, rest upon thee. O Most Exalted Leaf, thou who hast been mentioned in the Crimson Book! Thou art the one whom God created to arise and serve His own Self, and the Manifestation of His Cause, and the Day Spring of His Revelation, and the Dawning-Place of His Signs, and the Source of His commandments; and who so aided thee that thou didst turn with thy whole being unto Him, at a time when His servants and handmaidens had turned away from His Face. ... Happy art thou, O My handmaiden, and My Leaf, and the one mentioned in My Book, and inscribed by My Pen of Glory in My Scrolls and Tablets. ... Rejoice thou, at this moment, in the most exalted Station and the All-highest Paradise, and the Abha Horizon, inasmuch as He Who is the Lord of Names hath remembered thee. We bear witness that thou didst attain unto all good, and that God hath so exalted thee, that all honor and glory circled around thee."

"O Nayvábi!" He thus, in another Tablet, addresses her, "O Leaf that hath sprung from My Tree, and been My companion! My glory be upon thee, and My loving-kindness, and My mercy that hath surpassed all beings."

We announce unto thee that which will gladden thy soul, and assure thy soul, and rejoice thine heart. Verily, thy Lord is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. God hath been and will be pleased with thee, and hath singled thee out for His own Self, and chosen thee from among His handmaidens to serve Him, and hath made thee the companion of His Person in the day-time and in the night-season."

"Hear thou Me once again," He reassures her, "God is well-pleased with thee, as a token of His grace and a sign of His mercy. He hath made thee to be His companion in every one of His worlds, and hath nourished thee with His meeting and presence, so long as His name, and His Remembrance, and His Kingdom, and His Empire shall endure. Happy is the handmaiden that hath mentioned thee, and sought thy good-pleasure, and humbled herself before thee, and held fast unto the cord of thy love. Woe betide him that denieth thy exalted station, and the things ordained for thee from God, the Lord of all names, and him that hath turned away from thee, and rejected thy station before God, the Lord of the mighty throne."

"O faithful ones!" Baha'ullah specifically enjoins, "Should ye visit the resting-place of the Most Exalted Leaf, who hath ascended unto the Glorious Companion, stand ye and say: 'Salutation and blessing and glory upon thee, O Holy Leaf that hath sprung from the Divine Lote-Tree! I bear witness that thou hast believed in God and in His signs, and answered His Call, and turned unto Him, and held fast unto His cord, and chanced to the hem of His grace, and fled thy home in His path, and chosen to live as a stranger, out of love for His presence and in thy longing to serve Him. May God have mercy upon him that draweth nigh unto thee, and remembereth thee through the things which My Pen hath voiced in this, the most great station. We pray God that He may forgive us, and forgive them that have turned unto thee, and grant their desires, and bestow upon them, through His wondrous grace, whatever be their wish. He, verily, is the Bountiful, the Generous. Praise be to God. He Who is the Desire of all worlds; and the Beloved of all who recognize Him.'"

And, finally, 'Abdu'l-Baha Himself in one of His remarkably significant Tablets, has borne witness not only to the exalted station of one whose "seed shall inherit the Gentiles," whose Husband is the Lord of Hosts, but also to...
the sufferings endured by her who was His beloved mother. "As to thy question concerning the 54th chapter of Isaiah," He writes, "This chapter refers to the Most Exalted Leaf, the mother of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. As a proof of this it is said: 'For more are the children of the desolate, than the children of the married wife.' Reflect upon this statement, and then upon the following: 'And thy seed shall inherit the kingdom of the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.' And truly the humiliation and reproach which she suffered in the path of God, all of which she endured with patience and thanked God therefor and praised Him, because He had enabled her to endure afflictions for the sake of Bahá. During all this time, the men and women (Covenant-breakers) persecuted her in an incomparable manner, while she was patient, God-fearing, calm, humble and contented through the favor of her Lord and by the bounty of her Creator."

VIII. PRAYER FOR THE BUILDERS OF THE MASHRIQUL-ADHKÁR, 'ABDU'L-BAHÁ

O God! O God! We implore Thee with throbbing heart and streaming tears to aid each one who strives in the erection of the house of the Lord where-in Thy Name is mentioned at morn and eventide.

O Lord, send down Thy benediction on whosoever serves this edifice and aids in the upbringing of this Temple for the uniting of all sects and religions. Confirm him in every good deed among mankind; open the doors of riches and wealth unto him; and make him an inheritor of the treasures of the Kingdom which perish not; cause him to be a sign of giving among the people; uphold him by the sea of Thy bounty and generosity which forever surges with the waves of Thy grace and favor.

Verily, Thou art the Generous, the Bountiful, the All-Glorious!

IX. TABLET OF VISITATION, BAHÁ'U'L-LÁH

The praise which hath dawned from Thy most august Seat, and the glory which hath shone forth from Thy most effulgent Beauty, rest upon Thee. O Thou Who art the Manifestation of Grandeur, and the King of Eternity, and the Lord of all who are in heaven and on earth! I testify through Thee the sovereignty of God and His dominion, and the majesty of God and His grandeur. were revealed, and the Day-Stars of ancient splendor have shed their radiance in the heaven of Thine irrevocable decree, and the Beauty of the Unseen hath shone forth above the horizon of creation. I testify, moreover, that with but a movement of Thy Pen Thine injunction "Be Thou hath been enforced, and God's hidden Secret hath been divulged, and all created things have been called into being, and all the Revelations have been sent down.

I bear witness, moreover, that through Thy beauty the beauty of the Adored One hath been unveiled, and through Thy face the face of the Desired One hath shone forth, and that through a word from Thee Thou hast decided between all created things, causing them who are devoted to Thee to ascend unto the summit of glory, and the infidels to fall in the lowest abyss.

I bear witness that he who hath known Thee hath known God, and he who hath attained unto Thy presence hath attained unto the presence of God. Great, therefore, is the blessedness of him who hath believed in Thee, and in Thy signs, and hath humbled himself before Thy sovereignty, and hath been honored with meeting Thee, and hath attained the good pleasure of Thy will, and circled around Thee, and stood before Thy throne. Woe betide him that hath transgressed against Thee, and hath denied Thee, and repudiated Thy signs, and gainsaid Thy sovereignty, and risen up against Thee, and waxed proud before Thy face, and hath disputed Thy testimonies, and fled from Thy rule and Thy dominion, and been numbered with the infidels whose name have been inscribed by the fingers of Thy behest upon Thy holy Tablets.

Wait, then, unto me, O my God and my Beloved, from the right hand of Thy mercy and Thy loving-kindness, the holy breaths of Thy favors, that they may draw me away from myself and from the world unto the courts of Thy nearness and Thy presence. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. Thou, truly, hast been supreme over all things.

The remembrance of God and His praise, and the glory of God and His splendor, rest upon Thee, O Thou who art His Beauty! I bear witness that the eye of creation hath never gazed upon one wronged like Thee. Thou wast immersed all the days of Thy life beneath an ocean of tribulations. At one time Thou wast in chains and fetters; at another Thou wast threatened by the sword of Thine enemies. Yet, despite all this, Thou didst enjoin upon all men to observe what had been prescribed unto Thee by Him Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

May my spirit be a sacrifice to the wrongs Thou didst suffer, and my soul be a ransom for the adversities Thou didst sustain. I beseech God, by Thee and by them whose faces have been illumined with the splendors of the light of Thy countenance, and who, for love of Thee, have observed all whereunto they were hidden, to remove the veils that have come in between Thee and Thy creatures, and to supply me with the good of this world and the world to come. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate.

Bless Thou, O Lord my God, the Divine Lote-Tree and its leaves, and its boughs, and its branches, and its stems, and its offshoots, as long as Thy most excellent titles will endure and Thy most august attributes will last. Protect it, then, from the mischief of the aggressor and the hosts of tyranny. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the Most Powerful. Bless Thou, also, O Lord my God, Thy servants and Thy handmaidens who have attained unto Thee. Thou, truly, art the All-Bountiful, Whose grace is infinite. No God is there save Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.
Dear co-workers:

The fourth year of the Seven Year Plan enters upon its course in circumstances that are at once critical, challenging, and unprecedented in their significance. The year that has passed has in so far as the rise and establishment of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh in the western hemisphere is concerned, been one of the most eventful since the Plan began to operate and exercise its potent and beneficial influence. Both within and without the Community of the Most Great Name, the events which the last twelve months has unfolded have in some mysterious way, whether directly or indirectly, communicated their force to the Plan’s progressive unfoldment, contributed to the orientation of its policy and assisted in the consolidation of the diversified undertakings, both primary and subsidiary, that fall within its orbit. Even the losses which the ranks of its stout-hearted upholders have sustained will, when viewed in their proper perspective, be regarded as gains of incalculable value, affecting both its immediate fortunes as well as its ultimate destiny.

The successive international crises which agitated the opening months of the year that has elapsed, culminating in the outbreak of the war in Europe, far from drowning the enthusiasm or daunting the spirit of the prosecutors of God’s Plan, served by deflecting their gaze from a storm-tossed continent, to focus their minds and resources on ministering to the urgent needs of that hemisphere in which the first honors and the initial successes of the heroes of the Formative Age of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh are to be scored and won.

The sudden extinction of the earthly life of that star-servant of the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh, Martha Root, who, while on the last lap of her fourth journey round the world—journeys that carried her to the humblest homes as well as the palaces of royalty—was hurrying homeward to lend her promised aid to her fellow-countrymen in their divinely-appointed task—such a death, though it frustrated this cherished resolution of her indomitable spirit, stole the hearts of her bereaved lovers and admirers to carry on, more energetically than ever, the work which she herself had initiated, as far back as the year 1919 in every important city in the South American continent.

The subtle and contemptible machinations by which the puny adversaries of the Faith, jealous of its consolidating power and perturbed by the compelling evidences of its conspicuous victories, have sought to challenge the validity and misrepresent the character of the Administrative Order embedded in its teachings have galvanized the swelling army of its defenders to arise and arraign the usurpers of their sacred rights and to defend the long-standing strongholds of the institutions of their Faith in their home country.

And now as this year, so memorable in the annals of the Faith, was drawing to a close, there befell the American Bahá’í community, through the dramatic and sudden death of May Maxwell, yet another loss, which viewed in retrospect will come to be regarded as a potent blessing conferred upon the campaign now being so diligently conducted by its members. Laden with the fruits garnered through well-nigh half a century of toil-some service to the Cause she so greatly loved, heedless of the warnings of age and ill-health, and afire with the longing to worthily demonstrate her gratitude in her overwhelming awareness of the bounties of her Lord and Master, she set herself in such a spirit of consecration and self-sacrifice as has truly merited the crown of martyrdom.

To Keith Ransom-Kehler, whose dust sleeps in far-off Isfahan; to Martha Root, fallen in her tracks on an island in the midmost heart of the ocean; to May Maxwell, lying in solitary glory in the southern outpost of the Western Hemisphere—to these three heroines of the Formative Age of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh, they who now labor so assiduously for its expansion...
and establishment, owe a debt of gratitude which future generations will not fail to adequately recognize.

I need not expiate on other, though less prominent, events that have contributed their share to the furtherance of the Seven Year Plan, or marked its systematic development. The association of the Fund, specifically inaugurated for its prosecution, with the hallowed memories of both the Mother and Brother of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, the establishment of at least one pioneer in each of the Republics of Central and South America; the ushering in of the last phase of the external ornamentation of the Temple; the conjunction of the institutions of the Hazíratul-Quds and the Mashriqí-Adhkar in the heart of the North American continent; the founding of yet another institution designed as a training school for Inter-America teaching work; the steady rise in the number of groups and assemblies functioning within the Administrative Framework of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh—these stand out as further evidences of the animating Force that propels the Plan towards its final consummation.

Varied and abundant as have been the past manifestations of this driving, restless Force, they cannot but pale before the brilliant victories which its progressive and systematic development must achieve in the future.

The American believers, standing on the threshold of the fourth year of the Seven Year Plan, pursue their God-given task with a radiance that no earthly gloom can dim, and will continue to shoulder its ever-growing duties and responsibilities with a vigor and loyalty that no earthly power can either sap or diminish.

Your true brother,

Shoghi

Haifa, April 15, 1940.

CABLEGRAMS FROM SHOGHI EFFENDI

Marvel, rejoice, thankful (for) manifold blessings, accomplishments signaling opening auspicious year (for) American Bahá'í community.

Shoghi Rabbani.

Received April 25, 1940.

Section (of Temple) ornamentation has been placed (in the) precincts (of) the Bab's Shrine. Magnificent reminder (of) American believers' stupendous efforts. Shoghi Rabbani.

Received April 27, 1940.

Congratulate re-elected Assembly (for) last year's magnificent record (of) stewardship. New year auspiciously begun (by) rapid extension (of) Temple contract. Shoghi Rabbani.

Received May 1, 1940.

CONVENTION

On April 25 the delegates sent the following message to the Guardian:

"Greetings to beloved Guardian (of) Bahá'í Faith. Delegates joyously assembled (in) thirty-second annual convention turn for guidance, supplicating Bahá'u'lláh to strengthen (and) confirm them in promulgation (of) Faith and completion (of) Mashriqí-Adhkar. Confident peace of God will triumph in (this) war-torn world."

The cablegram received from the Guardian was sent on April 24 and was a message to the Convention and not a reply to the foregoing cable.

"Overjoyed, elated (that) dynamic energy, invincible valor (of) American believers impelled them far outstrip (the) goal fixed (for) third year (of) Seven Year Plan. Temple ornamentation (has been) uninterruptedly pursued. (The) theatre (of) operation (of) the teaching campaign (is) already embracing entire Central America and every South American Republic excepting Paraguay (and) Colombia. Number of countries within

CABLEGRAMS

(1) orbit (of) Faith (is) now exceeding sixty. Intercontinental crusade, through path broken (by) Martha Root and seal set (by) May Maxwell's death, yielding destined fruit. Galvanized, permanently safeguarded. Together with Keith they forged through sacrifice (a) triple cord indissolubly knitting (the) community (of) North American believers to cradle (of) Faith (in) every continent (of) Old World and Latin America. Unperturbed (by) gathering gloom (of) tottering civilization without, contemptuous (of) the assault (of) the perfidious enemies within, (the) executors (of) 'Abdu'l-Bahá's mandate must (and) will strain every nerve in (the) course (of) the ensuing year (to) multiply (the) number (of) enrolled pioneers, (to) consolidate work achieved (in) newly opened North American States (and) Provinces, (to) insure prompt settlement (of) remaining Repúblicas, (to) prosecute unremittingly ornamentation (of) last unit (of) Mashriqí-Adhkar, (to) expedite formation in isolated centers (of) nucle
promises disintegrate (the) fabric (and) clog (the) channel (of the) grace that sustains (the) system (of God's essentially supernational (and) supernatural order so laboriously evolved, so recently established."

An earlier instruction from the Guardian is found in Bahá’í Procedure, Section One, Sheet 17: "The Guardian wishes me to draw the attention of the friends through you that they should be very careful in their public addresses not to mention any political figures—either side with them or denounce them. This is the first thing to bear in mind. Otherwise they will involve the friends in political matters, which is infinitely dangerous to the Cause."

Such advice is to be viewed as urgent and imperative. Local Assemblies will surely see that the Guardian’s words are upheld. But the supreme matter is to render those positive and constructive services to the Faith which will attract confirmations, not try to avoid mistakes and errors which involve penalty. As the Bahá’í community endeavors to achieve the goals set for each year of the Seven Year Plan, we will all come under the protection of unity.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

functions of the national office

Letter from Shoghi Effendi

While the National Office in Wilmette, designated by the Guardian as Hazrat’ul-Quds, is primarily an administrative center, its use should by no means be confined to purely administrative work, but should include such activities of a social and intellectual character, both local and national, as can best establish its character as the foremost teaching and administrative center of the Faith throughout the States.

In the conduct of any social activity at the National Office, however, great care should be taken to maintain strictly the dignity of the place, particularly in view of its proximity to the House of Worship, which makes it doubly essential for all the believers to conform to the standards of conduct, and of social intercourse set up in the Bahá’í Teachings. As a teaching center, where Bahá’í lectures, conferences and meetings, whether local, regional or national, could be held, the Hazrat’ul-Quds can also prove of invaluable help, and the N.S.A. should indeed see to it that the necessary facilities are provided in the building for that purpose.

By thus combining these three features, namely teaching, administrative and social, the Hazrat’ul-Quds can best fulfill its mission, as the visible symbol of the steadily-growing national Bahá’í Community in Northern America, and as the chief rallying center for all its activities and plans throughout that Continent.—SHOGHI EFFENDI, through his secretary, February 27, 1940.

‘THE EXECUTORS OF ‘ABDU’L-BAHÁ’S MANDATE MUST AND WILL STRAIN EVERY NERVE’

The Guardian’s Instructions for Fourth Year of Seven Year Plan

The message from Shoghi Effendi to the 1940 Convention has created the basis for all plans intended to promote the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh throughout the Americas during the Bahá’í year begun May 1, 1940. The National Spiritual Assembly, therefore, at the very opening of the year, seeks to transform these instructions into the structure of achievement which our collective efforts are to raise on that foundation by April 30 next.

"Overjoyed, elated (that) dynamic energy, invincible valor (of) American believers impelled them far outstrip (the) goal fixed (for) third year (of) Seven Year Plan ... Unperturbed (by) gathering gloom (of) tottering civilization without, contemptuous (of the) assault (of the) pernicious enemies within, (the) executors (of) ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s mandate must (and) will strain every nerve (in the) course (of the) ensuing year ..."

1. "Multiply (the) number (of) enrolled pioneers."
2. "Consolidate work achieved (in) newly opened North American States (and) Provinces."
3. "Insure prompt settlement (of) remaining Republics."
4. "Prosecute unremittingly ornamentation (of) last unit (of) Mashriqu’l-Adhkar."
5. "Expedite formation in isolated centers (of) nuclei capable (of the) establishment (of) local Assemblies."

For the attainment of these ends, the National Spiritual Assembly reports a budget of $150,000 for the Fourth Year of the Seven Year Plan.

International, Administrative and Property Maintenance, including all committee budgets except Teaching in North and South America $13,000.00
Teaching activities throughout the Americas 30,000.00
For Temple construction, to complete the external ornamentation of the first story, including the circular Stairs 80,000.00
For contingency reserve ... 5,000.00

‘Bahá’u’lláh’s Spiritual Sovereignty’

The Guardian’s Convention message concludes: "Urgently plead, fervently pray (that) all ranks (of the) valiant forerunners (of) Bahá’u’lláh’s commonwealth may, ere expiry (of) allotted term, bring fruition (of) mission (to) insure ascendancy (of) Bahá’u’lláh’s spiritual sovereignty over entire Western hemisphere."

Beloved friends! The American Bahá’ís are called upon to rise to the great height required if we are to become "executors of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s mandate"—the most glorious privilege offered to mankind in this generation. "All ranks" are needed. Every Bahá’í has a vital part to play. Every administrative body has its function to discharge. The formative agencies of His World Order can only acquire strength and wisdom as they now meet the challenge of a war-torn world. Above and beyond the pressing demands of each passing day let us keep our gaze upon the ultimate goal of the Seven Year Plan: the establishment of the first pillars which must sustain the Most Great Peace.

The Five Steps of Service

Multiply pioneers. The Guardian’s resounding call to the souls of the Bahá’ís, that pioneers arise for the settlement of new areas throughout the Americas, though it has evoked magnificent response, continues to press its appeal. What he wrote on July 28, 1936 must still be our spiritual standard: "The American believers, if they wish to carry on, in the spirit and the letter, the parting wishes of their beloved Master, must intensify their teaching work a thousand fold..." Believers who desire to respond to the call for pioneers should communicate with the National Teaching Committee for posts in North America and with the Inter-America Committee concerning settlement in Latin-American fields.

Consolidate work in North American States and Provinces. The settlement of pioneers in these new areas is but the first step, the aim being the establishment of Bahá’í communities qualified to form a Spiritual Assembly. Three new States are now represented in the Bahá’í Administrative Order: South Carolina, Nebraska...
and Utah. Teaching plans and projects planned to intensify this work will be reported from time to time throughout the year.

Prompt settlement of remaining Republics. The Inter-America work this past year exceeded the Guardian’s hopes. Spanish literature, the most urgently needed element in this teaching field, is now rapidly becoming available. Copies of the Eslemont book in Spanish, the Master’s Will and Testament (the excerpts published in pamphlet form) and Some Answered Questions are expected during May and June. Plans for the additional settlements wanted by Shoghi Effendi will be reported.

Ornamentation of last unit of Mashriqu’l-Adhkahr. This means the completion of the nine pylons, the casting and application of the units to the first story, and the construction of the surrounding staircase. On April 29 the National Spiritual Assembly had a Bahá’í Khanum (Temple construction) Fund amounting to $30,000.00, and contracts have been authorized for the completion of the pylons, the external decoration of three of the nine faces of the first story unit, and for the casting and application of certain units to the other six faces, the plan being to continue the operations both in the Earley Studio and at the Temple site simultaneously. The item of $80,000.00 included in this year’s budget, plus the $30,000.00 cash on hand, will complete all the construction called for in the Seven Year Plan except metal work, including outside doors, and whatever grading is done on the grounds, including cost of fill and bulkhead.

Let us heed this vital point: the budget item of $80,000.00 covers the estimated cost of completing the entire first story, including pylons and stairs. This work can be done by the summer of 1941 if the Temple Trustees are supplied with sufficient funds to place the contracts on the most economical basis.

As for the cost of doors and metal work and grounds, to be met in later annual budgets, no estimates are yet in hand.

Formation of nuclei capable of establishment of local Assemblies. The formation of sixteen new Assemblies in one year is an indication of the mighty power which is consecrating the teaching efforts of committees, Assemblies and individual believers. The possibilities for the current year will be carefully examined, and measures taken to continue this development of the organic American Bahá’í community into a body of influence and power for serving His Revelation.

"On the threshold of the fourth year"
"The American believers," the Guardian writes in his communication dated April 15, "standing on the threshold of the fourth year of the Seven Year Plan, pursue their God-given task with a radiance that no earthly gloom can dim, and will continue to shoulder its ever-growing duties and responsibilities with a vigor and loyalty that no earthly power can either sap or diminish."

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

MAY MAXWELL MEMORIAL AT BUENOS AIRES

The Guardian has given the American Bahá’ís the rare privilege of contributing to the expense of the monument to be constructed at the grave of Mrs. Maxwell in Buenos Aires, shrine and symbol of the unity of the Americans in the spirit of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh.

The National Assembly will, when details of the construction are available, make an appropriation from the National Fund, and the friends are free to make special contributions for this purpose.

Shoghi Effendi’s cablegram on this subject will be found elsewhere in the present issue.

NEW SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLIES

The National Spiritual Assembly reports the formation of new local Spiritual Assemblies by the Bahá’ís of the following cities:

- Alhambra, Calif.
- Burbank, Calif.
- Big Bear Lake, Calif.
- Beverly Hills, Calif.
- Santa Barbara, Calif.
- Santa Rosa, Calif.
- Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
- West Haven, Conn.
- Atlanta, Georgia
- Oak Park, Ill.
- Waukegan, Ill.
- Brookline, Mass.
- Omaha, Nebraska
- Salt Lake City, Utah
- North Augusta, South Carolina
- Madison, Wisc.

The total number of local Assemblies in the United States and Canada, as result of the elections held April 21, 1940, is 102, fourteen more than in 1939.

THE FIRM FOUNDATION

"The importance, nay, the absolute necessity of these local Assemblies is manifest when we realize that in the days to come they will evolve into the local House of Justice, and at present provide the firm foundation on which the structure of the Master’s Will is to be reared in future."

—SHOGHI EFFENDI

The formation of sixteen new local Spiritual Assemblies in one year is an event of far-reaching importance in the evolution of the Administrative Order of the Faith. Despite the pressure of earth-shaking happenings around us and the concentration upon our own vital plans for the coming year, we must not fail to realize this accretion of power and energy, and this multiplication of the agencies serving the Faith. For in sixteen new cities of North America has the element of spiritual authority been established, that sole instrument through which the ignorance, the disunity and the sufferings of mankind are to be remedied. In sixteen cities have magnets of divine attraction been created, and sixteen doors of confirmation have been opened from the world of darkness to the world of light.

This new body of administrators will not need the years of effort required by the older communities to understand the nature of a Spiritual Assembly and employ it in consecrated service for the promotion of the Cause. They have before them the Guardian’s clear words of instruction, and around them is an ocean of infinite spiritual power which can be drawn upon according to their collective capacity.

That the foundation now being laid in these new communities may be firm and strong, the National Spiritual Assembly recommends a careful review of the Guardian’s formative words as recorded in Bahá’í Administration.

"To it (the local Assembly) all matters pertaining to the Cause must be directly and immediately referred for full consultation and decision . . .”

"The matter of Teaching, its direction, its ways and means, its extension, its consolidation, essential as they are to the interests of the Cause, constitute by no means the only issue which should receive the full attention of these Assemblies. . . . It is incumbent upon them to be vigilant and cautious, discreet and watchful, and protect at all times the Temple of the Cause from the dart of the mischief-maker and the onslaught of the enemy. They must endeavor to promote amity and concord amongst the friends, efface every lingering trace of distrust, coolness and estrangement from every heart, and secure in its stead an active and whole-hearted cooperation for the
service of the Cause.

"They must do their utmost to extend at all times the helping hand to the poor, the sick, the disabled, the orphan, the widow, irrespective of color, caste and creed..."

By such explanation and exhortation has the Guardian, since the Master's Ascension, fostered, encouraged and guided the rise of the institutions which prepare the way for the new world order of Baha'u'llah. Let us serve these institutions in the spirit of their essential purpose, develop our capacity by study of the Guardian's instructions, and realize that initiative does not mean the right to substitute our human conceptions for the organic teachings which we have received. The spirit of initiative is a most precious asset, but its energies are to be released in ways that reflect the principle of unity and consultation.

**National Spiritual Assembly.**

**Advice Concerning Solicitation of Funds and Reception of Orientals**

The National Spiritual Assembly reminds the friends that the institution of the Baha'i Fund is a protection for the believers as well as their instrument for serving the Faith. Under this institution, the only appeal for funds is that which comes from the local or National Assembly and therefore is for purposes which have been investigated and fully authorized. None of the believers have responsibility to contribute funds through any other than the official channel, and no local Assembly need concern itself over solicitations received from foreign lands except through the National Assembly. As for those who seek financial assistance and claim to be Baha'is, the friends before taking action should assure themselves that such persons have proper credentials. Finally, the friends are reminded once more that the Master, and after Him the Guardian, warned us to be vigilant and not receive Orientals as believers unless they carry with them a letter of authentic credentials from a local or National Assembly. The purpose of this advice is not to dampen the ardor of sympathy, but to emphasize those teachings which hold us responsible for determining the difference between true and counterfeit objects of our solicitude.

**Teaching at the Temple**

The record of visitors who are guided through the House of Worship, in addition to those attending the weekly public meeting, is very impressive and perhaps not appreciated by the majority of the friends.

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<th><strong>National Spiritual Assembly—1940-1941</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Allen B. McDaniels, Chairman</td>
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<td>Dorothy Baker, Vice-Chairman</td>
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<td>Horace Holley, Secretary</td>
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<td>Louis G. Gregory, Recording Secretary</td>
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<td>Roy C. Wilhelm, Treasurer</td>
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<td>Siegfried Schopflocher, Assistant</td>
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<td>Leroy Ios</td>
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<td>Harlan Ober</td>
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<td>Amelia E. Collins</td>
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The following information about the first four months of 1940 reveals how important the Temple guiding activity has become.

First, it is to be understood that the House of Worship is open daily only in the warmer months, May to October, and all groups who come at other times do so by special arrangement with the Chairman of the Guide Committee, Mrs. John Hageman. In January, 1940, there were 43 different groups including 288 individuals; February, 49 groups, 180 persons; March, 201 groups, 910 persons. Eight hundred eighty-nine persons visited the Temple during April, and the number would have been much larger if guiding had not been suspended during the Convention period.

To illustrate the variety of interests represented by the groups: during the same four months the Guide Committee has received wives of delegates to the National Convention of American Tobacco Distributors, 130; apprentices sent from Great Lakes Naval Training School, 55 in one group, 48 in another, 242 in seven additional groups; WPA tour sponsored by Chicago Board of Education, 129; high school students from three Indiana towns, 162; young people from Willmette Methodist Episcopal and Evanston First Presbyterian Churches, 70; an Evanston hiking club, 35.

Total number of visitors in the four months, 2,267, an increase of 784 more than during the same period last year.

The special classes for guides enrolled forty-six believers volunteering to serve in this important National teaching activity.

**Publishing Announcements**

**Study Outlines and Aids for World Order Letters of Shoghi Effendi,** prepared by the Study Outlines Committee. Photostat edition, 64 pages. This Outline covers the six letters reprinted in the World Order of Baha'u'llah, and makes possible a thorough study of this great work, which is the Guardian's own interpretation of the Faith in relation to the present breakdown of civilization. Per copy $0.10

**Comprehensive Study Outline for Children,** prepared by Child Education Committee. Mimeographed edition, 33 pages. This Outline makes it possible to conduct a group of older children, and ground them in the fundamentals of spiritual knowledge. There has long been a demand for this material. Per copy $0.50

**Press Book Report**

The Baha'i News Service Committee in making its final survey of recent clippings before the close of the Press Books would like to share interesting publicity news.

The Montana Standard of Butte, Montana carried a splendid article on the Temple written by the head of the Art Center in Butte in connection with the display of the Temple model. Lorral Jackson of Butte reports that a similar article with a mat is making the rounds of some seventy-five newspapers throughout the state as an attraction of the Art Center. She has been told that this publicity may continue for several months.

Because of the difficulties in obtaining space in metropolitan dailies for material on the Cause and the Teachings, two long articles appearing this last year are of interest. The New York World-Telegram and the Washington Post in their readers' contributor columns carried long articles on the Cause. The World-Telegram article incorporated a lengthy quotation from the Teachings which is most unusual. Margaret Atwater of Miami, Florida has had great success in using such columns for Baha'i articles. This last year in addition to the North China Daily News, papers in Asheville, S. C., and Miami, she has contributed a long article on the Faith to the Egyptian Gazette of Cairo, Egypt. This appeared in English. The Italian paper, L'Eco of Springfield, Massachusetts published two long articles on the Cause in its outside contributor column—one article by Bruno Lasker on Race Attitudes in Children which was also published in the January Baha'i News and an article on International Language by Alice Bacon, Baha'i of Monson, Mass.

The Regional Teaching Committee of Kansas and Missouri obtained splendid publicity in towns new to the Cause by placing Dr. Esselmont's book in the Public Libraries and releasing a splendid book review to the papers. The Dodge City, (Mo.) Journal, Lexington, (Mo.) Advertiser, St. Charles Banner and News, and St. Charles Censor-Monitor carried these articles.
Clippings from new localities include Tolleson, Arizona; a series of articles appeared in the Tolleson News; Manitowoc, Wisconsin; Medina, Ohio; Monrovia, California; Vernon, British Columbia; and Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. The Ward Calhoun recently moved into Oconomowoc and released a short article on their new residence with some comments on their activity and interest in the Bahá’í Faith.

The following Assemblies and groups now represented in the Press Books have not been listed in former reports: Peoria, Illinois; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Indianapolis, Indiana; Santa Rosa, and Turlock, California.

A great deal of space has been obtained for material on the Temple, Bahá’í activities and the Teachings in Wilmette and in other North Shore papers through the tireless efforts of Mrs. Gerrrude Straven. This has not been an easy task and has taken much effort, tact and wisdom.

Evidence of Bahá’í tact and ingenuity appears in a short item from the Red Bank (N. J.) Standard. Mrs. Ellen Sims wrote the publisher a note of thanks for the cooperation of the Standard in publicizing Bahá’í activities during the year. This note which was published mentioned the appreciation of the National Bahá’í News Service for the clippings from the Standard, which Mrs. Sims had submitted, for the National Press Books which are being preserved in both the International Center at Haifa, and in the National Archives.

The Bahá’í News Service Committee wishes to express its own appreciation to the friends for their great assistance in mailing in their clippings on time and also for their help in arranging the clippings for mounting.

Bahá’í News Service.
April 14, 1940.

LOUHELEN SCHOOL
Youth Sessions

Mrs. Cynthia Powell is expecting to have the Youth sessions present at the Youth sessions and will be glad to consult and advise with any young people wishing counsel in regard to future vocation. This is not vocational guidance in the usual sense. Mrs. Powell is present studying at Columbia University along the line of what fields show promise for openings and development in the future.

Reservations

Please make early reservations with Mrs. L. W. Eggleton, Davison, Mich. Those arriving by train or bus in Flint will be met if request is made in advance. Louhen Ranch is on Michigan State Highway M-13 three miles south of Davison.

Laboratory Session

The course on Deepening in the Teachings will be conducted by Mrs. H. Emogene Hoagg.

WORLD ORDER MAGAZINE

Contents of April issue: Religion and Society, by Husrev Rehman; Will and Testament, Marzieh Gall; Nabil’s History, part IV, George Townshend; The Divine Art of Living, compilation, part I; Bahá’í answers to world questions, study outline material, With the Reader, etc.

Contents of May issue: The Question of Religious Unity, by Horace Holley; Reveille, poem, by Elizabeth Benchley Murray; The Divine Art of Living, part II; Bahá’í answers to world questions; The Internationalism of a Biologist, book review, by Maye Harvey Gift; study outline material; With Our Readers, etc.

CHILD EDUCATION

Tablets and Prayers

The former generation of American Bahá’í parents and children received many Tablets and prayers penned by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá Himself. A few of these are given below for the Bahá’í children of this important time.

O my Lord! O my Lord!

I am a child of tender years. Nourish me from the breast of Thy mercy, train me in the bosom of Thy love, educate me in the school of Thy guidance and develop me under the shadow of Thy bounty! Deliver me from darkness, make me a brilliant light; free me from unhappiness, make me a flower of the rose-garden; suffer me to become the servant of Thy Threshold and confer upon me the disposition and nature of the righteous ones; make me a cause of bounty to the human world and crown my head with the diadem of eternal life!

Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Seer, the Hearer!

(Vol. III, Tablets of ‘Abdu’ll-Bahá, p. 595)

O thou darling dear!

Turn thy face toward the Supreme Kingdom and chant thou this commune:

O Thou Pure God! I am a little child; make Thou the bosom of Thy Gift a dear resting-place of comfort, and suffer me to grow and be nurtured with the honey and the milk of Thy love and train me under the breast of Thy knowledge; bestow Thou freedom while in a state of childhood and grant Thou excellence.

O Thou Incomparable One! Make me the confidant of the Kingdom of the Unseen! Verily, Thou art the Mighty and the Powerful!

(Vol. III, Tablets of ‘Abdu’ll-Bahá, p. 588)

O thou Glorious Lord!

Make thou this little maid-servant a brilliant-starred daughter of the Kingdom; endear her in the Threshold of Oneness and overflow her with the cup of Thy love, in order that she may raise the cries of joy and ecstasy and mix ambergris with musk.*

Verily, Thou art the Powerful and the Mighty, and Thou art the Wise, the Seer!

(Vol. III, Tablets of ‘Abdu’ll-Bahá, p. 551)

O thou plant of the Garden of the Love of God!

Thy letter was received. Its content was of utmost grace and sweetness. As

* This metaphor means the state of prayer and communion with God.
thou hast turned thy face toward the Supremes Kingdom, I hope thy disposition and nature will prove agreeable and comforting to thy brother and sister.

Although thou art small, yet I hope thou will become great in the Kingdom. His Highness Christ saith: "Happy is the condition of children!" God willing, thou art one of those children.

Be obedient and kind to thy father and mother, caressing brother and sister, and day by day adding to thy faith and assurance.

(Vol. III, Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, p. 551)

To the children in the Sunday School.

I am glad to see these bright, radiant children. God willing, all of them may realize the hopes and aspirations of their parents.

Praise be to God! I see before me these beautiful children of the kingdom. Their hearts are pure, their faces are shining. They shall soon become the sons and daughters of the kingdom. Thanks be to God! they are seeking to acquire virtues and will be the cause of the attainment of the excellences of humanity. This is the cause of oneness in the kingdom of God. Praise be to God! they have kind and revered teachers who train and educate them well and who long for the glory, mercy, and become veritable. In the utmost perfection and delicacy may they at last bring forth fruit.

I supplicate God that these children may be reared under his protection and that they may be nourished by his favor and grace until all, like beautiful flowers in the garden of human hopes and aspirations, shall blossom and become redolent of fragrance.

O God! Educate these children. These children are the plants of thy orchard, the flowers of thy meadow, the roses of thy garden. Let thy rain fall upon them; let the Sun of Reality shine upon them with thy love. Let thy breeze refresh them in order that they may be trained, grow and develop and appear in the utmost beauty. Thou art the giver! Thou art the compassionate! (Vol. I, Promulgation of Universal Peace, pp. 188-189.)

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


Baha'i Group at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, with Antonio Roca, Pioneer Teacher, and Mrs. Lorol Schopflocher, Traveling Teacher

IN MEMORIAM

"... The true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation."

—Baha'u'llah.

Mr. Joseph Henry Ingleby, New York.
Dr. Alfredo Warsaw, Washington.
Miss Ethelbert E. Jackson, Geneva.
Mr. Fred J. Woodward, Washington.
Mrs. Zoreh Lathrop, Seattle.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

The National Spiritual Assembly has adopted the following schedule of meetings for the year 1940-1941. Annual Souvenir of the Convention, April 24, 25, 26, 27.

Annual Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Baha, at Evergreen Cabin, West Englewood, N. J., 2:00 P.M., Saturday, June 29.

THE THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION

Another Convention has written its scroll of deathless achievement, welding into oneness, by its spirit, many peoples of the earth. Sublimity and beauty inspire those who approach the Temple, all the more as its outward dress nearing completion. The impression grows with the signs found within. The Bourgeois model, showing the consummation of the Temple ideally; the book display amidst artistic settings; the various maps, charts and pictures illustrating every phase of Baha'i activity in the western world; the Oriental rugs, drapery and sacred relics which link the Cause with its place of birth; a throng of joyous, loving friends representing many backgrounds of culture, racial varieties and schools of thought; but above all, the mysterious atmosphere of oneness, sanctity and blessed confirmation to be found in the Mashriqul-Adhkár, visible representation of the body of Baha'u'llah, the Universal Manifestation of God. What a favor to mingle freely with the friends of God! What a blessing even to be linked with those who attain this blessed meeting! Happy are those in every land who see the signs of God.

During the sessions of the Convention the workmen, bringing the pylons to completion, were always busy, yet they caused no disturbance to the friends in
consultation in the foundation below. The harmony among the workmen, the fine cooperation given by the authorities of the Village of Wilmette and the State of Illinois, shows the growing attraction and power of the Faith.

The Convention was opened as is usual, by the Chairman of the National Spiritual Assembly, who eloquently voiced welcome to delegates and friends, stressing the great needs and responsibilities of such an hour, as well as elation over the signs of victory. The Convention organized by electing by ballot the chairman and secretary of the National Spiritual Assembly as its officers.

The Convention cabled the Guardian as follows: "Greetings to (the) beloved Guardian (of the) Baha'i Faith. Delegates joyfully assembled (in) thirty-second annual Convention, turn for Guidance, supplicating Baha'u'llah (to) strengthen (and) confirm them in (the) promulgation (of the) Faith and the completion (of the) Mashriqu'l-Adhkar. Confident (the) Power of God will triumph in (this) war-torn world."

To a message from the outgoing Assembly the Guardian replied: "(I) marvel (and) rejoice (and) am thankful (for the) manifold blessings (and) accomplishments signalizing (the) opening (of) auspicious year (for the) American Baha'i Community."

Even earlier came our Guardian's long cablegram (quoted elsewhere) which was immediately transcribed and circulated among the friends and served as inspiration, light and guidance for the consultation of those memorable days.

As illustrating the world-wide penetration of the Faith, greetings and love came by letter or cablegram from many parts of the world:

Tehran, Iran; the Canal Zone, Panama; Kingston, Jamaica; San Antonio, Texas; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Charleston, West Virginia; Monroe, Washington; San Francisco, California; Fairbanks, Alaska; Honolulu, Hawaii; Mexico City; Montevideo, Uruguay; San Salvador, C. A.; Butte, Montana.

These beautiful messages were redolent of devotion, faith, sacrifice, service and the universal love which is the reality of existence.

The roll call showed 115 of the 171 accredited delegates present in person. This number was later increased to 121. Of the full number of delegates, 167 were counted as voting either in person or by mail. The remaining four ballots, sent by mail, arrived too late to be counted in the election of the National Spiritual Assembly.

The supplemental report of Mr. Holley, the secretary of the National Spiritual Assembly, showed the fine progress of the work on the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar, which bids fair to be completed, in outer ornamentation within two years less than the time generically set by the Guardian; the work of filing, in and grading the grounds; the organization of Spiritual Assemblies in various cities, bringing the total up to 102; plans for a tunnel from the street to the Temple entrance; the purpose by them stated, of Mr. and Mrs. Siegfried Schopflocker to give their valuable properties in Eliot, Maine, to wit: Old Bull Cottage and Nine Gables estate, to the Trustees of the National Spiritual Assembly, retaining only their present interest during their joint and several lives; the purpose to make the World Order Magazine serve the believers in such a way as to make it self-supporting; the extended teaching services rendered by the Baha'i exhibits at various exhibitions; the presentations of the Teachings on peace and the New World Order to the President of the United States; the contemplated transfer of the National Treasurer's Office from West Englewood to the Haziratu'l-Quds; recent messages from the Guardian; new publications of the teachings in Spanish to meet the needs of the Inter-America Committee; the defense of the Cause against outside attacks by authentic teachings and constructive actions; the progress of the plan for the Martha Root Memorial, upon which Temple projects in progress and rapidly going ahead; the spirit of love and sacrifice which makes concerted action possible.

An especially interesting phase of consultation centered around reaching the scientific world with the teachings on peace and a new world structure. The possible results of such an effort seem measureless. Many incidents were told as indicating the heart-hunger and veiled mentalities of many eminent people, these conditions expressed in speeches, radio talks, magazine articles and various other ways. As one savant put it: "Can man live without God?" The Baha'i World, which has the Guardian's own review and approval, was suggested as the best appeal to the minds and hearts of scientists and educators, in the presentation of the Baha'i Teachings. The advisability of preparing a new and brief compilation on peace was also considered.

At this moment the friends at Fruitport, Michigan, expressed their love and understanding in a very pleasing way, favoring the Convention with a tribute in beautiful flowers.

Some time was given to the status of Baha'i youth, who, although reaching maturity at fifteen, according to the revealed Words of Baha'u'llah, do not attain voting membership in Baha'i communities until reaching the age of twenty-one. The matter is a complicated one, due to the requirement of twenty-one as the age of maturity by the laws of the country and the question whether a departure from this at this time would affect property holdings; also whether or not a change in America would not involve a corresponding change in many lands. It was felt and expressed that all the laws of Baha'u'llah that are known, should be applied without delay. But information reached the Convention that this particular matter had been referred to the Guardian for his elucidation and instructions.

Amid much pleasantry, mingled with serious thought, the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer made supplementary reports and addresses, commending the sacrifices of the friends which were accomplishing such marvelous results. The "Green Bag" of the Treasurer, never aggressively projected, but ever discreetly in view, appeared to conceal a magnet which had an attraction for cash. Green is said to be the color of happiness. Near the close of the Convention, the Treasurer reported that about six thousand dollars, formerly limited to personal use, had been drawn into universal service by the allowance of his bag.

During consideration of the Treasurer's report one wise in the ways of the world made an eloquent address in comment upon it, which is revealed, the sacrifices of the workers, who as far as they were able, were defraying their own expenses and when unable to do so, were accepting little or nothing beyond the cost of simple living. The few who found a stipend necessary were receiving what a day laborer would often despise, although the type of work they were doing required for it years of preparation. A case in point was the Treasurer's reference to two of the most eminent and useful workers who had recently made a reduction in their expenses which would save the cause six hundred dollars per year.

The Treasurer averred that no one should be told how much he should give, this being a matter entirely left to the individual and to God. Those moved by the spirit of generosity should make their connection with the Great Power House. Many blessings are promised them. Time was also suggested as an element of sacrifice. Now is the time to use the labor and material needed to complete the Temple, lest later their availability become difficult through the exigencies of warfare.

The Chairman for the Trustees and the Maintenance Committee, told of the progress of the Temple work, unveiling its transcendent beauty and general praise it is attracting from architects and builders and their acknowledgment that when completed it will be the most beautiful building in the world. Already it has
progressed two years ahead of schedule, this through the sacrifices and loving cooperation of the friends. The pylons are rising like pillars of light into the world. One of the many signs of favor is that in a contract for $29,000.00 with the architect, Mr. Earley, $10,000.00 had been saved. At this point the Temple Prayer was read.

Another member of the Maintenance Committee stated that the said committee had been authorized to purchase fill for the grading of the Temple grounds at 35c per yard. Later, through the wrecking of an old building at the Northwestern University, it had been found available at 13 cents per yard. Still later, now, it is costing but 67c. Since the purchase of the land that forms the site of the Hazratu'l-Quds, Lake Michigan gave that land a beach. Now that beach is being filled in without cost and will, in time, become a beautiful lawn or be used for additions to the Office. May this not illustrate how the things of the earth, which avoid those who turn away from God, seek to serve those who love Him and obey His behests?

Teaching
The National Teaching Committee, through its officers and workers, gave a fascinating recital of the expansion of this vital service in North America, relating stories of pioneers to make the work more humanistic and interesting, and referring to the statistics in the printed report, showing actual and relative gain. Twenty-five States and Provinces are still without Spiritual Assemblies, an incentive to new effort and struggle. Forty-four pioneers are now working in the vast area comprising Alaska, Canada, and the States, with a forward march on every front, a powerful enthusiasm and the noblest of purposes.

Spiritual tributes were paid the Regional Teaching Committees, through which many new centers have come into being. There has been a large circulation of literature and many visits made by traveling teachers with much follow-up work. The Temple models and book exhibits have had a major part in attracting inquirers and impressing them with the value and beauty of the Teachings. Much interest has been aroused in virgin territory by these models. Traveling libraries are another impressive feature. The number of Baha'i centers is now 102, exceeding the Guardian's expectations. Despite this praiseworthy attainment, there are yet hundreds of cities untouched, so there must be no rest, but continued effort. Pioneers in Salt Lake City, Albuquerque, Miami, a returned teacher from Germany and Hungary and others, lent variety and interest to the discussion. The friend who had traveled abroad warned against mailing or sending literature into countries where its circulation is forbidden by the government, as it will under such conditions only increase the difficulties of the loyal friends.

Baha'is and the World War
These thoughts were brought before the Convention by those especially praying for peace. The prayers of the friends may have a wonderful effect upon the state of the world. By praying and holding meetings to pray for peace, by concentrating upon the great activities outlined by the Guardian, Temple construction and teaching, they may be the means of shortening the duration of the war and limiting its scope. According to an ancient prophecy, in this day confirmed, "Unless these days are shortened there will be no flesh left alive. But for the sake of the elect they will be shortened."

This blessing is manifestly promised to the Community of the Greatest Name. It does not appear inevitable that we should be drawn, as a nation, into the present war. But we must, as a nation, take part in the social and economic relations of the world.

Teaching Methods
A reading from the Holy Words on "The Will (to teach) the Plan and the Deed," drew out an interesting consideration of methods. There was some advocacy of a public speaking school to be organized in each center. There was also the nice distinction to be observed between talks intended for Baha'is and those for inquirers. The idea of learning to teach by actually teaching was impressed. Teaching by service, the right approach to minority groups, such as Filipinos, etc., by knowing their utmost longings and hopes; putting into practice in every day living the prayers and revealed Word; "Treating the mystical way with practical feet," as a great educator said of 'Abdu'l-Baha, were other expressions of teaching wisdom.

One of mature wisdom in world affairs as well as the Cause, warned against a Babel of Words in giving the message. Deeds, he averred, count most of all. Give to people what they lack. Teach the new administrative order. This is now very important, in view of the visible failure of the old. Science is a vital part of the dynamics of the Cause. People must be trained to be wise in electing the Universal House of Justice. Stress the unique and universal features and then others, that transform the life of the individual.

The happiness of teaching was another point driven home. No real joy without it! Here the Treasurer, Green Bag and Company, all beaming and lovable, suggested teaching by sacrifice!

Traveling teaching tours and firing new souls with Baha'i enthusiasm; supplying books to isolated believers; social contacts and refreshments, dinners, entertainments, each and all with the noble purpose of spreading the teachings; each in turn received due emphasis. Every sincere effort counts on the part of the proponents of the Faith.

A beautiful and impressive picture of the fine cooperation, mutual confidence and understanding of the two races in the Baha'i community of Nashville, Tennessee, was placed before the Convention by its delegate, who also pointed out that the region of the Southern States is as large in area as all of France, that the problems there are complex and difficult; that there are many social and economic
changes in progress. She expressed the conviction that Nashville bids fair to lead the nation in racial adjustment. Outsiders who know nothing of conditions may do more harm than good by making head-on collisions with what they know not. Do not ignorantly attack a problem. Cooperate, but do not antagonize, was her thought.

Still another view was, look ever to the Higher World for Guidance. Accept and apply the Divine Teachings always, avoiding only their occasional use from day to day.

Race Unity
An unusually interesting item of consultation was the vital subject of race unity. The committee, as one result of its surveys, gave the numbers of the various minority groups as follows:

Negroes 12,000,000
Jews 4,500,000
Indians 337,000
Esquimos 30,000

Each of the above groups except the Esquimos, has been contacted by the committee during the past year. The Spirit of Bahá'u'lláh, given to the body of mankind, is the fire of attraction in souls for the higher and all-embracing unity. The wise approach to the various minorities, first to contact, and then deepen their knowledge of the Faith and to draw them gradually into the various Bahá'í communities, is the evident goal. Many Bahá'í communities as well as outside organizations are asking for real knowledge along this line. The discovery by many of the world's great scientists, that the differences between races is at most entirely superficial, if not entirely imaginary, and their conviction of the essential unity of the human family, are powerful aids to the logic of workers. As the popular mind largely adheres to the old superstitions, the work of dislodging them is a vital step toward unity. The Divine Teachings are wonderful, perfect and complete. Happy therefore are those who discern clearly and follow the vision. One delegate suggested as a tactful method of presenting the teachings was to link all races together. Another was, as far as possible, to present the Revelation in its universal aspects and as a whole. The mysterious Power that aids those who work for this end is a sign of victory.

The American Indian
Milwaukee reported work among the Indians and it was brought to the attention of the Convention that a young Indian was in the meeting as a visitor. The chairman and the delegates accorded him so enthusiastic a welcome that it resulted in his acceptance of the Faith, which for some time he has been investigating. He has long been seeking "a religion that would work." He is a very intelligent, thoughtful and serious young man, an Indian of full blood and feels that God is now calling him to a great understanding and mission. What he knows and tells of his own people, their religion, history and culture, is most interesting.

*He has since been enrolled as member of the Milwaukee Bahá'í Community.

The brilliant work for race unity done in Pasadena, New York, Peoria, Chicago and other centers was told by various friends.

The Election
The chief and central purpose of the annual Convention is the election of the National Spiritual Assembly. The time appointed for this was Friday afternoon, April 26, the second day of the Convention, which would give time for the newly elected body to consult with the delegates. At the hour appointed the Divine Instructions were read; prayers were uttered; a period of meditation followed; and in an atmosphere signalized from the turmoil and agitation which usually accompany such a matter in many other gatherings, the ballots were cast. The next morning the committee whose task it was to count them and who were commanded for their work, announced the re-election of the body of last year.

Inter-America Teaching
This committee deplored the enforced absence of its Chairman to whom it ascribed an aura of inspiration. It related the great happenings in South and Central America as an inspiring chronicle of dreams and visions. Latin-America, it felt, must be reached first of all, through the heart; later the head. Mention was made of the eminent service of Mrs. Frances Benedict Stewart, who is again setting out on a trip to this vast area; of the stimulating effect and results of the recent visit of Mrs. Lorol Schopflocher to all pioneers in Central America; of the work of Miss Leonora Holzapple, the first resident pioneer in Brazil; of Miss Martha Root, first Bahá'í of all to visit those countries to the South; and of all the brave pioneers now settled in the many countries of this vast region. It is the wish of the Guardian that those who go should not return until they have established a real foundation. The promised confirmations are ready to descend upon those who make the effort. The beautiful book compiled by the chairman, Mrs. Loulie A. Mathews, and containing the photographs and other material about those who have pioneered during past years in Latin-American countries, was on exhibition. It is intended as a gift for Shoghi Effendi. It was much admired. Real pioneers, not mere travelers, is now the appeal of this committee for these countries, all of which save two, are now entered. The courage, faith, vision, severity and heroic sacrifices in overcoming trials, were vividly pictured and brought home to the listeners in the wonderful report of this committee. The gift of Temerity Ranch, Colorado Springs, and its availability and use as a training tool for the development of the American missions was announced.
school for teachers in the Latin-American countries, is a sign of Providence to those lands.

Bahá’í Schools

The three established Schools, Green Acre, Louhelen and Geyersville, had their plans and programs ably set forth by their respective committees. Their special work is the training of Bahá’í teachers in the correlation of religion and science, deepening the knowledge of the Cause, especially among the youth, offering the relaxation of a vacation in which the mind rests by change of labor; promoting physical, mental and spiritual health; encouraging sociability; confirming those who come to them in the joyousness of real life and the acceptance of the Glorious Message. Laboratory courses are coming more and more into favor. The importance which the Guardian attaches to these schools their future evolution into Bahá’í universities would impress all who came to avail themselves of their present facilities.

Other Education Plans

The Braille work among the blind which makes the Teachings available to them; suggested plans to reach the deaf and dumb, and even the insane, were proposed during this very sympathetic spiritual consultation. Hearts that are moved and expect results. A statement is more likely to be taken if someone can be quoted as having made it, as this takes the responsibility off the paper. The chairman told how he had an article about the New World Order published by sending it to the editor coupled with a letter of praise for an editorial in which the editor was trying to find a way out of the glooms and shadows of the day.

The Spirit of the Convention

The whole Convention was spiritual, as well as attested by the unity, love and harmony of those who composed it. But special emphasis was given to the mystical and spiritual by the half-hour given each morning to the reading of Creative Words and Prayers preceding each session; laying a solid foundation in the hearts for the light of consultation. The committee which arranged this also planned the Memorial to the late Mrs. May Maxwell.

May Maxwell Memorial

This Memorial consisted of the reading of Tablets and Prayers, the chanting of the Victory Tablet by our Persian brother, Dr. Ali-Kuli Khan, and eulogies by a few among her many loving friends, of those who were closest to her in service and association during past years. Those who had a part were Charles Mason Remey, Miss Juliet Thompson, Philip Sprague, Miss Marion Holley, Miss Agnes Alexander, Mrs. Frances B. Stewart and Ernest Harrison.

How glorious the life that sacrificed all in the Path of God and took its flight while in the arena of service in a strange and distant land! Forever blessed is she, "Under the shadow of the Favor of her Lord."

The Feast of El-Ridván

This greatest of all Bahá’í celebrations, the joyous festival commemorating the Declaration of Báb’s will at Baghdád in 1863, had its program planned by the Spiritual Assembly of Urbana and its feast prepared by that of Chicago. As planned, the significance of the Feast was the subject of the first address. Others were spiritual joy and sacrifice, centering around the lives of the Purest Branch, the Exalted Leaf, and the Greatest Holy Leaf, souls who were trained by the Manifestation; also that unique expression of love and sacrifice manifested in Bahá’u’lláh Himself. Among those who spoke were Mrs. Corinne True, Miss Juliet Thompson, Dr. Ali-Kuli Khan, Mrs. Dorothy Baker and Mr. Albert Windust. Speech was followed by presentation in turn of the film and voice record of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, following which refreshments were served to about seven hundred visitors and friends. This was, as fated to be, an impressive, joyous and memorable occasion.

The Teaching Meeting

This Convention, unprecedented by previous ones, lasted four days and had the grand finale in the public teaching meeting of Sunday evening. George O. Latimer of Portland, Oregon, presided and with his usual genial and affable grace, pointed to and expressed reality.

The two speakers were Miss Elsie Austin of Washington, D. C., farmer assistant Attorney General of Ohio, and Mrs. Helen Bishop of Geyersville, California, Bahá’í teacher and international traveler. This program was praised very highly by those who heard it and the hope was expressed that the addresses in a condensed form might later appear in the next volume of The Bahá’í World.

Thus passed into history the thirty-second Convention, with a record of love, happiness, harmony and constructive service unsurpassed, rarely equaled.

Louis G. Gregory, Reporter.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHA’IS
OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA
1939-1940

Beloved Friends:

A few days before the opening of the Thirty-second Annual Convention, work was resumed on the exterior decoration of the House of Worship. The nine pylons will be completed during the next few months under a contract made possible by the balance in the Bahá’íkhánanum Fund. Those attending the Convention, moreover, have noted that the grounds have been filled in and a new level attained corresponding to the level of the exterior stairs, almost around the edifice. The approach to Foundation Hall from Linden Avenue is being left ungraded for a time, as it will be necessary to provide a tunnel from the street to the entrance into what will then be the underground basement of the Temple. The Temple Maintenance Committee has been able to obtain all this fill at a cost of only one-third the quotation obtained a year ago.

In the April bulletin the friends were
informed of the Guardian’s telegram received March 31: “Suggest if feasible place immediate contracts for completion (of) pylons and ornamentation (of) one whole face. Praying early success.”

Investigations have been made to determine how best to carry out this wish, and how to proceed with the balance of construction as funds are made available from time to time. The result of these investigations, not determined at the date of this writing, can be reported orally to the delegates and later issued to the entire Baha’i community.

The important matter at this time is to realize the present status of the amount of Temple construction work definitely allocated to the seven years ending 1944. Financially, the work to be undertaken amounted to $350,000 in June, 1937. The work has been completed henceforth with amounts to $79,680.50, plus an estimated $50,000 for metal doors, grilles and landscaping. Within three years of a period covering seven years the American Baha’is, with these munificent donations made by the Guardian himself, have thus accomplished Temple construction work amounting to about $220,000.00.

Through contracts amounting to less than $40,000 a year for the next two years, the exterior of the House of Worship can be completed two years before the termination of the Seven Year Plan. This truly is a notable achievement to contemplate, and a high standard to set for future generations of believers.

Another current accomplishment comparable in importance is the addition to the number of local Spiritual Assemblies made at the time of the annual election on April 21. While all reports are not yet received, the National Assembly can state that since mentioning the eleven applications on hand by the middle of March, groups in Oak Park, Illinois, North Augusta, South Carolina, Hamilton, Ontario, Salt Lake City, Utah, and Alhambra, California, have developed to the point of electoral capacity, the group at La Crescenta, California may have likewise qualified, while Knoxville, Tennessee has resumed Assembly status and Scranton, Pennsylvania, has emerged from the difficulties caused by the loss of two active believers who moved to another city. These conditions mean that the American Baha’is have in all probability met the Guardian’s expressed hope that one hundred Assemblies exist after April 21, 1940.

In a previous section of the report, reference was made to the new properties donated to the Faith this year. This information can now be amplified by the news that Mr. and Mrs. Schopflocher are prepared to execute a trust deed transferring to the Green Acre Trustees title to their property in Eliot, Maine, with the

provision that they retain full use and control during their lifetime, the same provision written into the gift of properties at Geyersville and at Colorado Springs. The Eliot property includes the cottage known as “Ole Bull” house and the famous “Nine Gables” house, studies and farm.

The Assemblies of Boston, Honolulu, Peoria, Binghamton and Helena have recently incorporated, and By-Laws have been approved for the Newark Assembly.

Beginning with the April number, World Order Magazine has worked out a more directly Baha’i function and is prepared to provide material for study as well as articles on the Teachings or on personal experience of avowed Baha’is. This change was made under authority given by the National Assembly, with the twofold aim of serving the believers and of making the magazine self-supporting. The essential point to note in the change is that experience has proved the only effective way to reach non-Baha’is is through Baha’is.

The two World’s Fair Baha’i exhibits, at New York and San Francisco, will be conducted again this year. New exhibit material has been prepared by the Baha’i Exhibit Committee and is to be seen at the Convention. The element of visual education is being rapidly developed for Baha’i teaching, and no doubt the number of regional and local exhibits will greatly increase during the coming year.

Material on Baha’i marriage certificates, with request for advice and instruction, has been sent to the Guardian. The National Assembly hopes that it will soon be able to provide a proper form for use by those Assemblies which have satisfied the legal requirements laid down by their state codes. The Guardian is also being consulted concerning any changes in the local By-Laws necessary to define this new authority of local Assemblies. A standard By-Law will be added to the approved local By-Laws when the Guardian’s instructions have been received.

The Assembly is pleased to report that through its Chairman, Baha’i Teachings on peace have been conveyed to the President through his Secretary, and assurance received that the material was placed in the President’s hands.

New publications under way since the publication of the Annual Reports include: Spanish edition of Eskenmont’s Baha’u’llah and the New Era; Spanish edition of excerpts from the Master’s Will and Testament; Study Outline and Aids for the Guardian’s World Order Letters, prepared by the Study Outline Committee; a Comprehensive Study Course for children, prepared by the Child Education Committee; and three Baha’i Reprints which make it possible to hand out important excerpts from the writings of Abdul-Baha and words of Shoghi Effendi in attractive and convenient form.

Actions taken at the meeting of the National Assembly held immediately prior to the Convention include authorizations for continuance of Temple work, decision to transfer the Treasurer’s Office to
the National headquarters at Wilmette, and approval of the brief prepared by the attorney in connection with the legal suit against the parties misuse the name "Baha'i."

The friends are urged to give their careful attention to the passages in which the Guardian refers to the nature of attacks against the Master and His Will and Testament, appearing on pages 89 and 90 of The World Order of Baha'u'llah. Here we find the clearest statement in the writings for discussion of the New History publication dated April, 1940 with new believers and with those attracted to the Faith who have not yet gained the background of understanding and experience to discern the hollowness of any argument and claim based upon failure to accept the Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Baha. The matter will soon come to trial, and the friends can rest assured that the true nature of the Baha'i Faith and of its Administrative Order will be established in accordance with the power and scope of the written and authentic Teachings.

Let us realize now the significance of the first collective spiritual gathering of the Baha'is of all the Americas as meetings are held in all Baha'i Centers on April 26 to commemorate the martyrdom of Mrs. Maxwell. It is indeed a historic occasion, a point of renewal and fresh beginning in the Inter-America teaching work. We recall Baha'u'llah's mighty Tablet to the Presidents of these Republics, the Master's call sounded in the Tablets of America's Spiritual Mission, and the Guardian's vision of the future expounded in The Advent of Divine Justice. The Baha'is of America stand at the converging center of the most tremendous power ever to stream into the hearts of mankind. This is the power ordained to remove mountains of prejudice and cross all the seas of ignorance and division. Ours but to make ourselves instruments to serve those ends and be used by that power! While the world is engaged in political debate and struggle, may the friends of God drink the cup of unity which contains the mysterious ingredient of all success.

In conclusion, the recent messages from the Guardian are recorded.

Cablegram received February 27: "Congratulate alike (the) National Representatives, (the) newly fledged Assemblies, (the) recently dispatched pioneers and (the) freshly enrolled believers all converging (in) common mission (to) energize processes propelling Plan along destined course. Appeal once again (to) every particular, note once again (the) threatening temper, (to) steadily maintain high aim, dare greatly, toil unrelentingly, sacrifice worthily, endure ra-

Baha'i NEWS

BAHA'I EXHIBITS

About two years ago, in view of the projects for an exhibit at each of the World Fairs in 1939, a committee, consisting of Allen B. McDaniel, Chairman, Carl Scheffler and Rex and Mary Collison, was appointed by the National Spiritual Assembly, with special consid-

eration to the preparation of a plan and program for a permanent Baha'i exhibit which could be transported from place to place and shown at State Fairs, annual meetings of educational, religious, peace and similar organizations, at conferences, conventions and other gatherings.

Data were collected and studied of the experience of Baha'i communities which had held exhibits. Outstanding was the Baha'i Exhibit at the National Canadian Exposition at Toronto in August-September of 1938 and 1939.

Mr. Carl Scheffler prepared a design for a portable exhibit, which was used for the Baha'i exhibit at the New York State Fair at Syracuse in September, 1939.

In August, 1939, an exhibit was maintained at the Wisconsin State Fair, by the Baha'i communities of Kenosha, Racine, Wauwatosa and Milwaukee.

During the summer and fall of 1939, the National Spiritual Assembly with the active cooperation of the Baha'i communities of New York and of the Bay region of San Francisco, maintained the beautiful and unique exhibits at their respective World Fairs. Many thousands of visitors were met and contacted, large quantities of free literature were distributed and many people attracted to and interested in our Faith.

In view of the experience involved in the two World's Fair exhibits, no definite steps have been taken toward the construction of the proposed traveling exhibit. Further studies are being made, however, with a view toward the gradual development of a workable program for this form of teaching medium, which has been enthusiastically endorsed by our Guardian.

Faithfully submitted,

ALLEN B. MCDANIEL, Chairman
MRS. REX COLLISON
R. E. COLLISON
CARL SCHEFFLER

CENTRALIZATION OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE

About two years ago, the National Spiritual Assembly appointed a committee consisting of Allen B. McDaniel, Chairman, Leroy Loas and Siegfried Schopflocher to consider the practicability, method and expense involved of combining and centralizing the administrative activities and offices of the National Assembly in one location presumably within the area of the Universal House of Worship.

Consultation was had with the various national officers maintaining full time offices and personnel, consideration was given to the housing of a national office in Wilmette, and finally approval of our Guardian was sought in such an impor-
tangent step in the development of our Faith in America. The National Assembly with the cooperation of this Committee and of the Temple Maintenance Committee arranged for the removal of the office of the National Secretary from New York City to the Bourgeois Studio on October 1, 1939. Provision was made for a home for Mr. and Mrs. Holley in addition to the Secretary's office.

On October 3, 1939, the Guardian, in a cable message, hailed as an "historic act" this significant step taken by the National Spiritual Assembly, and as "signalizing suspicionous conjunction (in) heart (of) North American continent (of) Haziratu'l-Quds (and) Mashriqu'l-Adhkar, the twin foci (of) steadily evolving American Baha'i community life."

On January 20, 21 and 22, 1940, during the sessions of the National Spiritual Assembly at its first meeting in the Haziratu'l-Quds, recognition of this memorable occasion, in the light of the Guardian's message, was given by special programs of readings in the National Office, in the Auditorium of the House of Worship and at the opening of the Regional Conference in the Foundation Hall. A budget of $31.00 was prepared by Mrs. Helen Inderlied of Morrisville, N. Y., for these efforts.

A budget of $83.00 was granted by the National Teaching Committee to cover costs of hall rental and publicity for the public meetings and also to help out in a small way the extra expenses of the resident teacher. Up to the present time $70.00 of this has been received and used for these purposes.

On the evenings of Nov. 3rd, 4th and 5th, Mrs. Dorothy Baker gave three public addresses to good audiences. Her subjects were "Government Looks Ahead," "Religion Plays Its Part," and "The Conquest of the West." These were given at the Hotel Syracuse. A week later the management of the Hotel Syracuse donated the use of a smaller room for a second series of three talks given by Mr. Kenneth Christian of Morrisville, N. Y. As a result of these two series of public talks a group of about 20 people were interested in the Faith to the extent of attending meetings at the apartment of Mrs. Inderlied on one or more occasions. Such meetings have been held twice a week ever since with an average attendance of about ten. The group includes a number of people connected with Syracuse University. Many phases of the Faith have been presented from time to time by Mr. Christian, Mr. and Mrs. Belcher and occasionally other friends from nearby places. One of the group has registered as a believer and it is expected that these efforts will in time result in a strong Syracuse community.

While on this same trip Mrs. Baker spoke in three places where teaching work is being carried on by nearby Baha'i communities and thereby stimulated interest and progress at Hamburg (Buffalo), Canandaigua (Geneva) and Norwich (Binghamton). The meeting at Hamburg was entirely arranged by Mrs. Edith McLaren, the one resident Baha'i.

Mrs. Baker also visited Little Falls where Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ford are carrying on a most interesting experiment in indirect teaching through a public peace forum which is drawing together a large number of leaders of thought in that city. This forum, which averages 100 in attendance, has had several Baha'i speakers on its platform—Mr. Mountford Mills, who opened the series of lectures, Mrs. Frances Stewart and Mr. Stanwood Cobb. Besides the forum Mr. and Mrs. Ford also have a smaller, more intimate group to whom they speak directly of the Faith. It was this group who heard Mrs. Baker and also Kenneth Christian, Mr. Louis Gregory and the Baha'i forum speakers.

During February Mr. Gregory while visiting several Baha'i communities in this region, also spoke most successfully to the study group in Syracuse and met several interested people in Canandaigua as well as meeting the Little Falls group already referred to.

During the year the Temple model loaned by the Teaching Committee was used by several Assemblies and also exhibited in the following places: several weeks at the Museum of Fine Arts at Syracuse followed by a lecture on the Temple by Mr. Allen McDaniel before the Society of Architects of Syracuse; several weeks at the Schenectady Museum followed by a Temple lecture given by Mr. McDaniel at the Museum and arranged by Miss Ella Quant, the one believer in Schenectady; and also several weeks at the Historical Museum at Auburn.

Early in September the model was also used in connection with a Baha'i Exhibit at the New York State Fair at Syracuse. This exhibit sponsored by the Baha'i Exhibits Committee was designed by Mr. Carl Scheffler and built and installed by Rex and Mary Collison with the help in putting it up of Edward Belcher and Mehdi Firoozi. During the two weeks of the Fair the exhibit was in constant charge of one or more of the following: Ed Belcher and Ida Noyes from Binghamton, Elizabeth Brooks from Rochester and Mary Collison from Geneva. Among the many people who saw the exhibit about 100 names were given by people who wished to be notified of any future public Baha'i lectures in Syracuse. This list was of course used when the series of public lectures was given in November. We were disappointed to find that there was almost no response from these people but they will be given another chance later. The repetition of the exhibit this coming summer will be doubtless added to the teaching efforts in Syracuse and bear more fruit next year.

Mr. R. C. Collison, Secretary
Mrs. Marguerite Firoozi
Dr. Albert D. Heist
Mrs. Morris M. Bush
Miss Minnie Setz
Miss Ida Noyes

ONTARIO

The commencement of Baha'i teaching work in Hamilton was the "adoption" of that city by the Spiritual Assembly of Toronto. Twice-monthly public meetings were begun, and speakers were Mrs. Maritzi Carpentier and Mrs. Dudley Blakeley. Later a series of public meetings and study classes was undertaken by Mrs. Howard Ives. In February, 1939, Mrs. Mary Barton of Winnetka arrived in Hamilton and remained for four months, undertaking the supervision of study classes and the confirmation of individuals. Occasional visits were made by F. St. G. Spendlove of Toronto. The
Groups and study-groups endeavored to formulate ways and means inviting suggestions as to what form our current year and we ace most appreciative of this convenient place of the Regional Teaching Committee of in Chicago in the attractive rooms of the meetings have been held there during the future.Assembly hopes to regular teaching activities in Oshawa in early Toronto improved. As the visitors.

Baha'i Assembly, the McKay spent the weekend of the 2nd in Hamilton. The group now numbers four, with several applications pending.

After consultation with the National Spiritual Assembly, the Spiritual Assembly of Toronto applied for its second representation in the Canadian National Exhibition, with a display of the Temple model lent by the Montreal Community exhibited in the effective setting designed by W. S. Maxwell. The Exhibition is the largest annual exhibition in the world, with the largest average daily attendance. As a result the name "Baha'i" was brought to the attention of a substantial proportion of the visitors to the Exhibit, numbering more than a million and a half. One new Baha'i was added to the Toronto Community, and the attendance at study classes and public meetings was improved. As the Exhibition is truly national in character, it is hoped that a knowledge of the Cause will be carried to all parts of the Dominion by returning visitors.

A teaching trip to Oshawa, Ontario, was made by Mrs. Howard Ives in the early summer. The Toronto Spiritual Assembly hopes to be able to undertake regular teaching activities in Oshawa in the future.

**Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Toronto**

By: F. St. G. Spendlove, Chairman

**Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan**

On July 15 a meeting of the members of the Regional Teaching Committee of Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan was held in Chicago in the attractive rooms of the Chicago Bahá'í Center. Our subsequent meetings have been held there during the current year and we are most appreciative of this convenient place in which to hold our discussions. We immediately endeavored to formulate ways and means for assisting isolated believers, Bahá'í Groups and study-groups which constitute our particular responsibility in this region. As a preliminary survey, letters were sent to all people listed with us, inviting suggestions as to what form our help might take that might best serve their particular needs.

Almost unanimous were the replies in expressing desires for teachers prepared to give public talks or those who could remain for a considerable period of time, to teach and conduct study classes. As a result, members of the Regional Teaching Committee have traveled extensively, covering our entire region, visiting isolated believers, giving public lectures and, most worth while of all, remaining in some places for several weeks at a time, to encourage and help deepen the friends in their knowledge of the Faith.

Many of the isolated believers were limited in their supply of Bahá'í literature so some of the most essential books were secured and are now serving as a circulating library. They are sent by mail to be held for one month and are replaced by others as desired. We found too, that the isolated believers, deprived for the most part of association with fellow-believers, are full of questions regarding the teachings of their Faith. To answer these, we have secured the cooperation of some of the older believers who long to teach but are unable to absent themselves from their homes, to correspond with these isolated ones, answering their questions or explaining just where in the teachings the desired information may be found.

It was felt that the Regional Teaching Committee should sponsor exhibits of the Temple model at the various State fairs. Local Bahá'í Communities had already undertaken this in some places but we did plan for such an exhibit at the State fair in the State capital of Springfield, Illinois. We were assisted in this responsibility by the Bahá'ís of the Urbana, Springfield and Peoria communities. These communities were happy to report, that with the help of Bahá'u'lláh, they were able to display the model in a particularly attractive place, the center of the large horticultural room. Surrounded at a little distance with beautiful cut-flower displays of all sorts, our lovely model was daily the center of attraction. It is estimated that a hundred thousand people passed through this room during the nine days of the fair. We feel that many, many hundreds were contacted in this way and heard the message of Bahá'u'lláh, as symbolized by the Temple, for the first time.

"How beautiful! What do you suppose it is?" were some of the questions and exclamations heard. "Have you seen it?" we would immediately respond. "That is the Bahá'í Temple at Wilmette, Illinois. It is open to the public daily during the summer months and on Sundays all the year round. We are sure you will enjoy a trip through it." Thus with various questions and answers, and to the interested, pamphlets appropriate to their tastes, did three or four believers who daily served beside this most stimulating project, joyously tell the glad tidings of the advent of a Prophet of God come once again to this worn and weary world.

Later on, at their own initiative, the Bahá'í Group of Madison displayed a model of the Temple in the lobby of one of their leading hotels. Mrs. Sarah Wall was invited to give a public talk upon the Temple and several people were interested and joined a study class as a result of this project. Newspapers gave this event considerable publicity. Among others who have contributed their time and ability to the work of this region, are Mr. Carl Scheffler, who together with Mr. Clarence Niss, have traveled far and wide through the three states, Mrs. Margo Johnson, who has labored valiantly in her home city of Batavia, Mrs. Virginia Camelon and Mrs. Ruth Moffett, who have served in many places.

Situated near the Temple as we are, we have many inquiries sent by mail regarding the history and beliefs of our Faith and send out much printed matter as well as personal letters in reply.

We take great happiness in announcing that two of our Bahá'í Groups have developed community status. Waukegan, Illinois and Madison, Wisconsin will be organized as Spiritual Assemblies on April 21st. Four new Bahá'í Groups in our region, Grosse Pointe and Kalamazoo, in Michigan, Antioch and Manitowoc in Wisconsin, enthusiastically anticipate their speedy growth and development.

Mrs. Margery McCormick, Secretary.

Miss Ruth Cornell
Miss Pearlle Easterbrook
Mrs. Edna Ketels
Mrs. Bertha Kirkpatrick
Mr. Charles Reimer

**Martha L. Root in India and Burma**

The Dewan (like a Prime Minister) of Indore who opened the Convention, Sir S. M. Bapna, invited Shirin and me to his home to tea. For twenty years he has tried to interest the people of Indore in establishing courses in the study of Comparative Religions in all the schools of Indore. He has had a textbook written and published for the children and another is being written for the boys and girls, and a third textbook on Comparative Religions for the College students. How we hope the Bahá'í Faith will be included in those textbooks! If you have any Bahá'í books that you think would help him, please send them. Thanks. His
address is just Indore, India. He belongs to one of the foremost families of Rajputana and Central India. His ideals are most lofty and he has set his heart on having these textbooks as perfect as possible—and representative of all the religions.

Our Bahá’í Faith was criticised by one ultra-orthodox group at the Convention. I answered it, Shirin answered it another time, and non-Bahá’ís championed our Faith! Really the criticism did no harm!

One man had a paper on the need of a great universal religion, and explained what it ought to inculcate. A great Hindu professor arose and said: ‘The Bahá’í Faith we have been hearing so much about in this Convention is a universal religion and it inculcates all your suggestions and more. The Bahá’í Faith is ready, why not accept it for a universal religion?’ The man who had prepared this paper had not heard of the Bahá’í Teachings until he came to this Convention; he was very much impressed by the Message. It is remarkable how many Religious Conventions are being held in different parts of India, and the N. S. A. of India and Burma are invited to send, and do send, Bahá’í speakers to every one of them. The N. S. A. is very efficient and very, very spiritual; they work almost beyond human endurance and they are as united as one soul in nine bodies.

From Indore, Shirin and I came to Karachi arriving April 25. Here the N. S. A. of India and Burma held their annual Bahá’í Convention during Ridván. There was a stir throughout Karachi that week, every one was talking about the Bahá’í Faith. Everything was so well planned in advance both by the N. S. A. and the L. S. A. of Karachi. We had a tea for the journalists and our chairmen the day after our arrival. The Convention opened the following day, April 27. A great meeting was held in the largest hall in Karachi, Khalikdina Hall, that same evening. The man who became Mayor of Karachi a few days later was our Chairman, Mr. Abbas Ali Butt of Simla, Prof. Pritam Singh of Lahore and I spoke. April 28, the Mayor presided and Shirin Fozdar and I spoke at a public lecture in theosophical Hall. Mr. H. Manji of Bombay also spoke. April 29, the L. S. A. of Karachi gave a great garden party, inviting 350 guests to Bahá’í Hall Gardens. It was a beautiful event and almost all religions were represented. Here, too, Abbas Ali Butt and I spoke. April 30, another public lecture was held in theosophical Hall. Mr. Jamsheed Mehta, Mayor who had been my Chairman when I was in Karachi in 1910, acted as Chairman. Prof. Pritam Singh and I were the speakers. Sunday, May 1, we spoke in a Jain Temple at 8.30 a.m. and in Sharda Mandir, a large school, at 6 p.m., and a great public meeting was held in Bahá’í Hall in the evening when the speakers were Abbas Ali Butt, Mrs. Hashmatullah of Delhi and myself. May 2 we were invited to speak at a public lecture arranged by the Parsis and held at Katrak Hall. The Managing Editor of ‘The Daily Gazette’ presided. Mrs. Fozdar and I spoke. Some of the N. S. A. members and Mr. Manji spoke in a school at 6 p.m. These were only some of the events. Mr. Momenzadhi gave tea for the delegates to meet the Iranian Consul and his wife. The L. S. A. rented a large bungalow next to Bahá’í Gardens as the home for all delegates during that week. The Bahá’ís had breakfasts and teas and dinners for the Bahá’í friends to meet one another and several people of Karachi had dinners or teas where we spoke informally. During the eight days the N. S. A. held their sessions.

Then the N. S. A. members left, and I began the task of printing my book Tahrihah the Pure, Iran’s Greatest Woman. Mr. Isfandiar Bahktihi helped me every day, always going with me to the printer. It was so difficult to get the accent marks, etc., and it has taken three months, but patiently at last it is finished, three thousand copies. It is announced in Appendix III that some of the copies have gold leaf letters—we couldn’t get the gold leaf, and I could not delay my scheduled tour any longer, so they are printed in two styles only, red with gold-dust letters and in blue paper covers. One thousand copies have just been mailed out. Fifteen hundred will be used in India. Very recently I say it—my dream was to have the Bahá’í Faith, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, Shoghi Effendi and Tahrihah go together, in this book, on a teaching tour around the whole world! A preacher preaches to a few hundred or thousands or tens of thousands, but a book can be a preacher for centuries and to millions yet to be born. I hope you will speak of Tahrihah in women’s clubs, in universities and high schools, over the radio—just tonight a college boy of Karachi said to me: ‘I read the book yesterday and I could not sleep; I was thinking all night of the glory of Tahrihah’s beautiful life.’ You will see that I tried to make the book complete for non-Bahá’ís, so they would know of the Cause. The book is a ‘Bahá’í teacher!’ It has been sent to several rulers, statesmen, universities. I believe it will be translated into several languages.

During the three months here in Karachi, besides the book, I have spoken several times each week, or met people in small groups. In Bahá’í Hall there were two public meetings each week and one Youth Group meeting. I was invited to speak again in several societies and to some new organizations. Some of the Bahá’ís had groups in their homes, and I invited people to my place. The Mayor came and he invited us to his home and to several events where he was the guest of honor. He is a Muslim, a liberal Muslim, and he has read a number of our books. He asked me to speak in the discussions at the meeting in Municipal Corporation Court Hall which he called to form a Universal Peace Brigade in Karachi.
DEDICATION OF THE CONJUNCTION OF 
THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE 
HAZIRATU’L-QUDS AND MASHRIQU’L-ADHKÁR 
BY THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BÁBÁ’IS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA 
JANUARY 20, 1940 

AT HAZIRATU’L-QUDS 

I. TABLET OF VISITATION, 
BÁHÁ’ULLÁH 

The praise which hath dawned from Thy most august Self, and the glory which hath shone forth from Thy most effulgent Beauty, rest upon Thee, O Thou Who art the Manifestation of Grandeur, and the King of Eternity, and the Lord of all who are in heaven and on earth! I testify that through Thee the sovereignty of God and His dominion, and the majesty of God and His grandeur, were revealed, and the Day-Stars of ancient splendor have shed their radiance in the heaven of Thine irrevocable decree, and the Beauty of the Unseen hath shone forth above the horizon of creation. I testify, moreover, that with but a movement of Thy Pen Thine injunction “Be Thou” hath been enforced, and God’s hidden Secret hath been divulged, and all created things have been called into being, and all the Revelations have been sent down. 

I bear witness, moreover, that through Thy beauty the beauty of the Adored One hath been unveiled, and through Thy face the face of the Desired One hath shone forth, and that through a word from Thee Thou hast decided between all created things, causing them who are devoted to Thee to ascend unto the summit of glory, and the infidels to fall in the lowest abyss. 

I bear witness that he who hath known Thee hath known God, and he who hath attained unto Thy presence hath attained unto the presence of God. Great, therefore, is the blessedness of him who hath believed in Thee, and in Thy signs, and hath humbled himself before Thy sovereignty, and hath been honored with meeting Thee, and hath attained the good pleasure of Thy will, and circled around Thee, and stood before Thy throne. Woe betide him that hath transgressed against Thee, and hath denied Thee, and repudiated Thy signs, and gainsaid Thy sovereignty and risen up against Thee, and waxed proud before Thy face, and hath disputed Thy testimonies, and fled from Thy rule and Thy dominion, and been numbered with the infidels whose names have been inscribed by the fingers of Thy behest upon Thy holy Tablets. 

Wait, then, unto me, O my God and my Beloved, from the right hand of Thy mercy and Thy loving-kindness, the holy breaths of Thy favors, that they may draw me away from myself and from the world unto the courts of Thy nearness and Thy presence. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. Thou, truly, hast been supreme over all things. 

The remembrance of God and His praise, and the glory of God and His splendor, rest upon Thee, O Thou who art His Beauty! I bear witness that the eye of creation hath never gazed upon one wronged like Thee. Thou wast immersed all the days of Thy life beneath an ocean of tribulations. At one time Thou wast in chains and fetters; at another Thou wast threatened by the sword of Thine enemies. Yet, despite all this, Thou didst enjoin upon all men to observe what had been prescribed unto Thee by Him Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. 

May my spirit be a sacrifice to the wrongs Thou dost suffer, and my soul be a ransom for the adversities Thou didst sustain. I beseech God, by Thee and by them whose faces have been illumined with the splendors of the light of Thy countenance, and who, for love of Thee, have observed all whereunto they were bidden, to remove the evils that have come in between Thee and Thy creatures, and to supply me with the good of this world and the world to come. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate. 

Bless Thou, O Lord my God, the Divine Lote-Tree and its leaves, and its boughs, and its branches, and its stems, and its offshoots, as long as Thy most excellent titles will endure and Thy most august attributes will last. Protect it, then, from the mischief of the aggressor and the hosts of tyranny. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the Most Powerful. Bless Thou, also, O Lord my God, Thy servants and Thy handmaidens who have attained unto Thee. Thou, truly, art the All-Bountiful, Whose grace is infinite. No God is there save Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous. 

II. PRAYER FOR THE PUREST BRANCH, BÁHÁ’ULLÁH 

Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! Thou seest me in this day shut up in my prison, and fallen into the hands of Thine adversaries, and beholdest my son (The Purest Branch) lying on the dust before Thy face. He is Thy servant, O my Lord, whom Thou hast caused to be related to Him Who is the Manifestation of Thyself and the Day-Spring of Thy Cause. At his birth he was afflicted through his separation from Thee, according to what had been ordained for him through Thine irrevocable decree. And when he had quaffed the cup of reunion with Thee, he was cast into prison for having believed in Thee and in Thy signs. 

He continued to serve Thy Beauty until he entered into this Most Great Prison. Thereupon I offered him up, O my God, as a sacrifice in Thy path. Thou well knowest what they who love Thee have endured through this trial that hath caused the kindreds of the earth to wail, and beyond them the Concourse on high to lament. 

I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by him and by his exile and his imprisonment, to send down upon such as loved him what will quiet their hearts and bless their works. Potent art Thou to do as Thou wilt. No God is there but Thee, the Almighty, the Most Powerful. 

III. PRAYER FOR MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF JUSTICE, ‘ABDU’L-BÁHÁ 

O God, my God! We are servants of Thine that have turned with devotion to Thy Holy Face, that have detached ourselves from all beside Thee in this
glorious Day. We have gathered in this Spiritual Assembly, united in our views and thoughts, with our purposes harmonized to exalt Thy Word amidst mankind. O Lord, our God! Make us the signs of Thy Divine Guidance, the Standards of Thy exalted Faith amongst men, servants to Thy mighty Covenant. O Thou our Lord Most High! Manifestations of Thy Divine Unity in Thine Abbá Kingdom, and resplendent stars shining upon all regions. Lord! Aid us to become searing with the billows of Thy wondrous Grace, streams flowing from Thy all-glorious Heights, goodly fruits up on the Tree of Thy heavenly Cause, trees waving through the breezes of Thy Bounty in Thy celestial Vineyard. O God! Make our souls dependent upon the Verses of Thy Divine Unity, our hearts cheered with the outpourings of Thy Grace, that we may unite even as the waves of one sea and become merged together as the rays of Thine effulgent Light; that our thoughts, our views, our feelings may become as one reality, manifesting the spirit of union throughout the world. Thou art the Gracious, the Bountiful, the Bestower, the Almighty, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

AT MASHRIQ'U'L-ADHKÁR

IV. “BLESSED REMAINS TRANSFERRED,” SHOGHI EFFENDI

Blessed remains (of) Purest Branch and Master's Mother safely transferred (to) hallowed precincts (of the) Shrines (on) Mount Carmel. Long inflicted humiliation wiped away. Machinations (of the) Covenant-Breakers (to) frustrate plan defeated. Cherished wish (of) Greatest Holy Leaf fulfilled. Sister, Brother, Mother (and) Wife (of) 'Abdu'l-Bahá reunited at the one spot designed (to) constitute focal center (of) Bahá'í Administrative Institutions at Faith's World Center. Share joyful news (with) entire body (of) American believers.

V. TRIBUTE TO THE GREATEST HOLY LEAF, SHOGHI EFFENDI

No sooner had 'Abdu'l-Bahá stepped upon the shores of the European and American continents than our beloved Khamún found herself well-night overwhelmed with thrilling messages, each betokening the irresistible advance of the Cause in a manner which, not withstanding the vast range of her experience, seemed to her almost incredible. The enthusiasm and joy which swelled in her breast as she greeted 'Abdu'l-Bahá on His triumphant return from the West, I will not venture to describe. She was astounded at the vitality of which He had, despite His unimaginable sufferings, proved Himself capable. She was lost in admiration at the magnitude of the forces which His utterances had released. She was filled with thankfulness to Bahá'u'lláh for having enabled her to witness the evidences of such brilliant victory for His Cause no less than for His Son.

The ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, so tragic in its suddenness, was to her a terrific blow, from the effects of which she never completely recovered. To her He, Whom she called “Agá,” had been a refuge in times of adversity. On Him she had been led to place her sole reliance. In Him she had found ample compensation for the bereavements she had suffered, the desertions she had witnessed, the ingratitude she had been shown by friends and kindreds. No one could ever dream that a woman of her age, so frail in body, so sensitive of heart, so loaded with the cares of almost eighty years of incessant tribulation, could so long survive so shattering a blow. And yet, history, no less than the annals of our immortal Faith, shall record for her a share in the advancement and consolidation of the worldwide community which the hand of 'Abdu'l-Bahá had helped to fashion, which no one among the remnant of His Family can rival.

VI. TABLETS FOR THE PUREST BRANCH, BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

“At this very moment,” Bahá'u'lláh testifies, “My son is being washed before My face, after Having sacrificed him in the Most Great Prison. Thereat have the dwellers of the Bahá Tabernacle wept with a great weeping, and such as have suffered imprisonment with this Youth in the path of God, the Lord of the promised Day, lamented. Under such conditions My Pen hath not been prevented from remembering its Lord, the Lord of all nations. It summoneth the people unto God, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful. This is the day wherein he that was created of the light of Bahá has suffered martyrdom, at a time when He lay imprisoned at the hands of his enemies.”

“Upon thee, O Branch of God!” He solemnly and most touchingly, in that same Tablet, bestows upon Him His benediction, “be the remembrance of God and His praise, and the praise of all that dwell in the Realm of Immortality, and of all the denizens of the
Kingdom of Names. Happy art thou in that thou hast been faithful to the Covenant of God and His Testament, until Thou didst sacrifice thyself before the face of thy Lord, the Almighty, the Unconstrained. Thou, in truth, hast been wronged, and to this testifieth the Beauty of Him, the Self-Subsisting. Thou didst, in the first days of thy life, bear that which hath caused things to groan, and made every pillar to tremble. Happy is the one that remembereth thee, and draweth nigh, through thee, unto God, the Creator of the Morn."

"Glorified art Thou, O Lord, my God!" He, in a prayer, astoundingly proclaims, "Thou seest me in the hands of Mine enemies, and My son blood-stained before Thy face, O Thou in Whose hands is the kingdom of all names. I have, O my Lord, offered up that which Thou hast given Me, that Thy servants may be quickened and all that dwell on earth be united."

"Blessed art thou." He, in another Tablet affirms, "and blessed be he that turneth unto thee, and visiteth thy grave, and draweth nigh, through thee, unto God, the Lord of all that was and shall be. . . It testify that thou dost return in meekness unto thine abode. Great is thy blessedness and the blessedness of them that hold fast unto the hem of thy outspread robe . . . Thou art, verily, the trust of God and His treasure in this land. Erelong will God reveal through thee that which He hath desired. He, verily, is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. When thou wast laid to rest in the earth, the earth itself trembled in its longings to meet thee. Thus hath it been decreed, and yet the people perceive not. . . Were We to recount the mysteries of thine ascension, they that are asleep would awaken, and all beings would be set ablaze with the fire of the remembrance of My Name, the Mighty, the Loving."

VII. TABLETS FOR THE MOST EXALTED LEAF, BAHÁ'U'LLÁH 'ABDU'L-BAHÁ

Concerning the Most Exalted Leaf, the mother of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, Bahá'u'lláh has written: "The first Spirit through which all spirits were revealed, and the first Light by which all lights shone forth, rest upon thee, O Most Exalted Leaf, thou who hast been mentioned in the Crimson Book! Thou art the one whom God created to arise and serve His own Self, and the Manifestation of His Cause, and the Day Spring of His Revelation, and the Dawning-Place of His signs, and the Source of His commandments; and Who so aided thee that thou didst turn with thy whole being unto Him, at a time when His servants and handmaidens had turned away from His Face. . . . Happy art thou, O My handmaiden, and My Leaf, and the one mentioned in My Book, and inscribed by My Pen of Glory in My Scrolls and Tablets. . . Rejoice thou, at this moment, in the most exalted Station and the All-Highest Paradise, and the Abhá Horizon, inasmuch as He Who is the Lord of Names hath remembered thee. We bear witness that thou didst attain unto all good, and that God hath so exalted thee, that all honor and glory circled around thee."

"O Navváb!" He thus, in another Tablet, addresses her, "O Leaf that hath sprung from My Tree, and been My companion! My glory be upon thee, and My loving-kindness, and My mercy that hath surpassed all beings, We announce unto thee that which will gladden thine eye, and assure thy soul, and rejoice thine heart. Verily, thy Lord is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. God hath been and will be pleased with thee, and hath singled thee out for His own Self, and chosen thee from among His handmaidens to serve Him, and hath made thee the companion of His Person in the day-time and in the night-season."

"Hear thou Me once again," He reassures her, "God is well-pleased with thee, as a token of His grace and a sign of His mercy. He hath made thee to be His companion in every one of His worlds, and hath nourished thee with His meeting and presence, so long as His name, and His Remembrance, and His Kingdom, and His Empire shall endure. Happy is the handmaiden that hath mentioned thee, and sought thy good-pleasure, and humbled herself before thee, and held fast unto the cord of thy love. Woe betide him that denieth thy exalted station, and the things ordained for thee from God, the Lord of all names, and him that hast turned away from thee, and rejected thy station before God, the Lord of the mighty throne."

"O faithful ones!" Bahá'u'lláh specifically enjoins, "Should ye visit the resting-place of the Most Exalted Leaf, who hath ascended unto the Glorious Companion, stand ye and say: 'Salutation and blessing and glory upon thee, O Holy Leaf that hath sprung from the Divine Lote-Tree! I bear witness that thou hast believed in God and in His signs, and answered His Call, and turned unto Him, and held fast unto His cord, and clung to the hem of His grace, and fled thy home in His path, and chosen to live as a stranger, out of love for His presence and in thy longing to serve Him. May God have mercy upon him that draweth nigh unto thee, and remembereth thee through the things which My Pen hath voiced in this, the most great station. We pray God that He may forgive us, and forgive them that have turned unto thee, and grant their desires, and bestow upon them, through His wondrous grace, whatever be their wish. He, verily, is the Generous. Praise be to God. He Who is the Desire of all worlds; and the Beloved of all who recognize Him."

And, finally, 'Abdu'l-Bahá Himself in one of His remarkable Tablets, has borne witness only to the exalted station of one whose "seed shall inherit the Gentiles," whose Husband is the Lord of Hosts, but also to
the sufferings endured by her who was His beloved mother. "As to thy question concerning the 54th chapter of Isaiah," He writes, "This chapter refers to the Most Exalted Leaf, the mother of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. As a proof of this it is said: 'For more are the children of the desolate, than the children of the married wife.' Reflect upon this statement, and then upon the following: 'And thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.' And truly the humiliation and reproach which she suffered in the path of God is a fact which no one can refute. For the calamities and afflictions mentioned in the whole chapter are such afflictions which she suffered in the path of God, all of which she endured with patience and thanked God therefor and praised Him, because He had enabled her to endure afflictions for the sake of Bahá. During all this time, the men and women (Covenant-breakers) persecuted her in an incomparable manner, while she was patient, God-fearing, calm, humble and contented through the favor of her Lord and by the bounty of her Creator."

VIII. PRAYER FOR THE BUILDERS OF THE MASHRIQUL-ADHKAR, 'ABDU'L-BAHÁ

O God! O God! We implore Thee with throbbing heart and streaming tears to aid each one who strives in the erection of the house of the Lord where-in Thy Name is mentioned at morn and eventide.

O Lord, send down Thy benediction on whosoever servest this edifice and aids in the upraising of this Temple for the uniting of all sects and religions. Confirm him in every good deed among mankind; open the doors of riches and wealth unto him; and make him an inheritor of the treasures of the Kingdom which perish not; cause him to be a sign of giving among the people; uphold him by the sea of Thy bounty and generosity which forever surges with the waves of Thy grace and favor.

Verily, Thou art the Generous, the Bountiful, the All-Glorious!

IX. TABLET OF VISITATION, BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

The praise which hath dawned from Thy most august Self, and the glory which hath shone forth from Thy most effulgent Beauty, rest upon Thee, O Thou Who art the Manifestation of Grandeur, and the King of Eternity, and the Lord of all who are in heaven and on earth! I testify that through the sovereignty of God and His dominion, and the majesty of God and His grandeur, were revealed, and the Day-Stars of ancient splendor have shed their radiance in the heaven of Thine irrevocable decree, and the Beauty of the Unseen hath shone forth above the horizon of creation. I testify, moreover, that with but a movement of Thy Pen Thine injunction "Be Thou hath been enforced, and God's hidden Secret hath been divulged, and all created things have been called into being, and all the Revelations have been sent down.

I bear witness, moreover, that through Thy beauty the beauty of the Adored One hath been unveiled, and through Thy face the face of the Desired One hath shone forth, and that through a word from Thee Thou hast decided between all created things, causing them who are devoted to Thee to ascend unto the summit of glory, and the infidels to fall in the lowest abyss.

I bear witness that he who hath known Thee hath known God, and he who hath attained unto Thy presence hath attained unto the presence of God. Great, therefore, is the blessedness of him who hath believed in Thee, and in Thy signs, and hath humbled himself before Thy sovereignty, and hath been honored with meeting Thee, and hath attained the good pleasure of Thy will, and circled around Thee, and stood before Thy throne. Woe betide him that hath transgressed against Thee, and hath denied Thee, and repudiated Thy signs, and gainsaid Thy sovereignty, and risen up against Thee, and waxed proud before Thy face, and hath disputed Thy testimonies, and fled from Thy rule and Thy dominion, and been numbered with the infidels whose name have been inscribed by the fingers of Thy behest upon Thy holy Tablets.

Verily, Thou art the Generous, the Bountiful, Whose grace is infinite. No God is there save Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate.

Bless Thou, O Lord my God, the Divine Lote-Tree and its leaves, and its boughs, and its branches, and its stems, and its offshoots, as long as Thy most excellent titles will endure and Thy most august attributes will last. Protect it, then, from the mischief of the aggressor and the hosts of tyranny. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the Most Powerful. Bless Thou, also, O Lord my God, Thy servants and Thy handmaidens who have attained unto Thee. Thou, truly, art the All-Bountiful, Whose grace is infinite. No God is there save Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.
BAHÁ'Í NEWS

For Bahá'ís Only

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"BEFORE THE THRONE OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH"

Cablegram from Shoghi Effendi

(The) stupendous struggle now convulsing (the) major part (of the) European continent (is) progressively revealing (the) ominous features, (and) increasingly assuming (the) proportions, (of) (the) titanic upheaval foreshadowed seventy years ago (by the) prophetic pen (of) Bahá'u'lláh. (The) disruptive forces associated (with) humanity's world-shaking ordeal (are) closely interrelated (with) the constructive potentialities inherent (in the) American believers' Divinely-ordained Plan. Both (are) directly hastening (the) emergence (of the) spiritual World Order stirring (in the) womb (of a) travelling age. (I) entreat (the) American Bahá'í Community, whatever (the) immediate or distant repercussions (of the) present turmoil on their own continent, however violent its impact (upon the) World Center (of) their Faith, (to) pledge themselves anew, before (the) Throne (of) Bahá'u'lláh, (to) discharge, with unswerving aim, unfailing courage, invincible vigor, exemplary fidelity (and) ever-deepening consecration, (the) dual responsibility solemnly undertaken under (the) Seven Year Plan. (I) implore them (to) accelerate (their) efforts, increase (their) vigilance, deepen (their) unity, multiply (their) heroic feats, maintain (their) distant outposts (in the) teaching field (of) Latin America, (and) expedite (the) termination (of the) last stage (in the) ornamentation (of the) Temple. (I am) praying continually (with) redoubled fervor. Received June 13, 1940.

"CONTINUOUS CONSECRATION"

Letter from Shoghi Effendi

Dear and valued co-workers:

To these words, written on my behalf, and in answer to your particular questions relating to the administrative issues that confront you in these days, I wish to add my own tribute to the magnificent man in which you face the problems, both spiritual and administrative, which the expansion of the Faith is continually raising, and to the way in which you resolve them, explain their nature, and derive fresh strength from your experience of any one of them. The text of the annual reports, demonstrates this fact, and establishes for all time the high standard according to which the administrative machinery of the Faith is functioning, developing and consolidating itself under your able and energetic direction. As the administrative processes expand, as their operation steadily improves, as their necessity is more fully and strikingly demonstrated, and their beneficent influence correspondingly grows more apparent and evident, so will the blessings, the strength and guidance bestowed by Him Who animates and directs these processes be more abundantly vouchsafed to those who have been called upon to utilize them, in this age, for the execution of God's Purpose and for the ultimate redemption of a sore-stricken travelling humanity. Many will be the setbacks, the shocks and the disturbances, which the commotions of a convulsive age must produce, yet no force, however violent and world-wide in its range and catastrophic in its immediate consequences, can either halt these processes or deflect their appointed course. How great, then, the privilege, and how staggering the responsibility, of those who are destined to guard over them and to bring them eventually to full fruition. Nothing short of utter, of continuous consecration to His Will and Purpose can enable them to fulfill their high destiny. Haifa, May 15, 1940.

BAHÁ'IS AND MILITARY SERVICE

The further spread of the area of hostilities, involving now the Bahá'ís of so many countries, including Canada, makes it imperative for the believers to understand the principles which control the relation of Bahá'ís to military duty. The National Spiritual Assembly therefore summarizes the different points at issue for the information of all Bahá'ís.

1. Bahá'ís are obedient to their government. The Bahá'í teachings do not sanction any principle of pacifism under
which, for the sake of individual conscience, citizens claim the right to repudiate their obligation for military service when required.

2. Bahá'ís, however, belonging as they do to a Faith whose essential purpose is to manifest the oneness of mankind and establish world order, are by their Teachings required to apply for exemption from combatant service whenever such exemption is legally provided by their government in time of war. Whenever possible the military duty of Bahá'ís is to be rendered through fields not involving the act of killing.

3. Such exemption is granted under statutes enacted in connection with the actual state of war and cannot be obtained before the state of war exists.

4. This exemption, for Bahá'ís, is claimed for them by their administrative bodies and is not sought by the individual believer for himself. Until there is a draft act, or the enactment of compulsory military duty, the conditions under which exemption can be officially granted do not exist.

5. In the case of the United States and Canadian governments, the National Spiritual Assembly some years ago filed a statement on the Bahá'í Teachings concerning international peace, to provide a basis on which formal petition might be made for exemption of Bahá'ís from combatant service in view of the nature of their Faith. Since September, 1939, local Assemblies of Canada have petitioned for exemption of Bahá'ís on the basis of that statement filed by the N. S. A. The reply made has been to the effect that Canada has not yet adopted compulsory service, hence exemption is not necessary.

6. Military service may be voluntary as well as compulsory. The principle laid down by the Guardian controlling voluntary enlistment is found in the following excerpt from his letter to the National Assembly of the British Isles as reprinted in Bahá'í News for January, 1940: "There are many other avenues through which the believers can assist in times of war by enlisting in services of a non-combatant nature—services that do not involve the direct shedding of blood—such as ambulance work, anti-air raid precaution service, office and administrative works, and it is for such types of national service that they should volunteer.

"It is immaterial whether such activities would still expose them to dangers, either at home or in the front, since their desire is not to protect their lives, but to desist from any acts of wilful murder."

National Spiritual Assembly.

"THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY MUST, AS ONE MAN, ARISE TO FULFILL THEM"

Beloved Friends:

The American Bahá'ís have come to the hour of their most glorious destiny. While others see only the manifestations of violence ruining the old civilization, the followers of Bahá'u'lláh behold the signs of regeneration and reformation of the human world. Their faith assures them that nothing can prevail except the Divine decree. Their spiritual knowledge embraces the understanding of current world events interpreted by 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the Guardian in countless passages and texts. Now we must translate this unsinkable faith into such vigorous teaching efforts that thousands will hasten to drink the cup and join our ranks.

A deeper zeal for teaching, the National Spiritual Assembly is convinced, constitutes the essence of the Bahá'í life in this hour. The very life of the spirit is nothing else but a continuous testimony to the Victory which Bahá'u'lláh manifested in the power of the Greatest Name. Bahá'í faith is no mere creed—its basis is complete conviction that the oneness of mankind is now being established upon the earth. Bahá'ís believe in the superiority of the power of God over all other forces, and the fulfillment of His policy over all human policies, and in the immortality of the soul above all instruments of destruction which hate and ignorance can devise. It is that universal faith which we are to demonstrate in this hour for a humanity fallen prey to the false gods of national, racial and sectarian prejudice.

This universal faith is not a philosophy but an inner experience. Without this inner experience the most learned of men is impotent, while as the Guardian has assured us, the simplest of men, imbued with true faith, can move the hearts of a multitude. Unlike former religions, the faith of the Bahá'í can mature in spiritual knowledge given by the teachings, and be perfectly demonstrated through the unity of the new social order which Bahá'u'lláh has established.

Therefore it is the plea of the National Assembly that the American Bahá'ís arise in active teaching service. It is to the teachings, requirements, and recommendations of the Seven Year Plan that the community of the American believers must henceforth direct their careful and sustained attention. The entire community must, as one man, arise to fulfill them. To teach the Cause of God, to proclaim its truths, to defend its interests, to demonstrate, by words as well as by deeds, its indispensability, its potency, and universality, should at no time be regarded as the exclusive concern or sole privilege of Bahá'í administrative institutions, but be they Assemblies or committees. All must participate, however humble their origin, however limited their experience, however restricted their means, however deficient their education, however pressing their cares and preoccupations, however unfavorable the environment in which they live. 'God,' Bahá'u'lláh, Himself, has unmistakably revealed, 'bahá prescribed unto every one the duty of teaching His Cause.' Say, 'He further has written, 'Teach ye the Cause of God, O people of Bahá, for God has prescribed unto every one the duty of proclaiming His Message, and regardeth it as the most meritorious of all deeds.'" (The Advent of Divine Justice, pp. 37, 38)

The more desperate the condition of the world, the more penetrating is His Word. The more incautious men become of solving their problems, the more convincing is the new World Order of Bahá'u'lláh. Let it be the first concern of each believer, to seize this Divine opportunity to teach. Let it be the first concern of each Assembly and each committee, to inspire, prepare, reinforce, assist and consolidate a vastly enlarged teaching activity.

Who, of those we know, are prepared for the Message? What fireside meetings can be held? What more potent public meetings arranged? Which teaching literature is best adapted for this person or that group? Is our community consecrated to continuous study of the Teachings? Are we using our opportunities for publicity and radio? These are the questions we should be raising at this time, leaving behind as much as possible those minor issues of personality which consume time and strength without advancing the essential interests of the Faith. Those who are consecrated to teaching effort enter the world of the spirit where higher laws protect us from our negative self.

"The field is indeed so immense, the period so critical, the Cause so great, the workers so few, the time so short, the privilege so priceless, that no follower of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh, worthy to bear His name, can afford a moment's hesitation. That God-born Force, irresistible in its sweeping power, insinuable in its potency, unpredictable in its course, mysteriously in its works, and none the less so in its manifestations—a Force which, as the Bahá has written, 'vibrates within the innermost being of all created things,' and which, according to Bahá'u'lláh, has through its 'vibrating influence,' 'upset the equilibrium of the world and revolutionized its ordered life,'—such a Force, acting
even as a two-edged sword, is, under our very eyes, unloosening, on the one hand, the age-old ties which for centuries have held together the fabric of civilized society, and is unloosing, on the other, the bonds that still fetter the infant and as yet unemancipated Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. The undreamt-of opportunities offered through the operation of this Force,—the American believers must now rise, and fully and courageously exploit them. "The holy realities of the Concours on high," writes 'Abdu'l-Bahá, "yearns, in this day, in the Most Exalted Paradise, to return unto this world, so that they may be aided to render some service to the threshold of the Abhá Beauty, and arise to demonstrate their servitude to His sacred Threshold."

COMMUNICATION FROM THE GUARDIAN

For the information of the believers, the National Assembly cites the following passages from a letter written by the Guardian, through his secretary, dated April 15, 1940.

"In the matter of the use and distribution of prayer beads, in this and other matters of secondary importance he does not wish that any hard and fast rules be set up. The believers should not be required to use prayer beads, nor should they be prevented from doing so, as the Teachings do not contain any specific instruction on the subject."

"The letter received by the Vancouver Assembly from the Department of National Defence acknowledging their letter on the subject of the exemption of Baha'is from combatant military duty has been read with gratification by the Guardian who, indeed, welcomes this action as yet another step forward in the consolidation and recognition of the administrative institutions of the Faith."

"Regarding the question of Baha'i membership in secret fraternal organizations: he thinks that for the present this matter should be left to the discretion of the friends, and that no statement on the subject, defining in a rigid and uniform way their attitude towards such bodies, would be necessary."

THE TEACHING REQUIREMENTS OF THE SEVEN YEAR PLAN

The Guardian's exposition of this subject in The Advent of Divine Justice (pp. 37-48) is summarized here in order to lend supreme emphasis to the subject of teaching, which the National Assembly wishes to make paramount this year. The friends will recall that the Guardian's references to Inter-America teaching were similarly summarized in Bahá'í News of November, 1939.

1. Superb and irresistible as is the beauty of the First Mashriqu'l-Adhkar of the West, it should be regarded as no more than an instrument for the more effective propagation of the Cause.

2. In this respect it should be viewed in the same light as the administrative institutions of the Faith which are designed as vehicles for the proper dissemination of its ideals, its tenets, and its verities.

3. It is ... to the teaching requirements of the Seven Year Plan that the community ... must henceforth direct their careful and sustained attention.

4. To teach ... should at no time be regarded as the exclusive concern or sole privilege of Bahá'í administrative institutions.

5. How often ... have the lowliest adherents ... been capable of winning victories for their Cause.

6. The field ... so immense, the period so critical, the Cause so great, the workers so few, the time so short, the privilege so priceless, that no follower ... can afford a moment's hesitation.

7. So precious an opportunity ... may never again recur. Now is the time, the appointed time, for the American believers ... to proclaim, through the agencies and channels of a specially designed Administrative Order, their capacity and readiness to rescue a fallen and sore-tried generation.

8. The teaching campaign ... acquires ... an importance ... that cannot be overestimated.
9. Launched... through the creative energies released by the Will of 'Abdu'l-Bahá... it must... be carried out in conformity with certain principles.

10. Those who participate... must... thoroughly familiarize themselves with the... history and teachings... study... the literature... delve into its teachings, assimilate its laws and principles, ponder its admonitions, tenets and purposes, commit to memory certain of its exhortations and prayers, master the essentials of its administration... keep abreast of its current affairs.

11. They must... obtain... a sound knowledge... of Islam.

12. They must, whenever they contemplate any specific mission in the countries of Latin America... acquire a certain proficiency in the languages... of those countries.

13. No participator of this inter-American campaign must feel that the initiative... must rest solely with those agencies, whether Assemblies or committees, whose... concern is... this vital objective.

14. It is the bounden duty of every American believer... to initiate, promote and consolidate, within the limits fixed by the administrative principles... any activity he or the deeds fit to undertake.

15. Neither should the threatening world situation, nor... lack of material resources, of mental equipment, of knowledge, or of experience... deter any prospective pioneer teacher.

16. Having on his own initiative... resolved to arise... let him carefully consider every avenue of approach... survey the possibilities... devise such methods as association with clubs... or participation in social, cultural, humanitarian, charitable, and educational organizations.

17. Let him... preserve its dignity, and station... safeguard the integrity of its laws and principles... decide... the suitability of either the direct or indirect method of teaching.

18. Let him... shower... kindness upon the seeker... refrain at the outset from insisting on such laws and observances as might impose too severe a strain... Let him, as soon as that stage (maturity of faith) has been attained, introduce him to the body of his fellow-believers, and seek... to enable him to contribute his share to the enrichment of its (the Bahá’í community’s) life.

19. Let every participator... bear in mind the necessity of keeping in close and constant touch with those responsible agencies designed to direct, coordinate, and facilitate the teaching activities of the entire community.

20. They... should, through constant interchange of ideas, through letters, circulars, reports, bulletins... insure the smooth and speedy functioning of the teaching machinery of their Administrative Order.

21. Upon every participator... rests the spiritual obligation to make of the mandate of teaching... the all-pervading concern of his life.

22. If he be member of any Spiritual Assembly let him encourage his Assembly to consecrate a certain part of its time... to... consideration of such ways and means as may foster the campaign of teaching.

23. If he attends his summer school... let him consider such an occasion as a... precious opportunity... to enrich... his knowledge.

24. Let him... seek... through inter-community visits to stimulate the zeal for teaching.

25. Let any one who feels the urge... direct in particular the attention... of the Negro, the Indian, the Eskimo, and Jewish races to His Faith.

26. Let those... holding administrative positions... bear in mind the vital and urgent necessity of insuring... the formation... of groups... and enable these... nuclei to evolve... into properly functioning... Assemblies.

27. To implant... the banner of Bahá’u’lláh in the heart of these virgin territories, to erect the structural basis of His Administrative Order in their cities and villages... constitute... the first and most significant step.

TRANSLATION OF THE TABLET OF "THE EPISODE TO THE SON OF THE WOLF"

In the June issue of Bahá’í News, a cablegram from the Guardian was published which announced that he was sending the first part of his translation of Epistle To the Son Of The Wolf.

This was received in a letter dated May 7, 1949, with the following comment: "A careful comparison of this new translation of the Guardian with that of Mrs. Chanler’s clearly reveals how inadequate and misleading the latter is both from the point of view of accuracy and of faithfulness. It further shows how unconscientious Ahmad Sohrab has been in comparing that old translation with the original Persian and Arabic text of the Tablet. His description in the preface of the book of Mrs. Chanler’s rendering as ‘accurate’ and ‘faithful’ is altogether untrue, as not only her translation abounds with mistakes, but also reveals many important omissions. The term ‘Fear of God’ has apparently been deliberately changed in some cases into ‘Love of God’ towards the end of the book, as the French version which she translated proves (it)."

CONCERNING THE POSITION OF AMERICA IN THE WORLD WAR

With the Guardian’s consent, the National Assembly publishes an excerpt from the letter written by him to Miss Juliet Thompson on November 21, 1940. In giving permission, the Guardian informed the Assembly that "it should be published only for the information of the friends, and does not imply any collective action to be taken by them."

"With regard to your question concerning the future position of America in the coming world war: it would be certainly premature to make any definite forecast at the present time, and the impression* that the Guardian meant that America would be necessarily drawn into the field of hostilities is also not correct. One thing, however, is absolutely certain, and which the Guardian himself has more than once emphasized, namely that nothing short of a full assumption by America of the grievous burdens, responsibilities and duties that naturally fall upon her as one

* The impression that the last section of The Advent of Divine Justice means that America will inevitably enter the war.
of the leading nations of the world can enable her to fulfill the high political mission which she has been called upon to play in the future political and social reconstruction of mankind. The destiny of America is inseparably bound up with that of the rest of the world, and it would be impossible therefore to conceive of her taking, in the long run, a purely passive attitude in regard to political and social developments that transpire in and agitate the remaining four continents of the globe.

INTER-AMERICA TEACHING

Among the important items of current news:

A Spanish edition of the excerpts from the Master's Will and Testament has been published by the American Baha'i Publishing Committee from the translation made by Mrs. Frances B. Stewart, the title being "La Ultima Voluntad Y Testamento De 'Abdu'l-Baha." Copies can be obtained for 20 cents.

Work is being hastened as rapidly as possible on the printing of the following Spanish translations: Dr. Essement's Baha'u'llah and the New Era, Some Answered Questions, The Wisdom of 'Abdu'l-Baha. When these books are ready, no time will be lost in getting copies to the pioneer teachers and groups.

Cuba: Mr. and Mrs. Philip Marangella have reported the confirmation of four Baha'is in Havana. This makes a strong group for development of a Spiritual Assembly. The address for correspondence is uncertain at this time, on account of a typhoid epidemic which has apparently compelled Mr. and Mrs. Marangella to seek residence in another quarter of the city. The arrangement for extending Mr. Marangella's stay in Cuba for three months after July 15 had just been made when he advised by cable of the need for change of residence. The new Baha'is are: Mr. Jack Zoller, Mr. Eugenio Gines, Mr. Domingo Santos del Rio, and Mr. Perfecto Perez Toledo.

Honduras: The following excerpts from reports prepared by Mr. Antonio Roca after his return give the salient features of this pioneer's accomplishments.

"I left Milwaukee September 23, 1939 by automobile via Laredo, Texas, arriving in Monterey, passing Mexican border September 27th. I immediately started giving the message contacting people who had contacted me on my previous trip to Mexico. I reached Mexico City on September 28th, 1939 at 9 P.M.

"On the 29th of September I visited Mr. Espinoza and had a real treat and surprise to find a beautiful four room Center and was very happy to see that the Baha'i Cause in Mexico had made such a great progress in such a short time. Mr. Espinoza and all the other friends were very friendly and explained to me the future plans they had for developing the Faith.

"Tegucigalpa is a town of about 45,000 inhabitants, the only capital in the world without railway connection, the main transportation facilities being trucks but mostly ox-carts. The town is small, colonial style, mostly one and two story buildings and some of the streets are still not paved. In the main Plaza there stands the great 'Colonial Time Cathedral' which my ancestors had given to the Central American Republics. I was overjoyed to be the chosen one to be able to give the message to those people so very much needed in this 20th century.

"Well prepared and fortified with an overflow of the spirit, I went to the newspapers, 'El-Cronista' and 'La Epoca,' the only two there. They printed an article on my arrival and on the principles of the Faith, and extended a welcome to me and wished that my visit to their city would be pleasant, which is customary in that country.

"I first contacted the Spanish people, having to take my meals in a Spanish Restaurant and had a room in the Hotel Honduras. People showed an astonishing and surprising attitude that a born Spaniard would dare to come into a country where the Catholic Religion had ruled for 400 years, and was still extremely strong and teach such a Message as I had. But, nevertheless, with the Great Power of Baha'u'llah was able to travel all over the city and teach the Cause without any interference. After being there about ten days contacted the president of a Spiritual Society, 'Nuevo Orienta,' a Mr. Gonzalez, and he gave me addresses of those who he felt might be interested in the Cause. I was quite elated, they having sent three delegates to greet me on my arrival, and felt that perhaps here was a group who would become the Center for a group of seekers. They came three times to my room, that is as a group, and asked questions. They believed that what we taught was true, but it would be unable for them to carry on their commercial methods
which they had been using with their society. They recognized that the 'Book of Certitude' could only have been revealed by a Prophet of God and I continued to pray that Baha'u'llah will nurture those seeds and they may eventually bear fruit. Some of the people I talked to had been censured by the Government and they were afraid to come to the meetings. There were many Theosophists, Rosicrucians and Masons, and after hearing of the Message would ask for bigger books, not just pamphlets. None of the people I contacted made any effort to put at my disposal facilities where I could teach and some even said that I was teaching Anti-Christ. I visited people at their places of business and homes and they would promise that they would come to my room for classes but never showed up. The entire clothing business was controlled by Palestinians from Bethlehem. After being there a short time every one seemed to know the word 'Baha'i' and it was discussed by many people among themselves and some of them would call me into their stores and ask me what I had. These people from Bethlehem after finding out that we were proclaiming the New Manifestation, they being Orthodox believers, were prone to deny and even laugh at the Cause and they were very antagonistic. There were many hours and days when I felt that my efforts would be a complete failure and that it would be impossible to establish the Faith in such a small town where every one knew every one else and particularly in business, and all business being controlled by different colonies, German, Spanish, Arabians. The natives are either very rich or very poor, being 50% Indian or Indian descent. In less than three months many hundreds of people heard about Baha'u'llah and His teachings. It was about two months after being there that I contacted the first believer, a famous writer and poetess, Mrs. Angela Ochoa Velasquez, and she was the instrument in bringing the rest of the believers. A group came to my hotel room to study and 7 of them declared themselves, three of them dropping out again when they realized the great purity of the Cause. It was then necessary to start an Assembly and to establish in Central America we all made an extra effort to contact souls who had already shown an interest in the Cause. When they realized that they would be the first to establish such a group and knowing that it would be necessary to register with the Government they feared it and we were unable to accomplish forming such an Assembly. But we were able to again contact three souls who became real believers. "On March 10th we were privileged to meet at the Airport, Mrs. Loral Schofrocher who stayed with us three days and helped us tremendously with our teaching work. She gave three lectures at the Hotel Asia, the attendance being 22, 35, 20. Every one hearing her was so pleased and enthusiastic, some of them later attending our classes, but as yet not confirmed. "I am happy to report seven steadfast believers, who have attended classes for over three months, two or three times a week, and we feel that they will carry on with some little help. I left with them the necessary books and pamphlets sent to me by the National Publishing Committee. They all need our prayers for their spiritual growth and steadfastness. They promised earnestly to strive to establish an Assembly and Centre in Tegucigalpa. "The greatest hindrance of all my teaching work was the lack of translations of Baha'i books, such as the New Era, Some Answered Questions, and Procedure. "I estimate that over 2,000 people heard the Message of Baha'u'llah in Tegucigalpa. All the Government employees were very cordial to me personally and gave me full freedom of expressing the purpose and greatness of the New World Order."

The following pioneers report on May Maxwell's Memorial Services:

Costa Rica: Mrs. Amelia Ford and Mrs. Gayle Woolson, "We started our Baha'i study class on Friday, April 26th, the same evening that we, as well as Baha'i's the world over, observed the memorial meeting for May Maxwell. At our first meeting there were four Costa Ricans present: Senora Americana de Castillo, Senorita Marta Guerra, Senor Edgar Sanz Bleu, and Senor Jose J. Ulloa. The person who had been most cooperative with us, Senor Julian Castillo, was not able to be present at that meeting. . . ."

Jamaica: Mr. and Mrs. John Shaw, "The memorial meeting for Mrs. Maxwell was held with reading from the Hidden Words and prayer book, and I also spoke of her service to the Cause of Baha'u'llah and sacrificing her life in His Cause. It was indeed a very spiritual meeting."—Rosa L. Shaw.

Haiti: Mrs. Ruth Blackwell, "I have no memorial service to report except that I had a prayer for Mrs. Maxwell moi-meme. She was the sacrifice for this work."

Dominican Republic: Miss Margaret Lentz, "There is nothing to report except that I read for myself the cables and reports and recited the prayers for the Departed. Maria Teresa did the same, as I had sent her copies and given her the hour that was indicated for the memorial gatherings."

El Salvador: Clarence Iverson, John Eichener, Jr., "... on Friday evening, April 26th, we held our memorial meeting. We began at 7 so as to be the same time the Convention held theirs. We read the Victory Tablet first, the N. S. A.'s letter, with the Guardian's cables about her station, the cable Rubiyih sent us 'Loving Gratitude Lorol Clarence Yourself' which she sent us March 16th when Lorol was here, pg. 279 of P. and M. and Teaching report of Mrs. Maxwell of Baha'i News No. 48, Feb., 1932. At 8:00 P.M. Mr. Miguel Angel Canales, one of our students joined us and we held another meeting at the time specified in the N. S. A.'s letter. We read the N. S. A.'s letter again, 140, 343, 169-171 from Gleanings, and 254 from P. & M."

The first Baha'i baby born in South America, is Anthony Roy Worley, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, March 29, 1940. The Chairman of the Inter-American Committee presented an engraved cup to our first pioneer baby.
Gerrard Sluter reports that there are twenty-one believers in Guatemala and he is now in San Salvador visiting Clarence and Johnny on his way to Honduras to take Antonio Roca’s place who has returned to the United States.

Mrs. Stewart is doing excellent work in Mexico City, first stop in her year’s teaching journey. She proceeds next to El Salvador.

Quite a part of a letter from John Eichener, Jr., “Another letter I received was from Dorothy Candels, a Bahá’í youth of London, England, secretary of the assembly, dated March 7th. I had told her of my activities here and she wrote of their work, especially in the north of England, and of the darkened streets, sandbagged buildings. Also, Antoinette Bolton, a Bahá’í youth of Sidney, Australia, whose parents I met last year at Geyserville, in a letter dated February 21st, wrote us of their summer school Jan. 6 to 21st. Sixty in attendance.

“In our activities here, Clarence and I have both done individual work as Lorol advised us to forget about the former group of persons whom I thought were really interested and work with the ones she met. Through one of these, Ana Rosa Ochoa, we met Mr. Francisco Gavi­na, a historian, other than the integration of men, after cruel wars, attired in long tunics with heads wrapped in turbans; neither is their Cause horrified to contemplate, from the height of a new ideal, the pestilential ruins of a corrupt civilization which went down before the assult of cannon and machine-gun.

From those horrors there will arise, according to the faith of the Bahá’ís, the new era of peace and fraternity, the principles of which are the breaths of life from the Holy Spirit that creates men anew.

If we do not believe in the (ultimate) realization of this noble cause inasmuch as it is far too noble for this epoch of cannibalism, we appreciate at least the sincerity and purity of the ideals sustaining these two youths of twenty years—which is, of itself, something rare at this hour when humanity suffers the reaction of all passions.

—By Ana Rosa Ochoa.

(Translation by H. P. B.)

RACE UNITY

“Consent with all the people with love and fragrance. Fellowship is the source of order in the world. Blessed are they who are kind and serve with love.”

—Bahá’u’lláh.

A small but important minority group to whom the Bahá’í Teachings will be spread in the future are the Eskimos, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá has written, “Dispatch ye teachers to Greenland and the home of the Eskimos . . . God willing, the call of the Kingdom may reach the ears of the Eskimos . . . Should you display an effort, so that the fragrances of God may be diff-

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* New Moon begins before Sunset. 1st, in Can., Mtn., and Pac. time zones.
* First Quarter begins before Sunset. 8th, in Mountain and Pacific Time zones.
fused among the Eskimos, its effect will be very great and far-reaching.”

How much do you know about the Eskimos? Here are a few facts to arouse your interest so that you will want to read further about these northern brethren of ours. There are estimated to be about 30,000 Eskimos in the world today. These Eskimos inhabit the Arctic regions extending from the Bering Straits over the northern coast of America and its groups of Arctic islands to the east coast of Greenland. Anthropologists do not agree as to the origin of the Eskimos, but the greater number today accept the view that the Eskimos are merely one kind of North American Indian, both in blood and language.

The living conditions of these people are very simple. Seal is their staple winter food and their most valuable resource supplying them with dog food, clothing, boats, tents, harpoon lines, light, and heat. The walrus, narwhal, whale, bear, and to a smaller extent the deer, fox, and hare, also afford important supplies. Thousands of birds are stored for winter use. In summer caribou are hunted, the skins of which furnish the clothing for the next winter.

Dwellings are of two kinds; tents for summer use and houses for winter use. The tents are made of sealskin. The igloos or winter houses are varied in structure among the different groups. Usually they are built of stems chinked and covered with moss and banked up with snow. Many of the western and Laborador Eskimos, however, build their houses chiefly of wood.

The Eskimo family sometimes consists of from 4 to 60 people. Voluntary members who are blind, crippled or ill are taken into the household. The head of the family is proud of these, for by supporting them he proves that he is a capable breadwinner. The Eskimos are known for their great generosity and hospitality. They are friendly to strangers. On the whole the Eskimos are a happy people who are naturally fond of song and music. We are told that they laugh as much in a month as ordinary civilized people do in a year.

In the societal life of the Eskimos public opinion is a strong force. There are no chiefs, soldiers, police or prisons, and there are practically only two punishments: the disapproval of the community and death.

If you will read any one of the following books, you will learn a great many more facts about the Eskimos told in a delightful fashion by these various authors:

- *Daylight Moon* by Elizabeth Chabot Forrest, Frederick A. Stokes Co., N. Y., 1937.
- *Arctic Adventure* by Peter Freuchen, Farrar and Rinehart, N. Y., 1935.

## Baha’i Children and The Calendar

**Thank thou God that thou hast stepped into the arena of existence in such a blessed Age and hast opened ears and eyes in such a Day of Promise.”**

—Baha’i Scripture, 850.

Let us look at the Baha’i Calendar in relation to our children. What significance does it have for them?

Before attempting to answer this question, we must first consider what is the child’s idea of time. A very young child has no time concept at all. Gradually he begins to learn through concrete experiences that the time of activity is called day-time and the time of inactivity (that is when he is asleep) is called night-time. Light and dark are not always associated with day and night for him. Frequently a small boy or girl upon awaking from an afternoon nap thinks that a new day has begun. All during the pre-school years there is much confusion in his understanding of this matter. Finally the day becomes associated with the light-giving sun (Why can’t we have the sun all the time? a small girl asks, concluding that then there would be only day and activity) and the night becomes associated with the darkness and also with the stars if the child’s attention is drawn to the contents of the night sky. But even after this simplest division of time is clarified for him, the pre-school child is still confused about yesterday; today and tomorrow. Remarks such as, “Mother brought me new shoes tomorrow,” (meaning yesterday) or “I will drink all my milk yesterday” (meaning tomorrow) are very common during this period. From a child’s point-of-view a minute is a very small amount of time; an hour a very great amount of time; while a day is endless.

When a child talks about time his concept is of something concrete exactly as though he were speaking of a piece of cake or an apple. A child once covered a sheet of paper with his scribblings and called it, “a piece of the day.” Children know that somehow clocks and watches are used for telling time but their concept is not that of a mature person. For example when Mary’s mother told her she might get up at three o’clock and showed Mary just where the two hands of the clock would be at that time, Mary age five, a few minutes later set the hands in that position and innocently insisted that it was three o’clock.

However the child whose day is well planned and run on schedule will understand the division of time more quickly than one whose day is irregularly spent. The same is true of the days in the week. After the hours, days and weeks are fairly well understood the child will then be ready to understand months and here is...
where the Bahá’í Calendar can be introduced to advantage.

There are two special appeals that this calendar will make to the child if his parents will use them. One is the fact that a child likes to have names for every and anything. True the months of our current civil calendar do have names but they are not the attractive and understandable names such as the Bahá’í months have. Secondly, the child delights in celebrations. Each name on the Bahá’í Calendar such as Glory, Light, and Splendor and others suggest a celebration. Take for example, the month of Ráhmat (translated Mercy, though Kindness is more within the experience of the child); this month, the child or children in a Bahá’í family could celebrate by being especially kind to his family, his friends; pets; yes and even his garden (we remember that ‘Abdu’l-Bahá used to speak to the flowers) in so far that he will not neglect its care. Now he goes on to the month of Kalimat (words). This he will celebrate by giving especial attention to the words he uses. They will be kind, comforting and full of praise for others; and so on through the year.

Just as the child on a regular schedule, around the clock, through the day, develops into a stronger, sturdier child physically than one whose physical needs are not attended to, so will the child who goes through the year month by month practicing spiritual qualities as suggested by the Bahá’í Calendar grow stronger and firmer spiritually than a child who neglects this practice. A wise parent will help his children to recognize and to follow the Bahá’í months on through the Bahá’í year.

An additional advantage is the fact that the child will develop the habit of thinking in Bahá’í terms relative to time. There needs to exist no confusion between the Civil and the Bahá’í Calendars no more than a child’s language is handicapped if he learns another language as well as his own provided of course that he is well grounded in his own language before he is taught another. Similarly, when a child is capable of grasping the idea of a month he will have no difficulty in recognizing the difference between the two calendars.

It would be interesting to help him find his own birthday date on the Bahá’í Calendar or any other date that is especially interesting to him. The more he thinks in terms of the Bahá’í Calendar the more familiar he will become with it.

When the child has celebrated all the Bahá’í months at the end of the year and begins all over again he will better grasp the idea of a year and its possibilities. Then as the years go by he will be prepared to think in terms of cycles and particularly spiritual cycles. Great then will be his appreciation of the fact that he is living in the Greatest Spiritual Cycle of all time.

“This is a new cycle of human power—The gift of God to this enlightened age is the knowledge of the oneness of mankind and of the fundamental oneness of religion. War shall cease between nations and by the will of God the Most Great Peace shall come; the world will be seen as a new world, and all men will live as brothers.”—(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, Bahá’í Scriptures, page 273.)

CHILD EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

By: Amy Brady Dwelly.

PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Spiritual Potencies of That Consecrated Spot, by Shoghi Effendi. This communication dated December 21, 1919, has been given to all members of the American Bahá’í community, and now copies of the pamphlet can be obtained at 10c per copy.

La Ultimo Voluntad y Testamento De ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, Spanish translation of the pamphlet containing excerpts from the Master’s Will and Testament. Per copy, 20c.

I, Mary Magdalen, by Juliet Thompson. This novel of the early days of Christianity has now been published, and advance orders have been filled. Some of the Guardian’s favorable comments have already been published. Excerpts from other letters are here reproduced for the information of the friends. “As regards the drawings you have specially prepared for incorporation in the book—the Guardian has noted with much regret the explanations you have given regarding it and wishes to assure you of his full approval for its publication.” “I am well pleased with the manuscript of your book, its style, its general presentation and subject matter. I will continue to pray for its early publication and complete success.” “The kind and welcome assistance which the N. S. A. has extended in advertising the book through the medium of the Bahá’í News is particularly appreciated by the Guardian, who hopes that as a result the friends will be stimulated to cooperate in increasing its sale and thereby help, however indirectly, in spreading the knowledge of the the Bahá’í teachings.” The Publishing Committee will continue to fill orders at $2.70 per copy, cash with order.

The address of the Western Division was inadvertently inserted in a recent issue incorrectly. The correct address of the West Division is Mrs. Emma F. Smith, 6712 Geary Blvd., San Francisco. New York address: P. O. Box 348, Grand Central Annex, New York, N. Y.

BAHÁ’Í NEWS

Nineteen Day Feasts: July 13, August 1, August 20.


Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: July 2, 3, 4, at 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette; August 17, 18, 19, at Green Acre, Eliot, Maine.

Bahá’í Schools: Green Acre, weekly courses, July 1 to August 31; Geyserville, July 7 to 28; Louheilen, Laboratory session, July 3 to 12; General session, August 11 to 18; Second Youth session, August 21 to 25.

TEACHING PRINCIPLE APPLIED TO WRITTEN WORD

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes to point out to the believers that the principle under which the teaching work is conducted as a spiritual obligation and not for financial return applies to that type of teaching work done through writing as well as that which is carried on through classes and lectures. Particularly in the case of Bahá’í compilations, graded lessons and study courses or outlines, the Assembly feels that the important principle concerning the basis of Bahá’í teaching laid down by the Guardian a few years ago should now be generally adopted throughout the Bahá’í community. Written and printed teaching, therefore, is not to be sold under conditions providing financial return to the author or compiler. This type of study material, when approved by the Reviewing Committee and recommended for publication, should be regarded as the author’s donation to the progress of the teaching work, a service performed in the spirit of devotion to the Faith. No doubt there will be great spiritual reward for those who make such contributions as their sacrifice for the Cause.

BAHÁ’Í NEWS GIVEN TO ENROLLED YOUTH

The National Assembly wishes all duly enrolled Bahá’í youth hereafter to receive copies of Bahá’í News, through their local Assembly, if they reside in an organized community, through their group correspondent, or as isolated believers direct from the National Secretariat. Assemblies and groups are requested to see that their youth members (between fifteen and twenty-one) receive copies regularly. If this calls for additional copies to be sent to the Assembly or group, the National Assembly should be informed as soon as possible.

The cooperation of the National Youth Committee is also requested in order that all isolated enrolled youth may be provided with copies, which means that a complete list of names and addresses must first be made.
ASSEMBLIES REQUIRING SPECIAL TEACHING ASSISTANCE

Any local Assembly whose community membership falls below the minimum of nine believers required to maintain the Assembly status, and any Assembly which feels that there is danger that the number will drop to less than nine, are requested to notify the National Spiritual Assembly at once, so that effective teaching work can be arranged in order to increase the local membership.

WORLD ORDER FOR JULY

The July issue of World Order Magazine contains as special feature some excerpts from the Guardian's translation of Epistle to the Son of the Wolf. This passage is published under the title "With the Waters of Detachment."

The July issue also contains: "The Human Soul in This World of Chaos," Alice Simmons Cox; "The Fortified City," William Kenneth Christian; Bahá'í Answers to World Questions; "What Is Secure?" Gertrude D. Schurgast; another chapter in the new compilation on The Divine Art of Living; Book Review of "Toward the Christian Revolution," Garreta Busey; Bahá'í Lessons, a study outline; and With Our Readers.

TEACHING AT THE HOUSE OF WORSHIP

During May, 1940, 1,581 persons visited the Temple and were guided through the edifice. This brings the total of visitors since January 1, 1940, to 3,648. In May, 1939, the visitors were less than 1940 by 308.

Some of those who came this May were from Chile, Poland and India. The Bahá'í Temple is becoming a world institution.

A large number of clubs and organizations brought their membership to the Temple:


ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


IN MEMORIAM

Death proffeth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It confereth the gift of everlasting life—Bahá'u'lláh.

Mrs. Caroline Lehman, West Gravenhurst, Canada.
Mrs. Rosa B. Espy, Chicago.
Mr. D. C. Wickham, Pentwater, Mich.
Mr. Jno. A. Robertson, St. Augustine.
Mrs. Helen Bagg Maxfield, Muskegon.
Mr. Louis Felz, Milwaukee.

NEWS OF EAST AND WEST

The Library Committee has received from Mrs. Shirley Warde a very appreciate letter written by the Secretary of the Library Board of Burbank, Calif.

"The Burbank Library Board wishes to thank you and your organization for the four lovely Bahá'í books recently received. These are the first books of this kind that we have received and they are a distinct addition to our library of which we are so proud."

The Twenty-Eighth Annual Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Unity Feast at West Englewood was held Saturday afternoon and evening, June 29. The program as announced consisted of a concert from two to three P.M., address on The Oneness of Humanity by Annamarie Hannon and on Universal Peace by Harlan Ober, Roy C. Wilhelm presiding. A special Pan-American program followed. At the pine grove where the original Feast was held a period of prayers and meditations was conducted by Bernard B. Gottlieb. The evening session was devoted to informal talks. Word has been received that Mme. Laura Dreyfus-Barney, recently arrived from Paris, was among the distinguished Bahá'í guests present from other countries.

The most recent News Letter (April, 1940) received from the Haifa Assembly states that "It is our privilege to convey to you the glad tidings that our beloved Guardian is in the best of health. We are certain that this good news will always gladden the hearts of the believers throughout the world."

Copies of the photograph record of Martha Root's message of farewell to the
believers of Auckland, N. Z. This recording was made at the request of the local Assembly, which has very kindly made arrangements to furnish copies for fifteen shillings sixpence, postage additional, in New Zealand currency. Send orders to Miss Margaret B. Stevenson, Secretary, 3 Cowie Road, Parnall, Auckland, S. E. 1, New Zealand.

Postcard size illustrations of the Bahá’í Exhibit at the Golden Gate World’s Fair, San Francisco, can be obtained from the Photograph and Sales Committee, H. E. Walrath, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago.

Copies of The Rangoon Times have been received containing reproductions of extensive Bahá’í articles filling several columns of this paper. One is entitled “New Faith for Old,” by Shirin Fozdar; another, “The New World Order,” by Ormsby Molliss.

In these days the receipt of bulletins and news letters from the believers of other countries is a twofold blessing. The American friends can well appreciate the difficulties under which most National and local Assemblies throughout the Bahá’í world are obliged to maintain their activities, the slowness of communication, the increased economic pressure and also the element of supervision and censorship imposed in so many places during the war period. But the spirit of oneness within the Bahá’í community will resist these divisive influences and eventually overcome them and replace them with cooperation and harmony.

Among the news letters recently received are: Bahá’í News of the National Spiritual Assembly of Egypt and Sudan, March-April, 1940; Bahá’í News Letter, National Spiritual Assembly of India and Burma, March, 1940; The New World Order, public teaching bulletin of the National Spiritual Assembly of the British Isles; Bahá’í Magazine, Herald of the South, published quarterly by the National Spiritual Assembly of Australia and New Zealand; Bahá’í Quarterly, also issued by the NSA of Australia and N. Z.; Bahá’í News Letter, December, 1939, published by the National Spiritual Assembly of Iraq; and Bahá’í Journal, the organ of the NSA of the British Isles, issue of April, 1940.

From Egypt we call the following notes:

Bahá’í books and documents brought from Palestine by one of the believers were seized in customs on charge of political character and sent to El Azhar University for examination. At the University it was decided to destroy the literature. The NSA then made formal protest to the Prime Minister and the local authorities. The books were then returned to the Customs department. The matter is still in process of final settlement. A plot of land will be purchased in an important quarter of Cairo for the construction of a Hazíratu’l-Quds. The NSA used the copies of The Bahá’í World received as a gift from Siegfried Schöpflecher for distribution to leaders of the Egyptian government, to the various consultants, and to the British Embassy.

From India and Burma:

A six-year teaching plan has been adopted which the Guardian emphasizes strongly. Among the current teaching activities we note that the Bombay Assembly has held an important public meeting in the Municipal Hall, Kalyan, presided over by Mr. Ganesh Krishna Phadke, member of the Legislative Assembly, and the speakers listed were H. M. Manji, N. K. Bhagwant, M. H. Ilmi, and Mrs. Shirin Fozdar. Prof. Pritam Singh was invited to attend the Jubilee Celebrations of the Quadian Movement and found opportunity to give the Bahá’í message to many. He was accompanied by Maulvi Abdallah Vakil, who also taught actively. Prof. Singh has addressed the Multan Government College on the subject of Religion and Youth. At Lahore, many Hindu friends are becoming interested. The International Bahá’í Youth Day was observed in many cities of India, notably Karachi and Bombay. At Kadvai, a small town near Bombay, the believers are undergoing persecution. After two weeks of public agitation the Bahá’ís are being boycotted by the other residents. The difficulty seems to arise from the fact that some believers have been Muslim priests who now realize the significance of

Casting for Temple Main Story. A Duplicate of this Casting Has Been Sent to the Guardian and Placed by Him near the Tomb

BAHÁ’Í NEWS
the administrative order. Copies of a Bahá'í calendar can be obtained for one anna each, postage additional, from National-Book- Stall, Deepchand Ohja Road, Bunder Road Extension, Karachi, India.

From a letter received by the NSA of Iraq from the Guardian: "The Guardian expressed utmost gladness and delight over the glad tidings of the completion of the Haziratu'l-Quds ... and said, 'The region of Iraq will be an arena where lights will shine, and the first connecting link between Iran, which is the cradle of the Faith, and the Holy Land, the Point of Adoration of the people of Bahá'. This momentous institution, therefore, is to be regarded as the first of the great preliminaries and glorious institutions which will be established in that blessed land, culminating in the recovery of the House of God, the hoisting of the Banner of His Faith, and the proclamation of His Dispensation in that region."

From Australia and New Zealand:

Deep consideration is being given The Advent of Divine Justice. A very moving In Memoriam notice of Martha L. Roo has been published. The Guardian's letter of instruction to the NSA of the British Isles (published in a recent issue of Bahá'í News) has been adopted with the request it be observed by the believers of Australia and New Zealand. Appreciation is expressed for the gift of copies of The Bahá'í World made by Mr. Schopflocher. The subscription of Herald of the South is five shillings per year. Address: Secretary, Herald of the South, P. O. Box 447D, Adelaide, South Australia. The Bahá'í Summer School at Yerrinbool, New South Wales, was in session from January 6 to 20, but no report concerning it has yet been received.

From the British Isles:

The National Assembly has issued the following instruction: "During these days of turmoil there are many conflicting influences at work. Many new societies and movements, some harmless and some, under the guise of humanitarian or religious purposes, actively seditious, are coming to birth. It is the sacred duty of all followers of Bahá'u'lláh to remain aloof from all such movements, to withhold themselves from political entanglements, and to engage, with single minds and high resolve, in the dissemination of the 'divine fragrances.' While contempt 'with all people with joy and fragrance' they should be on their guard lest they be led, however unintentionally, to compromise the Faith. In all cases of doubt, the friends should consult their local Spiritual Assembly of the National Spiritual Assembly." In a letter from the Guardian to an English believer, the following excerpt was published by the National Assembly of that land. "The latest news he has received from the British NSA regarding the general conditions of the Cause in England, and in particular with reference to the extension of the Teaching work has been most exhilarating, and he indeed will pray that whatever hardships and privations which our dear English believers may come to endure in the course of this war, their vision of their high and essential duties and responsibilities towards the Faith, and their zeal to further extend and consolidate its interests, may increasingly deepen, and thereby enable them to fitly acquire themselves of their high task."

"WHILE THERE IS YET TIME"

"The American believers, standing on the threshold of the fourth year of the Seven Year Plan, pursue their God-given task with a radiance that no earthly gloom can dim, and will continue to shoulder its ever-growing duties and responsibilities with a vigor and loyalty that no earthly power can either sap or diminish. With these words, our beloved Guardian, in his letter of April 15, 1940, blazes the trail that the American believers are to follow in the prosecution of the Seven Year Plan in the days to come. In a world filled with travail and terror, amid political, economic and social convulsions of increasing intensity and extent, the path will not be easy nor the way plain. As our Guardian has intimated in recent letters, communication with our World Center may be cut off in the near future by the spread of the war to the Mediterranean area. While the severance of communications would bring temporary isola-

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VITAL REQUIREMENTS OF SUPREMLY CHALLENGING HOUR

(The) long-predicted world-encircling conflagration, essential pre-requisites (to) world unification, (is) inexorably moving (to its) appointed climax. Its fires, first lit (in the) Far East, subsequently ravaging Europe (and) enveloping Africa, now threaten devastation both (in) Near East (and) Far West, respectively enshrining (the) World Center and (the) chief remaining Citadel (of the) Faith (of) Baha’u’llah. (The) Divinely-appointed Plan must (and) will likewise pursue undeflected (its) predetermined course. Time (is) pressing. (The) settlement (of) the two remaining Latin Republics, (the) sounder consolidation through formation (of) firmly-knit groups in newly-opened territories, (the) provision (of) adequate means (for the) ornamentation (of) last six faces (of) first story (of) Temple, stand out (as) vital requirements (of) approaching supremely challenging hour. (My) eyes (and) heart (are) anxiously, longingly turned (to the) New World (to witness (the) evidences (of) a) new, still more heroic phase (of) enterprise confidently entrusted (to) vigilant care (of the) American believers by (the) ever-watchful, powerfully-sustaining Master. (I) refuse (to believe) (that a) community so richly endowed, (so) greatly envied, (so) repeatedly honored, will suffer (the) slightest relaxation (of its) resolution (to) jeopardize (the) spiritual prizes painstakingly (and) deservedly won throughout (the) States (and) Provinces (of the) Republics (of the) Western Hemisphere.—Shoghi Effendi. Cablegram received July 21, 1940.

LETTER FROM THE GUARDIAN

In connection with the selection of particular photographs of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá for circulation among the friends, the Guardian strongly feels that no definite ruling should be laid down establishing the superiority or distinction of any particular photograph. The friends should be left quite free to use their individual independent judgment in this matter.

The Guardian does not advise your Assembly to authorize for the present the use of Bahá’í historical material in the radio program . . . nor does he think the time is ripe to translate and publish Bahá’í certificates of marriage and divorce. He prefers to wait until a sufficient number of Assemblies have been empowered to conduct legally these Bahá’í rites. When the time comes he will formulate the proper form of certificate for universal adoption by the American believers.

In connection with the formation of new Assemblies and the maintenance of their Assembly status, the Guardian wishes to reaffirm the general principle that only those who reside within the city limits of any given locality have the right to either vote or be elected as member of the Assembly, even though this may involve frequent dissolution of the Assembly owing to insufficient number of members. It will, on the other hand, serve as a stimulus to those outside these limits to establish a group and eventually an Assembly of their own.

Regarding the age of fifteen fixed by Baha’u’llah: this relates only to purely spiritual functions and obligations and is not related to the degree of administrative capacity and fitness which is a totally different thing, and is, for the present, fixed at twenty-one.

Regarding Naw-Ruz: if the vernal equinox falls on the 21st of March before sunset, it is celebrated on that day. If at any time after sunset, Naw-Ruz will then, as stated by Baha’u’llah, fall on the 22nd. As to which spot should be regarded as the standard, this is a matter which the Universal House of Justice will have to decide.

The American N.S.A. need not therefore take any action in this matter at present.

Haifa, May 15, 1940.

INFORMATION NEEDED

The Guardian has requested the National Spiritual Assembly to send him the original of the Tablet from ‘Abdu’l-Bahá published in Vol. I, pages 106–108 of the Tablets.

From the Archives Committee we learn that this Tablet, on the subject of the Mother of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, was revealed to Mr. Hans Christian Anderson, then of Racine, and the copy of the translation on file bears the notation: “Received from
Beloved Friends:

The followers of Bahá'u'lláh have been given the privilege which, as the Master Himself declared, was the highest aspiration of the great souls of past times. Bahá'ís alone can understand the unfoldment of world events in accordance with a schedule and a consummation laid down by the Divine power and beyond the control of any earthly force. Bahá'ís alone can make a direct spiritual contribution to the new World Order which inwardly is the oneness of man and outwardly is a scheme of institutions and relationships consecrated to the Most Great Peace.

As we know from the statement made in The Goal of a New World Order, the beginnings of peace will have been achieved by 1963. By that date the Lesser Peace will have been established. After that date, the hosts of Bahá'u'lláh will augment their mighty task of spiritual education until the whole earth is confirmed and the Most Great Peace realized.

In contrast to the present world outlook, such a consummation appears utterly impossible. Today violence rides the tempest and destruction hurts its fires from the clouds.

The supreme issue between faith in Bahá'u'lláh and theological belief or scientific conviction is that faith receives awareness of the Power behind all human events and transcending all human knowledge. The Bahá'ís accept revealed Truth as a mighty task of spiritual education until the whole earth is confirmed and the Most Great Peace realized.

In the present world outlook, such a consummation appears utterly impossible. Today violence rides the tempest and destruction hurts its fires from the clouds.

Thus the Bahá'ís feel secure and safe within the very whirlwind of violent struggle and change. He knows that the Plan will prevail, and that individuals, nations, races and classes cannot prevent, prevent nor exploit the Justice which Bahá'u'lláh has brought down from the Mountain of God. There is a limit placed upon evil and violence beyond which they cannot go. When the world has been purified for Truth, the denier's sword will be broken and the schemes of the materialists brought to naught. The only liberty man has today is to choose whether he shall give his life to the destructive or to the constructive phase of the same Divine Plan. It is illusion to think that there can be any liberty asserted outside the dominion of His Will.

But to contribute our lives to the constructive phase of world transformation demands more than the passive reading of Sacred Writings or the mere acknowledgment that certain principles, like the continuity of Revelation, are true. We must be so transmuted by the Power itself that our lives are in spiritual movement and convey the ardor and the light of Truth.

Then will more and more believers arise and join the ranks of the Bahá'ís as they witness the effects of Bahá'u'lláh's Revelation on the flow of His followers. For the world is confused, weary and sick to death of words. Its healing depends upon a release of spiritual energies more potent than any other force encountered on earth. Are not many of the Guardian's recent appeals directed to this point: that we deepen our spiritual lives, until Bahá'u'lláh can use us as instruments to impress His Will upon the whole world?

National Spiritual Assembly

ATTAIN NOBLER HEIGHTS

Delighted (at) Collins' magnificent donation, (feel) joyous gratitude (that) American believers (are) unalteringly displaying (the) shining qualities (which) posterity (will) appraise (and) glorify; (I am) praying (that) deepening gravity (of) world situation may nerve them (to) still greater efforts (to) attain nobler heights.

Sihothi Rabbani
Cablegram May 17, 1940

A PLEA FOR PERMANENT LOCAL ADDRESS

Many years ago the National Spiritual Assembly requested the local Assemblies, whenever possible, to establish a permanent address for correspondence, that changes in the office of Secretary or the address of the Secretary, might not interfere with the working of the organization. Bulletin and Bahá'í News from the National body to the local Assembly and community.

In response to this request, a few Assemblies have taken a Post Office Box address for correspondence, and in other cases a local Bahá'í Center maintained year after year has provided the necessary continuity and permanence. However, with the great growth of Assemblies to the number of one hundred and two, the need for efficiency becomes urgent.

The plea is therefore renewed, that local Assemblies consult at their earliest opportunity on this question, and take some action toward securing a more or less permanent address for correspondence. Counting changes of address of Secretaries, and changes in the office of Secretary, the National Spiritual Assembly is obliged to take account of, and duly report, as many as twenty corrections in the Assembly Roll each year.

Not only will a permanent address make it possible for the National Assem-
The standard letterhead size of 8 1/2 by 11 inches is best for official correspondence, and should not be exceeded. Letters from individuals need not conform to the business standard. The purpose of these suggestions is twofold: to make for greater clarity and convenience in handling current correspondence, and for greater efficiency in filing. Sometimes it is necessary to consult a letter written many years ago.

Bahá’í Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: August 1 and 20, September 8 and 27.
Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: August 17, 18 and 19, at Green Acre, Eliot, Maine.

In Memoriam

Grant, O my Lord, that they who have ascended unto Thee may repair unto Him Who is the most exalted Companion, and abide beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of Thy majesty and the Sanctuary of Thy glory. Sprinkle, O my Lord, upon them from the ocean of Thy forgiveness what will make them worthy to abide, so long as Thine own sovereignty endureth, within Thine most exalted kingdom and Thine all-highest dominion. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. — Bahá’u’lláh.
Miss Sarah R. Windust, Chicago.
Mrs. Rosamond Baxter, Dunedin, Florida.
Mr. James Brittingham, New York.

The Importance of the Spiritual Assembly

Among the qualifications of faith accepted by every Bahá’í is “Full recognition of the station of the Forerunner, the Author, and the True Exemplar of the Bahá’í Cause,” but how many of us can actually claim full recognition? Would we not be blinded by a Light more brilliant than any sun if we gazed directly at it rather than saw it by reflection?

One of the signs of Revelation is the power to change the prevailing society. This sign is of surpassing importance today, when the whole chain of Revelation is to be consummated by the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh.

Let us think of the institution of the local Spiritual Assembly as a pillar of the world civilization of the future — as Bahá’u’lláh’s own instrument for bringing in the new qualities and the new capacities which mankind needs in order to live in a condition of peace. Bahá’í institutions are identified with justice, and to reflect that quality the members of the Assembly must realize that a Bahá’í institution progresses by the sacrifice of its members’ personal interests and opinions.

With one hundred and two local Assemblies existing in North America at present, there are nine hundred and eighteen souls called upon to be an active and responsible part of the structure of the Faith. The development, the capacity and the consecration of this great body of administrators is of vital importance to the welfare of the Cause. These believers are, first of all, responsible for knowing the Bahá’í teachings concerning the origin, nature and functions of a local Spiritual Assembly.

“In the Most Holy Book is revealed:

The Lord hath ordained that in every city a House of Justice be established wherein shall gather counsellors to the number of Bahá, and should it exceed this number it does not matter. It behooveth them to be the trusted ones of the Merciful among men and to regard themselves as the guardians appointed of God for all that dwell on earth. It is incumbent upon them to take counsel together and to have regard for the interests of the servants of God, for His sake, even as they regard their own interests, and to choose that which is meet and seemly. Thus hath the Lord your God commanded you. Beware lest ye cut away that which is clearly revealed in His Tablet. Fear God, O ye that perceive.

Furthermore, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá reveals the following: It is incumbent upon every one not to take any step without consulting the Spiritual Assembly, and they must assuredly obey with heart and soul its bidding and be submissive unto it, that things may be properly ordered and well arranged. Otherwise every person will act independently and after his own judgment, will follow his own desire, and do harm to the Cause.

“The prime requisites for them that take counsel together are purity of motive, radiance of spirit, detachment from all else save God, attraction to His Divine Fragrances, humility and lowliness amongst His loved ones, patience and long-suffering in difficulties and servitude to His exalted Threshold. Should they be graciously aided to acquire these attributes, victory from the unseen Kingdom
of Bahá'í shall be vouchsafed to them. In this day, assemblies of consultation are of the greatest importance and a vital necessity. Obedience unto them is essential and obligatory. . . ." (Bahá'í Administration, p. 21.)

Before we consider the duties and functions of an Assembly, it is imperative that we immerse ourselves in the spirit of these words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, which the Guardian brought to our attention in one of his earliest communications. It is the "victory from the unseen Kingdom" for which every local Assembly must pray unceasingly these days.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Beloved Friends:

Could the words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá carry more weight than at this present hour: "... This world-consuming war has set such a conflagration to the hearts that no word can describe it. In all the countries of the world the longing for Universal Peace is taking possession of the consciousness of men. There is not a soul who does not yearn for concord and peace. A most wonderful state of receptivity is being realized. This is through the consummate wisdom of God, so that capacity may be created, the standard of the oneness of the world of humanity be upraised, and the fundamentals of Universal Peace and the divine principles be promoted in the East and the West."

Our Canadian pioneers, undaunted by war conditions and "the deepening pessimism and preoccupation with day-to-day events," are strengthening the Faith throughout the Prairie Provinces. On April 2nd a conference was held in Calgary by Doris Skinner, Katherine Moscrop, and Mrs. Pine. The last-named, a resident of Vermilion, had seen no Bahá'ís for ten years; through this stimulation she is now actively spreading the Faith and has placed books in the public library. Doris Skinner has been invited to speak to a new group in Vulcan, and in Edmonton she has another excellent contact. Meanwhile, Mrs. Moscrop proceeded to Regina for a stay of two months; in May she held her first fireside of ten persons, and at least five other meetings are planned. She has also been asked to introduce the Faith.

Rowland Estall has summarized his year's work in Winnipeg, through which over 300 people in 9 public meetings (including clubs and churches) heard a comprehensive introduction to the Teachings, some 10 firesides were held, a study group met for several months, and one believer enrolled. Commenting on a comparison of work achieved in an organized Bahá'í community with his progress in Winnipeg, Mr. Estall writes: "I begin to think that I must have been asleep before, and that probably most believers in the Community (and perhaps in most other Communities) were too . . ."

In British Columbia, Austin Collin is pioneering in Vernon and Penticton, while the Armstrong group meets weekly.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES IN NORTH AMERICA

Glowing reports of Toronto have come from Doris McKay, who spent ten days in May in that city and Hamilton. "I have never known such a high degree of receptivity as that community is showing forth. I feel they have a great destiny . . ." Thirteen meetings were held in the two localities, and in Toronto almost fifty new people were met in fireside, youth, and public meetings. Hamilton has invited Mrs. McKay to return as often as possible, to strengthen the work of our new Assembly.

Further north Honor Kempton, through an accident in which her ankle was broken, has discovered what "grand people there are in Anchorage." She is now up and making splendid progress in widening her contacts. A minister has begun active opposition. "I am definitely marked in town and I am glad of it. The time has come, I feel, for me to take my stand for the Bahá'ís. For some time especially in these difficult and stormy times. Nothing can hurt me and no matter how they try to hurt the Book Cache, it will only serve to deepen my own experience of the confirmations from unseen sources." Miss Kempton has referred many Alaskans, traveling Outside, to Bahá'ís in various cities.

Betty Becker moved to Sitka in February, leaving five or six persons in Juneau deeply interested in the Faith, with some fifty others informed of it. She is now holding firesides in this new area, and has the cooperation of the local editor to publish articles when "we feel the time is appropriate."

Moving to the South, we note many encouraging reports. In New Orleans about eleven are attending the Friday night meetings of Fred Babo and Dorothy Logan; recently all drove to Covington for a meeting at Marion Little's, "the largest single meeting of people interested, almost to the point of declaration, held in this section . . . At last the thick ice of indifference is cracking and melting perceptively toward the Cause. A new believer, Rex Naugle, Jr., is radio's Vagabond Poet. An isolated believer of Greenwood, Miss., Mrs. Evelyn Bivins, was able as delegate to the Mississippi Congress of Parents and Teachers to bring the Bahá'í program before the conference as the blueprint for world society. She is now planning a radio series as "an introduction to the Cause" to succeed her program, Parent's Forum."

In February Allen McDaniel visited West Virginia, where he addressed the West Virginia Society of Professional Engineers in Charleston, and later spoke to a local chapter of this organization in Huntington. About eighty men in Charleston heard his Temple talk with slides. Public meetings were also held in both cities with fine publicity. In May Mason Reney did fruitful work in public presentations of the Faith in the two cities, also making interesting contacts. Our pioneers, Harold Hunt and the Dahl, are "encouraged and making progress." Exhibits of the Temple model are now planned, and speaking dates for the coming year with the Charleston West Side Women's Club have been obtained for Mr. Cobb, Mr. McDaniel, and Mr. Dahl.

Charles Mason Reney recently completed a tour by trailer coach of the Southern States, during which stops for meetings and contacts were made in Augusta, Ga.; Charleston, S. C.; Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Daytona, Palm Beach, Miami, Orlando, and Pine Castle, Florida; Atlanta, Ga., Knoxville and Nashville, Tenn.; Indianapolis; Huntington and Charleston, W. Va. Among his interesting comments are the following from Nashville: "There is a very beautiful and fine Assembly there well supported by superior types of both the colored and white races. During the four days I was in Nashville there were two meetings in the homes of believers, one large meeting in the chapel of Fisk University and another in the industrial and Agriculture College for the colored . . . with about 1,100 students and faculty . . . I also met Prof. Bromfield's class in the study of religion at Fisk University . . . and talked with Dr. Jones, President of the University . . ."

Olivia Kelsey has moved to Louisville, where a program on May 23rd was attended by twelve, including a Swedensborgian minister. A local reporter has prepared an article on the Faith for the Sunday Magazine section.

Three public meetings were arranged in Daytona, Florida, in March and April by Winifred Richards and Mrs. Guy, who plan to continue the plan weekly. They have also placed books in public libraries of Daytona, Daytona Beach, and Ormond. In West Palm Beach a Miami believer, Miss Esther Webster, is now living and with Nellie Hope Lloyd is conducting weekly classes. Hollywood (Fla.) has become a center for contacts with individuals from all parts of the country, through Mrs. Bodmer who resides perma-
ently at the Hollywood Beach Trailer Park. Two colored friends have accepted the Cause in Columbia, S. C. and have begun a children's group, according to Mrs. Mickle who will return there in the Fall. In Hot Springs, Ark., the first believer of that state, Miss Roberta Wilson, has registered through Rezsi Sunshine.

We have received the story of Salt Lake City's winning in one brief year through the solid and faithful efforts of our pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. William Sears, and a whirlwind campaign for Mrs. Ruth Moffett, with support of Mr. Reimer. From Feb. 18th to March 28th fifty-seven public lectures were given by Mrs. Moffett at the Hotel Newhouse, with a total attendance of almost a thousand. The Temple model was displayed at the Hotel during this entire period, remarkable radio advertising was procured by Mr. Sears without cost, over a thousand books and pamphlets were distributed, and seven lectures on the Faith for clubs and radio were arranged. The result was a study class of twenty-five which met three weekly, until enough students had enrolled to organize a Local Spiritual Assembly. This class, a fireside, and a youth group are carrying on.

Two new Bahá'ís have registered in Fargo, N. D., through the efforts of Marguerite Breugger and Charlotte Wright, who arranged weekly classes throughout the winter. About fifty persons have learned of the Cause and many are reading. "I have spoken at the Unity Center here many times at the request of their leader," writes Mrs. Breugger; she has also been invited to address a Lodge. This summer the Faith will be introduced to Columbus, Mont., by Mrs. Wright. Meanwhile in Bismarck, a Bahá'í library has been maintained by a new believer, and three have accepted the Cause, according to Mrs. Breugger.

Lorrol Jackson has forwarded the registration of Mrs. Joan Palmer of Butte, Mont., and tells of a youth group and children's class just started by Irene and Eveline Caldwell, the latter only fifteen years old. Mrs. Helen Wilkes of Seattle stopped en route from Convention, giving splendid help. The Temple exhibit at the Butte Art Center earlier in the spring was a great success, and the director commented "that groups are coming in from the little towns around just to see the Temple." Publicity was sent out to some 75 newspapers in the State.

Marvin Newport, on leaving Cedar Rapids in April, had enrolled two believers and attracted some nineteen students; he will remain in a few weeks. During his six-months' teaching effort, 26 classes were held with an average attendance of eight, 17 civic and religious groups were addressed, and over 300 persons read Bahá'í literature. Mr. Newport won the friendship of one minister, was publicly attacked by another.

Gertrude Struven is also teaching in Iowa, having visited Davenport, Moline and Rock Island, Ill., five times last winter. "A very good group, quite promising," of about twelve students has developed, with the active aid of a young Australian Bahá'í, Jim Heggie, now studying at the Palmer School.

Ruth Moffett has forwarded the enrollment of Mrs. Helen McLaughlin of Independence, Iowa, thereby increasing the number of believers to six. Registrations have also come from Mr. and Mrs. George Worthington, members of a class started in Fort Wayne, Ind., by Mrs. Moffett. During the past year this energetic teacher conducted 265 Bahá'í lectures and classes in twenty cities of six States, addressed 19 non-Bahá'í organizations and gave two radio talks. She was able to start three Bahá'í groups in Iowa and contribute remarkably in Salt Lake City.

Thrilling news from the McNallys of Providence, R. I., is the registration of Angela Morgan, American poetess and author of those lines so well-known to Bahá'ís—"To be alive in such an age..." A conference of New England Bahá'ís was held in Providence on March 31st, which included the first public presentation of the Faith in that city.

Since Convention the activities of the Milwaukee Assembly in "pioneering at home" and planning a "Fireside Night" have passed into Bahá'í history. So successful was the scheme whereby every believer held a fireside on the same night, that the Convention recommended similar action for the entire country.

The annual report of the New York City Assembly is a fascinating portrayal of the program which a large community may sponsor. Its Bahá'í Center is always busy: weekly public lectures attracting 150 people; a teacher's class; prayers daily at noon; discussion groups; a children's class based on Bahá'í lessons, handicrafts and entertainments; special public meetings arranged on Inter-Racial Unity, presenting Bahá'í speakers coupled with such personalities as Lyman Beecher Stonew, Roy Wilkins, editor of "Crisis," Joel Rogers, negro historian, and Bruce Wendell, negro pianist; Esperanto classes (the Lidja Zamenhof Studrondo); and National Nights for Latin Americans arranged by the Unity Committee.

This last-named Committee consists of twelve members representing every minority element of the community. Deciding to concentrate on Latin American work, the members arranged monthly programs including these features: "a speaker of the country chosen who would command attention and respect among his countrymen residing in New York," "an exhibition of typical paintings and drawings portraying the contemporary art life and feeling," a travel film, music "in song and dance form," "some light refreshment typical of the country," a Bahá'í chairman to make a brief statement of the Faith. "These meetings have been brilliant successes, the Hall filled to capacity, over 50 per cent of the au-
BAHA'I NEWS

URGENT CALL FOR INTER-AMERICA PIONEERS

The virgin field of Latin America is calling. The time has come, and the need of Pioneers for this field is uppermost. The vibrant call given in "The Advent of Divine Justice" is ringing through the Bahá’í world. Every Bahá’í that hears it, answers, deep in his heart: "Here am I, Here am I," and many, overlooking everything, try to put this answer into practice.

It is because of this fervent response that the Inter-America Committee feels it must point out a few of the conditions that should be considered by those preparing themselves for this important work.

Besides the obvious need of deep understanding of the Bahá’í teachings and knowledge of the Spanish language, the pioneer must be able to present our glorious Faith with utmost tact, keeping always in mind that Bahá’ís do not mix in politics and being careful not to antagonize the ruling classes, for this might close doors before any effective work is done.

Pioneers should study carefully the fundamentals of the Catholic and Protestant Churches to be able to present the Bahá’í teachings as the glorious culmination of the teachings of Christ, as well as of the teachings of all the other Manifestations of God, and to answer clearly and convincingly any questions made by the Catholics and Protestants that form the majority of the inhabitants of the Latin American Countries.

The pioneers should also be prepared to overcome by their universal love, unselfishness and the complete absence of national, racial and social prejudices the rather unfavorable impression given by some investing companies, business men, tourists and even some of the missionaries sent from this country to Latin America.

The Inter-America Committee will gladly help, with all the information at its disposal, any inquirer intending to volunteer for this most important pioneer work. The Inter-America Committee numbers among its members Mr. Octavio Illescas, who is a native of Mexico and a graduate of the University of Minnesota and therefore well qualified to offer the most valuable advice to those contemplating service in this glorious field. Besides Mr. Illescas there are several who have visited South America and Mexico and the West Indies and Pioneers are urged to communicate with the committee for all particulars. Correspondence until further notice should be addressed to the chairman, Mrs. S. W. French, at 786 Chester Ave., San Marino, California.

INTER-AMERICA COMMITTEE

RACE UNITY

Bahá’í communities everywhere, in accordance with the Guardian’s wishes about minorities as given us in the Advent of Divine Justice, are attempting to spread the Bahá’í Faith to minority groups living in their vicinity. Recently we have learned of the acceptance of two members of the Indian race by the Milwaukee Assembly. On May 7th the Milwaukee Bahá’í Assembly sent the following message to the Guardian: "Admitted today full-blooded Ojeda Indians man woman and American wife Fired to spread cause Indians pray success." Shoghi Effendi replied as follows: "Assure Welcome Delighted Praying Increasing Success." This is a thrilling piece of news for all of us, for we recall ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s words in the Tablets of the Divine Plan: “You must attach great importance to the Indians, the original inhabitants of America. For these souls may be likened unto the ancient inhabitants of the Arabian Peninsula, who, prior to the Revelation of Muhammad, were like savages. When the Muhammadan Light shone forth in their midst, they became so enkindled that they shed illumination upon the world. Likewise, should these Indians be educated and properly guided, there can be no doubt that through the Divine teachings they will become so enlightened that the whole earth will be illumined." In other parts of our country, in Los Angeles, Albuquerque, Phoenix, and Chicago, contacts are being made with the Indian groups. We have learned recently that the Blackfeet Indians in Montana have been presented seven Bahá’í books for their library at Browning, Montana. A letter welcoming these Bahá’í books has been received from the Blackfeet Indian Agency.

Many Bahá’í Assemblies have conducted interesting race unity programs this winter. In Pasadena, California, "Interracial Panel Chats" were conducted once a month at the Bahá’í Center. Mr. Ellison writes: 'The term 'Panel Chat' is used instead of discussion group in order to avoid lengthy dissertations which might cause misunderstanding. Since interracial groups, Bahá’ís and non-Bahá’ís, participate, everything is done to keep a spirit of amity. The purposes of the meetings are to bring about Race Unity, to acquaint new people with the Cause, to bring to the attention of the Bahá’ís those people in the fields of Science, Medicine, Social Welfare, Education, Recreation, Engineering, Industry, Cultural and Vocational pursuits—who are more or less fulfilling the practical application of the prophecies of the Teachings in their daily work."

Peoria, Illinois, reports a race unity banquet held January 25 in a large dining room of the Peoria Women’s Club. There were about 100 people present including many representatives of various races and nationalities. The program was as follows:

Chairman, Alice S. Cox
Vocal Solos—Mrs. Esther Bush
Deep River Harry T. Burlage
Steal Away Will M. Ramsey
Address—Foundations of Human Oneness Mrs. Dorothy Baker
Vocal Solos—Mrs. Leila Antonson
Cielito Llano Arr. by L. Nuño
La Golondrina Arr. by J. Rosamunde Johnson
Noche de Ronda Maria Teresa Lara
(Maria was introduced by Damar Is Hernandez, Mexican artist who teaches at Bradley College.)
Address—Adventuring in Race Unity
Mr. Louis Gregory
Community Song America

We are reprinting this here because it may offer helpful ideas to other Bahá’í communities who may wish to conduct similar meetings. Peoria writes that the dinner has brought them remarkable results. One confirmation came about

Brooklyn, and some fifteen firesides throughout the City. The Assembly also maintained the Bahá’í Booth at the World’s Fair. This is by no means a complete record; in every field the New York believers were extraordinarily active, and have set a high standard for Bahá’í teaching in this country.

We long to share every item of news from our co-workers; yet the fact that the deeds of the American believers have at last outstripped the limits of our space is surely a thrilling sign. For "These souls are the armies of God and the conquerors of the East and the West!"

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE.

dience being of the Latin American country presented. . . We strongly urge other communities with large foreign elements to attempt these programs as part of their teaching work . . ." New York reminds us, however, that such plans require careful groundwork, while contacts should be made only by "members who are skilled in dealing with delicate situations calling for tact and instant discrimination."

Charged with Regional responsibility for Long Island and Westchester, New York reports three Groups functioning in New Rochelle, Larchmont, and Armonk. There are also public meetings in
through this gathering. The Bahá'í community as a whole developed a new fire of enthusiasm and a clearer understanding of the importance of human oneness. Mrs. Cox writes: "The effect of the effort on the race unity committee was most remarkable. In practical experience and in experience in working together the committee did not begin the project with many advantages. Enthusiasm gave birth to great effort, however, and the very consciousness of lack of ability made it necessary to turn to Bahá'u'lláh with trust and confidence. Fine consultation and cooperation within the committee, and with other members of the community, close contact with the Assembly, too, grew out of this situation. Apparently there were some wasted steps, many persons had to be invited before a few could be found who cared to attend, etc.—but the result of application of ardor, prayer and coordinated effort was proof that the aid of Bahá'u'lláh comes to those who work in His Light."

Miami, Florida, has recently established a race unity committee. Chicago again held a very successful race amity banquet this spring. New Haven, Conn., has been contacting the Negro race by visiting about fifty homes during the winter and giving the Message personally to the occupants of these homes. The Race Unity Committee would like to hear what your community is doing. Have you perhaps new methods or techniques to suggest by which minority groups may be reached? Please write us of your activities so that we may share your experiences and ideas with all the Bahá'ís.

RACE UNITY COMMITTEE.

LIBRARY REPORT

A number of librarians have reported in the newspaper recently that there is an increasing demand for books along spiritual lines. The time is ripe for placing a basic Bahá'í book in as many libraries as possible during the coming year. Those who think they have little teaching capacity might render the Cause a great service by placing a basic book in their own local libraries. It would be interesting to know how many of the friends first contacted the Cause through library books. Such information would stimulate us to greater library pioneering.

Reports coming to this Committee from all over the country show that the teaching committees, assemblies and groups are working ardently to contact more libraries. Projects have been launched in New Jersey and Massachusetts to place a copy of Esslemont in fifty new libraries. The New York Assembly has just placed a Esslemont in every public library in greater New York. It is most important that the books are kept in constant circulation to keep them on open shelves and to create a demand for further Bahá'í literature. Encourage your friends to borrow books from the public libraries instead of lending your personal copies.

An excerpt from a recent letter from Duncan McAlear, member of the N. E. Regional Teaching Committee states: "The Bahá'í Faith loses prestige when our books are not found on local library shelves. On securing the New England names from the World's Fair, we found to our chagrin that more than half of the people came from towns where we had no Bahá'í books in libraries, and therefore lost a good point of contact."

Do not overlook the importance of placing books in Hebrew libraries. Rabbi Falk, Regional Director of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, wrote to a member of this committee some time ago, saying, "Many of our older classes in our religious schools conduct courses in Comparative Religions and I know that they would welcome information about the Bahá'í Faith." We have a number of copies of Adveni of Divine Justice (fabricoid) for presentation to Hebrew libraries, and will include another title or two from our regular list.

We now have quite an impressive list of colleges and universities that have accepted sets of Bahá'í books. If the friends contact any students from leading
Afieid with our Regionals

Although the Regional Teaching Committees have not as yet been organized for 1940–41, post-Convention news is proof that the work goes on, and in that very spirit which 'Abdu'l-Bahá enjoined for the progress of the Divine Plan: "In short, O ye believers of God! Endeavor ye, so that you may take hold of every means in the promulgation of the religion of God and the diffusion of the fragrances of God."

The New England Committee has recently sent to all its Groups and isolated believers copies of the Victory Tablet and of a prayer of Bahá'u'lláh (p. 14 of Prayers and Meditations). "It has been suggested that Bahá'ís might do well to... invite their neighbors and friends in each week for an hour of prayer for the establishment of Universal Peace." A new Group has been formed at Hamden by withdrawals from New Haven, and believers have transferred to Wells, Maine, and Pittsfield, N. H. The Temple model was exhibited at the University of Maine in May, went to Norwich, Conn., on June 10th, and will next be routed to New London. Bates and Bowdoin Colleges have asked for the model next year.

In Springfield Mrs. Bacon gave a week's radio broadcast each morning, beginning May 27th, on subjects related to the Faith. The annual picnic of the Springfield Assembly was scheduled June 16th, with Harlan Ober as speaker, and as usual all the New England friends were invited.

The Committees for Kansas and Missouri continued in May its placements of Dr. Esselmont's book in public libraries, accompanied by book reviews in local papers. Earlier in the Spring placements had been made in Dodge City, Kansas; St. Charles and Lexington, Missouri. Miss Howell now reports that books have been accepted in Jefferson City and Sedalia, Mo.; and Hutchinson and Emporia, Kans. The librarian of Missouri Teachers College has requested any available Bahá'í literature, and Miss Howell observed that bound volumes of World Order Magazine in this library have "been checked out more than the Bahá'í books in any other library I have visited in this region."

The Committee for California, Nevada and Arizona is making fine use of the traveling library in conjunction with its teaching effort in San Diego. (There are two such libraries, containing twenty books and eight study outlines, now in use by Regional Committees.) As a result of a fireside for twelve new persons in early June, addressed by Mrs. Beulah Lewis, a non-Bahá'í home has been opened for monthly meetings. Southgate has now become a Group and Bakersfield is planning to do so. Since the organization of six new Local Spiritual Assemblies in California this year, our Regional Committee faces almost a virgin territory!

It is our hope that these events are but a foreshadowing of incomparable successes in the coming months. May isolated believers, Bahá'í Groups, and Regional Committees wield their efforts to the Guardian's goal: a Spiritual Assembly in every State and Province of North America by 1944!

"...All the regions in the estimation of the True One are one region and all the cities and villages are ideally equal and similar to each other. Neither holds distinction over another. All of them are the fields of the hearts and the habitation of the souls of men." ('Abdu'l-Bahá.)

National Teaching Committee.

Child Education

"O Friend! In the garden of thy heart, plant not but the rose of love and from the nightingale of desire and yearning loosen not thy hold. Treasure the companionship of the righteous and withdraw thyself from fellowship with the ungodly." (Hidden Words.)

How, a mother asks, can I teach my child to distinguish between desirable and undesirable companions? How can I teach him to ignore outward appearances such as color of skin, poverty, physical disabilities and to see rather than spiritual qualities among his associates? My son often finds disobedient, objectionable children very exciting and amusing. He frequently imitates them in his own behavior.

Perhaps the answer to this mother might be put into a single word—appreciation. If, for example, we want children to distinguish between good and poor music, we begin early to expose them to good music and thus lay a foundation for a true appreciation of music. Later when they hear all sorts of music, they will be able to distinguish between the good and the poor.

Coming back to our small boy, we may say that if he is going to appreciate real values in human relationships, he must be taught this appreciation early. Those who are with him while he is young, must endeavor to show forth the attributes of God. The child must be treated honestly, fairly, kindly and sympathetically. The Golden Rule must be the rule of the home in which he lives. He too must be expected to be as just in his dealings with others as they are with him. This includes his treatment of the grown-ups as well as children both older and younger than himself. 'Abdu'l-Bahá has said: "There are also sacred duties of children toward parents; these duties are written in the Book of God, as belonging to God. The children's prosperity in this world and the Kingdom depends upon the good pleasure of parents, and without this they will be in manifest loss." (Star of the
This law functions. The qualities are to surf detrimental but later outward factors, as for example little others but this will recognize them and look for them. Recognize the spiritual qualities we see.

Behavior has been brought up in an atmosphere of hair. "However, children against companionships that few or many depending upon the child's appreciation of spiritual values. Children do show preferences among each other. These preferences may be determined by outward factors, as for example little Lupe's fondness for Fanny because, as he expressed it, "Fanny has such yellow hair." However, children have an appreciation of deeper qualities and it is our duty as Baha'i parents and teachers to intensify and expand this appreciation.

One must of course protect young children against companionships that are detrimental but later the child will be on his own responsibility to choose from a greater variety of children. If the child has been brought up in an atmosphere of love, justice and tolerance, he will resent hatred, injustice and intolerance. A child may go through a phase in which he seems to prefer the child whose objectionable behavior is more dramatic than that of others but this admiration is only on the surface. The child who has been given an early appreciation of spiritual qualities will recognize them and look for them in his companions. Like attracts like. This law functions in the animal kingdom among the various species and it functions also in the human kingdom where spiritual qualities are to be found.

We as adults must be ever ready to recognize the spiritual qualities we see developing in our children and appreciate them. This does not mean perpetual praise, which is of course objectionable, and may even act as a stumbling block to further spiritual development. Children naturally like to be singled out for special attention. However, it is well to teach them that real distinction lies in possessing spiritual attributes. Older children should memorize the following words given to us by 'Abdu'l-Baha:

"I desire distinction for you. The Baha'i's must be distinguished from others of humanity. But this distinction must not depend upon wealth— that they should be more affluent than other people. I do not desire for you financial distinction. It is not ordinary distinction I desire; not scientific, commercial, industrial distinction. For you I desire spiritual distinction; that is, you must become distinguished in morals. In the love of God you must become distinguished from all else. You must become distinguished for loving humanity; for unity and accord; for love and justice. In brief, you must become distinguished in all virtues of the human world; for faithfulness and sincerity; for justice and fidelity; for firmness and steadfastness; for philanthropic deeds and service to the human world; for love toward every human being; for unity and accord with all the people; for removing prejudices and promoting international peace. Finally you must become distinguished for heavenly illumination and acquiring the bestowals of God. I desire this distinction among you. This must be the point of distinction for you." (Promulgation of Universal Peace, page 183.)

When the child, then, has gained an appreciation of true values for himself and for all of mankind, he will have become truly discerning which is of tremendous importance in this prejudice-ridden world as we find it today.

WORLD ORDER MAGAZINE

The leading article for August, by George O. Latimer, is on the subject of The Lesser and the Most Great Peace. This theme is of the utmost importance, and Mr. Latimer's presentation will be helpful to Baha'i students and teachers. The subject of peace is further developed in the August number by Annamarie Kunz Honnold in a most interesting article, World Order: How?

What the editors hope is the first in an extensive series of contributions presenting the experiences and achievements of pioneers in To South America in 1919, edited by Helen Bishop from Martha Root's diary notes.

The compilation by Mrs. Busey on The Divine Art of Living deals in Chapter V with Prayer and Meditation. Other contributions are: Baha'i Answers to World Question, Book Review by Florice Holley, a Study Outline, and editorial comment, With Our Readers.

Specially featured is an excerpt from words of Shoghi Effendi entitled Universal Foundation.

The editors note with gratification the increasing use of the magazine by groups as source of study material, and by active teachers as free literature.

BACK NUMBERS OF BAHAI MAGAZINE

The Publishing Committee has been authorized to announce a special offer on back numbers of Star of the West, Bahai's Magazine, and World Order. These periodicals have been published through a combined period of thirty years, and make available valuable Bahai material not to be found elsewhere.

The Committee proposes that each believer, and especially the newer friends, consider carefully the importance of adding files of the magazine to his or her Bahai's Library. It should be realized that when any issue is sold out, it will never again be available. Already some of the earliest numbers are entirely out of print.

The special price is 10c per copy, postpaid. On this basis, any Bahai's can acquire his set of magazines gradually, five or ten copies at a time. The complete inventory as of August 1, 1940 is as follows:

Bahai's Magazine, Star of the West


Incomplete.

World Order Magazine
Vols. I-V, April, 1935 to March, 1940.
Twelve issues per volume. Complete.

There are 444 individual issues, less those in the first three volumes no longer obtainable. At 10c. per copy, a set can therefore be obtained for $44.40.

For those who wish their copies bound, the bound volumes can be obtained at the following special rate: Bahá’í Magazine, Vols. IV to XXV, $2.00 per volume. World Order, Vols. I to V, $2.00 per volume. The total cost of 27 bound volumes is therefore only $54.00 under the special rate.

The Publishing Committee is also authorized to present a special offer on a few complete files of World Unity Magazine, received by the Committee as a gift, at the rate of $11.00 per complete set of 90 single issues in the fifteen volumes.

CHILDREN’S COURSES

The courses for children prepared by the Child Education Committee are now sold only through the Publishing Committee.

Creation. How to present the theme of divine creation to small children. With pictures. Fifteen lessons. Per copy, 10c.

To Live the Life. Lessons and stories, with cut-outs of the Temple. Twenty-four lessons for children of six to ten. Per copy, 25c.

Bahá’í Principles. Lessons and stories with pictures to color. For children of twelve to fifteen. Per copy, 25c.


PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENT

Hidden Words. By bringing out a larger edition, the price has been reduced. Per copy, paper covers, 25c. Bound in fabricoid, per copy, 60c.

The Destiny of America. Bahá’í Reprint No. 6. From the last pages of the Guardian’s The Advent of Divine Justice. Pamphlet. Sold in lots of 100 only. Per hundred, $2.50.

Bahá’í Reprints. The previous five pamphlets in this series, which are selected by the National Spiritual Assembly for special use as free literature at this time, are as follows:

No. 1. The Image of God, words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá about race unity. Per 100 copies, $2.00.
No. 2. Christians, Jews, Muhammadans, words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá about the oneness of religion. Per 100 copies, $2.50.
No. 3. Industrial Justice, words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá about the partnership of capital and labor. Per 100 copies, $2.00.
No. 4. Religion a Living Organism, words of Shoghi Effendi about the Bahá’í Faith as a foundation of new society. Per 100 copies, $2.00.
No. 5. A Pattern for Future Society, words of Shoghi Effendi outlining the nature of the future world civilization. Per 100 copies, $1.50.

TEMPLE TEACHING

The Temple Guides Committee reports that during June 1864 visitors were guided through the House of Worship. In June, the number of visitors was 1478. The total from January 1 to June 30, 1940 was 5879, an increase of 1332 over the number who came during the same period last year.

During June nine large groups visited the Temple, seven of which were of sailors from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station on tours, sponsored by the YMCA of Waukegan, Illinois. These seven groups numbered 347.

The other two groups received in June included two teachers and 12 children from the Summer School of the Lincolnwood Public School, Evanston, and 14 adults from the Evanston YWCA.

It thus becomes apparent that the House of Worship is evolving into the most important teaching center in North America. In order to take advantage of this unique opportunity to receive the blessing conferred upon all who serve the Holy Edifice, more Temple guides are needed.

A class in practice guiding is held at the Temple all day on Friday of each week for those who wish to become Temple Guides. All who wish to become guides are invited to attend.

The following is an excerpt from a letter received by the Guide Committee from the National Spiritual Assembly. It shows the importance that body attaches to the work that the guides are doing in the Temple.

“The teaching work carried on at the Temple is clearly representative of the Cause to a degree exceeding the teaching work carried on anywhere else in North America. Those who apply for information about the Faith while visiting the House of Worship are justified in assuming that they are in touch with the vital spirit of the Bahá’í Faith. The National Assembly hopes that your committee can secure full cooperation from believers in the Temple area, and the members point out that the result of the world calamities must be the intensification of public interest in the Faith.”

The visitors to the Temple seem to be more favorably impressed with these teachings this year than ever before.

It is a great privilege to serve by giving God’s Word to the world in God’s House. In June people from 29 different states and from the following foreign countries came to the Temple: Chili, Haiti, Toronto and Calgary, Canada, Philippines, China and Palestine. Those who can partake in this work are indeed fortunate.

PHOTOGRAPHS NEEDED FOR MAKING SLIDES

The National Spiritual Assembly has recently authorized the Archives and History Committee to prepare a series of fifty small, 2 x 2 inch, slides on the Temple. Many of these are copies of Mr. Allen McDaniel’s series of lantern slides.

The small slides will be much less expensive, and can be shown in a kodascope type of projector.

This committee is also authorized to make a collection of photographs for conversion into slides on the following subjects:

1. Views of the Holy Land, particularly of the Shrines in Akká and Haifa, also places of historic interest to the Cause in Iran.
2. Photographs of the Bahá’í Schools, of Evergreen Cabin and Malad House.
3. Views of local Bábí centers, and of places of historic interest to the Cause in this country.
4. Photographs related to the travels of Martha Root, Keith Ransom-Kehler, and May Maxwell.

The Archives Committee will be very grateful if the friends who have such photographs will loan them for copying. The name of the lender should be written on the back of each photograph, and, if possible, a brief description should accompany each picture, indicating when and where it was taken, names of people shown, etc. Etcetera. Of course, if some of the friends wish to make gifts of these photographs to the Archives, this will be very acceptable.

No snapshots should be sent which are not quite sharp and clear and which are not approximately 3 x 4 inches or larger in size. A prompt response to this request will mean that pioneer teachers and local assemblies may have such visual material as an aid to teaching within a few months. Please mail photographs to:
Edwin W. Mattoon, Chairman
105 Sixth St., Wilmette, Ill.
**BAHÁ’Í DIRECTORY—1940-1941**

**I. ASSEMBLY ROLL**

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The Bahá’í National Office is located at 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois, and all communications intended for the National Spiritual Assembly, or for the Temple, Green Acre, Wilhelm, Bosch, Wilson and Mathews Trustees, should be sent to this address.

After October 1, 1940, communications intended for the National Treasurer are also to be sent to 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.
Beloved Friends:

We come now to the midpoint of the Seven Year Plan, that supreme and culminating effort of this generation of Bahá'ís in America to serve the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. May we not pause a moment for renewed vision of the importance of our great enterprise, and for deeper consecration to the discharge of the responsibilities which the beloved Master has laid upon our souls.

Within the brief span of three and one-half years the American Bahá'í community has surpassed all expectation in meeting the schedule of Temple construction. In rapid succession we have witnessed the application of the ornamentation to the gallery floor of the House of Worship, then to the nine pylons of the main story; and now at this hour the ornamentation is proceeding swiftly on the first of the nine faces of the main story. Moreover, the grounds themselves are being graded! proceedings swiftly on the gallery floor of the House of Worship, then to the laying of the sidewalks in 1942, preceded by the building of the surrounding stairs. Last of all will come the placing of the nine permanent doors, the signal to the world that the exterior of the House of Bahá'u'lláh has been completed!

Likewise, in the realm of teaching the American community has made miraculous advance in this same period of time. Our unoccupied areas have pioneers, or groups, or Assemblies, Spiritual Assemblies have been formed in Mexico City, Bahía, and Buenos Aires, groups raised in Havana, Tegucigalpa, Guatemala, Montevideo and Panama, and pioneers are striving heroically in other nations of Central and South America.

The world, however, as the Guardian has been warning us for many years, has drawn inevitably to the verge of prostration; and we behold now, with the eye of the spirit, that the only real life in mankind is that new spiritual life which Bahá'u'lláh confers. The contrast between the world and the Kingdom is overwhelming. It compels us to attain maturity of soul in order to serve the Faith with the whole power of our capacity.

Convinced that the Temple work is progressing satisfactorily, the National Spiritual Assembly now wishes the friends to grasp the necessity for concentrating on teaching work during the second half of the Seven Year Plan. Here there remains unfulfilled the mightiest opportunity ever offered to a small, inconspicuous and humble group of human beings.

The teaching work calls for a movement of the entire Bahá'í community, the utmost concentration of effort on the part of all Assemblies, Committees, groups and individuals along with all the enthusiasm and initiative the community can summon to its aid.

The National Spiritual Assembly, to open the way to a more widespread, free and unified teaching effort, indicates the path which the Guardian has laid down for the administrative relationships involved, and thus makes it possible for every worker to see clearly the plan of action as a whole.

As Shoghi Effendi has written: "The local Spiritual Assembly can not delegate to any one of the local committees the authority to exercise any control or supervision over any other committee or body which it has itself appointed. All local committees are directly and solely responsible to the local Assembly which alone can exercise the power of supervision over them"—an explanation which applies similarly to the National Committees.

National Committees: The National Spiritual Assembly appeals to every Committee to energize its labor, study its possibilities and apply for any necessary budget or approval of plans. Whatever coordination may be needed between the services, functions or fields of effort of various Committees will be supplied by the National Assembly in accordance with the Guardian's administrative instruction. Any Committee encountering problems or conditions requiring the exercise of authority is to report the matter to the National Assembly without delay.

Regional Committees: These are to be regarded as independent committees, not controlled by any other Committee
under the constant supervision of the National Assembly itself. Their functions include:

1. Coordination of Inter-Community conferences.
2. Cooperation with local Assemblies in organizing teaching circuits.
3. The routing of traveling teachers within the region.
4. Rendering assistance to groups and preparing groups for the election of a Spiritual Assembly.
5. Encouraging and stimulating teaching activities of isolated believers.
6. The extension of teaching work to areas within the regions where no Assemblies or groups exist. The Regional Committee is to exercise initiative in the areas outside the jurisdiction of local Assemblies. A local Assembly wishing to carry on extension teaching in nearby centers should notify the Regional Committee, which will then leave those centers for development by the Assembly.
7. The Regional Committee should inform itself of all the facilities which are at the disposal of groups and isolated believers for teaching work—teaching literature, lantern slides, material for public exhibits, radio talks, publicity, books for placement in public libraries, etc. The use of the many facilities which have been developed in recent years is to be encouraged among groups and the active isolated friends.
8. Enrollment cards of new believers are to be carefully recorded by the Regional Committee and the signed card then sent to the National Office at 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette.

In later issues of Baha'i News, the National Spiritual Assembly will endeavor to point out some of the teaching functions of local Assemblies. Not until the whole body of the Baha'i community is filled with the same blessed spirit of radiant enthusiasm can we be assured that we are actually meeting the high expectations which the Guardian cherishes for the community. May we fully understand and faithfully obey the great spiritual law of this Cause: "In this new cycle, education and training are recorded in the Book of God as obligatory and not voluntary. (Abdu'l-Baha.) Without basis in this Divine command, our teaching activities might lose their inner spirit and reflect too much the promotion methods of the society surrounding the American Baha'is. May our understanding be purified and our souls filled with passionate resolve to hold aloft the banner of His Faith!"

A MOST BEFITTING AND DIGNIFIED EXHIBIT

"The stone casting representing the windowhead of the main story ornamentation of the Temple which you had shipped on board the American Export Liner 'Excalibur' was safely received only two days ago, and was found in excellent condition. It has already, at the Guardian's direction, been placed at the entrance to the garden adjoining the Shrine of the Bab. The size of the casting, and the intricate and beautiful designs, and the excellent location it has been given, are such as to highly impress all visitors. It makes indeed a most befitting and dignified exhibit, and is bound to awaken considerable interest in the Cause. The Guardian feels most grateful to the N. S. A. for their gift, which constitutes indeed one more tangible proof of the bonds of undying devotion and attachment that so indissolubly unite them with the world-center of the Faith in the Holy Land."—SHOGHJI EFFENDI, through his secretary, to Allen B. McDaniel, Chairman of the National Spiritual Assembly, April 22, 1940.

Two views of this casting in the garden at Haifa were published in Baha'i News for September, 1940.

"THE VOICE OF TRUTH, NEVER TO BE CHALLENGED"

In our effort to be fully informed of the teachings and principles that explain the nature of the local Spiritual Assembly, we come upon many extraordinary statements compelling profound reflection on our part before we can realize their meaning. For example, the Guardian wrote many years ago: "And, when they are called upon (i.e., the members of the local Assembly) to arrive at a certain decision, they should, after passionate, anxious and cordial consultation, turn to God in prayer, and with earnestness and conviction and courage record their vote and abide by the voice of the majority, which we are told by our Master to be the voice of truth, never to be challenged, and always to be whole-heartedly enforced."

Such is the high and unique station given to the institution established by Babâ'llâh as the basis of His world order! But that station is one we must achieve by our ardent individual and collective efforts. It is the fruit of a condition that is attained, and not a power which can be exercised by the ignorant, the superficial and the divided souls.

In previous statements on the subject of the local Spiritual Assembly we have cited the functions with which it has been endowed and for which it is responsible. One of the most vital functions of an Assembly is to maintain the unity of the believers in the community. Success in this weighty responsibility resting upon each and every elected member is absolutely essential to the coming of the Most Great Peace. The unity of Baha'is, however, is and must be conscious, sincere, whole-hearted and joyous, and not merely that outward lack of discord resulting from the application of authority and power.
Bahá'ís unite in and through their Assembly, not under its dominion. Bahá'ís cherish and protect their Assembly because if they allow it to be destroyed they will become victims to the terrible and implacable disorders of the world. It is the truth and the spirit which unites Bahá'ís, not personality by charm nor government by force. The source of all unity is Bahá'u'lláh. The unique Stations He created and the institutions He established are sacred because of their connection with and dependence upon Bahá'u'lláh. From that connection and dependence they exercise miraculous powers—powers which originate in Bahá'u'lláh and are sustained by His Spirit.

That is why a true Bahá'í is in full and continuous union with other Bahá'ís in any city or any country where he mingles with them. In turning to Bahá'u'lláh, in becoming Bahá'ís, we consciously and resolutely leave behind every human tie or consideration which could prevent us from being in unity with all other Bahá'ís. Thus, there is not such a thing as a "hyphenated" Bahá'í—a German-Bahá'í, a white-Bahá'í, a rich-Bahá'í, a colored-Bahá'í, or a poor-Bahá'í in the sense of any group limitation. The quality of our Bahá'í relationship is from our soul and not from our family, our race, our class, our nationality or our former creed.

This is the root of the matter, infinitely important for us to realize at this stage of human history, when the edifice of mankind draws so near to the point of destruction. The kind of Bahá'í Assembly we should all strive for in our city or town is one in which and through which the unity of Bahá'u'lláh is achieved—the universal unity binding in spirit all who sincerely turn to Him. Thus, even in a small Bahá'í community, the friends should include and reconcile types of persons which, in the world, are in mutual enmity, bitterness and conflict. By sacrificing, for Bahá'u'lláh, any opinion or condition at variance with His teachings, we attain the right and the privilege to associate with all other sincere believers in the realm of faith and progress. On the other hand, the Faith does not seek to unite discordant elements which represent rejection of Bahá'u'lláh. We do not throw open the doors of Bahá'í membership to any who might wish it without meeting the conditions of faith which the Guardian has explained. The door through which believers enter His Cause is the door of spiritual experience. We can enroll only those whom Bahá'u'lláh Himself accepts to be His servants and workers in His Kingdom.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

INTER-AMERICA TEACHING

Montevideo—Wilfrid Barton writes from Montevideo: "You will be glad to know that we have several new contacts here which are very promising indeed—persons of real capacity. Besides, a small nucleus of the group interested by Mrs. Stewart is continuing to show interest. Through the assistance of one of the latter we have succeeded in obtaining a very nice room located conveniently in the center of town to hold our public meetings. We have had three meetings so far, and, though the attendance has been modest in proportions, the quality of those few attending and the eager interest they have shown have been a source of great encouragement to Simon and me. The problem which will now occupy our attention is how we may increase the numbers of those attending and enlarge the circle of our contacts. As for me, the most fertile field for Bahá'í contacts has proved to be through my musical interests and activities. One of these I feel is worth mentioning here. When the famous Lehner quartet was here in Montevideo a short while ago, I put myself in touch with Mr. Imre Hartman, cellist of the quartet, to arrange to take a few lessons. In the course of our first interview I had occasion to mention the Cause to Mr. Hartman and he immediately showed considerable interest, asking me various questions and accepting the leaflet which I offered him. Later I had dinner with Mr. Hartman and Mr. Roth, violist of the quartet, and the occasion again arose to discuss the Cause at even further length. I am keeping in touch with Mr. Hartman, who is now in Buenos Aires, and I hope soon to have the opportunity to put him in touch with the

Completed Pylon, Main Story, Bahá'í House of Worship. Photograph taken August 23, 1940.
Baha’is there when the circumstances prove favorable.”

Quito — From Quito, Ecuador, John Stearns writes us: “At the beginning of the month I transferred residence from the Pension, taking over part of a house in the north residential section together with four other young men. Before undertaking this arrangement the matter of my religious status was, of course, carefully discussed. I occasionally have opportunity to talk with them of serious matters. The change of address gives me a kitchen in which to pursue experimental work with the native materials for candy and provides several other advantages. I continue to eat at the Pension occasionally and keep my acquaintances there. . . . I did not visit Guayaquil as anticipated. I did not visit Guayaquil as anticipated. The change of address gives me a kitchen in which to pursue experimental work with the native materials for candy and provides several other advantages. I continue to eat at the Pension occasionally and keep my acquaintances there. . . . I did not visit Guayaquil as anticipated. I did not visit Guayaquil as anticipated.

San José, Costa Rica—Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Woolston report four confirmed believers on August 1st, 1940. Since April 26th, 1940, weekly classes have been held at which the average attendance has been five or six persons. On May 2nd Mrs. Ford presented the Bahá’í Message before the Theosophical Society, and this lecture was advertised in the Society in the weekly newspapers. The editor of the Spanish magazine “Alma Tica,” which has a circulation of 3000 copies in Central and South America, has consented to publish the Spanish translation made by Mrs. Ford of the Guardian’s pamphlet, “World Religion.”

Havana, Cuba—Philip Marangella writes that a Bahá’í Center has been established in a beautiful old Spanish colonial building in Havana. The room has been furnished and the bookcase stocked with all available literature. There are now six declared believers in Havana. He sends the following names and some of the friends send them words of welcome. These are the latest:

Mr. Jack Zeller, Malecon 671, Havana, Cuba.
St. Librado Gonzalez Benavides, Amistar 162 (Alto), Havana.
Sr. Jose de la Luz V. Perez, Factoria No. 135, Havana.

BEAR ALL, DARE ALL
Cablegram from Shoghi Effendi

Hearts uplifted (by) realization (that the) increasing turmoil (of the) great testing hour is stiffening resolution (and) giving fresh resilience (to) splendid spirit animating American believers. (The) pioneers embarking (on) holy task (in) Southern Republics, and (on) reinforcing (the) teaching work (in the) Southern States (are) object (of my) special prayers. Assure each (my) deepest gratitude (and) loving admiration. (I) renew (my) plea (to) bear all, dare all (in) path (of) service (to this) matchless Cause.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Received October 15, 1940.

Mr. Marangella writes that the first believer to register was
Sr. Perfecto Perez y Toledo, Oguendo 358, Apto 52.
2nd was Eugenio Gines, Escobar 107, Altos, Havana.
3rd was Domingo Santos del Rio, Sitios 266, Havana.

These friends appear in the photograph with Mr. and Mrs. Marangella.

Port-au-Prince, Haiti—Mrs. Ruth Blackwell writes of conditions in this country in which she says the Catholic influence is like a vise and she is forced to remain almost in seclusion. She has been living with a native family, speaks, reads and writes French. She requests literature in French and hopes to rent a house when her husband joins her.

Tegucigalpa, Honduras—Mr. Gerrard Sluter wrote before leaving for Colombia that the first Unity feast was held on June 5th at which five Bahá’ís attended. Professor Tany Viana held the fourth feast in his home. Professor Viana has dedicated a book shelf and a “History of Central America” as the beginning of a Bahá’í reference library.

The local Bahá’í Fund has been established which all are, loyally contributing small sums. Thus the group was in a position to buy some flowers and send a delegate to the funeral of a son of one of the Bahá’ís. A Teaching Committee has been formed which is a kind of Executive Committee for the community. There are now six active Bahá’ís in Tegucigalpa, and public meetings are to be held every Saturday night, which are given publicity.

San Salvador—John Eichenauer writes that good use has been made of the extra copies of World Order, putting them in the two main social clubs, the Casino and the International Club. A quotation from the Writings was inserted in Cyclopedia, one of the main literary magazines. A social sports club has been contacted, a number of whose members have expressed interest in the principles of the Teachings. Meetings are held each Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning and ideas about how to get people out would be appreciated.

Jamaica—Mr. and Mrs. Shaw, who have recently returned to this country, report difficulties in teaching in Jamaica on account of class distinctions. A customs official who saw their Bahá’í books let them through without any trouble because he had heard about the Faith. Mrs. Shaw fell into conversation with three ladies on a street corner who were waiting for a car and discovered one of them had lived in Montreal where she worked for Mrs. Maxwell, who took her to Bahá’í meetings.

Dominican Republic—Miss Margaret Lenz writes from Trujillo, Republic of Domingo, that another young woman has been confirmed there. Her name is Sr. Ana Margret Schaefer. Miss Lenz is very happy in her work, and having been for some years attached to the International Bureau at Geneva, Switzerland, she is a very accomplished linguist and understands pioneer work.

Baha—We learn from Bahia, Brazil that a Spiritual Assembly has recently been formed there with Miss Leonora Holwall and Mr. and Mrs. Worley as teachers. This is indeed good news.

New Translation—The Publishing Committee announces that the Spanish translation of “Bahá’ulláh and the New Era” is now ready and shipments have been made to pioneers and groups. (See Publishing Committee report in this issue.)

Applications from Volunteers—The Inter-America Committee wishes to inform all applicants to the field of pioneer service in Latin America that pending the approval of the applicants by the Committee and their acceptance by the National Spiritual Assembly no move whatsoever should be made by the applicants toward securing Consular advice. The observance of this instruction is of the utmost importance since premature action may lead to complications which would frustrate the plans entirely.

When an application has been approved the applicant will be advised immediately, his post will be determined and he will then receive definite instructions as to how to proceed by the duly appointed representative of the Inter-America Committee with whom he will establish the necessary correspondence. By following this plan all arrangements will be facilitated and a uni-
form procedure will be established which is absolutely essential to the carrying out of successful entry into the various countries. Visitors to these countries also, even though not engaged in pioneer service, are invited to avail themselves of the facilities offered by the Inter-America Committee through their representative. In this way the Inter-America Committee will be able to inform the various Bahá’í Centers of the proposed visits.

Pioneers are needed in Peru where a married couple would be most acceptable, and there are positions to be had for men in Panama where no knowledge of Spanish is necessary. In the case of women in Panama only expert stenographers or trained nurses are in demand.

**Inter-America Bulletin** — A regular bulletin has been inaugurated which will be sent to all pioneers by air mail as often as occasion warrants, and certainly once a month. In this bulletin, there will be a page devoted to Spanish translation of some of the writings. The remainder of the contents will serve to keep the pioneers in touch with each other and with us, and will carry information regarding the translations which are ready for use as well as news items about the progress of the Temple and any news of particular interest.

All friends contemplating pioneer service or those intending to make a visit to any of the countries coming within the range of the work of this Committee are requested to communicate at once with the Committee through the Chairman.

**NELLIE S. FRENCHE, Chairman**
**786 Chester Avenue**
**San Marino, California**

**INTER-AMERICA ADDRESSES**
(Revised to September 30, 1940)

**Mexico**—Spiritual Assembly, Pedro Espinosa, Secretary, Calle Bucareli 65, Bajos 2, Mexico City.

**Guatemala**—Sr. Francisco Acker, 15 Calle Peniente No. 24, Guatemala, C. A.

**Nicaragua**—Mr. Mathew Kaszab, c/o Mrs. Anna Crowell, Bluefields, Nicaragua, C. A.

**Panama**—Mrs. Cora H. Oliver, P. O. Box 1296, Ancon, Canal Zone; Mrs. Louise Caswell, P. O. Box 1296, Ancon, Canal Zone.

**Potugal**—Mr. John Eichenauer Jr., 11a Ave. Sur No. 43, San Salvador, C. A.; Mr. Clarence Iverson, 11a Ave. Sur No. 43, San Salvador, C. A.

**Honduras**—Sr. Jose Leon Ruiz, Secretary, H. “El Socorro,” Comayaguila, D. C., Honduras, C. A.

**Costa Rica**—Mrs. Gayle Woolson, 100 vars Sur Teatro Nacional, Calle 3a, Avenidas 2a y 4a, San Jose, Costa Rica; Mrs. Amalia Ford, 100 vars Sur Teatro Nacional, Calle 3a, Avenidas 2a y 4a, San Jose, Costa Rica.

**Main Story Ornamentation Under Way.**

This photograph, taken October 5, 1940, shows a number of castings already in place along the window bases. It also shows progress in the contract for grading the land.

**Cuba**—Address later.

**Dominican Republic**—Miss Margaret Lentz, P. O. Box 65, Cuidad Trujillo, Rep. Dominica.

**Uruguay**—Mr. Wilfrid Barton, Yacó 1478 Dto, 2 Nueve Malvin, Montevideo, Uruguay.

**Ecuador**—Jr. John Stearns, Pension Neumann, Calle Flores 12, Quito, Ecuador.

**Venezuela**—Mr. and Mrs. Emerie Sala, Paraiso de Sabana Grande, Calle del Medio 5, Caracas, Venezuela; Miss Priscilla Rhodes, Paraiso de Sabana Grande, Calle del Medio 5, Caracas, Venezuela.

**Haiti**—Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Blackwell, c/o American Consul, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

**Brazil**—Mr. Roy L. Morley, Caixa Postal 619, Bahia, Brazil.

**Argentina**—Sr. Salvador Torno, Sarandi 140, piso 7, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Senora Maria Casati, Calle Espana 362, Formosa, Argentina.

**Chile**—Senora Eliza Espinosa, c/o Asociacion Christiana Femenina, Calle Mclvor, Santiago, Chile.

**Puerto Rico**—Miss Ruthyiyih Jones, P. O. Box 2130, San Juan, Puerto Rico; Mrs. Katherine Disher, P. O. Box 2130, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

**Philippine Islands**—Sr. Felix Maddela, Bintawan St. Solano, Vizcaya, P. I.

**Colombia**—Mr. Gerard Sluter, Carrera 7, No. 18-68, Bogota, Colombia.

**FIRST LATIN-AMERICAN SESSION**

The first Bahá’í Latin-American Session was held at Temetery Ranch in Pine Valley, near Colorado Springs, Colorado, from June 12th to June 24th, 1940. A cable was sent just before the opening from Shoghi Effendi brought with it innumerable blessings. It was significant that the number of believers able to accept the invitation to attend the Session was nineteen. Perfect weather aided our material plans as we had set a tent on the lawn and thus had an al fresco dining room from which could be glimpsed the plains that stretch to the East of the mountains. There are no boarding houses or restaurants in the neighborhood and the city of Colorado Springs is fourteen miles distant.

A circulating library of Latin-American books and the maps of these countries had been prepared.

Two periods were set aside daily for prayer and meditation which was followed by consultation lasting an indefinite time. The Committee has edited the discussions and has sent the report in pamphlet form to the Assemblies.

Our first evening was arranged for a meeting between the Colorado Springs Assembly and the friends from afar, who had come from many directions: Louisiana, California, Honolulu, Chicago, Wilmette, New York, and New Hampshire. With considerable trepidation we had sent out five hundred invitations to the public of the city, though they had never evinced any interest either in our public Bahá’í meetings nor responded to invitations to fireside groups. There was no doubt that our Guardian’s prayers for the success of these meetings was answered, for, to our utter astonishment, every meeting was well attended; we had never
less than fifty and towards the end of the Session more than a hundred in attendance.

Our program included two lectures on Latin-American music by well known authorities, Prof. James Sykes and Prof. Nicolas Slonimsky. Added to which we had a concert of South American composers. Prof. C. W. T. Penland added greatly to our program by a lecture with colored slides of the "Flora of the High Andes." And we had Mrs. Louise Caswell who showed slides of the Temples of the world and afterwards related her experiences in Panama as a Pioneer.

We had four Baha'i Talks held in the Half Way House, Colorado Springs, which is a lovely building dedicated to recovering patients, able to work here and sell their handicraft. Our first talks were given by Horace Holley and George Latimer on the Baha'i remedies for world conditions. The second evening we had a symposium of four fifteen-minute speakers on "Progressive Revelation," given by Raphael Pumpelly, Mrs. Charles Bishop, Marion Holley and George Latimer. "The Historical Background of the Baha'i Faith" was next presented by Miss Marion Holley and Mrs. Charles Bishop. Our first symposium was so successful that we chose this form of presenting the Faith for our last public talk.  "Deepening the Spiritual Life" in four separate aspects were given by Mr. Pumpelly, Mrs. Mary Barton, Mrs. Bishop and Mrs. Loulie Mathews. We closed the two-week Session with a Baha'i picnic.

The committee appointed to develop plans for the school and a course for teachers will submit plans to the National Spiritual Assembly as soon as feasible.

It is hoped that as a means of advancing knowledge and understanding of teaching in Latin-America, the school will take its place among Baha'i institutions and fulfill a special destiny.

Baha'i International School Committee

Loulie A. Mathews, Chairman
Mary Barton
HeLEN Bishop
George O. Latimer
E. R. Mathews

TEACHING ACTIVITIES, NORTH AMERICA

Beloved Friends:

We in America cannot, if we would, neglect the part we are now called to play in this planetary crisis. Whether within or without the Ark of the Faith, our hearts admit the logic of the Guardian's diagnosis that "the immediate future must, as a result of this steady, this gradual, and inevitable absorption in the manifold perplexities and problems afflicting humanity, be dark and oppressive for that nation." But while this certainty oppresses our contemporaries, it can but energize the active Baha'i. Indeed, Baha'i's everywhere are already busy at building a new world!

Katherine Didier and Rouihah Jones arrived in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on July 24th, where they hope to obtain teaching posts. Through Miss Didier's former stay there, many doors are already open and their arrival was heralded with a comprehensive article on the Faith in "El Mundo," the "most important newspaper in all the islands of the Caribbean..." Fine contacts were made on shipboard.

Great strides mark progress in Alaska, where Betty Becker and Myrtle Dodge of San Francisco have lately found employment, thus bringing the number of our pioneers to five. Appreciative words come from Fairbanks and Anchorage of the work and influence of Joy Allen. A Regional Committee has been appointed. In Fairbanks Betty Becker and Janet Whitenack "are now studying with two prospects regularly (with) quite a few others lined up. In addition, we have talked to a number of people who travel from one part of Alaska to another—Honor sends us people to follow up, and we send some to her. . . ." Sitka, since Miss Becker left, is an open field for another Baha'i pioneer. "I left behind me many friends and also several people who are heartily in sympathy with the teachings. . . . It seems to me that if we had a Baha'i couple who had money to invest and could establish themselves in Sitka, they should not be so very long in forming a Spiritual Assembly."

Mrs. Moscrop has reported three meetings, with an average attendance of eight, during her recent campaign in Regina, Sask., which laid the foundation for a regular group in autumn. Her comments are timely: "Altogether, there are approximately twenty-six who are willing to study. . . . There are dozens of others who have received literature and information. . . . So far I haven't met anyone who is antagonistic to the Teaching; in fact there is a noticeable difference in the outlook of the general populace from that which I found in my first visit. Men and women of all classes are beginning to wonder what is ahead of them and are consequently far readier to listen to a constructive, world-embracing program such as the Baha'i Faith offers. . . ." Mrs. Moscrop also made a weekend visit to Winnipeg, where she found Rowland Estall "well and happy and full of great plans. . . ."

Mr. Estall himself forwarded in June the enrollment of Miss Winnifred Harvey, a former Winnipeg resident who is now permanently located in Ottawa. "This
NOTICE CONCERNING TREASURER'S OFFICE

The Office of the Treasurer is located at 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois, instead of 536 Sheridan Road as previously announced.

The National Assembly has opened a Canadian Bahá’í Fund as a department of the National Bahá’í Fund, to function during the period when transmission of funds from one country to another is under special restriction. All donations in Canadian currency intended for the National Bahá’í Fund, Bahá’í Kahanum Fund, etc., are hereafter to be sent to Mr. Siegfried Schopficher, Assistant Treasurer, 1102 University Street, Montreal, P. Q.

Checks and postal orders should be made payable to Canadian Bahá’í Fund.

Apirations made by the National Assembly for activities in Canada will be paid from this bank account in Montreal.

news is doubly thrilling because it signifies not only the acceptance of Bahá’ulláh’s mandate by another awakened soul, but means as well the pioneer establishment of the Faith in a new Canadian city, this time the Capital of the Dominion.

Steady progress is being made in Fargo, N. D., where the Bahá’í group has been joined by “a very fine man of rare qualities.” The new believers are active, and “through their efforts many names have been added to the list of inquirers.” Mrs. Breugger also sends an enthusiastic account of her opportunity to speak for Station VVOX on “What is the Bahá’í Faith?” A very marvelous response... many cards, letters, and telephone calls came in requesting more talks on the same subject... I do firmly believe that it will be through this medium that the Cause will be more fully publicized in this particular State..."

Since Convention Mrs. Ruth Moffett has achieved wonderful results in several cities. A chance contact at the Temple led her to visit Fort Wayne, Ind., in May where in three days of intensive teaching, with the full cooperation of this new friend, Mrs. Worthington, a study group was formed with nineteen members. The registrations of Mr. and Mrs. Worthington are already reported. The next campaign was for nine days in Danville, Ill., during June, a project which the Urbana Assembly sponsored. After nineteen public lectures, two study classes were formed. Urbana wrote: “We consider these results very remarkable; also very spiritual was the atmosphere of the meet-

ings.” Mrs. Moffett then proceeded to Kalamazoo, Mich., where three resident believers and Miss Mae Servais, Chicago Bahá’í, cooperated in a seventeen-day campaign of thirty-three lectures, accompanied by daily publicity. The meetings culminated in a Bahá’í fellowship picnic on July 6th, attended by ten believers and twenty-four new friends. There are fifteen persons in the continuing study class.

In addition to such intensive work, Mrs. Moffett found time to spend three days in Grand Rapids, Mich., early in June, where various well-attended meetings were held through arrangements of the local Bahá’ís.

On July 21st the Kalantars were hosts for a Bahá’í Youth Conference in Wimington, attended by about thirty young people from Washington, Baltimore, Red Bank, Philadelphia, Newark, West Englewood, Tenafly, and New York City. After two conference periods, a well-publicized public meeting was held, featuring Mrs. Sims, Mr. Lucien McComb, and Miss Harndeh Nabil, on “Youth’s Place in a Chaotic World.” A permanent result was the election of an inter-community committee “to arrange similar gatherings in the future.” The previous day several of these young Bahá’ís accompanied Mr. Kalantár to a Bahá’í picnic in Philadelphia, where he introduced nine or ten of them for brief talks. Other reports from the Kalantars show steady growth in Wilmington; through persistence in arranging meetings and widening contacts, and with help in obtaining publicity from Mrs. Snyder, the Faith is becoming much more widely known. Guest speakers at Bahá’í meetings have included Miss Doris Lohse and Mr. George Miller of Washington, Mrs. Walter B. Guy of St. Augustine, Mrs. Stone and James Stone of Teaneck, and Miss Gretchen Westervelt of New York City.

Augusta’s annual report outlined a diversified and stimulating program, including meetings coupling a Bahá’í speaker with a Theosophist, a Rabbi, and an Episcopalian minister; exhibits illustrating Bahá’í principles, such as dolls dressed in various national costumes, the flag of many nations, books of the great religions, and an exhibit on How to Attain Happiness; considerable race unity work; and extension teaching in North Augusta.

The special project at Vogel Park, Cleveland, Ga., June 8-15, with delegates from eight southern States, has given a thrilling impetus to teaching throughout the South. Four new believers have been reported, two as direct result of this conference, from Louisville, Memphis (Tenn.), New Orleans, and Nashville.

Mabel Ives writes of a special confirmation class in Memphis, and of their hopes for a week’s campaign in the Fall to widen contacts for next year, and perhaps to win several representative men now studying the Teachings. In July Mrs. Ives joined her husband, who has been working in Hot Springs, Ark., at the invitation of our new believer, Robert Wilson.

Nellie Roche has reported an interracial meeting, the first of a series leading up to a teaching project for November in Nashville. Twenty-five representatives of the two races attended, only half of them Bahá’ís, and “what was first intended as a local affair developed into an interstate, even an international occasion!” There were guests from Mississippi, Alabama, and a young graduate of the University of Montana “on his way back to his native Liberia.”

From Louisvile Olivia Kelsey reports that two students have asked to enroll. Despite summer heat, a new study group has been started with an interesting membership, including a lawyer and an architect. The head of the Urban League has asked Mrs. Kelsey to address some forty women at the Y.W.C.A. She has also been asked to review “I, Mary Magdalene” for the Penwomen’s League. In June Mrs. Kelsey visited Lexington to make preliminary arrangements for a study class in the Fall, finding several who were eager to discuss the Teachings. While carrying on this ambitious program, Mrs. Kelsey is also employed and is studying business opportunities for next year.

Reports of unusual interest have come from many of our teachers. Orcella Rexford, who was an instructor at Vogel Park, has forwarded some good publicity obtained in a Neuan, Ga., paper. She had spoken at Jacksonville, and planned to return north via Greenville, S. C., and Huntington, W. Va., for Bahá’í work. Last year, according to her annual report, Miss Rexford taught large audiences in Atlanta, Boston, and New York City, leaving classes for local follow-up.

Louis Gregory has served in the teaching field most actively these past months, speaking to many meetings arranged by the friends throughout New York State, in the Chicago area, Peoria, Lima, Detroit, and other centers. He was guest in the pulpits of three churches; spoke on the radio in Peoria and assisted with an outstanding Race-Unity dinner there; and most recently was featured in two lectures and a radio talk on May 11th, at “The Seventy-Five Years of Progress Exposition” arranged by the colored citizens of Detroit.

Dorothy Baker is another whose teaching activities have taken her to widely-separated groups in such cities as Findlay, Ohio; Buffalo, Syracuse, Hamburg, and Canandaigua, N. Y.; Washington, D. C.; Key West, Atlanta; Ann Arbor and Ypsi-
NOTICE CONCERNING PUBLISHING OFFICE

The Office of the Publishing Committee is now located at 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois, and all correspondence dealing with orders for books and pamphlets, as well as subscriptions to World Order Magazine, should be sent to that address instead of the New York address used for so many years.

The Western Division, San Francisco, is not affected by this notice.

PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Glorious Kingdom of the Father Foretold, by Virgie Vail, dealing with prophecy referring to the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh. Bound in dark blue fabricoid, stamped in gold. 262 pages. Per copy, $1.50.

Spanish edition, Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era, bound in green paper. This Spanish translation is primarily intended for Inter-America teaching, but should be very useful also for teaching activities in the United States and Canada which make contact with Spanish-language groups. Per copy, $0.75.

German edition, Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era, bound in paper. Per copy, $0.50. Bound in cloth, $0.75.

French edition, Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era, bound in paper. Per copy, $0.75.

The friends are reminded of 1, Mary Magdalen, by Juliet Thompson, a detailed notice of which was published in the July, 1940 issue of Bahá’í News. Copies can be obtained through the Publishing Committee at $2.50 each, cash with order.

Study Outlines, on The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh (the Guardian’s World Order letters) and on Deepening the Spiritual Life (based on the Gleanings) planned for study classes with or without a special teacher in charge, sold only in lots of ten. For ten copies, each Outline, $0.50.

Comprehensive Study Outline for Children. The correct price of this Outline which includes twenty-five lessons, for children in intermediate and upper grades, is $0.50 and not $0.25, as wrongly announced in the September issue.

TEMPLE TEACHING

The number of visitors in the month of July, as reported by the Temple Guides Committee, was 2,479. Since January 1, 1940, the total number of persons who have been guided through the House of Worship is 8,358.

In July eight different groups of apprentice seamen from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, with a total of 539 young men, were received. It is highly interesting to note that nearly every Saturday and Sunday two or three bus loads of these sailors arrive on tours sponsored by the Y.M.C.A. of Waukegan, Illinois.

97	PERFECTION 1940

GLORY BEAUTY PERFECTION GRACE JUSTICE MAJESTY INDEPENDENCE

SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY

THE BAHA'I ERA

ENDS AT DAY AS ENS OF PERFECTION GRACE BEAUTY

LIGHT MERCY WORDS NAMES PERFECTION MIGHT WILL

KNOWLEDGE POWER SPEECH QUESTIONS HONOR SOVEREIGNTY

LOYALNESS MONTHS

LO Un Q 7 New 14
Other groups during July were 42 children from a child's camp, 16 from the Summer School for teachers, Northwestern University, 54 girls from Wilson Avenue Y.W.C.A., Chicago, 26 children from the Y.M.C.A. of Waukegan, Illinois, and 30 women from the Y.W.C.A. of Highland Park, Illinois.

The foreign countries represented were Mexico, Palestine, France, Cuba, Germany, Uruguay, Iran, Greece. Visitors also came from 40 states of the United States and from five Provinces of Canada.

These brief facts present one of the most impressive and far-reaching teaching activities being conducted in North America today. The House of Worship, our spiritual inspiration and the dynamic center of all Bahá’í action, will unquestionably more and more assume a commanding position with respect to the promotion of the Faith in the West.

Fortunate are the believers who serve as Temple guides, since they have all the opportunities of the pioneer who settles in a foreign land, but here the world comes to the teacher. Important, likewise, that the Committee has prepared special teaching material for the guides, since this assures accuracy.

THE BAHA’I WORLD, Volume IX

Announcement

Will all Bahá’ís please make a note of any reference to the Bahá’í Faith which they see or hear about in current papers and magazines, or in books, in order that the Editorial Committee may have as complete a section as possible containing such references for publication in Vol. IX, which covers the period April 1940 to April 1942. Notification of such references should be sent to Mrs. Bertha H. Kirkpatrick, Olivet, Mich.

BAHA’I YOUTH BULLETIN

The National Youth Committee hopes that the forthcoming issues of the Bahá’í Youth Bulletin will be of greater interest to all “youths” and also to many adults than they have ever been before. The Bulletin policy has changed: the young people want more news. This means that less space will be given to essay articles. All young people who have “news” of special and outstanding interest, whether in the isolated, community, or pioneer fields, who have a novel teaching idea or a unique plan of work, should send such items to Mrs. Annamareé K. Honnold, 277 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, N. Y. Thus it is hoped that more young people will want to subscribe to the Bulletin; the editor wishes that Bahá’í Youth would become as indispensable to “youths” as Bahá’í News is to the entire Bahá’í community.

Subscriptions can now be made by sending 40¢ per year to Mrs. Mae G. Dyer, 211 Schermerhorn, Brooklyn, N. Y.

RACE UNITY

The Race Unity Committee at a recent meeting passed a motion to urge the friends in each Bahá’í community to make race unity the topic at the consultation period of one of the feasts. We suggest the following items for your discussion:

1) Has your group made a special appeal to any of the minority organizations of your city?
2) What approaches do you feel would be most effective?
3) What is the essential difference between the Bahá’í ideal of unity and other efforts in that direction?
4) Is your group informed about the major gifts of the great American minorities?
5) Have you suggestions or recommendations to share with us?

We hope that each Bahá’í community will cooperate with the Race Unity Committee in carrying out this suggestion. Plan now to consult on race unity at your next feast. Please let us hear about your plans and activities so that we may share them with the entire Bahá’í community.

(Write to Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Chairman, 615 West Elm Street, Lima, Ohio.)

The importance of our race unity work cannot be over-emphasized. Let us again recall the words of our Guardian in the Advent of Divine Justice: “As to racial prejudice, the corrosion of which, for well nigh a century, has bitten into the fibre, and attacked the whole social structure of American society, it should be regarded as constituting the most vital and challenging issue confronting the Bahá’í community at the present stage of its evolution. The ceaseless writhings which this issue of paramount importance calls for, the sacrifices it must impose, the care and vigilance it demands, the moral courage and fortitude it requires, the tact and sympathy it necessitates, invest this problem, which the American believers are still far from having satisfactorily resolved, with an urgency and importance that cannot be over-estimated.”

RACE UNITY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Fred Mortensen, Secretary
6223 Eberhart Avenue
Chicago, Ill.

BAHA’I EXHIBIT AT AMERICAN NEGRO EXPOSITION

The Temple Exhibit at the American Negro Exposition which was held at the Chicago Coliseum, July 4th to September 2nd, attracted those in attendance by the hundreds each day and proved to be a wonderful teaching medium to this great minority group.

The attendance to August 15 was 80,000 and it was estimated that 200,000 would attend during the two-month period. This Exposition celebrates the 75th since the Emancipation and is a great demonstration of the progress of the Colored Race.

On Thursday, August 22, we arranged with the management to have a Bahá’í program for the evening and it was advertised Bahá’í Night. The program lasted for one and one-half hours and two speakers, one white and one colored, to carry out the idea of mutual co-operation, explained the Faith and its Principles, etc. A musical was also to be arranged. This idea of the cooperation of the two groups, white and colored, has been carried out at the exhibit, the attendants being arranged in this representative way. It also brings to everyone the idea and shows the power of the Word of Bahá’u’lláh in bringing us together in the spirit of Oneness. I wish to quote from a letter received August 10th from the African-American Emancipation Commission: “Your exhibit at the Exposition has caused favorable comment, particularly because of the very fine representatives that have been in attendance there. The American Negro Exposition is very anxious that your Faith present a program developing your fundamental beliefs,” etc.

The week of August 5-11 was Roman Catholic Week and many contacts were made with this group. A number of Priests and Nuns stopped at our exhibit, asked questions and accepted the leaflets offered to them. Some even expressed the desire to visit the Temple. Many other groups have also been en tour and at times it has taken as many as five attendants to handle the visitors at our exhibit.

There have been many interesting contacts, one especially I wish to relate. A man came to the exhibit and after listening for a few moments, said, “Several years ago, I had the pleasure of riding from Haifa to Cairo, in the same compartment with Shoghi Effendi.” A lady said, “I have prayed at the Tomb of Bahá’u’lláh.”
Perhaps the questions most commonly asked, are: "What is this Temple doing at this Negro Exposition? Do you believe in Christ? Do you accept the Bible? What is Truth? Why do you have white attendants? What kind of service do you have?" Pictures of the Temple exhibit have been taken.

I believe that this is the first time the Baha'is have had an exhibit at a minority activity.

Mrs. Fred Mortensen.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Library Committee has the following books for presentation to public, college and university libraries: Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, Foundations of World Unity, Some Answered Questions, World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, Promise of All Ages, Baha'i World, Volume 7. The first donation to a new library consists of Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era and Foundations of World Unity. A more comprehensive set will be sent, however, when local interest in the Faith and the teaching activity warrants additional titles.

Will the friends make certain that they do not suggest other titles than the above to librarians, as we often receive requests from librarians for books not available for presentation from this committee?

Copies of Advent of Divine Justice are available in fabricoid for Hebrew Libraries. Contact your local synagogue, Y.M.H.A. and Y.W.H.A. libraries. Many of these groups have classes in Comparative Religion and would accept some Baha'i books.

We have learned that some of the State Library Commissions have traveling libraries to provide books upon request to readers who do not have access to local public libraries. They also send books to supplement the titles in township, county and other libraries. Would the Regional Chairman investigate such state library facilities? We understand that there is a wide circulation of books through these channels, especially in sparsely populated states where the residents receive packages of books regularly upon request. The Library Committee will cooperate in placing comprehensive sets in such traveling libraries.

We shall be happy to assist the many new groups and isolated friends who are now engaged in widespread teaching activities. Time is pressing and many people are becoming aware of the Faith through the many exhibits, radio talks and other projects which are spreading the knowledge of Bahá'u'lláh rapidly throughout the country. We cannot reach each soul personally but we can make certain that these people will have access to our books in their local libraries. The public libraries offer one of the greatest indirect teaching mediums. Most librarians do not have a budget for religious literature and will readily accept books offered to them.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Mrs. S. H. Sims, Chairman
Leroy Apts., Red Bank, N. J.

CHILD EDUCATION

O heedless ones! Think not the secrets of hearts are hidden nay, know ye of a certainty that in clear characters they are engraved and stand manifest in the holy Presence. (Hidden Words.)

When do our children begin to have "secrets of the heart" which they believe are hidden? The new born babe brings his secret with him which even his parents cannot completely fathom. They feel, in his presence, as though they were before something sacred; something mysterious; something indescribably precious, a bit of heaven perhaps. But this is not the kind of secret or secrets to which we refer. We mean, of course, conscious secrets. When does the child first hide from his parents some of his thoughts and his feelings? No one really knows. What do we do know is that the type of child training that he has in the precious early years hastens or retards the desire for him to keep back his thoughts and feelings from others.

The young child is naturally frank and spontaneous. The amount of frankness and spontaneity will vary largely between individual children but confidence and trust are characteristic of childhood. Gradually these qualities are modified; in some cases, alas, to be lost almost entirely while in other cases to become tempered with judgment.

The child who becomes secretive is usually one who has lost confidence in those about him. This may have been brought about through a number of channels. The child's serious remarks may have been laughed at too often; he may have been ridiculed; or given a sense of insecurity or of failure or of shame. Perhaps the largest single factor in producing an undesirable form of secretiveness in children is a sense of guilt. He has done something, perhaps quite natural to childhood, yet he has been taught that the thing is bad; so when, inspired by his natural instinct, he again commits the act (it may be as harmless a thing as playing in water) he has a sense of guilt. This then becomes a secret thing which he must not reveal. It becomes hidden.

The building up in a child of a sense of guilt is poor child psychology. Baha'i parents know that "Abdu'l-Baha has taught that, "Everything in existence is good and only the lack of goodness makes a thing evil. The being is created good but when the lack of good is to be seen in it, then it becomes bad. Evil is not created by God" (Baha'i Writings, par. 963.) Since evil is not created by God why should we give little children a sense of guilt or evil, especially when this does not act as a deterrent but leads only to a feeling of necessity for keeping secret his thoughts, words and deeds?

This does not mean, of course, that a child should be left to do whatever his fancy dictates regardless of results. It means simply that we shall emphasize right behavior. Our efforts will be to encourage such attributes as justice, kindness, obedience, love for others and many other such characteristics. Thus the child will grow up free from any devastating sense of guilt but rather he will have a sense of satisfaction when he lives up to these ideals (according to his age and understanding of these ideals) and he will have correspondingly a sense of disappointment rather than guilt if and when he fails.

Those children who already have shadowy secrets which they think they are hiding completely and which for the sake of their own spiritual development, should not be kept hidden, need to be taught that: "whatsoever ye have concealed within your hearts is to Us open and manifest as the day." (Hidden Words.) This thought should never be used to frighten the child such as has been done so often in past generations. The child needs to think of Bahá'u'lláh as one who is ever present like a kind and tender father who gives to the child comfort and security. He should never conceive Him as a sort of Ghostly Guard spying upon the child at all times. Such were the thoughts of the small boy who after pilfering an apple, hid under the porch to eat it, where, as he said, "God can't find me."
the matter of hiding guilty thoughts or deeds is a question of training through sympathy and understanding by the adults so as to eliminate any real or imagined necessity for such secrecy. With older children it becomes necessary to give them instructions directly from the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Báhá, thus helping them to realize the uselessness of trying to hide that which is impossible to hide from them. Rebuild the child's confidence and broaden his conception of goodness. Encourage him to learn by heart the following prayer and to meditate thereon. "Hold Thou my right arm, O God! and dwell continually with me. Guide me to the fountain of Thy knowledge, and encircle me with Thy glory. Set Thine angels on my right hand, and open mine eyes to Thy splendor. Let mine ears harden to Thy melodious tone, and encircle me with Thy Presence. For Thou art the strength of my heart and the trust of my soul and I desire none other beside Thee."

WORLD ORDER IN PUBLIC AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

For about five years, gift subscriptions of World Order were presented to approximately 600 Public, University, YMCA and YWCA Libraries in many countries by a non-Bahá'í friend. This generous assistance is no longer available, and it is therefore suggested that local Assemblies consider how they can assist in this important kind of teaching work. The donation of subscriptions to Libraries and Colleges in the city or in the vicinity, if done by our 102 Assemblies, will mean no burden of expense for any one Assembly but in the total of results will maintain contact with a great number of non-Bahá'ís.

For further information, write the Business Manager of the magazine, C. R. Wood, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

NEWS OF EAST AND WEST

No. 23 of Bahá'í Journal, published by the National Assembly of the British Isles under date of June, 1940, outlines a Four Year Teaching Plan which was recommended by the Convention to the incoming NSA in principle, and by the Assembly immediately approved and set under way. The Convention recommendation read: "That the whole Bahá'í Community should engage in a four year plan of Teaching, with the object of having nineteen local Spiritual Assemblies established by Adán, 1944." Words of the Guardian recently received by the British NSA: "May the Almighty bless, sustain and protect the English believers, who in these days of unprecedented turmoil, stress and danger, are holding aloft so courageously the banner of the Faith, and who will, in the days to come, contribute, through His grace and power, a notable share to its establishment and recognition in the West." The National Spiritual Assemblies elected for 1940-1941—Mr. Arthur North, Chairman and Treasurer, Mr. H. B. Balyuzi, Vice-Chairman, Mr. David Hofman, Secretary, Miss Margarette Welly, Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Langdon-Davies, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Sugar, Miss Grace Challis, Mr. Asgar-Zadeh.

A circular letter dated May 15 has been received from the Spiritual Assembly of Paris. This communication expresses thanks for all the acknowledgments received since the Assembly issued its last letter in January, 1939. "From this gigantic struggle in which are plunged the entire strength of the Order of Good must arise a humanity regenerated by suffering. It is Good which will conquer; once again the Angel will lay the Dragon low. That is why we, the Bahá'í groups of France, who are in this tragic hour wholly involved in the terrible battle, we shall not abandon our efforts and we shall continue our activity as much as possible. During the year 1938-1939 we had to suffer the departure from Paris of all our young Persian students who had been the faithful friends of our meetings. Consequently, the opportunity of arranging the Annual Conference for the young Bahá'ís temporarily disappeared. Nevertheless, the idea was maintained and we succeeded in organizing some special meetings... on May 28 and 29, 1939, with our young believers from the Provinces." New believers were enrolled in a number of cities, and the French translation of Gleanings has been completed. "We cry with one ardent faith upon the protection of God and of Bahá'u'lláh." Of special interest to American believers is the French pamphlet entitled "Etude Sur Portes de Paris by Howard Colby Yves de Jeanne Montefiore, donnée en conférence à Paris en Mars 1939." 

The progress report of Temple construction dated July 1, 1940 stated that Mr. Ealy and his assistants at the Temple have continued to make good progress in the casting of the ornamentation of the nine pylons of the main story. "During this time the second lift of the nine pylons has been completed and two sections of the third lift have been finished. At the present rate of progress, Mr. Earley should complete the ornamentation of the pylons about the middle of next September and within the estimate for the entire cost of this phase of the work.

"Excellent progress has been made at the Earley Studio at Rosslyn, Virginia, in the continuation of the casting of the sections of the ornamentation for the three faces between the pylons. Up to June 28 the following castings have been made and are being seasoned in the yard of the Studio, preparatory to shipment to the Temple: 9 large left-hand window grilles; 3 large right-hand window grilles; 3 small left-hand window grilles; 12 small arches for window openings; 3 soffits for main entrance doorways; 7 large columns; 39 cornice brackets; 3 large central panels above main arch. It is planned to ship a carload of the casts to Wilmette in about two weeks (July 15), so that Mr. Earley can get started on the erection of this material during the course of the next two months."

BRAILLE WORKERS

Volume III of Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, Braille edition, was left at the Convention Exhibit and taken home by Chairman of the Braille Exhibit after the Convention. The owner can obtain the book by notifying Mrs. Gertrude Schurgast, 6213 Coleridge Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio.

BAHÁ'Í CALENDAR

Nineteen Day Feasts: November 4, November 23, December 12.

Anniversaries and Festivals: Birth of the Báb, October 20; Birth of Bahá'u'lláh, November 12; Day of the Covenant, November 26; Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, November 28, which is to be observed at 1:00 A.M. EST.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: November 22, 23, 24, at Atlanta, Georgia.

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS

Indianapolis, two; Beverly Hills, two; Lima, eight; Milwaukwe, two; Washington, two; Chicago, ten and one youth; Pasadena, two; Burbank, one; Atlanta, one; Newark, four; Peoria, one; Minneapolis, one; San Francisco, one; Oakland, one; Tewau, one; Los Angeles, nine; Berkeley, one; Yonkers, one; Phoenix, two; Detroit, four; Flint, three; New York, seven; Sacramento, two; Honolulu, one; Kansas City, two; Maywood, one and one youth; Evanston, one.

BAHÁ'Í DIRECTORY

The following additions to, and revisions of, the Directory published in the September issue are now reported.

Local Assemblies: The following Assemblies are dissolved as a result of the ap-
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WORDS

NAMES

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L. Q. 17

THE BAHÁ’I’Y DAY ENDS AT SUNSET

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plication of the Guardian’s instruction concerning the residence of voting believers — Glendale, Ariz.; Burbank, Calif.; Geyserville, Calif.; Huntington Park, Calif.; Santa Rosa, Calif.; Colorado Springs, Colo.; Denver, Colo.; Monroe, Wash.; Eagle River, Wisc. The members of these communities now belong to groups, the list of which will be published as soon as possible.


Committees:

1. Revisions: Inter-America, add Miss Dagmar Dole, Miss Edna True, Mme. Inga Illoesca. International Auxiliary Language, add David Earle. Contacts, add Edward Paro, Albert Weverseen. Youth, Regional Secretary for Pacific Northwest, add Harry Wilke. Archives, add Mr. George B. Miller. Radio, add Mrs. Frank Meese. Regional Teaching Committees—Louisiana, etc., Miss Lydia J. Martin unable to serve in that area, Mrs. Margaret Ellis, Miss Anna Smith added. North Carolina, etc., Dr. Marie Kershaw unable to serve in that area. Miss Alta Wheelers added. Kansas, etc., Mrs. J. B. Beckel added. Maryland, etc., Secretary is Mrs. Margaret McDaniel, Waterford, Va. New Jersey, etc., Mrs. Dorothy G. Graf unable to serve.

2. Committees appointed: Green Acre School

Miss Lorna Tasker, Chairman
Miss Marjorie Wheeler, Secretary, 84 Pleasant Street, Worcester, Mass.
Mrs. H. Chamberlin
Glenn A. Shook
Louis G. Gregory
Miss Rachel Small
Harlan Ober
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ford
Mrs. Amelia Bowman

Green Acre Youth Week

Joseph Noyes, Chairman, 43 Davis Street, Binghamton, N. Y.
Miss Ida Noyes
Miss Jane Carton
Miss Lois Keller
Charles Kilmer
Miss Betty Kaley
Miss Deane Raitt

Geyserville School

George O. Latimer, Chairman
N. T. Warde, Secretary, 2320 Rose Street, Berkeley, Calif.
Mark Tobey
Ali Yazdi
Miss Gladys Linfoot
Irvin Somenthaler
Mrs. Olive Meyer
John D. Bosch

IN MEMORIAM

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It be­stoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It confereth the gift of everlasting life.

BAHA’I’Y ALLAH.

Mrs. Thomas Macmecohan, Brooklyn.
Miss Amalie Tyler, Brooklyn.
Mrs. Adelia Bartlett, Racine.
Mrs. Lida Harvey, Peoria.
Mrs. Louise Leavett, Detroit.
Mrs. V. E. Sheldor, Urbana.
Mr. Robert Harrison Weeks, Waukegan.
Mr. Clarence Yount, Huntington Park.
Mr. Ocho Wright, Huntington Park.
Mr. George Kuhlman, San Francisco.
Mrs. Doris Leete, Lima.
Mr. Frederick R. Swift, Flushing, N. Y.
Mrs. E. Ledwell, Chicago.
Dr. Walter B. Guy, St. Augustine.

Bohnert’s Fugal Shoppe, Charleston, West Virginia.
"THE ONE REMAINING COMMUNITY"

Present world chaos, exhibiting (the) impiety, follies, rebelliousness characteristic (of) humanity's adolescent stage (of) development, and harbinger (of the) long-promised Golden Age (of the) maturity (of the) human race, (is) relentlessly spreading (and) distressingly intensified. (The) alternating victories (and) reverses, heralding parallel transition (of) proscribed Cause (of) Bahá'u'lláh struggling towards emancipation, world recognition (and) spiritual universal dominion, (are) simultaneously multiplying. (The) recrudescence (of the) chronic persecution afflicting (the) cradle (of the) Faith, (the) grave danger threatening (the) appropriated Temple (and) disbanded centers (in) Turkistan (and) Caucasus, (the) repressive measures successively choking (the) life (and) paralyzing (the) action (of both the) long-standing (and the) newly-fledged communities (of) Central, Western (and) South-Eastern Europe, (the) intermittent outbursts (of) religious fanaticism directed (against the) North African Assemblies, (and the) aggravation (of the) situation (at the) world Spiritual (and) Administrative Center, contrast with, (and are) outweighed by, (the) surging spirit, (the) startling expansion, (the) sweeping conquests, (the) superb consolidation (of the) swiftly-accumulating resources (of the) one remaining community singled out (for the) proclamation (of the) Administrative Order throughout (the) length (and) breadth (of the) Western Hemisphere. (I) appeal (to the) New World champions (of the) New World Order (of) Bahá'u'lláh (to) stand fast (at) this tragic hour (in the) fortunes (of mankind) (and the) challenging state (of the) evolution (of the) Faith. (I) beg them (to) close their ranks jointly, severely (and) vow themselves (to) incomparably sublime task whose operation must hasten (the) ascendency (of the) beloved Cause (and) the spiritual redemption (of all) re-created mankind.

—SHOGHI RABBANI

Cablegram received October 29, 1940.

"ITS NECESSARY AND VITAL ROLE"

The American Bahá'ís, under the guidance of Shoghi Effendi, are being educated to understand the mystery unfolding so rapidly in this Day of God, when the nations and peoples are summoned before the high court of destiny to answer for their failure to attain peace.

Far removed from the attitude of the pacifist on the one hand, and that of the nationalist on the other, is the view which the Guardian has been expounding over a period of years with increasing emphasis. Only by rising to the clear height of his spiritual insight can we hope to avoid entanglement in one or other of the extreme positions which today are irreconcilable by the forces of human reason or will.

"Though powerless to avert the impending contest," the Guardian pointed out in his letter dated July 28, 1939, "the followers of Bahá'u'lláh can, by the spirit they evince and the efforts they exert, help to circumscribe its range, shorten its duration, assuage its hardships, proclaim its salutary consequences, and demonstrate its necessary and vital role in the shaping of human destiny. Theirs is the duty to hold aloft and undimmed, the torch of Divine Guidance, as the shades of night descend upon, and ultimately envelop, the entire human race. Theirs is the function, amidst its tumults, perils and agonies, to witness to the vision, and proclaim the approach, of that re-created society, that Christ-promised Kingdom, that World Order whose generative impulse is the spirit of none other than Bahá'u'lláh Himself, whose dominion is the entire planet, whose watchword is unity, whose animating power is the force of Justice, whose directive purpose is the reign of righteousness and truth, and whose supreme glory is the complete, the undisturbed, and everlasting felicity of the whole of human kind."

The essence of the insight we need as Bahá'ís is to be found in these words. While detesting war, the Bahá'í recognizes the destructive phase of Divine power as the counterpart of its construc-
tion. There can be no peace as the mere perpetuation of all the organized disunities which preceded, led up to and made inevitable, the present world conflict. Peace means the harmonious relationship of all peoples and all social agencies in one organic world order. Evil must be destroyed, mankind must be purified, before the Kingdom can be revealed to human sight.

Though the Baha'i cleaves to the constructive phase, he must recognize the dual process which Shoghi Effendi described in The Unfoldment of World Civilization: "As we view the world around us, we are compelled to observe the manifold evidences of that universal fermentation which, in every continent of the globe and in every department of human life, be it religious, social, economic or political, is purging and reshaping humanity in anticipation of the Day when the wholeness of the human race will have been recognized and its unity established. A twofold process, however, can be distinguished, each rendering, in its own way and with an accelerated momentum, to bring to a climax the forces that are transforming the face of our planet. The first is essentially an integrating process, while the second is fundamentally disruptive. The former, as it steadily evolves, unfolds a System which may well serve as a pattern for that world policy towards which a strangely-disordered world is continually advancing; while the latter, as its disintegrating influence deepens, tends to tear down, with increasing violence, the antiquated barriers that seek to block humanity's progress towards its desired goal..."

In The Goal of a New World Order, written more than eight years ago, Shoghi Effendi declared: "We have but to turn our gaze to humanity's blood-stained history to realize that nothing short of intense mental as well as physical agony has been able to precipitate those epoch-making changes that constitute the greatest landmarks in the history of human civilization... That nothing short of the fire of a severe ordeal, unparalleled in its intensity, can fuse and weld the discordant entities that constitute the elements of present-day civilization, into the integral components of the world commonwealth of the future, is a truth which future events will increasingly demonstrate."

The Baha'i, therefore, is able to balance and reconcile truths and events which to others mean but hopeless agony and supreme defeat. What makes the unbeliever cry out that there is no Justice in the universe, makes the Baha'i realize that nothing can happen except what divine Justice decrees. We must try to convey these convictions to the public. This is the type of teaching to which masses will respond. The Baha'i view enhances the intensity of prayer without confounding reason. It recognizes the depth of the tragedy moving human hearts, but joins tragedy itself with the inmost virtue of faith in God.

But when understanding has been attained, we as Baha'is make only the beginning of obedience to the urgent call. The prime and vital matter is to teach. Never again can there be just this combination of forces on earth which makes it possible to establish a Faith which is the fulfillment of the entire prophetic era! Our capacity to teach is the pure flame of all action, all worship and all prayer. No believer, and no Baha'i body, can afford to hesitate a single instant. Divine reinforcement will come to every person and every agency striving to spread the Faith of Baha'u'llah.

"Would it seem extravagant... to expect that in the midst of so enervable a region of the earth and out of the agony and wreckage of an unprecedented crisis there should burst forth a spiritual renaissance which, as it propagates itself through the instrumentality of the American believers, will rehabilitate the fortunes of a decadent age?"—SHOGHI EFFENDI, America and the Most Great Peace.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

REMAIN ALOOF FROM POLITICAL AFFAIRS

We should—every one of us—remain aloof, in heart and in mind, in words and in deeds, from the political affairs and disputes of the Nations and of Governments. We should keep ourselves away from such thoughts. We should have no political connection with any of the parties and should join no faction of these different and warring sects. Absolute impartiality in the matter of political parties should be shown by words and by deeds...

According to the exhortations of the Supreme Pen and the confirmatory explanations of the Covenant of God, Baha'is are in no way allowed to enter into political affairs under any pretense or excuse; since such an action brings about disastrous results and ends in hurting the Cause of God and its intimate friends. (Words of Shoghi Effendi published in Baha'i News Letter of the NSA of India and Burma, December, 1939).

IN SERVICE TO THE SPIRIT

The Baha'i community represents the coming together and perfect blending of two orders of reality—the reality of the Spirit, and the reality of the Form. What we see in the individual as the struggle between body and soul is true also for society. Perfect health for the individual is the condition of harmony. Human society today is in torment because its form no longer corresponds to the needs of the spirit, and hence a new form must be created.

This creation is the miracle of our experience as Baha'is. The unified Baha'i community is nothing less than the sole type of social health existing in the world today. Its form, that is, its institutions and procedures, offers itself as channel to the dynamic force of the Holy Spirit without which civilization is dead. The form of itself is nothing, like the wooden form of a violin. But in the hands of the Musician, its instrumentality becomes the channel by which the higher world can interpenetrate the lower and raise the lower from dream to waking, from death to life.

In every phase of existence, the Form is necessary to the Spirit, but it is the Spirit which establishes the aim, the purpose and the activity of the Form. The child is man in the body-building period. When the Form is complete, the Spirit descends in the fulness of its power. Likewise, a period of time is needed for new communities to adjust to their Baha'i institutions and learn how to operate them for Baha'i ends. But we must take care lest the time of body-building be extended too long.

In this crucial hour, with the Guardian's successive messages resounding in our hearts, each local Assembly is called upon to examine carefully its plans and methods in order to concentrate upon constructive measures for the entire community. Each meeting should devote time to the subject of teaching locally, and to support of the national Temple and teaching plans. This is the paramount aim of the Administrative Order today, and should not be obscured or deferred.
on account of relatively unimportant matters. By establishing an order of business in which the important matters come first, local Assemblies can prevent their time and strength from being wasted by lesser questions presented by individual believers. The principle of spiritual efficiency surely means that Assemblies give first consideration to the Guardian's wishes, then to national needs, then to matters affecting the whole local community, and only then deal with personalities.

Miraculous achievement is assured the people of Bahá’u’lláh, but on condition that they do the will of Bahá’u’lláh and not substitute their own wishes and desires. If a community has not accomplished any services to the Cause for a period of years, but has simply existed in a passive condition, let the friends honestly face the situation and attempt strongly to become an instrument for the Spirit. No institution, no group, no person is ever an end to itself. Its vital life depends on capacity to become a means for some higher end. This is why the new Revela-
tion produces such perturbation in the old society; it rends the veil from those conventional and materialistic methods by which self-interest has long remained concealed.

Many Assemblies would be surprised and gratified to learn how many different kinds of teaching material has been pro-
vided by the devoted effort of National Committees in recent years. For example, to list some of them, we have: Exhibit and display material, including a Temple model.
Braille literature for the blind.
Radio scripts on a number of subjects.
Slides for illustrated lectures.
Moving picture film of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.
The Master’s voice record.
Bahá’í News Service, providing publicity material.
Child education material.
World Order Magazine.
Books for Library Placement.
Study Outlines.
 Pamphlets and leaflets presenting the Cause in many different ways.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES, NORTH AMERICA

Regional Teaching Committees report news of constructive activities of many different types in all parts of the United States and Canada.

From Nellie J. Roche, Secretary of the Regional Committee for Kentucky, Eastern Tennessee, Northern Alabama and Northern Georgia, we learn of the special teaching project developed at Vogel Park, Cleveland, Georgia last June, already mentioned briefly in Bahá’í News:

“The history of the spread of the Bahá’í Faith in the South entered a new phase during the week of June 8-15, 1940, when, in all, twenty-nine Bahá’ís and their friends, from seven southern states and Ohio, were privileged to live together in spiritual love and unity in Vogel Park near Cleveland, Georgia. There were nineteen in residence, the others being guests for a day or so.

“The high point was on Friday evening, the last one together, when two persons declared themselves Bahá’ís! What joy there was!

“The program of instruction was brilliantly conceived and as brilliantly presented by Mrs. Howard Ives, Mrs. Or­cella Rexford, Dr. Glenn Shook and Mrs. Terah C. Smith, chairman of program. Two phases of Bahá’í life were stressed: (1) the development of the individual Bahá’ís on all planes of life as a prepara-
tion for his greatest personal participation in (2) the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh, as presented from Bible prophecy, various historic concepts of government and religion, and their relationships, culminating in Bahá’í Administration.

“Program:
Standards for the New Age, Mental and Physical Health—Mrs. Orcella Rexford.
Standards for the New Age, Prayer and Spiritual Health—Mrs. Terah C. Smith.
Prophecy Fulfilled—the Promise of All Ages—Mrs. Howard Ives.
Building the New Government for the Golden Age of Bahá’u’lláh—Mrs. Howard Ives.
The New World Order—Dr. Glenn Shook.

“Several sessions of a most helpful teaching seminar were held with Mrs. Ives, Mrs. Rexford, and Mrs. Smith taking part.”

The adjoining area of North Carolina, South Carolina and Southern Georgia, through Esther Sego, gives particular mention to the teaching work of Mrs. Amalie Bodmer and of Louis G. Gregory. Mrs. Bodmer has done excellent work in and near Ashville, N. C. On September 6 she wrote that she had made 68 contacts since her arrival June 22, all of whom received a copy of Bahá’í Principles and The Wisdom of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá . . . Eight people in Ashville proper have had the message . . . In the three years she has been teaching from the trailer, 221 persons have been contacted and only ten refused to take copies of Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era.”

“In Columbus, Mr. Gregory spoke briefly at Benedict and at Allen University. He also spoke at Mrs. Pearl Dixon’s home where there were eleven present and a fine spiritual atmosphere. Interest in a further meeting was expressed . . . Miss Mickie and Miss Wheeler were invited to the church of a minister present. Augusta had the great privilege of having Louis in their midst the following day. He made several valuable contacts, among them a Methodist minister and professor at Payne College who opened two classes to him although it was during the examination period.”

“A class of seven to ten Bahá’ís and non-Bahá’ís has been meeting at Mrs.
Sego's home to study and discuss race origins, race relations and similar topics under the direction of Prof. Fred Steely of Paine College. Mrs. Eason of Raleigh reports that there will be five believers in Raleigh this winter.

The Regional Teaching Committee of Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia and District of Columbia has lacked a Secretary for some months, but interesting news comes from individual teachers.

From Harold Hunt, Huntington, West Virginia:

"The Huntington group of interested pupils and believers on October 27th were greatly favored by the visit to this beautiful city of Mrs. Frank Baker.

"The meeting was held in the large dining room or ballroom of the Frederick Hotel. Only two dollars was asked for this privilege, and the hotel further graciously accorded Mrs. Baker the use of a private mezzanine parlor without charge for the evening circle of interested ones.

"At the conclusion it seemed that no one wished to leave. It was very striking.

"The meeting was an entire success, interesting contacts being made, and a deep impression of the value of the Baha'i Teachings, their effectiveness being left with all present.

"That evening a group met including Mr. Long, Miss Jessie Burgess, a newcomer, Mrs. Edwards and an occasional visitor, Mr. Mortison. This circle went further into the teachings for the purpose of a more intense diffusion of the power of the Cause. It was regrettable that Nason Adkins, the first one here to verbally declare himself, had cut his foot with an ax, and Miss Hazel Bragg, also studying and ready for declaration was sick, forced to remain at her post in a Kentucky Hospital. She works at Riverview Hospital, Louisa, Ky.

"Plans are under way for group contacts for Stanwood Cobb on November 9 and 10. The Superintendent of schools, Mr. Nutter, is endeavoring to have a group meet Prof. Cobb at a Dutch Treat luncheon. And Mrs. Pritchard, a social leader, (the leader) has expressed a desire to meet him also. Later preparations will be started for interracial contacts for Mr. Schurgast of Cincinnati."

The New England region is being stirred up through visits from Amelia Bowman, Secretary of the Regional Committee, who is carrying out a comprehensive teaching plan. Her first report deals with results in a number of cities in Vermont. From October 11 to 31 she was active in Rutland, Springfield, Chester, Brattleboro, Bellows Falls, Northfield, Randolph, Windsor, Montpelier and Barre.

In Rutland Mrs. Bowman met the Rabbi of the local Synagogue who had visited the Temple at Wilmette and was sympathetic. He will help promote her plans for talks before organizations on "The Destiny of America." The radio station broadcast the entire text of "A Pattern for Future Society" by Shoghi Effendi in connection with her local meetings. On October 28 she spoke before the Lions Club on the Baha'i Peace Plan, giving our literature and discussing the theme a half hour beyond the usual time.

Mrs. Bowman also spoke at a meeting of the Lions Club in Barre on the 29th, with over forty young business men present. The theme of world federation produced a wonderful response. She presented a number of books to the Public Library, and has arranged a later public meeting in the city for Florence Morton.

Two public meetings were held in Montpelier, at the Kiwanis Club and at the Montpelier Tavern. The latter meeting attracted the president of the Women's Club. Mrs. Bowman is laying a foundation for increased Baha'i activity in Vermont, and incidentally creates interest in Green Acre in this nearby but hitherto inactive state.

**INTER-AMERICA TEACHING**

The Baha'i Community of North America will rejoice with the Inter-American Committee at the acceleration of the Latin-American work. In obedience to the call of our beloved Guardian for more pioneers in South and Central America, the committee reports the following pioneers and visitors who are sailing this historic month of November for service in this field.

Two pioneers from Los Angeles, Mrs. Eleanor Adler and Mrs. Marcia Steward Atwater, are sailing together from New Orleans on the S.S. Santa Marta, November 16. Mrs. Adler is to settle in Bolivia at La Paz. She is the first to carry the message of Baha'u'llah to this country. Mrs. Atwater disembarks at Valparaiso, but intends to establish residence in Santiago, Chile.

Miss Elizabeth Cheney of Lima, Ohio, is sailing November 30 on the S.S. Uruguay. She will disembark at Buenos Aires December 17, where she will spend a few days before going on to Asuncion, Paraguay, to settle.

Miss Gertrude Gewertz is leaving shortly for Costa Rica, where she will assist in the pioneer work in Port Limon.

Mrs. Enos Barton sails on November 13 on the S.S. Brazil, for a visit with her son, Mr. Wilfrid Barton. Mr. Barton is a pioneer in Uruguay.

Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Wood of Cabin John, Maryland are prospective pioneers. They have been accepted by the National Spiritual Assembly to go to Rio de Janeiro.

Mrs. Sara Ellen Peake left in October to marry Mr. John Stearns, who is pioneering in Ecuador. She will be able to assist greatly in the work of spreading the Cause in that country.

**Panama**—Mrs. Louise Caswell writes asking that all the believers assist in the Latin-American work: "I believe that kindness, hospitality and true warmth (we should never stop short of a handshake with a Latin) will bring forth spiritual fruit seven hundredfold." (She re-
in Nueva Vizcaya, writes that there are 

There is also a children's class of nine young people.

Buenos Aires—A letter received just in 
time to be briefly mentioned before sending off the news of the Inter-America Committee for Baha'i News tells of the very fine reception which Philip Sprague had on his arrival in Buenos Aires. He speaks of the cordiality of the friends there, of their delight to receive the Teachings which Mr. Sprague is so well qualified to present, and of the fact that many of the friends speak English perfectly and therefore should have a larger number of Baha'i books. Mr. Sprague sends a splendid clipping from a newspaper in Buenos Aires which for want of time we cannot now translate even in brief, but suffice it to say that the Cause was given wide publicity and very well received and many valuable contacts made.

Rio de Janeiro—From Mrs. Mathews we have received a copy of a most delightful letter from Mr. Cecil Best of Rio who thanks Mrs. Mathews for the copy of the Proceedings of the First Latin-American School Baha'i Session and expresses his pleasure at the visit of Miss Jeanne Bolles and Philip Sprague and says that it is their intention to remain in Rio to form a Spiritual Assembly there. Miss Holsapple was with them, and having been so long a resident of Brazil, she will be most helpful.

Quito, Ecuador—Mr. John Stearns still retains the same address for his mail although he has taken up other quarters.

It seems helpful.

Mrs. Hoagg is one of our most distinguished international teachers. She has spent long periods in the Holy Household when 'Abdu'l-Baha was in our midst and has been greatly valued by the Guardian with whom she worked in typing The Dawn Breakers. She was also in charge of the International Bureau at Geneva, Switzerland for some years. We feel that Cuba is especially fortunate. The address of the Center remains the same as listed in the last Bulletin.

Before leaving Havana Mr. Marangella reported the names of three new believers:

Mr. Philip Marangella has returned to this country and Mrs. H. Emogene Hoagg has gone to Havana to supplant him. Mrs. Hoagg is one of our most distinguished international teachers. She has spent long periods in the Holy Household when 'Abdu'l-Baha was in our midst and has been greatly valued by the Guardian with whom she worked in typing The Dawn Breakers. She was also in charge of the International Bureau at Geneva, Switzerland for some years. We feel that Cuba is especially fortunate. The address of the Center remains the same as listed in the last Bulletin.

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Mrs. Irene Brauchbar, Calle E. No. 503, entre 21 y 23, Vedado, Havana.

Sr. Angel Ofier, San Miguel, 22, Havana.

Sr. Carlos Ortiz, Portas, Aguilar, 368, Havana.

Tegucigalpa, Honduras—Before leaving Tegucigalpa, Mr. Gerard Slater wrote that newspaper publicity brought an inquiry from Sr. David Medina Benegas in Tela, on the north coast of Honduras. Sr. Benegas said that he is secretary of a Masonic Lodge and a Theosophist. He asked for literature and offered his cooperation. He had previously heard of the Cause and was interested in learning of the work being done in Honduras.

Mr. Slater reports stopping at Costa Rica on his way to Bogota, Colombia. A meeting was arranged by Mrs. Woonson and Mrs. Ford where he spoke to a group of twenty. He tells in glowing terms of the work being done by these Pioneers and reported four new believers.

Philippine Islands—Sr. Felix R. Madera, Chairman of the Spiritual Assembly in Nueva Vizcaya, writes that there are twenty members in their community. Regular classes are held for those interested in learning about the Cause, having an average attendance of eight persons.

MESSAGES FROM THE GUARDIAN

Cablegrams and postcards written by the Guardian since 1932, published in Baha'i News as they were received, but not available in book form, have been compiled and printed as a pamphlet. Copies have been sent as gifts by the National Spiritual Assembly to all believers in North America and to pioneers. Members of organized communities receive them through their local Assembly; copies were sent to organized groups through their Correspondent, while the isolated friends were sent a copy direct. The friends who are so conscious of the spiritual power flowing through the Guardian's messages will appreciate what inspiration this pamphlet conveys.

"During this four week period (i.e., October), the casting of the various sections of the ornamentation for the nine faces of the main story has been continued and excellent progress has been made. "All of the small columns have been cast; the last of the nine doorway arches was cast during the last day of the period (i.e., October 31), and the large panels over the nine main entrances have been completed... The casting of the large columns will proceed during November. "On October 1, a car containing eight small columns, six arches, 12 large grilles and six small grilles was shipped from Roslyn. On October 3, a similar car containing 87,084 lbs. of crushed stone and 12 small columns, 10 pieces of ornament and 40 pieces of reinforcing steel was shipped..."

BAHA'I CALENDAR

Nineteen Day Feasts: December 12, December 31, January 19.

Anniversaries and Festivals: Day of the Covenant, November 26; Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Baha, November 28 (to be observed if feasible at 1:00 A.M.)

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: December 27, 28, 29 at Wilmette, Illinois.

The inscriptions on the nine faces selected by the Guardian from Hidden Words of Baha'u'llah. They were published in Baha'i News No. 127, July, 1939, and in World Order Magazine for May, 1940.
CORRESPONDENCE WITH FRENCH ESPERANTISTS

The National Spiritual Assembly has been advised that for the present it will be better for the friends to discontinue any correspondence with Esperantists in France, Baha'i or non-Baha'i.

TEMPLE TEACHING

From the August report of the Temple Guides Committee the following excerpts are taken for the information of the friends:

"A brief résumé of the visitors attending the Temple will show the results secured in guide work. During August, 1940, there were 10,609 visitors guided through the Temple. Although this is 192 fewer than in August, 1939, the explanation, I believe, is quite obvious; namely, that people coming onto the Temple grounds on the East side of the building, and finding no proper sign to instruct them where to find the entrance, leave without knowing they can go through the Temple or that guides will be provided. July and August, 1940, are the only months of this year that have shown a decrease over the same months of 1939. We should have had from 2,000 to 3,000 more visitors during these two months. And yet, despite this loss, the first eight months of 1940 shows an increase of 478 over the same period of 1939, the total during the eight months of this year being 10,900.

"A very interesting point is the widespread area from which visitors come. The August visitors were from 35 different States and also from the following foreign countries: Kingston, Jamaica, B.W.I., Plymouth, B.W.I., Montague, P. E. I., Manila, P. I., The Hague, Holland.

"Apprentice seamen from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station are coming to the Temple in increasing numbers, 633 of them having visited the Temple in August. A total of 2,046 seamen have visited the Temple since January 1, 1940.

"Other visiting groups include: The Phi Beta Kappa Society of Chicago and a Teacher's Class from the summer school of Northwestern University were shown through the Temple during August.

"A further idea of how the total of visitors through the Temple is mounting is shown by the fact that since July 1, 1932, the number of visitors totals 113,635."
both these numbers are proving useful, especially to the groups and isolated friends who welcome means of fresh information and contact with other Baha'is.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF BAHÁ'Í MANUSCRIPT

When a manuscript is sent in to the Reviewing Committee to be passed on for Bahá'í content and literary style, an author often has to spend a great deal of time in revision because he has been unacquainted with the acceptable procedures for preparing manuscript. We offer these Suggestions for the Preparation of Bahá'í Manuscript to facilitate the work of the author and of all committees concerned and to save time and expense in handling inadequately prepared manuscripts.

The Reviewing Committee has the right to assume that there will be no need for them to verify statements and quotations or to alter or correct construction, spelling, punctuation, or capitalization. Before the writer has typed the final draft he should carefully revise his manuscript in terms of the preceding suggestions.

Only typewritten manuscript can be accepted for review. It should be typed on the standard commercial sheet 8 1/2 inches wide by 11 inches high; neither onion nor paper of similar weight should be used; an original, not a carbon copy, should be presented to the Reviewing Committee.

The following definite instructions are given for the final draft.

1. Page Arrangement:
   a. The maximum length of line should be six inches.
   b. The main text should be double-spaced.
   c. One side only of the sheet should be used.
   d. Leave a margin of about an inch on all four sides of the typing.
   e. Do not economize too much on paper, as this makes the reading difficult.
   f. Type the same number of lines to each page, if possible.
   g. Do not divide a word at the end of the line, go over to the next line with the whole word.

2. Paragraphing:
   a. Paragraph indentation should be uniform and four or five spaces are sufficient.
   b. If block typing is used there must be a triple space between paragraphs.

3. Chapter Headings:
   a. Begin each chapter or other large division of manuscript on a new page.
   b. Omit periods after centered heading.
   c. Headings on the Table of Contents and the text should agree in wording, sequence and number.

4. Titles Quoted:
   a. Titles of books, poems, periodicals, etc., mentioned in the text should be underscored, not quoted.

5. Quotations:
   a. Quotations exceeding two lines in length should be typed without quotation marks, with lines single-spaced, in separate paragraphs, indented on each margin about six spaces more than the normal margin.
   b. Quotations of two lines or less should be included in the body of the text.
   c. Mark carefully open and close quotes and open and close parentheses and brackets, to be sure that they are always present in pairs.
   d. Brackets should be used, not parentheses, when words are inserted in a quotation for the sake of clarity.
   e. The source of a quotation should be made clear either in the context or by a reference. The reference should include author, title, page, and date of issue. The date of issue is especially important if the quotation is from a magazine article. If few quotations are used in the manuscript the source can be given directly after the quotation. But if there are many, they should be numbered and listed with corresponding numbers in an index at the end of the manuscript.
   f. All quotations from Bahá'í books should be taken from the latest edition. If the latest edition is not available, the edition used should be stated. In quoting follow the text exactly. No quotation should be taken from another quotation; the original source must be used. It is the custom of the Reviewing Committee to check a few quotations for accuracy. If they are badly quoted, the manuscript is returned at once to the writer for correction, without further reviewing consideration.

6. Transliteration of Oriental Words:
   a. In order that the spelling and marking of Bahá'í words conform to the rules for the transliteration of Oriental words, a sheet of these transliterations should be obtained from the Publishing Committee before the last typing of manuscript (or refer to transliteration section in The Bahá'í World).

7. Inserts:
   a. Any page that needs inserts or has material scratched out, should be retyped.
   b. No author's comment should be left in the margin.

REVIEWING COMMITTEE

RACE UNITY PROJECTS

Milwaukee was recently the scene of unusual activity among minority groups of the city. On Saturday, September 28, the community entertained fifty Indian friends, representing the Indian councils of Milwaukee. On Sunday the Race Unity Committee were guests of the city, and a public meeting was held at the Center,
with friends from many race groups attending. Indian guests offered music; a Jewish friend acted in the genial capacity of chairman; and the speakers represented the white and colored groups of American life. At the close of the meeting, one of the visitors said: "There can be no question; this is a proof." On Monday evening, Rev. Battles acted as host to the speakers in his own church, the Calvary Baptist. Milwaukee's busy week-end impressed every heart with the reality expressed in the vivid words of 'Abdu'l-Baha; that "all are one in the color and beauty of servitude to Him." An Eskimo speaker was announced for the coming week at the Center.

The Temple area was particularly heartened by the outstanding accomplishment of Chicago this summer, when the friends were permitted to display a Temple model at the National Negro Exposition, celebrating the 75th year of Negro freedom. It is estimated that 12,300 pamphlets were distributed. An evening of the Exposition was given over to the Bahá’í Faith, and 600 attended the program. Fireside meetings have resulted for the fall, and a fine public follow-up meeting was held at the Center on October 3rd, when members of the Race Unity Committee were invited to share in the program. The committee feels deeply the high significance of these meritorious deeds at the very heart and center of the Bahá’í Faith in America, for ‘Abdu’l-Bahá has said: "When such meetings are established, and the participants associate with each other with perfect love, unity, and harmony, the angels of the Kingdom praise them, and the Beauty of Bahá’u’lláh addresseth them, 'Blessed are ye! Blessed are ye!' . . . When a gathering of these two races is brought about, that assemblage will become the magnet of the Concourse on high, and the confirmations of the Blessed Beauty will surround it."

Every Assembly and group is urged to send in to the Race Unity Committee, reports of projects in race fellowship. All are urged to use the direct message at such meetings, and to present the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh as the common meeting place of every heart, for "opposition, enmity, and prejudice among the white and colored cannot be effaced except through faith, assurance, and the teachings of the Blessed Beauty."

**Race Unity Committee**

*Mrs. Fred Mortensen, Secretary*

**BAHÁ’Í DIRECTORY**

Kindly note the following corrections:

*Assemblies*

_Boston._ Mrs. M. C. Oglesby, Corresponding Secretary, A., Tyler Hall, Trinity Court, 175 Dartmouth St., Boston, Mass.

_Springfield._ Miss Harriet St. Laurent, Secretary, Box 103, Highland Station, Springfield, Mass.

_Oak Park._ Mrs. L. W. LaRocque, Secretary, 913 Augusta St., Oak Park, III.

_Oakland._ Mrs. J. J. O'Neill, Secretary, c/o Bahá’í Assembly, 1454 Alice St., Oakland, Calif.

_Groups_

_Santa Rosa._ Dr. G. Sadler Pittcock, Correspondent, 631 4th St., Santa Rosa, Calif.

_Laramie._ Mrs. Ada M. Fadner, Correspondent, 312½ Garfield Street, Laramie, Wyoming.

_Glendale, Ariz._ Mrs. Helen Burnett, Correspondent, 521 East E Avenue, Glendale, Ariz.

_East Orange._ Mrs. Amie B. Wright, Correspondent, 301 Leslie Street, East Orange, N. J.

_Haworth._ A. G. Tichener, Correspondent, Hennessy Street, Haworth, N. J.

_Monroe._ Mrs. Levina Sprau, Correspondent, Monroe, Wash.

_Sultan._ Miss Lillian Marsolais, Correspondent, Sultan, Wash.

**ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS**

_Chicago,_ eight and one youth. _Evanston,_ one. _Los Angeles,_ three. _San Francisco,_ four. _South Bend,_ three. _Washington,_ two. _Nashville,_ two. _Vancouver,_ one youth. _Milwaukee,_ one youth. _New York,_ three. _Worcester,_ one. _Philadelphia,_ two. _Phoenix,_ three. _Flint,_ three.

This casting of the Greatest Name fits the under side of the arch over each entrance door. Two are now in place (November 9, 1940)
"THE TORCHBEARER OF THE NEW, THE WORLD CIVILIZATION"

Letter from Shoghi Effendi

Dearly-beloved friends:

My heart is thrilled with delight as I witness, in so many fields, and in such distant outposts, and despite such formidable difficulties, restrictions, obstacles and dangers, so many evidences of the solidarity, the valor, and the achievements of the American Bahá’í community. At the end of the First Century of the Bahá’í Era approaches, as the shadows descending upon and enveloping mankind steadily and remorselessly deepen, this community, which can almost be regarded as the solitary champion of the Faith in the Western World, is increasingly evincing and demonstrating its capacity, its worth, and ability as the torchbearer of the New, the World Civilization which is destined to supplant in the fulness of time the present one. And more particularly in the virgin and far-flung territories of Latin America, it has in recent months, abundantly given visible evidence of its merits and competence to shoulder the immense responsibilities which the carrying of the sacred Fire to all the Republics of the Western Hemisphere must necessarily entail.

Through these initial steps, which, in pursuance of the Plan conceived by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, this community has taken, through the settlement in each of these sovereign states of the New World of American Bahá’í pioneers, through the formation of Bahá’í groups and the establishment of two Assemblies in Buenos Aires and Bahía, the American National Assembly, as well as its Inter-America Committee, and all subsidiary agencies, no less than the individual members of the North American Bahá’í community who have sacrificed and are still sacrificing so much in their support of this Divine and momentous Plan, have earned the unqualified admiration and the undying gratitude of sister Assemblies and fellow-workers throughout the Bahá’í World.

Their work, however, is only beginning. The dispatch of pioneers, the provision of adequate means for their support, their settlement and initiation of Bahá’í activities in these far-off lands, however strenuous and meritorious, are insufficient if the Plan is to evolve harmoniously and yield promptly its destined fruit. The extension by the Parent Assembly—the immediate source from which this vast system with all its ramifications is now proceeding—of the necessary support, guidance, recognition and material assistance to enable these newly-fledged groups and Assemblies to function in strict accordance with both the spiritual and administrative principles of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh, would seem as essential and urgent as the preliminary task already achieved. To nurse these tender plants of the Vineyard of God, to foster their growth, to direct their development, to accord them the necessary recognition, to help resolve their problems, to familiarize them with gentleness, patience and fidelity with the processes of the Administrative Order and thus enable them to assume independently the conduct of future local and national Bahá’í activities, would bring the plan to swift and full fruition and would add fresh laurels to the crown of immortal glory already won by a community that holds in these days of dark and dire calamities, valiantly and almost alone, the Fort of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. Fortified by these reflections, let them gird up their loins for still mightier exertions and more brilliant victories.

December 3, 1940.

SHOGHI

GLAD-TIDING FROM THE HOLY LAND

"It will certainly rejoice your heart to know that notwithstanding the difficulties created by the war situation, the Cause in the countries neighboring the Holy Land is making steady headway. In Damascus where the friends are well advanced with their plans for the purchase of a plot of land as site for their future Hazíratu’l-Quds, and in Egypt where the authorities have at last granted, though only to two of our communities in Cairo and Isma‘iliyyih, special burial grounds, the prospect appears to be par-
ticularly bright and promising. This glad-tidings will assuredly impart infinite joy to all our American friends, and stir them to scale still nobler heights of self-sacrifice in service to our Cause."— SNOGH EFFENDI, through his secretary, November 7, 1940, in letter to Mrs. Thomas Collins.

BANISH SUPERSTITION

The great purpose of Divine Revelation is the education of mankind. The Teachings written by the Supreme Pen, now authoritatively translated to us; also their interpretation and applications first by the Master and now by the Guardian, are related universally to the peace, well-being and progress of all mankind. They are also like a sharp sword which separates truth from error, light from darkness, life from death. Man attains that for which he struggles on the basis of his faith in them.

As for mankind, submerged in a sea of superstition, the waves of which are increasingly violent and destructive! The hold of illusions upon people can be realized only by those who, divinely aided, have wholly or partially escaped. One superstition is the belief in and fear of death, despite the fact that all nature in its variegated forms and all true religion as well, impress the continuity of life. One formerly in close contact with the Master, registered the observation, possibly inspired, at any rate true, of how a man will sleep in a place with other men who are perfect strangers to him, at times, without fear of injury to body or possessions. Yet the same man would fear the nearness of a corpse during his hours of sleep, although it can neither slander, beat nor kill him, all of which a man with physical life can do. This illustrates the hold of superstition upon most people. It is obvious that humanity free itself from all such weights, it might easily soar heavenward in executing the Will of God.

Man must apply himself to true sciences, especially those, as Bahá'u'lláh says, "which do not begin and end in mere words," for such studies will powerfully aid his release from superstitions. But the education of mankind is progressive. In the light of religion and science he is destined to make ideal progress. But the people of this stage of human development, even though guided by the glad-some Light of Revelation and trained by scientific studies, sometimes unconsciously bring into Bahá'í centers the gloomy tales and attachments of their previous associations. All such veils we must patiently and lovingly, yet very thoroughly, try to remove. Of course the Divine Teachings give no sanction for the use of force and violence even in the matter of separating souls from idolatry.

From time to time reports reach us about some of the friends, mostly the younger Bahá'ís, clinging to such idols as reincarnation, numerology, astrology and occultism expressed in psychic phenomena, for all of which there is no sanction in the Divine Teachings. The Master in his wonderful Book, Some Answered Questions, demolishes every basis of faith in reincarnation. In a signed Tablet, circulated among the early believers, He points out in the clearest terms, its ruinous effect as superstition, limiting human progress.

Psychic practices, condemned in both the Old and New Testaments of the Christian Bible, are also discouraged and forbidden by the Revelation of this new day. It is apparent what havoc they now play in the world at large, enabling demagogues and charlatans to exploit the unsuspecting, magnifying the ego and banishing capacity for spiritual guidance. When spreading the teachings, the most vital and confirmed of all human activities, should not the effort be to reach normal and balanced people, who will not veil others by their personal oddities and eccentricities? Who will not try to make the Faith revolve around themselves?

Why waste precious time with numerology, which has no basis in science, reason or revelation? Why not study instead algebra, geometry, calculus or even plain old arithmetic, confining "numerology" to concentration upon Nine, the symbol of the Greatest Name, which, with its derivatives and significances, has a message for all the beings?

Astrology, but the restatement of ancient beliefs and superstitions, should in this wondrous day give place to astronomy, science of the outward heavens, which wonderfully conveys us the Glory of God.

The Divine Sun that is Manifestation sheds light upon all true sciences and arts, rather creates them for man's use and enjoyment. Reflect upon what light and inspiration are shed upon the fine arts, architecture, painting, sculpture and music; upon the liberal arts, such as poetry, eloquence, language, logic, psychology; upon the industrial arts, such as trade, business, engineering, navigation, shipping, etc.; upon the natural sciences, such as biology, physics, chemistry, healing, pioneering, invention, and discovery; upon the social sciences, such as sociology, anthropology, history, statescraft, administration; upon the greatest of all sciences, Theophany, the science of Manifestation. When there is so much that is real within the reach of man, an inexhaustible plan of development and power, why should he concentrate upon darkness and superstition? His Maker constantly beckons him and confirms his efforts to advance. Bahá'u'lláh says:

"The heart must be free from the fire of superstition, that it may obtain the light of assurance and that it may perceive the Glory of God."

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

IN THE SPIRIT OF ACHIEVEMENT

The community of the Faith in America has been given a particular mission and a definite task to achieve by the end of the first Century of the new Era. This mission, described by the Guardian in his successive communications on the subject of the Seven Year Plan, is not merely paramount in importance, it is likewise all-inclusive, its needs and demands embracing every Assembly, every Committee, every Institution and every individual in the entire American Bahá'í community. By our collective and our individual relationship to this mission, we have access to the very Spirit of Divine Victory establishing peace and justice on the earth. As we bend our energies in its service, as we respond to its enlarging opportunity, as we strive to understand its profound implications, so do we receive capacity to achieve, for in the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh it is not our personality that renders service, but the Spirit which can use it for higher than personal ends.

The Seven Year Plan is both our supreme test and our supreme opportunity. It fixes the scope and also the time of the task. It means continuous effort, not simply an occasional activity, and a whole-hearted, united effort, not merely vague wishes and pious hopes.

The Plan, as all have noted, includes two tasks of equal importance: Temple construction, and Teaching.

Temple construction, by its very nature, is a concentrated work. It requires resources provided by all believers, but the individual believer can not participate in the actual work of construction.

Teaching, however, is only partly an effort which can be concentrated by either local or national authority. Bahá'í teaching is the sum total of our inner lives reflecting spiritual truths into the world around us, and not a mechanism for psychological promotion along lines of American economic or political enterprise. We need teaching facilities, like pamphlets, and we need plans as well as authoritative supervision, for the Faith does not tolerate a jungle of conflicting personal activities, but the most elaborate
of plans and the most advanced of advertising methods, alone, will not result in the confirmation of souls and the formation of spiritual communities.

Thus our teaching must always represent a balance between the vital power of faith and intelligent consultation on means, methods and occasions for collective enterprises. On the one hand, we cannot abandon teaching to the mystical element in individuals, and on the other hand we cannot concentrate teaching into the authoritative actions of local or National Assemblies and their many Committees.

The individual believer must always strive to live in the spirit of teaching, and we are assured that whoever attains this station will be witness to miraculous achievement. Bahá'u'lláh gave this assurance; the Master repeatedly emphasized this promise; and the Guardian has in many passages given it definite application. The whole conception of pioneer teaching is based on the heroism of the pioneer and not on the efficiency of the administrative order, though this too plays an essential part after the heroism has been manifested in the field of action.

It is imperative that local Assemblies attain full understanding of the nature of Bahá'í teaching, both as an expression of the inner life and as the fruit of mature consultation. The purpose of this statement is to offer a few suggestions to local Assemblies, and call attention to their heaven-sent opportunity to vitalize their communities, transform inertia into enthusiasm, and depression into radiant action.

1. Every believer has a teaching mission which can be expressed in wise use of daily contacts as well as in participation in community plans. The foundation of unity and vigorous spiritual life is encouragement of this Divine gift, and provision of all possible opportunities by the Assembly for its active use. But the individual believer should not depend upon the Assembly for opening the doors to service. Faith is that inner activity which the Holy Spirit employs to create occasions for teaching. Each of us is responsible for the character of our own inner life.

2. Teaching plans should arise from careful analysis of the available local resources and conditions and not simply imitate some method which has proved successful in some other city. The local communities are different in size; they also differ in experience, maturity and in the distribution of talents and capacities. The spirit of teaching is a conquest, not a technique learned at second-hand. Thus, in one community the important meeting may be a weekly or monthly public lecture, while in another city the Spirit may raise up an intimate fireside group which will accomplish what a formal lecture fails to achieve.

3. The aim of teaching is to enlarge our numbers with confirmed followers of Bahá'u'lláh, people of zeal, knowledge and capacity. Any community pausing too long in its growth displays a danger signal which every believer as well as the Assembly should heed. Life is growth. Absence of motion is absence of life. To overcome such a condition, we should first of all look to our own inner lives and not try to find in criticism a means of silencing our own conscience. Even a few truly consecrated believers in a community can be a channel for a renewal of general activity and enthusiasm. To possess intensity without sacrificing the principle of consultation—to recognize authority without sacrifice of initiative and enthusiasm—this is the balance which all believers might well strive to attain, and the balance without which the community can scarcely survive.

4. After setting in motion the forces of teaching for service to the Faith in the community, the Assembly should strive for additional energy which can be applied in establishing the Cause in nearby localities. Indeed the privileges are boundless and offer fulfillment to every devoted Bahá'í in the land. For as we examine the teaching field we realize how many varied types it needs, from the pioneer who can stand alone in his faith, to the enthusiastic believer able to make contacts, and from the educator who can expound the laws and principles to the administrator who can assist in coordinating the efforts and releasing the capacities of all the friends.

As the Guardian wrote in The Advent of Divine Justice (pages 44, 45): "Upon every participator in this concerted effort, unprecedented in the annals of the American Bahá'í community, rests the spiritual obligation to make of the mandate of teaching so vitally binding upon all, the all-pervading concern of his life. ... If he be member of any Spiritual Assembly
ETCHING OF "SMILING PHOTOGRAPH" OF ‘ABDUL-BAHÁ

The Photograph and Sales Committee is glad to announce a new edition of the etching which reproduces the photograph of the Master known as the "smiling photograph." No copies of this etching have been available in recent years. The quality of this reproduction makes the etching beautifully adapted for framing. The price, including postage and packing, is $1.65 per copy. Order from Mr. H. E. Walrath, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, Ill.

PUBLIC TEACHING IN ATLANTA

In connection with the meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly held in Atlanta, Georgia, on November 22, 23 and 24, 1940, opportunity was taken to hold another in the series of public meetings which the Assembly has been holding in different cities over a period of several years.

Particularly important have been those meetings held in cities of the South, where the number of believers is fewer and the teaching opportunity overwhelming.

The Atlanta meeting was held Sunday evening, November 24, in the Biltmore Hotel, which had given assurance that no race restriction would be imposed. The first speaker, Mr. Harlan Ober, developed the theme of The Need for a Spiritual Renaissance. This was followed by an address by Mrs. Dorothy Baker on The World Tomorrow. Horace Holley presided.

Meanwhile, the local Baha'i Committee had worked out plans for radio addresses and also for a talk in the First Congregational Church to a Negro congregation. Mr. Allen B. McDaniel spoke over the radio Friday afternoon, November 22, Mrs. Terah Smith spoke at the same station Saturday afternoon, while Mrs. Dorothy Baker delivered the address in the church Sunday morning.

The Regional Conference held Sunday afternoon is reported in a separate article.

PRESENTING THE BHA'I FAITH IN THE SOUTH

On the afternoon of Sunday, Nov. 24, 1940, an historic meeting devoted to the varied problems of teaching the Bahá'í Faith in the South, was held at the Atlanta Biltmore Hotel, Atlanta, Ga.

There were present seven members of the National Spiritual Assembly, and one or more representatives from each Regional Teaching Committee located east of Texas. Other Bahá'ís from Atlanta, and from Augusta, Ga., and Greenville, S. C., brought the total number to twenty-seven, coming from six different southern states.

Never before have so many Bahá'ís gathered together for the one purpose of discussing the varied problems that Bahá'í teachers have to face, and it was recognized by all those present as marking a new era in this most important work.

Mr. Allen McDaniel, Chairman of the National Spiritual Assembly, presided, and read from America's Spiritual Mission, 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Prayer for the Southern States. Then the meeting was opened for discussion, led by Nellie J. Roche, Secretary of the Regional Teaching Committee.

An informal report on the Special Bahá'í Teaching Conference held in June, 1940, at Vogel Park, Ga., was given, and permission to hold a similar conference in the summer of 1941 was granted by the National Spiritual Assembly, with financial support pledged.

It was agreed that the secretaries of the four Regional Teaching Committees east of Texas be asked to serve as the General Committee to make arrangements for the 1941 Special Bahá'í Teaching Conference.

If possible, a brief Youth Meeting will be held during this time, and arrangements will be made for a full exhibit of Bahá'í literature, and teaching materials of all kinds.

The problems of presenting the Faith in a bi-racial society as exists in the South, to two races bound together by many ties of mutual dependence and personal affection, but separated in many ways by differences in racial development and experience, by custom and tradition, and by legal enactments, were discussed, dividing themselves into three groups, (1) The White Majority; (2) The Colored Minority; (3) The Jewish Minority, with the accent on the first two as offering the greatest challenge to us.

The discussion established the fact that the greatest problem is that of presenting the Faith to the majority group, and that the importance of reaching this group in large numbers cannot be overstated. It is they, who, to a very great extent set the pattern of life, establish customs, and are responsible for the enactment of laws.

Our second group, the Colored Race, present us with grave responsibilities for offering the Pattern for Future Society, and because an alert and forward-looking minority is apt to be more immediately responsive than any majority group, this problem is quite different in many ways. The Jewish group probably offer the greatest difficulties because of their con-
servatism, and their racial solidarity in social, business, and religious activities.

The recent tour made by Mrs. Dorothy Baker through several Southern States was commended, and the National Spiritual Assembly was asked to make arrangements for more such tours.

Telegrams and letters of greeting from several friends unable to attend the meeting were read.

NELLIE J. ROCHE, Secretary, Regional Teaching Committee Kentucky, Middle and East Tennessee, Northern Georgia and Alabama.

INTER-AMERICA NEWS

The Inter-America Committee desires to correct the impression that Mr. and Mrs. John Shaw in visiting Jamaica met with difficulties growing out of class distinction as was stated in Baha'i News No. 139. Mrs. Shaw reports that they were treated with every courtesy. Her account of the various meetings which were held and the clippings received by the Inter-America Committee give every evidence of awakened interest, and of their gracious reception, and tactful method of introducing the Faith.

Argentine

Philip Sprague writes that within a fortnight a class which began with twenty or so members has developed into a membership of seventy who are enthusiastic and studying with great interest. He feels that there is much that can be accomplished in Argentina. Mr. Sprague has sent an additional order for books to supply the ever increasing demand. He speaks of the very delightful reception which the Friends tendered him on his arrival and the excellent newspaper publicity.

Mr. Sprague’s account was further elaborated by a letter from Mr. Salvador Tormo, who gives a stirring account of the increasing interest in the Cause. Mr. Tormo speaks of an inspiring meeting at which a retired Commander of the Argentine Navy and his wife declared themselves. He also reports a contact, which may prove exceedingly valuable, of a chemical engineer, who is a member of one of the oldest and most important families in the Argentine.

Bolivia

Mrs. Eleanor Smith Adler has been en route to her destination in La Paz, Bolivia, where she was due to arrive about the tenth of December.

Brazil

Word of the most encouraging kind has been received from Rio telling us that Miss Jeanne Bolles is there and plans to remain for some time; she is being assisted by Miss Leonora Holsapple. This news was received from Philip Sprague who visited in Rio de Janeiro and sent an enthusiastic account of his reception there. A later letter from Miss Bolles confirms his report of the interest and enthusiasm recently shown in the Cause. She also reports that all of the centers through which Miss Cheney will pass on her way to Paraguay have been notified of her coming.

Chile

Mrs. Marcia Steward Atwater will reach Valparaiso on December tenth and will proceed to Santiago, where we have a registered believer and where Mrs. Atwater has many letters of introduction.

Costa Rica

Word from our two pioneers, Mrs. Woolson and Mrs. Ford, brings us the intelligence that Matthew Kaszab has been visiting them. He spoke at a meeting of the group in Costa Rica and was very well received. They mention the establishment of a Baha’i Library and from the encouraging reports which they send, we have every reason to believe that a firm foundation is being laid in Costa Rica.

Cuba

Mrs. Emogene Hoagg is at present located in Havana and is devoting her time to deepening the consciousness of the six Friends she found there. She speaks of their great friendliness and their admiration for Mr. Marangella who recently returned to New York.

Guatemala

Mrs. Stewart is now in Guatemala and has submitted to the Committee a suggestion that it might be well for her to spend some time in the Central American Republics to consolidate the work there. This suggestion has been forwarded to the National Spiritual Assembly as the Inter-American Committee feels that this will be a fine move.

Nicaragua

Mr. Matthew Kaszab writes that he has discussed with the Friends in Costa Rica a very tentative plan for a radio hook-up of Panama, Nicaragua and Costa Rica, giving weekly talks on the Cause alternately in Spanish and English. Mr. Kaszab, whose plans are somewhat uncertain is now in Managua, Nicaragua. His address is in care of the American Consul.

Paraguay

Miss Elizabeth Cheney sailed on November thirteenth for Paraguay, stopping en route at Rio for one day, one day at Montevideo, and arriving in Buenos Aires on December seventeenth. She plans to remain there for a few days before proceeding to Asuncion, Paraguay.

Uruguay

Mrs. Enos Barton of Chicago sailed for Montevideo to join her son, Wilfred, on November fifteenth and is due to arrive on December second. Mrs. Barton will cross over to the West Coast and visit the various centers there en route home. Miss Gertrude Gewertz, to our regret, has been unable to obtain a visa to Costa Rica and will not sail as previously reported.

Mrs. Sara Ellen Peake has also been unable to get away as planned.

Translations

The translations which are now in print
are being carefully reviewed by a specially appointed committee and reports will be submitted to the National Assembly in case any revisions or corrections are necessary.

Pioneers

The Inter-America Committee asks that any of the Friends considering pioneer work in South or Central America, make plans to stay for more than a year. The National Spiritual Assembly feels that it is too expensive to finance brief visits. This request applies particularly to those who need financial aid in reaching their posts.

LIST OF SPANISH TRANSLATIONS

The following Bahá'í books and pamphlets have been translated into Spanish and printed. Not all are now available, and some translations will be revised before a new edition appears. However, the list illustrates the great progress made in this very difficult field of Inter-America teaching.

Principles of the Bahá'í Faith; What Is the Bahá'í Movement?; Prayer Book; Future World Commonwealth; The Goal of a New World Order; Seven Valleys; Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Bahá (the passages included in the pamphlet printed in English); Kitáb-i-Iqán; Temple pamphlet; Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era; Some Answered Questions; Wisdom of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

IN MEMORIAM

Death proffers unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.—BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

Mrs. Elizabeth Schwab, New York.
Mrs. Elizabeth Muther, Honolulu.
Mr. Le Roy Rainboth, Richmond, Oregon.
Mr. Adolph Chapman, Racine.
Mrs. Elizabeth Poulson, Racine.
Mrs. Effie M. Snyder, Seattle.
Mrs. Alice G. Gordon, Tucson.
Mrs. Ella Beemer, Kenosha.
Mrs. Ella Bennett, Wauwatosa.
Mrs. Roscoe Lamb, La Canada, Calif.
Mrs. Elizabeth Farmer, Monroe, Wash.

BAHÁ'Í CALENDAR

Nineteen Day Feasts: Sovereignty, January 19; Dominion, February 7, Loftiness, March 2.
Period of the Fast: nineteen days beginning March 2.
Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: February 7, 8, 9 at Wilmette, Illinois.

BAHÁ'Í EXHIBIT AT THE NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR

The Bahá'í experiment of bringing the teachings to the world on a wholesale plan was a very gratifying success. Not only did the literature go into thousands of homes through the public school children, who came in groups from every district of New York and New Jersey and other nearby states, but several thousand persons passing leisurely through the building were attracted by the glorious utterances of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá upon the wall and by the Temple Model. Many stopped to ask questions of the attending Bahá'ís. The Fair opened in April, 1939, and continued until October 10 of that year, reopened on May 10, 1940, and continued until October 27. During those periods thirteen thousand persons signed the register and the following distribution was made of literature. Two hundred and forty thousand booklets which were made especially for Fair distribution, ten thousand of the large Temple pamphlet, ten thousand post cards of the Exhibit at the Fair, five thousand printed notices of lectures at the New York Center and some three thousand programs of the Souvenir at West Englewood, one thousand World Order Magazines, and five hundred Youth Magazines.

Realizing the power of the Word one catches some vision of the extent of this work in His name.

NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR COMMITTEE

By: Ophelia B. Crum.

PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES

The friends are reminded that the new address of the Publishing Committee is 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Messages From the Guardian. This pamphlet of 80 pages contains the messages which the Guardian addressed to the American Bahá'í's collectively and to the National Spiritual Assembly and Annual Convention from 1932 to 1940, in the form of cablegrams and as postscripts to letters written through his secretary. Compiled from Bahá'í News. Paper cover. Index. Per copy $0.20

The Heart of the Gospel. The new work by George Townshend, author of The Promise of All Ages, clearly and beautifully expounds the mysteries of the Christian Revelation in the light of the continuity of Religion fulfilled in the faith of Bahá'u'lláh. 188 pages. Bound in fabricoid. Per copy $1.50

STATES AND PROVINCES LACKING A SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

"First century (of) Bahá'í era drawing to a close. Humanity entering outer fringes most perilous stage its existence. Opportunities (of) present hour unimagainably precious. Would to God every State within American Republic and every Republic in American continent might ere termination (of) this glorious century embrace (the) light (of the) Faith of Bahá'u'lláh and establish structural basis of His World Order."

SHOGHI EFFENDI, May 1, 1936.
Examining now the map of North America alone, we find that after traversing more than half the allotted seven years we still lack a local Spiritual Assembly in the following States and Provinces. The formation of groups, however, and the registration of isolated believers has proceeded vigorously, and the basis for our collective success has been established.


Newfoundland, Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon.

TEMPLE MODELS

In view of the many demands upon the Budget for Temple construction and teaching work, the National Assembly advises the friends that there are several Temple models available for exhibits, but that any local Assembly, Regional Teaching Committee or other Committee wanting the use of a model, must be prepared to assume, from its own budget, the cost of transportation to and from the designated point. The National Exhibits Committee takes care of the routing of models and their repair when necessary. Address Mr. Allen B. McDaniel, Chairman of Exhibits Committee, Waterford, Va.

TEMPLE POSTCARDS

A very attractive postcard with illustration of the Baha'i House of Worship is now available. It reproduces the photograph showing the Temple reflected in water. Price per copy, 5c.

Another new Temple card consists of a small, double card with the reflection picture in half-tone and the nine texts of Baha'u'llah selected by the Guardian to be inscribed over the nine entrance doors. This was designed as a souveni of the non-Baha'i visitors guided through the House of Worship. Price, two for 5c, or $2.00 per hundred, postpaid.

Orders filled by Photograph and Sales Committee. Address Mr. H. E. Walrath, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, Ill.

A BAHAl GLOSSARY

Mr. Ali-Kuli Khan is acting for the National Assembly in the preparation of a new and more complete Baha'i glossary. In order that this glossary may contain the definition of all words and terms required by believers in their study of the Writings, the friends are requested to suggest words and terms they wish defined. The suggestions can be sent to the National Assembly, which will assemble them for the use of the special Committee.

LIBRARY ACTIVITY

The Library Committee would like to call the attention of the friends to the C.C.C. Camp Libraries and the Army Post Libraries which are making urgent calls for gift donations and offer a field for Baha'i book placements. Several requests have already come to this Committee for books for these important libraries and we hope to receive many more such requests.

Other libraries which might be contacted more frequently by the friends are the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. Libraries, Women's organizations, Jewish Community Clubs, and other Hebrew Libraries. A number of Jewish Libraries have accepted copies of Advent of Divine Justice recently and asked for additional volumes. It is encouraging to report that a number of splendid opportunities for further teaching work resulted from placing books in these libraries.

Suggestions have been given by this Committee in past issues of Baha'i News which would be helpful in making library contacts and will answer many of the questions sent along to us concerning library donations and methods of approach.

Several splendid tributes to our books and teachings have been received from librarians and we should like to share a few excerpts from recent letters with the friends. Mr. James McMillen, Director of Libraries at Louisiana State University writes: "We are indeed grateful for the four works on the Baha'i Faith which you so kindly presented to the Library. The life and teachings of Baha'u'llah are of great interest to the layman as well as to the student of theology. The comprehensiveness, power and beauty of the Baha'i doctrines lend a ray of hope to this troubled and war torn world. . . . We consider ourselves fortunate to be the recipient of these publications and invite you to visit our collection in the near future."

Miss Evangeline King, Librarian of the Cheyney State Teachers College, Cheyney, Pa., writes: "Personally I am deeply interested in the Baha'i teachings and you may be sure I shall try to capture the interest of others. I should say that nothing could be more timely for us than this clear pure gospel."

Mrs. Miriam Kemp, Librarian of the Cook County School of Nursing Library, Chicago, writes: "The book (Baha'i World, Volume 7) is very interesting indeed and we appreciate your generosity in giving us such a valuable book. I'm sure that we are all eager for world brotherhood, peace and unity, to which this book is devoted."

Mrs. Brown, Librarian of the Tennessee State College, Nashville, wrote some time ago: "There are a number of our students who do get a great deal of inspiration out of reading these books."

The Library Committee has a ample
supply of books available for presentation and would welcome many more requests from the friends. Contact librarians with confidence that our books will appeal to them and will be accepted readily.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE
By: Ellen Sims, Chairman.

THE BAHÁ’Í WORLD
References to the Bahá’í Faith for Volume IX
Will all Bahá’ís be on the lookout for references to the Bahá’í Faith in books or periodicals by non-Bahá’í authors or articles by Bahá’ís in non-Bahá’í publications? Please send these references to Mrs. Bertha H. Kirkpatrick, Oliver, Mich., for use in Bahá’í World volume IX. The information should include name, author and publisher of the book with page on which reference occurs. If the reference is in a magazine or periodical the information should include the name, publisher and place of publication of the magazine as well as the date of the issue and page on which reference occurs. This request does not refer to newspaper publicity which should be sent as usual to the Bahá’í News Service. The references may be favorable or otherwise.

THE BAHÁ’Í WORLD,
EDITORIAL COMMITTEE
By: Bertha H. Kirkpatrick.

RACE UNITY ACTIVITY
A recent project in the South successfully opened up for members of the Race Unity Committee, contacts with clubs, schools and universities among the colored population of the entire South. In Nashville, the Tennessee State College, as well as Fisk, opened its doors to two successive Bahá’í speakers and formed study groups for adults and students. Dr. William Hale, president of State College, said to his student body, “This program is unanswerable.” At LeMoyne College and at Henderson Business College in Memphis, Bahá’í talks were enthusiastically received. City College of Louisville heard the world order message; and high schools at Greenwood, Mississippi; Suffolk and Holland, Virginia. In August, Haines Institute; in Columbia, Benedict College and Allen University were addressed. Seven talks were given in Liberty City, a government housing project with 3,100 inhabitants in Miami. Colored churches in Jacksonville and Atlanta, home groups, and general public meetings were held throughout the South. The noble old scientist, Dr. George Carver of Tuskegee, said: “I am very partial to the Bahá’í Faith; the spirit of Christ is in it.” Dr. Fred Patterson, president of that institution, remarked: “The Bahá’í Faith has the spirit of sincerity and is without some of the usual limitations of religion.”

The inter-racial commission at Atlanta was interviewed, and in this city the National Assembly held a mixed public meeting, preceded by a most interesting conference with Southern teachers and friends.

A Milwaukee member of the Committee recently addressed the Twilight Forum of the Jews of Milwaukee, and has been privileged to collaborate with Mr. Gould, editor of the Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle. Milwaukee is also very busy with the Indian group. It is recorded that 16 boys and girls attend youth group regularly, and that Mr. Powals, now a member of the Milwaukee community, is in correspondence with Indians throughout the United States.

Detroit recently entertained the Race Unity Committee at a very lively community dinner, where a few of the following suggestions were made, and recorded by Mrs. George True:

1. Use the family approach. Children are democratic, and through neighborhood play, often bring families of varying races together.
2. Fairs and expositions held by minority groups in a city are open to friendly cooperation and display of a model of the Bahá’í Temple.
3. Visit Urban Leagues, Indian Councils, and inter-racial centers. Many of these are now receiving the World Order Magazine. Invite club groups to attend special Bahá’í events in your city.
4. Use good Bahá’í speakers who happen to pass your way, to address such groups in schools and clubs. These groups are often segregated from the general flow of your city’s life and would otherwise never find you.
5. Read some of the books listed in the bibliography supplied by this Committee, to increase your understanding and sympathy.
6. It is suggested that when reaching minorities the whole world order program be given, so that the friends reached will not confuse us with mere racial movements.
7. Cultivate the friendship of editors of minority papers and periodicals.

RACE UNITY COMMITTEE

BAHÁ’Í NEWS SERVICE
To assist the friends who are isolated or who have formed new groups since the Guardian’s change of Assembly jurisdiction, the Bahá’í News Service has arranged a planograph sheet.

This sheet displays a variety of types of publicity to illustrate ways of writing up publicity material for newspapers. Each clipping is identified as to its type by the printed headings. The illustrations include articles on the following: announcements of meetings, radio broadcasts, Commemoration services, follow-up after a lecture series, various phases of the Faith, letters to editors, weekly column, and presentation of books to libraries.

These samples are only suggestions of how to write publicity. It is better for you to write your own.

We have removed the names and dates from the headings of the clippings in order to emphasize the material in the articles themselves.

The bottom of this same sheet is devoted to the right and wrong ways to paste the names and the dates of the newspapers to the clippings themselves, when sent to this Committee for mounting in the Press Books. We hope that the friends will give this matter some attention. Publicity clippings are history in the writing. They are perishable and when improperly glued together have to be re-arranged. The clippings suffer, the Press Books are most untidy and the Committee is unable to adequately cope with the increased task. May we thank the increasing number of friends who have found it possible to help us in this great matter.

The Bahá’í News Service has available for your use:
1. Book review releases.
2. Releases on Bahá’í attitude toward certain controversial subjects.
3. A series of articles on the “Goal of a New World Order.”
5. Bulletins for isolated believers, groups and Publicity chairmen of Assemblies.
6. Releases on the Temple, Temple model and supplementary information about the national headquarters.
7. Mats and glossy prints of the Temple, Temple model and Hazírat’-Ul-Quds.

We suggest that the friends use news items that appear in the News Letters for publicity releases.

A series of reports of the outstanding publicity work being done as reflected in the Press Book clippings is being prepared.

BAHÁ’Í NEWS SERVICE COMMITTEE
By: Virginia Camelon, Chairman.
RADIO TALKS AVAILABLE

The following new talks have been mimeographed and are ready for distribution to the friends desiring radio material:

America's Place in a New World Order
The Future We Face
Search for Truth
Progressive Revelation
The Wisdom of Tests
Faith is Fellowship
Fellow-Feeling in Wartime

Requests for radio material have recently been received from such widely divergent places as:

New Zealand; Alaska; Atlanta, Ga.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Knoxville, Tenn.; Jerome, Arizona; Esmeralda, Argentina; Nashville, Tenn.; Augusta, Ga.; San Francisco, Cal.; Columbus, Ohio; Decatur, Alabama; San Antonio, Texas; Baltimore, Md.; Madison, Wisconsin.

Announcement will be made when the transcriptions or records of radio talks now under way are completed.

Please note change of address— from now until March 15th, requests for radio material should be sent to Mrs. Wendell E. Bacon, Monson, Mass. instead of to Mrs. F. S. Morton, 5 Wheeler Ave., Worcester, Mass.

RADIO COMMITTEE
By: Florence Morton, Chairman.

BAHA'Ï SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The National Spiritual Assembly has listed the following functions as suitable for the Baha'ï Schools in the present or future stages of their development.

1. Instruction in Subject Matter of Baha'ï Literature.
2. Instruction in Technic of Functioning as a Baha'ï Teacher:
   A. Public Speaking, Preparation of Talks and Lectures.
   B. Fireside Teaching, Preparation and Use of Study Outlines.
   C. Publicity, Its Functions, Preparation and Contact With the Press.
   D. Radio Teaching.
   F. Pioneer Settlement.
   G. Regional Teaching.
   H. Informal, Intimate and Occasional Teaching.
   I. Organization of Forums, Round Table Discussions, Question and Answer Periods.
3. Provision for Study and Research.
4. Youth Activities.
5. Children's Activities.
6. Area or Regional Teaching: Development of Meetings and Classes in the Vicinity of the School, to Spread the Cause, Give Practice to Speakers Attending the School, and to Establish the Influence of the School as a Permanent Baha'ï Institution.
7. Committee Facilities and Instruction. Special Meetings For Representatives of various National Committees to Explain Their Work and the Teaching Facilities They have to Offer. Committees like Radio, Race Unity and Publicity, as well as Child Education, can be Regarded as Invaluable Institutional Teachers whose Capacity Should be Used at the Schools.
8. Assembly Instruction and Training. Facilities for the Improvement of Local Assembly Functioning and Activity are an Important Asset of the School.

BAHA'Ï BOOK EXHIBIT, PEORIA

Arranged by the Spiritual Assembly, this exhibit was displayed in the window of Jacquin & Co. during the autumn of 1940.

CHILD EDUCATION

"One hour's reflection is preferable to seventy years of pious worship." (Iqán, p. 238).

The art of meditation needs to be practiced if it is to have its fullest results. One who has never learned this art finds it difficult of accomplishment at first. The person becomes fidgety and his mind wanders away from the subject upon which he is trying to meditate. However, by persistent effort and practice he can finally master the art. Then as the periods of meditation lengthen they will increasingly yield rich, full spiritual experiences. Children too can learn to meditate. Of course the desire must be there. How can that desire be built up? It is a matter of time and spiritual growth.

The very young child is too active and
too absorbed in the world about him to take time out for the silent consideration of things spiritual and yet in his small way he does meditate. His are not usually spiritual thoughts but rather of things he sees and loves, in his world. "Why," he asks, "don't fishes sing too like little birds?" or "Does that apple mind getting bumped when he falls from the tree?" or "Are flowers afraid to stay in the garden all alone at night?" So on and on goes his questions, only, alas, in many cases to be laughed away much to the child's chagrin and disappointment. But, you say, there are no answers to such foolish, childish questions. So the matter is dismissed and an opportunity to start the child off on a simple experience in meditation is lost. Yet any one of these questions and thousands of others like them could be the means of directing the child's attention to God and His Creation and His plans as far as we know them.

A four year old girl once asked a bumble bee which was buzzing over the tall holly-hocks, "Are you talking to the flowers, Mr. Bee?" and her Bahá'í grandmother, standing in the garden near by answered, "'Abdu'l-Bahá used to talk with the flowers." Thereupon the child's eyes became as stars and she ran up to her grandmother, saying, "Tell me more." So the old lady and the little girl sat down and talked of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. And when the grandmother left, the child remained, sitting on a large stone, in a pensive mood. Since we cannot enter into the thoughts of our children we cannot say of what this child was thinking but to all appearances she was lost in meditation.

So much for the spring-board, if we may use that expression. Now we come to the question of time and place. No child can meditate unless the environment is right. The young child should be provided with a place where he can be quite alone and undisturbed where he can think things out for himself. He will not meditate on spiritual things during his early years but he will be establishing the habit of thinking things through even though in the beginning it may be largely a matter of physical experimentation with things in his environment. The mechanical pattern will be there. Then as his interests turn to spiritual things, the child will meditate upon them. All of this does not mean that he shall be set off in the yard or in his room or nursery to be completely forgotten. He will (and rightly) resent that but it does mean that he will not be constantly shadowed or hovered over by some overly concerned parent or guardian. He will have his God given right to be alone.

As the child grows older he can be encouraged to meditate on some definite subject taken from the Bahá'í writings. For example this from the Hidden Words: "O Son of Being! Attribute not to any soul that which thou wouldst not have attributed to thee, and say not that which thou dost not. This is My command unto thee; do thou observe it."

The older child may be taught that through meditation inspiration for the improvement of life on this plane may be accomplished, for 'Abdu'l-Bahá has told us that, "O people of Bahá! The faculty of meditation is the depository of crafts, arts and sciences. Exert yourselves, so that the gems of knowledge and wisdom may proceed from this ideal mine and convey to the tranquillity and union of the different nations of the world." (Bahá'í Scriptures, par. 122.)

Since meditation is of such vital importance to the spiritual development of mankind, let those who have been divinely entranced with the reading and guidance of children assist the child in developing this faculty remembering that 'Abdu'l-Bahá said that, "Through this faculty man enters into the very Kingdom of God." (Wisdom of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, page 164.)

ASSEMBLIES IN RURAL AREAS

Hitherto, the only area in which a Bahá'í community of nine or more could establish a Spiritual Assembly has been the locality bounded by the civil limits of the town or city. Now, with the Guardian's approval and advice, we have a new type of area, which Bahá'í communities located in agricultural districts, outside of towns and cities, can also form an Assembly.

As, however, there must be some definite limitation for the jurisdiction of Assemblies in rural areas, the National Assembly has chosen the logical one of the township.

Beginning April 21, 1941, wherever there are nine or more declared believers residing in the same township, or outside any of the towns or cities located in the township, they will be authorized to establish a Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of that township, and the area of jurisdiction of such Assemblies will be the entire township. That means the portions of the township occupied by towns and cities.

Thus, there can be a Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the township, and at the same time, Assemblies for different towns and cities within the township, all these Assemblies having definite areas of jurisdiction entirely separate and distinct, and easily determined by the believers.

Bahá'í groups qualifying under this new principle are requested to report to their Regional Teaching Committee with a detailed explanation of the residence of each member of the group, and the Regional Committees in turn will report such applications, with a recommendation before April 21, to the NSA. In the event that confusion is caused by the fact that a township might have the same name as a town within it, the National Assembly will endeavor to suggest a solution of the problem.

Furthermore, in those States (mostly in the South) which do not have the township form of political division, the believers living in the same county, but outside of any town or city in the county, can establish a Spiritual Assembly under the same conditions as apply to the township area already mentioned.

The number of isolated believers in the United States and Canada is now about fourteen hundred, many of them resident in rural areas outside of any municipal government. The Guardian's permission gives to every isolated Bahá'í, no matter where he lives, the responsibility for striving to establish the Truth in his area so that a Spiritual Assembly can eventually be formed. This broadening of the basis of our collective participation in the world order of Bahá'u'lláh transforms the relation of all isolated believers to the Bahá'í community. Their separation from the local Assemblies is a temporary condition, not a permanent principle as hitherto. They are nothing else than pioneer teachers in their locality, and every such believer is urged to ponder his new and enlarged spiritual privileges as a Bahá'í.

The sooner that Regional Teaching Committees can report on groups of nine or more believers, the more effectively can steps be taken to prepare them for the important step of the election of a Spiritual Assembly on April 21.

REGISTRATION CARDS OF ISOLATED BELIEVERS

Individual teachers who confirm an isolated friend are requested to see that the registration (enrollment) card when filled out is sent through the Regional Teaching Committee and not direct to the National Assembly. These cards provide space for a counter-signature, and this is to be filled out by the Regional Secretary and not by the teacher. The purpose is to center responsibility for the status of the new isolated believers in the administrative body acting for each area outside the local Assemblies.
ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


BAHA'I DIRECTORY

The friends are requested to correct their Directories in accordance with the additions and alterations here reported.

Assemblies

Knoxville, Tenn., Mrs. Lessie M. McMichael, 7111/2 So. Gay Street.
Montreal, Quebec, Miss Anne M. Savage, 1149 Pine Avenue, West.
Flint, Mich., Miss Margaret R. Tracy, P. O. Box 434.
Spokane, Wash., Mrs. Marget Stange, 211 Mohawk Bldg.
Lansing, Mich., Mrs. Earl Shetterly, 815 Fayette Street.
Baltimore, Md., Miss Mildred Elmer, P. O. Box 815.
Rochester, N. Y., Mrs. Florence Hand, 1600 South Avenue.

Groups

Danville, Ill., Mrs. L. M. Underwood, 404 Gilbert Street.
Syraeuse, N. Y., Mrs. Edward Belcher, 909 Ackerman Avenue.
Salmon Falls, N. H., the members of this group have moved from the city and the group is therefore dissolved.
Deaver, Colo., Mrs. M. Rita Wallace, 2448 Humboldt Street.
Portsmouth, N. H., Mrs. Margaret Lovaday, 1979 Maplewood Avenue.
Laramie, Wyoming, Mrs. Joe J. Homa­los, 262 Railroad Street.
River Forest, Ill., Mrs. A. R. Kessler, 605 Keystone Avenue.
Grand Haven, Mich., Miss Cora C. Edge, 614 Lafayette Street.
West Vancouver, B. C., Canada, Mrs. M. E. Fry, 2264 Inglewood Avenue, Hollyburn, P. O.
New Rochelle, N. Y., Robert E. Fuller, 57 Brookside Place.
Tulcally, N. J., Miss A. H. Land, 4 Huyler Avenue.
Red Bank, N. J., Mrs. William Lef­kowitz, 115 McLaren Street.
Huntington Park, Calif., Peter Dick­son, 7633 State Street.
Findlay, Ohio, Loring K. Ebersole, 1122 No. Main Street.

Wilkesburg, Pa., Mrs. Olive Chapin, 1105 Walnut Street.
Seville, Ohio, George Wells.

Committees

Inter-America: Miss Bertha Matthieson unable to serve.
Geyserville School: Chairman, Ali Yazdi; Miss Charlotte Linfoot and Miss Fayrouk Ioss added to Committee.
Regional Teaching Committees: Missouri and Kansas, new address, Miss Opal Howell, Secretary, 302 No. Spring Street, Independence, Mo. New England, new address, Mrs. Amelia Bowman, Secretary, c/o Chamberlin, 11 Maple Terrace, Three Rivers, Mass., and Miss Jeanne Steed added to Committee. West Virginia transferred to region of Ohio and Western Pennsylvania. Delaware transferred to region of New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania. Westchester County, N. Y. (a new region) Committee: Mrs. Clarence L. Walsh, Secretary, 216 Old Bedford Road, Port Chester, N. Y., Miss Gertrude Atkinson, Miss Gladys Fox, R. E. Fuller.

Index: Miss Lelia Miller added to Committee.

Contacts: Mrs. David Earl, Mrs. Hil­bert Dahl, Miss Vera Richter added to Committee.

International Auxiliary Language: David Earl added to Committee.

Race Unity: Miss Nellie J. Roche added to Committee.

Youth: Harvey Wilkes added to Committee as regional member for Pacific Northwest.

Green Acre Youth Week: Norman Smith added to Committee.

REQUEST BY GREEN ACRE COMMITTEE

The Green Acre School Committee, desiring to develop facilities for classes in the study of Spanish, would like to inquire whether any believer can present to Green Acre a Linguaphone or records for teaching Spanish. Address the Committee Secretary, Miss Marjorie Wheeler, 84 Pleasant Street, Worcester, Mass.

WORLD NEWS

1. Iran

The close of the year 96 and the inauguration of the Baha’i New Year 97 were doubly blessed and sanctified for the friends in Iran by the receipt of the following cablegram by the N.S.A. of Iran from the Guardian on the eve of the Ridvan Festival:

"Beloved friends of Iran remembered (at the) Holy Shrin es. (I am) fervently
praying (for the) speedy fulfilment (of the) divine promises—SHOGHI."

The N.S.A. for the coming Baha'i Year was elected by 94 votes out of the statutory number of votes for Iran fixed at 95. The members are as follows:

3. Jenabi Shuja' Ala'i.
7. Jenabi Ahmad Yazdani.
8. Jenabi Dr. Younis Afrikhtih.

A number of pilgrims were able this year to reach the hallowed precincts of the Shrines in Palestine and to partake of the blessings of a visit to the Central Baha'i Institutions in Haifa and the Guardian. The glad tidings they brought back to us the steady headway the beloved Cause is making throughout the world were of great cheering effect for the Baha'is of Iran.

The Youth Committee in Tehran is going to renew its untiring efforts of last year for the up-keep of a Baha'i Summer School in Haji Abad some 39 kilometres outside Tehran. The School will be opened towards the end of June and will be of great success if administered on lines similar to those of last year.

Scheme is being worked out by a devoted Baha'i of Tehran, Mr. Abdul Hussein Zargham for the up-keep and education of a number of Baha'i orphans in his farm outside Tehran. The Youth Committee is sparing no effort to make this proposition a success. Already a number of orphans have been collected from the provinces and Tehran, and the work is started with excellent promise of future success.

An alarming fire recently broke out at night in the stores of the Rice Company in Bandar Jaz, a small port on the Caspian Sea. It threatened to destroy an extensive neighbourning quarter of the town. A Baha'i youth named Aqa Moham­ammad Sangi, member of the local S.A., who heard of the news, immediately left his bed and went out to fight the fire with no interest except his Baha'i love for his fellowmen. While owners of endangered properties left their premises in the face of the inevitable peril, he simply throw himself into the flames and with heroic sacrifice and extraordinary suffering succeeded in subduing the fire and cutting it off from the rest of the town. He reached his goal but lost his life in a glorious task watched with awe and admiration by hundreds of spectators. The inhabitants of the town, deeply moved by this disinterested and heroic sacrifice, paid a pathetic homage to the departed soul and more than 400 of them followed his body to the cemetery and attended the Baha'i interment rites, which at Muham­madans, they avoided so far. The admirable self-sacrifice shown with spontaneous impulse by this Baha'i young man had its immediate recompense in the form of the interest of the spectators in Baha'i teachings and is bound to bear in future other fruits of great importance. The fire and the heroic efforts of this departed soul in such a neglected corner of the world may in themselves not appeal to the outside world but the spontaneous and disinterested character of the self-sacrifice is instructive for us in showing in how many different ways the true Baha'i spirit can find expression capable to awaken interest in our fellowmen.

The foregoing items have been selected from recent issues of the News Letter published by the N.S.A. of Iran.

2. Irak

From the News Letter issued by the N.S.A. of Irak the following reports are reproduced.

The Tenth Annual Baha'i Convention was held on April 26, 1940, in the Haziratu'l-Quds of Baghdad, and was attended by seventeen delegates. The meeting was opened by the chanting of a Tablet, which was followed by a word of welcome addressed to those present by the Presiding Officer of the N.S.A. Then the permanent Chairman and Secretary of the Convention were elected. The annual report of the activities of the outgoing N.S.A. was then read by the Secretary (a brief summary of the Report is given below). This was followed by a discussion by the delegates of urgent matters of the Cause, particularly the question of teaching and the establishment of new centers, according to the expressed wishes of the Beloved Guardian. A number of other recommendations were made for consideration by the incoming N.S.A., which was elected at the end of the session.

The main items in the N.S.A.'s Report were:

a. Completion of half of the building of the Haziratu'l-Quds of Baghdad.

b. Gradual purchase of modern furniture for the completed half of the Haziratu'l-Quds, including the National and Local Assembly rooms, the Archives and Library rooms, and the meeting hall.

c. The start to institute a befitting National Archives and National Library.

d. Subscriptions in the Arabic translation of the "Dawn-Breakers," being printed by the N.S.A. of Egypt.

(To be continued)
“I SHARE YOUR SORROW IN THE LOSS . . . OF BELOVED FATHER DUNN”

I share (your) sorrow (in the) loss, (and) participate (in your) rejoicings (for the) triumph, (of) beloved Father Dunn. (The) magnificent career (of this) veteran warrior (of the) Faith (of) Baha'u'llah reflects (the) purest luster (of the) world historic mission conferred (upon) American community by 'Abdu'l-Baha. To (the) three heroines whose dust reposes (in the) heart (of) Iran, (in the) Pacific Islands and southern extremity (of the) American continent, a fourth witness in far-off Australasia (is) now added, attesting (the) first vital sparks (of) far-flung spiritual dominion American believers (have been) commissioned (to) establish. (I am) moved (to) congratulate them (for the) resplendent successes (of the) Plan destined (to) encircle (the) entire globe. Advise hold National Memorial Gathering (in) Mashriq'i-Adhkar befitting (the) rank (of) Australia's spiritual conqueror.

SHOGHI RABBANI.

Cablegram received February 21, 1941.

LETTER FROM THE GUARDIAN

Excerpts from Letter Written to the National Spiritual Assembly Through His Secretary

The copy of the Convention photograph, as well as copies of the photograph showing the Temple reflected in water which he had specially requested you to mail to him have also safely arrived. The Convention photograph he has already placed in Baha'u'llah's Mansion in Bahji. And as to the Temple photographs, they are being distributed to various Baha'i centers and individuals.

The Guardian warmly welcomes the step the N.S.A. has taken with the view of transferring the headquarters of the national Treasurer and of the Publishing Committee to Wilmette—which action he thinks will effectively help in further unifying, coordinating and consolidating the activities of the N.S.A. This is the type of action which he contemplated when making the statement mentioned in his letter of July 4, 1939. As the Cause steadily expands throughout America the need for a center in which most, if not all, of the national activities of the Faith would be visibly concentrated becomes apparent, not only because this would mean greater efficiency and coordination in the activities of the N.S.A., but also in view of the added prestige which the Cause would acquire through the establishment of such a center. Whenever feasible the Guardian would recommend that more national committees should transfer their offices to the vicinity of the Hazratull-Quds, which constitutes the nucleus around which the entire administrative machinery of the Cause will have eventually to be set up and function. Such development does not entail the slightest departure from the principles of Baha'i Administration nor should it imply further centralization, and is only a step forward in the evolution of the national administrative center of the Faith in America.

With reference to the suggestion made in your letter of July 13th that group status should be defined as beginning with five believers in the same city, or town; the Guardian considers this regulation inadvisable and unnecessary. Next to an isolated believer any number of confirmed Baha'is less than nine persons should be considered as automatically constituting a Baha'i group. No regulation, however, need be introduced regarding this matter. In this connection he wishes me to reaffirm his previous vital instruction that extreme care should at all times be taken by your Assembly not to introduce into the Cause any additional rules and regulations, even in the form of suggestions, that would tend to make the Baha'i administrative order a highly complex and codified system. Only when absolutely required, and with the Guardian's previous approval, should any new regulations be laid down.

The Guardian does not think it would be necessary to obtain his approval before granting recognition to the newly-established Assembly in Buenos Aires, or to any group in Central and South America
that seeks to organize a local Assembly. For the present it devolves upon the American N.S.A. to initiate, guide, encourage and nurture all Bahá’í groups and Assemblies established in these territories. This is a vital part and an admittedly arduous task of the teaching campaign which the N.S.A. has undertaken and is now so relentlessly pursuing in Central and South America. However temporary such a jurisdiction on the part of the N.S.A. may be, it should nevertheless be exercised with the utmost care, tact and vigilance.

The Guardian wishes me also to express his gratification at the action taken by the Temple Trustees for the purchase of fill for the Temple grounds. He is delighted to know that this has contributed to increase the value of the land of the Hazírat’u-Quds.

In closing he wishes me to stress again the urgency and all-importance of the teaching campaign in Central and South America which, he is most happy and encouraged to note, is proceeding with full vigor. The self-sacrifice, resourcefulness, and pioneering spirit displayed by so many Bahá’í teachers, coupled with the guidance and continued encouragement given them by your Assembly, he confidently hopes, will insure the successful prosecution of this campaign of unprecedented magnitude in the history of our beloved Cause.

Haifa, Palestine.
December 3, 1940.

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"VOW THEMSELVES TO INCOMPARABLY SUBLIME TASK"

Beloved friends:
The Guardian’s cabled message of October 29, 1940, is a call for positive action from the very depths of our hearts. "I beg them to close their ranks jointly, severally and vow themselves to incomparably sublime task whose operation must hasten the ascendency of the beloved Cause and the spiritual redemption of a reconstructed mankind."

Such a call impels us to pray and reflect as individual believers. It likewise impels us to enter every meeting of Bahá’í consultation and devotion with chastened spirit. Through the years the American friends have penetrated deeper and deeper into the mystery of oneness. We have tried to unify on the basis of agreement with a number of liberal principles. We have attempted to unify on the basis of outer conformity with an administrative order. We have had mystical experiences of unity, and agreement on the articles of a world Faith. But now a truer unity is required, such as arises from the penetration of one Spirit through all the bodies, when minds and hearts are no longer assertions of independence but servants of one higher Will.

The Guardian’s call is both the reiteration of assurance such as the Master expressed and a warning that events and circumstances are at hand when our community will be subjected to severe test. What favored children the American believers have been, protected from persecution and physical ordeal such as kindled the flame of sacrifice in Eastern lands! Soon, perhaps, the period of childhood will end and the eternal foe of Revelation, the ecclesiasticism which denies the Manifestation from age to age, will find ways of challenging our beliefs, our institutions and our social order.

We have but to turn back to the Guardian’s letter of June 15, 1935 (reprinted in Messages from the Guardian) to realize that such a challenge is predestined and indeed necessary for the greater growth of the Faith in this stage of development. Straw that show the blowing of the wind are the article by William M. Miller in The Moslem World, reprinted in pamphlet form and also reprinted in a magazine promoting inter-church unity, and the significant fact that in Iran it appears from the press the government has taken over the educational and missionary establishments maintained by a Christian sect, thus bringing their influence to an end. Repercussions of this event will no doubt be felt more and more in America in the form of increased attacks on the Cause of Bahá’ulláh.

Moreover, the climactic character of civil events approaches culmination, augmenting confusion and violence during the interval before world order can be created. Thus the small community of believers, like a boat in a great sea, may be tossed about on the angry waves, calling for the utmost loyalty of the crew to the Captain’s commands.

Whatever realm we survey, the call to unity is of the utmost importance to one and all the friends. At every turn in the road, the Guardian gives us the true counsel and the supreme imperative to grow in capacity to serve. May we now, "jointly and severally," realize what it means to vow ourselves to the "sublime task."

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

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THE DOOR OF CIVILIZATION

For many months, the National Assembly has been endeavoring to encourage and train the local Assemblies by brief statements in Bahá’í News.

This month let us consider the institution of the local Assembly as a device through which the true civilization, gift of the Spirit, is to enter the world of humanity and displace those limited and competitive societies of the past that now come to their end of unbridled authority and unmoral power.

"The importance, nay the absolute necessity of these local Assemblies is manifest when we realize that in the days to come they will evolve into the local House of Justice, and at present provide the firm foundation on which the structure of the Master’s Will is to be reared in future." (Bahá’í Administration, page 32)

"In order to avoid division and disruption, that the Cause may not fall a prey to conflicting interpretations, may lose thereby its purity and pristine vigor, that its affairs may be conducted with efficiency and promptness, it is necessary that every one should conscientiously take an active part in the election of these Assemblies, abide by their decision, enforce their decree, and cooperate with them wholeheartedly in their task of stimulating the growth of the Movement throughout all regions. The members of these Assemblies, on their part, must disregard utterly their own likes and dislikes, their personal interests and inclinations, and concentrate their minds upon measures that will conduce to the welfare and happiness of the Bahá’í Community and promote the common weal." (Bahá’í Administration, page 36)

"With these Assemblies, local as well as national, harmoniously, vigorously, and efficiently functioning throughout the Bahá’í world, the only means for the establishment of the Supreme House of Justice will have been secured." (same page)

And finally, these words, written November 14, 1923 (page 47): "Let us pray to God that in these days of world-encircling gloom, when the dark forces of nature, of hate, rebellion, anarchy and reaction are threatening the very stability of human society, when the most precious fruits of civilization are enduring severe and unparalleled tests, we may all realize, more profoundly than ever, that though but a mere handful amidst the seething masses of the world, we are all in this day the chosen instruments of God’s grace, that our mission is most urgent and vital to the fate of humanity, and, fortified by these sentiments, arise to achieve God’s holy purpose for mankind."

The very sublimity of the mission carries with it a grave responsibility. The administrative order is the instrument for
the transmission of a Divine will to mankind. The Bahá'í community is the arena in which we demonstrate our faith. Thus, all that concerns the local Assembly is of great importance. It must have a wisdom commensurate with its power. As it contributes to unity, the Assembly helps release the forces of the Kingdom, but if it prevents unity, then it resists those illimitable powers.

Let us realize that the quality of our spiritual lives is determined locally. It is in our own community that we meet the vital issues of truth and error, justice and injustice, love and prejudice. The occasions may appear small and insignificant, but they nevertheless contain every test by which God tries and disciplines His servants. Could we behold with a spiritual eye, we would recognize how and why the Master, on one occasion, could warn a group of believers that their continued disunity would lead to the ruin of the city. Similarly, where reverence, knowledge, humility and sacrifice exist, blessings will descend beyond human capacity to create. While gloom encircles humanity, can we not reflect more and more of His glory of Light?

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

INTER-AMERICA NEWS

Costa Rica

Glorious news has come from Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Woolson in Costa Rica. "We are very happy with the progress of the work here and overjoyed to have ten Bahá'ís. They are all great souls. The Message has been given in five of the seven Provinces of Costa Rica and everybody seems to be waiting to hear of the Glorious Teachings of Bahá'u'lláh. There is so much to be done that it makes one wish she were an infinite number of persons and that there were no such thing as time and space." The whole Bahá'í Community rejoices with our Pioneers in Costa Rica and will add their prayers for their continued growth.

Nicaragua

Mr. Mathew Kaszab writes of a successful lecture given at the Masonic Temple at which there were thirty-one persons present. He is hoping to have Mrs. Stewart assist him in the near future as he is assured by friends in Nicaragua that a much larger crowd can be gathered for a meeting at the International Club. He reports several people reading the Bahá'í books and a few definitely interested.

Ecuador

We learn from Mr. John Stearns that the Cause is slowly, but surely progressing and ever greater opportunities for presenting the Teachings are being made. He encloses a registration card for Sr. Les Gonzales, one of the four young men with whom he is sharing a house.

Havana, Cuba

Word has been received from Mrs. Hoagg that Miss Josephine Kruka arrived in Havana about the middle of December to assist her with the work of spreading the Cause.

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Miss Leonora Holsapple writes that she has taken an apartment with Miss Jeanne Bolles to have a convenient place to hold meetings. The first was held on the Báb's birthday. The meetings are small, but representative of several nationalities and the people seem very open minded and sympathetic to the Cause. They promise to develop into a regular study group. Miss Holsapple speaks of the great pleasure derived from the visits of several visiting Bahá'í teachers, Mrs. Barton, Miss Cheney and Mr. Sprague.

Argentina

Word of the most encouraging sort has come from Mr. Sprague in Buenos Aires. He reports that his classes are assuming tremendous proportions and that the quality of their belief is very wonderful. In addition to the classes already held several times a week in his apartment, a Youth Group has started which meets twice a week. The Youth Group is led by Mr. Carlos Foos.

A Temple model has been shipped to Buenos Aires to aid in the teaching. Miss Elizabeth Cheney on her way to Paraguay writes of her stay in Buenos Aires: "Mr. Sprague had scheduled her to speak on Divine Unity and to my amazement about sixty people came piling in until every foot of space on chairs or cushions on the floor, seemed to be completely occupied." From the Buenos Aires Friends she secured introductions to important persons in Paraguay which may prove of great value in her work there.

Philip Sprague sends the enrollment card of Mrs. Gladys Sharpe from Buenos Aires and states that there are several others who are uniting with the Community at once. He also asks for a mat of the Temple as now completed and sends copies of an illustrated paper from Buenos Aires which contains a lovely article in Spanish with the photograph of the Center of the Covenant and a large picture of the Temple under construction. Also there is a photograph reproduction of the group meeting in his apartment, a large group only half of which is shown in the picture. He further states that all but one of the radio talks have been translated and that in about a week they will be having two half-hour periods a week for their programs for one month. This is glorious news!

Venezuela

With regret the Inter-America Committee reports the return to Canada of two valued pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. Emeric Salla.

Santiago, Chile

Mrs. Marcia Steward Atwater reports very satisfactory developments in Santiago. She has taken a house for three months and has started weekly meetings. At the first, nine guests were expected. Mrs. Atwater is learning Spanish rapidly as the resident Bahá'í, Senora Espinoza, does not speak English. Senora Espinoza has been cooperating in every way. Mrs. Atwater has made many important contacts and reports that excellent publicity has been promised. She has found the Chileans very gracious and kind.

Panama

Mrs. Oliver again writes from Panama asking for more Bahá'ís in that territory. "With all of us working the doors will

Grave of Mrs. May Maxwell, Buenos Aires, Argentine, where the memorial is to be constructed.
BOLIVIA

We have received very good news from Mrs. Adler in Bolivia. She reports: "The people who know about the Cause are represented thus: An American woman, social leader—people in the diplomatic service, individuals in Bolivia on mining projects—the man and his associates who have done the work of bringing 10,000 refugees into Bolivia—Manager of the American Cable Co., an Englishman. The people in whose Pension I am living, the man is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Bolivian army, his wife, who is French, besides several others to whom I have spoken briefly, but who have pamphlets, and two young Bolivian men, about thirty in all.

"Almost everything at the dinner table here is discussed from the Bahá’í angle. They have all had the Cause presented to them in detail, and it is practically a Study Group.

"The city is beautiful, adobe walls throughout, against which brightly garbed Indians lean, so still they remain when squatting or leaning; they are almost as decorative as a mass of flowers. They are to be seen in every section of the city. The better class of them are strong and straight and proud in their bearing. Among themselves their spirit is not crushed: how to reach them! I ache to be able to speak Spanish. I am afraid I shall miss much because I do not. I am trying, but it is difficult. Please encourage the study of Spanish among the Bahá’ís."

The Inter-America Committee wishes other applications for consideration, but such as know the languages and can promise to remain in a post for one year or longer (preferably permanently), will be given preference.

Inter-America Addresses

Mrs. Eleanor Smith Adler, Pension Cuellar, 899, 6 de Agosta, La Paz, Bolivia.

Mrs. Marcia Steward Atwater, 2719 Calle Carmen Silva, Los Leones, Santiago, Chile.


Mrs. H. Emogene Hoag, Calle C, No. 307, Cor. 15, Vedado, Havana, Cuba.

AN ATTACK UPON THE CAUSE


1. Letter written December 28, 1933.


Dear Mrs. Dilling:

The members of the National Spiritual Assembly have noted with surprise your reference to the Bahá’í Faith on page 128 of your book entitled "The Red Network, A Who’s Who and Hand Book of Radicalism for Patriots."

Your description of the world religion founded by Bahá’u’lláh is one that cannot be recognized by any person at all acquainted with the teachings and spirit of this faith.

No official Bahá’í body, nor any recognized believer, has ever taken part in conferences of the War Resisters International. Furthermore, the quotation from The World Tomorrow, July, 1933 issue, referring to the imprisonment of Bahá’ís in Turkey was inaccurate and incomplete in that the editors were unaware of the fact that the Turkish government after full investigation, dismissed the charges and freed the prisoners. As it happens, the National Spiritual Assembly sent representatives to call on the Turkish Am-

bassador at Washington in connection with this episode, and the records at the Embassy will fully bear out the facts I bring to your attention.

In conclusion I would like to state that the Bahá’í Faith is the only revealed religion which specifically charges its members with obedience to government as a spiritual and not merely a civil duty and obligation. This principle, together with the other principles which have been upheld by American Bahá’ís for more than forty years, make it perfectly clear to any unbiased person that your statement about the Bahá’í Cause is a complete deviation from the truth.

We bring these facts to your attention on the assurance that you intend your book to be sufficiently accurate to command the respect of intelligent and sincere persons.

We respectfully request you to place on file the enclosed copy of letter we have sent to Mrs. Albert W. Dilling, author of the book entitled "The Red Network, A Who’s Who and Hand Book of Radicalism for Patriots."

The National Spiritual Assembly is ready at all times to supply the Federal Government with any information concerning the Bahá’í Faith that may be desired.

2. Letter to Department of Justice written December 23, 1933.

Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

We respectfully request you to place on file the enclosed copy of letter we have sent to Mrs. Albert W. Dilling, author of the book entitled "The Red Network, A Who’s Who and Hand Book of Radicalism for Patriots."

The National Spiritual Assembly is ready at all times to supply the Federal Government with any information concerning the Bahá’í Faith that may be desired.

3. Letter written December 13, 1940.

Dear Mrs. Dilling:

Our attention has been called to the fact that editions of your book entitled “The Red Network” issued since 1935 contain the same erroneous references to the Bahá’í Faith which we corrected in the letter written you on December 28, 1935.

We still assume that you intend your book to be a statement of facts and not a compilation of unfounded rumors or suspicions, and this being the case we are glad to offer to provide you with authentic statements about the aims and purposes of the Bahá’í Faith which prove to any unbiased person that this Faith could not possibly be listed among the Communist and radical movements your book is intended to expose.

We are also very glad to extend you an invitation to visit our national office recently established at the above address (i.e., 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette), where all our records are available.

For your information I would like to state that a copy of the letter we wrote you on December 28, 1935, was sent to the Department of Justice at Washington on the same date.

4. No reply has been received, up to February 27, 1941, to either of the two communications sent to the author of the book, which therefore makes it clear that accurate information and truth are not part of the author’s intention in its publication.

5. The friends will find a reference to Bahá’ís of Turkey in the Guardian’s letter of February 12, 1929, in “Bahá’í Administration.” In Bahá’í News of April, 1933, page 4, there is a cablegram from the Guardian stating that the friends in Istanbul had been acquitted, but 53 believers were still imprisoned in Adana. In the following month’s issue reference is made to a later cable from the Guardian reporting the friends in Adana had been released.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

TEACHING PROJECT IN

SOUTHWESTERN STATES

Not many months ago Shoghi Effendi vividly described the spirit which he hoped would motivate our American community in 1940. “The American believers,” he wrote, “standing on the threshold of the fourth year of the Seven Year Plan, pursue their God-given task with a radiance that no earthly gloom can dim, and will continue to shoulder its ever-growing duties and responsibilities with a vigor and loyalty that no earthly power can either sap or diminish.”

Surely the teaching efforts just concluded in the Southwest, by the joint labors of Beatrice Irwin and the Bahá’ís of Albuquerque, Kansas City, Oklahoma City, San Antonio, Phoenix, and Glendale, in the period from October 12 to December 4, are a surpassing witness to the vitality which animates our Faith in these critical days.

The campaign was carefully prepared in each city, with the cooperation of various National Committees, to obtain wide publicity and personal contacts, and to consolidate with adequate literature and plans for follow-up study. Among the materials provided were Temple model, slides for Temple lectures, traveling library for display, diversified free literature, radio transcription, radio talk mats and publicity on the Temple, photographs and publicity of the speaker, and books for library placements and sale. Especially useful as gifts in contact work were World Order Magazine and Miss Irwin’s own pamphlet, “Heralds of Peace.”

A tangible measure of results is preserved in generous columns of publicity accorded in every city, often accompanied by headlines and photographs.

It is not as easy to measure the human results; we are assured only that countless new persons, significant in their various communities, were reached in the preliminary arrangements for lectures and exhibits, and that hundreds heard news of our Faith in a presentation which linked it dynamically with the unfolding destiny of our embattled world. “It was one of the most interesting assembly periods we have had in a long time,” the principal of Sumner High School in Kansas City wrote, “... The importance of the message of the Great Teacher... made a lasting impression on our boys and girls...” And from the president of St. Phillip’s Junior College in San Antonio came these words: “You have turned our hearts and minds to that ideal which transcends the many forces which are at work among men... May the light which you have brought us be our guide until we shall have reached the mountain top of a new day...”

The following are highlights of the campaign in each city:

Albuquerque: The Temple model was exhibited in the central window of the Albuquerque Gas and Electric Company, “attractively arranged with palms and a book display,” in “the most prominent spot in the city.” The exhibit was regularly announced on the radio, together with the public meetings, and gained a great deal of comment.” There were three lectures at the Hilton Hotel on successive nights, which attracted about a hundred inquirers. Many outstanding people met Miss Irwin through interviews, luncheons, and dinners. These included an Indian leader and his wife, “one-time Pueblo spokesman for New Mexico in government affairs;” a distinguished ethnologist who plans to include a section on the Bahá’í Faith in his forthcoming cultural world history; the state leader of the Townsend society; a women’s editor; a Rabbi, “one of the most stimulating encounters of the week”; two professors; and several others. “This we definitely know,” the Assembly secretary wrote, “personal contacts were successful and Miss Irwin in her intelligence and spirituality and breadth, lent prestige to the Cause in this city.”

Kansas City: The Faith was directly presented in three public lectures at Journal Centre and the Municipal Auditorium, which drew about 125 inquirers. The finest opportunities, however, were in lectures for the Kansas City Advertising Club (approximately seventy), Sumner
High School (1,000 colored students), the Presidents and Past Presidents of women's clubs (about eighty-five women), a men's fraternity, and the Theosophists. "In every instance Miss Irwin gave the Baha'i Cause first mention; she was received most favorably." Her talk for the Advertising Club received almost a column in the Ad Club News, including announcement of all Bahai lectures, and in the next issue Miss Irwin's photograph and talk were featured on the cover. This publication reaches several hundred readers. Bahais from Topeka and Independence also met Miss Irwin. In summary the Local Assembly wrote: "This has been a very satisfactory campaign. ... There were many new faces and entire new groups which were unable to contact... We feel that she has given prestige to our Assembly and to the Cause."

Oklahoma City: "This city is vigorous-minded, and to a considerable extent open-minded," Miss Irwin remarked, and in her work there she was able to reach many diverse sections of the community. Her engagements included 600 students of Oklahoma City University (Methodist), 300 students of Douglass High School (colored), Inman-Page School (about 35 faculty and students), University Women's Forum of seventy members, the Pen-Women's Club, Hadassah Society of Jewish women, and department heads and patrons of Harbour Longmire Furniture Co. At all of these meetings the Faith was outlined, and at some of them, as with the University Women, "she presented it with such power and dignity that there can be no doubt of the deep impression it left..." There were also two public meetings at the YWCA and Hotel Biltmore, attracting about 120 strangers. The Temple model was displayed at the John A. Brown Co., a leading department store, which "distributed about seventy-five of the Temple pamphlets, enclosing one with every new book sold while the model was on display; and for more than a week at Harbour Longmire, "in a very attractive setting just inside the main entrance..." The Assembly secretary concluded that "much good has been accomplished in publicizing the Faith in this city. The Temple model attracted a great deal of attention and comment, and Miss Irwin's presentation gave dignity to our Cause. Quite a number of contacts have expressed interest to study further..."

San Antonio: The campaign here was a fine opportunity for publicity which our Baha'i Group had been unable to obtain previously. Chief features were five hundred personal invitations, a wealth of publicity in three daily papers, eight large posters displayed in leading hotels and centers, a fifteen-minute talk over KTSF, and a large poster with "a beautiful 20x30 picture of the Temple, which stood in the Auditorium lobby for many days." The Temple model was displayed at Joske's leading department store of Texas, "in a niche window all to itself with fine gold background..." and Miss Irwin had two interviews with the store manager. Mrs. Frankland's adventure in obtaining this beautiful location is a tale in itself! Two public meetings were scheduled at the Municipal Auditorium, with book displays. There were also lectures for the International section of the Women's Club, the International Institute of the YWCA, and St. Phillips' Junior College (colored), as well as several informal meetings in Baha'i homes. As Mrs. Frankland wrote, "All of this... is bound to bring results..."

Phoenix and Glendale: Three public meetings were held in Phoenix, attracting about 150 persons, at the YWCA, Adams Hotel, and Westward Ho Hotel, the last named "a very fine gathering... and a real gift for the Cause in Phoenix." There was also a public meeting for about forty at Veteran's Hall, Glendale. Broadcasts were arranged on stations KAS and KPHO. The Temple model was displayed for a few days at the Phoenix Floral and Seed Co., and later at Dorris-Heyman, leading furniture store, "in a 20-foot window with draped background." The Brackett-Darrow Book Shop arranged "a fine book display." Miss Irwin also addressed about 500 students of Phoenix Junior College, "a high-spot of the stay..." Many personal interviews were held with public citizens, including the Episcopalian Dean, a Rabbi, the manager of Town Hall, the Dean of Phoenix Junior College, and others. "As a result of Miss Irwin's campaign, a Monday evening study class is operating for seekers."

One of the most interesting aspects of this campaign was Miss Irwin's report of "finding the public, on the whole, extremely responsive..." She continued, "The work was always a source of joy and refreshment, and education in methods of more penetrating contact with a bewildered world, that has no other solution than this for its increasing problems." Certainly this is the knowledge which will spur us on in months to come. The labors and real sacrifices required for teaching are great; in every city of this campaign the way was prepared by many believers, nameless in our report, without whose devotion no success could have been won. Yet all who participated share in the rewards, and their example quickens us all to nobler effort.

"The Founders of their Faith survey from the Kingdom on high the range of their achievements, acclaim their progress, and are ever ready to speed their eventual triumph.---Shoghi Effendi.

**National Teaching Committee**

**PROGRESS IN TEACHING**

The following items have been gleaned from reports and correspondence representing Regional Teaching Committees, Assemblies and individual teachers who have been active in the field. Taken together, they reveal a widespread, intensive teaching effort embracing all of North America, a general advance made possible by the action of the entire American Baha'i Community including Na-
Northern Committees, local Assemblies and teachers both resident and traveling.

Eastern Canada

The regional activities for fall and winter were planned at a general conference held at Montreal on October 13, 14 and 15 in three sessions, one for the committee and two open to all the friends. The report from Moncton mentioned particularly the class of fourteen children conducted by Mrs. King and Mrs. Geary. From a Sunday School class taught by Mrs. King, five women enrolled in a Bahá’í class and of these two were later confirmed. In Halifax, Mrs. Proctor has maintained open house for the drafted men and taught by her spirit of hospitality as well as by discussion of the message. Miss Winifred Harvey, pioneer teacher in Ottawa, told of her work in gathering a nucleus of interested friends. Mrs. Schopfucher spoke on the problem of public teaching under present world conditions.

Reports on Mrs. Beulah Proctor’s activities in Halifax and on Mrs. Doris McKay’s visit to Moncton give further interesting details.

Mrs. Proctor made excellent contacts at the Exhibition and gave out more than three hundred pamphlets. One young East Indian accepted the Faith. Her work brings her in touch with men called upon for heroic service in time of war. She has explained the Faith to many of these, given them literature, selected prayers for them and conveyed the meaning of the Greatest Name. (Some have returned after service at the front, where the Faith was a living reality in their hearts.) In order to continue this pioneer service, Mrs. Proctor has conducted a rooming house and held a position in a department store. “Every moment in this house has been most valuable to the Cause.”

In Moncton, Mrs. McKay conducted a study class in Administration, with demonstrations of group consultation in action. Some weeks there were three or four evenings a week, during which Mrs. McKay took up other phases of the teachings. Including fireside meetings, children’s classes, public meetings and the study classes, an average of ten meetings a week was held for six weeks. On one occasion a group of the Moncton friends drove to Halifax and joined with Mrs. Proctor in two meetings. They found a number of attracted friends and consider that her activity has been true pioneering for the Cause.

The Moncton friends now feel that when they again have nine resident believers, the basis for a permanent Bahá’í community has been laid.

New England

Previous reports have described some of the activities conducted by the Regional Committee in Vermont. During November Mrs. Bowman arranged a display of Bahá’í books in a window of the Kellogg Free Library, with an enlarged photograph of the Temple and posters with texts explaining the Cause, effective publicity for Burlington. In the same city a public meeting was held at the Van Ness Hotel on November 6. An unusual experience was a forum at a fraternity house of the University of Vermont where Mrs. Bowman answered questions for two hours. Several of the friends are now studying the teachings, one of them having been a pupil of Kenneth Christian a few years ago. Organizations contacted include the Cleefer Club. There is one resident believer in the city, Mrs. Elizabeth Van Patten. Other cities visited by Mrs. Bowman in the state were St. Albans, Vergennes, Middlebury,Brandon, Pittsford and Rutland. A symposium on World Citizenship was held by Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Florence Morton in Montpelier and Rutland, where books were placed in the library. Fireside meetings and many personal contacts are reported by Mrs. Bowman during the rest of November in Portsmouth and Ashuelot, N. H., Eliot, Maine, and Springfield and Three Rivers, Mass. The World Citizenship symposium was also given at Hotel Bridgeway, Springfield.

Other cities where the two believers gave the symposium in December were Boston and Worcester. Mrs. Bowman’s talk on The Destiny of America aroused great interest at meetings in Three Rivers, Mass., and Providence, R. I. Talks on the Faith were made at Providence by Dr. Elizabeth Kidder and Mr. Harlan Ober, as well as at Malden and Mass.

New England youth held a Teaching Clinic at Hotel Garde, New Haven, December 8, with an attendance of 39. The program included discussion of subjects on inspirational teaching, chairmanship, model round table, questions and answers, race unity, visual education, contacts and administration. Youth dealing with these subjects were Anne MacNally, Betty Murray, Ellen Curran, Joel Marangelli, Dorothy Champ, Norman Smith, Frances Bacon, Ben Kaufman, Jeanne Steed, Jack Steed. Mrs. Bowman also took part.

During the first half of January, 1941, the Regional Committee mentions a meeting with Mrs. Bowman and Mr. Duncan MacAlear speaking at Providence, a talk for the Rotary Club of Brandon, Vt., by Mrs. Bowman, a week’s visit in Rutland with the pioneer teacher, Miss N. Grace Bissell, and a talk for the League of Women Voters in Portsmouth.

Upper New York

Reviewing the many activities reported from this area, we begin with the picnic at the Morrisville community grounds held in May for believers of Central New York. After planning for an attendance of forty, eighty-five friends came, representing Geneva, Syracuse, Camandiaugus, Auburn, Little Falls, Binghamton, Earlville, Morrisville, Baldwinsville, Richfield Springs, New York City and Newark. Four members of the faculty of Syracuse University attended, bringing a student who is from India. Mr. Kenneth Christian writes that eleven racial and national groups were embraced in the gathering.

Under the general theme of The Bahá’í Looks at the World Today, informal talks were made by Mrs. Mary Collison, Mr. Joseph Noyes, Mrs. Helen Inderleid, Miss Idas Noyes, Dr. Albert D. Heist and Mrs. Roberta Christian. An illustration of this gathering appears in the current issue of Bahá’í News.

Since the present Regional Committee was appointed, news and plans of the area have been made available to the communities, groups and isolated friends throughout the region by means of a Bulletin for Region of Upper New York, and the following items are taken from this bulletin.

The second inter-community picnic was held Sunday, August 4, at East Mexico Point on Lake Ontario, with about sixty believers and friends present. Mr. Ned Blackmer presided, Mrs. Inderleid discussed The Spiritual Meaning of the Cause, as outlined on page 61 of The Advant of Divine Justice, Miss Ida Noyes spoke on Balance, and questions and answers followed.

The Hamburg, New York group greatly enjoyed public meetings addressed by Mrs. Robert Wilkin of Niagara Falls and Mrs. Doris McKay, attended by about twenty inquirers. Mrs. Edith McLaren of Hamburg hopes to have one speaker a month and a weekly adults’ and children’s study groups hereafter. At Lima a meeting has been held in the Tollis home with friends from Rochester, with Mrs. McKay as speaker. From Little

Bahá’ís and Friends at Montevideo, January, 1941. The American Believers Are: Mrs. Mary Barton, Miss Elizabeth Cheney and Wilfrid Barton.
Falls, where Mr. and Mrs. Ford conducted such an interesting public forum last winter comes the report that informal social gatherings each Sunday evening during the summer kept the interested friends together. Dr. Townsend's The Heart of the Gospel was read aloud from week to week. In Schenectady Miss Ella Quant has given out Braille literature for the blind, called on minority groups, addressed a meeting in a Negro church, whose minister suggested that a class be formed to study the Baha'i teachings, and Miss Quant has kept in touch with this congregation. The weekly meetings in Syracuse have been well attended. Among the visiting speakers have been: Mrs. Harry Ford, Miss Elizabeth Brooks, Miss Ida Noyes and Mr. Kenneth Christian.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Eggleston traveled through New York state recently and visited a number of groups, including Batavia, Geneva, Morrisville, Binghamton and Buffalo.

Forty-five believers from upper New York met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Bevan early in November, representing Albany, Saratoga Springs, Balsam Spa, Schenectady, Little Falls, Morrisville, Syracuse, Geneva, Waterloo, Linwood, Rochester, Buffalo, Jamestown, Binghamton, and conducted a program containing ten subjects, followed by an informal symposium. This conference led to two plans: the placing of books in public libraries throughout the region; and the establishment of regular teaching circuits. Places from Geneva west are to be under the direction of Mrs. Mehdil Firooz; places from Elmira and Syracuse east to be handled by Mr. Kenneth Christian. The first speaker arranged for the Eastern New York circuit was Dr. Glenn A. Shook, whose meetings will be reported later.

Mr. Allen B. McDaniel presented an illustrated lecture on the Temple in Syracuse on November 8 which the Regional Committee reports was very impressive to the audience. Dr. Piper of Syracuse University reviewed The Dawn-Breakers at the first meeting conducted by Mrs. Inderleid as a class to study that work.

West Virginia
Before the Regional Committee could organize after changes in its membership, the three residents Baha'i's in West Virginia, Mr. Harold Hunt in Huntington, and Mr. and Mrs. Hilbert Dahl in Charleston, took advantage of opportunities and have been able to report much constructive activity.

Mr. Hunt arranged a Baha'i Children's Party in honor of Mrs. Dorothy Baker at Huntington on October 27, and an interested group of adults also heard Mr. Baker at Frederick Hotel the same day. The Herald-Advertiser of Huntington carried an illustrated notice of Mrs. Baker's visit in its edition of October 20. Though her time in both Huntington and Charleston was brief, Mrs. Baker had opportunity to carry the local contacts a step forward and to bring enthusiasm to the resident workers. The West Side Women's Club of Charleston has listed three Baha'i speakers for the current season: Stanwood Cobb, Hilbert Dahl, and Allen R. McDaniel. The Daily Mail and the Gazette, in issues dated November 3 and 9, featured the talk on "America's Destiny in Leadership of the World" by Mr. Cobb, who also addressed the children's class conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Dahl. With Dr. and Mrs. Lehner of West Virginia State College, the three believers drove to Huntington to meet with Harold Hunt and his group.

The Temple model was displayed at the Postal Telegraph office in Parkersburg, and this enabled Mrs. Dahl to answer many questions about the Faith from the District Superintendent.

During the fall semester, Hilbert Dahl conducted talks and discussions on alternate Sundays at the West Virginia State College, the result of tactful contact with faculty members for a year and a half. This meeting is by invitation of the college Religious Activities Committee. Mr. Dahl hopes that the result is to make an opening for traveling teachers to give the message more and more openly.

The Huntington Advertiser on November 9 carried an excellent notice of the talk by Stanwood Cobb at Hotel Frederick.

South Atlantic States
Mrs. Dorothy Baker's circuit through the south Atlantic states through November included nine different cities. In addition to the reports concerning Huntington and Charleston, West Virginia, given above, we have the following interesting notes.

In Louisville, Kentucky, Mrs. Baker spoke at a public meeting on her way south and again on returning north, which resulted in more intensive study on the part of six or eight attracted friends.

In Nashville there were two public meetings open to both races, two talks at Tennessee State College, one at Fisk University and two fireside group meetings.

In Knoxville, the Assembly arranged a public dinner meeting for Mrs. Baker and a few personal contacts for intensifying interest.

At Memphis Mrs. Baker gave two talks at the Henderson Business School and held one meeting for the colored friends.

In addition, two hotel meetings, two fireside groups, two youth meetings and participation in a panel discussion at the YWCA were carried out.

In a brief visit to Hot Springs, Mrs. Baker spoke at a public meeting and carried out a number of contacts, besides assisting three advanced students of the Cause to organize their study for admission into the Baha'i community. At Greenwood she addressed a colored High School, a fireside group and a public meeting, and noted an unusual response from Jewish people who attended.

At Tuskegee, the famous Negro University, Mrs. Baker found an eager response from faculty leaders, but had to decline an invitation to address the student body because of previous engagements in Atlanta.

News of other regional areas will be digested for the next issue.

WORLD NEWS

2. Iraq
(Continued)

c. Contribution to the Spiritual Assembly of Damascus, for the purchase of a plot for their Haziratu'l-Quds.

d. The publishing of the quarterly "Baha'i News Letter."

g. And last, but not least, vigilance over the integrity of the body of the believers, and safeguarding the interests of the Cause.

Among the expressed wishes of the Guardian, conveyed by the visitors to Haifa, was that the friends should assist the believers of Damascus in purchasing a plot of land for the building of their Haziratu'l-Quds, which, as the Guardian had pointed out, was very significant. Accordingly, a sum of about 140 was immediately raised by the believers of Baghdad, for this blessed purpose.

A further sum of 26 was recently transmitted to the N.S.A. as advance subscription in the Arabic translation of Nabíl's Narrative, which is still under print in Cairo. We hope this important publication will soon be available.

The Fifth Annual Baha'i Youth Symposium was held in the Haziratu'l-Quds of Baghdad on the 25th of February, 1940. A group of young believers and a number of their non-Baha'i friends attended, and some photos of the Baha'i youths were taken. The programme of the meeting was as follows:

1. A Word of Welcome .......................................................... Jamil I. Bagdadi
2. Opening Prayer (Tablet) .................................................. Abdu'l-Razzaq Abbas
3. Summary of Baha'i History and Principles ......................... Kamil Abbas
4. Unity in Diversity (by 'Abdu'l-Bahá) Jamil I. Bagdadi
5. A Tablet of Baha'u'llah Abdur-Razzaq Abbas
6. The World Needs the Baha'i Faith Ni'mat Saboor
7. Effect of Superstitions and Ignorance on Religion Ahmad Najmu'd-Din
8. Closing Prayer (Tablet) Ibrahim Shmi'

It is generally felt that the Symposium was fairly successful, and a few non-Baha'i youths have shown keen interest in the Teachings. They are now studying the Cause.

3. India and Burma

The National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of India and Burma has published the proceedings of its Twelfth Annual Convention in pamphlet form containing English and Iranian translations of the text. A few excerpts follow:

The convention was held at Poona and as regards attendance it was probably the most remarkable in recent years. Believers from such far-off places as Karachi had come in numbers to attend it.

The election of the National Spiritual Assembly was held on the afternoon of the 28th April. Messrs. Khosrow Ardshir Izadyar, Habibullah Manji and Shah Bahram Mobedzadieh were selected as tellers. As the name of each delegate was called out he or she placed his or her ballot in the box; the ballots of the absent delegates received by post were thrown in the box by the National Secretary. The results which were as follows were declared at 6 p.m. the same day:

Mr. N. R. Vakil 12
Mrs. Shirin K. Fozdar 10
Mr. Isfandiar K. B. Balchirri 14
Prof. Pritam Singh 12
Mr. Mehfuzul Haq Ilmi 10
Dr. S. Hismat Ali 8
Mr. S. H. Kershi 7
Mr. Habibullah M. Manji 5
Abbas Ali Butt. 14

The 9th Day of Ridvan, the 29th of April was a gala day for all who had gathered there. The believers of Poona had prepared a feast unprecedented both in its sumptuousness and spirituality. It was a sight that is hardly met with in these days in the world. The Bahá'ís had gathered together and were partaking from one table. They were drawn from different communities. There were Hindus, there were Muslims, and there were Parsees all mingled together as members of one great family.

PUBLICITY.—In compliance with the resolution passed last year 19 copies of the World Order Magazine have been regularly supplied to the Universities of India and Burma. In addition to these 19 copies 3 copies of the magazine have been contributed by the Bombay Youth Group and Service Committee and supplied on their behalf to a college and to two institutes of learning. 3 copies were subscribed by the Poona Spiritual Assembly and supplied to three colleges of their town; one copy was supplied on behalf of Mr. J. M. Rustom to a leading library in Nagpur. We altogether subscribed for 49 copies last year and have sent remittance for 50 copies this year. Out of the 70 copies of Baha'i World Vol. VII presented to the N.S.A. by Mr. Siegfried Schoepflecher about 25 were presented free to the libraries and colleges of India, Burma and Ceylon; others were subscribed to the leading citizens who are sympathetic towards the Holy Faith. The gift has been very much appreciated by all to whom it has been made and we hope that this splendid publication will prepare many souls to search for more knowledge about the Divine Faith.

Some of the friends wrote articles and published them through the press. Mr. H. M. Manji's two articles in Hindi appeared in the Satyag with a photograph of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Bombay and Karachi local Spiritual Assemblies made frequent use of the local press to publish notices of functions followed by a brief description of the function and the Divine Teachings. Through Karachi local Spiritual Assembly Sadhu Viswanî's papers published beautiful "In Memoriam" articles for our dear sister Miss Martha L. Root.

TEACHING.—Owing to abnormal conditions having broken out much All-India work could not be done this year. Mrs. Shirin Fozdar, toured the Punjab and delivered lectures and spiritual exercises in Lahore, Amritsar, Ferozepore Jammu, Rawalpindi and Ludhiana. Prof. Pritam Singh made similar lecturing trips to Ferozepore, Jammu, Amritsar and Multan.

Local Spiritual Assemblies however had been more active. Bombay, Karachi, Delhi and Calcutta all did their best to teach the Faith in their respective jurisdictions.

An appeal was issued in the beginning of the year concerning the Six-Year Plan of Teaching and most of the friends responded most generously. Some promised to go and settle in places where the Divine Faith has not yet penetrated. Others gave liberal donations in money and literature. Owing to the disturbed conditions during the year, however, nothing tangible could be done.

Mr. M. H. Ilmi visited Kadwai near Bombay where many old believers lived. Many of them possess tablets from 'Abdu'l-Bahá. They had been dormant for all these years. Mr. Ilmi urged them to action. This incited fanaticism among the Moslems of the place and the usual persecutions began. They started a hue and cry against the believers which terminated in their social boycott which frightened a number of the believers to
go back to the Modern community; but a greater number of them are firm. It is hoped that this eruption of popular fanaticism will soon die down and the friends of the place will form themselves into a local Assembly.

**BÁHÁ’Í YOUTH**—The organization started 4 years ago has now developed into a strong body and its activities have become more and more organised. The Annual symposium was again held this year on February 2 which synchronized with the date on which the same function was held by Bahá’í Youth organizations all over the world in accordance with the programme published by the World Bahá’í Youth Committee of America. A Plan for the year 1940–41 has been chalked out and if the youth are assisted in carrying out this Plan they will have advanced many milestones before the end of the Plan is reached.

4. Australia and New Zealand

These items appear in the *Báhá’í Quarterly* published by the N.S.A. of Australia and New Zealand:

Only one meeting of the N.S.A. was possible during the past Bahá’í year. This took place in Sydney, 9th and 10th December, 1939, and was attended by the Australian members only, Mrs. Jackman, Miss Brooks and Mr. Brown of Adelaide, Mrs. Routh, Mr. Whitaker and Mr. Bolton of Sydney. At this meeting, after careful deliberation, the National Book Depot was voted as impracticable, but it was decided to assist the Spiritual Assemblies of Adelaide, Sydney and Auckland, by advancing them each a stock of books for which they need pay the N.S.A. only as their sales enable them to do so. The N.S.A. hopes that from this small beginning these Spiritual Assemblies will gradually be able to enlarge their stocks until each has its own depot. Arrangements are being made to give these Assemblies further assistance, orders for books having been sent to both England and America for that purpose.

Letters expressing gratitude for parcels of books given to them by the N.S.A. have been received from the Melbourne, Perth and Hobart groups.

A fire proof safe has been purchased in which all historical and important documents will be placed for safety during these calamitous times.

The “Herald of the South” committee continues its praiseworthy efforts to make the magazine a useful and popular teaching medium, and has been greatly encouraged by the many expressions of appreciation from subscribers that have been received. The committee appeals to all believers to subscribe and to do their utmost to increase the circulation of this publication. The Auckland Spiritual Assembly has set a fine example by sending 12 subscriptions from the Spiritual Assembly itself, this quite apart from individual subscriptions from the Auckland friends. From Hobart there are three times as many subscriptions as believers.

Owing to the unsettled times the National Teaching Committee has been only partially successful in carrying out its plans. Visits to Melbourne have been made by Mr. Brown, Mrs. Axford and Miss Brooks and valuable teaching work done there. The Teaching Committee is particularly grateful to the Melbourne Secretary, Mrs. Eleanor Wheeler, who has been indefatigable in her efforts to arrange meetings for the Bahá’í teachers to give talks and lectures in Melbourne. The enrollment of Mr. W. Cover in Melbourne has been the cause of great rejoicing to the National Teaching Committee. The committee hopes to widen its sphere of activity during the present year.

The N.S.A. has been in consultation by correspondence throughout the year and has functioned vigorously and efficiently. All the Assemblies have contributed freely and spontaneously to the National Fund. Reports from the various Spiritual Assemblies and groups have been carefully studied and a vigilant eye has been kept on the manner of the growth of the Cause. By means of the news letter, “Bahá’í Quarterly” the N.S.A. continues to keep the believers informed of the affairs of the Cause.

Mr. S. Schopflicher’s gift of thirty-five volumes of the “Bahá’í World” Vol. VII was tremendously appreciated by the N.S.A. and the best possible use made of the books. Our love and gratitude to “Freddie.”

_Adelia_The advertised monthly public lectures by Mrs. Dobbins and Miss Brooks continue to attract large audiences. The third year of the Bahá’í Youth Group has been marked by an extension of activities and considerably increased attendance at the Meetings. Esperanto classes are held regularly.

_Sydney_: Father and Mother Dunn hold a regular Saturday night Fireside Group, and their home has an open door for visitors who wish to discuss the Bahá’í Teachings. The advertised public talks given every first Sunday in the month have found excellent response, and as a result, inquirers have attended the Monday night study class and other meetings. Six new members were enrolled during the year.

_Auckland_: Thirty-one Public Libraries in New Zealand were circularised with a view to supplying them with Bahá’í literature. The “Herald of the South” is sent to all the University College libraries and the “World Order” magazine to the Auckland Municipal Library. Seventy-two copies of a special leaflet for newspapers prepared by the N.S.A. of U.S.A. and Canada have been distributed to Newspaper Offices with a request that they be filed for reference.

_ Hobart_, Tasmania: We are slowly acquiring books and other literature which we trust will be the nucleus of an adequate library in the future. Feasts and anniversaries are observed by this small group and weekly meetings are held for devotion and study. Four talks are being prepared to be given at intervals of two weeks to selected people to whom written invitations will be sent.

**FUNCTIONS OF TEMPLE DURING CONSTRUCTION PERIOD**

The Bahá’í House of Worship has been endowed with a glorious spiritual mission in the Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh. The friends are well aware of the words of Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá on this subject, as well as of the Guardian on many occasions. In order to clarify the views as to what functions the Temple is to discharge during the present construction period, the National Spiritual Assembly has had the matter studied by a special committee, and now shares with the friends the following explanation.

The House of Worship is to serve the two great ends of worship and of teaching. The Temple Program Committee, in addition to the present Sunday afternoon public meeting, the purpose of which is teaching rather than worship, has been authorized to inaugurate a meeting of worship and devotion for the friends, and also to resume the holding of the Bahá’í Anniversary meetings for the nearby communities, groups and isolated friends. The House of Worship exercises a stabilising influence, being open for official use in accordance with the Bahá’í calendar, not only as to date but also as to the hour when this is specified by the Guardian. In case this provision makes it impossible to hold any one Anniversary in the Temple, it should be arranged locally by each Assembly. The use of the Temple for individual worship is also emphasized. At such times as the building is open, believers are urged to enter it for individual prayer and meditation.

As for the purpose of teaching, the House of Worship exercises a widespread influence through the services of the guides, and guiding is to be continued. In addition, the building can be used for classes for guides and for continuation of the present children’s class until the nearby Assemblies can each maintain its own local children’s class.

The Temple can also be used for meetings of those Committees now closely
identified with the House of Worship: Temple Program Committee, Temple Guides Committee, and Archives and History Committee.

Relevant to this general subject is the use of the Temple by groups of believers who come from a distance. The National Assembly feels that such groups can be given the use of the kitchen but that there should be no picnicking on the grounds.

Finally, the matter of storage of Bahá’í material in the basement has been considered, and the feeling of the Assembly is that Archives material, and some publishing stock, can be at least temporarily held in the foundation structure pending final arrangements.

The Temple Program Committee has jurisdiction over all meetings in the House of Worship, except the Archives Committee meetings or the committee meetings and study classes of the Temple Guides, while the Temple Maintenance Committee is in charge of the physical equipment.

PUBLISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Revised Catalog

The Publishing Committee has issued a new catalog, corrected to January, 1941, and Assemblies are requested to notify the Committee how many copies they wish for local use.

Bahá’í Prayers

The newest publication is a new prayer book, containing a selection of prayers revealed by Bahá’u’lláh, the Bab and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá translated by Shoghi Effendi. 72 pages. Paper cover, $0.35. Bound in leather, $0.75.

World Order Magazine

Bound volumes of Vol. VI, from April, 1940 to March, 1941, can now be provided. The cost for the volume is $2.50. When the believer provides his own copies of the twelve monthly issues, the binding cost is $1.10. In the latter case, write to the Publishing Committee for instructions where to ship the twelve issues.

Appreciations of the Bahá’í Faith

The series of remarkable statements made about the Cause by prominent persons in many countries, which have been a feature in successive volumes of The Bahá’í World, have been reprinted in pamphlet form at the Guardian’s suggestion. This pamphlet will be widely used for publicity and special teaching purposes. The cost per copy is 50 cents, but it can only be sold in lots of ten. For ten copies, $1.50.

Publishing Office

The work of the Publishing Committee is conducted in the supplementary administrative building at 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois, and the Western Division is discontinued as of March 1. Correspondence with Mrs. Emma F. Smith in connection with the settlement of outstanding accounts of the Western Division should be addressed to her at 1495 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco.

THE BAHA’I WORLD

Volume IX—1940-1942

The editorial committee of The Bahá’í World Vol. IX, with the permission of the National Spiritual Assembly, is appealing to all pioneers who have served the Cause in foreign countries to send at once to the chairman of the committee a personal photograph to be accompanied with a list of dates and countries in which each has served. A small photograph, if clear, is sufficient, but we prefer a photograph of the individual and not one in a group.

The object in soliciting these is to preserve the records for future historical use, but in this issue of The Bahá’í World space will not permit the publishing of the valuable historical accounts which should never-the-less be prepared and placed in the archives. A very interesting section of this volume will be devoted to pioneer service in South and Central America and the Islands as well. It is hoped that the friends will respond immediately to this urgent call.

NELLIE S. FRENCH, Chairman
786 Chester Ave., San Marino, Calif.

OUR BAHA’I SCHOOLS

As the winter adventures in teaching draw to a close we might ask ourselves, “What is the greatest adventure of summer?” No answer could be more fitting than that summer schools are again offering the greatest of all opportunities for deepening our knowledge, improving our techniques, and drinking in the refreshing atmosphere of Bahá’í association.

In The Advent Of Divine Justice, the Guardian, speaking of each American believer, says: “If he attends his summer school—and every one without exception is urged to take advantage of attending it—let him consider such an occasion as a welcome and precious opportunity so to enrich, through lectures, study, and discussion, his knowledge of the fundamentals of His Faith as to be able to transmit with greater confidence and effectiveness, the Message that has been entrusted to his care.”

Plans are already under way for the summer sessions of our four schools. An insert will be placed in the April Baha’i News, giving the programs in full; and it is felt that by this means the friends will not only have a complete schedule for their own reference, but every Bahá’í may literally become a publicity committee for non-members.

The Green Acre School this year plans to feature the study of Spanish in every way possible. A recent letter from Shoghi Effendi to one of the schools, states: “... the study of Spanish, the Guardian feels, should henceforth become a regular feature of all existing Summer Schools and...
Reference and Lending Library, an Institution of Louhelen Bahá’í School.

provide all prospective pioneers with... training in Spanish history and customs...” A request has come from the Green Acre Committee for any contribution that the friends can make, such as, a linguaphone, Spanish victrola lessons, and instruction books. Last year a Spanish table added greatly to dining room pleasure, and this year the committee hopes that through the generosity of those interested, even more participation will be stimulated. Information regarding cost and type of needed equipment may be had by writing to the secretary of the Green Acre Committee, Miss Marjorie Wheeler, 84 Pleasant St., Worcester, Mass.

The Louhelen School has continued to hold out a warm welcome through the winter months in the form of a cozy library where approximately 1,800 books are kept. These books carry a wide range of material on religion, philosophy, psychology, sociology, philology, the useful arts, science, literature, history, and fiction. The public librarian in charge of cataloguing for Detroit and vicinity maintains that this library has by far the finest class of books in the area. Bahá’í books are, of course, the major attraction. There is never a time when Bahá’í books are not in circulation, and far oftener they are loaned to non-Bahá’ís. Mr. Howard Scahill, a real friend of the Cause, has given his services in building up the library, cataloguing the books by the Dewey-Decimal system, and attracting the people of the vicinity to its hospitable shelter.

An average of 25 or 30 books circulate constantly to the public in the winter months, and considerably more in the summer, and this does not include study within the walls. The library is equipped to insure and carefully preserve all literary relics as well as up-to-date books. Old letters of an interesting nature, or copies of such letters, out of print volumes, pamphlets, calendars, outlines, and other papers, would be received with gratitude by the Louhelen Committee. Every book is given a presentation plate bearing the name of the donor. Volumes autographed by Bahá’í authors are particularly valued gifts. Subjects are carefully indexed under such headings as Temple teaching, pioneer developments, pilgrimages, pictures, maps, records of Bahá’í teachers, the Holy Land, and of course special subjects for study. All reference work in connection with school courses is made quickly accessible. A unique feature of the library is its attraction to local children, who seem to spring up from everywhere. Plans for a Saturday group are under consideration.

BAHÁ’Í CALENDAR

Nineteen Day Feasts: Loftiness, March 2; Splendor, March 21; Glory, April 9; Beauty, April 28.

Period of the Fast: Nineteen days beginning March 2.

Feast of Naw-Ruz: March 21.

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: March 21, 22, 23 at Wilmette; April 22, 23, at Wilmette.

Annual election of local Spiritual Assemblies: April 21.

Annual Convention: April 24, 25, 26, 27.

YOUTH MEETING IN NEWARK

A Teaching Clinic for Bahá’í youth was held at the Hotel Douglas in Newark, N. J., on October 27, 1940. Arranged and sponsored by the communities of Newark and East Orange, an audience from New York, New Rochelle, Binghamton, Philadelphia, Washington, Florida, Ohio, and many parts of New Jersey attended. The entire teaching field from the Bahá’í viewpoint was covered in an ambitious program which won an enthusiastic reception. The interesting experiment of following the example of a radio program in respect to continuity proved extremely successful. Music, meditation, announcements, and questions were provided through the mediums of a loud speaker and a microphone in an adjoining control room. Results were highly gratifying; many departed determined to repeat the Clinic in their own communities and already plans are being made for another in February in West Englewood.

About 60 believers attended this conference. The program as included interesting subjects assigned to Benjamin Kaufman, Gertrude Gewertz, Jack Steed, Shirley Quigley, June Wright, Betty Murray, Ellen Sims, Norman Smith and Mae Dyer. Curtis Kelsey conducted a “model round table.”

ENROLLMENTS AND TRANSFERS


IN MEMORIAM

Grant, O my Lord, that they who have ascended unto Thee may repair unto Him Who is the most exalted Companion, and abide beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of Thine majesty and the Sanctuary of Thy glory. —BAHÁ’Ú’LLÁH

Mrs. Annie Bartholomew, Wilmette.
Mrs. S. Shuey, Oakland.
Mr. Rowland Howard, Santa Monica.
Mrs. Katie A. Ellinger Nye, Topeka.
Mrs. Irma Johnson, Montclair.
Mr. Peter Eckert, Milwaukee.
Mrs. Ella Beemer, Kenosha.
Mrs. Ella Bennett, Wauwatosa.

BAHÁ’Í DIRECTORY

Assemblies

Beverly Hills, Calif., Mrs. Edward L. Bode, Secretary, P. O. Box 794.

West Haven, Conn., Douglas P. Hillhouse, Secretary, 462 First Avenue.

Seattle, Wash., Miss Zara Phanco, Corresponding Secretary, P. O. Box 228.

Knoxville, Tenn., Mrs. Leslie McMichel, Secretary, 711½ So. Gay Street.

Cabin John, Md., Mrs. Carol R. Wood, Acting Secretary, R. F. D. 3.

Salt Lake City, Utah: Assembly dissolved for lack of necessary number of believers within the city limits.
"Now is the moment in which to cleanse thyself with the waters of detachment that have flowed from the Supreme Pen, and to ponder, wholly for the sake of God, those things which, time and again, have been sent down or manifested, and then to strive, as much as lieth in thee, to quench, through the power of wisdom and the force of thy utterance, the fire of enmity and hatred which smouldereth in the hearts of the peoples of the world. The Divine Messengers have been sent down, and their Books were revealed, for the purpose of promoting the knowledge of God, and of furthering unity and fellowship amongst men. But now behold, how they have made the Law of God a cause and pretext for perversity and hatred. How pitiful, how regrettable, that most men are cleaving fast to, and have busied themselves with, the things they possess, and are unaware of, and shut out as by a veil from, the things God possesseth!" — BAHÁ’U’LLÁH, Epistle to the Son of the Wolf, page 12.

The Guardian’s Messages to the 1941 Convention
(The) Fifth Year (of the) Seven Year Plan (is) opening (under) circumstances (of) utmost gravity (in) Eastern (and) Western Hemispheres. (The) fever of the times (is) steadily mounting, throwing (into) sharper relief (the) contrast between (the) rising greatness (of the) Faith (of) Bahá’u’lláh (and the) falling fortunes (of a) moribund civilization. (The) American Bahá’í Community, rapidly pursuing (the) career traced (by) unerring finger (of) ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, can neither halt nor waver. (I) cannot forbear address my particular plea (to) focus, owing (to) virtual termination (of) Temple ornamentation, attention (on) teaching requirements (of the) Plan. (I) appeal (to) incoming National Assembly, its auxiliary Teaching Committees and subsidiary agencies (to) deliberate (and) devise means (to) insure prompt reinstatement (of the) Assemblies recently disbanded (and) formation (of) Assembly (in) each newly-opened State (and) Province (of) North America and continuity (of the) consolidation (of the) pioneer work initiated (in) every Latin Republic. Undismayed (by) aggravation (of the) fury (of the) world tempest threatening their shores, scornful (of the) agitation stirred up (by their) adversaries, (the) breakers (of the) Covenant, (the) resolute upholders (of the) Divine Plan will, indeed cannot but, persist (in their) ordained task (to) propagate (the) flame, enlarge (the) administrative limits, (and) strike deeper roots (of the) world-encircling, world-redeeming Faith (of) Bahá’u’lláh.

Shoghi Rabbani
Cablegram received April 23, 1941.

Delighted Convention’s noble determination. Fervently praying (for) increasing capacity, still more brilliant exploits. Deepest love.

Shoghi Rabbani
Cablegram received April 28, 1941.

Convention Message to Shoghi Effendi
Convention determined fulfil Master’s hope (for) Temple, accelerate consolidation newly born groups, extension Beloved’s Faith. Yearn capacity (to) receive your guidance (and) strength. Entreat prayers. Grateful (for) bounty (of) service. Send our hearts’ love (and) devotion.

Cablegram sent April 24, 1941.

Messages to the National Spiritual Assembly
Assure Marion Jack (my) loving, fervent prayers (and) high admiration (of) her heroic perseverance, noble courage (and) exemplary stewardship (of the) Cause (of) Bahá’u’lláh. Much impressed (by) superbly conceived, courageously outspoken, truly inspired statement embodied in general letter pages two to four in Australian Bahá’í Quarterly. Advise publication (in its) entirety this letter (in) American Bahá’í News. Regard it best answer to certain believers requesting clarification (of) statement entitled “Grace That Sustains” in June

SHOGHI RABBANI
Cablegram received April 19, 1941.

Newly elected Assembly's supreme objective (is) steadily direct energies, energetically coordinate enterprises, fan (the) flame (of) enthusiasm, remove impediments (in) progress (of) the teaching activities (of) the Bahá’í communities (of) the Americas. Praying unprecedented success.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Cablegram received May 2, 1941.

It is his considered view that the Regional Teaching Committees, though appointed by the N. S. A., should be directly responsible to the National Teaching Committee, inasmuch as this body's specific task is to supervise, direct and coordinate, under the general guidance of the N. S. A., all teaching activities throughout the U. S. A. and Canada.

The N. S. A.'s final jurisdiction over both the National Teaching Committee and the Regional Teaching Committees is certainly indisputable, and is of the same nature and character as the authority to which it is entitled over all other national committees.

The Regional Teaching Committees should henceforth be asked to send their reports directly to the National Teaching Committee, and to ask for their directions as to the most effective way they can carry on their respective teaching tasks. By so doing, the National Teaching Committee will undoubtedly help in relieving the N. S. A. of unnecessary details, and will also avoid duplication and congestion of work, particularly now that the N. S. A. is assuming such great responsibilities under the Seven Year Plan.

From letter dated February 2, 1941, written through the Guardian's Secretary.

The Guardian will pray that the general conditions outside the Cause and the inevitable repercussions which further deterioration in the international situation might bring on America, will not reach such a point as to seriously hinder the friends in bringing this enterprise (i.e., Temple construction) to full completion.

The concern you have expressed for the Guardian following recent air raids on Haifa, has deeply touched and moved him, and he wishes me to assure you that no casualties whatever have been suffered by any of the believers here, and that all Bahá’í properties and institutions, including the Holy Shrines, have been spared. No doubt, Bahá’u’lláh will continue to vouchsafe His unfailing protection to the believers in every land, how much more to those who are directly and more particularly associated with the administration of the affairs of His Faith, whether at its world-center in the Holy Land or abroad.

From letter dated November 20, 1940, written through the Guardian's Secretary to Allen B. McDaniel.

Dear and Valued Co-Worker:

The successive communications, whether letters or cables, that have lately been received from the States, whether from the National Assembly or individual believers, eloquently proclaim the magnificent spirit and the remarkable achievements of the American believers. I rejoice and feel deeply thankful for these blessings of Bahá’u’lláh vouchsafed to them in these days of ever-increasing stress and turmoil ...

SHOGHI
The Guardian's postscript to this letter.

He has been again most pleased to note that the Temple work is making steady and speedy progress, and that the Trustees hope that the nine faces of the main story ornamentation will be completed by the latter part of next year.

The news of the completion of the reinforced concrete walls, of the entrance ways and areaways, has also been most encouraging to him, and he too hopes that this will now make it possible to go ahead with the grading of the grounds, and also with their seeding, so that by next spring the Temple grounds will look as attractive as possible, especially in view of the great flow of delegates and visitors which the Temple would attract at that time of the year.

As regards the construction of the accessory building, adjacent to the caretaker's house in the Temple area, the Guardian would urge that every effort should be made to have the building ready as soon as possible for use as headquarters of both the Treasurer and of the Publishing Committee. The transfer of these committees to the vicinity of the Temple and of the Hazírat’sul-Quds is indeed a step of historic significance, and one which is bound to increase the efficiency and heighten the prestige of the national administrative institutions of the Faith in America.

From letter dated December 13, 1940, written through the Guardian's Secretary to Allen B. McDaniel.

He is fully pleased with the work so far accomplished, and hopes that by now the first three faces of the main story have been duly completed. He has now every reason to believe that should the present rate of progress in the ornamentation work be maintained throughout the coming year, and should the flow of contributions be as steady and substantial as it has been so far, the entire edifice will be completed far ahead of the schedule, thus giving still another striking evidence of the unremitting zeal and inexhaustible resourcefulness that have been so remarkably and so consistently displayed by the American believers in their collective exertions for the termination of this unique, and indeed historic enterprise.

The photographs you had kindly sent showing the progress of the various construction activities were indeed excellent, and the Guardian has distributed some of them to various pilgrims from Iran who, upon their return home, will no doubt share them with the rest of the believers. They will all derive much needed comfort and encouragement from these pictures, and will surely be further strengthened in their resolve to courageously face and patiently endure the many trials and tribulations to which they are being increasingly subjected.

From letter dated January 18, 1941, written through the Guardian's Secretary to Allen B. McDaniel.

Kindly assure the National Assembly of his deepest appreciation of their very generous offering which he will use for the promotion of vital international interests of the Faith. A separate receipt duly signed by him is enclosed for your files ...

He hopes and will continue to pray that the flow of contributions to the Temple Fund will remain uninterrupted, nay, will so increase as to insure the full consummation of this glorious and sacred undertaking at the appointed time.

From letter dated December 2, 1940, written through the Guardian's Secretary to Roy C. Wilhelm.
Regarding the state of the National Fund, which you have reported as suffering from a general slackness in contributions from both individual believers and the local Assemblies and groups. It is only evident that unless the flow of donations is regularly maintained by means of generous and continual support by all the believers, individually and collectively, the National Fund will never be able to meet the needs and requirements of the Cause, particularly in these days when the national activities of the American believers are assuming such wide and increasing proportions.

From letter dated February 3, 1941, written through the Guardian’s Secretary to Roy C. Wilhelm.

“The Promised Day Is Come”

A general letter addressed by the Guardian to the Baha’is of the West will shortly be published as a pamphlet entitled The Promised Day Is Come. Advance proofs of the first part of the letter have been given delegates and local Assemblies. Final publication can not be made until the entire text, mailed in installments, has been received. The scope of this great document is indicated by the excerpts here reprinted. Undoubtedly the study classes maintained by local Assemblies and groups for believers will revolve around this message in which Shoghi Effendi upholds the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh as supreme challenge to civilization and to man.

“A tempest, unprecedented in its violence, unpredictable in its course, catastrophic in its immediate effects, unimaginably glorious in its ultimate consequences, is at present sweeping the face of the earth. Its driving power is remorselessly gaining in range and momentum. Its cleansing force, however much undetected, is increasing with every passing day. Humanity, gripped in the clutches of its devastating power, is smitten by the evidences of its resistless fury. It can neither perceive its origin, nor probe its significance, nor discern its outcome. Bewildered, agonized and helpless, it watches this great and mighty wind of God invading the remotest and fairest regions of the earth, rocking its foundations, deranging its equilibrium, sundering its nations, disrupting the homes of its peoples, wasting its cities, driving into exile its kings, pulling down its bulwarks, uprooting its institutions, dimming its light, and harrowing up the souls of its inhabitants.

“This judgment of God, as viewed by those who have recognized Bahá’u’lláh as His Mouthpiece and His greatest Messenger on earth, is both a retributory calamity and an act of holy and supreme discipline. It is at once a visitation from God and a cleansing process for all mankind. Its fires punish the perversity of the human race, and weld its component parts into one organic, invisible, world-embracing community. Mankind, in these fateful years, which at once signalize the passing of the first century of the Bahá’í Era and proclaim the opening of a new one, is, as ordained by Him Who is both the Judge and the Redeemer of the human race, being simultaneous-ly called upon to give account of its past actions, and is being purged and prepared for its future mission. It can neither escape the responsibilities of the past, nor shirk those of the future. God, the Vigilant, the Just, the All-Wise Or­dainer, can, in this supreme Dispensation, neither allow the sins of an unregenerate humanity, whether of omission or of commission, to go unpunished, nor will He be willing to abandon His children to their fate, and refuse them that culminating and blissful stage in their long, their slow and painful evolution throughout the ages, which is at once their inalienable right and their true destiny.”

The friends will be informed when copies of the pamphlet can be ob-
The Fifth Year of the Seven Year Plan
To the Spiritual Assemblies, Communities and Groups of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.

Beloved Friends:

In the Guardian’s cabled Message to the Convention we have the clear and forceful expression of his plea addressed to the American Bahá’í Community at this great hour of destiny. Whatever may befall, throughout this Bahá’í year we are to pursue steadfastly the “career traced by unerring finger of Abú’l-Bahá,” and can “neither halt nor waver.”

We are to consider that the Temple ornamentation has been reduced to the final stage of performance, that of contracts executed by the Temple Trustees with the John J. Earley Studios, payment for which is to be provided through the Annual Budget outlined below.

We are to concentrate all our resources, national, regional and local, upon the teaching aspect of the Seven Year Plan. Before us lies the spiritual map of North, Central and South America. We are to strive unceasingly until on that map is indicated in glowing light the existence of local Spiritual Assemblies in all States and Provinces of North America, and of active and vigorous Bahá’í groups in all other American nations.

The first charge upon the current Budget is the sum of $30,000 set up for teaching work, about twice the amount devoted to that purpose in any previous year. Detailed plans will be announced as soon as possible. Meanwhile all the friends can prepare themselves inwardly by prayer and supplication for worthiness and capacity to be instruments for the promulgation of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh.

With that inward and spiritual preparation our National Committees, the Regional Committees, the valiant pioneers, the local Assemblies, communities and groups—all the American Bahá’ís, individually and collectively—will be charged with irresistible zeal and enthusiasm for the sacred task.

If any local community has been divided, any Assembly weak and ineffective, such a condition can and must be overcome, for such conditions cut us off from the Power which confirms the teaching effort of the humblest soul. Teaching, indeed, is the supreme test of our faith, our knowledge, our unity and our love of the Cause. For teaching must be motivated by pure spirit and at the same time must be made effective by the coordination of the whole community through the various teaching agencies and administrative institutions. Teaching is the health and strength of the Bahá’í community.

Annual Budget
May 1, 1941—April 30, 1942

The Budget adopted for the Fifth Year of the Seven Year Plan contains the following items:

- Teaching, North and South America $30,000
- Completion main story ornamentation 35,000
- Repayment loan for Temple construction 20,000
- Administration, including contributions to International Fund, all committee budgets except teaching, and all property maintenance and operation 40,000
- Printing cost, The Bahá’í World, Vol. VIII 6,000
- Contingent and unforeseen items 19,000

Total: $150,000

Schedule of Meetings of National Spiritual Assembly

In publishing its schedule of meetings, including the dates of the 1942 Convention, the National Assembly wishes to announce that important matters should be submitted to the Assembly a week in advance of the meeting and in writing. This will enable the members to deal with their agenda more effectively than when matters are rushed to the meetings after sessions have begun. The business of the Cause increases yearly. The believers will surely cooperate in contributing to the efficiency of the N. S. A. It must be borne in mind that its members, in addition to the affairs of the American Bahá’í community and the teaching work in South America, bear responsibility for Temple, Green Acre, Wilhelm, Bosch, and Wilson (Maiden) properties as trustees for the Bahá’ís.


Communication With the Believers

The National Assembly will this year concentrate on Bahá’í News as the organ of communication with Assemblies, groups and communities, with special letters from time to time as may be required. In Bahá’í News we have the instrument which brings...
all the believers together in one great audience. It will publish as much current news as possible, and news reports should therefore be brief, to leave room for others.

In conclusion: the National Spiritual Assembly will strive to stand behind and assist all its Committees in their important undertakings. It will encourage and assist the local Assemblies in their performance of their great Bahá’í mission. It will serve the teachers and pioneers with all available spiritual and material resources. At Nineteen Day Feasts and Anniversaries let us pray for the removal of all difficulties which stand in the way of our teaching, and for the rending of all veils of misunderstanding which may prevent full cooperation among the friends. The greater our privilege, the more we will all be held to account for our motives and action in His Cause.

Faithfully yours,
in service to the Cause,  
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

The Annual Election
At the Friday evening session of the Convention, April 25, the tellers reported the result of the annual election as follows:—
162 ballots were cast. Votes were not received from seven delegates. Two Assemblies were dissolved for lack of numbers after they had elected one delegate each, and this disqualified the two delegates.

Louis G. Gregory received 132 votes; Horace Holley 131 votes; Allen B. McDaniel, 130 votes; Roy C. Wilhelm, 125 votes; Siegfried Schopfshofer, 122 votes; Mrs. Dorothy Baker, 116 votes; Mrs. Amelia E. Collins, 90 votes; Mr. Leroy Icas, 89 votes; Mr. George O. Latimer, 83 votes.

This Assembly proceeded to organize with the following officers: Allen B. McDaniel, Chairman; Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Vice-Chairman; Horace Holley, Secretary; Roy C. Wilhelm, Treasurer; Siegfried Schopfshofer, Assistant Treasurer; Louis G. Gregory, Recording Secretary.

Communications intended for the National Assembly should be addressed to the Secretary or to the National Bahá’í Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois. Communications intended for the Treasurer should be addressed to the Treasurer, or to National Bahá’í Fund, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

The Bahá’í Cause Today
The special attention of the friends is called to the May, 1941 issue of World Order Magazine. It contains the reply written by Mrs. Marzieh Gail to the attack on the Cause written by Rev. William McElwee Miller, former missionary in Iran, as published in the October, 1940 issue of The Moslem World and later reprinted as a pamphlet circulated for some reason among members of the Bahá’í Faith.

Mrs. Gail’s admirable exposition of the issues raised by the Rev. Miller is preceded by a brief statement prepared by the National Spiritual Assembly. Extra copies of the May number have been printed, as many believers will doubtless wish to give a copy to some non-Bahá’í friend still unable to rise above the standpoint of traditional creed. In localities where the Cause is attacked by religious leaders, the friends can also make excellent use of this reply, along with the Guardian’s own clear statement reprinted under the title of Religion a Living Organism.

Copies of the May number of World Order can be obtained from the magazine business office, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, for 15c each or eight copies for $1.00. Religion a Living Organism, by Shoghi Effendi, Bahá’í Reprint No. 4, sells for $2.00 per 100 copies. The friends are urged to give special study to this question of the true relation between the Revelation of Christ and that of Bahá’u’lláh.

Temple Construction
As could be seen by the delegates present at Convention, the important matter of Temple construction under the Seven Year Plan has entered its final phase. The land graded last fall has been sown with rye grass seed to provide rootage and bind the soil against erosion as well as to cover the earth with verdure. The parking place has been arranged along Linden Avenue just west of the Temple property. The truck entrance to Foundation hall from Sheridan Road, near the bridge, needs completing the surface of the road inside the fence and also a concrete approach from the curb to the fence. This can not be done until Sheridan Road has been realigned.

As Mr. Earley explained to the Convention, the exterior ornamentation of the main story can be finished this calendar year, and work has already begun. The next and perhaps final contract under the Seven Year Plan is for the steps, and work has been authorized under an arrangement which will call for monthly payments beginning January, 1942, with the steps completed by July or August of that year.

Luncheon held in connection with the Week of Science at la Universidád in Panama. (Third from the left is Señorita Emerita Guevara, student of the Bahá’í Faith who has just won the Latin American Fellowship of the American Association of University Women for the academic year 1941-42.)
The Legal Case

The friends are informed that with the Guardian's approval an appeal has been taken on the decision made by a judge of the New York Supreme Court on April 1, and the matter is therefore still in process of settlement.

In response to inquiries received from many believers who wish to know what they should do with the literature received unsolicited from the New History Society, the National Assembly advises the friends to mark the envelopes "refused" and drop them in the nearest post box or post office, for return to the sender.

Inter-America News

"Center your energies in the propagation of the Faith of God. Whoso is worthy of so high a calling, let him arise and promote it. Whoso is unable, it is his duty to appoint him who will, in his stead, proclaim this Revelation, whose power hath caused the foundations of the mightiest structures to quake, every mountain to be crushed into dust and every soul to be dumb-founded."—Baha'u'llah.

The Inter-America Committee wishes to bring to the attention of the Bahá'í Community of North America the eagerness with which they await new applications for pioneer posts in Central and South America. It is the obligation and the very great privilege of this community to eventually form an indissoluble chain throughout the entire Western Hemisphere. New cities must be reached and pioneers are needed to take the place of others who have been forced to return to this country. It is important that as much continuity as possible be maintained in the teaching work.

Asunción, Paraguay

Miss Elizabeth Cheney reports that she has received a permit that will allow her to stay indefinitely in Paraguay. She writes that just four weeks after arriving in Asuncion the first Bahá'í meeting was held in Paraguay. A former National Minister of Education acted as chairman. There were about thirty people present, among them persons of prominence in the country. Of particular interest was that about a third of the audience were women, which in Paraguay is very unusual as they are inclined to take very little interest in religious matters outside the narrow round of the Catholic Church. The subject of the talk was "La Paz Universal." All of those present expressed real interest and a desire to attend other meetings.

Wonderful letters have been received from Miss Cheney. She recently inclosed a picture of the Bahá'í Class in Paraguay. Due to the disturbed political conditions in the Country she has made no effort to secure publicity but has a regular attendance at the weekly meetings of approximately thirty people. Two of the members of the class are starting a Youth Group.

A noted sculptor of Paraguay has been studying a picture of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to assist him in making a head of the Christ. He said, "The Christ would have looked like that, except that He did not suffer for so many years."

The Group sent Naw-Rúz greetings to the Bahá'ís of North America.

Panama

Mrs. Louise Caswell has sent in a card for Sra. Guovara, winner of the University Women's Fellowship. She will attend the University of California at Berkeley. She attended the Bahá'í classes held by Mrs. Oliver and Mrs. Caswell.

Mrs. Oliver and Mrs. Caswell report that they have had several visitors from home who are passing through the Canal. They again stressed the need for men pioneers.

Brazil

Miss Leonore Holsapple reports that she has completed the translation of "The Goal of a New World Order" into Portuguese. This translation will prove of great value to the teaching work in Brazil.

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Mr. Philip Sprague has returned from Buenos Aires where he has been conducting a most successful group of classes. He reports that in one class there were seventeen young people, five of whom are believers. This brings the total number of believers to fifteen. Mr. Sprague was able to obtain radio time for sixteen talks. Two half-hour periods a week for eight weeks. He has also been instrumental in having the "Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh" translated into Spanish. This is indeed a great service as it will assist immensely in the teaching work throughout Latin-America.

Havana, Cuba

Mrs. Hoagg writes encouragingly of the work in Havana where she has been holding classes regularly. She has planned to stay in Cuba until the middle of April.

Mrs. Hoagg has sent in a newspaper account, which included a Temple picture, of her talk before the Women's Club of Havana. She reports two new believers.

Chile

A complete report has been received from Mrs. Marcia Atwater on her work in Santiago, the following is a quotation from her letter and will bring joy to the hearts of the friends in North America.

"First let me say that the work is being done in five distinct directions—the Theosophical Society, whose President yesterday offered me the T.S. platform for early in March and assured me of his efforts to effect a complete turn-out to hear the lecture—then secondly, a group of people whom Bahá'u'lláh has seen fit to put in my path and who come under no particular heading—these are the people who gather for the Sunday classes, which become larger and better each time. Thirdly is the Chilean Government, which doors have been opened through my connection with the Press. Am having tea tomorrow with the Minister of Information and Propaganda. Fourthly is the University group, which connec-
tions are due to mature the end of this week as we have an engagement to meet the woman who is most important in this connection, who speaks English and through whom I hope to secure permission to speak from the University platform. The latter introduction comes from two sources, the head of the Theosophical Soc. and a personal introduction I already had. Fifthly is the American Newspaper group which will act, or I should say re-act, back in the U.S. to help the Cause there. We have been interviewed, picture taken, whole story of Cause given in connection with pioneer work here, by a travelling press man from Denver, Colorado. To be short and clear we must say that Baha’u’llah has done nothing less than set on fire the entire city of Santiago. The man I mentioned from Colorado had been to the Holy Land some years ago and was telling me about it—it seemed that one day while in Beirut College he was sitting wondering which route to take to Egypt, when a young man came up to him and spent an hour helping him plan the nicest journey possible. Then this man disappeared. My friend turned to some others and said, "who in the world was that helpful stranger?" and the reply was that he was a Baha’i and it is a part of his religion to help others without renumeration. The man from Colorado could not forget that incident, and it was that act that a dear Persian brother which was responsible for my interview, pictures etc. and enabled me to interest the young American in the Faith enough to promise to read and study it! In a former letter I wrote of my having so many doors opened by friends from Washington and from these other nations and so I was most cordially welcomed as I arrived in Honduras. Women connected with our Peace organization, these women opened all doors for me and I was soon lecturing in all kinds of women's organizations and schools. I had three long visits with the President of Honduras, Sr. T. Carías and his family, his car was at my disposal during my stay and he later sent me to the great Maya ruins at Copan in his plane. I had to return to the city, for I was to be guest of the Rotary Club at a special dinner where the wives and women friends were also guests. It was a most happy occasion and one that will be long remembered. The following day a wonderful group of men and women met in the Rotary Club rooms and the Honduras Committee on Inter-American Culture was established. From among these new friends I found several who were ready for the Greatest Bond, spiritual reality, and they came to hear my Baha’i talks and joined up with the permanent group of students. Mrs. Stewart goes on to tell of her lecture at the Casino, the finest social club in Honduras, the University and in several schools where special programs were arranged for her. The Director of the School of Fine Arts was greatly interested in the Cause and asked for several pictures of the Temple, as he desired to put them in the Art Gallery as an inspiration to his students. He plans to be in the U.S. next fall and hopes to visit the Temple.

"Now I tell you the best news! I add to this a list of the people that attended nearly all of my fourteen Baha’i talks while I was in Tegucigalpa, from Jan. 21 to Feb. 25, 1941. There were 27 in all but this does not include the many, many persons who heard of the Cause or of one or more aspects of it. Many persons were constantly at my Hotel for personal interviews on all kinds of social problems and to them I explained the Baha’i attitude on these problems. Among these were the Ministers from Peru, from Mexico, a famous Historian and the President of the First Inter-American Congress of Indians held in Mexico last spring. People from Belgium, Spain, England, A r a b i a, Russia and France as well as many Latin American nations.

"On February 15 the study group elected their permanent Committee to carry on the study preparatory to the day when they can elect a Spiritual Assembly. I am so very happy over that Committee, for it is composed of outstanding people of great capacity and who stand before the Community as leaders in thought."

Guatemala

Mrs. Stewart also reports that the group in Guatemala is meeting regularly and shows splendid signs of progress.

Nicaragua

Mr. Mathew Kaszab is being assisted in the teaching work in Nicaragua by Mrs. Frances Stewart, who reports that she has received much favorable publicity and hopes to be able to give many talks while in the country.

Mrs. Stewart informs us that she has been able to contact many people in Managua and that many have been attracted to the Cause. The newspapers have given her much space. She hopes to get to Costa Rica in the near future.
San Jose, Costa Rica
Mrs. Cora Oliver writes from Costa Rica of the excellent work being done by Mrs. Woolson and Mrs. Ford. She considers the work they are doing in Costa Rica outstanding in the pioneer field.

Port Au Prince, Haiti
Good news has been received from the Blackwells. They have sent in three registration cards, a Mr. and Mrs. McBean and Miss Muriel Johnson. The McBeans have opened their home for meetings. They report it very difficult to spread the Cause in Haiti because they are handicapped by the lack of literature in French.

"Know that he is truly learned who hath acknowledged My Revelation, and drunk from the Ocean of My knowledge, and soared in the atmosphere of My love, and cast away all else besides Me, and taken firm hold on that which hath been sent down from the Kingdom of My wondrous utterances. He, verily, is even as an eye unto mankind, and as the spirit of life unto the body of all creation."—BAHÁ'U'LLAH, Epistle to the Son of the Wolf, page 83.

Our Bahá'í Schools
"Indeed it is very important for the Faith, to extend the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh amongst the youth, as it is through their activities that the Cause of our beloved Master will in future spread all over the American Continent. They have upon their shoulders all the responsibilities for the progress of the Movement; it is our duty to rear their spiritual feelings, and enlighten their hearts with the light of guidance which has been shed upon us by the Master.

"It is very interesting to follow up the development these institutions make from year to year and the way they attract attention more and more. Before long, Shoghi Effendi hopes, they will become powerful and well-established organizations that will train innumerable young men and women to go out into the world and spread the message of Bahá'u'lláh. Definite courses should be given along the different phases of the Bahá'í Faith and in a manner that will stimulate the students to proceed in their studies privately once they return home, for the period of a few days is not sufficient to learn everything. They have to be taught the habit of studying the Cause constantly, for the more we read the Words the more will the truth they contain be revealed to us."—Shoghi Effendi.

The International School has added a new feature for 1941; a youth session. As the Ranch accommodates only 19 persons, the sessions must be divided. The first concern of the International School last year was the study of the Latin American mind; its religious background and psychology. The second concern was the study of the culture, history, and music of the Latin Americans, so that a sympathetic basis of appreciation would be formed in the mind of the student. The third interest of the school was the effort to reach the people of Colorado Springs who, through the long years previously had exhibited little or no interest in the Faith. Symposiums, given by 4 teachers, were immensely helpful and from a handful of people the audiences grew to well over 100. This year the first session will be held from June 20 to June 30, the youth session from July 1st to 10th.

The Geyserville School is making plans for a busy session this year. We hear from Mrs. Louise Groger of that committee that a special feature is again being arranged for the children who attend. Last year, 24 children attended the school, 9 of them from non-Bahá'í families in Geyserville and vicinity. The effect is best expressed by the remark of one eleven year old girl, who said, "Isn't it funny, during summer school I am a Bahá'í, even if I am a Catholic the rest of the year." Classes were held regularly every day for the first two or three weeks of the school. Hours were from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00. One hour and a quarter was given to outlined work, and one hour and a quarter to art and
handicraft. Outlines used were, Creation, Bahá’í Principles, and Bahá’í Founders. The Children’s Committee sponsored a Round Table, at which the following ideas and suggestions were brought forth:

1. Give children a place on the program at home and school whenever possible.
2. Use pageants and simple plays as simple mediums of childhood expression.
3. Develop neighborhood play, with Bahá’í supervision.  
4. Let traveling teachers qualified to do so, assist in starting children’s classes wherever possible.
5. Use Bahá’í books as awards.
6. There is a need for songs, plays, pageants, handicraft suggestions, and more study outlines. Such original material, successfully developed in the schools, should be submitted to the Child Education Committee for further use.

The Children’s Committee of the Geyserville School calls the attention of the public to the fact that the youth group age ranges from 15 to 25, and those responsible for children under 15 are requested to see that these students enter the children’s classes. As special facilities are provided for children at this school, it is urged that every family try to bring at least one child. Every boy and girl at Geyserville enjoys a summer vacation, increased good health, a growing knowledge of the Cause and the spirit of Bahá’í living.

International Bahá’í School
Second Inter-American Session
Teachers’ Session June 20-30
Youth Session July 1-10

On June 20, if plans remain unchanged, the Session will be host to Conductor Skolanski and his orchestra of sixty young people from all the countries of Latin America. On June 21, Prof. Richard F. Behrendt, recently of Panana University, will speak on The Drama of Today As Seen in Latin America. He will be available all day to answer questions and talk over teaching problems with the Bahá’ís.

On Sunday the 22 we plan to have a joint lecture by Horace Holley and George O. Latimer. Their subjects will be concerned with the deep causes of human upheaval.

Prof. James Sykes will again speak on the music and culture of Latin America (this lecture will be repeated during the youth session).

There will be one concert in each Session gratis by the Colorado College. Dates not yet selected. There will also be in each Session colored slides shown of Latin American Cities, flora of the high Andes and some paintings done by South American artists. (This feature provided by a local professor). George O. Latimer will speak on the unfolding of the future program of Bahá’u’lláh. Date not yet determined.

Wanden La Farge will give two talks in each Session on Fundamental Psychology needed in dealing with groups of people.

Two symposiums with four Bahá’í speakers will be held in a public hall in Colorado Springs. Dates have not yet been decided.

Each day a professor will give a lesson in the Spanish language. For this there will be a charge according to the number of pupils that attend.

For the Youth Session, Prof. Hayes of Salt Lake City University will speak on Practical Philosophy in teaching work.

During the Youth Session each attending member will be asked to prepare facts in regard to one country, for a talk from which notes can be taken. Also our Bahá’í teachers from Latin America have sent in papers to be read.

The Pan American Union have made available literature and facts of vital importance for study. There will be meditation followed by discussion with a special emphasis on clarifying points in the teaching that might be misunderstood by alien thought. (What to put forth and what to explain in detail. What will enable teachers to state the Bahá’í teachings in a manner clear, comprehensible and conclusive to Latin American minds).

The effort of the Committee during the first few years of the School is to invite teachers of the Cause and set a high standard that can be a model later when the school is open to students.

As accommodations are limited, attendance has been filled by two means: first, by invitation; and second, by application. This year both Sessions with capacity of 22 persons are filled.

During the formative period there has been no charge but after the present Session the Committee will announce plans, prices and details for the coming year.

Louie A. Mathews
George O. Latimer
Mary Barton
Helen Bishop

Teaching Conference
In Georgia

Vogel Park, near Cleveland, Georgia, in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, will be the meeting place again this year for the Special Bahá’í Teaching Conference during the week of June 14-21.
This conference is really an enlarged fireside group. The program is not quite complete, but classes will be given by Mrs. Howard Colby Ives, Mrs. H. Emogene Hoag, and Mrs. Terah C. Smith.

During the week-end of June 14-15 a Youth Program will be given under the direction of Miss Virginia Taylor and Miss Betty Shook. In addition, Vogel Park offers excellent swimming, boating, hiking, horseback riding, and fishing. Ample time will be given for Bahá'í fellowship, sports, and recreation.

All cottages face the beautiful lake, and are equipped with electricity, shower, fireplaces, fire wood, and are suitably furnished for housekeeping. Ice and milk are delivered daily. Each group of friends had better bring their own food, but short orders can be gotten there in the Park, and Walasayi Inn and Trading Post some three miles away serve meals.

Vogel Park is reached by U.S. Highway No. 19, the Appalachian Trail which traverses the Park from Murphy N.C., on the north, and from Dahlonega, Ga., on the south. Friends coming from Kentucky and Tennessee may find some gravel road between Chattanooga and Murphy, N.C., but the road is good.

Cottages rent for five dollars a week for each person, and reservations should be made through Nellie J. Roche, 708 Commerce Union Bank Bldg., Nashville, Tenn., as soon as possible.

Teaching by Local Assemblies

From time to time, striking and effective teaching methods are developed by local Assemblies which should be made known to other Assemblies, and Bahá'í News this year plans to give all possible space to teaching reports and news.

From recent correspondence five different teaching plans worked out locally in different parts of the country are selected for brief mention at this time.

Richmond Highlands, Washington

This young Assembly has opened a "Bahá'í Fellowship House" (see illustration) which stands under towering trees on a highroad making for easy access. From a clipping from the Aurora Herald we quote: "Work was started last week on the Bahá'í Fellowship House on the property of Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Schneider, 180th and Aurora. The building, 20 x 22, will include a meeting room and small kitchen. The Bahá'í meetings will be held every Wednesday evening and courses in Esperanto, Research and Comparative Religion will be offered."

This preliminary notice was soon followed by an item, "Dedication of Home of Bahá'í Group is Told"... "Guests from Portland, Seattle, Chehalis, Everett, Kirkland, Monroe and Richmond Beach were present. "Hildore Jellissett, chairman of the local Assembly, introduced the speakers. Geo. Latimer, of Portland, was the principal speaker of the occasion, representing the National Assembly. Mark Tobey, of Seattle, followed the guests of other towns in speaking. Mrs. Schneider, of this Bahá'í Community, then formally dedicated the edifice. Her uniring efforts, assisted by local supporters, made the achievement of this undertaking a crown of glory to her and the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh in this section."

Topeka

This Spiritual Assembly inaugurated the last Bahá'í year by the preparation of a very complete booklet combining its Bahá'í Directory with the Bahá'í calendar for the year. Of convenient pocket size, the booklet consisted of sixteen pages, multigraphed on one side, all bound with the Temple postcard as front cover.

The first sheets listed the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the members of the community, followed by the names of the Assembly members with their offices, then the list of local Committees.

The successive sheets carried each one a calendar for one month, with the list of Bahá'í meetings, Feasts, Anniversaries, Assembly meetings and other Bahá'í gatherings under the calendar.

The booklet thus provided each believer with the information needed for efficient participation in the local activities of the Faith.

Wilmette, Evanston, Winnetka

These three adjoining Assemblies of the Temple area set up an Inter-Assembly Committee with a budget and authority to carry out a combined teaching program. As worked out, the program included, first, a weekly study class for all North Shore believers; second, a printed bulletin issued to a special list of about one thousand persons in the three towns, giving informal news about Temple construction; third, a series of paid notices in the three local papers announcing public meetings; and fourth, a series of meetings, one in Evanston, one in Wilmette and one in Winnetka, with the dates of November 15, December 6 and January 22 respectively. These were held in Orrington School Auditorium, Evanston, in Temple Foundation Hall, Wilmette, and in Community House, Winnetka.

Teaneck

This Assembly issued a program announced as "A Comprehensive Series of Lectures on The Bahá'í Revelation," covering subjects and speakers for a series of Sunday evening public meetings from October 6, 1940 to February 9, 1941, nineteen successive weeks. With the program was embodied an "Outline of Bahá'í History," "Basic Bahá'í Teachings," and a map and train schedule for the convenience of new friends.

This program appears unusually interesting in that its subjects, planned as a unified whole, presented the seeker with a real opportunity to learn about the fundamental purposes and teachings of the Bahá'í Faith, yet each subject was also a unit in itself and therefore the visitor felt under no obligation to commit himself for the whole course.

A well conceived and attractive program of this type is the best kind of teaching material, because it impresses and also informs even those who for any reason do not attend the meetings.

Toronto

Another Assembly which developed a series of nineteen subjects last year was Toronto. Among the subjects listed were: New World Order in Action, The Oneness of Mankind,...
The Search for Truth, etc.

The impressive method adopted for conveying these subjects to the public consisted in a series of small mimeographed bulletins entitled "New World Order," containing excerpts from the Bahá'í Writings, and each one also developing a separate subject in the form of a brief article by one of the friends.

This plan is well conceived whether intended to supplement public meetings or be a substitute for them. A good mailing list is an important asset for any Assembly, especially as there are now so many small Bahá'í leaflets, like the "Bahá'í Reprint" series, which can be used along with programs and announcements prepared locally.

We Cannot Take Sides

The following statement is reprinted from the January, 1941 issue of Bahá'í Quarterly published by the Bahá'ís of Australia and New Zealand, in accordance with the instruction cabled by the Guardian on April 19, 1941, as cited above.

A most important matter for Bahá'ís at this time, when world convulsions assume daily more destructive proportions and national hatreds are more bitterly fostered, is to get a clear vision, a balanced perspective of the attitude we should hold towards the situation. For some years the Guardian, through his messages and World Order letters (Goal of a New World Order, etc.) has been preparing us for just the conditions we are now experiencing. In clear and emphatic utterances he has been educating our minds and steering our thoughts into channels calculated to keep us clear of personal bias and inherited patriotism. Our patriotism must be always to world citizenship, world brotherhood, and the lesser loyalties must be subordinated to this supreme loyalty. In these countries of the antipodes, where loyalty to Britain is stronger, perhaps, than in Britain itself, it requires real spiritual insight and understanding to be able to rise above our limited inherited loyalties and the clamor of conflict and see beyond it the inevitable and ordained outcome of organized peace and a reconstructed mankind.

We must see in the conflict a breaking down of old ideas and forms which no longer serve mankind, but which are a distinct menace to his security, "antiquated barriers that seek to block humanity's progress towards its destined goal." It would be well to study again the "World Order" letters of Shoghi Effendi, and in the light of the tragic drama in which we are enmeshed, try to get a deeper insight and a surer ground of understanding of the "mystery unfolding so rapidly in this Day of God, when the nations and peoples are summoned before the high court of destiny to answer for their failure to attain peace." We cannot take sides or assign blame to any particular nation. The causes leading up to the war are many and deep rooted.

Groups of nations leagued together against other groups can only result sooner or later in open conflict. Never can such methods result in peace. To Bahá'ís peace means the harmonious relationship of all peoples, through their governments, their educational systems, economic systems and other social agencies. Only a world outlook, one organized world order as set out in the Bahá'í Teachings, can establish and maintain peace in our time. Now is the supreme opportunity of every Bahá'í teacher to stress at all times this consummation as the sole remedy for the tragic plight the nations are experiencing at this moment of humanity's history.

Political Entanglements

Attention is again directed to the Guardian's repeated instructions concerning non-participation in political propaganda. Bahá'í teaching insists on the removal of barriers of class, nation and race; political parties represent the interests of certain sections of the community and their legislation is directed primarily to foster and enhance those interests. Bahá'ís cannot logically identify themselves with or support any brand of class legislation. Therefore party politics should be viewed as an anachronism. As far back as 1932 Shoghi Effendi wrote, "Let them refrain from associating themselves, whether by word or deed, with the political pursuits of their respective nations, with the policies of their governments and the schemes and programs of parties and factions. In such controversies they should assign no blame, take no side, further no design and identify themselves with no system prejudicial to the best interests of that World Fellowship which it is their aim to guard and foster. Let them affirm their unyielding determination to stand firmly and unreservedly, for the way of Bahá'u'lláh, to avoid the entanglements and bickerings inseparable from the pursuit of the politician, and to become worthy agencies of that Divine Polity which incarnates God's immutable purpose for all men. To enter the arena of party politics is surely detrimental to the best interests of the Faith and will harm the Cause." 7

During election campaigns, when party feeling runs high, it is essential that all Bahá'ís, more especially those who in the past have had strong party leanings, should discipline themselves and not be led by mass emotion into controversies which would belittle the world-wide scope of the Cause with which they stand identified. On September 24, 1933, the following message was cabled by Shoghi Effendi to the N.S.A. of U.S.A. and Canada:—"Loyalty (to the) World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, security of its basic institutions, both imperatively demand all its avowed supporters . . . in these days when sinister uncontrollable forces are deepening (the) cleavage sundering peoples, nations, creeds (and) classes, (to) resolve, despite (the) pressure (of) fast crystallizing public opinion, (to) abstain individually and collectively, in word (and) action, informally as well as in all official utterances and publications, from assigning blame, taking sides, however indirectly, in recurring political crises now agitating (and) ultimately

Assembly Roll

All local Assemblies, those first established this year and those re-elected, are requested to report their Assembly roll before the meeting of the National Assembly on May 29. At that meeting the National Assembly must adopt the list of local Assemblies duly recognized for the current Bahá'í year. Many Assemblies have already reported. Any Assembly not having a copy of the form to be filled out in order to report its election can obtain one from the National Bahá'í Office.

BAHA'I NEWS
engulfing human society. Grave apprehension lest cumulative effect (of) such compromises (should) disintegrate (the) fabric, clog (the) channel of grace that sustains (the) system of God's essentially supranational, supernatural order so laboriously evolved, so recently established."

The latest news from Haifa tells of the compulsory disbanding of Assemblies in Europe, Palestine and Iran, thereby, temporarily at least, crippling the Cause in those countries. We pray that our brothers and sisters in these lands may be sustained and strengthened in their time of trial and difficulty. It behooves us, therefore, to put forth a supreme effort to strengthen the foundations and build up the structure of the faith in these far-off regions, as yet comparatively untouched by drastic war measures, in preparation for the time when we shall be called upon to vindicate our faith and take our part in the establishment of the complete Administrative Order, the Commonwealth of Nations. To voice prejudiced opinions on either local, national or international policies will tend to retard the progress of the Cause. Divine justice will be served. Our plain duty is to work for the reconstructed world that is to be.

Enrollments and Transfers

Bahá’í Calendar
Nineteen Day Feasts: May 17, June 5, June 24.
Anniversaries: Declaration of the Bab, May 23; Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh, May 29 at three A.M.
Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: May 30, 31, June 1, at Wilmette.
Bahá’í School Sessions (to July 1): Green Acre, June 30 beginning courses by Dr. Genevieve L. Coy and Dr. Glenn A. Shook; Louhelen Ranch, first Youth Session begins June 29 with courses by Elsie Austin and Mrs. Virginia Camelon; International School, Tenerity Ranch, Pine Valley, Colorado, Teachers’ Session, June 20 to June 30, Youth Session follows.
Teaching Conference for Southern Bahá’ís, Vogel Park, Georgia: June 14-21.

In Memoriam
I have made death a messenger of joy to thee; wherefore dost thou grieve?—Bahá’u’lláh.
Mrs. Margaret Mills Sprague, New York.
Mrs. Rowena Cotton, Sacramento.
Mr. De Witt Wickham, Pentwater, Michigan.
Mrs. Katherine Fishback, Chicago.
Mrs. Peter Eckert, Milwaukee (not Mr. Peter Eckert as previously reported).
Mrs. Mary E. Lane, Baltimore.
Miss Augusta Bachmann, Baltimore.
Miss Alma Albertson, Greenville, Michigan.
Mr. Charles Borner, Peoria.
Mrs. Emily Keeler, Lowell, Arizona.
Dr. Nathan W. Collier, St. Augustine.
Mrs. Anna Ketterer Foster, Chicago.
Mrs. Emma Lundberg, Chicago.
Mrs. Belle L’Amourex, Binghamton.
Mrs. Harriet Gibbs Marshall, Washington, D.C.
GENERAL SESSION
August 10th to August 17th, Inclusive
(Classes begin Sunday, August 10th at 9 a.m.)

Morning Program:
1. The Heart of the Baha’i Faith, Albert Windust
2. Highlights of the Qur’ân, Mrs. Alice Simmons Cox

Afternoon Program:
4. Getting Acquainted With Our Latin American Neighbors, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick
   a. Informal Talks at 5:15
   b. Exhibits—renewed daily.

Evening Program:
5. What Has the Baha’i Faith to Offer a Chaotic World?
   RATES FOR GENERAL SESSION (Including Meals)
   Per day, per person, single room $2.35
   Per day, per person, double room 2.00
   Per day, per person, dormitory 1.60

SECOND YOUTH SESSION
August 20th to August 26th, Inclusive
(Classes begin Wednesday, August 20th, at 9 a.m.)

Morning Program:
1. Character, Robert Gaines
2. The Heart of the Baha’i Faith, F. St. George Spenglo

Afternoon Program:
3. Forum: “Youth Today,” Mrs. Margaret Ruhe
4. Getting Acquainted With Our Latin American Neighbors
   a. Informal Talks at 5:15
   b. Exhibits—renewed daily.

Evening Program:
Entertainment, brief talks, devotions.
   RATES, including meals, per day, per person, $1.35.
   (Youth rates for youth only.)

RESERVATIONS
Please make reservations as soon as possible with Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Louhelen School, Davison, Michigan.

LOUHELEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE:
Mr. Edmund Miesler, Chairman, Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary; Mrs. Dorothy Graf, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Dorothy Hall, Mr. Edward Holzinger

VACATION SESSION
July 19th to August 6th, Inclusive
Especially designed for those who desire a vacation combined with informal study. A resident Baha’i teacher will conduct informal meetings. It will be possible to arrange for practice in Spanish conversation and to learn more about Latin American culture.

RATES (INCLUDING MEALS)
Per day, per person, single room $2.35
Per day, per person, double room 2.00
Children 12 years old and under, per day, per child 1.50

LOUHELEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE:
Mr. Edmund Miesler, Chairman, Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary; Mrs. Dorothy Graf, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Dorothy Hall, Mr. Edward Holzinger.

LABORATORY SESSION
July 8th to July 17th, Inclusive
(Classes begin Tuesday, July 8th, at 9 a.m.)
This session is designed especially for those who wish an opportunity for ten days of intensive study.

Morning Program:
1. The Study of the Qur’ân, Harry Jay, (Please bring your copy of Rodwell’s translation of the Koran, Everyman’s Edition.)
2. Public Speaking, Solon Fieldman

Afternoon Program:
3. The Administration in Practice
4. Getting Acquainted With Our Latin American Neighbors, Mrs. Lotte Graeffe
   a. Informal Talks at 5:15
   b. Exhibits—renewed daily.

Evenings:
5. Committee Coordination: A Symposium on National and Local Committee Interaction—Led by members of various National Committees.

RATES FOR LABORATORY SESSION, (INCLUDING MEALS)
Per day, per person, single room $2.35
Per day, per person, double room 2.00
Per day, per person, dormitory 1.60

Afternoon Program:
1. The Study of the Qur’ân, Harry Jay, (Please bring your copy of Rodwell’s translation of the Koran, Everyman’s Edition.)
2. Public Speaking, Solon Fieldman

Evening Program:
Entertainment, brief talks, devotions.
   RATES, including meals, per day, per person, $1.35.
   (Youth rates for youth only.)

RESERVATIONS
Please make reservations as soon as possible with Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Louhelen School, Davison, Michigan.

LOUHELEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE:
Mr. Edmund Miesler, Chairman, Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary; Mrs. Dorothy Graf, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Dorothy Hall, Mr. Edward Holzinger.

BAHAI SCHOOL PROGRAMS
1941

1. GREEN ACRE, ELIOT, MAINE
   Morning Devotions, daily, 9:00 a.m.
   Classes, 9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., and 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., daily, except Sundays

   CLASSES
   Social Relationships
   June 30-July 5
   Social Attitudes, Dr. Genevieve Coy
   The Creative Word, Dr. Glenn A. Shook
   July 7-12
   The Divine Art of Living, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert La Vey
   The Spirit of Islam, Mahdi Firoozi
   July 14-19
   Three Relationships of Man, Archie Tichenor
   America’s Spiritual Mission, Clarence Niss
   The Pattern for Future Society
   July 21-26
   Administration, Harlan Ober
   The Fusion of Science and Religion, Harry Ford
   July 25-August 2
   Blueprints of Destiny, Prof. Stanwood Cobb
   The Guardianship, Philip Sprague
   August 4-9
   The Emergence of the World Order of Baha’u’llah, Mrs. Annamarie Kunz Honold
   The Racial Basis of the New Civilisation, Louis G. Gregory
   YOUTH WEEK CLASSES
   Techniques of Baha’i Teaching
   A Baha’i View of Current History
   Special Discussion Groups and activities for Youth
   The Creative Spirit in Modern Society
   August 11-16
   The Dawn-Breakers, Mrs. Harry Ford, Mrs. Harriet Pettibone
   The History of the Baha’i Faith, Curtis Kelsey
   August 18-23
   Epistle to the Son of the Wolf, Mirza Ali-Kuli Khan, N.D.
   Assurances of Immortality, Mr. and Mrs. Willard MacKay
   August 25-30
   Prophecy, Mrs. Robert Lee Moffett
   Kitab-i-Iqán, Horace Holley
CONFERENCES
July 6, 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.—Regional Teaching Conference
August 9, 10—Race Amity Conference
A pageant, "Fountain of Light," prepared and directed by Mrs. Harold Bowditch, will be presented July 19, if a cast of about thirty is available.
If a sufficient number are interested in the study of Spanish during the session, classes may be arranged.
Daily informal afternoon meetings for inquiry and discussion may be arranged.

OTHER ACTIVITIES
Sunday morning public meeting at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday evening meeting at 8:15 p.m.
Weekly evening activities: Mondays, Activity planning; Tuesdays, open for visiting with local community; Wednesdays, Fireside groups; Thursdays, Open; Fridays, The Cultural Background of South America, Lorna Tasker; Saturdays, Resumes, by teachers of the week.

RESERVATIONS
STUDENTS, Room and board, $14.00-$22.00, according to size and location of room. 10% higher for guests not attending classes. . . . Half rates for children under fourteen years of age. . . . Daily Rates, $2.00-$5.50. . . . Special rates available for guests or students remaining the entire season.
YOUTH WEEK, August 4-10, Students, $12. (Regular rates above apply to youth not attending classes.)
Make reservations through Mrs. Flora Valentine, 142 Regent Street, Saratoga Springs, New York. After June 15th address Mrs. Flora Valentine, Manager, Green Acre Inn, Eliot, Maine.

GREEN ACRE COMMITTEE
Lorna Tasker Chairman; Marjorie Wheeler, Secretary; Mrs. Harold Bowditch, Mrs. Harold Chamberlin, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ford, Louis G. Gregory, Harlan Ober, Dr. Glean A. Shook, Rachel Small.

2. BOSCH PLACE
Geyersville, California
July 6th to July 26th
Unity Feast—Sunday, July 6th

MORNING CLASSES
July 7 to 13, Inclusive
9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.—The Divine Manifestations
Monday—Zoroaster, Marzieh Gail
Tuesday—Krishna and Buddha, Mark Tobey
Wednesday—Moses (and the Sabeans), Joyce Dahl
Thursday—Jesus, William P. Hatch
Friday—Muhammad, Marzieh Gail
Saturday—The Báb, Marguerite Sears
Sunday—Bahá’u’lláh, Beulah Storrs Lewis
11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon—Essentials of the Bahá’í Faith
Monday to Sunday, inclusive
Leaders: Helen Bishop, Marion Holley
July 15 to 20, Inclusive
9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.—The Place of Religion in Modern Life
Tuesday—Religion and Character, Charlotte Linfoot
Wednesday—Religion and Social Development, Helen Bishop
Thursday—Religion and Education, Robert Gulick
Friday—Religion and Race Relations, Artemus Lamb
Saturday—Religion and Economics, Arthur Dahl
Sunday—Religion and World Order, Leroy Losa
11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon—Essentials of the Bahá’í Faith
Tuesday to Sunday, inclusive
Leaders: Helen Bishop, Marion Holley
July 22-26, Inclusive
9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.—Bahá’í Ethics
Tuesday to Saturday, inclusive
Leader: Virginia Orbison
Associates: Dagmar Dole, Artemus Lamb, Emmalu Wever
11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon—Islam
Tuesday to Saturday, inclusive
Leaders: Helen Bishop, Marzieh Gail, Robert Gulick

AFTERNOON CLASSES
July 7-25, Inclusive
Public Speaking
2:00-3:00 p.m.—Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays
Leaders: Marion Holley, Virginia Orbison, Marguerite Sears
Bahá’í Writing
2:00-3:00 p.m.—Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays
Leaders: Joyce Dahl, Marzieh Gail, Margaret Rutledge, Marion Yazi
Spanish
3:15-4:15 p.m.—Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays
Bahá’í Laboratory in Bahá’í Teaching Activities and Administrative Procedure
3:15-4:15 p.m.—Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays

DISCUSSIONS
2:00 p.m.—Sunday—Panel Discussions—Open to the Public
July 13—Leaders: Marzieh Gail, Charlotte Linfoot
July 20—Leaders: Marion Holley, Mark Tobey

YOUTH SECTION
July 6-20, Inclusive
Using the Adult program as a major resource, the Youth Section will supplement with two courses:
First Week—Introduction to the Bahá’í Faith (for beginners)
Second Week—Comparative Teachings of the Bible, Qur’án and Bahá’í Literature
Leaders: Marzieh Gail, Artemus Lamb, Marion Holley
A project in public teaching will be planned by the Section acting as a committee of the whole and carried out through public meetings, social activities, publicity and community contacts.
Youth Week-End comes July 11-13, the high point for Bahá’í Youth and their friends. The calendar will include a campfire picnic, dance, youth luncheon, swimming, study and panel discussion.

CHILDREN’S CLASSES
July 7-26, Inclusive
9:45 a.m.-12 noon daily
Leaders: Louise Groger and Committee

RESERVATIONS
For reservations, write: Mrs. Janet Ward, 2330 Rose Street, Berkeley, California
RATES—Dormitory, two persons, one room, $5.00 per week per person; Dormitory upstairs, or outside rooms, $2.00 per week per person.

GEYSERVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Ali Yazdi, Chairman; N. F. Ward, Secretary; George O. Latimer, Charlotte Linfoot, John D. Bosch, Mark Tobey, Gladys Linfoot, Irvin Somerhalder, Mrs. Olive Meyer, Fayrouz Ioss.

3. LOUHELEN RANCH,
Davison, Michigan
FIRST YOUTH SESSION
June 29th to July 5th, Inclusive
(Classses begia Sunday, June 29th, 9 a.m.)

Morning Program:
1. Character, Elsie Austin
2. The Heart of the Bahá’í Faith, Mrs. Virginia Camelon
"Praying Signal Victories"

To the Spiritual Assemblies, Communities and Groups of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.

Beloved Friends:

This month it is our joyous privilege to announce that the Fifth Year of the Seven Year Plan has been inaugurated with a notable spiritual achievement. The entire amount required to complete the exterior decoration of the main story faces can be considered secured.

This means that it is not a time for relaxed but intensified effort. To support the vast teaching enterprise embracing the twenty-one nations of Central and South America, and the unoccupied areas of North America, the minimum budget sought by the National Spiritual Assembly for the Fifth Year of the Seven Year Plan is $30,000, which includes such related activities as the Bahá'í School programs, Race Unity projects, etc.

Teaching the Focal Point

A study of the Guardian's messages received in recent years makes it clear that teaching is to be regarded as the focal point of our collective effort—the fulfilment of those opportunities and privileges granted us by reason of prior and preparatory work done in developing the administrative order and in constructing the House of Worship. The mighty wings of the Spirit are outspread in support of those who now, in consecration and in devotion and in knowledge, arise to teach the Cause of God.

In entering upon the local, regional, national and Inter-America plans and projects made available to all the friends, let us prepare ourselves by turning again and again to the towering waves of spiritual power with which the Guardian has inundated our souls since the Seven Year Plan began.

"Appeal (to) assembled delegates ponder historic appeal voiced by 'Abdu'l-Bahá (in) Tablets (of the) Divine Plan ... Would to God every State within American Republic and every Republic in American continent might ere termination (of) this glorious century (i. e., the First Bahá'í Century ending March 20, 1944) embrace (the) light (of the) Faith of Bahá'u'lláh and establish structural basis of His World Order." (May 1, 1936)

"A systematic, carefully conceived, and well-established plan should be devised, rigorously pursued and continuously extended. Initiated by the National representatives of the American believers, the
vanguard and standard-bearers of the radiant army of Bahá’u’lláh, this plan should receive the whole-hearted, the sustained and ever-increasing support, both moral and financial, of the entire body of believers in that country.

“Its supreme immediate objective should be the permanent establishment of at least one center in every state of the American Republic and in every Republic of the American continent not yet enlisted under the banner of His Faith... The field is immense, the task gigantic, the privilege immeasurably precious. Time is short, and the obligation sacred, paramount and urgent. The American community must muster all its force, concentrate its resources, summon to its aid all the faith, the determination and energies of which it is capable, and set out, single-minded and unswayed, to attain still greater heights in its mighty exertions for the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh.” (May 30, 1936)

“The American believers, if they wish to carry out, in the spirit and letter, the parting wishes of their beloved Master, must intensify their teaching work a thousandfold... The Tablets of the Divine Plan invest your Assembly with unique and grave responsibilities, and confer upon it privileges which your sister Assemblies might well envy and admire. The present opportunity is unutterably precious. It may not recur again.” (July 28, 1936)

“(I) entreat (the) American believers (to) ponder afresh (the) urgency (to) rededicate themselves (to the) task (of the) complete fulfillment (of the) Divine Plan.” (July 30, 1936)

“(The) world crisis (is) inexorably moving towards climax, challenging (the) torchbearers (of) Bahá’í civilization (to) scale loftier heights (of) individual heroism, (to) scatter more widely throughout (the) length (and) breadth (of the) American continents, (to) participate more strenuously (in) concerted effort organized by National, Regional (and) local agencies dedicated (to) the prosecution (of) noble enterprise, (to) pour forth more abundantly (their) resources in support (of the) fund created for its furtherance, (and) resolve more determinedly (to) conquer whatever obstacles might retard its ultimate fruition.” (October 29, 1936)

“The promulgation of the Divine Plan, unveiled by our departed Master in the darkest days of one of the severest ordeals which humanity has ever experienced, is the key which Providence has placed in the hands of the American believers whereby to unlock the doors leading them to fulfill their unimaginably glorious destiny.” (November 14, 1936)

Teaching—a Coordinated Activity and a Measure of Accomplishment

The aim of the Guardian’s successive messages has been, first, to quicken the hearts and fill them with longing to render service, and second, to set forth a definite program of action to be accomplished by the end of the first Bahá’í Century in 1944.

In appointing its Committees this year, the National Assembly is not merely indicating their respective functions but also supplying each Committee, as far as possible, with a definite measure of accomplishment on which it is to report progress from month to month. Activity and accomplishment, in a great coordinated Plan, with responsibility to the believers collectively through their National Spiritual Assembly, is the note to be struck by Committees this year.

Likewise, the local Assemblies are called upon to assign themselves actual measures of accomplishment this year, with specific tasks assigned to their locally appointed Committees and regular reports requested from each.

The groups of believers, even each individual Bahá’í, might well in the same way lay out for themselves some program of effort and some definite tasks to accomplish. The Guardian has shown us the key to Bahá’í service by pressing so vigorously for the fulfillment of the Seven Year Plan. That Plan is like the construction of a house, requiring blueprints for each detail and coordination of many skilful workers.

Shoghi Effendi cabled on May 1 a message to the National Assembly which gives a survey of the area of effort assigned to that body this year: “Newly elected Assembly’s objective (is) steadily direct (the) energies, energetically coordinate (the) enterprises, fan (the) flame (of) enthusiasm (and) remove impediments (to) progress (of the) teaching activities (of the) Bahá’í communities (throughout the) Americas. Praying unprecedented success.”

This is a very great responsibility as well as a very great privilege. Its fulfillment requires the unified effort of the whole body of believers and every institution of the Faith in America. The National Assembly pledges itself to aid and assist all the workers, and bespeaks the aid and prayers of the friends.

“There is no time to lose. There is no room left for vacillation. Multitudes hunger for the Bread of Life. The stage is set. The firm and irrevocable Promise is given. God’s own Plan has been set in motion. It is gathering momentum with every passing day. The powers of heaven and earth mysteriously assist in its execution.” (January 29, 1939)

Faithfully yours,
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

The Splendid Spirit

The following excerpts are from a letter addressed by the Guardian through his secretary to the National Treasurer:

“Indeed the splendid spirit that animates the American believers these days is a great source of joy and inspiration of the Guardian, and as the good news comes in of new victories won and new sacrifices made, one can see his spirits rise and a wave of new strength sweep over him—tired and over-burdened as he so often is.

“In this connection the letter you so thoughtfully enclosed from that dear Bahá’í who gave the difference in the price of a cheap or expensive coffin to the Fund of the Cause, greatly touched him. Such sacrifices prove the caliber of the friends and...”
THE THIRTY-THIRD CONVENTION

Various signs of progress and happiness greeted the delegates and friends who reached Wilmette for the Thirty-third Annual Bahá’í Convention. First of all was the welcome accorded by Wilmette, whose stores displayed large placards, circulated by the Chamber of Commerce, to this end. The progress of Temple construction, releasing greater sublimity and beauty, moved some to express wonderment; others smiles or tears. Love has many signs.

The grading of the grounds brings the majestic structure into bold relief.

In the Hall itself, besides the familiar rugs and books, were to be seen suspended from the walls and largely printed, the nine quotations selected by the Guardian, from the writings of Bahá’u’lláh and later intended to adorn one each of the nine Temple faces outside and soon to be completed. And here was the great joy of visiting the Temple, a God and mingling in joyous communion with His devoted and loving friends.

The Chairman of the National Spiritual Assembly opened the Convention, referring feelingly to the duties of the friends to a world so grievously shaken by calamity and duties of the friends to a world so grievously shaken by calamity and approaching chaos.

Following the roll call, the Convention organized by electing George O. Latimer of Portland, Oregon, Convention Chairman and Horace Holley of Wilmette, Secretary.

Thereupon was expressed by a delegate the keynote of the Convention: The closing of ranks; harmony and peace; concentration upon the activities of the Cause.

Mr. John J. Earley, the contractor of the exterior decoration of the Temple, was introduced. He expressed profound admiration for the Bahá’ís whom he knows by their fruitful deeds. He praised the genius of the late Louis Bourgeois, architect of the Temple, and mentioned his contacts with him and the National Spiritual Assembly years prior to the work of exterior decoration. The Temple is the symbol of a new faith in a new day. Both its architecture and poetry seem an invention of the Celestial Sphere.

Looking carefully over the ten thousand forms used in the Temple there is an error of but one and a half inches, so near is it to perfection! In contrast to this he pointed out that St. Peter’s, one of the world’s greatest domes, is nothing less than fourteen hundred tons out of plumb, and would fall, were it not for chains which prevent the walls from spreading. This Temple reflects the feeling as well as the culture of its architect. Its unique plan has caused a revolution in building construction. It is a great laboratory, built with slabs and pieces, its ornamentation being poured into its own skin. In its first twenty-five years of development it has inspired ten million dollars expenditure for the uses of the same kind of material in other structures. It has thus influenced building, the greatest industry in the United States.

Mr. Earley next spoke of the mystical fire that burns within the senses, discovering new values and the joy and service of life. During all the years not a single workman has lost interest.

There will be two and one-half miles of steps with a tread of six and one-half inches, surrounding the entire enclosure. It will be built with such an amount of mobility as to be proof against rain, snow, freezing, ground swells and contractions. Its material for construction has been tested for a temperature as remote as twenty degrees below zero—this by Government experts—and has been found intact. Also a very high official of another branch of the Government examined its dome minutely and did not find a defective slab. The old architecture and materials would not have lent themselves to such requirements. I have undertaken to do what the Bahá’ís wish and feel assured that I can write your Faith in the walls of your Temple.

The address of Mr. Earley seemed to fire all with a new enthusiasm and a vote of thanks was tendered him.

Always first in point of interest, significance and value, is what comes from the Guardian. His Convention cable, already printed, was circulated among the delegates. Extracts from his letter, “The Promised Day Is Come,” were most impressively read to the Convention.

Reverential and awe-struck we listened as our Guardian, armed with the mighty Tablets of Bahá’u’lláh, and the repeated warnings of the Master, pronounced the Judgment of God upon a heedless and trou-
bled world. He tells us the true meaning of the present greatest upheaval, which no man not favored by God can fathom.

“It is both a retributory calamity and an act of holy and supreme discipline. It is at once a visitation from God and a cleansing process for all mankind. Its fires punish the perversity of the human race and weld its component parts into one organic, indivisible, world-embracing community.”

Every created thing has a center, whether it be of rotation, gravity, radiation, dynamic energy, feeling, intelligence, spiritual perception, guidance, as the case may be. The appointed Center was the Master in His ministry. By His command His followers turn to the one appointed by His Will. While hosts are wandering, knowing hearts fill with gratitude for such a center and such a leader.

“The Mosquito of Violation”

The Convention considered with approval the Master’s instructions with regard to the protection of the Cause against Covenant-breakers. The Word of God is a spirit that overcomes all things, a power that unites the sincere of heart. It is also a sword that divides truth from error, light from darkness, genuineness from pretense. Seeing that conditions of apostasy and Covenant-breaking which harassed His own ministry would continue or be renewed from other quarters, He gave very definite instructions of protection in His Will and various Tablets. Thus He writes in His very last Tablet:

“O ye beloved ones! Guard the Cause of God! Let no sweetness of tongue beguile you—nay, rather consider the motives of every soul, and ponder the thought he cherisheth. Be ye straightway mindful and on your guard. Avoid, yet be not aggressive. Turn away from censure and from slander. Leave him in the Hand of God. Upon you rest the Glory of the Glories!”

The Master, who numbered among His other marvelous qualities a delightful sense of humor, once asked a friend: “Can the mosquito of violation withstand the Eagle of the Testament?”

“Beware of the sagacity of the faithful! For he seeth with the Light Divine.”

The Convention cabled Shoghi Effendi:

“Convention determined fulfill Master’s hopes Temple. Accelerate consolidation newly-born groups, extension believers’ faith and yearn capacity to receive your guidance, strength. Entreat prayers. Grateful bounty privilege service. Send our hearts’ devotion.”

A report was made orally by the National Secretary covering the last weeks of the current Bahá’í year, to supplement the written report already published. Among the topics presented were: messages from Haifa since March 15; new Assemblies formed on April 21; and revision of Temple construction costs.

Affairs and Means

The Treasurer spoke quite seriously of the increasingly disturbed state of mankind. He reported a deficit, due to the speeding up of construction and the noble effort to complete the Temple two years ahead of schedule, because of the times. It matters very little where people are during such a time of universal disturbance, but how happy they are in active service matters greatly. There appeared a hidden spring in the finances. From various sources a sum aggregating $10,750.00 flowed into his coffers, one of the best for several years over a similar brief period.

The Supervising Engineer mentioned the saving of ten thousand dollars, the original estimate for moulds. The pylons were erected under rapidly changing conditions of construction, but for the present there are not such great changes in the cost of labor. Savings have been made over the cost of three years. But on the other hand, there is extra necessary material which increases the original cost of four years ago. The over-run is about $8000.00, a remarkable showing. This over-run in some structures has been as much as fifty percent. The Temple is being built most economically, as testified also by Mr. Earley.

The grading of the grounds, now about completed, is preparatory to seeding with rye grass. A lovely green mound will appear over the basement floor. The accessory administration office building, the new fence and the increasing land space behind the Haziratu’l-Quds should be noted; also the increase of our land holdings on the East side of Sheridan Road. On the other hand, the transfer of ownership to the Village of Wilmette of a strip of Temple land bordering Sheridan Road, so as to change the curve of the said
road to avoid accidents, will bring to us a financial indemnity from the said Village as well as the addition of land before mentioned.

**Inter-American Teaching**

One of the most fascinating periods of the Convention was that devoted to reports from and consideration of work in Latin-American countries. This showed how heroic and devoted pioneers, facing tremendous difficulties, such as changes of climate, customs, laws, uncertainties and upheavals and sometimes revolutions, remoteness from home, relatives and friends, meagerness of funds and support, suspicions aroused against foreign visitors, etc., are yet, under the mighty Confirmations of Bahá'u'lláh, blazing a pathway of light in the most wonderful service that can engage human endeavors. Stories of these pioneers, thrilling and humanistic, were heard with the most profound admiration and high praise. One such story is about a very delicate and refined American woman who is just now in a country swept by revolution. Yet she thinks and many other detailed recitals, and the work is being continued; the thrilling experience of flying across the Andes five nights a week.

Another pioneer recently returned, pictured the great love and attraction newly kindled in the hearts of many souls, a class formed for teaching whose number of inquirers soon became so large that it had to be divided into two sections. One enthusiastic friend caused twenty-two of his friends to attend meetings five nights a week.

"The visits of three American ladies to Mexico City and their activities; the more recent visit for the second time of another American teacher to Mexico City, this time to aid that new Center to hold a Bahá'í election according to established procedure; the campaign of three teachers in Haiti, one of whom is now touring in a truck and giving the Message to all she can reach; the thrilling experience of flying across the Andes in the line of service; the work in Cuba, gem of the Antilles, where the nucleus of a Center was formed in a few months and the work is being continued; and many other detailed recitals, created an interest which could not be equalled by the most fascinating romance.

**This Crucial Hour**

"Delighted. Convey (to) Milly Collins (my) ever-deepening appreciation (of) her) historic, exemplary contributions (in) this crucial hour (for the) Faith (of) Bahá'u'lláh."

SHOGHI RABBANI

Cablegram received June 3, 1941.

One who had many times traversed this vast Inter-America region described most vividly the needs of the people to achieve religious ideals and their willingness to advance. Apparently their ideas about the old religions are very limited and they have had little chance or stimulus to improve.

A returned pioneer related a story of being accosted by a government official, who apprised him that he had been informed of his activities and thought him quite deserving of being sent to jail. His reply was: "All right! Put me in prison and I shall be only too eager to give the Bahá'í teachings to the two thousand prisoners who are already there!"

He was not molested.

A vote of appreciation and thanks to this Committee was passed by the Convention. Eloquent tributes were also paid the workers, and the instructions of the Guardian to the administration, to stand by the pioneers, was brought to view. It was further stated by the Chairman that the National Spiritual Assembly, with limited funds, could provide for pioneers only in the most meager way; so that those listing for such a service should strive to the utmost, if not prepared with means for self-support, to obtain employment where they serve. The further from base, the mightier the confirmations seem to be.

**The Election**

The election of the new National Spiritual Assembly, was set by the agenda for late afternoon of the second convention day. The result has already been reported.

**North America Teaching**

The Committee Chairman stated, as the aim of this most vital plan of service, to establish a nucleus in each state and province with actively functioning Assemblies. These will become power-houses of spiritual influence and stimulate new movements of service. The intensification of the work in certain areas received special emphasis. There is a pressing demand for teachers. No other human activity can be more important at such a time. The continued work of devoted souls shows very marked and appreciable gains. The number of isolated believers, now about fifteen hundred, should prove a great stimulus to teaching and the spread of the Cause, since every true believer wants to share his faith with others. Many new centers and groups are now begging the assistance of teachers.

The work in the South is especially difficult, due to extreme orthodoxy and racial traditions, yet the Divine Plan has overcome far more difficult conditions in other lands. Those in the vanguard of service in this region report steady gains in the work and much joy in the fellowship of service.

A Southern delegate expressed the view that much of our grief and alarm is of our own making. We should not rush, but take our time in entering the Cause. But, having entered, do our utmost to close our ranks. Smooth sailing will come in future, however difficult the way may now seem.

A youthful Bahá'í, who spoke like an oracle, observed the tendency on the part of many people to become tense and constrained whenever "race" in its limited sense, is mentioned. The situation, though difficult, is not impossible of solution. The solid South shows unmistakable signs of gradually melting, as indicated by happenings both within and without. Various organizations are preparing the way for the acceptance of the full program of the Bahá'ís. Those who know Bahá'u'lláh should, with confidence and courage, do even more. Let us depend upon Guidance, and yield not to compromise, which makes greater and greater demands and stifles resolution. Let us work with a will; but never feel tense about it because this betrays a lack of balance.

The Guardian enjoins the workers to take their stand and do their appointed task, no matter what conditions betide. The sacrifices of the friends will be the means of freeing humanity from its yoke and bring the ultimate triumph of the Cause.
The vastness of Canada, as yet practically untouched by the Cause, was presented by a western pioneer who has traveled and taught there extensively. Recently he had the pleasure of contacting an Icelandic group, among whom he found rare souls who seemed ready to lay down their lives for the Cause.

A New York friend presented ideas for coordinating the teaching work by stressing (1) the spiritual, non-political unity of all mankind; (2) to invite others in regions to speak at various meetings; (3) the Spiritual Assemblies should send out a questionnaire to all of its community members with a view to finding out all their potentialities of service.

Race Unity

A survey of the South presented by the Chairman of this committee, as the result of a comprehensive tour, was summarized as follows:

1. The vast majority of people have no thought about minority groups. To them it seems that matters of race should be handled only with extreme delicacy. Their ideas and system are a combination of paternalism and the feudalism of a past age. The problem is so close to them that they cannot see it in perspective.

2. The awakening South, as indicated by the Southern Interracial Commission and the liberal attitude of many southern colleges and universities. They advocate social reform and a bi-racial culture. But any plan or suggestion for the races to meet upon an equal social plane causes a panic among them.

3. Those who, fewest in numbers, are like the Bahá'ís. They see that even the rise of a bi-racial culture will not end perpetual conflict, unless there is a strong spiritual bond and a pattern for future society adopted.

She was able to visit thirty colleges in the South which expressed interest in the Bahá'í Faith and appreciated its literature, especially the excerpt known as the pattern for future society.

It was stated that Jews are passing through a period of transition as to faith. Increasing numbers are abandoning orthodoxy. It was estimated that approximately a million Jews have become Christian Scientists, and so the Jews would seem to present a fertile field for Bahá'í cultivation.

The presence of eighteen American Indians of the Oneidas, a Wisconsin tribe, as visitors to the Convention, aroused much interest. Their coming was due principally to the work of our Bahá'í Indian brother, Eli Whitney Pawlas, a member of the tribe, and the cooperation of Clarence Niss of the Race Unity Committee. These fine Indian friends were introduced by name and given a cordial welcome. They took a keen interest in what they saw and heard. It is hoped that these contacts will result in the spread of the Bahá'í Faith among a long neglected people, with heavenly results.

Reviewing Committee

The Reviewing Committee made brief mention of its work with manuscripts, the difficulty and delicacy of the task assigned and the progress noted. It makes an annual report, very succinct and clear, dealing with the number of manuscripts reviewed and with what results. It is very important that the right sort of literature shall reach the public, presenting the Faith in a way both clear, attractive and dignified. The value of this patient and able service cannot well be overestimated.

Mexican Visitor

Pedro Espinoza, secretary of the Spiritual Assembly of Mexico City, as a Convention Visitor, was invited to speak. He expressed the loving greetings of his center and gratitude for the loving cooperation and services they have received from the American friends. Good deeds and actions should be directed to all people, with much patience also. We must cultivate more than an intellectual grasp of the Teachings. Strive that the light of assurance may penetrate each and every heart, was the gist of his discourse.

For a Completed Temple

A plan suggested by the Supervising Architect, which met approval, was one for completing the outer decoration and steps of the Temple in 1941 and 1942, under a budget extended over two years. This can be done at an approximate cost of $355,000.00. The completion of the fences, already planned for this year, will be at a cost of about $35,000.00. The remainder will cover the steps. The completion of the Temple stairs will bring the entire outward structure to perfection next year. In the meantime there is to be no pause in pressing the teaching campaign which means so much to a bewildered world.

The Eternal Covenant

A seasoned veteran of service laid great emphasis upon firmness in the Covenant (which now means loyalty to the Guardian), not only as a means of protection to the loyal friends, but as one of purifying the Cause itself. The Holy Land is the Center of Illumination and its brightest reflection is now in the West. In past revelations, we have had much established. Centers of interpretation as are found today. Quite clear is the Station of the Expounder of the Verses, that of the Guardian today, who leads us under his unerring guidance from on High. This divine institution protects our faith from being rent by schisms. It is the power of cohesion and unity. This amalgam will bring to naught all opposition. Any healing that can come to Covenant-breakers rests with God. False teachings and sedulous literature are among the signs of Covenant-breaking.

The raising of obstacles has its bearing in the ultimate healing of mankind. Tests purify the faith. Such an experience ushers in the next great period of spiritual power.
Sacrifice for a Cause makes us a part of it. People of deviation know this not. If the true friends allow nothing to disrupt their unity, the attacks of foes will bring to us the richest blessings of peace and victory.

**Braille**

A very earnest plea was made for the blind, who should not be left without the solace of the heavenly teachings. Sometimes their insight sees much further than the eyesight of their neighbors. The Red Cross offers a course of ten lessons in Braille for $1.85. It deepens our own knowledge to study Braille. A fine service is that of transcribing the Bahá’í Teachings into Braille. Blind people in Los Angeles, instructed through the Bahá’í Teachings in Braille, were the means of bringing their families into the Faith.

**Newness in Life**

Besides being represented by some duly accredited delegates to the Convention, Bahá’í Youth held their ninth annual luncheon at an Evanston Hotel, attracting a large attendance among which were some elders. The scene was a brilliant one, which included variety, beauty, talents, joyfulness, enthusiasm and inspiration. They wish to be taken more seriously by their elders and given more responsibilities. Undoubtedly their elders sympathize with such aspirations and want them to advance. Certainly no obstacles can rightly be placed in their paths.

Our American Youth are doing things. Their program of music and addresses was charming and they spoke with wisdom and insight.

**Education**

The Child Education Committee expressed the need for greater uniformity in child education, according to the program stated in the Teachings.

A friend from Kansas, introduced by a delegate, read to the Convention teaching inspiration that had come to her, in the form of an original composition, blending of music and verse, called Light at Dawn or Early Concourse of Destiny. It proved to be a plan for presenting the Bahá’í Message and was well received.

Public speaking as a study and art was advocated as a means of effectively spreading the Bahá’í Faith. Eloquence is a divine gift, especially when it is used in testimony for God. The art of vocal expression, with intelligence to direct it, is specialized to man. He should know its value and put it to the best use.

The Convention voted its thanks to its Officers and to the National Spiritual Assembly.

**Good News from Haifa**

Those who have so long and well known William Sutherland Maxwell, the father-in-law of Shoghi Effendi, will appreciate information about him and his dearest interests, shared with the Convention by a Canadian friend. He lives comfortably in the Pilgrim’s House at Haifa and is working on the design of Mrs. May Maxwell’s monument, so as to please Shoghi Effendi and Ruhiyyih Khanum; and so he deems it a cooperative service. The Khanum garden, cultivated under the instructions of Shoghi Effendi, is in a wonderful shape and is developing even greater perfections. The monuments are in white marble, representing the Guardian’s own wishes and design. The house in the garden has been improved and will contain Bahá’í archives in future. Shoghi Effendi is reported working at such a rate and for such long hours as would exhaust any other person.

He reports a steady flow of visitors from Persia and the good health of Shoghi Effendi, Ruhiyyih Khanum and himself.

**Feast of El-Ridván**

The greatest of all Bahá’í Feasts, that of El-Ridván, commemorating the declaration of Bahá’u’lláh, was observed on Saturday evening April 26. The entire Convention covered a part of its period of twelve days.

The entire capacity of the hall was taxed by the audience of friends and visitors. The Spiritual Assemblies of Peoria and Chicago cooperated in the arrangements, the former planning the program and the latter refreshments. Mrs. Alice Simmons Cox was chairman.

The general theme was:

The Significance of the Manifestation and His Declaration:

Prayer read by Mrs. Chester F. Barnett.

Announcements and explanatory of Ed-Ridván

Reading: The Promised Day.

Address, Intimate Pictures of Bahá’u’lláh, from the Four Periods of His Life, George O. Latimer.

Address, Significances of the Manifestation, Ali Kuli Khan, N. D.

Address, The Days of Ridván with ‘Abdu’l-Bahá at Haifa, 1921, Mrs. Nellie S. French

Closing prayer read by Mrs. Chester F. Barnett.

Moving picture of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá taken in 1912.
Mr. Latimer's knowledge of the Manifestation was enriched by some unpublished sources. Mirza Khan’s address was a deep study of the spiritual significance of the Manifestation.

Mrs. French was favored with being with ‘Abdul-Bahá during the last three days of Ridván, 1921. The world in travail is now being prepared to grasp the meaning of “the Great Announcement,” the Declaration of the True One.

Hyde Dunn Memorial

Half an hour each day, preceding the Convention sessions, the Committee on Devotions selected readings and prayers which were impressively and beautifully read by various friends.

On Sunday morning, the last day, this period was extended to an hour, and a simple program redolent of beauty and spirituality was arranged to commemorate the late Hyde Dunn, American Bahá’í pioneer in Australia, whose sacrificial life in cooperation with his faithful wife, is used by the Most High as the means of enlightening a wide area of labor and service. The hour proceeded with reading of a Tablet of Bahá’u’lláh followed by the Guardian’s cablegram: “Beloved Father Dunn: reflecting parent luster; fourth witness.”

Prayers for the departed; Bahá’u’lláh.


Tablet of ‘Abdul-Bahá to Mr. and Mrs. Hyde Dunn, praising their teaching services and their firmness in the Covenant of God.

Prayers for the departed, Bahá’u’lláh.

Prayer for the departed, ‘Abdul-Bahá.

The program was concluded by the Tablet of Visitation of Bahá’u’lláh chanted in the original language, with its resonance and beauty.

Fragrances from Afar

Friends and workers at a distance, wired or cabled their Ridván greetings and love, and thus made themselves a spiritual part of the glorious Convention, also illustrating their far-flung Bahá’í activities. Messages reached us from: Butte, Montana; Miami, Florida; Phoenix, Arizona; Washington, D. C.; San Francisco, California; Monroe, Washington; Alaska; Denver, Colorado; Honolulu, H. I.; New York, New York; Port au Prince, Haiti; Les Cales, Haiti; Thiran, Persia; Santo Domingo; Haworth, New Jersey; Muskogon, Michigan; Muskegon Heights, Michigan; Fruitport, Michigan; East Fruitport, Michigan; Lake Harbor, Michigan; State of Washington; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Mexico City; Canal Zone; Laramie, Wyoming; Huntington, West Virginia; Richmond Highlands, California.

Public Teaching Congress

The final meeting was the teaching congress in Foundation Hall.


The first speaker was Albert Windust, with the subject: “The Ark of the Covenant.” He dealt with prophetic succession from the Adamic Day and quoted many prophecies, now fulfilled in the appearance of Bahá’u’lláh and the new and universal cycle of this great Day of God.

The concluding speaker was Mrs. Dorothy Baker on the subject: “The Great Fulfilment.”

This address was a portrayal of the diffusion of scientific knowledge, with the appearance of many inventions and discoveries as needed preparation for the unity of mankind. Its conclusion was a bright vision of the coming world super-state.

The light and cheer of these glorious Ridván days were in striking contrast to the deepening shades of earth. Traditional differences were fused by the fires of divine love, with strangeness banished and oneness enthroned. New heights of Bahá’í consultation were reached; new altitudes of sacrifice attained. There was a mightier resolution to spread the Message while there is yet time. Elevation of the standard of justice which our Guardian so much admires. Wisdom as well as love. Clearer understanding of the duty of guarding the priceless jewels which God has deposited in minds and hearts. Penetration of ancient mysteries. It is all clear now how Eden, which accorded a welcome to all, yet had its entrance guarded by cherubim after it had been vandalized by Satan. Loyalty to the ancient Commander. Firmness in His Covenant. Full confidence of victory through His favor and confirmation, which are more powerful amid trials. Greater understanding of Reality and the part of Bahá’í Administration in its true and effective unfoldment. Clearer vision of the city of God, the New Jerusalem, descending with increasing volume and power, to transform mankind.

“...“The vital force (i.e., the vital force of belief in God) is dying out, this mighty agency has been scorned, this radiant light is obscured, this impregnable stronghold abandoned, this beauteous robe discarded. God Himself has indeed been dethroned from the hearts of men, and an idolatrous world passionately and clamorously hails and worships the false gods which its own idle fancies have fatuously created, and its misguided hands so impiously exalted. The chief idols in the desecrated temple of mankind are none other than the triple gods of Nationalism, Racialism and Communism, at whose altars governments and peoples, whether democratic or totalitarian, at peace or at war, of the East or of the West, Christian or Islamic, are, in various forms and in different degrees, now worshipping. Their high priests are the politicians and the world-wise, the so-called sages of the age; their sacrifice, the flesh and blood of the slaughtered multitudes; their incantations outworn shibboleths and insidious and irreverent formulas; their incense, the smoke of anguish that ascends from the lacerated hearts of the bereaved, the maimed, and the homeless.”

—SHOGHI EFFENDI,
In “The Promised Day Is Come.”

Publishing Announcement

The Promised Day Is Come, by Shoghi Effendi, general communication addressed to the believers throughout the West, dated March 28, 1941. 129 pages and index. Self-cover edition, per copy $0.25; paper cover edition, $0.40; fabricoid edition, $0.75.
Teachings on the Covenant

At this time it is incumbent upon members of the Bahá'í community, particularly the newer friends, to realize the unique nature of the Station which Bahá'u'lláh conferred upon 'Abdu'l-Bahá, for it is through the mission which the Master fulfilled that the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh can evolve into a worldwide community with those majestic institutions of Guardianship and House of Justice through which His blessing is to flow to mankind gathered into the Kingdom of God.

"When the ocean of My presence hath ebbed, and the Book of My Revelation is ended, turn your faces towards Him Whom God hath purposed, Who hath branched from this Ancient Root." (Kitáb-i-Aqdas)

"It is incumbent upon . . . my kindred to turn, one and all, their faces towards the Most Mighty Branch." (Kitáb-i-'Ahd)

"Render thanks unto God, O people, for His appearance; for verily He is the most great Favor unto you, the most perfect bounty upon you; and through Him every moldering bone is quickened. Whose turneth towards Him hath turned towards God, and whose turneth away from Him hath turned away from My Beauty, hath repudiated My Proof, and transgressed against Me. He is the Trust of God amongst you, His embodiment of authority among the believers and the instrument for the preservation of the unity of His Faith. Membership in the Bahá'í community was entirely dependent, during 'Abdu'l-Bahá's lifetime after the Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh in 1921, upon the Master's acceptance and approval. As the American Bahá'ís know, 'Abdu'l-Bahá on occasion found it necessary to expel from the Bahá'í community certain believers whose actions and attitudes had become a source of contamination to the friends. The history of faith has no parallel to the mission which 'Abdu'l-Bahá performed. Under His leadership and guidance the Cause spread to Europe and America, its literature was translated, its influence enlarged and its significance made to penetrate a growing community of believers. 'Abdu'l-Bahá Himself produced a great body of writings which clarify the fundamental teachings of Bahá'u'lláh and relate His Faith to all aspects of social activity and individual experience. Throughout His life, 'Abdu'l-Bahá exemplified the unity of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh and preserved the unity of the Bahá'ís.

While in America during 1912, He explained His mission and station to the Bahá'ís:

"Today the most important affair is firmness in the Covenant, because firmness in the Covenant wards off differences.

"In former cycles no distinct Covenant was made in writing by the Supreme Pen; no distinct personage was appointed to be the Standard differentiating falsehood from truth, so that whatever he said was to stand as truth and that which he repudiated was to be known as falsehood . . ."

"But in this Dispensation of the Blessed Beauty (i.e., Bahá'u'lláh) among its distinctions is that He did not leave people in perplexity. He entered into a Covenant and Testament with the people. He appointed a Center of the Covenant. He wrote with His own pen and revealed it in the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, the Book of Laws, and Kitáb-i-'Ahd, the Book of the Covenant, appointing Him (i.e., 'Abdu'l-Bahá) the Expounder of the Book. You must ask Him (Abdu'l-Bahá) regarding the meanings of the texts of the verses. Whosoever He says is correct. Outside of this in numerous tablets He (Bahá'u'lláh) has explicitly recorded it with clear, sufficient, valid and forceful statements. In the Tablet of the Branch He explicitly states: 'Whatsoever the Branch says is right, or correct, and every person must obey the Branch with his life, with his heart, with his tongue. Without His will, not a word shall any one utter.' This is an explicit text of the Blessed Beauty. So there is no excuse left for anybody . . ." (Star of the West, Vol. 12, No. 14)

"One of the enemies of the Cause
is he who endeavors to interpret the Words of Bahá'u'lláh and thereby colors the meaning according to his capacity, and collects around him a following, forming a different sect, promoting his own station and making division in the Cause." (Abdu'l-Bahá, Star of the West, Vol. 3, page 3.)

"Were it not for the protecting power of the Covenant to guard the impenetrable fort of the Cause of God there would arise among the Bábás, in one day, a thousand different sects as was the case in former ages, but in this blessed Dispensation, for the sake of the permanency of the Cause of God and the avoidance of dissension amongst the people of God, the Blessed Beauty (may my soul be a sacrifice to Him) has through the Supreme Pen written the Covenant and Testament; He appointed a Center, the Exponent of the Book and the Annuller of disputes.

"Whatever is written by Him is conformable to the truth and under the protection of the Blessed Beauty. He is infallible.

"The express purpose of the last Will and Testament is to set aside disputes from the world.

"Praise be to God that the believers in America are steadfast, but the firmer they are the better, that no one may be able to intrude and introduce disputes, for disputes destroy the foundation of God's Institution." (Abdu'l-Bahá, in Tablets to Roy C. Wilhem, August 12, 1914)

"As to the most great characteristic, and it is a specific teaching of the Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh, and not given by any of the Prophets of the past, it is the teaching concerning the Center of the Covenant. By giving the teaching concerning the Center of the Covenant He made provision against all kinds of differences, so that no man should be able to create a new sect.

"To guard against that state of things, He entered into a Covenant with all people of the world, indicating the Person of the Interpreter of His teachings, so that no man should be able to say that he explains a certain teaching in this way, and thus create a sect revolving around his individual understanding of a part of the teachings... Whoever shall say a word from his own self shall be degraded." (Abdu'l-Bahá, Star of the West, Vol. 14, No. 15, page 255)

"My purpose is to convey to you that it is your duty to guard the Religion of God so that none shall be able to assail it either outwardly or inwardly. If you see injurious teachings coming from an individual, no matter who that individual may be, even though he be My own son, know ye verily that I am quit of him.

"If ye see any one speaking against the Covenant, even though he be My own son, know ye that I am averse to him." (Abdu'l-Bahá, Star of the West, Vol. 14)

"Any soul who violates the Covenant and Testament in the least degree, immediately he is cut off. Even in this material world he will become afflicted with remorse and regret." (Abdu'l-Bahá, Star of the West, Vol. 6, page 94)

"But the Covenant of God and His Testament is a bounty to the righteous and a curse to the wicked." (Abdu'l-Bahá, Tablets of Abdu'l-Bahá, page 438)

INTER-AMERICA NEWS

Chile

Mrs. Marcia Atwater writes that she has been accorded the utmost courtesy by the press of Santiago, that she has lectured in the Spanish language before an audience at the University of about three hundred people and that the group is functioning beautifully. It was announced that there would be a Spiritual Assembly elected on the 21st of April, but this was premature. However the group has elected its officers and the number of believers is increasing so that by next spring there will surely be a Spiritual Assembly. Mrs. Atwater is returning home very soon and hopes that some visiting teacher or some resident pioneer will soon succeed her.

Bolivia

The Inter-America Committee together with all the believers throughout the world welcome the first confirmed believer in Bolivia, Mme. Yvonne de Cuellar. In that far off land we are assured of a constant and brilliant lamp which will continue to shed its rays with increasing brilliance after the departure of Mrs. Eleanor Adler who must return home.

Brazil

Miss Holsapple writes that she is planning to spend some time now in Sao Paolo and Santos and will then return to Bahá. The teaching force is being happily augmented in Rio de Janeiro by the presence of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Wood of Bethesda, Maryland, who are leaving as soon as possible to take up their residence there. Miss Beatrice Irwin is also there at present.

San Salvador

John Eichemauer has become interested in the study of Naturopathy and hopes to make this his profession. He plans to visit Nicaragua very soon and may possibly make that his headquarters. He assures us that the main object of his life is to teach the Cause and he will assist Mathew Kaszab. John also writes that any young man desiring to pioneer in San Salvador could be assisted to find occupation by Clarence Iverson. This committee will be happy to furnish addresses to those interested.

Guatemala

A beautiful letter from Sra. Barrientos tells of the earnest study of the group in Guatemala City and speaks with deep feeling of the Guardian's Convention cable which was translated into Spanish and printed in our last bulletin. The group is eager for more books and for the establishment of a Bahá'í library and a school for the Youth. What a glorious opportunity for some resident pioneer!

Venezuela

Priscilla Rhoads' plans for teaching have been somewhat frustrated by the upset condition of the country. She says she longs for someone to talk to. An interchange of letters between the pioneers is very valuable, and certainly those who are so far away from home would appreciate letters from any of the friends who may be able to write.

Nicaragua

Congratulations and welcome to the first declared believer in Nicaragua. He is Mr. Henry S. Wheelock and his card was sent in by Mathew Kaszab.

Panama

Our young women there are still hoping for reinforcements but they are a host in themselves and a great source of joy to the Committee as
are also the friends in Costa Rica where the Cause is growing under the new Spiritual Assembly.

Paraguay
At last accounts the class of Miss Cheney numbered thirty people. Miss Cheney has handled the situation in Asunción in the wisest and most commendable manner. It has been found best to teach entirely by the fireside method as publicity is apt to be misinterpreted.

From a recent letter written by Miss Cheney we quote:

“The class of thirty Bahá’í students is progressing rapidly in spite of terrifically upset social conditions. Am hoping to open a special membership class next week. This matter will be taken up for consultation when we celebrate the Feast of Ridván following the regular meeting on Monday, April 28th. There are five now who have asked for Bahá’í membership, and who would sign the little Bahá’í membership cards, if I should tell them that such things existed. But I am praying, if it is the will of Bahá’u’lláh, that perhaps at least nine may be able to come in together, and my hunch is to go slowly and to make very certain that they are well prepared and have a good foundation in the teachings, for the establishment of an Assembly, or even of a smaller group, will be certain to attract great tests in a country such as this one.

“The first meeting of the new Youth Group was held Saturday night in the midst of our most recent revolutionary upset. There was no way to notify the prospective members of a postponement, for telephone service had been shut off by the government. Fortunately only a few came, bringing apologies from nine more whose parents, luckily, would not let them venture through the streets. We had a short but interesting meeting, and hope to begin full force this Saturday, since the present revolution appears to be abortive.”

Peru
Miss Nicklin is anxiously awaiting her permit to enter Peru. The difficulties now arising necessitate great patience but the Guardian never relaxes in his urge for more pioneers.

Montevideo
The very helpful visit of Mrs. Barton is being reflected in that city where her son Wilfred has now been residing for many months. Bright hopes arise from the reports of the work there. Montevideo is such a lovely city that it should have spiritual capacity with its beauty.

Haiti
No recent word from the Blackwells but we know they are doing splendid work and have several registered believers.

Cuba
Mrs. Hoagg has returned to this country for some special teaching work leaving Miss Josephine Kruka in Havana. The friends in Havana will retain their center during the summer and this committee will hope to send another teacher there in the fall.

Argentina
We are looking for the translation of the Dispensation from Buenos Aires as the details were arranged by Philip Sprague before he left. If this should be a satisfactory translation after review it will probably be printed forthwith. The Bahá’í Procedure in Spanish is now in process of being made ready for circulation in mimeographed form. The cost will be announced by the NSA.

San Domingo
Dear Miss Lentz is still waiting patiently for a visit from Gertrude Gewertz. We hope this may soon eventuate.

Applications
The committee will be glad to consider any and all applications and make recommendations to the NSA.

Our Bahá’í Schools
Louhelen Extends Season
This year at Louhelen an informal vacation season, July 19 to August 8, will be offered between the more formally planned sessions previously held. It will be possible to take up in this season a more prolonged study of Spanish, and to enjoy in a leisurely way the bountiful gifts of the new library. This is regarded as a family session. Special children’s classes will be organized, if needed, as well as fireside chats, teaching discussions, and study groups for adults.

The life of Qurratu’l’-Ayn has been written in the form of a play by Mrs. Earl Andrews of Lima. The teaching spirit is in this little play to a profound degree, and we are happy to announce that the author has offered
it to Louhelen for use at both Youth sessions.

The Louhelen committee calls attention to a change of program for the Laboratory session. In lieu of the proposed public speaking course, Mrs. Virginia Camelon will present "The Heart of The Bahá’í Faith," a course tracing the historic Covenant and Covenant of Baha’u’llah in the present day. Attention is also called to the emphasis upon the study of the Qur'an in this session. This study will be intensively carried on with daily assignments. The friends are requested to bring copies of the Fq'an and the Rodwell Qur'an if possible.

Concerning this illuminating study the Guardian has written: "The knowledge of this sacred Scripture is absolutely indispensable for every believer who wishes to adequately understand, and intelligently read the writings of Baha’u'llah."

Geyserville Celebrates Fifteenth Anniversary

The Geyserville School Committee announces that the 1941 season will be the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the School on the property made available by Mr. and Mrs. John Bosch. From a circular letter issued by the Committee, we quote the following excerpts:

"It seems only a short time ago that our beloved John and Louise Bosch stood under the now famous 'Big Tree' and announced to an astonished and delighted audience that they were donating their property to establish a Baha'i Summer School. Since then much has happened. Thanks to the devotion and generosity of the believers, new and beautiful buildings have been added, attendance has grown, activities have multiplied, and in general, the school has assumed unity and dignity, and has become a rallying center to which believers gather yearly to seek knowledge and inspiration for the spread of the Cause."

"As we stand before this fifteenth milestone, we are greatly encouraged by the past growth; but as we look ahead we realize that we have only started on the long path which ultimately leads to the World Order of Baha’u’llah. We must multiply our efforts, increase our knowledge, perfect our methods, and vitalize ourselves with new power through the ever-inspiring words of the Manifestation for this day. Where could we do this better than in the Bahá’í Summer Schools throughout the land? The Bahá’í Schools have become a vital factor in the march toward a divinely ordained world order.

"It is in this spirit that we, the members of the Geyserville Summer School Committee, wish to join hands with every believer in the Western States to make the 15th Anniversary Session a great leap forward in the progress of this institution."

"The Committee welcomes any suggestions that will contribute to the growth and success of the Summer School. We are especially in need of volunteers, people who have the welfare of the school at heart, who definitely plan to be at Geyserville as long as possible, and who are willing and able to shoulder specific responsibilities."

International School

The program for the International School is outlined to cover the following points of interest:

1. Study of health and hygiene for Latin America.
2. Behavior and responsibility to the Cause, of individual teachers.
3. Techniques of speaking to groups, with knowledge of their psychology and background.
4. Importance of having a consecutive plan of teaching.
5. Danger of introducing advance teaching which might be misunderstood.
6. Necessity of taking each Latin-American country and studying the geography, history, religion, racial characteristics, cultural background, and government.

For helpful reading this month the International School Committee suggests "The Donkey Inside," a book by Ludwig Bemelman, and the magazine, "Pan-American Good Neighbor Forum." Particular attention is called to the March number of the latter, in which a stimulating article on Brazil gives good advice to those looking forward to visiting that country.

The Committee reports that Professor Stephen Torney, of the University of Utah, will replace Professor Hayes on the program. He will speak on "Practical Philosophy in Teaching Work."

Bahá’í Directory

The list of Committees appointed by the National Spiritual Assembly for the year beginning July 1, 1941, is published as Bahá’í Directory, Part I, with this issue of Bahá’í News. On account of changes and additions, the list will be supplemented in the fall with corrections to bring it up to date. Please note the brief description of functions accompanying the Committee list.

Part II of the Directory will include the local Assemblies and Groups of the United States and Canada and appear as an insert to Bahá’í News of July.

Enrollments and Transfers


The enrollment of twenty isolated believers is reported for April.

In Memoriam

Grant, O my Lord, that they who have ascended unto Thee may repair unto Him Who is the most exalted Companion, and abide beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of Thy majesty and the Sanctuary of Thy glory.---Baha’u’llah.

Andrew Bowhill, Portland, Oregon.

John Sherman, Milwaukee.

Mrs. Ada Lammersen, Chicago.

Bahá’í Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Mercy, June 24; Words, July 13; Perfection, August 1.

Anniversary: Martyrdom of the Báb, July 9.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: July 4, 5, 6.

Annual Souvenir of 'Abdu’l-Bahá at West Englewood: June 28.

Summer School sessions: Green Acre, season opens June 30; Geyserville, July 6 to 26; Louhelen Ranch, first youth session, June 29-July 5; laboratory session, July 5-17; Temperance Ranch, 'teachers' session, June 20-30, and youth session, July 1-10.

Southern Teaching Conference: Vogel Park, Georgia, June 14-21.
"I Urgently, Insistently Plead"

(The) fate-laden world ordeal (is) moving in steady, pre-ordained crescendo. (The) blaze (of a) seemingly uncontrollable fire (is) leaping, ravaging last remaining great Power (on) European continent. Shadows (of) God's retributive act (are) fast gathering. As (the) arena (of) world convulsing contest broadens; as wounds it inflicts deepen; as issues it raises aggravate (and) multiply, so will (the) operation (of) the spiritual forces, destined (to) cast (the) burden (of a) travailing age, be accelerated. As (the) old world sinks beneath (the) weight (of a) crumbling old order, so must new world exponents (of) Bahá'u'lláh's nascent, integrating World Order climb loftier summits (of) their sublime calling. (I) urgently, insistently plead (that) all American believers, particularly (the) National Teaching (and) Inter-America Committees, above all (the) National elected representatives, arm their souls, labor more resolutely, cooperate more closely, scatter more widely, sacrifice more abundantly, (to) insure, during remaining years (of) Seven Year Plan, (the) brilliant discharge (of) the one remaining obligation (of) their dual task, whose consummation must signalize (the) termination (and) seal (the) triumph (of) First Bahá'í Century. Shoghi Rabbani

Cablegram received July 4, 1942.

"Intensity Our Resolution"

Letter from Shoghi Effendi

Dear and Valued Co-Workers:

The internecine struggle, now engulfing the generality of mankind, is increasingly assuming, in its range and ferocity, the proportions of the titanic upheaval foreshadowed as far back as seventy years ago by Bahá'u'lláh. It can be viewed in no other light except as a direct interposition by Him Who is the Or­dainer of the Universe, the Judge of all men and the Deliverer of the nations. It is the rod of both the anger of God and of His correction. The fierceness of its devastating power chastens the children of men for their refusal to acclaim the century-old Message of their promised, their Heaven-sent Redeemer. The fury of its flames, on the other hand, purges away the dross, and welds the limbs of humanity into one single organism, indivisible, purified, God-conscious and divinely directed.

Its immediate cause can be traced to the forces engendered by the last war of which it may be truly regarded as the direct continuation. Its first sparks were kindled on the eastern shores of the Asiatic continent, enveloping two sister races of the world in a conflagration which no force seems able to either quench or circumscribe. This cataclysmic process was accelerated by the outbreak of a fierce conflict in the heart of Europe, fanning into flame age-long animosities and unchaining a series of calamities as swift as they were appalling. As the turmoil gathered momentum it swept remorselessly into its vortex the most powerful nations of the European continent—the chief protagonists of that highly-vaunted yet lamentably defective civilization. The mounting tide of its havoc and devastation soon overspread the northernmost regions of that afflicted continent, subsequently ravaged the shores of the Mediterranean, and invaded the African continent as far as Ethiopia and the surrounding territories. The Balkan countries, as predicted by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, were soon to sustain the impact of this tragic ordeal, communicating in their turn the commotions to which they had been subjected to both the Near and Middle East, wherein are enshrined the heart of the Faith itself, its Cradle, its chief center of Pilgrimage, and its most sacred and historic sites.

Its menace is overleaping the limits of the Old World and is plunging into consternation the
Great Republic of the West, as well as the peoples of Central and South America. The New World as well as the Old is experiencing the terrific impact of this disruptive force. Even the peoples of the Antipodes are trembling before the approaching tempest that threatens to burst on their heads.

The races of the world, Nordic, Slavonic, Mongolian, Arab and African, are alike subjected to its consuming violence. The world's religious systems are no less affected by the universal paralysis which is creeping over the minds and souls of men. The persecution of world Jewry, the rapid deterioration of Christian institutions, the intestine division and disorders of Islam, are but manifestations of the fear and trembling that has seized humanity in its hour of unprecedented turmoil and peril. On the high seas, in the air, on land, in the forefront of battle, in the palaces of kings and the cottages of peasants, in the most hallowed sanctuaries, whether secular or religious, the evidences of God's retributive act and mysterious discipline are manifest. Its heavy toll is steadily mounting—a holocaust sparing neither prince nor peasant, neither man nor woman, neither young nor old.

The Faith of Bahá'u'lláh— that priceless gem of Divine Revelation enshrining the Spirit of God and incarnating His Purpose for mankind in this age—can neither aspire nor expect to escape unharmed amid the hurricane of human disasters that blows around it. By most men unnoticed, scorned and ridiculed by some, feared and challenged by others, this world redemptive Faith, for whose precious sake the world is undergoing such agonies, finds its virgin strength assailed, and its infant institutions hemmed in, by the dark forces which a godless civilization has unleashed over the face of the planet. In the Old World, whether in Europe, Asia or Africa, it is being buffeted about, ostracized, arraigned and repressed. In certain countries its community life is being extinguished, in others its members are denied all intercourse with its World Center. Dangers, grave and unsuspected, confront its cradle and surround its very heart.

Not so, however, with the countries of the Western Hemisphere. The call of Bahá'u'lláh summons, at this challenging hour, the peoples of the New World, and its leaders to redress the balance of the old. "O Rulers of America," He thus addresses the Chief Magistrates of that continent, and the Presidents of the Republic therein... Adorn the temple of your dominion with the ornament of Justice and of the fear of God, and its head with the crown of the remembrance of your Lord, the Maker of the heavens." The Great Republic of the West, an object of special solicitude throughout the ministry of the Center of the Covenant, whose soil has been hallowed by His footsteps, and the foundation of whose edifice—the Mother Temple of the West—has been consecrated by His hand, has been singled out through the operation of His Will, and been invested by His Pen with a unique, an inescapable, a weighty and most sacred responsibility. The Mission entrusted to the community of the North American believers in the darkest days of the last war, is, after a period of incubation of well nigh twenty years, and through the instrumentality of the administrative agencies erected after 'Abdu'l-Bahá's passing, efflorescing under our very eyes. Already, since the inception of the Seven Year Plan, this community can well claim to have attained, through its deeds, a stature that dwarfs its sister communities, and can glory in a parentage that embraces every Republic of Latin America. The first Mashriqu'l-Adhkar of the West, its beautiful and noble handiwork, is virtually completed. A nucleus for a future flourishing local community is already formed in every state and province in North America. The administrative structure, following the pattern of its prototype in the U.S.A. is, through the agency of that same Plan, raising its triumphant head in the Central and South American Republics. The Plan itself, propelled by the agencies released by those immortal Tablets which constitute its charter, bids fair, in the fifth year of its operation, to exceed the highest expectations of those who have so courageously launched it. Its consummation, coinciding with the termination of the first century of the Bahá'í Era, will mark the opening of yet another phase in a series of crusades which must carry, in the course of the succeeding century, the privileged recipients of those epoch-making Tablets beyond the Western Hemisphere to the uttermost ends of the earth, to implant the banner, and lay an unassailable basis for the administrative structure of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.

The quality and magnitude of the work already achieved by these stalwart champions of God's New World Order are inexpressibly exhilarating and infinitely meritorious. The immensity of the task still to be performed staggers our fancy and inflames our imagination. The potentialities with which these tasks are endowed elude our shrewdest calculations. The promise they enshrine is too dazzling to contemplate. What can we do but bow our heads in thanksgiving and reverence, steel our hearts in preparation for the strenuous days ahead, and intensify a hundredfold our resolution to carry on the task to which our hands are set at present?

Excerpts From Letter From the Guardian

It is in view of this constant expansion and increasing complexity of the inter-continental activities of the Faith, for which your Assembly has assumed a primary responsibility, that the Guardian has lately re-emphasized the necessity of avoiding over-centralization in the conduct of the affairs of the Cause, thereby relieving your Assembly of an unmanageable amount of detail and routine work, which would interfere with its clear and paramount duty of maintaining a thorough and vigilant supervision over the work of the Cause as a whole. Excessive decentralization, on the other hand, would tend to nullify the principle which places ultimate authority and responsibility in the hands of the National Spiritual Assembly. His recent instruction regarding the relationship of the Regional Teaching Committees to the National Teaching Committee safeguards this principle which lies at the very basis of the Administrative Order. The Regional Committees, although appointed by the N.S.A. should, unlike all other committees, be viewed as special adjuncts created specifically for the purpose of...
helping directly the National Teaching Committee in its all-important task of stimulating the teaching activities of the Faith in North America. In a sense they are subcommittees of the National Teaching Committee, to whom their reports and all details of the national teaching activity should be constantly and directly referred.

At the present time, in view of the emphasis placed by the Guardian on the teaching phase of the Seven Year Plan, the National Teaching and Inter-America committees acquire great importance and assume added responsibility, and should be supported and encouraged by both the N.S.A. as well as the rank and file of the believers. The resources of the entire community and of the National Fund should be consecrated to this supreme and sacred purpose. The importance acquired by these two committees, however, does not make of them independent bodies, or give them the right to disregard the advice and the general directions of the N.S.A. Otherwise a conflict of authority would ensue within the administration, introducing an evil as pernicious as the tendency to over-centralize the affairs of the Cause in the hands of an over-burdened N.S.A., depriving it thereby of the vision and the necessary leisure required to ponder the policies, the problems and enterprises which the growth of the Administrative Order engenders.

The Guardian is very pleased to learn of the success that has attended the sessions at Atlanta and the removal of the disagreement within the community of that city and the work achieved by the regional conference and the public meeting open to both races. A special effort, he feels, should now be made to lay a foundation of unity between the white and colored Bahá'ís and weld the groups into communities capable of forming Assemblies representative of both races.

The action taken by your Assembly in connection with rural areas, such as township and county, as different from towns and cities, meets with his approval. He hopes that a special effort will be made to increase the number of Assemblies in these rural areas. This, he believes, is one of the major functions and duties of the National Teaching Committee this year.

The fifty photographs showing the recent progress in Temple construction have been safely received and he has already distributed them among the many pilgrims that came this year from Persia, 'Iraq, Syria and Egypt. He would appreciate another fifty copies of the Temple photograph as soon as sufficient faces are completed to represent a finished and unobstructed view of the entire edifice.

The material sent to him regarding the legal action taken against the New History Society, as well as copies of their monthly publication, have been received and the Guardian feels that Ahmad Sohrab is increasingly revealing his latent opposition to the spirit as well as the letter of the Master's Will and Testament. His references to excommunication flatly contradict the Master's own actions and attitude, of which he is personally fully aware, and are irreconcilable with some of the most emphatic and unmistakable injunctions of 'Abdu'l-Bahá in His Will and Testament. His increasingly bold criticisms of the
Beloved Friends:

The Work to Be Done

To the Spiritual Assemblies, Communities and Groups of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.

This year, as this would entail a diminution of the funds that should now be devoted to the vital teaching work to be carried out throughout the Americas.

Every endeavor should be made in the course of the year by the National Assembly, the National Teaching and Inter-America committees, as well as the pioneers in various fields, and indeed by each and every individual believer, to extend the scope and consolidate the basis of the teaching campaigns initiated throughout the Western Hemisphere. Any progress achieved in this most vital field at so critical a stage in the secular affairs of the American nations, will vitally affect the spiritual destinies of these republics, though the interaction of the forces at work in both fields, spiritual and temporal, may not be apparent at the present time. Bahá'u'lláh, the Guardian firmly believes, is releasing through his inter-continental campaign, at a time when decisions vital to the interests of the Western Hemisphere are being taken, forces which, as they reveal their potentialities, will increasingly assist in shaping that World Order which the American peoples of the New World are being called upon to proclaim and establish.

With the assurance of the Guardian's continued prayers for the success of your historic services.

Yours in His Service,

H. RAEBARNI

Haijá, Palestine, May 25, 1941

The American Bahá'ís have left behind the era of vague aspiration and entered that of definite accomplishment. The Guardian has given us an exact measure of our collective teaching responsibility during these three remaining years of the Seven Year Plan. This measure is: the establishment of a Spiritual Assembly in each unoccupied State and Province of North America, the reinstatement of every local Assembly dissolved for lack of numbers, and the formation of an active Bahá'í nucleus in each country of Central and South America.

This task involves a large part of the entire world— the whole of that area not yet submerged by war.

Consideration of the teaching work to be done in Central and South America will be given in the next issue of Bahá'í News. Let us concentrate now on the task in North America.

Unoccupied States and Provinces

As of July 1, 1941, there are twenty States of the United States and nine Provinces of Canada lack-
ing a Spiritual Assembly. These are: New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, Kansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Nevada. To these States should be added the three territories of Alaska, Porto Rico and the Canal Zone.

The nine Canadian Provinces to be enlisted for Baha'u'llah are: Newfoundland, Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon.

**Assemblies to Be Reinstated**

From April 21, 1940 to July 1, 1941, fifteen Assemblies were dissolved for lack of numbers. The resulting Groups represent the most favorable point of attack for a vigorous teaching campaign, but the reinstatement of all fifteen former Assemblies will not of itself settle all the unoccupied States and Provinces. It is a second teaching problem to be undertaken simultaneously with the settlement of those areas listed above.

The fifteen former Assemblies (to which should be added the Assembly of Moncton, N.B., dissolved prior to 1940) are: Glendale, Ariz., St. Lambert, Quebec, Canada, Alhambra, Burbank, Huntington Park and Santa Rosa, Calif., Colorado Springs and Denver, Colo., Augusta, Ga., Topeka, Kan., Lansing, Mich., Knoxville, Tenn., Salt Lake City, Utah, Monroe, Wash., and Eagle River, Wis. (Two Assemblies have not yet reported.)

The National Spiritual Assembly emphasizes the fact that there are only three years left in which to complete this vast teaching program in North America. Each year must witness a definite measure of accomplishment, which means that each month, each week and every single day offers its responsibility to us all.

Concentration of effort by each participating Committee, Assembly or Group is the keynote of success in such a vast program. Let us remember that every Baha'i is a teacher and therefore no Group or Assembly can merely sit passively while awaiting help from outside. Teaching projects are of vital importance, but they are not a substitute for the continuous activity of every consecrated Baha'i.

Besides concentration upon specific tasks until each is accomplished, there is great need for coordination of all available Committee resources, and to this end the National Assembly is in communication with the Publicity, Radio, Library and Race Unity Committees in order that each Committee can contribute its material or advice in connection with the teaching activities conducted by the National Teaching Committee, the Regional Teaching Committees, local Assemblies and Groups for the settlement of Assemblies in the unoccupied areas and the reinstatement of the dissolved Assemblies. The purpose is to bring about a constantly developing technique of teaching work, with the use by the field teacher of all possible Baha'i resources.

These days are the great days in the history of mankind. They are days of prayer and consecration, days of unified action, days for achieving the superhuman aims of the Faith of Baha'u'llah. Therefore let us devote time at each successive Nineteen Day Feast to intensive discussion on ways and means to share in the teaching work.

Faithfully yours,

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

**Proceedings of the 1941 Annual Convention**

To the Convention delegates, to the Assemblies and to the individual believers, the National Spiritual Assembly reports those Proceedings of the Convention which represented recommendations or suggestions to the National Assembly, together with the action taken on them by the Assembly at its meeting held May 30, 31, June 1 and 2, 1941.

1. Voted that the speech of Mr. John J. Earley be edited by him for publication. Action. Voted to send Mr. Earley a transcript of Miss Loeding's notes on his address and ask him if he will put them in shape for a brief article in World Order Magazine at as early a date as possible.

2. Voted, a recommendation to the incoming National Spiritual Assembly to consider the feasibility of appointing regional sub-committees to the Inter-America Committee, Action. Voted to report that this recommendation has been considered but it is not yet feasible.

3. Voted to recommend the publication of Mrs. Mamie Seto's compilation on contributing to the Baha'i Fund. Action. Voted to take
no action on this recommendation because this subject has been covered by instructions from the Guardian which are available in printed form.

4. Voted to recommend a letter of appreciation to the Wilmette Chamber of Commerce for their cooperation and welcome extended to the Baha’i delegates. Action. An appropriate letter has been sent.

5. Voted that it be the sense of this Convention that we urge the Temple Trustees to complete the contract for the nine faces and enter into a new contract to simultaneously do the work for the completion of the steps. Action. The necessary contracts have been executed and the work is actively under way.

6. Voted to recommend that foreign language literature be provided for the large number of refugees now coming to this country, especially in Jewish and German, the suggested works to translate being Abdu’l-Baha’s address to the Jews, and His talk in the synagogue at San Francisco. Action. Voted that until the Baha’i literature in Spanish is complete no new language be undertaken.

7. Voted to recommend that the National Assembly consider the feasibility of spreading the work of the National Committees, adding additional members, making the personnel of such Committees as representative as possible of the diverse minority groups or elements in the Cause. Action. Voted to report that for two years the Assembly has been applying as much as possible the principle that no believer should serve on more than one National Committee, and that racial elements are used as much as possible.

8. Voted to approve draft of cablegram to be sent to the Spiritual Assembly of Mexico City. Action. A loving greeting was sent the Assembly by letter after the Convention.

9. Voted to recommend to the Teaching Committee that in future there be some kind of a written agreement between the pioneers and the National Spiritual Assembly. Action. The Assembly has plans in preparation relating to the purpose of this resolution.

10. Voted that the National Assembly establish a meeting for prayer and meditation to bring about peace, making it one of the essential activities of every Spiritual Assembly, community and group throughout the land. Action. Voted to report the view that the members of the National Assembly, with the body of Baha’is, should concentrate on the Most Great Peace and work diligently toward that end.

11. Voted to recommend that as many members of National Committees be appointed from within the Temple area as possible. Action. Voted to report that the Assembly is fully aware of the Guardian’s instruction that Committee headquarters be established around the Hazratu’ll-Quds as a nucleus and has been carrying out this principle as rapidly as possible. Since the National Office was moved in 1939, the Treasurer’s Office, the Publishing Office and the work of the magazine have been successively transferred, and this has necessitated the construction of an accessory Administrative Building. The Baha’i News Service, in its membership, has been in the area for some years. What the Guardian established is a trend, and the working out of the trend to its ultimate fulfillment may well involve a considerable period of time. As the way opens for further consolidation of the national administrative work in the Temple area, the Assembly will act promptly. It is pointed out, meanwhile, that National Committees are dependent on capacity, and capacity is to be used wherever it is found, a limitation which makes it impossible to transfer Committees to any one point until the requisite capacity and experience are available.

12. Voted to recommend that as the problems have grown with the increase of the teaching work, the National Assembly meet at least once a month. Action. Voted to explain that the members of the National Assembly themselves realize the demands this Office makes upon them. The present average schedule of meetings calls for about seventy-five days a year on the part of the individual members spent in travel and in the successive three and four day meetings. The believers will appreciate what this amount of time means to members who have their own personal responsibilities to make a living.

13. Voted to recommend that if Committees do not function, the Assembly should not retain them but appoint new ones. Action. The Assembly explains that in recent years, Committees have been reporting their work at regular intervals, and the responsibility involved in supervising the Committees is realized.

14. Voted to recommend that publicity material be supplied to isolated believers and groups. Action. The Baha’i News Service has suitable material on hand, and will be requested to make it available.

15. Voted to recommend that the Assembly look to the Guardian for guidance in the preparation of the Convention agenda. Action. Voted to point out that the Guardian’s instructions underlie all plans of the National Spiritual Assembly and their essence is always reflected in the Convention agenda.

Teachings on the Covenant
(Concluded)

When Abdu’l-Baha Himself passed on in 1921, He in turn left a Will and Testament which named the person of an Interpreter and Guardian to guide and unify the Baha’i community after Him, and direct within that community the development of the organic institutions created by Baha’u’llah.

Concerning this Will, we have the following significant words of comment by Shoghi Effendi in The Dispensation of Baha’u’llah—

"Abdu’l-Baha, Who incarnates an institution for which we can find no parallel in any of the world’s recognized religious systems, may be said to have closed the Age to which He Himself belonged and opened the one in which we are now laboring. His Will and Testament should thus be regarded as the perpetual, the indissoluble link which the mind of Him Who is the Mystery of God has conceived in order to insure the continuity of the three ages that constitute the component parts of the Baha’i Dispensation . . .

Being the Child of the Covenant—
the Heir of both the Originator and the Interpreter of the Law of God—the Will and Testament of Abdu’l-Baha can no more be divorced from Him Who supplied the original and motivating impulse than from the One Who ultimately conceived it.
Bahá'u'lláh's inscrutable purpose, we must ever bear in mind, has been so thoroughly infused into the conduct of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and their motives have been so closely wedded together, that the mere attempt to dissociate the teachings of the former from any system which the ideal Exemplar of those same teachings has established would amount to a repudiation of one of the most sacred and basic truths of the Faith.

From the Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Bahá we quote:—

"O ye beloved of the Lord! The greatest of all things is the protection of the True Faith of God, the preservation of His Law, the safeguarding of His Cause and service unto His Word. Ten thousand souls have shed streams of their sacred blood in this path, their precious lives they offered in sacrifice unto Him, hastened wrapt in holy ecstasy unto the glorious field of martyrdom, upraised the Standard of God's Faith and writ with their life-blood upon the Tablet of the world the verses of His Divine Unity . . .

"O my loving friends! After the passing away of this wronged one, it is incumbent upon the Aghsán (Branches), the Afán (Twigs) of the Sacred Lote-Tree, the Hands (pillars) of the Cause of God and the loved ones of the Aḥá Beauty to turn unto Shoghi Effendi . . . as he is the sign of God, the chosen branch, the guardian of the Cause of God, he unto whom all the Aghsán, the Afán, the Hands of the Cause of God and His loved ones must turn. He is the expounder of the words of God and after him will succeed the first-born of his lineage descendants . . . The mighty stronghold shall remain impregnable and safe through obedience to him who is the guardian of the Cause of God . . . He that opposes him hath opposed the True One, will make a breach in the Cause of God, will subvert His word and will become a manifestation of the Center of Sedition . . .

"And now, one of the greatest and most fundamental principles of the Cause of God is to shun and avoid entirely the Covenant-breakers, for they will utterly destroy the Cause of God, exterminate His Law and render of no account all efforts exerted in the past . . .

"O ye beloved of the Lord! Strive with all your heart to shield the Cause of God from the onslaught of the insincere, for souls such as these cause the straight to become crooked and all benevolent efforts to produce contrary results."

As to the nature and validity of the elected Assemblies which represent the local and national Bahá'í communities throughout the world, these are described in the following passages taken from Bahá'í Administration, by Shoghi Effendi. The administrative bodies here mentioned, however, had existed in rudimentary form during the lifetime of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and were nurtured, fostered, encouraged and confirmed by Him. There never has been the slightest justification for any person in America to conceive of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh as an unguarded treasure to be seized and exploited for the ends of personal ambition.

"A perusal of some of the words of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá on the duties and functions of Spiritual Assemblies in every land (later to be designated as the local Houses of Justice), emphatically reveals the sacredness of their nature, the wide scope of their activity, and the grave responsibility which rests upon them.

"In the Most Holy Book (i.e., the Kitáb-i-Aqdas) is revealed:—'The Lord hath ordained that in every city a House of Justice be established wherein shall gather counsellors to the number of Bahá (i.e., nine), and should it exceed this number it does not matter. It be-hooveth them to be the trusted ones of the Merciful amongst men and to regard themselves as the guardians appointed of God for all that dwell on earth. It is incumbent upon them to take counsel together and to have regard for the interests of the servants of God, for His sake, even as they regard their own interests, and to choose that which is meet and seemly . . .'

"Furthermore, 'Abdu'l-Bahá reveals the following:—'It is incumbent upon every one not to take any step without consulting the Spiritual Assembly, and they must assuredly obey with heart and soul its bidding and be submissive unto it, that things may be properly ordered and well arranged. Otherwise every person will act independently and after his own judgment, will follow his own desire, and do harm to the Cause.'

"In this day, assemblies of consultation are of the greatest importance and a vital necessity. Obedience unto them is essential and obligatory . . .

"Regarding the establishment of 'National Assemblies,' it is of vital importance that in every country, where the conditions are favorable and the number of friends has grown and reached a considerable size . . . that a 'National Spiritual Assembly' be immediately established, representative of the friends throughout that country.

"Its immediate purpose is to stimulate, unify and coordinate by frequent personal consultations, the
manifold activities of the friends as well as the local Assemblies, and by keeping in close and constant touch with the Holy Land, initiate measures, and direct in general the affairs of the Cause in that country. “This National Spiritual Assembly, which . . . will have to be re-elected once a year, obviously assumes grave responsibilities, for it has to exercise full authority over all the local Assemblies in its province, and will have to direct the activities of the friends, guard vigilantly the Cause of God, and control and supervise the affairs of the Movement in general. “Vital issues, affecting the interests of the Cause in that country such as the matter of translation and publication, the Mashriq-i-Adhkár (i.e., the Bahá’í House of Worship), the Teaching Work, and other similar matters that stand distinct from strictly local affairs, must be under the full jurisdiction of the National Assembly.”

Revision of By-Laws

Notice is hereby given to all incorporated local Spiritual Assemblies that revision has been made by the National Spiritual Assembly in the standard form of By-Laws in order to conform to recent general instructions from the Guardian.

Art. III. After the sentence reading, “It shall have full and complete custody of the headquarters or meeting place of the Bahá’í community,” the following new text is inserted: “It shall have exclusive authority to conduct Bahá’í marriage ceremonies and issue Bahá’í marriage certificates within the area of its jurisdiction.”

Art. IX. Amended to read as follows: “The sphere of jurisdiction of the Spiritual Assembly, with respect to residential qualification of membership, and voting rights of a believer in the Bahá’í community, shall be the locality included within the civil limits of the municipality, township or county.” Delete the portion which begins: “but Bahá’ís who reside . . . .” etc.

The latter amendment was necessarily made in a form to meet the three different types of civil area in which a Spiritual Assembly can now exist: a municipality (incorporated village, town or city), a township, or a county. The township area is available when there are nine or more Bahá’ís resident in the same township but all resident outside of the incorporated villages, towns or cities in that township. In the same way, the county area is available when there are no civil township areas in the State but the counties are small enough to enable an Assembly to meet conveniently. In revising the By-Laws, each local Assembly must use the proper wording to fit its own case, defining its area accurately in terms of the civil unit selected. For example: . . . the locality included within the civil limits of the municipality of Chicago (New York, or whatever city or town it may be); or this other wording: . . . the locality included within the civil limits of the township of Cloverdale (or whatever name the township may have). No set of local By-Laws should refer to the three alternatives of municipality, township or county, but only to the one actually employed.

Unincorporated Assemblies are equally responsible for following the standard By-Laws of a local Spiritual Assembly, and such Assemblies should also note the revisions published above.

Similarly, the By-Laws of the National Spiritual Assembly have also been revised, to preserve uniformity with the definition of functions and areas given in the local By-Laws. The friends are advised that at the meeting held March 21, 22 and 23, 1941, the National Spiritual Assembly revised its By-Laws as follows:—

Art. VII. This has read: “Whenever in any locality of the United States and Canada, be it city, town or village, the number of Bahá’ís resident therein recognized by the National Spiritual Assembly exceeds nine . . . .” etc. Amended to read: “Whenever in any locality of the United States and Canada, be it municipality, township or county, the number of Bahá’ís resident therein recognized by the National Spiritual Assembly exceeds nine . . . .” etc.

Art. VII. Second paragraph amended to read: “When, however, the number of Bahá’ís in any authorized civil area is exactly nine, these may on April 21st of any year . . . .” etc.

Art. VII. Section 12. Amended to read: “The sphere of jurisdiction of a Local Spiritual Assembly, with respect to residential qualification of membership, and voting rights of a believer in any Bahá’í community, shall be the locality included within the civil limits of the municipality, township or county.” Delete the part of this section which read: “but Bahá’ís who reside in adjacent, outlying or suburban districts . . . .” etc. The second paragraph, beginning: “All differences of opinion concerning the sphere of jurisdiction . . . .” etc., remains unchanged.

Bahá’í Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Words, July 13; Perfection, August 1; Names, August 20.

Anniversary: Martyrdom of the Báb, July 9.

Summer School sessions: Green Acre, successive weekly courses, June 30 to August 30. Race Unity Conference, August 9, 10. Geyersville, program maintained daily, July 6 to 26. Louheilen Ranch, Laboratory session, July 8 to 17, General session, August 10 to 17. Second Youth session, August 20 to 26. Vacation session, July 19 to August 8.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: at Green Acre, August 15, 16, 17.

Latin-American Assemblies

Three local Spiritual Assemblies now exist in Central and South America—at Mexico City, San José, Costa Rica, and Buenos Aires.

The addresses for correspondence are: Sr. Antonia Gonzales Mora, Secretary, Bucareli 65, Bajos 2, Mexico, D.F.; Sr. Salvador Tormo, Chairman, Sarando 140, 7th Piso, Buenos Aires, Argentine; Sr. Guido Contreras, Secretary, Box 99, San José, Costa Rica.

The Latin-Americans Among Us

Whereas the friends who are interested in setting out as pioneers in Latin-American countries address themselves to the Inter-America Committee, those who are interested in working with Latin-American minorities in this country are requested to communicate with the International School Committee.

We anticipate that Latin-American conferences may be launched in various localities under the auspices of the Local Spiritual Assem-
bly, but we shall be pleased to provide data on Latin-American affairs for the use of such conferences.

Besides, those who are studying Spanish and are hopeful of being able to attend the Pine Valley School next year are invited to make themselves known so that we can coordinate the efforts of all the friends working for Latin-American activities within the orbit of the Cause in this country.

The brief reference to a book about Ecuador entitled “The Donkey Inside,” appearing in the June issue of Baha’i News, was condensed to save space and the full statement is now given:

Another example is the book by Ludwig Bemelmans.

The Donkey Inside, which was very widely read and considered to give a picture of the life and customs of the people in Ecuador, and which we think a most charming, original and interesting account of travel impressions of some of the South American West Coast countries . . . On the other hand the Ecuadorian has found it a most incorrect account of the country and is highly displeased by the American press comments referring to our neighbor’s countries as “comic opera republics.”

“It would be a good policy as well as good tact to take account in our printed utterance about our neighbors in the South.”—(Pan-American Forum)

It should also be a warning to Baha’i pioneers not to accept too readily impressions of tourists which are not always accurate from the point of view of the native of the country.

International Baha’i School Committee
Loulie A. Mathews, Chairman

A Call for Original Tablets

There are numerous translations of Tablets of ‘Abdu’l-Baha in the National Baha’i Archives which are not accompanied by the original Persian Tablets.

The Guardian has indicated that in the future no Tablets will be published of which the authenticated original is lacking. Thus many glorious texts may be sacrificed unless the holders of the original Tablets take steps to assure their preservation in the official Archives.

Wanted: Back Numbers of Baha’i News

Any believer, or Assembly, able to supply back numbers of Baha’i News No. 10, or No. 14, is requested to communicate with National Baha’i Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

The National Spiritual Assembly has authorized the Archives and History Committee to explain this important matter to the friends, with a plea that Tablets be turned over to the Committee. It is hoped that each Assembly will take the question up for discussion at a Nineteen-Day Feast.

The Guardian has said that the work of collecting and publishing the Tablets is one of the most important tasks of this generation. The hope is that most of the originals still being held privately can be received during the next few months. The Committee will make available the list of Tablets needed on request.

Send original Tablets by registered mail to Mrs. May T. Scheffler, Secretary, 1821 Lincoln Street, Evanston, Ill.

Archives and History Committee

The Baha’i World

The Baha’i World Committee for Vol. IX is earnestly soliciting brief accounts of the work of pioneers in foreign fields with the dates and names of countries and a photograph to accompany each. The value of these records cannot be over-estimated and those who have been privileged to serve in any such capacity will contribute to the happiness of the Guardian and render to the Cause a most valuable service by complying with this request at once.

The Committee is resorting to this means of reaching all pioneers of both past and present as a personal letter entails much extra labor and in many cases the addresses are not known.

Nellie S. French, Chairman

Library Committee

The Library Committee has a number of encouraging things to report since compiling the Annual Report.

The number of requests for books have been vastly increased and books have been presented to libraries which will reach many people, as State Libraries, State Library Commissions and Traveling Libraries. We hope to receive more requests for these types of libraries which supply books over large regions.

Also, we are happy to report that books were donated to the Service Libraries in the Seventh Corps Area through the efforts of Mrs. Alice Dudley: Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas; Fort Riley, Kansas; Fort Francis E. Warren, Wyoming; Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; Jefferson Barracks, Missouri; Fort Crook, Nebraska and Fort Omaha, Nebraska. Mrs. Dudley received a letter from the Headquarters which stated: “The commanding general directs me to extend his appreciation of this generous contribution to the camp libraries. Following is a list of the posts and camps to which you might direct these books. All correspondence addressed to the commanding officer will reach the proper person.” A tactful approach is necessary in contacting these libraries, as, in most cases, the books must be approved by the Army Chaplains who are in charge of the libraries. The Library Committee hopes to contact many of the Forts during the coming year and present books to these important libraries.

Duncan McAlear, a member of this committee, has been given the opportunity of speaking at a luncheon of librarians from Southern Massachusetts on the “World Order of Baha’u’llah” during April. He is planning to present a number of copies of “Baha’u’llah and the New Era” at that time and will doubtless make many valuable contacts.

Miss Virgie Vail has presented over a hundred copies of “The Glorious Kingdom of the Father Foretold” leading college, university and divinity school libraries. She has also offered copies for distribution to libraries through the Regional Teaching Committees. Miss Vail also plans to present this book to Navy and Army Libraries and to the Inter-America Committee for distribution to libraries in South America.

Books were presented to eighty libraries since March 16th. These included ten theological school libraries and the Departments of Religion of ten colleges and universities.
In several cases, the heads of these departments stated that they would use the volumes in their Comparative Religion Courses. The Helena Assembly did outstanding work in contacting the School of Religion at Montana University. Rev. Baty, the head of this Department, not only accepted a complete set of books but also asked for pamphlets to distribute to his students. In his letter, he stated: "I teach a new course "Modern Religious Movements" in which some time can be spent on an analysis of the Baha'i Faith ... The last three weeks of the course will be spent in building an adequate religion for today. It is my expectation that all the world's religions will have something to contribute to such a faith."

A printed slip with tributes to the Faith is now being pasted on the flyleaf of each book presented to libraries. It is hoped that this slip will attract the attention of library patrons and inspire them to read our books.

The Library Committee is also planning to send copies of the pamphlet "Appreciations of the Baha'i Faith" to the leading libraries throughout the country.

Mrs. Stuart Saxe, Chairman

Study of Islam

The Study Outline Committee is at present preparing a study course on Islam, its history and its teachings, for the use of Baha'is. It is the hope of the committee members, in view of the fact that as long as two years ago the Guardian urged the American believers to study Islam, that the course may be completed by the end of this committee year, June or July, and ready for the believers by fall.

The Committee finds it needs the cooperation of fellow-believers in the gathering of material for the course:

1) If there are Baha'is who have received Tablets from 'Abdu'l-Baha, or have received letters from the Guardian on any phase of Islam will they share these with the rest of us by placing copies in the hands of the Study Outline Committee? If these have been published, perhaps the receivers can send us notations concerning book and page.

There was such a letter sent to Miss Rosenberg which 'Abdu'l-Baha refers to elsewhere. Does anyone know where a copy of this letter can be secured?

2) If there are believers who, in a position to be acquainted with Islam, wish to make any suggestions whatsoever to the Committee, these suggestions will be most gratefully received. They may be concerning bibliography, personal experiences in traveling or in teaching, or results of personal and class study.

3) In preparation of the new course it has been found wise to include in each lesson references to non-Baha'i sources; that is, to books by historians and Orientalists. As some of the most interesting and valuable books would be unavailable to most Baha'i communities it is necessary, therefore, to quote occasionally from these books. Space limits prevent any very voluminous quoting, however. Therefore, the Committee suggests that Baha'i communities begin to build up their own libraries of Islamic literature.

4) The Study Outline Committee itself is eager to build up a central collection of Islamic materials to which Baha'is throughout America could refer, and which right at the present would furnish a basis for preparation of the new course. Believers who find books that they are willing to pass on, please then notify the Committee concerning price and place where they may be obtained.

The entire course will be based on Baha'i literature references, of which there are many. For this use communities will need at least one copy of Mysterious Forces of Civilization, The Dawn-Breakers, Some Answered Questions, and A Traveler's Narrative; but of The Iqan, Baha'u'llah's Book of Certitude, there should be one copy for each student.

A few non-Baha'i books useful in the course will be: Edward Gibbon, Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire; H. G. Wells, Outline of History; Ameer Ali, Spirit of Islam (this is very hard to get: published in England); Dwight W. Donaldson, The Shi'ite Religion (out of print); George Sale, The Koran (with "Preliminary Discourse" if possible. This is a large volume); Alfred Guillaume, The Traditions of Islam; Dr. Sprenger, Life of Mohammed (from original sources); Simon Ockley, History of the Saracens (from original sources); Sir John Chardin, Voyages, ii. (quite Persian); Sir Percy Sykes, Persia, and A History of Persia, also The Glory of the Sh'Iah World.; Stanley Lane-Poole, The Moors in Spain; Sir Thomas Arnold, The Caliphate, and The Preaching of Islam; Hyat-ul-Kuloob, trans. by the Rev. James Merrick (Book of Shi'ah tradition).

Note: Consult public libraries, especially for biographies of Muhammad.

Study Outline Committee
By: Alice S. Cox, Chairman
1109 West Gift Avenue
Peoria, III.

In Memorium

Grant, O my Lord, that they who have ascended unto Thee may repair unto Him Who is the most exalted Companion, and abide beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of Thy majesty and the Sanctuary of Thy glory. —Baha'u'llah.

Mr. Henry R. Hagemann, Miami Beach, Florida.
Mr. John W. Shirk, Denver.
Miss Gertrude Elizabeth Parvane Bohanan, Kenosha.
Mrs. Bertha West, Clearlake Highlands, California.
Miss Selma Paulson, Chicago.
Dr. John F. King, Chicago.
Mr. Howard Colby Ives, Little Rock.
Mrs. Sylvia Bishop, San Francisco.

Enrollments and Transfers


Twenty-three enrollments of isolated believers were reported in May, and twenty-two in June.

News of East and West

Through the courtesy of the Los Angeles Assembly we are able to share a most interesting account of teaching work by Sydney Sprague, who wants the friends to know what a demonstration of the power of prayer was disclosed in the recent enrollment of six believers by his local Assembly.

"Last December I was reading a copy of Baha'i News which told of the passing of May Maxwell in South America. She was my spiritual
mother and brought me into the Faith forty years ago in Paris. I thought back of the time when I taught and lectured in France, England and Germany, in India and Burma, and I wished in my heart that I might teach and lecture in the Argentine where she passed away. But since my stroke I could scarcely phrase an intelligible sentence."

A cablegram was sent to the Guardian asking him to pray that Mr. and Mrs. Sprague be strengthened to serve the Cause, to which he replied: "Assure prayers success Cause."

Unexpectedly Mr. Sprague then heard from a friend whom he had not seen for a number of years, and this friend invited him to pay a visit to his ranch, where Mr. Sprague's health greatly improved. During that visit he taught and confirmed his friend and five others. Moreover this new believer, Mr. Shafir, has been planning to open a school for boys at Buenos Aires. He and his four boys are studying Spanish in order to prepare themselves to carry out this intention.

In January and February, the San Francisco Assembly presented a series of "Educational Evening" at 560 Sutter Street. The program lists nine topics of extreme interest which are reprinted here as suggestions for other Assemblies.


A territory of deep public interest is covered by this succession of subjects, which are so well suited to attract people of capacity to the Faith.

The Teaneck Assembly has inserted two pages on the Bahá'í Faith in a pamphlet issued by the local Board of Commerce under the title "Facts About the Township of Teaneck," in the nature of a handbook about the community. The Assembly feels that the cost of this insertion is well justified as a teaching expense, since a copy of the pamphlet is given to every property owner in the town.

The two pages were made up with a photograph of the Temple, a brief description of it, the nine texts of Bahá'u'lláh which will appear over the Temple doors, some quotations from the literature, and announcement of local meetings.

A reprint of a letter written by Mr. Ouskouli of Shanghai to the editor of North-China Daily News and published in its issue of March 9, 1941 under the title "World Crisis: Religion Is the Remedy," has been received. Mr. Ouskouli quotes from the different Holy Books and lists five points taken from the precepts of Bahá'u'lláh which should be adopted by responsible statement.

Two recent issues of The Rangoon Times have contained extensive Bahá'í articles. On March 7 this influential journal published one and a half columns on the Bahá'í world order. On April 3 it reprinted the Guardian's well known passage on the pattern of the future society.

From London has come the November number of the bulletin issued by the N.S.A. under the title "The New World Order." It is listed as Vol II, No. VIII, which indicates that the bulletin has been published regularly despite the difficult conditions. This number contains excerpts from words of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the Guardian, an editorial on "The Definite Goal," and basic principles of the Faith.

The Bahá'í Magazine: herald of the South, the organ of the N.S.A. of Australia and New Zealand, also comes regularly every quarter, the most recent copy being dated January, 1941. The contents include: Editorial, by D. M. Dugdale, Esperanto text, "La Maturigo de la Homaro," Answered Questions, Christianity and the New World Order, Bahá'í Prayers, A Brief Statement of the Bahá'í Attitude to War, Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, The Promulgation of Universal Peace, and 'Abdu'l-Bahá's words on Meditation.

The following material comes to us through the News Letter of the Haifa Assembly:

"It gives us great pleasure to report to you the translation of the gist of a letter addressed to the Guardian by Mr. David S. Toeg, a member of the Bahá'í Spiritual Assembly of Baghdad. The letter contains news of unusual interest for the friends throughout the world. It describes in detail a most remarkable and successful journey undertaken by Mr. Toeg from Baghdad to the Sar-Galu mountain for the purpose of locating the historical grotto in which Bahá'u'lláh lived in retirement between 1854 and 1856 upon His leaving Baghdad for Sulaymányih. The latter is a mountainous region about 170 miles northeast of Baghdad, inhabited mostly by Kurds.

"Mr. Toeg went from Baghdad to Kirkuk by rail, traveling all night, then from Kirkuk by car to the town of Sulaymáníyih in the province which bears that name, a trip which took two and a half hours; thence to a small village called Shadaláh, another two and a half hours' drive in an automobile. From here, two hours' ride on horseback through mountainous country took the author to Sar-Galu.

"At Sulaymáníyih, the help of a faithful guide was obtained through the kindness of one of the notables of the town, a personal friend of Mr. Toeg, who had learned with great interest of the purpose of his visit.

"In Shadaláh, the author was very well received by the Sheikh of the village to whom he explained the aim of his visit and conveyed Bahá'u'lláh's Message. The Sheikh was extremely kind and helpful.

"Leaving Shadaláh on horseback, Mr. Toeg and his guide reached the village of Sar-Galu, in the very heart of the Sar-Galu mountain. Here they were very kindly received in the home of the village chieftain and for six hours talked with the oldest inhabitants of the village, who had gathered there for the occasion, trying to learn if they had any knowledge of the location of Bahá'u'lláh's grotto. Among those present there was a man reputed to be 110 years old. Unfortunately, he was not very clear in his thinking, at that age; but he said that he did remember having seen a venerable old man in one of the four caves in that mountain—and he named the cave. 'I cannot recall now the name of that venerable personage,' he added; 'but I do remember that one day I heard people saying that a holy man had come to that cave. So I went with the crowd to have a look at him.' At the end of the meeting, a large party set out with Mr. Toeg, including the Sheikh or chieftain, and proceeded to the caves. Of the four caves in that mountain, one looked to have been man-made, but the other three are works of nature.

"As no reliable information could be obtained concerning the identity of Bahá'u'lláh's cave, Mr. Toeg photographed all the four caves.

..."
These photographs properly marked and labeled are now in the possession of the Guardian.

"The inhabitants of the Sar-Galu region are of Kurdish descent. Mr. Toeg writes very highly of them. He found them very hospitable, warm-hearted and sincere. They greatly rejoiced when told that they were living on a holy mountain, since Baha'u'llah Himself had selected it for His residence for two years.

"Thanks to the Finnish translation of 'Baha'u'llah and the New Era,' the Baha'is of Finland are already known in the Sulaymaniyah region. Mr. Toeg hopes that ways and means may soon be found to bring the light of Baha'u'llah's Message into the hearts of those strong and sturdy people of that holy mountain."

From the Baha'i Quarterly of the N. S. A. of Australia and New Zealand we select this interesting report:

"Following the success of the Preliminary Summer School held in June, 1940, and previously reported, the First Baha'i Summer School was held in Easter week at Mr. and Miss Blundell's summer cottage, Denewood, and the adjoining cottage at Browns Bay.

"The school was formally opened on Thursday evening by Miss Blundell, in the absence of the Chairman, Mrs. Axford, through illness. Miss Blundell extended a warm welcome to the seven members present. The convener of the Summer School Committee, Miss Burns, read an article on "Spiritual Illumination." After the reading she expressed the special pleasure it was to have two isolated believers with them for the period of the School session—Mrs. Lane of Weymouth and Mrs. Parkin of Whangarei, 150 miles distant. Although the numbers were small, Miss Burns said, this must not be compared with the immeasurable value the school offered for study and fellowship with each other, especially those prevented by distance from close association with the community. Owing to Mrs. Axford's inability to fulfill her allotted part the program was rearranged, provision being made for a fresh chairman at each session, thus enhancing the interest and giving opportunity for what was to some initial experience in chairmanship.

"Thursday evening passages from the Teachings were read. Mr. H. K. Blundell was the chairman at Friday evening's session. The speaker, Mr. J. H. Bennett, read his most interesting and carefully compiled essay on the lives of five of the outstanding heroes in "The Dawn Breakers," Nabil's Narrative.

"Saturday: Mrs. Lane presided at the morning session and four consecutive articles entitled "The Future Religion" by Howard Hurlbut were read by four of the students. These articles explaining many Bible prophecies in the light of the Teachings proved an enlightening contribution. Two more visitors arrived during the day and in the evening J. M. Barrie's one-act plays, "The Twelve Pound Look" and "The Will" were read.

"Sunday: Mrs. Parkin opened the session with prayer and reading. Miss Blundell spoke on the subject of "Prayer and Meditation" in her customary beautiful and practically helpful manner. Two other members arrived for the afternoon meeting which was addressed by Mr. Garth Ballantyne. Mr. Ballantyne has been doing social work amongst boys for a number of years and was in residence at his summer cottage next door to Denewood with 20 boys. His account of his work, the methods employed and the results achieved proved intensely interesting. His voluntary service for the adolescent youth of his district is worthy of the highest praise. God will assuredly continue to bless it.

"The evening session was opened with prayer and appropriate readings. Mrs. I. Robertson who was unable to attend the school kindly prepared a fascinating lecture on National Music illustrated by gramophone records. Mr. and Mrs. B. Collins conducted this session.

"Monday: Six friends from Auckland arrived during the morning but had to return before the evening session. Mrs. Parkin, as chairman, welcomed the visitors and read a letter from Miss Leighton, another absentee. Prayers and reading preceded the speaker, Miss Blundell, whose subject was "The Dawnbreakers."

"The afternoon session was conducted by Miss Burns, the subject being Baha'i Administration. The Institutions of the New World Order, the basis of their structure, unity and consultation, were ably dealt with. Miss M. Borrows was chairman at the evening session which was opened by the reading of the Lord's Prayer of the Moslem and a Healing Prayer by Baha'u'llah. Miss F. deLisle was the speaker and her subject 'The History of Islam' was a fascinating miniature of this vast subject.

"The Committee owes a deep debt of gratitude to all who contributed to make the school the success it undoubtedly was—to Mrs. Dewing for selecting the prayers, to Mr. Blundell for meeting the bus and conveying the friends to the school in his car; to those who prepared the cottages for occupation and those who undertook house duties and cooking, and to Mr. and Miss Blundell for the free use of their cottage. The opportunity the school afforded for fellowship and spiritual refreshment was inestimable, the spiritual confirmations immeasurably great."
BAHÁ'Í DIRECTORY
Part II
Local Spiritual Assemblies and Groups
1941-1942
(Corrected to July 1, 1941)
A. ASSEMBLIES

Arizona:
Phoenix—Mrs. Marietta Wilson, 332 W. Moreland Street.

California:
Berkeley—Mrs. Helen B. Rutledge, 2828 Stuart Street.
Beverly Hills—Miss Barbara Dean, 433-A North Oakhurst Drive.
Big Bear Valley Township—R. Bruce Munro, Big Bear Lake, P.O.
Cloverdale Township—Mrs. Olive Meyer, Geyserville.
Glendale—Miss Virginia Orbison, 1505 E. Windsor Road.
Los Angeles—Willard P. Hatch, 4367 West 8th Street.
Oakland—Miss Carmen D. O'Neill, 385 Jayne Avenue.
Pasadena—John E. Falk, 525 N. Lake Avenue.
Sacramento—Miss Elizabeth Duffy, 2223 E Street.
San Diego—Miss Mary L. Fenn, 1744 Second Avenue.
San Francisco—Miss Nadeen G. Cooper, 748 Page St., Apt. 7.
Santa Barbara—Mrs. Marie Lowell, 226 E. Padre Street.

Canada:
Vancouver, B.C.—Miss Evelyn Cliff, 3590 Pine Crescent.
Hamilton, Ontario—Mrs. G. Robinson, 108 Hadden, S.
Toronto, Ontario—Miss Helen Gidden, 44 Chestnut Park Rd.
Montreal, P.Q.—Mrs. Thomas Lee, 1548 Pine Avenue, W.

Connecticut:
New Haven—Miss Gertrude Duell, 561 Whalley Avenue.
West Haven—not reported.

District Columbia:
Washington—Mrs. Sylvia Parmelee, 4700 47th St., N.W.

Florida:
Jacksonville—Miss Kathryn L. Vernon, 707 Post Street.
Miami—Mrs. Lucille Buffin, 49 S.E. 6th Street.
St. Augustine—Mrs. Frances A. Shaw, 130 Central Avenue.

Georgia:
Atlanta—Mrs. P. D. Cunningham, 1362 Euclid Avenue.

Hawaii:
Honolulu—Miss Henrietta From, 36 Bates Street.
Maui—Mrs. Mary T. Fantom, Sprecklesville.

Illinois:
Chicago—Mrs. H. E. Walrath, 4939 Beacon Street.
Danville—Mrs. Dorothy Underwood, 404 N. Gilbert Street.
Evanston—Miss Virginia Russell, 2622 Prairie Avenue.
Maywood—Mrs. Gladys Amerson, 501 S. 7th Avenue.
Oak Park—Mrs. Ruth F. LaRocque, 915 Augusta Street.
Springfield—Mrs. Gretchen Schultz, 1320 ½ S. 11th Street.
Urbana—Mrs. H. A. Harding, 704 W. Nevada Street.
Waukegan—Mrs. G. E. Terry, 1522 Malrose Avenue.
Wilmette—Mrs. Virginia Cameron, 125 Fourth Street.
Winnetka—Mrs. Harriet Hilpert, 453 Chestnut Street.

Indiana:
Indianapolis—Mrs. Helen Patterson, 2725 Station Street.
South Bend—Mrs. Florence Bowers, 228 S. St. Peters Street.

Maine:
Elliot—Miss Deane Raitt.

Maryland:
Cabin John—not reported.
Baltimore—Miss Mildred Elmer, Box 855.

Massachusetts:
Boston—Miss Alice N. Parker, Room 419, 25 Huntington Ave.
Brookline—Miss Louise D. Wright, 82 Ivy Street.
Springfield—Miss Haraett E. St. Laurent, Box 105, Highland Station.
Worcester—Miss Fanny M. Holmes, 103 Webster Street.

Michigan:
Detroit—Mrs. Charles B. Hall, 2910 Superior Street.
Flint—Mrs. Esther Prehn, 1020 Hammond Street.
Grand Rapids—Mrs. Laura D. Walsh, 520 Jefferson Avenue, S.E.
Muskegon—Mrs. Iva Smack, 132 Allen Avenue.

Minnesota:
Minneapolis—Miss Ella H. Steinmetz, 1425 La Salle Avenue.

Missouri:
Kansas City—Mrs. J. B. Becktel, 202 W. 36th Street.

Montana:
Helena—Charles Adams, 106 S. Main St.

Nebraska:
Omaha—Mrs. Doreene Holliday, 3014 N. 28th Avenue.

New Jersey:
Haworth—Miss Betty D. Rustay, 12 Valley Road.
Jersey City—Arthur Foster, 41 Tomelle Avenue.
Montclair—Miss Anne E. Van Blercum, 19 Walnut Crescent.
Newark—Mrs. Jack Steed, 83 Milford Avenue.
Teaneck—Mrs. Amy G. Ratibitschek, 123 Evergreen Place.
New Mexico:
   Albuquerque—Dr. A. L. Morris, 310 S. 4th Street.

New York:
   Binghamton—Wilbur Edgecomb, 70 Walnut Street.
   Buffalo—Mrs. Morris S. Bush, 406 West Utica Street.
   Geneva—Mrs. Mary G. Collison, 681 Castle Street.
   Jamestown—Miss Onolce Eddy, 30 Blanchard Street.
   New York City—Mrs. Patrick Quinan, 119 W. 57th St., Room 615.
   Rochester—Miss Christine McKay, 201 Rutgers Street.
   Syracuse—Mrs. Edward B. Belcher, 909 Ackerman Avenue.
   Yonkers—Mrs. Samuel Newman, 50 Mulford Gardens.

Ohio:
   Cincinnati—Miss Hilda Stauss, 3840 Epworth Avenue, Westwood, Cincinnati.
   Cleveland—Mrs. Beatrice Ashton, 1566 Mistletoe Drive.
   Columbus—Mrs. Margaret Acebo, 658 Oak Street.
   Dayton—Mrs. Hazel Volz, 259 Louise Street.
   East Cleveland—Prof. Wm. Sandoz, 1770 Delmont Avenue.
   Findlay—Loring K. Ebersole, 924 No. Main Street.
   Lima—Mrs. Marie Krammer, 436 Kenilworth Avenue.

Oklahoma:
   Oklahoma City—Mrs. A. P. Entzminger, 423 N.E. 10th St.

Oregon:

Pennsylvania:
   Philadelphia—Miss Jessie E. Revel, 2531 North 19th Street.
   Pittsburgh—Mrs. Bessie F. Seger, 550 Homewood Avenue.
   Scranton—Mrs. Zoebis Dorsey, 1312 Linden Street.
   West Chester—Mrs. Margaret J. Lear, 13 College Avenue, Box 215.

South Carolina:
   North Augusta—Mrs. Daisy Moore, 550 Carolina Avenue.

Tennessee:
   Memphis—Mrs. Thomas H. Watkins, 733 N. Bellevue Blvd.
   Nashville—Miss Nellie R. Roche, 703 Commerce Union Bank Building.

Washington:
   Richmond Highlands—Mr. B. W. Schneider, Box 15.
   Seattle—Miss Zara Phanco, Box 228.
   Spokane—Mrs. Marget Stange, East 920—38th Avenue.

Wisconsin:
   Kenosha—Mr. Louis J. Voelz, 6108 Sheridan Road.
   Madison—Mr. Wm. D. Russell, 1835 University Avenue.
   Milwaukee—Mrs. Claire Fricke, 1128 N. 21st Street.
   Racine—Mr. Harold R. Olsen, 1322 Russel Street.
   Wauwatosa—Mrs. Harry Nelson, 9615 Harding Boulevard.

NAME CORRESPONDENT

Baha'i Assemblies

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NAME    CORRESPONDENT

Tuskegee, Ala.—Mrs. F. L. Drye, Tuskegee Institute.

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Verdun, P. Q., Can.—Mrs. Sherman, 336 Fifth Avenue.

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Freeport, Ill.—Miss Ella M. Bokof, 518 W. Galena Avenue.

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Morton, Ill.—Mrs. Hazel L. Foster, Morton, Illinois.

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Northbrook, Ill.—Mrs. Helen S. Becker, Northbrook, Illinois.

NAME    CORRESPONDENT

Pekin, Ill.—Mrs. N. B. Antonson, 709 S. 9th Street.

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Peoria Heights, Ill.—Mrs. Iris Austin, 217 E. Dursey Street.

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NAME    CORRESPONDENT

Rockford, Ill.—Dr. E. L. Fernald, 606 Empire Building.

NAME    CORRESPONDENT

Wildwood Hts. Twp.—Mrs. Fred Vallery, R. R. 1, Peoria, Illinois.

NAME    CORRESPONDENT

Fort Wayne, Ind.—Mrs. Maye Worthington, 2606 Winter Street.

NAME    CORRESPONDENT

Independence, Ia.—Mrs. Lillian Cooke, 807 6th Avenue, S.W.

NAME    CORRESPONDENT

Topeka, Kansas—Miss Fern Latimer, 622 W. 8th Street.

NAME    CORRESPONDENT

Topeka, Kansas—Mrs. Paul Brown, 4200 W. 19th Street.

NAME    CORRESPONDENT

(Mission Township Group)
Independence, Mo.-Miss Opal Howell, Butte, Mont.-Mrs. Betty Nelson, Wyoming
Pentwater, Muskegon, Mich.-Mr. Louis H. Keller. R. R. Highland, Mich.-Ziaollah Fazlollah,
Grosse Pointe, Mich.-Mrs. Dorothy E. June 12 to Aug. 31, 1941, send mail to Miss Edge at
Lansing.
Grand Haven, Mich-Miss Cora C. Edge, 614 Lafayette Street.
Dearborn, Mich.-Mrs. Gerald M. Horne.
Three Rivers, Mass.-Mrs. H. E. Chamberlin, 11 Maple Terrace.
Clio, Flint, Mich.-Mrs. Anna Eldridge, 15417 Thomas Avenue.
Needham, Mass.-Miss Helen M. Stevens, 1069 Central Avenue.
Salem, Mass.-Mr. J.
Princeton, Cambridge, Mass.-Louise S. Waterman,
Beverly, Mass.-Mr. Richard
Dundalk, Md.-Mrs. Geo. W.
Portland, Me.-Miss Blanche Corliss, 47 Vesper Chevy Chase, Md.-Miss Anna Eldridge, 15417 Thomas Avenue.
Covington, La.-Mrs. Marion Little, P. O. Box 81.
New Orleans, La.-Mr. Frederick Babo, 526 St. Peter Street.
Portland, Me.-Miss Blanche Corliss, 47 Vesper Street.
Chevy Chase, Md.-Miss Hanna Lohse, 6 Quincy Street.
Hyattsville, Md.-Mrs. Shirley P. Lassiter, R. 1, Powder Mill Road.

1941-1942

Topeka, Kansas—Miss Ruby Sinell, 2535 California Avenue.
(Topeka Township Group)
Covington, La.-Mrs. Marion Little, P. O. Box 81.
New Orleans, La.-Mr. Frederick Babo, 526 St. Peter Street.
Portland, Me.-Miss Blanche Corliss, 47 Vesper Street.
Chevy Chase, Md.-Miss Hanna Lohse, 6 Quincy Street.
Hyattsville, Md.-Mrs. Shirley P. Lassiter, R. 1, Powder Mill Road.

Arlington, Mass.-Mrs. Victor Archambault, 2 Pilgrim Road.
Auburn, Mass.-Mrs. Kenneth N. Bennett, 5 Forest Drive.
Avon, Mass.-Mrs. Alexander Mapp, Box 228.
Beverly, Mass.-Mr. Richard S. Gladding, P. O. Box 63.
Cambridge, Mass.-Louise S. Waterman, 7 Centre Street.
Maiden, Mass.-Mrs. Orville Brandon, 25 Webster Street.
Monson, Mass.-Mrs. Alice Bacon, Monson, Massachusetts.
Natick, Mass.-Miss Helen M. Stevens, 1069 Central Avenue.
Newton, Mass.-Miss Helen A. Miller, 3 Church Street.
Norton, Mass.-Mrs. G. A. Shook, Norton, Massachusetts.
Provincetown, Mass.-Miss Diana Cripp, Bradford Street.
Salen, Mass.-Mr. J. P. Crowley, 18 Mt. Vernon Street.
Three Rivers, Mass.-Mrs. H. E. Chamberlin, 11 Maple Terrace.
Wenham, Mass.-Mrs. Clarence H. Lunt, Main Street.
Woburn, Mass.-Mrs. Anthony Corea, 213 New Boston Street.
Allen Pk., Mich.-Mrs. Anna Eldridge, 15417 Thomas Avenue.
Ann Arbor, Mich.-Mrs. Wm. M. Parker, 1901 Ponti Street.
Chio, Mich.-Mrs. Elba Higgins, Field Road.
Davison, Mich.-Mr. L. W. Eggleston, Lohlelan Ranch.
Deearborn, Mich.-Mrs. Gerald M. Horne, 4423 Kingston St. Rd.
East Fruitport, Mich.-Mrs. Mary Frazer, R. 1, Box 135.
Flint, Mich.-Mrs. Stanley Bagley, 3228 Claude Avenue, R. S.
Fruitport, Mich.-Mrs. E. McManaway, Main Street.
Grand Haven, Mich.-Miss Cora C. Edge, 614 Lafayette Street.
June 12 to Aug. 31, 1941, send mail to Miss Edge at 1865 Plainfield Ave., N. E., Grand Rapids, Michigan.
Grosse Ile, Mich.-Mrs. Dorothy E. Stephenson, 2464 Parkway.
Grosse Pointe, Mich.-Mrs. George True, 132 Moran Road.
(Grosse Pointe Farms Group)
Kalamazoo, Mich.-Mrs. Grace Wood, 523 Portage Street.
Lansing, Mich.-Mr. David Earl, 512 N. Holmes Street.
Muskegon, Mich.-Mr. Louis H. Keller, R. 1, Box 187.
(Lake Harbor Group)
Marysville, Mich.-Mrs. Oscar Keleti.
Muskegon Heights, Mich.-Mrs. Josephine Spink, 525 5th Street.
Port Huron, Mich.-Ellerton V. Harmon, 1519 Wells Street.
(Stith's Creek Group)
Van Dyke, Mich.-Mr. Elva Green, Box 515.
Roseville, Mich.-Mrs. Katherine E. Page, 18450 Hazelwood Avenue.
Wyoming Park, Mich.-Mr. Wm. C. Nel, 2446 Cherrywood Court.
Ypsilanti, Mich.-Miss Charlotte Palmer, 113 Perrin Street.
Duluth, Minn.-Mrs. Annie Berridge, 525 West 9th Street.
Independence, Mo.-Miss Opal Howell, Butte, Mont.-Mrs. Betty Nelson, Wyoming
Hinsdale, N. H.-Mrs. Jocita G. Staples, Box 47.

Goffstown, N. H.-Mrs. Lionel Loveday, 38 S. Main Street.
Portsmouth, N. H.-Mrs. Margaret Loveday, 1079 Maplewood Avenue.
Atlantic City, N. J.-Mrs. Eva Batey, 23 N. Ohio Street.
East Orange, N. J.-Mrs. Paul W. Wright, 105 Leslie Street.
Englewood, N. J.-Mrs. Frances McCombe, 88 Lafayette Avenue.
Fair Haven, N. J.-Mrs. Sophie Bent, 81 Church Street.
Red Bank, N. J.-Mrs. Rose Lefkowitz, 115 McLaren Street.
Tenafly, N. J.-Miss A. H. Land, 4 Heyler Avenue.
(Several Youth)
Weehawken, N. J.-B. S. Gottlieb, 21 50th Street.
Albany, N. Y.-Miss Zena Holden, 45 Terrace Avenue.
Eisen, N. Y.-Miss Evelyn Kepken.
(Seneca Township Group)
Larchmont, N. Y.-Mrs. Luda Dabrowski, 12 Bronson Avenue.
New Rochelle, N. Y.-Robert E. Fuller, 57 Brookside Place.
Schenectady, N. Y.-Miss Ella Quant, 1080 Glenwood Boulevard.
Waterloo, N. Y.-Mrs. Eliz. F. Hughey, 14 Seneca Street.
Fargo, N. Dak.-Mrs. T. O. Morrill, 1115 8th Street, North.
Akron, Ohio-Mrs. Russell Brooker, 34 Castle Boulevard.
Beoley, Ohio-Mrs. Florence M. Reh, 2512 Brydon Road.
Bucyrus, Ohio-Mrs. C. D. Pettit, 412 River Street.
Celina, Ohio-Mrs. Agnes Mae Ayers, 415 E. Livingston Street.
Clevevile, Ohio-Mrs. Louie H. Crayne, 152 E. Franklin Street.
Cleveland Heights, Ohio-Mrs. Dale S. Cole, 3174 Corydon Road.
Cayahoga Falls, Ohio-Mrs. T. H. Sauer, 2376 Northland Street.
Dayton, Ohio-Mr. Raymond T. Didier, 2115 Victoria Drive.
(Harrison Township Group)
Medina, Ohio-Mrs. Ed. Weld, 415 E. Livingston Street.
Brunswick, Ohio-Mrs. Maurice Ferrell, R. F. D. 2.
(Granger Township Group)
Springboro, Ohio-Josef W. McCoy, Springboro, Ohio.
Springfield, Ohio-Mrs. Phoebe L. Jones, 148 Kewberry Road.
Toledo, Ohio-William Thiele, 402 Rockingham Street.
Urbana, Ohio-Mrs. Beulah Jones, 1019 S. Main Street.
Wilkinsburg, Pa.-Mrs. Kenneth Chapin, 1105 Walnut Street.
Pawtucket, R. I.-Mrs. Helen F. Wilson, 73 Dunell Street.
Providence, R. I.-Miss Eliza McCarroll, 5 Congdon Street.
(Summer Address of Miss Wheeler: Farmer Road, Elliot, Maine.)
Lead, S. Dak.-Mrs. Ethel C. Ayer, 236 W. Main Street.
Lubbock, Tex.-Mr. James Henning, 2111 18th Street.
San Antonio, Tex.-Mrs. Kathyrn Frankland, 228 E. Pecan Street.
Salt Lake City, Utah-Mrs. W. B. Sears, 2367 Beverly Street.
Arlington, Va.-Miss F. Paulson, 834 N. Jefferson Street.
Waterford, Va.-Mr. Allen McDaniel, P. O. Box 96.
(Loudon County Group)
Newport News, Va.-Mrs. Stella Fall, 3107 Roanoke Avenue.
Kirkland, Wash.-Mrs. Blanche Larson, Box 55.
Sultan, Wash.-Miss Lillian Marsolais, Sultan, Washington.
Tacoma, Wash.-Mrs. Harry Taylor, 412 S. 4th Street.
Charleston, W. Va.-Mrs. Gilbert E. Dillow, 1502 Camden Drive.
Bristol, Wis.-Mrs. Nina Matttis, R. F. D. 1, Box 240.
Eagle River, Wis.-Mrs. Agnes Ruzza, R. R. 1.
(Clearfield Township Group)
Eagle River, Wis.-Mrs. Joyce Schidell, P. O. Box 684.
Green Bay, Wis.-Florence Delany, 1115 S. Webster Avenue.
Oconomowoc, Wis.-Ward Calhoun, R. 1, Box 19.
Laramie, Wyo.-Mrs. Joe Homales, 265 Railroad Avenue.
This Sacred Trust

To the Spiritual Assemblies, Communities and Groups of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.

Beloved Friends:

In the July issue of Bahá'í News we considered the teaching task throughout North America to be accomplished during the three remaining years of the Seven Year Plan. Now let us turn to the other American peoples and republics of Central and South America. The teaching task there is even more varied and demanding, for the Guardian has called for the establishment of a definite group, a nucleus of believers, in each nation of Central and South America by 1944. “Would to God every State within American Republic and every Republic in American continent might ere termination (i.e., Bahá’í century) embrace the light (of the) Faith of Bahá’u’lláh and establish structural basis of His World Order,” the Guardian cabled on May 1, 1936, to the Annual Convention. “The promulgation of the Divine Plan, unveiled by our departed Master in the darkest days of one of the severest ordeals which humanity has ever experienced, is the key which Providence has placed in the hands of the American believers whereby to unlock the doors leading them to their unimaginably glorious Destiny,” he declared in his letter dated November 14, 1936. “The seven year plan which it has sponsored and with which its destiny is so closely interwoven, must at all costs be prosecuted with increasing force and added consecration.” Thus, on November 25, 1937, Shoghi Effendi sealed his explanation of the mission entrusted to the American Bahá’ís.

By 1939 the Inter-America teaching work had attained the stage of “progressive, systematic penetration” as was emphasized by the Guardian’s cablegram to the Convention held that year. “Upsurge (of) Bahá’u’lláh’s impelling Spirit can not, will not, be stemmed (nor) impeded. Methodical advance along (the) line traced (by) pen (of) ‘Abdu’l-Bahá irresistible... Though politically unsettled, religiously intolerant, socially backward (and) climatically inhospitable, these unexplored territories hold forth inestimable prizes (for) audacious adventurers (in the) path (of) Bahá’í service... Appeal all believers, white and Negro alike, (to) arise (and) assume rightful responsibilities.”

A NEW WORLD

Our teaching activity has reached the point where, to follow the development of current plans, the believers should have recourse to maps of North and South America. On such maps we can begin by noting the States and Provinces of North America still lacking an Assembly, and the republics of Central and South America where pioneer settlement is still open. In The Advent of Divine Justice, twenty republics are mentioned.

The National Assembly is happy to announce that one of the remaining areas, Peru, will soon receive Miss Eve Nicklin as its pioneer Bahá’í. Guatemala has a group but no resident American teacher. Honduras is in the same status. Venezuela has had pioneers but lacks an active teacher at present. Mrs. Eleanor Adler has accomplished much in Bolivia, but her obligation to return to the United States leaves the new group in need of experienced direction. Brazil, that immense empire, has a number of American workers, and an Assembly at Bahia was formed a year ago, but the field calls for more pioneers, just as more can be used at Panama.

This Inter-America teaching is not merely an enlargement of our teaching area—it stands for a new spiritual world to be won for Bahá’u’lláh. Deathless glory goes to every worker who contributes to such a glorious victory!

The Mandate Conferring by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Indeed, the more we contemplate the nature of this unique mission,
the more we come to realize the fact that the Inter-America teaching field is a solemn responsibility laid upon the American Bahá'ís. The structural basis of Bahá'u'lláh's World Order must be formed by 1944, and in the whole world the only workers free to undertake the task are members of our own Bahá'í community. When the Báb arose in Persia, His mission attained its public influence only after the Letters of the Living had penetrated into the spiritual world created by their Lord. Similarly there are potent blessings and powers still latent in the Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh, awaiting the capacity of our community to make right use of such heavenly gifts, as evidenced by our sacrifice and heroism in settling the twenty republics of Latin America.

The work already done is miraculous. We have the memory of Martha Root's journey to South America; we have the infinite blessing of May Maxwell's martyrdom; we have a growing company of heroic souls laboring in the field; we have the services of a committee in constant touch with all teachers and groups, a committee whose experience and facilities are becoming each year more adapted to its challenging task; we have the cooperation of three active Spiritual Assemblies which represent Latin American believers; and we have, above all, the Revelation itself available in an increasing number of Spanish, Portuguese, French and other translations.

"I, for my part," the Guardian assured us in his letter of May 22, 1939, "am determined to reinforce the impulse that impels its members forward to meet their destiny. The Founders of their Faith survey from the Kingdom on high the range of their achievements, acclaim their progress, and are ever ready to speed their eventual triumph."

Faithfully yours,

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

"Indeed, the essential prerequisites of admittance into the Bahá'í fold of Jews, Zoroastrians, Hindus, Buddhists, and the followers of other ancient faiths, as well as of agnostics and even atheists, is the whole-hearted and unqualified acceptance by them all of the Divine origin of both Islam and Christianity, of the Prophetic functions of both Muhammad and Jesus Christ, of the legitimacy of the institution of the Imamate, and of the primacy of St. Peter, the Prince of the Apostles. Such are the central, the solid, the incontrovertible principles that constitute the bedrock of Bahá'í belief, which the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh is proud to acknowledge, which its teachers proclaim, which its apologists defend, which its literature disseminates, which its summer schools expound, and which the rank and file of its followers attest by both word and deed.

"Nor should it be thought for a moment that the followers of Bahá'u'lláh either seek to degrade or even belittle the rank of the world's religious leaders, whether Christian, Muslim, or of any other denomination, should their conduct conform to their professions, and be worthy of the position they occupy."—Shoghi Effendi, in The Promised Day Is Come.

Call for Teachers

A little more than two years ago our hearts were stirred by an urgent and overwhelming call from our beloved Guardian—a call for "nine holy souls who, independently or as deputies, will promptly, fearlessly volunteer (to) forsake (their) homes, cast away (their) attachments (and) definitely settle (in) these territories . . ." What then occurred is history in our Cause and eternal glory to dauntless ones who, without any hesitation, responded to win for the American community these virgin States and Provinces. The Guardian had asked for nine pioneers. There were eighty-one who volunteered to go, whose blessed privilege it was to evoke in the Guardian's heart "feelings of overpowering gratitude (at) the response of so many pioneers to the call of teaching . . ."

Beloved friends, are we to say that those thrilling days are past, that opportunity comes no more to awaken and seize us? Or rather, are we not already overwhelmed by a new task, a hundred times greater and more challenging in its magnitude? Is not the prospect now before us, since the Guardian's cablegram to the Convention, charged with a weightier responsibility?

To your Committee, faced by the facts of an initial survey, the Guardian's two-fold assignment to the American believers seemed at first crushing and beyond our strength. With less than three years remaining, we are to establish Local Spiritual Assemblies in twenty-eight States and Provinces, which number includes two of the fourteen Assemblies recently disbanded and now to be promptly reinstated! Need we remind ourselves that the Faith first penetrated this continent over forty years ago, and yet the job is only half done!

This time success can be assured not alone by the ardent response of individual believers. Indeed we need such response desperately, for these States and Provinces must have additional teachers—teachers of every kind, pioneer, resident, circuit, and visiting—to assist the devoted friends already living there. We must gain a solid foothold and put down our roots. But after that, the Cause must be extended, numbers increased, believers confirmed, Assemblies trained and elected. If every State and Province is to have its delegate at the centennial Convention of 1944, then we must elect these Assemblies by 1943!

Such prodigious effort calls for heroic response from us all, not as individuals alone, but as an American community. Into this battle we must throw out every resource. "To launch the bark of the Faith, to implant its banner, is not enough," says Shoghi Effendi. "Support, ample, organized and unremitting, should be lent, designed to direct the course of that work and to lay an unassailable foundation for the fort destined to stand guard over that banner . . . This is my plea, my supreme entreaty." (April 17, 1939)

Beloved friends, let us pledge ourselves to the months ahead! Let us act with unity, prayer, and utmost endeavor, through the instruments of our national and regional committees, our local Spiritual Assemblies, the sacrifice of funds, the burn-
ing energies of believers everywhere. Under the leadership of the National Spiritual Assembly and the guidance of our beloved Guardian, we are summoned to surpass all our past and finest triumphs.

Your committee is anxiously and eagerly waiting to hear how it may assist you in this immensely urgent task.

**National Teaching Committee**

**Inter-America News**

"They that have forsaken their country for the purpose of teaching Our Cause—these shall the Faithful Spirit strengthen through its power. A company of Our chosen angels shall go forth with them, as hidden by Him Who is the Almighty, the All-Wise. How great the blessedness that awaits them that hath attained the honor of serving the Almighty! By My Life! No act, however great, can compare with it, except such deeds as have been ordained by God, the All-Powerful, the Most Mighty. Such a service is, indeed, the prince of all goodly deeds, and the ornament of every goodly act. Thus hath it been ordained by Him Who is the Sovereign Revealer, the Ancient of Days."—Baha'u'llah, in The Gleanings, page 334.

**Paraguay**

The reports from Paraguay will bring great joy to the Baha'i community of North America. Miss Cheney writes: "Next week we open the class for deeper study of the Teachings in preparation for Baha'i membership. There are 15 in the adult class who have expressed their intention of taking this course. Will you help me pray that, if it is the will of Baha'u'llah, Paraguay may have an Assembly, one truly confirmed and well grounded in the Faith? It is a serious thing to take the name Baha'i in a new land, especially one that suffers from such turmoil as Paraguay. These people must be able to really live the life, to demonstrate the power of Baha'u'llah through their actions every day. If at last none can really do this, then I feel that the Cause will grow here by leaps and bounds, and that new members coming in later will have a bulwark upon which to lean.

"The Youth Group was born two weeks ago in the midst of our latest revolutionary attempt. The group is growing and the revolution seems over for the time being.

"Perhaps it is not altogether surprising that I lack physical strength after making a total change of hemisphere, food and surroundings, and living for four months in an intensely humid climate with an average temperature of 110° F., often creeping up to 120° F. in the afternoons. We have had only three or four days of cooler weather, though March and April are supposed to be the beginning of fall. The people say it has been an unusually hot season even for Paraguay, a land of torrid climate, for the most part low-lying and 1200 miles from the nearest sea breeze. There is so much humidity that, even with the sun's rays boiling down, furniture, my typewriter case and kid gloves locked away in a clothespress for protection, become moldy."

Another letter from Miss Cheney from which we also quote: "The young people have asked for classes in English as a service, since almost no one in this country can speak English. These classes proved so popular that there was a demand for adult classes also. At present, I have four English classes a week. Each lesson is built around a story concerning 'Abdu'l-Baha, or Baha'u'llah, or a Baha'i principle. I use Lydia Zamenhof's method of illustrating words with actions and objects, and after the class has recognized the meaning of each, then I tell the story, pointing to the words in turn, and they translate it into Spanish. In this way, some 20 people are getting a taste of the Baha'i Cause. Just how it will work out as a means of attracting them to further study, still remains to be seen, since it is quite a new experiment."

**Share deep grief (of) bereaved community (at) passing (of) Elizabeth Greenleaf, beloved handmaid (of) Baha'u'llah. Her radiant spirit, staunch loyalty, noble character, effective teaching method (were) distinguishing features (of her) consecrated life. Praying abundant blessings (in) life beyond.**

Shoghi Effendi

Cablegram received August 7, 1941

**Chile**

Mrs. Atwater writes from Chile: "We are madly studying the English Procedure. Our chairman, Dr. Leibenschein, is a master linguist. Our Group is so universal that he has to translate in four languages, Spanish, German, French and English. Many new people of capacity are being attracted now that we have a fine nucleus—of course it is the power of unity that attracts."

Mrs. Atwater reports having been invited to speak before several clubs and to contribute articles for a newspaper.

**Montevideo**

Mr. Wilfrid Barton writes enthusiastically of the progress of the Cause in Montevideo and of the interest of a number of influential people, which has opened the way for wide spread publicity. He reports that Uruguay is one of the most liberal countries in South America in regard to its attitude towards religion. Weekly classes are being held in his apartment.

**Cuba**

The Inter-America Committee has received with joy two new registration cards from Havana, and together with the Baha'i community welcomes Sra. Divina Pastora Gonzalez and Nadji S. Haim as new friends.

**Haiti**

A recent letter from Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell encloses a registration for Mr. Willis Lubin. We are happy to welcome Mr. Lubin into the Baha'i Cause.

Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell report that the classes being held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. McBean are attracting more and more persons.

**Bolivia**

Mrs. Eleanor Adler writes that the opportunities to tell of the Cause in Bolivia are very great. She tells of an educator from the United States who mentioned Baha'u'llah and His teachings before an audience of several hundred persons. He is reading a number of the books and has evinced great interest. Mrs. Adler planned to sail from Lima, Peru on the sixteenth of July for the United States.
Remarks on Publicity by a
Pioneer Teacher

During four years this servant was editor of a daily newspaper, and for three and a half years served as news service committee chairman of the Bahá’í group in Lima, Ohio. As a result of editorial work, I attained a wholesome respect for publicity and its power over the public mind, but as news service chairman and while doing pioneer teaching for three years in cities within reach of my home, I gained a new slant on this subject. More recently, during six months as a pioneer in Paraguay, additional angles of the publicity problem have come to my attention, and it has been suggested that I share my conclusions with other Bahá’ís.

When I came to South America the end of December, I found a new set of problems to be met. The Roman Catholic Church is powerful and jealous of the entrance of any other spiritual teaching. It no longer possesses the power to teach love and brotherhood and to maintain peace, but it has quite sufficient power to crush new movements, if its opposition is attracted. Also, many of the Latin American countries, even when ostensibly republics, are ruled actually by various dictatorships, whether the dictator is an individual, as in Brazil and the Argentine, or is the power of the local army, as in Paraguay. Such governments are incapable of understanding the new world order.

I found that in Rio publicity had been used, with the result that Bahá’í meetings were forbidden by the government, and later were permitted only on a very restricted basis in the form of friends dropping in for tea and discussing spiritual subjects. The substitution of the word “universal” in place of “international” had helped to clear up some of the problems there.

In Buenos Aires I found a strong, active group meeting in the apartment of Philip Sprague, a champion pioneer teacher, and growing through personal contacts. Later, when a public Bahá’í center was opened and publicity was used by this group, the government promptly suspended the meetings, and closed the center. After a short time, however, meetings were again permitted, pending obtaining a government license. Word arrived from Buenos Aires recently that this license has at last been granted.

I arrived in Asunción, Paraguay, during the aftermath of a particularly bad revolution, to discover that the people to whom I had letters of introduction from friends in other countries, were now political prisoners or exiles. When I called upon one, who was still available, he looked at me with tears in his eyes, and said quite frankly, “This is the strangest time in my life. I do not expect to live more than 24 hours. I know that God has sent you to me.” To people living in the comparative security of the United States, the social turmoil in a country such as this one, which has suffered from some 65 to 70 revolutions in its 128 years as a republic, is practically unimaginable.

A brief investigation showed that meetings of the Theosophical Society here had been suspended by government order, following the opening of a public meeting place and the use of publicity. All Bahá’í work in Paraguay has been done through prayers for guidance and personal contacts, one person sending me to another, until on January 28 classes opened in my pension, with 30 persons attending, representing some of the most prominent and highly regarded people of the city in educational, artistic and business fields. The members include the three most outstanding authors and poets of Paraguay, a noted portrait painter, a fine sculptor, three university professors and a former public minister of education, high school teachers, the owner of the principal commercial airline, a scientist, the general manager of the railroad, and
other well known people. Five have asked for Bahá’í membership and a special class is being conducted for deeper study in preparation for such membership, with 15 attending.

During the first weeks there was one case of opposition, in which the local priest called upon the owner of the pension and protested against the display in my rooms of the picture of a "strange temple" and against a "new teaching" going out from her house. I had already taken care that Sra. Leonor de Morenigo, a woman of good family, who operates the pension, should be acquainted with the Bahá’í principles. She replied to this protest with spirit, "There is nothing in the Bahá’í Teachings that is contrary to the truth in Catholicism. They are beautiful and I believe they are true." It is my feeling that, as long as Bahá’í teaching is kept to the basis of friends coming to discuss spiritual subjects, and publicity and public meetings are avoided, there will be great protection, and opportunity for a group to grow strong enough to meet the problems which may arise later.

Based on experience and observation, it would be my advice to all pioneer teachers in North America and especially in South and Central America, to strictly avoid the use of publicity until after they have become well entrenched in the cities where they settle, have become acquainted with conditions there, and have the means of judging whether publicity will help or hurt their work. It is my belief that they will always find the method of personal contacts productive of far better results in the forming of new groups on both continents. Personal contacts attract people of high caliber and avoid wasting time with the idle curious and those who lack capacity. This method also avoids attracting unnecessary opposition.

In most of the cities of North America teaching began in little private groups in the homes of individual believers. In the United States the Faith has gradually evolved for some forty years. At first we had only the spiritual teachings, and it was quite recently that we were given Bahá’í administration and the new world order. It is scarcely reasonable to expect our Latin American brothers and sisters to assimilate in a moment all the things that we have required some forty years to learn.

The people of South America, who have spiritual capacity, are very sincere and warm-hearted. As they grow in understanding, they will make great contributions toward the growth of the Cause in the Americas. They have the hearts of poets, lovers and martyrs. But because of this very enthusiasm, this swiftness in being attracted, they need time to grow and very careful guidance in developing a strong foundation for their Faith, in order that they may not lose it, when the winds of trials assail them.

Bahá’í teachers, coming from the north into these southern countries among people whose civilization, whose life experience and ways of thought are totally different from our own, should make a careful study of their new environment and the people whom they are to teach and assist by the grace of God to find the Beloved of the worlds. Such teachers, if they have any pride in their native country, must forget this, and develop a deep appreciation and love for the people and the country, where Bahá’u’lláh has sent them. Because of the arrogance of the average North American in foreign lands, South Americans are always watching for some of this to appear in all of our people. Only profound humility and perfect love
on our part, can disarm their fear and open a path to their hearts.

Programs should be formulated only after real study and observation of the people, their capacities and their needs. In a majority of Central and South American countries, the teaching of world order must be kept on a definitely universal plane, in order to avoid unnecessary misunderstandings. It is better to begin with spiritual subjects, and to use this angle in dealing with universal peace, the unity of mankind and the unity of all faiths under God.

The most important thing for a pioneer teacher to remember twenty-four hours per day, is the fact that in his own person. If teaching is done in that spirit, then whatever comes is good. The other three essential requisites for such a teacher are universal love, constant and gentle persistence and unfailing patience. He must love all with a pure spirit, and teach the friends how to love one another and appreciate the perfections in one another, even when they are people who are not naturally attracted to each other. He must be persistent and yet never push. He must be unfailing in his efforts, and yet never in too great a hurry in performing spiritual tasks. He must have wisdom and patience to listen as well as to speak. He must deal with the most personal and intimate problems of those whom he teaches. He must learn to accept everyone at the point where he now is, without judgment and without blame, and with perfect love assist that soul to grow toward God. Only the wisdom of Bahá'u'lláh is sufficient for this task, and His unfailing guidance always comes through prayer.

—Elizabeth H. Cheney

Regional Teaching Activities

Our Guardian has, in his challenging message to the 1941 Convention, disclosed a vast new phase of the teaching program for North America, which calls for a display of heroic persistence in these next three years surpassing all our former efforts. We dare not relax until a Spiritual Assembly has been assured for every State and Province. As “resolute upholders (of the) Divine Plan,” Shoghi Effendi tells us, we “will, indeed cannot but persist (in) ordained task (to) propagate flame, enlarge administrative limits, strike deeper roots (of the) world-encompassing, world-redeeming Faith (of) Bahá'u'lláh.”

Acting on this exhortation, many of the Regional Teaching Committees of the U. S. and Canada have been conducting conferences during June and July, in the South at Vogel Park, in the North at Vancouver and Montreal, in the East at the Green Acre Bahá'í School, and in the West at the Geyserville School, designed to focus the thoughts and energies of all the friends on their two-fold teaching mission.

“The responsibility of each member of the region in the completion of the Seven-Year Plan, and the establishment of an Assembly in three of the four Provinces of the region,” comprised the first part of the Conference held at Vancouver, B. C., early in June, followed by discussion of qualifications and training of teachers, purpose and policy of the Regional Committee, materials and teachers available, and methods of pioneering for the communities of that area. Mrs. Moscrop, Miss Cliff, Miss McKenna, Miss Wylie, Mrs. Liddell, and Mrs. China led the discussion on the various topics and Bruce Hogg spoke at a public meeting in the evening.

In Montreal there were 25 representatives attending the Conference from the Eastern Provinces. The program of the five-day session, June 29 to July 2, included discussion on “The Promised Day Is Come;” and the Bahá'í attitude towards the World: Morals and Character, Bahá'í Administration, Bahá'í attitude toward Christianity, Justice, and Post-War Reconstruction. Each believer attending was asked to prepare a fifteen-minute talk suggesting how to comply with the Guardian's wish for the fulfillment of the Seven-Year Plan. Picnics at the Salas' in St. Lambert and the Schopflochers' in Montreal were also a part of the program. Rowland Estall, pioneer from Winopeg, and Mr. and Mrs. Emeric Sala, just returned from Venezuela, assisted with the conference.

At the week's session of the Vogel Park Teaching Conference in Georgia, June 14-21, there were study courses in the morning on "Some Answered Questions" given by Mrs. H. Emogene Hoagg, and "The Master Key to Life" led by Mrs. Mabel Ives and Mrs. Terah Smith. At the
friends on plans for giving the Teachings to the men in Camps.

Plans are under way for additional inter-community conference in August at Milwaukee; over the Labor Day holiday at Vernon, B. C., and Lake Chelan, Washington; and on September 6 at Foundation Hall, Wilmette.

Many successful picnics have also been arranged by Local Assemblies. At Springfield, Mass., the 15th Annual Bahá’í Picnic was held at Forest Park on June 15 with over sixty present. Wm. Kenneth Christian spoke on “The Promised Day Is Come.” At Syracuse the Upper New York picnic was held at Green Lake Park and talks were given by Mr. and Mrs. Christian and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ford. “Two new believers resulted.” An Inter-National Picnic was given at Queenston by the Toronto to Assembly to which fifty New York State and Ontario Bahá’ís and their friends came. Speakers during the afternoon were Mr. Fred Reis, chairman, Victor Davis, Amy Putnam, Burton Dezendorf, Mary Collison, Helen Inderled, and Doris McKay.

Santa Paula’s annual picnic sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Carpenter on June 25 drew a crowd of over eighty from Southern California, San Francisco and Berkeley. Speakers were Mrs. Sylvia King and Mrs. Marion Yazdi. Open house at the Carpenter’s climaxed a gala day.

A fruitful technique for attracting newcomers to the Faith has been devised and successfully applied by Mrs. Sylvia King in two inter-racial, inter-faith song fest at Fresno and Bakersfield, Calif., to commemorate respectively Naw-Ruz and the Declaration of the Báb. For each occasion Mrs. King, with the assistance of the Regional Committee and isolated believers, especially Mrs. Edna Tillyer, was able to enlist the voluntary cooperation of many community groups, resulting in programs rich and diverse in interest, in exceptional attendance (about 250 in Bakersfield), and almost no expense. Participating groups or representatives included the High School Mixed Chorus, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Mennonite Brethren Church, Japanese Christian and Buddhist groups, Lighthouse Full Gospel Choir, A.M.E. Church, and the Chinese group. Under Bahá’í leadership and with a keynote Bahá’í speaker, the program “resulted in a great many people becoming interested in finding out more about the Cause, and in fact stirred the whole city... Because of the great success of the affair, all the local newspapers gave us wonderful publicity afterward.” Mrs. King has suggested the plan as especially adapted for Bahá’í fete days, when “Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Zoroastrians, Muhammadans and Hindus... may be gathered together to celebrate with beautiful and lofty music and with the Creative Word, and with prayer and spiritual greetings from leaders, the general theme of ‘The Oneness of Mankind’ and ‘The Fundamental Harmony of Religions’... Thus the Bahá’í Faith may be proclaimed to the assembled throngs... brought together by the love of God and the Message of Bahá’u’lláh.”

In these and a hundred other ways the Faith is moving forward at the present crucial hour. Happy indeed are the children of Bahá’u’lláh who, in the midst of confusion and sorrow, have found their constructive, eternally-unfolding work!

National Teaching Committee

"Not ours, puny mortals that we are, to attempt, at so critical a stage in the long and checkered history of mankind, to arrive at a precise and satisfactory understanding of the steps which must successively lead a bleeding humanity, wretchedly oblivious of its God, and careless of Bahá’u’lláh, from its calvary to its
ultimate resurrection. Not ours, the living witnesses of the all-subduing potency of His Faith, to question, for a moment, and however dark the misery that enshrouds the world, the ability of Bahá'u'lláh to forge, with the hammer of His Will, and through the fire of tribulation, upon the anvil of this travelling age, and in the particular shape His mind has envisioned, these scattered and mutually destructive fragments into which a perverse world has fallen, into one single unit, solid and indivisible, able to execute His design for the children of men.

"Ours rather the duty, however confused the scene, however dismal the present outlook, however circum­scribed the resources we dispose of, to labor serenely, confidently and unremittingly to lend our share of assistance, in whichever way circumstances may enable us, to the operation of the forces which, as marshalled and directed by Bahá'u'lláh, are leading humanity out of the valley of misery and shame to the loftiest summits of power and glory.”

—SHOGNI EFFENDI, in The Promised Day Is Come.

Race Unity

The National Race Unity Committee concluded its public programs for the season as guests of the Cincinnati Assembly. The friends of this city held a dinner on March 29 at the Cincinnati Y.W.C.A., with a number of visiting guests as participants. The following evening a large, mixed group met at the Center to hear Mr. Louis Gregory speak on "The Races, One or Many," and Mrs. Dorothy Baker, on "The Bahá'í Peace Plan."

An unusual blessing was bestowed upon the Convention this year, during the period of consultation on racial unity, when, through the efforts of Mr. Clarence Niss of that Committee, thirty Oneida Indians of the Wisconsin area visited the Convention and were introduced on the floor. Mr. Eli Powlas, the first of their number to actually join the ranks of the faithful band of followers of Bahá'u'lláh, assisted in introducing these friends and making them feel at home. Mr. Niss conducted, for delegates coming from locations near reservations, a seminar on techniques of approach to the American Indian. The committee feels that a great beginning has been made in this field, and expresses the hope that those friends having helpful suggestions will write in often.

Work with the great Negro minority of America has also gone steadily forward. The Bahá'í Faith has been presented this year to nineteen Negro schools and colleges, as well as to a number of adult Negro organizations.

The Race Unity Committee deeply appreciates the noble and inspiring cooperation of the friends at large with these activities. Every Bahá'í is an unofficial member of such a committee. Already, numbers of the stalwart defenders of Bahá'u'lláh's invincible standard have arisen to accept the cordial invitation of their Guardian: 'Let any one who feels the urge among the participants in this crusade, which embraces all the races, all the republics, classes and denominations of the entire Western Hemisphere, arise, and, circumstances permitting, direct in particular the attention, and win eventually the unqualified adherence, of the Negro, the Indian, the Eskimo, and Jewish races to his Faith. No more laudable and meritorious service can be rendered the Cause of God, at the present hour, than a successful effort to enhance the diversity of the members of the American Bahá'í community by swelling the ranks of the Faith through the enrollment of the members of these races. A blending of these highly differentiated elements of the human race, harmoniously interwoven into the fabric of an all-embracing Bahá'í fraternity, and assimilated through the dynamic processes of a divinely appointed Administrative Order, and contributing each its share to the enrichment and glory of Bahá'í community life, is surely an achievement the contemplation of which must warm and thrill every Bahá'í heart.” (Advent of Divine Justice.)

—RACE UNITY COMMITTEE

World Order Magazine

The general make-up and plan of contents adopted last year has been continued in Volume VII, the friends having given such approval to the changes made in Vol. VI.

Believers not seeing the magazine regularly can judge of the variety of its contents from the articles published in the last three issues.

July, 1941: The Bahá'í Faith Offers; These Prophets and Chosen Ones, Bahá'u'lláh; Religion for Our Time, William Kenneth Christian; From a Panama Diary, V, Louise Caswell and Cora H. Oliver; The Báb, Grace Griffith Harris; Tests and Afflictions, Compilation; Study Outline on Reincarnation; With Our Readers.

August, 1941: Crime and the Treatment of Criminals, Chester F. Barnett; Song of the New World, Angela Morgan; Love and Unity, Compilation; The Kings of Earth, Shoghi Effendi (excerpts from The Promised Day Is Come); The Divine Way of Consultation, Alma Sothman; Living Religions and a World Faith, Book Review, Garreta Busey; The Báb, poem, Elizabeth Hackley; Study Outline on Muhammad, Prophet of God; With Our Readers.

September, 1941: A Scientific Approach to Religion, Howard Lux­moore Carpenter; The Crumbling of Religious Orthodoxy, Shoghi Effendi (excerpts from The Promised Day Is Come); Faith, Henry C. Beecher; Compensation, Virginia Moran Evans; What We Go Through, Julia Robinson; Abandon Not the Everlasting Beauty, Lorna Tasker; The Earth Is One, Opal Howell; How to Achieve Love and Unity, Compilation; Bahá'í Lessons; With Our Readers.

Of unusual interest to Bahá'ís is the article by Julia Robinson in the September number. It is a reprint of an address given by Miss Robinson at the Town Hall, San Francisco, in opening the 1940-1941 lecture series. In her remarks as chairman of the meeting, Miss Robinson outlined clearly and forcefully the Bahá'í
principles as the basis of world order.

The Editorial Committee wishes to appeal to the friends for a greater flow of material suitable for use in the magazine. Besides accurate and well written expositions of Bahá’í truths, the magazine needs statements of personal experience reflecting growth in faith, poems, treatments of topics like Bahá’í Summer Schools, Bahá’í Assemblies and other institutions in the Cause, and interesting incidents in the teaching field.

Address the Committee at 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill.

Temple Teaching

In January, 1941 there were 289 visitors, or one visitor more than in January, 1940. These visitors were from nine states, and from Canada and Persia. The groups that attended in a body during January were:

- 14 colored girls from the Evanston Y.W.C.A.
- 28 members of the Young People’s Society, Oak Park Baptist Church.
- 29 soldiers from Fort Sheridan, Ill.
- 26 Girl Scouts, Evanston.

In February, 1941, there were 425 visitors from eleven states, and none from foreign countries. Large groups that attended in February were:

- 18 members Evanston Y.W.C.A.;
- 11 members Kappa Delta Sorority, Northwestern University Alumnae;
- 60 members of rural boards of education from Michigan attended institute at Northwestern University;
- 55 members of rural boards of education from Michigan attended institute at Northwestern University.

The Temple is open every day from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. from May 1 to October. We can’t stress too much the fact that there always is an urgent and great need for guides during the summer. For those who wish to prepare themselves for this important teaching work, there is a class for guides in the Temple every Sunday from 11:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. This study class is open to everyone who feels the obligation or who may wish to do so, to study and qualify as a guide. In this class can be acquired information about the Temple and answers to questions often asked by visitors during actual guiding.

There is no better way to benefit oneself or promote the spread of the Teachings, than to guide in the Temple. Think what a fertile field this represents! Nearly 17,000 visitors came through the Temple voluntarily last year from all over the world. Prepare now to guide your share through the Temple in 1941.

TEMPLE GUIDE COMMITTEE
By Mary Haggard, Chairman

Requests for Temple Models

The Bahá’í Exhibits Committee has received a number of requests for the loan of a Temple model. In order to supply models on a schedule which will permit the utmost use of each on a minimum cost for shipment, the Committee requests all believers who now have a Temple model on loan to report this at the earliest possible date. This request is directed to local Assemblies, groups, Regional Teaching Committees and pioneer teachers.

Kindly address your report to Carl Scheffler, Secretary, 1821 Lincoln Street, Evanston, Ill.

Youth Bulletin

The issue of June, 1941 was the second number in Volume VII. During its seven years of existence the Bulletin has been a powerful instrument in establishing the unity and understanding of Bahá’í youth in North America in action for the promotion of the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh.

Gratitude and appreciation is due the contributors and the successive editors and business managers whose service has contributed to the development of such an interesting and helpful organ for the National Youth Committee and the many local youth groups.

The June number listed in its Contents the following titles: Bahá’í Youth Must Study, editorial; Book Review by Benjamin Kaufman of “The New World Order” by H. G. Wells; Faith Sustains Bahá’í Youth in England; Youth and the Bahá’í Summer Schools: Green Acre, by Joseph M. Noyes; Geyserville, by Adrienne Ellis; Louhelen, by Margaret Ruhe; Mondlingvo Por Mondordo, by Della C. Quinlan; San Francisco Youth Conference; With Young Bahá’ís in Central and South America; From Here and There; Important Notice Concerning The Bahá’í World, Vol. IX.

Publishing Committee

The Publishing Committee, acting on a recommendation approved by the National Assembly, has developed facilities to make up and sell two assortments of teaching literature as listed below. The Committee

Spiritual Assembly of Berkeley, Incorporated April 11, 1941.
understands that there is a great demand for assortments and is pleased to be able to cooperate.

Assortment No. 1 includes five copies each of The World Religion, Bahá’í House of Worship, Destiny of America, Pattern for Future Society, Principles of the Bahá’í Faith, and one copy of Assurance of Immortality. Per assortment, $0.50.

Assortment No. 2 includes one each of seven titles as follows, Appreciations of the Bahá’í Faith, America’s Spiritual Mission, Bahá’í Prayers, The Image of God, Christians, Jews and Muhammadans, Radiant Acquiescence, Bahá’í Teachings on Universal Peace. Per assortment, $0.50.

 Records of Pioneer Teaching for the Bahá’í World

In collecting data regarding pioneer services in Central and South America, the Editorial Committee of The Bahá’í World, Vol. IX, found that several of the pioneers had done memorable service in other countries as well, and this led to a general invitation to all who had pioneered in foreign countries, as well as those who had served in the Latin-American field, to write brief accounts of those services.

A letter received from the Guardian restricts these narratives to the teaching work done since the initiation of the Seven Year Plan in the year 1937. Those records, however, which deal with the period before the Seven Year Plan was inaugurated, will be used later as “historical material for future use” to quote the Guardian’s own words. With the permission of the writers of these narratives of earlier date, all such material will be sent to the Archives Committee with the accompanying photographs.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE, THE BAHÁ’Í WORLD

By: Nellie S. French, Chairman.

Child Education

Security

“In this marvelous cycle, the earth will be transformed and humanity arrayed in peace and beauty. Disputes, quarrels and murders will be replaced by harmony, truth and concord; among the nations, peoples, races and countries, love and amity will appear. Cooperation and union will be established and finally war will be entirely suppressed.”—Some Answered Questions.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá has told us that when we hear others speaking of war, we should think peace. How difficult it is to do that today when the discussion of war is on the tips of everyone we meet. However, let us protect our children from lengthy discussions of the subject and put the emphasis, more than ever, on the need of kindly relationships toward one another. Now of all times children must feel serene and secure. Child psychologists are preaching this need up and down the land. Even the youngest child (the babe in arms) can sense this feeling of unrest so prevalent today. In no home is there a greater opportunity to give children peace and tranquility than in a Bahá’í home. Here parents have the assurance of the Most Great Peace and they can look beyond these perilous days and know that Peace will come eventually when mankind is ready for this blessing.

It is as though you were walking down a long dark hall leading a little child. If you falter and are afraid then he too will stumble and be filled with your fears. However if you walk along calmly and unafraid knowing full well that the lighted room lies ahead, then the child, holding your hand, will trudge along confidently even though he knows not whither he is going.

How shall we maintain this calm in the midst of the storm all about us? There are many ways. Perhaps the most important is prayer, in conjunction always with complete faith in the promises of Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and reliance upon Them. We must often turn to the Writings for help and inspiration and for the calm they bring to our lives which we in turn can transmit to our children. The child himself may have a part in this spiritual program. On the mechanical side of life it is necessary to continue the child’s daily program, keeping it as nearly as possible as it has always been regardless of how much our own routine of life may be interrupted. This is important to good mental health. Children soon get a feeling of insecurity when the routine habits of their young lives are broken. Let us preserve the security and integrity that children need at all times but which they particularly need during such times as these. So with our children, we shall: “Rely upon God, thy God and the Lord of thy Fathers. For the people are wandering in the paths of delusion, bereft of discernment to see God with their own eyes, or hear His Melody with their own ears. Thus have We found them as Thou also dost witness.”—Tablet of Ahmad.

CHILD EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Our Bahá’í Schools

Louhelen Summer Session Takes on Latin Emphasis

The Eighth International Conference of the New Education Fellowship, held at Ann Arbor this season, has provided an ideal opportunity for contact with Latin American and other international leaders of education. Through the efforts of Mrs. Annie Romer, Mrs. Orcella Rexford Gregory and others, a number of foreign visitors have attended classes and public meetings held at Louhelen.

Foreign visitors during the vacation session alone represented a number of countries, among them Austria, England, Belgium, Holland, Korea, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Central and South America, and the Philippines. On Thursday, July 19th, Professor Edeberio Torres, Director of the Technical Council of the Ministry of Public Instruction of Nicaragua, spoke on “Latin American Relations with the United States.” On Sunday, July 20th, Mr. Kh-I-Hashimi, head of the Normal Schools of Iraq, addressed the friends on “The New Education in a Changing World.” The following Sunday, Mr. Alberto C. Leao, Instructor in English at the University of Rio de Janeiro, spoke on “My Country, Brazil.” On August 3rd, an International Day was planned, with both Bahá’í speakers and guest speakers. Senora Ofelia Mendoza of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, spoke about our relation to Latin American problems and progress. Mr. Harry Whang and Mrs. Dorothy Baker introduced the Bahá’í Peace Plan. A brief word was added by Mr. Jon Faily of Teheran, and Mr. Habib Kurani, of the American University at Beirut. Piano selections of South American Folk Songs were rendered by Senora Ortiz Aulestria, Director of Educational Publications for the Minister of Education, Quito, Ecuador.

We should like to call the attention of the Bahá’ís to the following list of libraries, which includes 21 State Libraries, 3 Provincial Libraries and the Library of Parliament in Ottawa, Ontario. Any inquirers may contact their local libraries in these states and provinces and if books are not available, ask local librarians to send for the books available in the State Libraries: Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Wyoming; Provincial Libraries of Quebec, British Columbia and Manitoba; Library of Parliament, Ottawa, Ontario. Books will be placed in the remaining states and provinces during the coming year. We should appreciate it if the friends will place requests for these books both in the states already supplied and in the remaining states and advise interested inquirers at their meetings to obtain books from these important libraries and State Library commissions.

The total number of books donated by this committee during the past three months is 392; these books were presented to 34 college and university libraries and to 115 public libraries. During this period the library work has increased vastly as can be seen through comparison with last year’s Annual Report with a total presentation of 482 volumes to 40 college and university libraries and 137 public libraries during the entire year.

Bahá’í World, Vol. 2 requested by Boston Public Library and Vols. 4, 5, 6 by Crozer Theological Seminary to complete their files.

The copies of Advent of Divine Justice were given to 4 Jewish libraries, 8 negro colleges and Branch libraries; 3 divinity schools and 1 public library (Boston).

The public libraries listed above included 47 Army Post libraries and 23 State libraries and 3 Provincial libraries; also the Library of Parliament in Canada. We hope to be able to place books in more of the state and provincial libraries during the coming year which will make our books available to many readers. The acceptance of books by the Library of Parliament will no doubt assist the Canadian believers in their local library presentations.

A complete set of pamphlets was given to the Chicago Public Library at their request; a subscription of the World Order magazine was donated to the Navy Y.M.C.A. Library at Bremerton, Washington; and 200 copies of Appreciations of the Bahá’í Faith have been mailed to 110 leading public libraries and 90 college and university libraries, including a number of theological seminaries.

Library Committee Activities

The aim of the National Library Committee has always been to place our books in the libraries where they would attract the greatest number of readers. With that aim in mind, books have been presented to a number of State Libraries, Provincial Libraries and various Library Commissions and Traveling Libraries.

Latin American Visitors at Louhelen School, August 3, 1941
Foundations of World Unity was sent to the University of Hawaii and to the Honolulu Public Library at the request of the Honolulu Spiritual Assembly.

A copy of Some Answered Questions (Spanish) was recently sent to the Head of the Foreign Language Department of Bradley College, Peoria, Illinois, to be used as required supplementary reading by students enrolled in the Spanish Courses.

The college and university libraries included 14 theological seminars and a number of Departments of Religion in various universities.

Several splendid tributes were received from Army and Navy Chaplains and officers as previously reported.

**Library Committee**

By: Ellen Sims, Chairman

**Bahá’í Directory**

**Revisions to August 1**

**National Committees**

- Archives and History: Members added, Mrs. Minuela Hannen, Mrs. Doris Holley, Mrs. Florence Zmeskal, Harlan Scheffler.
- Bahá’í World, Editorial: Omitted in List, Mrs. Ruth Brandt.
- Inter-America: Edna True, Chairman, Mrs. S. W. French, Secretary, 786 Chester Avenue, San Marino, Calif. John Keith, Recording Secretary.
- Race Unity: Harry Whang unable to serve.
- Green Acre: Omitted in list for 1941 Committee, Louis G. Gregory.
- International School: Members added, Mrs. Florence Morton, Mrs. Marion Little, Philip Sprague.

**Regional Teaching Committees**

- British Columbia, etc., Anne Wylie added.
- New Jersey, etc., Mrs. India Haggerty, Mrs. Ida Huff, Jessie E. Revell added. Mrs. David Ruhe unable to serve.
- Kansas, etc., change of Secretary’s name and address, Mrs. Claude K. Winans, 421 North Spring Street, Independence, Mo., Mrs. Bertha Campbell unable to serve.

**Inter-Community Teaching Conference at Frazer home,**

Fruitport, Mich., May 24, 1941.

Western Ontario. F. St. G. Spendlove unable to serve.
North Carolina, etc., Mrs. Daisy Jackson Moore added.
Louisiana, etc., Mrs. David Ruhe added.
Oklahoma, etc., change of address, Mrs. Doris F. Corbin, Secretary, 1516 6th Avenue, Corpus Christi, Texas.
Wyoming, etc., Velma Vetter unable to serve. Pearl Ward added.
Montana, etc., Mrs. Helen Robinson added.

**Local Assemblies**

East Phoenix Township, Arizona—Mrs. Lorretta Engelder, R. 2, Box 394, Phoenix.
West Haven, Conn. — Douglas P. Hillhouse, 582 Forest Avenue.
Cabin John, Md. — Mrs. Margaret R. Patzer.

**Group**

Correction of error in address, Mrs. Lionel Loveday, 36 S. Main Street, Goffstown, N. H.

**Bahá’í Calendar**

Nineteen Day Feasts: Might, September 8; Will, September 27; Knowledge, October 16.
Anniversary: Birth of the Báb, October 20.
Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: at Wilmette, October 3, 4, 5, 6.

**“The Promised Day” in Public Teaching**

In response to inquiries, the National Assembly advises that the believers are free to make use of the Guardian’s letter entitled “The Promised Day Is Come” as a teaching medium, and the Assembly relies on their discretion in its use.

Indeed, the Guardian was requested to inform the National Assembly of his wishes, and on June 1 cabled as follows: “Approve selective public distribution according to judgment (of) National Assembly. Praying divine guidance.” The friends are requested to note that the Guardian wishes the NSA to employ a selective and not a general public distribution such as by radio or press.

**Enrollments and Transfers**


Fifteen enrollments of isolated believers were reported in July.

**In Memoriam**

I have made death a messenger of joy to thee; wherefore dost thou grieve?—BAHA’U’LLAH.

Mrs. Jeanette Hiatt Nash, Portland, Oregon.
Mrs. Hasan Abas, St. Paul.
Mrs. Lida S. Marryott, Jacksonville.
Mrs. J. M. Eaves, Minneapolis.
Mrs. Elizabeth Greenleaf, Elliot.
"A Threefold Sense of Gratitude"

Letter from Shoghi Effendi

Dear and valued co-workers:

As I survey the activities and accomplishments of the American believers in recent months, and recall their reaction to the urgent call for service, embodied in the Seven Year Plan, I feel overwhelmed by a threefold sense of gratitude and admiration which I feel prompted to place on record, but which I cannot adequately express. Future generations can alone appraise correctly the value of their present services and the Beloved, whose mandate they are so valiantly obeying, can alone befittingly reward them for the manner in which they are discharging their duties.

The virtual completion of a thirty year old enterprise, which was initiated in His days and blessed by His Hand, is the first and foremost accomplishment that must shed imperishable luster not only on the administrative annals of the Formative Age of the Faith, but on the entire record of the signal achievements performed in the course of the First Century of the Baha'i Era. The steady expansion and consolidation of the world mission, entrusted by that same Master, to their hands and set in operation after His passing, constitutes the second object of my undying gratitude to a community that has abundantly demonstrated its worthiness to shoulder the superhuman tasks with which it has been entrusted. The spirit with which that same community has faced and resisted the onslaught of the enemies of the Faith who, for various reasons and with ever-increasing subtlety and malice, have persistently striven to disrupt the administrative machinery of an Order, foreshadowed by the Babi, enunciated by Baha'u'llah, and established by 'Abdu'l-Baha, is yet another testimony to the unrivalled merits and the eminent position attained by its privileged members since the ascension of the Center of the Covenant.

The extinction of the influence precariously exerted by some of these enemies, the decline that has set in in the fortunes of others, the sincere repentance expressed by still others, and their subsequent reinstatement and effectual participation in the teaching and administrative activities of the Faith, constitute in themselves sufficient evidence of the unconquerable power and invincible spirit which animates those who stand identified with and loyally carry out the provisions and injunctions of the Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Baha.

And now more particularly concerning the prime mover of this latest agitation, which, whatever its immediate consequences, will sooner or later come to be regarded as merely one more of those ugly and abortive attempts designed to undermine the foundation, and obscure the purpose, of the Administrative Order of the Faith of Baha'u'llah. Obscure in his origin, ambitious of leadership, untaught by the lesson of such as have erred before him, odious in the hopes he nurses, contemptible in the methods he pursues, shameless in his deliberate distortions of truths he has long since ceased to believe in, ludicrous in his present isolation and helplessness, wounded and exasperated by the downfall which his own folly has precipitated, he, the latest protagonist of a spurious cause, cannot but in the end be subjected, as remorselessly as his infamous predecessors, to the fate which they invariably have suffered.

Generated by the propelling and purifying forces of a mysterious Faith, born of delusion or malice, winning a fleeting notoriety derived from the precarious advantages of wealth, fame or fortune, these movements sponsored by deluded, self-seeking adventurers find them-
selves, sooner or later, ensnared
in the machinations of their authors,
are buried in shame, and sink
eventually into complete oblivion.

The schism which their foolish
leaders had contrived so sedulously
to produce within the Faith, will
soon, to their utter amazement,
turn against them. The panicky
reactions of the ranks of its followers,
reinforces its indestructible unity, and
proclaims anew to a world, skeptical or in
different, the cohesive strength
of the institutions of that Faith, the
incorruptibility of its purposes and
principles, and the recuperative
powers inherent in its community
life.

Were anyone to imagine or expect
that a Cause, comprising within
its orbit so vast a portion of the
globe, so turbulent in its history,
so challenging in its claims, so di-
versified in the elements it has as-
similated into its administrative
structure, should, at all times be
immune to any divergence of opin-
on, or any defection on the part of
its multitudinous followers, it would
be sheer delusion, wholly unreason-
able and unwarranted, even in the
face of the unprecedented evidence
of the miraculous power which its
rise and progress have so power-
fully exhibited. That such a seces-
sion, however, whether effected by
those who apostatize their faith or
preach heretical doctrines, should
have failed, after the lapse of a
century, to split in twain the entire
body of the adherents of the Faith,
or to create a grave, a permanent
and irretrievable breach in its orga-
nic structure, is a fact too elo-
quent for even a casual observer
of the internal processes of its ad-
ministrative order to either deny
or ignore.

Therein, every loyal and intelli-
gent upholder of Bahá'u'lláh's In-
comparable Covenant—a Covenant
designed by Him as the sole refuge
against schism, disruption and an-
archy — will readily recognize the
hall-mark of His Faith, and will ac-
claim it as the supreme gift con-
ferred by Him Who is the Lord of
Revelation upon the present and fu-
ture generations who are destined,
in this greatest of all Dispensations,
to flock, from every creed and re-
ligion, to the banner, and espouse
the Cause, of His Most Great Name.

Dear friends! Manifold, various,
and at times extremely perilous,
have been the tragic crises which
the blind hatred, the unfounded pre-
sumption, the incredible folly, the
abject perfidy, the vaunting ambi-
tion, of the enemy have intermittently
engendered within the pale of the Faith. From some of its most
powerful and renowned votaries, at
the hands of its once trusted and
ablest propagators, champions, and
administrators, from the ranks of
its most revered and highly-placed
trustees whether as companions,
amanuenses or appointed lieuten-
ants of the Herald of the Faith, of
its Author, and of the Center of
His Covenant, from even those who
were numbered among the kindred
of the Manifestation, not excluding
the brother, the sons and daughters
of Bahá'u'lláh, and the nominee of
the Báb Himself, a Faith, of such
tender age, and enshrining so price-
less a promise, has sustained blows
as dire and treacherous as any re-
corded in the world's religious his-
tory.

From the record of its tumultuous
history, almost every page of which
portrays a fresh crisis, is laden
with the description of a new calamity,
recounts the tale of a base betrayal,
and is stained with the account
of unspeakable atrocities, there
emerges, clear and incontrovertible,
the supreme truth that with every
rise and progress have so power-
fully exhibited. That such a seces-
sion, however, whether effected by
those who apostatize their faith or
preach heretical doctrines, should
have failed, after the lapse of a
century, to split in twain the entire
body of the adherents of the Faith,
or to create a grave, a permanent
and irretrievable breach in its orga-
nic structure, is a fact too elo-
quent for even a casual observer
of the internal processes of its ad-
ministrative order to either deny
or ignore.

Therein, every loyal and intelli-
gent upholder of Bahá'u'lláh's In-
comparable Covenant—a Covenant
designed by Him as the sole refuge
against schism, disruption and an-
archy — will readily recognize the
hall-mark of His Faith, and will ac-
claim it as the supreme gift con-
ferred by Him Who is the Lord of
Revelation upon the present and fu-
ture generations who are destined,
in this greatest of all Dispensations,
to flock, from every creed and re-
ligion, to the banner, and espouse
the Cause, of His Most Great Name.

The resistless march of the Faith
of Bahá'u'lláh, viewed in this light,
and propelled by the stimulating in-
fluences which the unwisdom of its
enemies and the force latent within
itself, both engender, resolves itself
into a series of rhythmic pulsations,
precipitated, on the one hand,
through the explosive outbursts of
its foes, and the vibrations of Di-
vine Power, on the other, which
speed it, with ever-increasing mo-
mentum, along that predestined
course traced for it by the Hand
of the Almighty.

As opposition to the Faith, from
whatever source it may spring,
whatever form it may assume, how-
ever violent its outbursts, is ad-
mittedly the motive-power that galva-
nizes on the one hand, the souls of
its valiant defenders, and taps for
them, on the other, fresh springs of
that Divine and inexhaustible En-
ergy, we who are called upon to
represent, defend, and promote its
interests, should, far from regard-
ing any manifestation of hostility as
an evidence of the weakening of the
pillars of the Faith, acclaim it as
both a God-sent gift and a God-sent
opportunity which, if we remain un-
daunted, we can utilize for the fur-
therance of His Faith and the rout-
ing and complete elimination of its
adversaries.

The Heroic Age of the Faith, born
in anguish, nursed in adversity, and
terminating in trials as woeful as
those that greeted its birth, has
been succeeded by that Formative
Period which is to witness the grad-
ual crystallization of those creative
energies which the Faith has re-
leased, and the consequent emergen-
cy of that World Order for which
those forces were made to operate.

Fierce and relentless will be the
opposition which this crystallization
and emergence must provoke. The
alarm it must and will awaken, the
envy it will certainly arouse, the
misrepresentations to which it will
remorselessly be subjected, the set-
backs it must, sooner or later sus-
tain, the commotions to which it
must eventually give rise, the fruits
it must in the end garner, the bless-
ings it must inevitably bestow and
the glorious, the Golden Age, it
must irresistibly usher in, are just
beginning to be faintly perceived,
and will, as the old order crumbles
beneath the weight of so stupendous
a Revelation, become increasingly
apparent and arresting.
Not ours, dear friends, to attempt to survey the distant scene; ours rather the duty to face the trials of the present hour, to ponder the meaning, to discharge the obligations, to meet its challenge and utilize the opportunity it offers to the fullest extent of our ability and power.

Your true brother,

SHOGME.

August 12, 1941, Haifa, Palestine

To the Spiritual Assemblies, Communities and groups of the Baha’is of the United States and Canada.

Beloved Friends:

In previous issues of Bahá’í News we have surveyed the tasks to be accomplished before 1944 and those definitely assigned to this Bahá’í year. Those tasks are not less than overwhelming, considered in the light of our human capacities and resources. But because they are steps in the Divine Plan, and not merely political or economic activities, their eventual accomplishment is fixed and certain. It is of the essence of the Divine Plan that the task and the power to perform it are two facets of the one same reality. Indeed, a Divine Plan is accomplished in the spiritual world before it is announced and proclaimed in the world of human personality.

Not one believer in this Cause is required to make personal sacrifices beyond his capacity, that is, in excess of his passionate desire to serve Bahá’u’lláh. We have no collective financial problem to solve, no problem of teaching work. The one single issue before us individually and collectively is the spiritual problem of how much we respond to the mysterious forces and powers offered us when we advance on His path. He has all knowledge and all wealth. This surrounding spirit of perfect accomplishment rushes to our aid when we have attained the station of true obedience. It will not confirm us in any ignorance, selfishness, ambition nor lack of union with the Bahá’í community.

These days are days of exalted mystery, for they are so imbued with omnipotent Power that the feeblest soul can exert mighty forces and the simple mind express profound wisdom.

Therefore the National Spiritual Assembly can but urge the friends to lay aside all hesitation and doubt in connection with the successful carrying out of the schedule of Bahá’í tasks. These tasks are signs and indications that a great company of souls have turned to God and seek to obey His will. They are not burdens nor obstacles to be avoided for the sake of passive ease, but proofs that a community of faithful souls has been raised up by the power of the Greatest Name.

What the Cause needs today is the spirit of the hero in every community, group and meeting. Our gatherings should reflect the fire of zeal which reveals the acceptance of the soul into the Kingdom. This zeal, this unconquerable conviction of success, combined with intelligent study of the tasks to be done, will create new standards and capacities. Having done what the Guardian wishes, we will turn to Him and appeal for more and harder tasks!

Who will raise this banner at the Nineteen Day Feasts, at the meetings of Assemblies and Committees? Who will give proof that his love for God has attracted God’s love for him? Who will assist in transforming the Seven Year Plan from a difficulty to the rarest of privileges?

Faithfully yours,

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Inter-America News

“Darkness hath encompassed every land, 0 my God, and caused most of Thy servants to tremble. I beseech Thee, by Thy Most Great Name, to raise in every city a new
creation that shall turn towards Thee, and shall remember Thee amidst Thy servants, and shall unburden by virtue of their utterances and wisdom the ensigns of Thy victory, and shall detach themselves from all created things.

"Potent art Thou to do Thy pleasure. No God is there but Thee, the Most Powerful, He whose help is employed by all men."—Bahá'u'lláh.

The Inter-America Committee has received with great joy an inspirational report from Mr. and Mrs. Rafi Mottahedeh, telling of their recent trip through Central and South America. We quote from their report some of the high lights.

**Rio de Janeiro**

"Rio is a large, beautiful city and could have as stirring a center as New York, if the right pioneers are sent there. The people are very liberal minded and there are many refugees eager and willing to listen to the Faith.

"One meeting was held at Leonora’s apartment and was attended by approximately twenty-five people; newspaper men, physicians, refugees; one couple who had heard of the Bahá’í Faith in Vienna and several charming people of capacity. They seemed to be deeply interested and were eager for more meetings. When we returned from São Paulo we had a meeting at the Hotel Gloria in our suite which was very well attended, and several seemed to catch the fire of the Faith.

A young newspaper reporter working for one of the most important papers in Rio said that he would like to be considered a Bahá’í. He had heard of the Faith from Jeanne Bolles. We know that he will be a help to whoever will come there as a pioneer."

**Bahía**

"Mr. Worley met us at the airport and he and his wife were extremely kind and cooperative. Our trip to this city was solely for the purpose of visiting the Bahá’ís.

"One man who can read knows Bahá’u’lláh and The New Era by heart, and his devotion and faith is beautiful to see. The leader of this small community is a Donna Antonia, an intelligent elderly lady. She lives in a hut with mud floors and does not even have the necessities of life. The sole decoration is a picture of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. We brought with us a Persian rug with the Greatest Name and Bahá’í poetry woven in it and we felt that the best place to put it was in Donna Antonia’s home. We held one meeting at her house which was attended by the Worleys, the Brazilian believers, and their neighbors. The friends of these Brazilian believers fully realize how necessary it is for them to be Bahá’ís, but have not yet reached the point of confirmation. One Indian man among them was very keen and during the period of question and answer said, ‘Christ did not mean this carnival of religion that the Church has made.’"

Mrs. Mottahedeh especially mentions a meeting which was held at the British Club in Bahía and attended by about ten people. One of the persons most interested was a prominent doctor who is planning to attend Johns Hopkins in Baltimore this winter. "He is a native Brazilian, highly regarded in Bahía and we feel that his confirmation will give a great impetus to the work in that city."

**Buenos Aires, Argentina**

"When we arrived at the airport there were about thirty people waiting to greet the passengers of the plane. About twenty-five of them were Bahá’ís who had come to meet us. Their excitement and ours was greater than we can describe to you." Mrs. Mottahedeh here tells of the wonderful spirit infusing this entire community, and the wonderful work done by Mr. Sprague on his recent trip to Buenos Aires. "Their kindness to us and their love was overpowering. — They have a very nice center and conduct meetings two or three times a week. They have a young people’s group which is very much alive.

"Mr. Torno, the chairman, has a country home at Ezeiza where the Bahá’ís and their friends gather almost every Sunday. This is really a sort of Bahá’í summer school and has some of the spirit of Green Acre. Its Sunday population varies from seventeen to seventy and everyone is welcome.

"We were thrilled to hear that the Buenos Aires believers are planning a new group in Patagonia. Mr. Torno is instructing a girl from Rio Negro in the Faith. She seems close to confirmation and will go back home to teach. They do, however, need a pioneer to go to that city to do the final work of confirmation.

"Another member of the Buenos Aires Local Assembly has gone to the north of Argentina to Corrientes and hopes to start a group there.

"The high point of our visit to Buenos Aires was the trip to Quilmes to visit the grave of Mrs. Maxwell. We covered the grave with flowers, then said prayers in Persian and English and Spanish. There were nine of us there."

**Santiago, Chile**

"Marcia Atwater has a group of about eleven, most of whom have been Bahá’ís for only two months. They are all souls of capacity and we feel that the groundwork has been done to establish the Cause firmly in Chile. . . . She receives much favorable publicity and all of the newspaper men that she comes in contact with, know of the Faith. She is working for one of the newspapers besides doing her Bahá’í work.

"We held several meetings at Marcia’s house and were able to give
the Message to a small group. These meetings were well attended. We were able to give the Message to a young Austrian refugee woman who seems to have great capacity.

"When Marcia presented Bahá'í literature to some Government officials and told them the purpose for her visit and stay in Chile, she received encouragement to go on."

Peru

"We were delighted with this country and found it the most interesting of all the places we visited. Despite the fact that here too you could reiterate the details of the miseries the people endure. Here you find the living remnants of Inca civilization. These people have never lost the greatness of this ancient civilization which was given them. There are many intelligent, wide-awake Peruvians and we felt this country is a fertile field for the Faith. The climate in most places is equitable and the people are as progressive as they can be, considering their economic condition. Peru is a land of enchantment both from the scenic point of view, its great past and the latent power that you feel in the people. . . . The Indians have noble faces and many of them are very beautiful. Lima, their capital, has the air of a busy cosmopolitan city.

"We regret that our limited time prevented us from making contacts for the Faith although we did meet an English woman connected with the British legation who seemed ready. We are sending her literature." 

Quito, Ecuador

Mr. and Mrs. Mottahedeh tell of their arrival in Ecuador and of their pioneer, Mr. John Stearns, taking them to meet the heads of an English cultural center. The three teachers are Ecuadorians and have started this center to promote better feeling between Britain and South America. "We invited two of these heads to meet at John Stearns' house at his suggestion. About nine people came to that meeting including the first Ecuadorian Bahá'í upon whose face his faith can be read. He is a young boy, intelligent and with an inquiring mind. His family approve of his being a Bahá'í and know the Teachings.

"We were supposed to leave the morning after this meeting, but the plane could not come over the mountains to Quito from Guayaquil, so we had to stay another day. We spent this day with Eduardo, the Ecuadorian Bahá'í, and John. That evening we held the first public Bahá'í meeting in Ecuador which was attended by about twenty-nine people who listened with great attention and who accepted with alacrity the Bahá'í principles. One of the heads of the school said you may count me the second Ecuadorian Bahá'í. His co-worker will follow him also, I think. We said to the group that if they thought these principles were good they should start a weekly study class; which suggestion was eagerly accepted."

Panama

"Mrs. Caswell met us at the plane and we were so happy to see her and to be in the Canal Zone.

"Mrs. Oliver was working, so we spent most of our time with Louise Caswell. Both of them are working hard there under difficult conditions. There is much color prejudice and much natural feeling on the part of the Panamanians. We feel that their work has progressed extremely well considering the difficulties at hand.

We held one meeting at the house of a Panamanian in the Canal Zone, which was attended by several young people as well as two colored teachers from La Boca School."

Mr. and Mrs. Mottahedeh then told of another meeting which was very well attended and of their visits to several other Bahá'ís throughout the Canal Zone. Also of the difficulties the Bahá'ís have in getting together for meetings, as the heat, transportation and the distances between their homes all contribute to the slowness of progress in the Teachings.

In closing, Mr. and Mrs. Mottahe­
deh say: "We feel that it was a great privilege for us to be able to make this tremendous journey and feel that it has contributed to our own development. We also hope that we will be able to pass on to the believers here the urgency for their support of the South American work at any sacrifice."

Miss Beatrice Irwin has written an interesting account of her trip to Rio. On the boat she says that she was able to give the Teachings to a group of thirty young Mormon Missionaries and has given two Bahá'í talks at the Gloria Hotel in Rio, since her arrival.

The Inter-America Committee has received the registration cards of two new believers from Cuba and one from Haiti. Each name added to the Bahá'í Community of North and South America gives great joy to all the Bahá'ís throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The inter-America Committee is very glad to report that Mr. Arthur Rotunno from the Yonkers Assembly expects to move to Bermuda and will remain there at least two years.

Cuba

Miss Josephine Kruka writes that she expects to return to Havana in the early part of October to resume
her teaching of the Cause in that country. She asks that the prayers of the believers in this country go with her to Cuba and help establish a Bahá'í Assembly by April of 1942.

Costa Rica

John Eichenauer reports much splendid activity in Central America. He is at present in Costa Rica, and writes as follows: "These have been glorious days having Louise Caswell with us in San Jose! She has been very well received by the Community and has spoken at several meetings. It's been quite a reunion of pioneers... Last night several members of the Community gave Louise and me a farewell dinner here in Gayle Woolson's apartment. A delicious dinner, we were nine by coincidence. Tomorrow Gayle, Louise and I are going down to Puntarenas on a teaching trip to form a group there where the chairman is staying for a time. From there I will go to San Juan del Sur and up to Managua in time to meet Louise who will come back to Jose and take the plane next Wednesday for Managua... She plans to stay in Nicaragua about three days and I will try to take her also to meet the group and contacts in Masaya and Granada. Then she will go for several days to San Salvador where Clarence will show her around, arriving I judge around Saturday a week from the coming one. Then, as she has probably told you, several weeks in Guatemala and about the time she leaves Guatemala I will head north after finishing some teaching work in Nicaragua to Honduras where we plan to meet again. I plan to arrive a few days before her and notify them of her coming so as to have a nice crowd out to meet her and stay there in Tegucigalpa and surrounding territory as long as the Committee sees fit." John writes that his younger brother Marshall, a Bahá'í Youth, is planning to join him in Central America. He says: "It is my plan, may Bahá'u'lláh if He sees fit, confirm it, for us to go to Panama to pioneer and assist Louise and Cora and at the same time take jobs in the Canal Zone which Louise says are very plentiful."

Mrs. Amalia Ford who has been for some time in San Jose as a pioneer, is returning home for a well earned rest. She has done a great deal in the establishing of the first Bahá'í Assembly in Costa Rica.

Haiti

The Committee has received with great joy another registration card from Port au Prince, Haiti. The card has been forwarded by Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell.

Uruguay

Mr. Wilfrid Barton reports the registration of two splendid Bahá'ís of great capacity in Montevideo. The slow but steady growth of the Cause throughout South and Central America is a cause for deep joy in the hearts of all believers.

Mrs. Caswell and Mrs. Oliver have sent in the registration card of a new believer in the Canal Zone. The registration of this believer is a cause for great rejoicing as he is the leading Negro Educator of the Canal Zone. In view of the important place held by Panama as the crossroads of the world it is of estimable value that the Bahá'í Community present within itself a cross section of the human race.

From Quito Mr. John Stearns writes a short account of the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Mottahedeh. "Their arrival was virtually without any forewarning... the cable from Lima reached me after their plane was supposed to have. Despite this in a hasty way we gathered together an interested handful for a small meeting Sunday night, really the first of such held in Ecuador. Bahá'u'lláh saw fit to detain them a second night by making landing conditions impossible for their plane north Monday. Monday evening they again talked to a larger group, assembled by the process of uniting the meeting classes at the English Center to hear them. Among these were many whom I was anxious to have reached. My only regret and the only regret of the friends they left was that it was impossible on such short notice to assemble all the people who should have met and heard them. Anyway we now have a study group, and their visit was like a drink of fresh water to me personally. Their stopover was a big lift in Ecuador." An inspiring report on the work in Chile has been received from Mrs. Marcia Atwater, who is living in Santiago. She writes of the steady progress made by the group of six Bahá'ís in their studies of the Cause and the constantly growing circle of people who are being made aware of the Teachings. She enclosed a copy of the talk given in Spanish by her, at the University of Santiago. The talk attracted a great deal of favorable publicity and interest. Mrs. Atwater intends to remain in Chile indefinitely.

Mrs. Frances Stewart writes of her return to Utica, New York, after a trip of many months through Central America. Mrs. Stewart was able to make many contacts and formed study groups throughout this part of the American Continent. Enclosed was a Spanish translation of the Tablet of Ahmad. Mrs. Stewart is also assisting in the translation of the new Spanish prayer book.

Venezuela

Miss Priscilla Rhoads writes that she is able to include the Bahá'í ideals in her educational work. She is planning to remain in Caracas indefinitely and to quote from her letter: "I simply can not imagine myself living in New York again. Life here is so much pleasanter, the people are so 'simpatico' and after awhile I shall be accepted as a person and not an 'extraniero.'"

Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Woods sailed from New Orleans on July 23rd, for Rio de Janeiro, where they intend to reside indefinitely. They will undoubtedly prove of great assistance in the teaching work already begun in that city.

Bolivia

Mrs. Eleanor Adler has returned from La Paz, Bolivia, having disembarked at New York, July 28th. She was welcomed by a member of the New York Community, Mrs. Helen Liehnors. In Bolivia, which first heard of the Cause in December, 1940, there are three Bahá'ís
North America Teaching

Weighted down though we all have been by the consciousness of the appalling task yet before us, in the prosecution of the Seven-Year Plan throughout North America, a task demanding not less than the creation of an organized Spiritual Assembly in every State and Province of this vast land, yet on the other hand we are thrilled and overjoyed by the evidences of our Guardian’s good favor and confidence in our ability to prosecute our chosen work. “The quality and magnitude of the work already achieved . . . are inexpressibly exhilarating and infinitely meritorious,” he has written us recently, and again, “The Plan itself . . . bids fair, in the fifth year of its operation, to exceed the highest expectations of those who have so courageously launched it.”

It is indeed well that we should feel some confidence and hope, in an hour when we are privileged to pour out new gifts of spirit and sacrifice to our “world redemptive Faith, for whose precious sake the world is undergoing such agonies” . . . We are, by the inconceivable grace of God, physicians to the peoples of this world. As such, our field is enormous and our spirits, too, surge with an enormous eagerness, a very restlessness of zest to conquer it!

From a hundred points the National and Regional Teaching Committees are flooded with proofs of the new life and vigor which stirs the friends, evidence surely of that promised “operation (of) spiritual forces” which Shoghi Effendi tells us is accelerating in proportion to the world’s travail. The following paragraphs are only a sample of those proofs, but enough, we believe, to carry to each of us the conviction of success.

Two of the virgin States have already yielded a fruit of enough believers to establish Spiritual Assemblies in April. The cities are Arlington, Virginia, and New Orleans, Louisiana, both testimonies to indefatigable Bahá’í service.

In Arkansas Mabel Ives and Reszi Sunshine are striving to accomplish the same goal, and recent figures show five believers in Hot Springs, three in Little Rock, with several other close friends for the Cause. These results have grown from two energetic campaigns in January and February, in which Howard Ives also wonderfully helped. One stimulating contact was Dr. Janet Miller, author of “Camel Bells of Baghdad,” who as a medical missionary spent a year in Persia, several times visiting the Tabriyat School.

A major project this Fall will be conducted by the Regional Committee to strengthen New Orleans in October, then to open Moline, Alabama, and probably Gulfport, Mississippi. The technique will include contacts and advance publicity by Marion Little, a public campaign by Mabel Ives, and carefully-planned follow-up using many of the Southern friends.

In Texas the Faith has taken root in several centers and is progressing steadily. San Antonio now counts eight Bahá’ís with a twice-weekly study group. Both here and in Dallas Kathryn Frankland is doing historic work. Our new Dallas Bahá’ís, Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey, sponsors a study class which Mrs. Frankland has twice visited, and this plan will doubtless continue in the Fall. Ruth and Leslie Hawthorn of Winterhaven have been rewarded with three recent registrations, including the first Mexican-American believer of Texas, the five of them scattered through Dimmit County which is larger than Rhode Island! In Corpus Christi our Regional secretary, Doris Corbin, is diligent in tying these and other efforts into a teaching program of ever-widening opportunity.

Still another virgin State is responding to the ceaseless efforts of Regional Committee and hard-working Bahá’ís: Rhode Island now boasts a group of five at Pawtucket, and four in Providence. In July Terah Smith arrived to reinforce, during the next weeks, their progress.

The Canadian friends, faced with the prodigious challenge of five virgin Provinces, have launched a nation-wide campaign which, through the medium of regional conferences in or near Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver, has already enlisted the best thought and services of every available believer. During the next months the Maritimes will be bombarded with such teachers as Lorol Schoppflecher, Doris and Willard McKay, Rosemary and Emeric Sala, Amine and John DeMille, Ernest Harrison, Elizabeth Cowles, Grace Geary, not to mention the original
pioneer of Nova Scotia, Beulah Proctor. It is hoped that Moncton will soon be reestablished as an Assembly, while Halifax and Prince Edward Island are more difficult goals. In Ottawa the Cause is stoutly represented by Winifred Harvey, while in Winnipeg Ernest Court carries on a group in the absence of Rowland Estall. Mr. Estall himself is busy from Coast to Coast, sharing his unique grasp of the Faith and its teaching necessities, "raised up," in the words of one friend, "to stimulate Canada to an enlarged service." After September he will concentrate especially in the Prairie Provinces which have recently gained a new pioneer in Lulu Barr, now living in Saskatoon. Plans are also under way to send another pioneer to Saskatchewan, while in Alberta Doris Skinner is pushing the work in Calgary and Edmonton, and looking eagerly to British Columbia for increasing aid.

The vitality of the Faith in far-off Alaska was tangibly displayed at the Geyserville School in the person of Janet Whitenack of Fairbanks, who has now returned to the North with her first experience of Bahá’í community life, and immeasurable affectionate greetings to warm our three pioneers of Anchorage. We have learned of two study groups in that outpost spot, with at least six students very close to active membership. "The spiritual conquest of Alaska is a much greater undertaking than I ever realized," Helen Gillis writes, "but it will be done." On that point we are none of us in doubt.

After two discouraging years in that difficult State, Nevada, Helen Griffin is at last gathering in her harvest. A group of six believers in Reno will join forces in September with Sylvia King, bent upon the addition of sufficient members to achieve their Assembly as soon as possible.

We are thrilled, also, to know that Ruth Moffett has undertaken new work in South Dakota, which she surveyed in June through flying visits to Sioux Falls, Rapid City, Deadwood, and Lead, giving two radio talks and several public lectures. At first, she writes, "I will confess that I did not consider it worthwhile to go up among the rattlesnakes, buffalo grass, and treeless distance . . . ." but through this survey she is now convinced of the opportunities for fruitful teaching, especially in Sioux Falls. Mrs. Moffett has also been devotedly at work in Iowa, a State to which Shoghi Effendi directed her efforts, with intensive campaigns during May and June in Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls, and Independence. The heartfelt hope of the Guardian for Local Assemblies is yet to be fulfilled in both these States.

Orcella Rexford has just proved convincingly that pioneering in Latin America may also be done at home! While teaching at Louheilen, she made several visits to the International Conference of Progressive Education at Ann Arbor, to which the American government had brought as guests some thirty-two Latin American delegates. One carried an introduction from Elizabeth Cheney in Paraguay, while Senor Torres of Nicaragua was a Bahá’í who had assisted Frances Stewart. Several of the delegates accepted invitations to Louheilen, including a distinguished Honduran woman educator, awarded life membership in Phi Lambda Theta for her conference work. Other fascinating friends were made in Ann Arbor, whose coming to the School contributed richly, including a group of scholarship students from the Philippines and an eminent Philippine artist.

With only thirty months until our centennial Convention, we are all pressed to discover every talent and wisely administer every resource. Southern California, in an inter-communitv conference on August 3rd, has developed a valuable contribution to the problem of clarifying and coordinating the relationships of all agencies responsible for teaching. Some fifty believers, members of local teaching and extension committees, devoted an earnest session to a discussion among themselves and with representatives of the Regional and National Teaching Committees, of these relations and functions. Remarkable were the insight and enthusiasm gained by all who took part, and indeed the entire conference received the confirmation so abundantly promised us.

Surely, dear friends, the achievements of the past weeks are but a splendid foretaste of the bounties vouchsafed to our American community. "God's own Plan has been set in motion," our beloved Guardian assures us. "The powers of heaven and earth mysteriously assist in its execution." May not these words of the Master continue to lead us on to the last step of our chosen Path?

"The Kingdom of God is possessed of limitless potency. Audacious must be the army of life if the confirming aid of that Kingdom is to be repeatedly vouchsafed unto it. . . . Vast is the arena, and the time ripe to spur on the charger within it. Now is the time to reveal the force of one's strength, the stoutness of one's heart and the might of one's soul."

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Bahá’í Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Knowledge, October 16; Power, November 4; Speech, November 23.

Anniversaries: Birth of the Báb, October 20; Birth of Bahá’u’lláh, November 12; Day of the Covenant, November 26; Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, November 23.

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: at Wilmette, October 3, 4, 5 and 6; at Wilmette, November 14, 15, 16.

In Memoriam

I have made death a messenger of joy to thee; wherefore dost thou grieve? —BAHÁ’U’LLÁH.

Mrs. Ida Mae Gillis, Chicago.
Mrs. Millie Moorman, Muskegon.
Mrs. Charles Redden, Millbrae, California.

Mrs. Martha Macbean, Montreal.
Mr. M. L. Mereness, Helena.
Mr. Henry Jersey, Lansing.
Mr. Will Graham, Circleville, Ohio.
Mr. Rowland M. Knight, Santa Rosa (1940).

Mr. Harry Raver, Los Angeles.
Mrs. J. M. Eaves, Indianapolis. (not Minneapolis as previously reported).

Enrollments and Transfers

Helena, three. Glendale, four. Los Angeles, three. Chicago, three. Richmond Highlands, one. Pasadena, two and one youth. Atlanta, two. San Diego, two. San Francisco, one and one youth. Berkeley,
Baha'i Directory

Additions and Revisions to September 24

ASSEMBLIES

Muagekon, Mich. Change of address. Mrs. Iva Smack, Secretary, 1975 Ray Street.

Yonkers, N. Y. Correction of name. Mr. Samuel Newman, Secretary, 59 Mulford Gardens.

Madison, Wisc. New Secretary. Mrs. Mae Clark, Secretary, 529 Mendota Court.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

GREEN ACRE SCHOOL

Lorna Tasker, Chairman
Helen Marjorie Wheeler, Secretary, 81 Pleasant Street, Worcester, Mass.

Mrs. Hattie Chamberlin, Recording Secretary

Louis G. Gregory
Glen A. Shook
Rachel Small
Harlan Ober
Mrs. Harry Ford
Harry Ford
Jeanne Steed
Justin Williams

GETTYSBURG SCHOOL

A. M. Yazdi, Chairman

Gladys Linford, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.
John Bosch
Mrs. Olive Meyer
Irvon Sonnerhalder
Louise Groger
Mrs. Marian Yazdi
Anita Iotas

LOUELSIAN SCHOOL

Edward Miessler, Chairman

Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary, Louisville, R. D. Davison, Mich.

Miss Phyllis Hall, Recording Secretary

Mrs. Beatrice Eardley

Harry Whang

L. W. Eggleston

Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick

Mrs. Dorothy Graf

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Mrs. E. R. Mathews, Chairman, P. O. Box 1034, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Mrs. Charles Bishop, Secretary

E. R. Mathews

Mrs. Ema M. Barton

George O. Latimer

Mrs. Marion Little

Mrs. Florence Morton

Philip Sprague

Mrs. R. Y. Mottahedeh

ANNUAL SOUVENIR OF 'ABA'L-BAHÄ

Philip Sprague, Chairman

Mrs. Carl Krug, Secretary, Abbott Court Road, Radburn, N. J.

Mrs. Edith Inglis
Mrs. Amy Raubitschek

Mrs. Annie K. Lewis

Mrs. Archie Tienexor

Benjamin Schreibman

Mrs. Lulu Lux

Mrs. Jean Sharpless

COMMITTEE ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS

Baha'i News Service

Address for correspondence: Mrs. David Carmelon, Chairman, 125 Fourth Street, Wilmette, Ill.

Baha'i World Editorial

Member added: Mrs. Marzieh Gail.

Library

Address for correspondence: Mrs. S. H. Sima, Chairman, Box 118, Avon, N. J.

New member added: Duncan McAlear.

Reviewing

Helen Campbell unable to serve.

Youth

Appointment of more Officers: James Hammond, Editor; Robert Gaines, Business Manager; Mary Hammond, Regional Secretary for Eastern Area; Lloyd Gardiner, Regional Secretary for Middle West Area; Anita Iotas, Regional Secretary for Western Area; Pari Zia-Wall-rath, Foreign Correspondent.

REGIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES


Baha'is in Army Camps

The National Youth Committee wishes to keep in touch with all believers who have been called under the draft. To carry out this plan, the Committee must have a complete list of such Baha'is. Kindly send name and present address (and previous address of Baha'i connection) to Miss Betty Scheffler, Secretary, 1821 Lincoln Street, Evanston, Ill.

Publishing Announcement

The World Moves On To Its Destiny, by Shoghi Effendi, a four-page leaflet reprinting excerpts from recent words of the Guardian, including passages from The Promised Day Is Come, explaining the spiritual significance of the present world-struggle. This leaflet is expected to be widely used for teaching work, and the National Assembly ordered a large edition. The leaflet folds to fit standard size envelopes. Sold in lots of 100 only. Price, 100 copies for $0.50.

Feast Day and Anniversary Calendar. This four-page, card-size pocket reference contains the list and the dates of the Baha'i Anniversaries, Festivals, Days of Fasting, Holy Days on which work should be suspended, dates of the Nineteen Day Feasts, and the Guardian's letter of explanation. For Assemblies, Groups and Regional Secretaries, 100 cards for $1.00 for resale at 2 cents each. Or 25 cards for 50 cents if the larger quantity can not be used.

Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Memphis, Tennessee, newly established April 21, 1941.
Status of Virgin States and Provinces
As of September 15, 1941

This graph, very simply, measures the work we have to do by 1944. It gives us the "temperature" of every virgin State and Province, by showing the number of declared believers in each one's largest group. In some areas, you will see there are no groups but only one or two Bahá'ís. Yet our Guardian's goal is a Local Spiritual Assembly!

Briefly, a careful survey convinces us that supplementary pioneers are urgently required in these places: Alberta, Prince Edward Island, Vermont, Kansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, North Carolina, Kentucky, Mississippi, Wyoming and Idaho.

A study of the graph reveals other areas which could and must be greatly strengthened by teachers—resident, circuit, or visiting. Only twenty-nine months remain!

"The field is indeed so immense, the period so critical, the Cause so great, the workers so few, the time so short, the privilege so priceless, that no follower of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh, worthy to bear His Name, can afford a moment's hesitation."

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Race Unity at Green Acre
Twenty years ago American friends, following the instructions of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, held the first convention for the solution of America's greatest problem, that of race. Green Acre, over a period of many years, has nobly responded to the ideal of human oneness. A bright feature of last summer's program was the Race-Unity conference held in August. It consisted of a succession of seven meetings over a period of three days, the entire record of which would make a readable and fascinating book. A more detailed report is being made for future use. Herein is but brief mention of some of its high spots.

Horace Holley as chairman, opened with a prayer; "Many a chilled heart has been set ablaze by the fire of Thy Love, etc." Loving welcome was voiced and a graphic picture was presented of the Master's visit to America, with its transforming ideals and wide range of human attraction.

Mrs. Harriet M. Kelsey served as musical director of the conference, utilizing the capacities of various instruments, contributing her own talents and that of her three children, Mary Louise, June and Carol and arranging for other numbers from Misses Lois Keller and Monevar Bechtold.

Miss Lorna B. Tasker, responding to the subject, "Racial Adjustment in Latin America," impressed much of spiritual value by bringing vividly to our attention the way our Latin American neighbors regard human values and are utterly free from racial prejudices as pertaining to Indians, Spaniards or Portuguese and Negroes.

Mrs. Annamarie Kunz Homond on "The Emergence of the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh" shed light upon the growing feeling of human solidarity, illustrating the unknown talents of various groups and comparing mankind to a great chord in which many notes are needed to make a perfect blend.

Louis G. Gregory emphasized "The Racial Basis of the New Civilization," bringing to view what exploration, history, science and Di-
vine Revelation have now proved of equal capacities in all races.

Miss Mary Jacobs, an American Indian, told of the kindness of the Indians to the Pilgrim Fathers, who would have left their new homes had it not been for such encouragement.

Roy Wilkins, Editor of the Crisis Magazine, spoke of "Hopeful Trends in Race Relations," presenting from the viewpoint of his broad horizon, both the realism and idealism of racial contacts. He paid a tribute to the Green Acre atmosphere.

Mrs. Mary Coristine, chairman, sounded a note of warning against old viewpoints and quoted the stirring Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá on the "New cycle of human power."

Hermann Smith paid a tribute to the Chinese for their inventions, culture and contributions to human welfare.

Matthew W. Bullock related some unknown chapters of Negro history and expressed gratitude for his attraction to the Bahá'í Faith.

Mrs. Mary R. Swift read from the poems of the Negro poet, Dunbar, and one of the American addresses of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Carl Cartwright advocated the identification of oneness with each race and the abandonment of the thought of childhood amongst races.

Miss Jeannie Bolles mentioned the warmth of heart found among the South American people upon her late visit.

On Sunday morning, August 10th, the meeting especially planned to emphasize spiritual values, Mrs. S. E. G. Oglesby, chairman, read prayers and extracts from the Sacred Words. Mrs. Dorothy Baker gave a talk on "The Spiritual Bond of Unity," how it had created great past civilizations and today is transforming mankind. "If we turn our hearts to the Gift of the Holy Spirit, the 'little horned devil' of prejudice, separation and animosity may be overcome." She laid eloquent stress upon the blessedness attended with working for unity, as affecting not only the individual, but the world influence and spiritual station of America.

At the closing session Mrs. Ludmila Bechtold, chairman, impressed the importance of living true race relations, relying upon the power and guidance of Bahá'u'lláh. Matthew Bullock told of his own quest for truth and how delighted he now felt with the Bahá'í Teachings, almost moved to declare himself a believer. Curtis Kelsoy recommended ceaseless activity and firmness in the divine teachings. Mrs. Edith Inglis deplored the darkness of the past and hailed the great change in the world now taking place. Mrs. Hilbert Dahl gave the Bahá'í teachings on harmony in diversity. Mobry C. Oglesby advocated wisdom and moderation in teaching.

Horace Holley, in this clear vision of reality gave final expression, as quoted in part: "We have left the old world behind. We cannot return to the faith of our fathers. We must rise above the level of the past and build in our hearts a superconscious reservation of strength. There is a perfect judgment from a Higher Power and now we are called to be a part of the universal unity. Laws in future will regulate universal values. The cycle of separation is ended and now all may swim in the Great Ocean of Unity."

Warm thanks were expressed to all who gathered, some drawn from long distances, for their presence, prayers, talents, expressions, and heart responses to this universal theme. The Green Acre Program and National Race Unity Committees cooperated in this service.

RACE UNITY COMMITTEE
By Louis G. Gregory

Teaching Conference
Vogel Park Cleveland, Georgia
June 14-21, 1941

The high spiritual atmosphere, unexcelled instruction, and the joys of Bahá'í fellowship will linger long in the memories of those who attended the Special Bahá'í Teaching Conference held again this year at Vogel Park. A total of thirty-one persons were present, Bahá'ís and non-Bahá'ís, and nineteen remained throughout the week.

In addition to her scholarly classwork on Some Answered Questions, Mrs. Hoagg most generously shared with us one evening many of her most precious memories of the Master, of her visits to Akka and Haifa, and of the early days of the Faith in this country. Mrs. Ives's course was interrupted when she was called back to Mr. Ives, but Mrs. Terah C. Smith stepped into the breach, and gave us a wonderful series of lessons.

The younger people were most active, and spent hours together discussing many phases of the Teachings. Swimming, boating, driving, and picnicking together were our chief diversions, and all served to give us a greater appreciation of the joys of Bahá'í fellowship.

A note of greeting signed by all present was sent to the Guardian, and later a more detailed account telling him of our fine classes, our living arrangements, our sports, our picnics, and of the great beauty and serenity of Vogel Park and Lake Trabylita, named for an Indian princess.

At a meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly held in Atlanta, Ga., in November, 1940, the four secretaries of the Regional Teaching Committees in the South were asked to undertake the responsibility of conducting this Conference.

NELLIE J. ROCHE, Secretary

Preparation of Publicity
As the Cause becomes more widely known and publicized in this country in the press the greater will become the margin of error. Our experience has been that errors in newspapers concerning the Cause come through ignorance of the Cause and its principles rather than the malice of newspapermen.

First, our own copy must be prepared with great care, accuracy
and simplicity. This Committee thought a short resume of what happens to "copy" after it leaves our hands would assist the friends to understand why some of our articles appear as they do.

Metropolitan papers have little room for anything besides "news." So far, our own activities have not grown to the point of becoming "news." Smaller papers, particularly small town weeklies do not use so large a proportion of their space for "spot-news," of war and national activities and welcome "feature" material.

Whatever the size of the paper, the copy for that paper must be edited. First, it must fit the space designated for it. If the space is too short for the original copy, the copy must be either rewritten or cut down to fit. On large papers, a re-write man rearranges this material. On small town papers, the editor often rewrites the articles. Whoever writes or cuts down the article is simply doing his job and does not intentionally misrepresent the material he handles. In most instances, since he does not know about the Cause or its principles, his manner of rewriting the facts will convey a meaning different than our own. Most editors do not like to print what they consider "editorial" matter. Statements of our principles and quotations from the Writings are considered editorial in relation to our activities which are considered news. So, often statements about the Faith, which we cherish above the news of our activities, do not appear in the paper.

After an article has been edited it must have a headline or heading written to fit a space. The heading must contain a certain number of letters in the words used for good spacing and must as well convey the meaning of the article. To the average newspaperman the word "cult" is a four letter word meaning "religion." Since we are being taught the more minute meanings of words, we cannot be careless of our words. The problem of the Newspaperman is different. He often relies upon certain words because of their number of letters to fit a line.

After an article has been edited it is turned over to a printer who sets it up in type. He too can make mistakes. Considering the number of the people who handle an article and the number of processes it goes through, it is remarkable that more mistakes do not appear in papers all the time.

If we are to continue to use the press as a teaching medium we will have to be willing to use patience, tolerance and understanding of the newspaper problem and of newspaper editors as human beings. If we have written our own copy with great accuracy and simplicity, we will have to leave the rest to Bahá'u'lláh. We can bring the errors to the attention of the editors with a friendly letter or personal call. However, if the editor does nothing about our correction, it is usually best to forget the incident.

Never start an argument or controversy with an editor. Never make a personal call to scold or reprimand him.

An actual attack on the Cause is a different matter and should be handled through national channels.

Bahá’í News Service

The Bahá’í News Service Committee has been authorized by the National Spiritual Assembly to compile a planographic sheet of newspaper clippings concerning Bahá’í books placed in public or private libraries and Bahá’í talks given over the radio.

This sheet has been planned as a teaching aid for the friends. We believe that there are many such clippings which the friends have not yet mailed in to this Committee for the Press Books and have been tucked away in personal or local files. May we ask the friends to help us by mailing to this Committee, immediately, any such clippings which would effectively serve this purpose.

Mrs. Virginia Camelon, Chairman

125 Fourth Street, Wilmette, Ill.

Library Committee

Library requests have been coming in very slowly during the summer months. Will the friends contact more libraries and help us to establish a splendid record this year?

Assembly Library Committees: Our records are scanty for the leading cities in which there are established Assemblies. In many cases, we have records of the Bahá’í books in the Main Library but very little data concerning branch libraries and other types of libraries to which books have been donated in the past. Will the Assembly Library Committees kindly assist us in bringing our records up-to-date? We should appreciate copies of your reports for our files. Have you made a complete library survey of your city? In how many branch libraries have Bahá’í books been placed? Have you presented books to other libraries—Women’s Clubs, Peace Organizations, Jewish Libraries, Y.M. and Y.W.C.A. Libraries etc.? We hope to be able to make a general report of your library activities later to the friends passing along suggestions, plans and methods of library contacts which you have used successfully. Address all correspondences to Mrs. Frances McComb, 88 Lafayette Avenue, Englewood, New Jersey of this committee who will try to bring our records up-to-date with your assistance during the year.

Regional Teaching Committees: Have you sent along requests for library books for the new communities in which you are now working? Are there Bahá’í books in the libraries in the cities where there are disbanded Assemblies? Have you considered presenting books to the outlying libraries of these cities to attract new people to the meetings? Will you kindly cooperate with Mrs. Carl Krug, Abbot Court So., Radburn, New Jersey of the Library Committee in presenting books to the Army Service libraries in your region? You will receive a letter from Mrs. Krug concerning this Army library project giving further details and we hope that books will be donated to at least a hundred of these libraries during the year with your aid.

Bahá’í Groups and Pioneers: The presentation of books to your public libraries is a basic teaching activity which will give you local publicity and bring people to your Fireside Meetings. Contact the National Library Committee for books after interviewing your local librarian. Offer Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era and Foundations of World Unity as a gift set. Other titles are available if the librarian is receptive or local teaching activities warrant the offer of other volumes.

Mrs. Stuart Sims, Chairman
To the Spiritual Assemblies, Communities and Groups of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.

Beloved Friends:

This communication is issued after an exchange of cablegrams with Shoghi Effendi on a most urgent situation which has arisen in connection with the completion of the Temple exterior. The matter is sufficiently urgent to justify the Assemblies in arranging for an immediate, special meeting with the community. It is imperative for the realization of our collective determination to live up to the Guardian's explicit appeals that all American Bahá'ís be informed of the latest developments, and that the local communities pray and act vigorously upon them without delay.

"Unhesitatingly advise insure completion by December (of) sixth and seventh faces. Urge contractor (to) redouble efforts during winter months (to) prepare two remaining faces to be placed as soon as weather permits next spring. Owing (to) international situation strict economy (in) administrative expenses and supreme sacrifice needed (to) complete nine faces by end (of) spring."

—Shoghi Effendi, in cablegram received October 14.

This clear and emphatic message was in reply to word cabled to him that work would have to cease by October 31, when five of the nine mainstory faces will be finished, on account of another revision in the estimate of cost. The contractor has informed the Temple Trustees that the cost of completing the work will be about $22,000 above the estimate made as late as the middle of August.

Temple Schedule

The schedule made by the Guardian calls for continuance of the work into December, until two more faces are completed, and this part of the work will cost $6,500, of which some $4,200 will be received by the Temple Trustees from the sale of land for the realignment of Sheridan Road. The balance, $2,300, is dependent on contributions from the believers between now and January 10, 1942.

The second part of the schedule means that work on the last two faces is to begin early next spring and be carried forward as rapidly as possible until finished. The cost for the work next spring is estimated at $13,500. Meanwhile, to take care of the extra cost of $10,000 on work done in August, September and part of October, plus costs incurred under the contract for the steps, an arrangement has been made with the contractor for a series of monthly payments from October 31, 1941 to December 31, 1942. This arrangement means that, in addition to what the Guardian wants done by December, the Trustees must be able to maintain monthly payments of between $1,000 and $1,500 for fourteen months.

Maintain Both Teaching and Temple Construction

In another cable received from the Guardian on this subject, he declared..."feel however absolute necessity (to) refrain (from) interruption (of) teaching work. Appropriations (for) National and Intercontinental teaching activities must remain undiminished. Otherwise repercussions (on) pioneer work (would be) deplorable."

Thus we perceive that both branches of the Seven Year Plan—the Temple and teaching activities—are to be maintained with all possible vigor. The end of Temple construction under the Seven Year Plan is now in sight. The costs have been increased to the estimated total of $67,000 since the middle of April, 1941, and this considerable expense would have put a stop to construction work of any ordinary type. Because we are raising Bahá'u'lláh's House of Worship, we are willing to sacrifice ourselves as evidence that we know and worship Him.

While, therefore, the National Spiritual Assembly is obligated to present facts and figures bearing upon
Tests of Devotion

What the Guardian calls for, that we must give in full measure, without stint or limitation. How much can we increase our capacity to serve during the few remaining years of the Seven Year Plan? These unexpected difficulties that come to us are but tests of our sincerity and devotion. They will be surmounted when, in a spirit of reverence and unity, we come together in our meeting of consultation and pray for assistance to do our share of the mighty work.

May we ask each Spiritual Assembly to report on the results of the meeting called to discuss this letter—not a financial report so much as a presentation of the spirit of the friends, and the degree of their resolve to meet the Guardian’s appeal.

Faithfully yours,

National Spiritual Assembly

Letters From the Guardian

Regarding the question whether it is necessary to obtain the consent of the parents of a non-Bahá’í participant in a marriage with a Bahá’í, as Bahá’u’lláh has stated that the consent of the parents of both parties is required in order to promote unity and avoid friction, and as the Aqdas does not specify any exceptions to this rule, the Guardian feels that under all circumstances the consent of the parents of both parties is required.

The Guardian approves the use of the form of report to be filled in by all Latin-American Assemblies. This form, however, should be closely considered by your Assembly, and need not be forwarded to him, as the final action in such matters rests with the N. S. A. This body should exercise the utmost patience, good will, care and vigilance in such delicate and vital matters, should stress the importance of the institution of the local Spiritual Assembly, should take into special consideration the Latin temperament and character, should exercise a general, though not too rigid, supervision over newly formed groups and Assemblies, and should, by every means in its power, maintain, nay, increase, the flow of pioneers and financial assistance to these countries, that constitute, in these critical years, the greatest trust delivered into the hands of the champions of the Bahá’í Faith in North America. He is delighted to learn that there is a possibility of one or more Spiritual Assemblies being formed in South America, besides those of Buenos Aires, Costa Rica and Bahia. There is no doubt that in this particular field the North American believers are exceeding the expectations of the Guardian when he conceived and formulated the Seven Year Plan. What he would urge at the present stage is to insure that an anchorage for the Faith be firmly laid in every Latin Republic. This need not involve the formation of an Assembly, but presupposes the formation of a group of resident believers, who will safeguard permanently and definitely the interests of the Faith during the critical years which lie ahead of the Continent of America.—Shoghi Effendi, through his secretary, August 12, 1941.

The paramount and urgent importance of the teaching work both in the North American continent and throughout Latin America cannot be over-emphasized. The attention of the entire company of the American believers should be focused on the requirements of this vast undertaking that has been so gloriously initiated, and which must be pursued, extended and consolidated by every means in their power. This is the National Assembly’s supreme objective, upon which must depend the success of the Seven Year Plan. I will pray that this goal may be attained and this great mission be nobly fulfilled.—To Allen B. McDaniel, Chairman, July 18, 1941.

It is such a pleasure to learn from your letter that the extremely generous donations of our dear and esteemed Bahá’í sisters, Mrs. Collins and Mrs. Morton, will enable the N. S. A. to concentrate its attention on the vital requirements of the inter-continental teaching campaign, which during the remaining years of the Seven Year Plan constitutes the predominating and decisive issue confronting the American believers. I feel certain that you will continue, as it has been your wont ever since its inception and long before it was initiated, to lend your outstanding assistance to the historic task entrusted by our Beloved to the American Bahá’í community. I will continue to pray for your precious health.—To Roy C. Wilhurs, Treasurer, August 13, 1941.

Canadian Bahá’í Fund

The Canadian Bahá’í Fund came into existence in October, 1940, made necessary by Foreign Exchange Board regulations restricting the sending of money out of the country. It was started by two contributions totalling Six Hundred Dollars and at the time of the last Convention had increased to about Nine Hundred Dollars.

At the time of the Convention the Assistant Treasurer, Mr. Schopflocher, presented a proposition to spend part of the money to propagate teaching in Canada. The pioneer from Winnipeg, who was present at the Convention, consented to act also as a teacher at large throughout Canada. Meanwhile other projects came up such as the pioneer work to settle Saskatchewan, so that in spite of regular contributions by the end of July the amount had dwindled to about Five Hundred and Fifty Dollars. Other projects came into operation such as teaching work in the East. To keep up the traveling teacher work until May, 1942, the pioneer work in Saskatchewan and teaching in the Eastern Provinces, an expenditure of about Three Hundred Dollars a month is called for, starting this month. After two months a monthly budget of One Hundred and Fifty to Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars will be necessary.

The Assistant Treasurer is glad to report that in consequence of the last letter released from the N.S.A., contributions have increased substantially by some Assemblies formerly somewhat delinquent. Only yesterday, September 6, a letter was received by an individual believer enclosing a check for Two Hundred Dollars to be followed by regular contributions of One Hundred Dollars a month. The letter is most encouraging as the Assistant-Treasurer feels that this contribution and the promise of more to come plus in-
creased contributions from groups and Assemblies will insure the teaching program and fulfill the obligation of the Seven Year plan to establish the Faith in every Province of Canada.

In future regular monthly statements will be released and will be included with receipts issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

Inter-America News

“The disciples of Christ forgot themselves and all earthly things, forsook all their cares and belongings, purged themselves of self and passion and with absolute detachment scattered far and wide and engaged in calling the peoples of the world to the Divine Guidance, until at last they made the world another world, illuminated the surface of the earth and even to the last hour proved self-sacrificing in the pathway of that Beloved one of God.”

Guatemala

Mrs. Louise Caswell, who is traveling throughout Central America, has written enthusiastically regarding the Bahá’í work being done by the pioneers. She says, “It has been a rare privilege to visit these countries where the fires of God’s struggling Faith have been so recently kindled, and to watch the gentle, precious pioneers faithfully fanning the flames which are rising to unsuspected heights. Already there is the promise of a second Assembly in Costa Rica. Baha’u’llah’s banner is firmly planted in Nicaragua, a country which is a center of spiritual power. Salvador has already yielded more than enough Bahá’ís for an Assembly, believers who yearn for deeper knowledge and study regularly. In Guatemala the enthusiastic believers are scattered because of the lack of a pioneer teacher. For two weeks my room is their center where they can come for meetings. Last night we were ten in spite of the rain. Tonight others will come. I wish I could stay six months, but surely some one will come and enjoy the high privilege of teaching in Guatemala. If the Bahá’ís at home knew the joy that is here for them in these Republics of Central America they would drop everything and come to help the new brothers and sisters. The call of the newly-born Bahá’ís will reach the listening ears of some Bahá’í teachers who will be unable to resist the urgency and will rush here to gather the ripe harvest.”

“One August ninth at the Cristobal Y.M.C.A. an Ecuadorian evening was held. Among other things I gave a talk on Ecuador, quoting ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s words on American Indians, also mentioned a Bahá’í, John Stearns, who was pioneering there. A young man in the audience had been to Quito and knew John well so Cora and I were thrilled to hear the news of John and Quito.”

“Now is the time for eloquent traveling teachers to fly through here.”

Costa Rica

Gayle Woolson has sent a brief report of the progress of the Cause in Costa Rica where there are now thirteen believers including herself. Thirteen of them live in San José, and formed an Assembly last April, 1941. She expressed great enthusiasm about the new work which they have started in another part of Costa Rica, and enclosed a report written by the Secretary of the Spiritual Assembly in San José, who writes as follows: “We were very, very happy to have been visited by John- ny Eichenauer from July 9 to September 5 and by Mrs. Louise Caswell from August 12 to September 10, and greatly appreciate the splendid cooperation they both gave us.”

“It is a great joy to be able to report to you the formation of a splendid Bahá’í study group in Puntarenus, one of the provinces of Costa Rica, and the registration of the first Bahá’í of that province. . . . The group is very enthusiastic and surprisingly eager, for such a young group, to be able to form a Spiritual Assembly in 1942. There are six others studying hard, preparing themselves to become declared Bahá’ís.”

Argentina

Mr. Tormo, Chairman of the Spiritual Assembly in Buenos Aires, writes of the painstaking care that some of the members of that Assembly are taking in making new translations. He also tells of extension work being done by their Assembly in the southern part of Argentina.

Nicaragua

It was formerly published in the Bahá’í News that Mr. Henry Wheelock was the first registered believer in Nicaragua. This should be corrected, as Senora Blanca Mejía registered first, after hearing the
If they do not arise others will be called in their stead and will seize the opportunity and gain the bounty. Bahá'u'lláh has testified that "They who have forsaken their country for the purpose of teaching Our Cause, these shall the Faithful Spirit strengthen through its power. By My Life! No act however great, can compare with it except such deeds as have been ordained by God, the All-Powerful, the Most Mighty. Such a service is indeed the prince of all goodly deeds and the ornament of every act."

The Inter-America Committee is prepared to furnish information and as much assistance financially as the sacrifices of the friends will justify but we cannot work without pioneers, and we cannot send pioneers without funds! We are at a complete standstill! Where are those lamps that are "lighted by the Fire of Thy love and ablaze with the flame which is ignited in the tree of Thy mercy"?

Any day we may learn that it is too late! We cannot know what obstacles will arise in our path which will plunge us into everlasting sorrow or wound us with the consciousness of failure! The pioneers are the Dawn-Breakers of the western hemisphere: "their assistance is the assistance of the Blessed Perfection; it is a sword which can never be dulled, a magazine which will always be full." Let them stand forth!

**INTER-AMERICA COMMITTEE**

*By Nellie S. French, Corresponding Sec'y*

**Temple Teaching**

The latest report of the Temple Guides Committee presents some impressive figures. "Since July 1, 1932, records show that 130,907 visitors have made tours of the Bahá'í House of Worship. In August of this year, 4,027 visitors were shown through the building, representing 44 of the 48 states, the District of Columbia, and in addition visitors from Ottawa, Riverside, Toronto, Burlington and Niagara Falls, Ontario; Vancouver, B. C.; Buckinghamshire and Gloucestershire, England; Manila, P. I.; Montevideo; Panama; Puerto Rico; and Cuba."

The August registration compares with the 2,609 visitors who came in August, 1940. Among the guests were groups including 65 students.
from Northwestern University Summer School, 34 women from the First Christian Church of Waukegan, and 28 women from the Presbyterian Church of Waukegan, Illinois.

A class for prospective guides will be held in the Temple each Sunday beginning January 4, 1942, the hour now being set from one to three thirty p.m. All believers wishing to take part in this far-reaching and thrilling activity are invited to attend this class and enroll on January 4.

World Order Magazine

In its October issue the Bahá’í magazine presented the following: The Development of the Creative Individual, by Genevieve L. Coy; His Highness Christ Called All Men, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Tablet to South America; The Basic Principle of Truth—An excerpt from The Promised Day Is Come, by Shoghi Effendi; Youth Looks Ahead, by Horace Holley; Book review of The Social Role of the Man of Knowledge, by G. A. Shook; Study Outline On The Continuity of Revelation, prepared by Alice S. Cox from an outline made by Harry Jay; and With Our Readers, the department of editorial comment.

The November number contains: The White Silk Dress, by Marzieh Gail, on the great Bahá’í heroine and martyr, Tahirih; poems by Ella Louise Rowland and Blanche Young; Why I Am a Bahá’í, by Zerah Holden; The Real Life of Man, a hitherto unpublished public talk of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in America; Whom I Worship, a prayer revealed by Bahá’u’lláh; A Bahá’í Pioneer in Paraguay, by Elizabeth H. Cheney, the first of a series; and With Our Readers, the department conducted by Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick.

World Order Magazine, the business department reports, is arousing believers to a broader appreciation of its monthly array of instructive and stimulating articles reflecting the teachings of the Faith.

The steadily-increasing enrollment of new subscriptions from Bahá’ís, supplemented by subscription gifts to non-Bahá’í friends, gives evidence that the magazine is proving helpful for teaching work. One active worker last year sent in 51 gift subscriptions and has already renewed 26 of these gifts for a second year.

Our Opportunity

Since the Temple exterior is to be completed in 1942, the individual believer has only a limited time to make his contribution—his final contribution—to this great enterprise entrusted to the American Bahá’í community. The House of Worship will stand to future ages as the dawningplace of the Most Great Peace, the evidence of our faith and the sign of our worship in deeds not words. Such a glorious opportunity will not return to this generation.

Race Unity

Race Unity

On Saturday, September 27, an area gathering of Bahá’í friends met at Foundation Hall to discuss ways and means of reaching racial minorities and their leaders with the Bahá’í call to unity.

Mr. Eli Powlas announced the good news that he will be free from his former work for one year, during which he, together with his wife, will visit western and south western Indian communities for the purpose of spreading the Faith. Indian developments near Milwaukee resulted from such contacts, and with the aid of meetings and social events, have been carried steadily forward. Mr. Powlas attended in August the tenth annual American Indian Exposition, at Anadarko, Oklahoma. Delegates and visitors from more than fifty tribes were present, numbering in all approximately ten thousand. Bahá’í literature was given to many leaders. Mr. Powlas himself is the chief of the Milwaukee Council of Indians.

Work among the Negro minority will be carried forward this month by the visit of Mrs. Dorothy Baker to Kentucky and North Carolina, where she will address the student bodies of nineteen colleges, twelve of which are white groups, six Negro, and one Indian.

Discussion moved around the Good Neighbor policy and the need of more individual friendships with the Jews and understanding of their present-day problem. Mrs. Sarah Walrath reported attending a seminar conducted by the Quakers of New Hampshire, where eighty refugees from six European countries were guests. It was possible to entertain many of the Jewish friends, who responded not only to this friendly gesture but to the Bahá’í Teachings as well. Mrs. Corinne True quoted ‘Abdu’l-Fadl in his warning that it would be necessary to know the Prophets of Israel and their Teachings, in order to point out to the modern Jew the limitations in the old Christian philosophy concerning Bible fulfillment, and the wonderful consummation of God’s plan in the present day.

Race Unity Committee

Coordination of Race Unity With Other Committee Activities

1. Mr. Gregory has been asked to write an article based on the course he gave on Race Unity at Green Acre, with special emphasis upon the contribution of the Jewish people to the world in ancient and modern times. It is recommended that this article be used in the World Order Magazine and that extra copies be given to this committee for Jewish distribution and to Regional Committees and Assemblies on request.

2. Our surveys are at the disposal of individuals, groups, and committees who find themselves geographically located favorably to working with one or more of the American minorities.

3. We are aware of the need of coordination with the National Publicity Committee, and will make a special effort this year to tie up the winter’s activities with their timely news releases. Mr. Powlas and Mrs. Baker have especially been urged to send in not only news but pictures of notable minority groups and leaders whom they contact in their oncoming projects.

4. The Race Unity public meetings and group conferences should stimulate general teaching as well as special Race Unity work, and it is our intention to turn over all contacts, public and private, to Regional Committees and Assemblies, for follow up.

5. We suggest that the National Radio Committee be encouraged to make up fresh and timely little talks on such themes as ours, as well as on the other spiritual and social principles of the Faith, and send us notices when something especially adapted to our work is published.
Louhelen School
Winter Session

The Louhelen School Committee has planned a winter session to be held from December 26 to January 1, inclusive. The morning program will be devoted to deepening in the Bahá'í teachings through study, prayer and meditation, and the afternoons to discussion of some of the fundamental questions taken up in The Promised Day Is Come. Believers wishing to attend this session should apply as soon as possible to Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary, Louhelen Ranch, R.D., Davison, Mich.

Braille Transcription

The Committee on Braille Transcriptions wishes to correct the statement published in Bahá'í News for June, 1941, that the Red Cross charges $1.65 for a course of ten lessons in Braille transcribing. In a letter from “Service for the Blind,” American Red Cross, Washington, D.C., I am informed that there is no charge for this instruction. The only charge for a student is that of $2.75 for necessary equipment which includes manual, slate, stylus, and one hundred sheets of Braille paper and an eraser. If there is no local Red Cross Braille teacher, each lesson is sent (free of postage) to Washington, corrected and returned.

The local Red Cross Chapter must assume charge of the proofreading of the books transcribed by the student after completing the course and receiving the certificate of “Certified Braille Transcriber”; or, if the local Chapter is small, the individual may pay for his own proofreading—which, at three cents a page, would amount to $3.00 for a book of one hundred pages, with $0.50 extra for binding.

A book transcribed by a Red Cross certified Braille transcriber, proofread by a certified Red Cross proofreader, after binding may be offered to any Braille Circulating Library that the transcriber wishes, or will be placed in some Braille Library by the National Red Cross.

It takes 35 to 45 minutes to transcribe a page of Braille on the slate, and a certain degree of concentration is necessary.

Shoghi Effendi has always stressed the importance of the Braille work, and a believer who has international contact told me recently that many taking part in the great tragedy of war are becoming blind and deaf from the shattering of the nerves. What a bounty it is to be able to braille the Holy Writings for such souls, that their spiritual sight and hearing may be quickened.

Committee on Braille Transcription
By Ella C. Quant, Chairman

Youth Activities for
The Bahá'í World, Vol. IX

Today Bahá'í youth are helping to mold Baha'u'llah's new world order. They are quietly but certainly making history. Shoghi Effendi desires a permanent record. Volumes of The Bahá'í World, appearing every two years, will tell the future how the new world order was established.

One small division in the ninth volume of The Bahá'í World will portray youth's part during the period April 21, 1940 to April 21, 1942. It is not known just when the Guardian will ask for the delivery of the manuscript, and therefore material must be gathered and written up now, though it will not cover the entire period. The international secretary for Bahá'í youth has received very little information from abroad. These troubled times call for a double responsibility from the Americas.

All readers of Bahá'í News who have any news, reports, articles, photographs (glossy print, if possible), helpful letters, newspaper clippings and editorials, which pertain to Bahá'í youth anywhere in the world, should send them immediately to Mrs. Annamarie Honnold, 902 S. Orme Street, Arlington, Va. It is thought that some individuals may have received letters containing valuable information on youth work during the above-mentioned period from friends abroad. This material is most important, and the cooperation of all Bahá'ís, not only the youth, is sought.

What are young people doing in the pioneer field? What do you hear from friends in distant lands, and in Central and South Americas? How are Bahá'í men facing the draft? What experiences are they having? What organizations are listening to Bahá'í youth speakers? How do the newspapers react? What are some new approaches and some outstanding achievements of our youth? Do you have any group pictures? These questions should receive many answers. And many others could be asked. Children are not to be forgotten.

Please help make this issue of The Bahá'í World informative and helpful. Information must be sent to the already-mentioned address now.

The Bahá'í World
EDITORIAL COMMITTEE
By Annamarie Honnold

West Chester Assembly
Observes Anniversary

On September 14, 1941, along the historic Brandywine, a picnic was held at the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lewis, to celebrate the first anniversary of the opening of the Bahá'í Center, by the West Chester Community of Bahá'ís.

The large gathering was comprised of thirty-one Bahá'ís and twenty-five non-Bahá'ís from New York, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Del.; Clifton Heights, Pa.; and West Chess-
ter; who were greatly impressed with the spirit of friendship and brotherhood.

The following speakers of the day were introduced by Mr. William Bowers, chairman; Mrs. Mary Belle Hammond, West Chester, Pa.; Mrs. Charles Hornung, West Chester, Pa.; Mr. Benjamin Shreiber, Philadelphia, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Kalantar, Wilmington, Del.; and Mr. Butler, one of the colored friends from Philadelphia, Pa.; Miss Nancy Lee Bowers, one of our Bábí Youth, brought to a close the speaking part of our program by reading the Prayer for Unity.

In Memoriam

I have made death a messenger of joy to thee; wherefore dost thou grieve? — Bábá'u'lláh.

Mrs. Mary D. O'Shea,
Pebble Beach, Calif.

Enrollments and Transfers


Enrollments of isolated believers reported in October—fourteen.

Bábí Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Power, November 4; Speech, November 23; Questions, December 12; Honor, December 31.

Anniversaries: Birth of Bahá'u'lláh, November 12; Day of the Covenant, November 28; Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, November 29.

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: at Wilmette, November 14, 15, 16; at Wilmette, January 2, 3, 4, 1942.

Bábí Schools: Louhelen School, Winter session, December 26, 1941 to January 1, 1942.

Bábí Directory

Additions and Revisions to October 29 ASSEMBLIES

Honolulu, T. H. Change of address.

Miss Henrietta From, Secretary, 70 North Judi Street.

Scranton, Pa. Until further notice add-

dress Mrs. Rachel Lloyd, Acting Secretary, 325 Adams Street.

Oak Park, Ill., Omaha, Neb., and Pittsburgh, Pa. Dissolved for lack of numbers.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

COMMITTEE ON THE AMERICAN MEMORIAL TO 'ABDU'L-BAHÁ

Mrs. Edith Inglis, Chairman, 4641 Grosvenor Street, Fieldston, New York, N. Y.

Miss Juliet Thompson
Curtis Kalsey
Roy C. Wilhelm
Philip Sprague
Mrs. Carrie Kinney

COMMITTEE ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS

BRALLE TRANSCRIPTIONS

New members added: Mrs. Frank Duckett, Mrs. Mayme, Jackson.

WORLD ORDER EDITORIAL

Editorial correspondence to be conducted by Mrs. Alice S. Cox, 1100 West Gift Avenue, Peoria, Ill. New member added: Miss Garreta Busey.

CHILD EDUCATION

Mrs. George R. True unable to serve.

CONTACTS

New member added: Mrs. George R. True.

GEOVSERVILLE SCHOOL

New member added: Mrs. Amelia Bowman.

Mrs. Olive Meyer unable to serve.

REGIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

The title of the committee appointed as the Regional Teaching Committee for Western Ontario changed to Committee for Ontario.


Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia. New members added: Mrs. John O. Honnold, Miss Elsie Austin.


International News

1. Australia and New Zealand

The N.S.A. teaching campaign has been uppermost in our thoughts during the last weeks and the friends in all centers have prayed earnestly for its success. The main effort was centered on Brisbane which no Bábí Teacher has visited since Father and Mother Dunn worked there some twenty years ago. They met with very little response at that time notwithstanding the great effort put forward. Miss Brooks, her sister Mrs. Hawthorne, Mrs. Moffitt and later Mrs. Routh made a frontal attack with nothing more than a few introductions from friends to people they thought might be interested in the message. As soon as they arrived in Brisbane unexpected doors opened and, reinforced by the prayers of the Guardian and friends, they went from victory to victory. After the classes and lectures several sought membership and an enthusiastic group was formed. The enormous distances, the scarcity of teachers and lack
of adequate funds have been factors preventing much teaching work being undertaken in the past. This new group in Brisbane must be nurtured into the Faith and we believe that the means both in personnel and funds will be forthcoming for further follow-up work.

It was amply demonstrated during the campaign that the time is now for a concentration of effort on introducing the message to new districts. The Sydney Assembly is increasing its membership rapidly and we feel confident that both from here and Adelaide teachers will be raised up for the spreading of the glad tidings all over Australia.

Miss Brooks and Mrs. Routh, the two lecturers, desire the thanks and congratulations of all the friends for their fine work, also Mrs. Moffitt and Mrs. Hawthorne for their wonderful support and help in organizing the campaign. Surely Bahá'ulláh has blessed abundantly their selfless labors.

A Study Group has been formed in Brisbane, Queensland, and is now functioning with Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, as a result of the teaching campaign in that city undertaken by Mrs. Moffitt, Mrs. Hawthorne and Miss Hilda Brooks, for one month, and Mrs. Moffitt and Mrs. Routh for another three weeks.

Ably organized by Mrs. Moffitt and Mrs. Hawthorne the work went with a swing from the first days. Contacts were made, invitations to lectures sent out and the lectures impressively advertised. In the first week the assistance and advice of Mr. O'Bryen Hoare, poet and teacher of public speaking, opened many doors. He had heard from a non-Bahá'í source that the Bahá'ís were in Brisbane and although unacquainted with them he 'phoned soon after their arrival and proffered his advice and assistance. In him the Bahá'ís found a good friend whose advice and introductions enabled them to make many contacts.

Miss Brooks was the lecturer. Her first lecture, "Bahá'ulláh and a New World Order," was given on the evening of May 12th, and was attended by sixty people. The lecture was most enthusiastically received and proved to be the prelude to a successful campaign. The press report of the lecture enhanced the prestige of the Bahá'ís, assisted in spreading the knowledge of the Teachings in Queensland and led to inquiries and requests for literature. This report was also broadcast over the air, and as a result an interview was requested by the Social Editor of "Queensland Country Life," a weekly publication which reaches the graziers and primary producers throughout Queensland. A report of this interview appeared later in that paper. The Social Editor arranged an interview for Miss Brooks with the Assistant Manager of The Queensland Primary Producers' Co-operative Association.

In addition to the advertised lectures Miss Brooks gave talks at meetings for inquiries and at social gatherings. A Study Group was quickly formed and by the end of the month three Brisbane men and one lady had spoken at Study Group meetings. At one Study Group meeting, Mr. Jim Heggie, a Bahá'í of Sydney who was in Brisbane for some days, delighted all with his fluent expressed viewpoints. Mr. Bedgood was elected Chairman of the Brisbane Study Group, Mr. Richards Secretary and Mrs. Donald Treasurer.

Many people visited Miss Brooks at her hotel for personal interviews, one of these being a representative of 4BK Broadcasting Station. Miss Brooks gave a lecture at the Theosophical Society's meeting after which there were many requests for literature. Bahá'í books were in great demand throughout the visit. Miss Brooks said, "Although we took a parcel of books with us we had to send for three more parcels."

Beginning June 2nd Mrs. Routh gave a series of lectures and talks all of which were cordially received. Whilst making new contacts Mrs. Routh and Mrs. Moffitt energetically followed up and consolidated the work done in the first month. The good attendances and interest were fully maintained and the Study Group placed on a firm footing. The two ladies were given a farewell social by the Study Group on the eve of their departure from Brisbane. On this occasion Mrs. Routh took 'Abdu'l-Bahá as the subject of her talk and so vividly did she portray His exemplary life her hearers were deeply moved.

The splendid organization and publicity work of Mrs. Moffitt and Mrs. Hawthorne in the first weeks contributed largely to the success of the campaign and the united prayers of the dear believers of Australia and New Zealand and the beloved Guardian at the Holy Shrines, assured the teachers of protection, guidance and success. They felt assisted every moment.

The election results have been delayed owing to a tie vote necessitating a second ballot for one member. This has caused the publication of the Quarterly to be later than usual. The full list is not yet to hand but the following are declared elected to the National Spiritual Assembly for 1941-42:

Miss Hilda Brooks, Mrs. Emily M. Axford, Mrs. Silver Jackman, Mrs. Charlotte Moffitt, Mr. Robert Brown, Mrs. O. J. Routh, Mr. O. A. Whitaker, Miss Ethel A. Blundell, (9th name not yet received).

2. British Isles

Summer School was held in Bradford from July 26th to August 4th, and was a great success. For a long while we searched for a suitable place in the country in which to hold it, but in vain; and, as a last resort, and in some doubt, we decided to have it in one of the big towns where there is a Bahá'í Center. There seemed to be difficulties in such a scheme, and we were afraid it would not be nearly so successful as in previous years, but these fears were unjustified. In spite of the fact that most of us lived in a hotel quite a walk away from the Bahá'í Center, which meant a great deal of coming and going through the town, and in spite of the fact that the Bradford friends did not, of course, live with us at all, but went to their own homes each night — in spite of all this, Summer School was all we hoped for and more, and was a truly wonderful experience for those who attended it.

During Summer School the following cable was sent to the Guardian:

"Summer School opens auspiciously public attracted friends happy. Hearts warmed your loving messages. Beg continual supplication divine assistance. Deepest love."

And just after Summer School closed the following reply was received:

Daily Inspiration for the Teaching Task

"Dearly-beloved friends! I can do no better, eager as I am to extend every one of you any assistance in my power that may enable you to discharge more effectively your divinely-appointed, continually multiplying duties, than to direct your special attention, at this decisive hour, to these immortal passages, gleaned in part from the great mass of Bahá'u'lláh's unpublished and untranslated writings. Whether in His revelation of the station and functions of His loved ones, or His eulogies of the greatness of His Cause, or His emphasis on the paramount importance of teaching, or the dangers which He foreshadows, the counsels He imparts, the warnings He utters, the vistas He discloses, and the assurances and promises He gives, these dynamic and typical examples of Bahá'u'lláh's sublime utterances, each having a direct bearing on the tasks which actually face or lie ahead of the American Bahá'í community, cannot fail to produce on the minds and hearts of any one of its members, who approaches them with befitting humility and detachment, such powerful reactions as to illuminate his entire being and intensify tremendously his daily exertions."—Shoghi Effendi, The Advent of Divine Justice, page 63.

Communications from the Guardian


This message was in reply to a cablegram sent to the Guardian by the National Assembly on October 28: "Proceeding completion sixth (and) seventh faces (by) December. All castings needed completion eighth (and) ninth faces (in) 1942 already finished and stored at Temple."

"Substitute 'shining' for 'striving' in detailed cable dated September 29." (Signed) Shoghi Rabbani.

"Ruhí's sister married covenant-breaker Feyzi, whose mother joined and supported arch-enemy Muhammad Ali and whose father 'Abdu'l-Bahá denounced openly and repeatedly as His deadly enemy. Ruhí's family concurred. Inform all believers (that) all manner (of) communication (with) excommunicated family (is) forbidden." (Signed) Shoghi Rabbani.

"(The) flagrant disloyalty (of) Ruhí's family compels me (to) disclose information so long (and) patiently withheld (from) American believers concerning his failure (to) obtain my approval (of) his second
visit (to) America. His subsequent conduct regarding his marriage which I refrained from revealing (to) anyone except your Assembly, as well as Foad's departure (to) England without my knowledge, should now be made known (to) believers. Confident (of) unshakeable steadfastness (of) exemplary American Bahá'í Community." (Signed) Shoghi Rabbani.

(Cablegram received November 10, 1941.)

To these messages the Assembly sent this cable on November 17: "Informing friends (of your) message (about) Ruhi's family. Assure complete obedience protection unity (of) sacred Faith."

On November 21, 1941, this reply was received:

"(My) confidence (in) immovable steadfastness (and) unstinted loyalty (of) American believers (is) reinforced." (Signed) Shoghi Rabbani.

On November 17 also this cable was sent to Haifa: "Five faces complete, two more approaching completion. Planning concentrated, intensive campaign North America fulfilment (of) Seven Year Plan."

On November 22 came the following message for the believers:

"Heart thrilled (with) pride (at) message announcing (the) approaching completion (of the) ornamentation (of) seven faces (of) Mashriqu'l-Adhkar, proclaiming (an) intensification (of) North American teaching campaign, (and) revealing (the) adamantine resolution (of the) Temple builders (and) stalwart crusaders, in face (of the) perfidy, ingratitude (and) opposition (of the) enemies both within (and) without (the) Holy Faith. As (the) fury (and) destructiveness (of the) tremendous world ordeal attains (its) most intense pitch, so (the) Mission conferred twenty years ago by 'Abdu'l-Bahá's sacred Will on (the) worldwide, indivisible (and) incorruptible body (of) His followers unfolds its fullest potentialities. Securely abiding (and) confidently battling within (the) impregnable structure (which) that Will has divinely established, (the) dwellers (in the) ark (of the) divine Covenant (the) world over watch with awe, pride and delight (the) evidences (of the) mounting momentum (of the) eternal process (of) integration (and) disintegration hurrying (the) Faith along (its) predestined course. The royal adversary, personally respon-
sible (for the) recrudescence (of) persecution closing all Bahá'í schools (in) Bahá'u'lláh's native land, (has) been humbled (to the) dust. (The) sufferings endured by (the) builders (of the) first Mashriqu'l-Adhkar (are) being avenged. (The) cornerstone (of the) National Administrative Headquarters (of the) Egyptian Bahá'í community (has been) ceremoniously laid. (The) first officially recognized Bahá'í cemetery (is) ready (to) receive (the) precious remains (of the) illustrious Abul-Fadl (and the) Immortal Lua. (The) Hazírát-ul-Quds (in) Baghdad (has) been extended (and is) nearing completion. (The) property dedicated (as) first Administrative Center (of the) Syrian Bahá'ís has been purchased. (A) group (of) families (of) Persian believers, Muslim, Jewish, Zoroastrian (in) origin, afile (with the) example set (by) American pioneers, (are) settling (the) adjoining territories (of) Hejaz, Yemen, Afghanistan, Baluchistan (and) Bahrein Island. (The) spiritual competition galvanizing (the) organized followers (of) Bahá'u'lláh (in) East (and) West waxes keener as first Bahá'í century speeds to (its) close. With bowed head, exultant spirit (and) thankful heart I acclaim these recurrent, increasingly compelling manifestations (of the) solidarity, loyalty (and) unquenchable spirit animating, throughout five continents, (the) community (of the) followers (of the) Most Great name."

(Signed) Shoghi Rabbani

(Cablegram received November 22, 1941.)

Finally, under date of October 26, 1941, the Guardian wrote these words to the Treasurer of the National Spiritual Assembly:

"Conscious of the state of the National Fund, and realizing the urgency of the task facing its administrators, I have felt the urge to devote the offering of the American believers to the International Fund to the work which is now vitally facing and challenging the friends in the teaching field. Much as I appreciate the spirit prompting you and your fellow members to make this monthly contribution to the Cause at the World Center, I felt that it was my duty to communicate this offering while the Seven Year Plan is still operating, so that vital aspect of teaching upon which its success must ultimately depend. May the friends in view of the vastness of the field that stretches before them, and the potentialities of their labors within it, and of the glowing promise of future blessings which such a labor must yield, rise to still greater heights of self-sacrifice and evince nobler manifestations of solidarity in the face of the critical situation that so insistently demands their support."

(Signed) Shoghi

The Spiritual Quarantine

Warnings have come to the American Bahá'ís from the Master and the Guardian in turn, at odd intervals over a long period of years, to avoid association with Covenant-breakers. Our latest instruction about this very grave matter comes by cablegram, a copy of which appears in this issue and names Ruhi Afnan and his family as now to be included in the list of bad eminence—persons, for the protection of the Cause, to be avoided.

That a scion of the Holy Family and a close relative of the Guardian should fall into such error and loss cannot be surprising to those aware of some happenings in past cycles. Those records, however fragmentary, afford ample proof that the real bond between the Holy Manifestations, their appointed successors and those whom they guide and teach, is spiritual rather than one after the flesh.

It is recorded that God had no respect for Cain, one of the sons of Adam. A son of Noah likewise became apostate. The brethren of Joseph, the Beloved of God, sold that holy One into exile and slavery. Aaron, the brother of Moses, misled by his wife, joined her in murmuring against his Lord whom he had long so faithfully served. Both were grievously punished and Aaron was forgiven and restored only after his repentant plea for mercy.

Perhaps few persons recall that Jesus Christ had four brothers after the flesh. Their brief mention in the Gospels implies that they were quite unaware of the station of their illustrious kinsman; while strangers, attracted by the power of His Word, attained high rank in the spread of Christianity. Subh-i-Azal, half-brother of Bahá'u'lláh, became the Evil Tree and center of death in opposing the Tree of Life. Mirza Musa, another brother, was loyal.

Christ prophesied:

"Many shall come from the North and the South, the East and the West
and shall sit down in the Kingdom of God with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, while the children of the Kingdom shall be in darkness."

This prophecy was directly fulfilled in the lives of Mohammed Ali and Badî‘u’lláh, the two sons of Bahá’u’lláh who became the fallen branches, influenced by pride and greed and opposing ‘Abdu’l Bahá. High in birth, they were abased to the lowest depths.

And now our Guardian utters the word which means the spiritual quarantine of the excommunicated family of Ruhi Afnán. The Guardian has been extremely patient and long-suffering. In making this special requirement he but fulfills his sacred duty of Guardian to all the friends. He counts upon our discernment and loyalty. We on our part know that our faith in the Cause of God, divinely aided and confirmed, is far too precious a pearl for us to imperil by our disobedience to such commands. Not only is the Guardian’s right to direct us revealed by the highest authority, but for fully a score of years, with supreme wisdom, ardent devotion, proficient services and high courage, he has guided the ship of the Cause through troublous seas to the havens of victory after victory. Unitedly, heartily, devotedly, reverentially, we hear and heed his behest.

**To the Spiritual Assemblies, Communities and Groups of the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada.**

Beloved Friends:

The Guardian’s cablegram of October 14, quoted in the November issue of Bahá’í News, conveys an instruction which calls for consultation and decision by each local Assembly and by each Committee, as well as by the National Assembly itself. "Owing to international situation strict economy in administrative expenses and supreme sacrifice needed to complete nine faces (of Temple) by end of spring." The word "needed" shows us clearly that without such economy and sacrifice, the objectives of the Seven Year Plan might not be attained.

Therefore we are under obligation to ponder this counsel in our hearts, discuss it in meetings, and do what lies in our power to realize economy in all the administrative activities.

Without a sound definition of all items coming under this heading of "administrative expenses" it would be difficult to adopt new measures without perhaps impairing a collective capacity to serve the essential aims of teaching and Temple construction to be achieved. It is not economy to cripple a community or Committee and prevent it from rendering its full measure of service. However, a Committee in drawing up its budget needs might check its items very carefully, to see if certain savings can be made without weakening the efforts to achieve the real aims. Perhaps the Committee records and minutes have become too detailed, in which case a simplification will be desirable. Often traveling expense can be saved by using teachers living in or near the area of activity.

Economy, in the true sense, is adapting means to ends and not sacrificing the ends to the means. Our objectives are vast and majestic. We cannot be niggardly in our plans to establish the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh in twenty-one Latin American countries and in many North American States and Provinces. There has been nothing small and mean in the design of the House of Worship. However, if economy is not niggardliness, neither is it extravagance nor selfish materialism. The Cause has been served best by those who have sacrificed most, and this will always be true.

The increasing international difficulties require us to change our scale of living and working expense if we wish to continue serving the Cause.

There will be a great blessing for us to the degree that we all do our best to carry out the Guardian’s decisive instruction. The National Assembly has already made a begin-
ning, and feels assured that all the friends will continue their efforts in the direction of sacrifice. May the entire American community achieve a higher standard in carrying out the Guardian's decisive instructions.

Faithfully yours,

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Inter-America News

"O God! Be Thou their supporter and their helper, and in the wilderness, the mountain, the valley, the forests, the prairies and the seas be Thou their confidant—so that they may cry out through the power of the Kingdom and the Breath of the Holy Spirit! . . ."

The Inter-America Committee is deeply appreciative of the response which has been received to their circular letter with the selected readings for the Feast. Several Communities have written us, and one in particular is inquiring about the expense of deputizing a pioneer to some of the less distant posts now either left vacant by the necessary return of the teacher or not yet sufficiently provided with resident teachers. The vacancies now occurring are those of Bolivia, Guatemala, Honduras and Venezuela which is a difficult country being three thousand miles long, but very narrow; however we must sometime reach its most southern city, Magdalena, which is the most southern city in the world; and the Guardian has mentioned "The length and breadth of South America."

Publicity

Speaking of publicity we must not forget to mention the many interesting articles which have appeared in the press of other Republics of Central America which are due to the energy and wisdom of John Eichener. John has used great tact and has written all his valuable contributions in excellent Spanish.

Ecuador

News has been received from Mr. Hans Düry who is a new believer, acting now as Secretary of the group in Quito, that the group celebrated their first Nineteen Day Feast on October 16. Their happiness was reflected in the letter which came to the Committee.

Puerto Rico

This country has recently been added to the list of Latin American countries which come within the province of this committee. We are informed by the National Assembly that the teaching field there has recently been enriched by the presence of Mrs. Elia Guthrie, Mrs. Edith Marangella, Lucien McComb, Jr., and Mrs. Ayned McComb, so we shall expect great results from the forces gathered there.

Prospective Spiritual Assemblies

Several of the centers have now reached a membership which will enable them to organize on April 21, 1942, we trust. The growth and spread of the Cause in Latin America bears ample evidence of the bounty of Bahá'u'lláh which is bestowed upon those who pioneer.

Peru

Miss Eve Nicklin is now established in Lima, Peru, is becoming acquainted and writes of the beauty of the city and of her happiness in being there.

Chile

Our pioneer in Santiago, Mrs. Maria Atwater, has expressed her determination to remain indefinitely in Chile where she has met with wonderful success. She will extend her teaching also to Valparaíso and we hope elsewhere in time, as Chile is a very large country being three thousand miles long, but very narrow; however we must sometime reach its most southern city, Magdalena, which is the most southern city in the world; and the Guardian has mentioned "The length and breadth of South America."

Spanish Broadcast

It is with joy that we announce a Radio address which we hope will have occurred on November 26 at 6 p.m. over station KGEI in the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco. Mrs. Amalia Ford, recently returned pioneer from Costa Rica, the speaker, will speak on the Cause and Costa Rica and all Latin American countries will be able to hear this address. In our monthly Bulletin we have informed the pioneers and groups and are asking all who may hear to write a word of appreciation to the Station; in this way we hope to secure further privileges.

Our Mail Bag

If the friends could see the amount of interesting letters which come to us day after day they would be convinced of the fact that Latin America is no longer a vague hope but a definite reality. And the mail which goes out from this Committee has marked us in our local postoffice which is doing a wholesale business in the matter of stamps. All letters, as well as our Bulletin, must be sent by air mail and we have learned to confine our communications to the limit of one air mail stamp by the use of very thin paper and carefully written text. We try to write frequently to all the pioneers and by means of the Bulletin to keep them...
in touch with each other. Anyone wishing to learn the address of a pioneer may communicate with us and we shall be happy to inform him.

Visitors

Recently one of the former members of the Assembly in Costa Rica has arrived in California and is expecting to make his home here. He was met at the dock when his boat touched in Los Angeles harbor and shown Bahá’í courtesy by some of the friends. This and his cordial reception in San Francisco has made him very happy and has impressed the members of his family and the believers in San José who are realizing what Bahá’í unity means.

Nzall E. French,
Corresponding Secretary

Teaching Activities in Canada

Of all the news which comes to the National Teaching Committee, the reports of the Canadian friends are most exhilarating. "The giant Canada is now awake and on his feet," writes Rosemary Sala. It is certain that the 1941 Convention marked the opening of a dynamic chapter in the fulfillment of the Divine Plan and its goal for Canada. The promises of the Master seem now to be visibly approaching: "... The believers of God must become self-sacrificing and like unto the candles of guidance become ignited in the Provinces of Canada. Should they show forth such a magnanimity, it is assured that they will obtain universal divine confirmations, the heavenly cohorts will reinforce them uninterruptedly, and a most great victory will be obtained."

With the coming of war and consequent limitations on travel, the Canadian Bahá’ís had perforce to organize their own summer teaching conferences. The following excerpts are drawn from reports by Regional Committees, the Toronto Assembly, and most liberally from Rowland Estall, who visited the three sessions in Montreal, Toronto, and Vernon, B.C.

1. Eastern Canada

The conference in Montreal, June 28th to July 2nd, the first summer session of its kind in Canada, received the Guardian’s recognition in a thrilling cable stating that he was overjoyed at first Canadian Summer Session and assuring those present of his deepest appreciation and fervent prayers.

Baha’i Temple Model, Central Feature of San Francisco Flower Show Held in Rotunda of San Francisco City Hall on August 27 and 28, 1941.

"In all, seventeen Bahá’ís and friends came to this historic Conference from out of town, in addition to the presence of the Montreal and St. Lambert believers. Four people came from Moncton, four from Hamilton, five from Toronto, two from Ottawa, one from Rouyn, and one from Winnipeg... Three non-Bahá’ís who attended this Conference... have since declared themselves believers, a striking evidence of the confirming spirit so markedly present throughout these five days..."

"The Regional Committee had assigned to the Salas the job of organizing the Conference, Emeric in charge of the program and Chairman of the Sessions, and Rosemary as hostess. Both did a wonderful job, with the result that, although they had very short notice, everything ran very smoothly..."

"The varied program provided daily talks and discussions based on the outline ‘Deepening the Spiritual Life’; study of the first part of ‘The Promised Day Is Come’ (led by Miss Winnifred Harvey); separate talks on ‘Bahá’í Administration’ (Siegfried Schopflocher, Ragnar Mattson, and Lou Boudler); ‘Bahá’í Attitude towards Christianity’ (Mrs. Agnes King); and ‘Post-War Reconstruction’ (John De Mille). Lorol Schopflocher contributed an account of her journeys to Central America and the British West Indies, and Emeric and Rosemary Sala gave us stories of their experiences in Venezuela and Columbia. A Teaching Forum, to which all contributed, was conducted daily by Rowland Estall. A Public Meeting at the Maxwell house drew about ten interested friends in addition to the thirty or more Bahá’ís present, and Emeric Sala and Rowland Estall spoke on ‘Post-War Objectives’, with Winnifred Harvey, Chairman.

"Sessions were held in the Maxwell house, at the Schopflochers and the Salas, interspersed with lighter moments of fellowship and recreation, and with the bountiful hospitality dispensed in these three Bahá’í homes. An all-day visit to the Laurentian Mountain cottage of Mr. and Mrs. Lou Boudler concluded an eventful Conference.

"Pervading the whole Session was the consciousness of a new spiritual adventure begun; the happiness of a new unity forged, a new strength created between hitherto scattered units of the Faith; the freshness of new discoveries made of fellow-believers from other places. The meetings opened in the Maxwell house, where so much of historic importance to the Cause in Canada has originated. The spirit evoked there
stayed with us throughout the various sessions as we enlarged and deepened our knowledge of the Faith; as we consulted, and understood more clearly the nature of our present tasks, and prayed for guidance and strength to carry them out.”

It is not possible to detail here the wide-spread activities which so many of the Conference delegates have already undertaken, throughout Canada and especially in the Maritime Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. Future reports will underscore that a new responsibility was implanted at this session, and that truly “all went away ... with a realization ... of the urgency for the speedy construction of the great Edifice of spiritual peace and social unity which the Bahá’í’s build in the midst of the debris of a tottering world.”

2. Ontario

The Toronto Spiritual Assembly “did a magnificent job” in arranging this region’s first Summer Conference, held August 3rd to 9th at Glen Lynden Farm, Rice Lake, under the general theme of “Our Colossal Responsibility.” Here too the delegates were blessed by a cablegram from Shoghi Effendi saying that he was pleased with the gathering. There were seventeen guests staying at Glen Lynden Farm for the Summer Conference. Twenty-nine guests attended lectures, seventeen guests staying at Glen Lynden Farm for the complete Conference. Present were Bahá’ís from Toronto and environs, Hamilton and Parry Sound, in Ontario; from St. Lambert, Rivière Beaudette and Rouyn in Quebec; and from Boston and Winnipeg.

“The locale chosen was ideal, a large farm fronting on the Lake ... The view was magnificent, looking out over green lawns, through white cedar and white pine trees to a green-gray, island-studded lake, extending to distant rolling hills beyond. It was a spot for inspiration.

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“There were daily readings and meditations which began each day; a course in Applied Administration conducted by Harlan Ober, which drew long discussions on administrative ways and problems ... a daily Teaching Forum, conducted by Rowland Estall along the same lines as the one held in Montreal, but with special application to requirements of the Ontario Region which has no other Province to consider as a direct teaching responsibility; talks given by Rosemary Sala on “The Bahá’í Pioneer”, by Emeric Sala on “Post-War Reconstruction”, and by William Suter on “Bahá’í Attitude towards Christianity.” These were the scheduled sessions on the program.

“But of no less value were the unplanned experiences. There were Harlan Ober’s stories of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, told with intimate knowledge and feeling by one who knew and loved the Master; Paul Sala’s arrival from his farm in Quebec and his talk on ‘Agriculture in the Bahá’í World’; Priscilla Waugh’s open declaration of faith, which thrilled all hearts; a motor-boat cruise across the Lake to an Indian Reservation where some of the friends had a brief chat with members of the Otonabee tribe; the inquiries made by Mrs. Harris, owner of the farm, about the Cause and her interest in it. It was an unforgettable week and one which will have lasting influence on the future of the Cause in Ontario.”

“From all aspects, the Conference completely exceeded the expectations of the Conference Committee. The Ontario Bahá’ís, for the most part young in the Faith, were completely amazed at the tremendous spiritual force generated at such a gathering.”

Perhaps the words of John Robin, present at both the Montreal and Rice Lake sessions, most vividly epitomize their powerful benefits to the Seven-Year Plan. “I wouldn’t have missed either of those sessions for worlds, and that is the feeling of everyone who attended either or both of them. We got to know each other, and to realize the spirit of unity lives in all Bahá’í gatherings. We are different peoples as a result of those sessions and we pray that we may attain that station of heroism and sacrifice mentioned by the N.S.A.”

3. Western Canada

Vernon, B.C., was host from August 29th to 31st for the third of these Summer Conferences. In it “the Regional Committee essayed what was perhaps the most difficult Conference to organize. They undertook to combine the opportunity for study and consultation with an active program of public teaching in Vernon and Armstrong, two cities in the beautiful Okanagan Valley, some three hundred miles inland from the Coast. As in the case of the other two Canadian Conferences, cables were exchanged with the Guardian.”

“The Conference lasted two-and-a-half days. From 17 to 20 people participated in the various private sessions, and perhaps 15 to 20 others, residents of Vernon and Armstrong, attended one or more of the three public meetings. Visitors from other cities included two from Portland, Oregon; seven from Vancouver and West Vancouver; one from Calgary and two from Winnipeg.

“The Public Meetings, addressed by George Latimer and Rowland Estall, had been well advertised ... and excellent publicity obtained. A printed program had been sent out to 250 people. A window display on the main street in Vernon (at the Chamber of Commerce) had been arranged with a large framed picture of the Temple, and Bahá’í books and posters of the meetings.”

One memorable episode of the meetings occurred when a Canadian officer in the audience arose, “upheld the Bahá’í ideals and said the reason for the present troubled world conditions was that we had been too concerned in talking about Christianity rather than Christ. It developed that he had heard of the Cause in Palestine after the last war and had tried to see ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.” As a result of all this public activity, Austin Collin has reported that he has now “increased his study group to eleven people ... and that interest has grown so much that he could now guarantee an audience of 50 people for a public meeting ...”

“Austin Collin was Chairman of the Conference Sessions which, in addition to the Public Meetings, consisted of three periods of study of ‘The Promised One Comes,’ led by Mrs. Liddell, Mae McKenna and Evelyn Cliff, and an evening of consultation on Teaching.”

“Headquarters for the Conference was the Kalamalka Hotel in Vernon. The Vernon friends had generously decorated all our rooms with many-colored gladiolas and chrysanthemums, sign of the affluence with which nature has endowed this fertile valley in the heart of the Canadian Rockies. One felt that the seeds of the spirit were equally well planted in the hearts of the believers in these two cities, and would produce an abundant harvest for the Faith in time.”

And so was inaugurated this summer of 1941 a “new phase of Canadian teaching activity,” through three gatherings conspicuous in the
words of Mr. Estall, for their initiative, inspiration, and action. Not large in numbers, they yet signified the unity of the Canadian friends in the historic duty conferred upon them by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. For Canada is on the march, and our fellows there are serving and sacrificing by a new measure. Might not they lead us all to a new and vigorous phase in our glorious mission?

“O ye believers of God! Do ye not look upon the smallness of your members and the multitudes of the nations... The plain is covered with pebbles, but precious stones are rare. One pearl is better than a thousand wildernesses of sand; especially this pearl of great price, which is endowed with divine blessing.”

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

**Temple Construction Cost Increased**

The reasons for increases in the estimated cost of completing the exterior decoration of the Temple main story are simple.

In the main story the contractor has found technical problems which did not arise in his work on the Temple dome, clerestory, gallery or pylons. The main story faces were designed by the architect with both vertical and horizontal curves. The process of fitting the castings to this type of surface involved unexpected delays in preparing the surfaces for the castings, and adapting the castings to their respective positions on the surfaces. To fit each casting, or completed unit, to the other castings in place or to be placed required much more working time on the part of the crew, and the cost increases have been for labor time and not for the purchase of material.

Finally, the casts which carry the nine texts are all different, since one text is not repeated nine times but a different wording appears over each of the nine entrances.

This is the first time in the contractor’s experience when the cost of applying the casts has been greater than the cost of making them.

What the Temple Trustees pay for is not the estimated cost but the actual cost, and this actual cost is checked by the Trustee’s supervising engineer each month and only the cost certified by the engineer is payable by the treasurer.

In the case of ordinary construction work the form of contract calls for a fixed cost estimate, and the contractor loses if this estimate is exceeded. In the case of the Bahá’í House of Worship that type of contract was employed for the construction of the superstructure, but the cost-plus contract is preferable for the exterior decoration as otherwise the contractor, to protect himself against unexpected costs, would have to make a maximum cost estimate, much larger than the present contractor has made.

Before the contracts for the gallery, pylons and main story sections were executed, the Trustees had the advice of a Technical Committee whose members included leading experts, and the selection of Mr. Earley as well as the form of contract and the system of cost accounting to be employed was all examined and recommended by that Committee, as was reported in Bahá’í News several years ago.

On the other side of the picture stand the very considerable savings which the Trustees have effected in connection with Temple construction work. One, the supervising engineer has given his services without fee. Two, the entire supply of quartz needed during the past three or four years was bought in advance at an extremely low figure. Three, the expert workmen needed for certain types of the work are classified for a wage scale much lower than would be the case if a new crew had to be hired. Four, the reinforcing steel needed for the steps was bought nearly a year ago, before war conditions produced higher costs and priorities.

In conclusion, the Temple Trustees are happy to report that all the precast units and all the materials needed to complete the last two faces next spring are finished and in storage, at the Temple, ready for operations as soon as weather permits. Moreover, if funds are available, the outside steps can also go forward rapidly in 1942, as the steel is on hand, the cement on order, the plans complete and much preliminary work accomplished.

To bring this divine Temple to completion, and give to the world this unique symbol of the Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh, the unity and sacrifice of the friends is now needed. The technical problems of construction, considered insuperable twenty years ago, have all been solved.

**Publishing Announcement**

*The World Moves on to Its Destiny*, by Shoghi Effendi, a four page leaflet reprinting excerpts from recent words of the Guardian, including passages from *The Promised Day Is Come*, which explains the spiritual significance of the present world-struggle. Sold in lots of 100 only. Price, 100 copies for 50 cents.

*Feast Day and Anniversary Calendar*. This four page card, pocket-size reference, contains the list and the dates of the Bahá’í Anniversaries, Festivals, Days of Fasting, Holy Days on which work should be suspended, dates of the Nineteen Day Feasts, and the Guardian’s letter of explanation. For Assemblies, Groups and Regional Secretaries. 100 cards for 30 cents, 50 cards for 15 cents, or 25 cards for 50 cents if the larger quantity cannot be used.

Spanish translations, not listed in catalog.

*Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era* ............. $0.75

Wisdom of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá ................. 0.50

Some Answered Questions ................ 1.50

Will and Testament of

‘Abdu’l-Bahá ................................ 0.25

*Bahá’í Prayers* ......................... 0.75

*Promulgation of Universal Peace*: In case any one has a copy of Vol. II, of this title and wishes to complete the set, there are a few copies of Vol. I still available at $1.25 per copy.

*Tablets of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá* (large size) In case any one has a copy of Vol. I, of this title and wishes to secure a copy of Vol. II or Vol. III to complete their sets, a few copies of Vol. II or Vol. III are still available at $1.50 per volume.

It is of more than passing interest to note that *World Order*, The Bahá’í Magazine, is steadily enrolling Public and University Libraries to its subscription list.

Bahá’í Assemblies, Groups and individuals, impressed by the value of the magazine for interesting non-Bahá’ís in the teachings of Bahá’u’lláh, as well as being a medium of progressive enlightenment and comfort for Bahá’í’s themselves, are donating gift subscriptions to one or more of their local libraries. One Southern Bahá’í Assembly, for example, has recently renewed its annual subscription gift to five local Public and University Libraries.

*Bahá’í Publishing Committee* 110 Linden Avenue Wilmette, Ill.
Green Acre News

The Green Acre School completed its 1941 session on August 31. How can one measure the effect of the nine weeks of teaching, learning, and living? Twenty-two regular, and as many incidental, instructors gave twenty approaches to a new society. Using as a basis the Divine Products of Baha’u’lLah’s inspired Pen, they gave the pattern for living today and tomorrow. Then teachers and students went forth intellectually and spiritually inspired to live the pattern. Perhaps it is that “living” which is the best measure. It is sometimes called “the spirit of Green Acre.”

The physical needs of man were not neglected. Mrs. Valentine and her able corps created the substance for three of each day’s most pleasant hours. There were plenty of opportunities for recreation. The waterfront was improved with a substantial float and a fireplace; boat rides in Portsmouth harbor, square dancing on Monday evenings, music by a resident group of musicians and by record, walks in the pines and on Monsalvat, picnics at the beaches were some of the things enjoyed by many; Mrs. Street, Spanish, taught the language and coached a play for Youth week.

A heart-warming sight was the Children’s Class under the pines. The nine or ten children of several ages living in the Inn gathered to hear and learn the teachings under the guidance of Mrs. Swift or Louis Gregory.

The facilities of the School were placed at the disposal of the Regional Teaching Committee. Besides using Bahai Hall for a Regional teaching meeting, they used many of the instructors as speakers at public meetings in New England cities.

Some arranged flowers in the rooms and halls; others served refreshing teas; there were many late lunches after the evening meetings.

There is another measure of education. It is the creation of a desire to learn. It may be that Mr. Ashton’s sale of four hundred dollars worth of books is a tangible indication of a creation of that desire!

Information for Radio Committee

The Radio Committee needs the cooperation of the friends in order to work out new plans for the extension of this important branch of public teaching activity.

Will the believers who have given radio talks, the Committees and local Assemblies who have conducted radio programs, kindly send in the following data:

- Date of talk; topic (this not imperative); call letter of broadcasting station, picture (if possible) of the station and whatever information you have about the size of the radio audience which the station claims to have for its programs. The photograph can be of the studio or the building in which it is located, whichever the station itself gives out for publicity purposes. With the photo should come word that the station permits the photo to be used.
- Kindly furnish this information at your early convenience. Address Mrs. Wendell E. Bacon, Secretary, Munson Mass.

In Memoriam

Death profereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of everlastings; it conferreth the gift of everlasting life—Baha’u’lLah.

Mr. George L. Tarot, San Francisco.
Mr. Amos Hosteller, Lima.
Mr. All Maxdoom, Chicago.
Mrs. William F. Slater, Chicago.
Mr. Edward H. Luberger, Milwaukee.
Mrs. Anna Peterson, Kenosha, Wise.
Mr. Elmer E. Miller, Atascadero, Calif.

Enrollments and Transfers

Los Angeles, seven. San Francisco, two. Wauwatosa, one. New Haven, two. Chicago, one. Richmond Highlands, one. West Chester, one. Hamilton, two.

Enrollments of isolated believers reported in November—twelve.

Baha’i Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Questions, December 12; Honor, December 31; Sovereignty, January 19.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: at Wilmette, January 2, 3, 4, 1942.

Baha’i Schools: Louhelen School, Winter session, December 26, 1941 to January 1, 1942.

Baha’i Directory

Additions and Revisions to November 23

ASSEMBLIES

Santa Barbara, Calif. Change of address. Mrs. Marie Lowell, Secretary, 36 West Valero Street.

New York, N. Y. New Secretary elected. Rinaldo Quigley, Corresponding Secretary, Bahai Center, 119 West 37th Street.

Maywood, Ill. Dissolved for lack of numbers.

Montreal, Quebec. New Secretary elected. Miss Anne Savage, Secretary, 99 Guilbault Street.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Committee on Miscellaneous Materials: Harry E. Walrath, Chairman, Mrs. Flora Ernst, Mrs. May Scheffer, Soheil Hannen.

This new Committee has been appointed to serve as a central distributor for teaching material such as Displays, Lantern Slides, Moving Picture Films, Phonograph Records, Photographs, Ringstones and reproductions of the Greatest Name. A detailed announcement will be made later.

COMMITTEE ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS

Braille Transcriptions: Correction of error. New member added, Mrs. Elmer Duckett.


Regional Teaching Committee of Ontario: Mrs. John Roberts added.

Regional Teaching Committee of Texas. Change of address. Mrs. Doris Corbin, Secretary, 5011 Lindsay Street, Houston, Texas.
one. Washington, one. Yonkers, one. Lima, one. Montreal, one. Vancouver, one. Baltimore, one. Cleveland, one. Haworth, one. Toronto, one. Scranton, one. Detroit, one. Oakland, one.

Five enrollments of isolated believers were reported in August, twenty-one in September.

Bahá’í Directory

Additions and Revisions to September 24

ASSEMBLIES

Muskegon, Mich. Change of address. Mrs. Iva Smack, Secretary, 1975 Ray Street.
Yonkers, N. Y. Correction of name. Mr. Samuel Newman, Secretary, 56 Mulford Gardens.
Madison, Wisc. New Secretary. Mrs. Mae Clark, Secretary, 629 Mendota Court.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

GREEN ACRE SCHOOL
Lorna Tasker, Chairman
Helen Marjorie Wheeler, Secretary, 84 Pleasant Street, Worcester, Mass.
Mrs. Hattie Chamberlin, Recording Secretary.
Louis G. Gregory
Glen A. Shook
Rachel Small
Harian Ober
Mrs. Harry Ford
Harry Ford
Jeanne Steed
Justin Williams

GEYSEILVILLE SCHOOL
A. M. Yazdi, Chairman
Glady Linford, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.
John Bosch
Mrs. Olive Meyer
Irvin Somerhalder
Louise Gregor
Mrs. Marian Yazdi
Anita Iaas

LOHILEN SCHOOL
Edward Miessler, Chairman
Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary, Lohilen Ranch, R. D. Davison, Mich.
Miss Phyllis Hall, Recording Secretary
Mrs. Beatrice Eardley
Harry Whang
L. W. Eggleston
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick
Mrs. Dorothy Graf

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
Mrs. E. R. Mathews, Chairman, P. O. Box 120, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Mrs. Charles Bishop, Secretary
E. R. Mathews
Mrs. Eno M. Barton
George O. Lefler
Mrs. Marion Little
Mrs. Florence Morton
Philip Sprague
Mrs. R. Y. Mottabedch

ANNUAL SOUVENIR OF 'ABDU’L-BAHÁ
Philip Sprague, Chairman
Mrs. Carl Krug, Secretary, Abbot Court Road, Radburn, N. J.

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Memphis, Tennessee, newly established April 21, 1941.

Mrs. Edith Inglis
Mrs. Amy Raubitschek
Mrs. Annie K. Lewis
Mrs. Archie Tichenor
Benjamin Schreibman
Mrs. Lulu Lux
Mrs. Jean Sharpless

COMMITTEE ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS

 Bahá’í News Service
Address for correspondence: Mrs. David Carmel, Chairman, 125 Fourth Street, Wilmette, Ill.

Bahá’í World Editorial
Member added: Mrs. Marthea Gail.

Library
Address for correspondence: Mrs. S. H. Sims, Chairman, Box 118, Avon, N. J.
New member added: Duncan McAlear.

Reviewing
Helen Campbell unable to serve.

Youth
Appointment of more Officers: James Hammond, Editor; Robert Gainer, Business Manager; Mary Hammond, Regional Secretary for Western Area; Lloyd Gardiner, Regional Secretary for Middle East Area; Anita Iaas, Regional Secretary for Eastern Area; Parí Zia-Wallrath, Foreign Correspondent.

Regional Teaching Committees

Bahá’ís in Army Camps

The National Youth Committee wishes to keep in touch with all believers who have been called under the draft. To carry out this plan, the Committee must have a complete list of such Bahá’ís. Kindly send name and present address (and previous address of Bahá’í connection) to Miss Betty Scheffler, Secretary, 821 Lincoln Street, Evanston, Ill.

Publishing Announcement

The World Moves On To Its Destiny, by Shoghi Effendi, a four-page leaflet reprinting excerpts from recent words of the Guardian, including passages from The Promised Day Is Come, explaining the spiritual significance of the present world-struggle. This leaflet is expected to be widely used for teaching work, and the National Assembly ordered a large edition. The leaflet folds to fit standard size envelopes. Sold in lots of 100 only. Price, 100 copies for $0.90.

Feast Day and Anniversary Calendar. This four-page, card-size pocket reference contains the list and the dates of the Bahá’í Anniversaries, Festivals, Days of Fasting, Holy Days on which work should be suspended, dates of the Nineteen Day Feasts, and the Guardian’s letter of explanation. For Assemblies, Groups and Regional Secretaries, 100 cards for $1.00 for resale at 2 cents each. Or 25 cards for 50 cents if the larger quantity can not be used.
This graph, very simply, measures the work we have to do by 1944. It gives us the “temperature” of every virgin State and Province, by showing the number of declared believers in each one’s largest group. In some areas, you will see, there are no groups but only one or two Bahá’ís. Yet our Guardian’s goal is a Local Spiritual Assembly!

Briefly, a careful survey convinces us that supplementary pioneers are urgently required in these places: Alberta, Prince Edward Island, Vermont, Kansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, North Carolina, Kentucky, Mississippi, Wyoming and Idaho.

A study of the graph reveals other areas which could and must be greatly strengthened by teachers—residents, circuit, or visiting.

Only twenty-nine months remain!

“The field is indeed so immense, the period so critical, the Cause so great, the workers so few, the time so short, the privilege so priceless, that no follower of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh, worthy to bear His Name, can afford a moment’s hesitation.”

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

**Race Unity at Green Acre**

Twenty years ago American friends, following the instructions of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, held the first convention for the solution of America’s greatest problem, that of race. Green Acre, over a period of many years, has nobly responded to the ideal of human oneness. A bright feature of last summer’s program was the Race-Unity conference held in August. It consisted of a succession of seven meetings over a period of three days, the entire record of which would make a readable and fascinating book. A more detailed report is being made for future use. Herein is but brief mention of some of its high spots.

Horace Holley as chairman, opened with a prayer: “Many a chilled heart has been set ablaze by the fire of Thy Love, etc.” Loving welcome was voiced and a graphic picture was presented of the Master’s visit to America, with its transforming ideals and wide range of human attraction.

Misses Lois Keller and Monevar Bechtold served as musical director of the conference, utilizing the capacities of various instruments, contributing her own talents and that of her three children, Mary Louise, June and Carol and arranging for other numbers from Misses Lois Keller and Monevar Bechtold.

**Status of Virgin States and Provinces**

As of September 15, 1941

- **Elmhurst**, Wheelan Church, Evanston, Hope Lutheran Church, Chicago, Women’s Society, Carey Memorial Church, Wheaton, Great Lakes Naval Training Station (W.P.A. Education Tour), Grandmothers Club, Chicago, Lincolnwood Public School, Evanston, Tuskegee Institute.
- Visitors registered during this period from many parts of Canada and the United States, as well as foreign countries: Mexico, Japan, France, England, China, India, Australia, Nicaragua, Peru. In numbers affected, and by its direct association with the Bahá’í House of Worship, Temple guiding represents the most important inter-racial project maintained by the American believers. Fortunate are those who as guides have the privilege of contributing to this responsible and far-reaching activity.

**Temple Teaching**

The Temple Guide Committee reports the following figures showing number of visitors in recent months: April, 451; May, 1103; June, 1317; July, 2391; total, 5262. This represents a decline from the previous year, the result, it is said, of the lack of an adequate number of direction signs locating the entrance and making it clear that visitors are welcome.

Organizations and groups which sent a body of visitors included: North Park College, Bethel Sunday School, Baptist Union of Chicago, Howard Public School, Newcomers Club, Evanston, Women’s Society, Church of the Atonement, Chicago, Nit Wit Club, Evanston, Women’s Society, Epiphany Lutheran Church, Elmhurst, Methodist Church, Wheelan Church, Evanston, Hope Lutheran Church, Chicago, Women’s Society, Carey Memorial Church, Wheaton, Great Lakes Naval Training Station (W.P.A. Education Tour), Grandmothers Club, Chicago, Lincolnwood Public School, Evanston, Tuskegee Institute.

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Mrs. Harriet M. Kelsey served as musical director of the conference, utilizing the capacities of various instruments, contributing her own talents and that of her three children, Mary Louise, June and Carol and arranging for other numbers from Misses Lois Keller and Monevar Bechtold.

Miss Lorna B. Tasker, responding to the subject, “Racial Adjustment in Latin America,” impressed much of spiritual value by bringing vividly to our attention the way our Latin American neighbors regard human values and are utterly free from racial prejudices as pertaining to Indians, Spaniards or Portuguese and Negroes.

Mrs. Annamarie Kunz Hornold on “The Emergence of the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh” shed light upon the growing feeling of human solidarity, illustrating the unknown talents of various groups and comparing mankind to a great chord in which many notes are needed to make a perfect blend.

Louis G. Gregory emphasized “The Racial Basis of the New Civilization,” bringing to view what exploration, history, science and Di-
Communications From the Guardian

The following cablegram, received December 13, 1941, refers to a message cabled the Guardian by the National Assembly informing him that the sixth and seventh main-stories faces of the Temple had been completed:

"Extremely grateful (and) delighted (at) completion (of) two more faces (of) Temple. Owing developments advise deliberate (to) insure (that) nothing whatsoever prevents or delays (the) erection (of) last two faces (at the) earliest possible opportunity. Deepest love." (Signed) Shoghi Rabbani.

The next communication is a cablegram, received on the same day, December 13, and reproduced elsewhere in this issue. On December 14 this message came:

"Kindly cable news (of the) safety (of the) Honolulu friends. Assure them (my) prayers." (Signed) Shoghi Rabbani.

On December 10 a cablegram had been sent to the Honolulu Assembly expressing loving prayers and best wishes from the National Assembly. On December 14 the message from the Guardian was cabled and on December 20 the Honolulu Assembly replied: "Deepest loving gratitude (for) assurance (of the) Guardian's (and the) Assembly's prayers. Bahá'ís (of) Maui (and) Honolulu (are) safe." Thereupon the Guardian was cabled the news of their safety.

On January 1, 1942 this message arrived from Haifa:

"Faithless sister Mehrangiz (has) followed (the) example (of) Ruhi's sister. All ties (have been) severed. No consideration (of) family relationships can ever be allowed (to) interfere (with the) dictates (of) justice or (to) supersede supreme fidelity (to) Center (of) Bahá'u'lláh's Covenant. Inform believers." (Signed) Shoghi Rabbani.

Two days later, January 3, a second message came on the same subject: "Parents strongly condemn Mehrangiz's action." (Signed) Shoghi Rabbani.

In publishing these two messages from the Guardian, the National Assembly reminds the friends of the statement on "The Spiritual Quarantine" prepared for the December, 1941 issue of Bahá'í News in connection with the Guardian's two previous cablegrams reporting Covenant-breakers within the family.

From the January meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly three cablegrams were sent to the Guardian, as follows:

"American Bahá'ís will employ every possible occasion (to) demonstrate fidelity (to) Center (of) Bahá'u'lláh's Covenant." (Signed) Shoghi Rabbani.

The following excerpts are taken from a letter written by the Guardian through his secretary to the Chairman of the National Spiritual Assembly on October 26, 1941:

"Bahá'u'lláh's call resounding in (our) hearts, (we are) praying (for) fitness (and) capacity (to) maintain sacred trust unimpaired through time (of) supreme spiritual trial until glorious light (of) God's ancient Promise floods this darkened earth. Confident (of) upsurge (of) devotion (and) service from rededicated community."

"Intensive teaching campaign inaugurated (with) seven projects (in) North America, race unity program (among) Southern colleges, new pioneer, Flora Hottes, for Bolivia. Collins' second annual gift five thousand (for) teaching work received. Extending direct assistance (to) inexperienced Assemblies; issuing special teaching number (of) Bahá'í News; planning (for) completion (of) Temple construction (in) 1942."

The final cablegram to share with the friends came January 8:

"Comforted (and) fortified (by) fervent messages testifying (to) solidarity (of) bonds (of) spiritual kinship uniting me (with) true upholders (of the) Covenant. (I) prize their loyalty, glory (in) their achievements, hail their resolve, invoke still greater blessings (upon) their superb exertions." (Signed) Shoghi Rabbani.
"He has recently cabled the National Assembly that he considers it of the utmost importance that the faces of the Temple be completed and placed in position on the main story with as much expedition as possible. This matter has aroused his grave concern, as the Guardian believes that in view of the relation of the U.S.A. to the international situation, the rising costs, labor shortage, etc., it may be both increasingly difficult and expensive to complete this work with every month that goes by. He, therefore, would urge you to impress on Mr. Earley—who, he realizes, is always eager to cooperate in such matters—the necessity of completing whatever ornamentation of the main story remains, during the winter months, so that at the earliest moment next spring, when the weather permits the work at the Temple itself to be resumed, the last faces may be placed in final position.

"Next to this in consideration should be the teaching work. Nothing must be permitted to hamper or slow down this apostolic campaign which the believers have undertaken. It represents the discharge of their moral duty towards their fellow men, that of permitting them, in these cataclysmic times, to hear the Message their Lord has prescribed for them to solve their problems and heal their ills. That of the necessity of completing the ornamentation of the main story, of the seven faces of the Temple rests on the National Assembly to take the necessary measures for the construction of the steps should be carefully considered, and thus insure the unimpeded progress of this vital aspect of the Seven Year Plan."

Note: The Temple work has been so planned that all work at the studio has been completed, and it is estimated that faces eight and nine, completing the main story ornamentation, can be completed in about five weeks as soon as weather permits.

America's Spiritual Mission

1. Excerpts From Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahà

O ye believers of God! Endeavor ye, so that you may take hold of every means in the promulgation of the religion of God and the diffusion of the fragrances of God. Strive ye that the Collective Center of the sacred religions—for the inculcation of which all the Prophets were manifested and which is no other than the spirit of the Divine Teachings—be spread in all parts of America, so that each one of you may shine forth from the horizon of Reality like unto the morning star, divine illumination may overcome the darkness of nature, and the world of humanity may become enlightened. This is the most great work!

You must become heavenly farmers and scatter pure seeds in the prepared soil. The harvest of every other seed is limited, but the bounty and the blessing of the seed of the Divine Teachings is unlimited. Throughout the coming centuries and cycles many harvests will be gathered.

At this time and at this period we must avail ourselves of this most great opportunity. We must not sit inactive for one moment; we must sever ourselves from cupidity, rest, tranquility, goods, property, life and attachment to material things. We must sacrifice everything to His Highness, the Possessor of Existence, so that the powers of the Kingdom may show greater penetration and the brilliant effulgence in this New Cycle may illumine the worlds of minds and ideals.

O ye friends of God! Exert ye with heart and soul, so that association, love, unity and agreement be obtained between the hearts, all the aims may be merged into one aim, all the songs become one song and the power of the Holy Spirit may become so overwhelmingly victorious as to overcome all the forces of the world of nature. Work! This is the great Work, should ye become assisted therein. Thus America may become the fulcrum of merciful susceptibilities, and the throne of the Kingdom of God be established upon earth with the greatest joy and majesty.

2. Excerpts From Letters of the Guardian

Heart thrilled (with) pride (at) message announcing (the) approaching completion (of the) ornamentation (of) seven faces (of the) Mashriqu'l-Adhkar, proclaiming intensification (of) North American teaching campaign ... As fury (and) destructiveness (of the) tremendous world ordeal attains (its) most intensive pitch, so Mission conferred twenty years ago by 'Abdu'l-Bahà's sacred Will on worldwide, indivisible, incorruptible body (of) His followers unfolds its fullest potentialities. (The) spiritual competition galvanizing (the) organized followers (of) Baha'u'llah (in) East (and) West waxes keener as first Bahà'í century speeds to close. With bowed head, exultant spirit (and) thankful heart I acclaim these recurrent, increasingly compelling manifestations (of the) solidarity, loyal-

Prayer for Teaching

O Thou Incomparable God! O Thou Lord of the Kingdom! These souls are Thy heavenly army. Assist them and with the cohorts of the Supreme Concourse, make them victorious; so that each one of them may become like unto a regiment and conquer these countries through the love of God and the illumination of divine teachings

O God! Be Thou their supporter and their helper, and in the wilderness, the mountain, the valley, the forests, the prairies and the seas, be Thou their confidant—so that they may cry out through the power of the Kingdom and the breath of the Holy Spirit!

Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty and the Omnipotent, and Thou art the Wise, the Hearing and the Seeing.

'Abudl-Bahà
To carry out in its entirety and to its final consummation this dual enterprise would shed on the closing years of this first century of the Baha'i Era a luster no less brilliant than the immortal deeds which have signalized its birth, in the heroic age of our Faith. To the American believers, the spiritual descendents of the heroes of God's Cause, I again address my plea to arise as one soul and to prosecute with unrelaxing resolve the high mission with which their immediate destiny is inextricably interwoven. The call has gone forth, the path is clear, the goal manifest and within their reach. Though their responsibilities be pressing and heavy and the obstacles formidable and manifold, yet the spirit of our invincible Faith will enable them to conquer if they arise unitedly and determinedly and persevered till the very end. (June 4, 1937)

To the Spiritual Assemblies, Communities and groups of the Baha'is of the United States and Canada.

Beloved Friends:
The American followers of Bahá'u'lláh have entered that time when maximum disturbance and upheaval in the world without will be counterbalanced by the release of spiritual powers of surpassing potency in the world of spirit. Our faith, our knowledge, our training have all prepared us for achievement in this time when the illumination of the Kingdom is to be revealed on earth.

The Guardian's Message
Consider this mighty call from the Guardian of His Faith, coming to us on December 13, 1941 to rally our forces, unify our souls and afford us a great historic occasion for a reconsecration in service to the Cause.

"(The) most great convulsion envisaged by (the) Prophets from Isaiah to Bahá'u'lláh, catastrophic in violence, planetary in range, (is) assailing, at long last, (the) predominating nations of the Asiatic (and) American continents. (The) leading Power (of the) Western Hemisphere which, together with sister republics, Bahá'u'lláh's ringing call significantly summoned in His Most Holy Book, (the) object (of) 'Abdu'l-Bahá's tender solicitude (and) ardent prayers, (the) center of His hopes, (the) recipient (of) His promises (and the) beneficiary (of) His blessings, (has been) suddenly though not unexpectedly plunged (into the) crucible (of) world conflagration. Purged, tested, galvanized, coalescing with its sorely-tried sister nations (the) New World, (the) enviable parent of the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, must assume through adversity its preponderating share (of) responsibility (to) lay down, once and for all, broad, worldwide, unassailable foundations (of) that discredited yet immortal System. Though (the) immediate future be dark, critical (and) fraught (with) anguish, (I feel it my bounden duty (to) appeal (in) this hour as never before (to the) Trustees of Bahá'u'lláh's priceless Revelation whether teachers or administrators, individuals or Assemblies, North (or) South, white (or) colored, young (or) old, (to) refuse at all costs (to) surrender (their) solemn spiritual responsibilities, refrain (from) relaxing (their) teaching efforts, determine never (to) slacken (their) sacred task (of) building (the) institutions whose progress destiny (has) indissolubly linked with (the) fortunes (of the) most disastrous, most challenging, most pregnant period (of) human history."

—SHOGHI RABBANI

The Sacred Task
It is for each community, each Assembly, each Committee and
every individual Bahá'í to pray and meditate upon this message, since it is a supreme, a final call to the arena of spiritual vitality and dynamic action.

For the Guardian's call releases the power for the launching of a concentrated teaching effort throughout North America for the achievement of the tasks given us in the Seven Year Plan for accomplishment by Convention time, 1944.

These tasks are: To establish a local Spiritual Assembly in each American State and Canadian Province, and also in Alaska; To restore every local Assembly once existing but dissolved because the community fell below the requisite number of nine recognized adult Bahá'ís.

As of January 1, 1942, the unsettled States and Provinces are: Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Kansas, Texas, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Nevada, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Idaho, and Alaska; Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia. With Alaska, a total of thirty States and Provinces.

As of the same date, the dissolved Assemblies are: Maywood and Oak Park, Illinois; Omaha, Nebraska; Toledo, and Findlay, Ohio; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Moncton, New Brunswick; Glendale, Arizona; St. Lambert, Quebec; Alhambra, Burbank, Huntington Park and Santa Rosa, California; Colorado Springs and Denver, Colorado; Augusta, Georgia; Topeka, Kansas; Lansing, Michigan; Knoxville, Tennessee; Salt Lake City, Utah; Monroe, Washington; Eagle River, Wisconsin, during the past two years. Going farther back we have also Portsmouth, New Hampshire and Akron, Ohio. A total of twenty-four Assemblies to be restored.

The Great Progress Made

Though the task is immense, nevertheless our collective resources are ample if we make full use of them in an intense, unremitting and whole-hearted effort.

For example, in North America as of January 1, 1942 there are seventy local groups containing five or more Bahá'ís. The germ of spiritual growth already exists in most of the unsettled States and Provinces, as shown by the following list:

Tuskegee, Alabama; Glendale, Arizona; Hot Springs, Little Rock, Arkansas; Atascadero, Burbank, Verdugo City, Huntington Park, Lennox, Knightsen, Piedmont and South Gate, California; Armstrong, and West Vancouver. British Colum-
North America Teaching Map: Six Unsettled Canadian Provinces, and Territory of Alaska, January 1, 1942.

Our Instruments and Facilities

In addition to these seventy groups, all of which are potential communities with a local Spiritual Assembly, the American Bahá'ís are blessed with the developed administrative and teaching facilities which can combine, unify, direct and co-ordinate all the capacities of the entire Bahá'í community.

For example, the National Teaching Committee, with capacity and experience in planning important projects, the Regional Teaching Committees, working under the direction of the National Teaching Committee and carrying on intensive work in their twenty-three areas which together cover North America, the eighty-nine local Bahá'í communities with their Assemblies, the other National Committees, each of which has a function related more or less directly to teaching activity, and the large number of isolated believers, including the groups of less than five Bahá'ís.

Since this date of January 1, 1942 will be used for measuring progress throughout the remainder of the Seven Year Plan, we should examine the statistics of Bahá'í membership.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Type</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baha'is in organized local communities</td>
<td>2637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baha'is in groups</td>
<td>853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolated Baha'is</td>
<td>871</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are 89 local Assemblies,
and 203 groups containing two or more believers.

Let us open our own hearts, and all the institutions of which we are a part, to the inflow of a powerful, a pure and a regenerating spirit, that the American Bahá’í community may accomplish even more than the Guardian requires.

**Coordination of Facilities**

All who become active in teaching have access to many important teaching aids and facilities, each supervised by a separate and independent National Committee, but all directed and coordinated by the National Spiritual Assembly.

The friends are urged to study anew the possibilities of help at their disposition on request. To refer to some of these:

**Publishing Committee** — teaching literature; *Bahá’í News Service* — press releases; **Library Committee** — book placement in public and university libraries; **Radio Committee** — prepared talks on many different subjects; **Miscellaneous Materials Committee** — for photographs, picture slides, etc.; **Study Outline Committee** — for study material distributed through the Publishing Committee; **Bahá’í School Committees** — for instruction in the fundamental Bahá’í teachings, and for practice in applying them; **Race Unity Committee** — for valuable material, bulletins, etc., and public meetings and conferences; **Exhibits Committee** — to create display material, and conduct exhibits at State Fairs. The Bahá’í Directory published a few months ago lists all the Committees and describes their functions.

**Extension Teaching**

The local Communities are urged to realize their great responsibility in contributing to the success of the Seven Year Plan. Their communities contain much more than half the Bahá’í population of North America. Therefore, each Assembly able to provide for Extension Teaching in addition to the local activities is requested to appoint a Committee for Extension Teaching as soon as possible. This Committee is to serve exclusively outside the civil area of the local community, cooperating with the Regional Teaching Committee in the great task of settling the areas with Assemblies, restoring the dissolved Assemblies and developing groups to the point of forming their own Assembly.

The Extension Teaching Committee will report to the Regional Committee, while the local Assembly will continue as hitherto to report to the National Spiritual Assembly concerning its local work. Extension teaching affords the local community the privilege of carrying on pioneer work.

The teaching part of the Seven Year Plan has many aspects. Will the believers give full attention to the important statements contributed by the National Teaching Committee to this issue of *Bahá’í News*.

"So precious an opportunity ... may never again recur. Now is the time, the appointed time, for the American believers ... to proclaim, through the agencies and channels of a specially designed Administrative Order, their capacity and readiness to rescue a fallen and sore-tried generation." (*The Advent of Divine Justice*)

Faithfully yours,

National Spiritual Assembly

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**First Canadian Summer Conference, June, 1941.**

Group photographed in garden of Maxwell home, Montreal.
lective power. Could we not foresee this in the Guardian’s earliest instructions? “... They must not throughout these six remaining years allow themselves to be deflected from the course they are now steadily pursuing. “They must as time goes on evince a more burning enthusiasm, demonstrate a higher sense of solidarity, reveal greater depths of consecration to their task, and display a more unyielding determination to achieve its purpose.”

It is with these facts in mind, and in utmost soberness of heart, that the National Teaching Committee declare to the friends a condition of emergency, and at the same time proposes a plan to surmount it. Twenty-seven months remain. The outlines of the goal are clear. Our status is summarized in other columns of this issue. Our problem is evident from a simple comparison. We are confronted by the only possible choice. It is now the hour to gather and direct the force of the American community; to resolve that no other work shall absorb us except this work; to focus completely, whole-heartedly, unstintingly on the supreme objectives of the Seven-Year Plan. We shall not succeed with less. We are bound to succeed if we do.

The National Teaching Committee cannot visualize just what or how much each individual, Assembly, and Regional Committee can contribute in the next twenty-seven months. We bear, each one of us, a unique and essential relationship to the whole overwhelming task. The Committee can and will suggest, assist, and support the friends, and various proposals are outlined below. But in the long run we must each delve to discover in mind and heart the particular share we can carry, the relationship we shall bear to the Guardian’s vision and our own oft-repeated pledge. The primary matter is that we are all involved!

Beloved friends, while we measure the formidable difficulties ahead, we can never for a moment dissociate them from the marvels to which they lead. “The promulgation of the Divine Plan,” Shoghi Effendi has said, “is the key which Providence has placed in the hands of the American believers whereby to unlock the doors leading them to fulfill their unimaginably glorious destiny.” What we build now in the

Seven-Year Plan is but the first dimension of that destiny, our generation’s chief endowment and merit. We have not chosen it, for God has chosen it; nor can we be free of its responsibility. But what we can do is to strive, in prayer and work, for that assurance which sustains our Guardian, who knows immediately and without trace of doubt that Bahá’u’lláh directs His Faith and intends for it complete and final victory.

“I am deeply conscious of the many obstacles that stand in the path of the American believers in their stupendous endeavor to attain their goal. I cannot, however, overlook... the mysterious power that resides in the united will and concerted action of all the members of that self-sacrificing community.”

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

The Twenty-Seven Month Teaching Program for North America

When the most important work is before our sight, we must let go the important ones... ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Shoghi Effendi has set as the goal for teaching in North America under the Seven-Year Plan the establishment of a Spiritual Assembly in each State of the United States and each Province of Canada, and in the Territory of Alaska, as well as the re-establishment of the disbanded Assemblies.

Extreme emphasis is laid upon this aspect of the Plan at this time for the reason that the Temple construction has proceeded rapidly and definite plans are under way for the completion of the exterior ornamentation in 1942, while the teaching work in Central and South America has also proceeded ahead of schedule. In the United States and Canada, however, there remains but twenty-seven months for the accomplishment of a tremendous, an overwhelming task.

To envision this task as a whole is to realize its vital importance and to feel consecrated to its entire fulfillment within the allotted time, for the goal is nothing less than the erection of the administrative order of the Faith upon the whole foundation of areas and peoples in the two countries of destiny, the United States and Canada.

The 27-month program of teaching, briefly, is:

1. The establishment of a Spiritual Assembly in each of the 30 States and Provinces still without one.
2. And the re-establishment of the 24 disbanded Spiritual Assemblies.

The specific needs to accomplish this are:

1. 15 new pioneers.
2. Teachers, and more teachers:
   a. those who can remain for extended periods,
   b. those who can remain temporarily,
   c. those who can assist in teaching circuits.

Temple Model Exhibit Conducted at Thorton's Floral Co., Oakland, April, 1940.
3. Daily prayers for the success of our teaching program.
4. Continuous and liberal support of the Bahá’í Fund.

The following suggestions indicate the manner in which individuals, groups, and Assemblies can best assist in this tremendous and glorious task:

**Individuals:**
1. Focus all thoughts and prayers daily on the success of the Seven-Year Plan.
2. Orient all Bahá’í services to the remaining specific tasks of the plan.
3. Intensify teaching services a thousand fold—giving first consideration to the needs of the Seven-Year Plan.
4. Who will arise to fill the 15 important posts for which new pioneers are needed?
5. All teachers contact at once.
6. It is unable to go oneself—then deputize someone who can fill one of these posts.
7. Support the Bahá’í Fund freely.

**Groups and Assemblies:**
1. The Bahá’í Communities are the spiritual reservoirs of the Faith, and must provide the spiritual energy and dynamics to bring increasing vitality to the Campaign. They should lend support through prayers, encourage pioneers and teachers to arise, and increase support of the National Fund.
2. Extension work should be carried on in one of the virgin areas where accessible, or in restoring dissolved Assemblies, or raising up new groups, rather than in just a “new” city.
3. Train new teachers as rapidly as possible, so as to enable us to meet the ever-increasing demands for teachers.
4. Actively support Inter-Assembly Teaching Conferences to assist in arranging teaching circuits to cover virgin areas.
5. At Nineteen-Day Feasts encourage the friends to center their thoughts, prayers and deeds of devotion on the goals of the Seven Year Plan.

**Regional Committees:**
1. Regional Committees, in consultation with the National Teaching Committee, have developed definite plans to concentrate their efforts both on the points in the virgin areas where Spiritual Assemblies may be formed, and on the re-establishment of the disbanded Assemblies.
2. They will arrange regular and continuous teaching meetings in these areas.
3. They will cooperate closely with Assemblies in their Extension work in these virgin areas.
4. They will arrange Inter-Assembly Conferences, and cooperate in carrying out the teaching circuits.
5. They will assist all teachers and pioneers in their arduous tasks.

O ye beloved of God! Repose not yourselves on your couches, may be- stir yourselves as soon as ye recognize your Lord, the Creator, and hear of the things which have be-fallen Him, and hasten to His assistance. Unloose your tongues, and proclaim unceasingly His Cause. This shall be better for you than all the treasures of the past and of the future, if ye be of them that comprehend this truth.—BAHÁ’U’LLÁH

**Inter-Assembly Circuit Teaching**

The Assemblies of a given state or region may, in consultation, at any time, arrange a circuit for one or more traveling teachers, a practice followed by some for a number of years. Informally, it is the practice of some to relay information to other centers about the availability of teachers who may have agreed to serve them, so as to widen the scope of such services. Although Regional committees have no jurisdiction over Spiritual Assemblies, they may often aid them by disseminating information about the nearness and availability of teachers. The larger centers do not to the same extent need outside speakers as those of smaller or more recent development. But generally all of them, large or small, give a cordial welcome to visitors and find a use for any talents that may come to them in some meetings, public or fireside.

Traveling teachers should rigidly avoid interfering with the local affairs, the administration of which belongs to the local Spiritual Assembly. To whatever extent they allow themselves to be drawn into local problems or expressing partisan opinions, they weaken their influence and effectiveness as teachers. Should the local Spiritual Assembly of its own motion ask for consultation, advice or aid, it is another matter. Under such circumstances the traveling teacher may sometimes shed light on national and international problems or unfold the teachings which pertain to Bahá’í Administration, the application of which still rests with the Local Spiritual Assembly.

As the coming of a traveling teacher is usually a stimulus to the local teaching activity, moving the friends to unusual efforts in reaching and attracting people; also increasing the number of special meetings for reaching and contacting outside groups and individuals, key people and their followers; his stay should not be unduly prolonged, nor allowed to overtax the strength, endurance and teaching resources of a center, whether large or small. He should readily yield to the wishes of the local friends as to the tenure and utilization of his services.

Itinerant or traveling teachers as well as those who do resident or pioneer work, have been mentioned with appreciation in the letters of Shoghi Effendi. They may be the means by which, as channels, spiritual refreshment and energy may flow to the local centers; and they should, as far as possible, keep in motion. This type of teacher, among the Occidental Bahá’ís, had its highest exponent in the late Martha L. Root, whose ceaseless energy and devotion earned for her the title, Hand of the Cause. As the Cause expands and new centers are started and developed there will be a growing need for workers of this kind.

**Duty and Responsibility of Bahá’ís**

Believers are anxious to know what attitude and course of action they should take in view of the fact that their country is at war and the national energies are being concen-
The Guardian’s instructions are definite and illuminating. They show that the individual Bahá’ís can serve in non-combatant capacities and render aid in programs of civil defense concerned with aid to the injured, fire protection, etc. Bahá’ís are permitted to volunteer, as the Guardian explained to the National Spiritual Assembly of the British Isles in a letter reprinted here in January, 1940:

“There are many other avenues through which the believers can assist in times of war by enlisting in services of a non-combatant nature—services that do not involve the direct shedding of blood—such as ambulance work, anti-air raid precaution service, office and administrative works, and it is for such types of national service that they should volunteer.

“It is immaterial whether such activities would still expose them to dangers, either at home or in the front, since their desire is not to protect their lives, but to desist from any acts of wilful murder.”

The Bahá’í community itself, and its administrative bodies, the local Spiritual Assembly, committees, etc., are not to participate officially and collectively in such activities, but to confine their efforts to direct Bahá’í work and the discharge of the functions definitely assigned them in the teachings.

Shoghi Effendi has been clarifying fundamental issues for us over a period of years, and excerpts from statements relevant to present conditions are published elsewhere in this number of Bahá’í News. The believers, and especially the local Assemblies and the Regional Committees, are requested to familiarize themselves with these instructions and explanations.

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The Guardian of the Most Great Peace

**Words of Shoghi Effendi**

Much suffering will still be required ere the contending nations, creeds, classes and races of mankind are fused in the crucible of universal affliction, and are forged by the fires of a fierce ordeal into one organic commonwealth, one vast, unified, and harmoniously functioning system.

... The Faith of Bahá’u’lláh is now visibly succeeding in demonstrating its claim and title to be regarded as a World Religion, destined to attain, in the fullness of time, the status of a world-embracing Commonwealth which would be at once the instrument and the guardian of the Most Great Peace announced by Its Author.

The Faith of Bahá’u’lláh has assimilated, by virtue of its creative, its regulative and ennobling energies, the varied races, nationalities, creeds and classes that have sought its shadow, and have pledged unwavering fealty to its cause. It has changed the hearts of its adherents, burned away their prejudices, stilled their passions, exalted their conceptions, ennobled their motives, coordinated their efforts, and transformed their outlook. While preserving their patriotism and safeguarding their lesser loyalties, it has made them lovers of mankind, and the determined upholders of its best and truest interests. ... Of such men and women it may be truly said that to them “every foreign land is a fatherland, and every fatherland a foreign land.” For their citizenship, it must be remembered, is in the Kingdom of Bahá’u’lláh.

Though loyal to their respective governments, though profoundly interested in anything that affects their security and welfare, though anxious to serve in whatever promotes their best interests, the Faith with which the followers of Bahá’u’lláh stand identified is one which they believe God has raised high above the storms, the divisions, and controversies of the political arena. Their Faith they conceive to be essentially non-political, supra-national in character, rigidly non-partisan, and entirely dissociated from nationalistic ambitions, pursuits, and purposes. Such a Faith knows no division of class or of party. It subordinates, without hesitation or equivocation, every particularistic interest, be it personal, regional, or national, to the paramount interests of humanity, firmly convinced that in a world of interdependent peoples and nations the advantage of the part is best to be reached by the advantage of the whole, and that no abiding benefit can be conferred upon the component parts if the general interests of the entity itself are ignored or neglected.

These directing and regulating principles of Bahá’í belief the upholders of the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh feel bound, as their Administrative Order expands and consolidates itself, to assert and vigilantly apply. The exigencies of a slowly crystallizing Faith impose upon them a duty which they cannot shirk, a responsibility they cannot evade. (The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh, pages 192, 196, 197)

The Community of the Most Great Name, the leaven that must leaven the lump, the chosen remnant that must survive the rolling up of the old, discredited, tottering order, and assist in the unfulfillment of a new one in its stead, is standing ready, alert, clear-visioned, and resolute. The American believers, standard-
bearers of this world-wide community and torch-bearers of an as-yet unborn civilization, have girt up their loins, unfurled their banners and stepped into the arena of service. Their Plan has been formulated. Their forces are mobilized. They are steadfastly marching towards their goal. The hosts of the Abhá Kingdom are rushing forth, as promised, to direct their steps and reinforce their power. Through their initial victories they have provided the impulse that must now surge and, with relentless force, sweep over their sister-communities and eventually overpower the entire human race.

The generality of mankind, blind and enslaved, is wholly unaware of the healing power with which this community has been endowed, nor can it as yet suspect the role which this same community is destined to play in its redemption.

Fierce and manifold will be the assaults with which governments, races, classes and religions, jealous of its rising prestige and fearful of its consolidating strength, will seek to silence its voice and sap its foundations. Unmoved by the relative obscurity that surrounds it at the present time, and undaunted by the forces that will be arrayed against it in the future, this community, I cannot but feel confident, will, no matter how efficacious the agonies of a travelling age, pursue its destiny, undaunted in its course, undimmed in its serenity, unyielding in its resolve, unshaken in its convictions.

(July 5, 1938)

"The Spiritual Potencies"

On December 26, 1939, the Guardian addressed a general communication to the believers throughout the West which the National Spiritual Assembly issued in the form of a pamphlet entitled "The Spiritual Potencies of That Consecrated Spot."

This communication unveiled for us the profound mystery associated with the transfer of the sacred remains of Bahá'u'lláh, that pious and holy youth, who in the darkest days of Bahá'u'lláh's incarceration in the barracks of 'Akká entertained, on his death-bed, his Father to accept him as a ransom for those of His loved ones who yearned for, but were unable to attain, His presence, and the saintly mother of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, surnamed Navváb by Bahá'u'lláh, and the first recipient of the honored and familiar title of 'the Most Exalted Leaf,' separated in death above half a century, and forced to suffer the humiliation of an alien burial-ground, are now at long last reunited with the Greatest Holy Leaf with whom they had so abundantly shared the tribulations of one of the most distressing episodes of the Heroic Age of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh."...

... The conjunction of the resting-place of the Greatest Holy Leaf with those of her brother and mother incaulcably reinforces the spiritual potencies of that consecrated Spot which, under the wings of the Báb's overshadowing Sepulchre, and in the vicinity of the future Masjih-qu'l-Adhkár, which will be reared on its flank, is destined to evolve into the focal center of those world-shaking, world-embracing, world-directing administrative institutions, ordained by Bahá'u'lláh and anticipated by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and which are to function in consonance with the principles that govern the twin institutions of the Guardianship and the Universal House of Justice. Then, and then only, will this momentous prophecy which illuminates the concluding passages of the Tablet of Carmel be fulfilled: 'Erelong will God set His Ark upon thee (Carmel), and will manifest the people of Bahá who have been mentioned in the Book of Names.'"
Inter-America News

The Inter-America Committee is extremely gratified at the very kind response of the friends to its appeal for pioneers and interest in this very important work and wishes to thank those Assemblies and groups who have so kindly written the Committee. Financial assistance through the regular channels has been assured in some cases, but the Committee still needs more volunteers.

Radio Broadcast

On November 26 at six P.M. a Radio broadcast from San Francisco over KGEI carried the Baha'i Message in Spanish over short-wave to the South and Central American Republics. Mrs. Amalia Ford was the speaker and we have just learned that the talk was picked up in Santiago, Chile, by our large group there where Mrs. Atwater has been doing such wonderful work, and that they were tremendously impressed to hear the name of Baha'u'llah vibrate over the ether. Although the broadcast was not very clear they are asking for others and we hope they will write to the Station and mention the reception of the talk.

Rio de Janeiro

News comes to us from Rio de Janeiro that Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Wood are now well located and are very happy in their new home. It is not the policy of this Committee to give addresses in the News Letters but we will gladly supply them on request.

Santiago, Chile

Santiago, Chile is arranging to carry on extension work in Valparaíso where already they have several contacts. Mrs. Atwater has declared her intention of remaining in Chile for some time and she has taken into her apartment a young lady of great accomplishments who speaks beautiful Spanish, and together they are working out a teaching plan for other cities. Word has just come of the acceptance of the Faith by Sra. Lucha Garrido de Padilla, who is the wife of the former Consul representing Chile at Los Angeles. Sra. Padilla will make her home in Antofagasta, Chile, and will try to establish a study class there, and so the Cause is spreading.

Lima, Peru

Miss Eve Nicklin has opened a Nursing School in Lima, Peru and at the first session there were fourteen children. It is hoped that this may develop into a Kindergarten but as yet Miss Nicklin is known only as a student and not yet a teacher. She is studying Spanish at the lovely old University and is about to take up her residence in a private home.

Honduras

John Eichenauer is still maintaining his reputation for energetic teaching work and is now in Honduras. He has ingratiated himself with the Press of Central America and sends us many clippings. Lately he has had the opportunity of introducing the Faith into Rosario which is an important mining town where many American families are living; Rosario is also in Honduras.

Costa Rica

Costa Rica still forges ahead. The Spiritual Assembly of San José has accepted the responsibility of introducing the Faith into Puntarenas and we have received several registration cards from that city as well as others from San José. The growth is truly remarkable.

Guatemala

Guatemala does not write us often but recently we received a copy of a local magazine in which Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá are printed in specially black type. We do not know to whom we are indebted for the courtesy of this complimentary copy.

Puerto Rico

We are happy to announce that four believers from New York have now taken up their residence in Puerto Rico where they expect to remain and assist Miss Jones and Mme. Disdier in teaching. The four are Mrs. Ella Guthrie, her daughter, Mrs. Edith Marangella, her daughter's son-in-law, Lucien McComb, Jr., and Mrs. Ayned McComb.

Ecuador

John Sterns writes of having secured a very comfortable apartment where he conducts his business and also has pleasant rooms for meetings and for the display of the Baha'i books. His health is very good and he and the two young men believers are working steadily in the teaching work.

Havana

Miss Josephine Kruka was delayed in leaving for Havana because of illness but by now should be established there for the winter. She has made some new friends and we expect good news soon.

San Salvador

Recently a registration card came from San Salvador signed by Señorita Clara Luz Montalvo. We congratulate Clarence Iverson, on this addition to the group and hope for more soon.

Translation

We understand that the Dispensary is now in process of being reviewed and we hope soon to have this wonderful book to place at the disposal of the friends. The translation into Spanish was made in Buenos Aires and is due to the kindly offices of Philip Sprague.

San Domingo

Miss Lentz in San Domingo has been restricted in teaching the Cause on account of the location of her work in Sosua. However, recently the doors have opened and Margaret Lentz is now in the capital city, radiant at the opportunity for wider service which has come to her after her long sacrifice and difficult labor.

Panama

Our two lovely teachers in Panama, Mrs. Caswell and Mrs. Oliver, are now established in a new apartment with all conveniences and they are very happy and particularly so because they have a suitable place for meetings and classes. Mrs. Caswell asks if it would be possible to secure a Baha'i rosary for someone who is very near to the acceptance of the Faith and uses the prayers and greatly desires a rosary. We are appealing in this way in case some of the friends may have one to contribute.

Mrs. Caswell urges that a member of this committee or one of the N.S.A. members make a trip to Central America to visit all the Republics.
We hope that conditions will permit such a visit.

**Elizabeth Cheney**

Miss Cheney writes from Lima, Ohio that rest and clean food are causing great improvement in her health and that after Christmas she will undergo some severe surgery which she hopes will completely restore her health. We ask the prayers of the friends for her as she is a very valued and important maid-servant whose services we need badly.

**Enrollment Cards**

The Committee has issued new registration cards which are printed on very thin paper so that they may be sent by air mail. We have suggested that all Centers keep a book as registry which those who accept the Faith may sign. This book will constitute a valuable addition to the archives of each country, while the enrollment cards themselves may be sent to us for filing.

**Information for Pioneers**

The committee has been filing all information received in reply to our Questionnaire asking for all particulars about the physical conditions of each of the Latin-American Republics. A great deal of valuable information has been received which will enable us to provide abundant data about the various posts to which our pioneers will go.

In Inter-America Bulletin for July, we printed the Spanish translation of that potent statement made by Mrs. Axford in the Australian and New Zealand Quarterly which bears the heading "We Cannot Take Sides" which the Guardian had commended so highly. We sent the Guardian a copy of this Bulletin and he expresses his great approval and thanks us for the promptness with which we acted in this matter and the speed with which he received our Bulletin. The Bahá’í Inter-America Bulletin is sent to all pioneers and centers in Latin-America and carries news of the progress of the Faith and messages of encouragement to our beloved pioneers and with this issue of Bahá’í News we wish them a very happy and prosperous New Year with every blessing.

**Nellie S. French, Corresponding Secretary**

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### Schedule of Meetings of National Assembly

The friends are informed that the schedule of meetings adopted by the National Spiritual Assembly and announced in Bahá’í News of May, 1941, has been revised. The dates of February 21, 22 and 23, and of April 3, 4 and 5, 1942, have been rescheduled, and in place of them a meeting will be held March 6, 7, 8 and 9.

This revised schedule reflects the increasing need for concentration of effort on the most important things, and for administrative economy.

The meeting date of April 29 is retained, and the Convention will be held April 30, and May 1, 2 and 3, in accordance with the original schedule.

**Reproductions of the Guardian’s Cabled Appeal**

The friends are informed that the National Assembly is arranging for the distribution of a card-size reprint of the Guardian’s cablegram received December 13, 1941, to each believer. Distribution will be made in the same way as Bahá’í News, in bulk to Assemblies and groups for the local believers, and direct to the isolated list. Since this message calls for reconsecration of every American Bahá’í, the National Assembly wants the friends to have a copy in a form suited to frequent reference.

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**IN MEMORIAM**

Grant, O my Lord, that they who have ascended unto Thee may repair unto Him Who is the most exalted Companion, and abide beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of Thy majesty and the Sanctuary of Thy glory. — Bahá’u’lláh.

Mr. Frank Osborne, New York.

Miss Emma Claus, Springfield, Ill.

Mrs. Louise Talbott, Freeport, N. Y.

Mrs. Bessie McCauley, Danville, Ill.

**Bahá’í Directory**

Additions and Revisions to January 5, 1942

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Committee on Assembly Development: Louis G. Gregory, Secretary, 421 Broadway, Cambridge, Mass. (After May, address is Eliot, Maine.) Mrs. Amelia Collins, Mrs. Dorothy Baker.

This new Committee will assist in the development of Assemblies by arranging for personal visits by members of the Committee or by selected teachers, in order to take up with the Assembly the essential matters on which its services to the Cause and the growth of the community depends, and help outline teaching plans, etc.

**COMMITTEE ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS**

**Green Acre Bahá’í School:** Change of address, Miss Marjorie Wheeler, Secretary, 59 Davidson Street, Worcester, Mass.

**Temple Program:** New members added. Miss Sophie Loeding, Secretary, 4318 Greenview Avenue, Chicago, Ill., Mrs. Sarah Walrath, Mrs. Janet Lindstrom. Mrs. Clarence Ulrich unable to serve.

**Regional Teaching Committee of California and Nevada:** New member added, Mrs. Jessie Kemper. John Keith unable to serve.

**ASSEMBLIES**

Springfield, Ill. Change of address. Mrs. Gretchen Schultz, Secretary, 1626 So. 16th Street.

Detroit, Mich. Change of address. Mrs. Jessie B. Hall, Secretary, 2387 Woodstock Drive.

Rochester, New York. Change of address. Miss Christine McKay, Secretary, 1410 Highland Avenue.

Findlay, Ohio. Dissolved for lack of numbers.

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**Enrollments and Transfers**


Enrollments of isolated believers reported in December—eleven.

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**Bahá’í Calendar**

Nineteen Day Feasts: Sovereignty, January 19; Dominion, February 7.

Period of the Fast: Nineteen days beginning March 2.

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: See special announcement in this issue.
The Enviable North American Bahá'í Community

Must, if Necessary, Hold the Fort Alone!

Cablegram from the Guardian

The immersion (of the) materially most powerful (and) spiritually most endowed nation in mankind's most critical (and) pregnant ordeal tests (the) spirit (and) challenges (the) audacity (of the) promoters (of the) Divine Plan. (The) privileges conferred (are) immeasurable. (The) time (at) their disposal (is) hourly shortening. (Their) responsibilities (are) commensurately mounting. (The) first fruits already garnered (are) unbelievably rich. (The) Bahá'í world's attention, focussed (upon the) winners (of) such prizes, (is) more firmly fixed. (Their) sister communities (in the) European continent (are) engulfed (and) severed (from their) World Center. Other communities, Australia, India, Persia, Egypt, not excepting (the) Holy Land, (are) facing (an) increasingly grave situation. (The) enviable North American Bahá'í community must support (its) daughter Assemblies (in the) Western Hemisphere (and) hold (the) fort alone if necessary. (I am) prompted (to) direct special attention (to the) Báb's clarion call addressed (to the) people (of the) West (to) issue forth (from their) cities (and) aid (the) Cause; (to) Bahá'u'lláh's subsequent, specific (and) unique summons (to) all (the) Presidents (of the) Republics (in the) New World; (and) 'Abdu'l-Bahá's still more specific formulation (of the) Plan entrusted (to the) North American continent. (I am) impelled (to) urge all believers (to) give henceforth (their) urgent, sustained, primary consideration (at) all Assembly meetings, Summer School sessions, Convention deliberations, Nineteen Days Feasts, Regional Conferences (and) Teaching gatherings (to the) speedy accomplishment (of the) specific teaching tasks (in the) North American States (and) Provinces (and in the) Central (and) Southern (American) Republics. (The) seventh year (of the) first Bahá'í Century witnessed (the) termination (of the) last of three successive upheavals involving (the) sacrifice (of the) lives (of the) majority (of the) dawn-breakers (of the) Heroic Age. Can sacrifice (of) home, possessions, comfort (and) security by their descendents, (the) champion builders (of the) Formative Age, be deemed too great for (the) sake (of the) Plan associated (with the) last seven years (of the) same Century, and whose unqualified success can alone befittingly crown it?

Shoghi Effendi
(Cablegram received February 3, 1942)

Complete Temple Exterior in 1942

To the Spiritual Assemblies, Communities and groups of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.

Beloved Friends:

This communication will present to you the facts and schedules which enter into our great Temple construction project under the Seven Year Plan—completion of the exterior decoration and making the outside circular steps. As the Guardian has urgently advised, we must carry out all the unfinished work in 1942 as afterward it may be impossible on account of international conditions.

Our understanding and our determination, therefore, must (as far as the Temple is concerned) focus on the plan to complete the Temple exterior in 1942.

The Guardian's Instruction

"This matter has aroused his grave concern, as the Guardian believes that in view of the relation of the U. S. A. to the international
situation, the rising costs, labor shortage, etc., it may be both increasingly difficult and expensive to complete this work with every month that goes by. He, therefore, would urge you to impress on Mr. Earley ... the necessity of completing whatever ornamentation of the main story remains, during the winter months, so that at the earliest moment next spring, when the weather permits the work at the Temple itself to be resumed, the last faces may be placed in final position." (October 26, 1941)

"Now that the construction of the steps of the Temple has had to be postponed and in view of the increasing gravity of the international situation, a special and pressing responsibility rests on the National Assembly to insure, with the aid of the contractor and through every other possible means, the completion of the nine faces of the edifice before the end of next spring. During the coming winter months the work at the studio should be (so) conducted that no delay whatever will be incurred when the time for the placing of the remaining faces arrives. During these same months, while the teaching work is being strenuously pursued, the most effective measures for the construction of the steps should be carefully considered, and thus insure the uninterrupted progress of this vital aspect of the Seven Year Plan." (October 26, 1941)

The Work to Be Done

Before winter weather interrupted the work of applying the finished units to the main story faces in December, 1941, seven of the nine faces had been completed, and the last two faces were partly done. In addition, the finished units for completing these last two faces were shipped to the Temple and are stored there for use this spring.

Besides the exterior ornamentation, there is the important matter of the steps. A good deal of the preliminary work on the steps was done in 1941, and the reinforcing steel was purchased.

Before we can regard the Temple exterior as fully completed, the dome and clerestory units should be carefully cleaned, so that the entire outer surface of the House of Worship may be uniformly white and free from discoloration. The dome and clerestory, it might be pointed out, were discolored by the dust storms which raged some eight or nine years ago, an unusual condition not likely to be repeated. The Temple Trustees have no estimate for the cost of cleaning, and therefore this item is not included in the schedule below. It should not, however, be more than a few hundred dollars.

Time and Cost Schedule

It is imperative to begin work as soon as weather permits, which means some time in April. The Temple Trustees must be able to authorize the contractor to proceed with the work on the last two faces and also with the work on the steps, and the Trustees must therefore be assured of sufficient funds.

The following schedule of costs includes estimates on the unfinished work, and likewise it lists the schedule of monthly payments which the Trustees and the contractor mutually agreed upon in October, 1941, when the Trustees were unexpectedly informed of another increase in the estimated cost of finishing the exterior ornamentation.

I. Estimated cost of completing faces eight and nine, mainstory ............... $7,800.00

Estimated cost for casting and placing the outside steps ..................... 21,800.00

Total payable ................... $29,600.00

II. Cost of completing sixth and seventh faces by December, 1941, 6,024.97

Total payable in 1942 from February 1 to December 1 $43,155.96

VII. Total needed from contributions of Baha'is ............... $38,555.96

A Glorious Victory

The completion of the relatively small amount of work still to be done on our magnificent House of Worship will be a glorious victory for the Cause of Baha'u'llah! We would be denying the meaning of the Master's loving assurances, we would be overlooking the significance of the Guardian's messages on the subject of the Temple over a period of many years, if we do not thrill at this prospect of bringing the construction work to an end this calendar year, and fail to concentrate our resolves upon this historic task.

To summarize: in order to complete the unfinished Temple work in 1942, the Trustees must be assured of some $5,500 per month during April, May, June, July, August and September, and of $1200 to $1500 monthly in October, November and December. Such a schedule is much less than the annual expenditure on Temple construction in recent years. The task is within our capacity. Let us accomplish it, and thereby succeed in raising a monument to Baha'u'llah's Most Great Peace in a time of conflict and suffering throughout the world. This will stimulate teaching and will release all energy and resources for accomplishing the teaching tasks of the Seven Year Plan.

Faithfully yours,
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Organic Thrift

The awareness of our being an organism, every part of which draws life-sustenance from its center, should permeate our planning in the various fields of Baha'i service. All lines of work should continue; but at certain times, under supreme guidance, concentrated emphasis may make one goal far more important than others. Under the Seven Year Plan our present
primal duty is clearly set by directions from Shoghi Effendi. The capacities of the friends as well as the state and needs of mankind are well known to the supreme guidance which inspires our efforts.

The attention of Assemblies, groups and Bahá’í schools is again called to the need of exercising a wise economy in the selection of teachers and workers, until the Seven Year Plan, which yet has but little more than two years to run, is brought to a victorious and joyful completion. Nobly and generously have the friends responded at every call, meriting unstinted praise for their zeal and sacrifices in the Path of God. The residuum of the task challenges our utmost endeavors—prayers, loving service, active teaching, sustained efforts, continued sacrifices, wise economy. What we give is vital; what we save, with success in view, no less so. In consideration of the latter, the various administrative bodies, such as Assemblies, committees, groups, schools, should improve the capacities of local workers as far as possible, so as to save the travel and living expenses of those who may come from a distance, in order to conserve more resources for the completion of the Seven Year Plan as a whole.

This of course is not to be a requirement to be enforced with rigidity. The flexibility and guidance of administration, its adaptability to serve varying conditions and needs are signs of its organic life. Coldness and rigidity express death. But the supreme value of completing, for service to humanity and obedience to God, the great plan in the time ordained, should keep us mindful of our first duty, one to be fulfilled not only by giving means, strength of will and devotion, but by the exercise of a wise frugality expressed in simple living and a wise and prudent selection of helpers.—NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Inter-America News

In a letter from the Guardian addressed to the pioneers in Costa Rica he congratulated them most heartily on such a wonderful and glorious achievement, and declared that future generations will exalt their labors, follow in their footsteps and derive inspiration from their pioneer activities.

Main Story Ornamentation No. 10, December 18, 1941. (Completion of Sixth and Seventh Main Story Faces)

These words of the Guardian will apply to each and every one of the pioneers who have gone into the foreign fields of service, they are an encouragement and a promise to all; but we must recognize that some fields are more easily cultivated than others. The Guardian has also said that the spiritual and intellectual nature of the Latin peoples should tend to make them profound and excellent Bahá’ís. The Guardian has the highest hopes for their future services to the Cause of God and the important contributions they will make to its unfoldment and establishment.

Costa Rica

The Costa Rica Assembly continues to send in registration cards and recently we have received a gift of native craftsmanship in the form of a lovely little mosaic box made of various native woods and a paper cutter made from coffee wood. These will add to our very interesting display of articles in the Inter-America booth at the next Convention.

Translation

The Committee is rejoiced at the news of the completion of the Spanish translation of the “Dispensation” which was made in Buenos Aires by Sr. Tormo and Sr. Ricci. It was brought to the United States by Sr. Ricci and has been reviewed by him and Mrs. Anduaga in New York so that it is now ready for publication. We are all indebted to Philip Sprague for his very generous assistance in this matter.

Havana

From Havana we learn that Miss Kruka is very encouraged by the number of new inquirers who have come to the meetings. She writes of a class of young people from the ages of ten to seventeen who are
being taught the Cause together with English.

**Uruguay**

A long and interesting letter has come from Wilfrid Barton from Montevideo enclosing registration cards of two new believers and relating the interest of others. He mentions a move taken toward legal recognition which is required in Uruguay and seems to be meeting with success in that as well as other things.

**Dominican Republic**

Miss Lentz has returned to Trujillo and is definitely located there again. Her health is improving and she is not restricted in her teaching activities as she was in Sosúa.

**Panama**

Our anxiety about our pioneers in Ancon seems to be unfounded as they write that Mrs. Oliver's employment in the Laboratory of the Gorgas Hospital would probably necessitate her remaining there under any conditions and Mrs. Caswell would not leave unless required to do so by the Government in which case she will try to get permission to go to another of the Republics. They send us the registration card of the first resident of the Canal Zone upon which we congratulate them and await Mrs. Rudy's photograph for The Bahá’í World. We are collecting the photographs of the first believer in each of the Republics as they will make a valuable addition to the historical records of The Bahá’í World.

**Honduras**

A letter just received from John Eichenauer tells of his very interesting and successful extension work in Honduras. He writes: "On receipt of the Guardian's cable of December 13 as contained in the Bulletin of December which reached Honduras on January 1, a special meeting was called to read the cable and to pray for the success of the teaching work and the friends generally. At this meeting eleven people signed a note of greeting which I enclose herewith."

John's travels have taken him again to the mining town of Rosario and then to another mining center named Agua Fría. Later he visited the cities of Comayagua and Siguatepeque on the north coast of Honduras. He then made the acquaintance of the editors of two newspapers, Diario Comercial and El Norte of the city of San Pedro Sula and received recognition after which he visited La Lima, center of the United Fruit Company's holdings in Honduras. From La Lima he went to Tegucigalpa, Tela, and La Ceiba where he introduced the Faith to an official of the Standard Fruit Company and the American Vice Consul. En route back to Tegucigalpa he was to stop at Puerto Cortés.

The Inter-America Committee is deeply impressed with this remarkable report and feels that John is becoming thoroughly acquainted with Central America.

**Chile**

Such glowing accounts of the growth of the work in Chile come from Mrs. Atwater each month, and the wonderful part of it is the many ramifications of the teaching which have come about by those from Santiago who have either moved or been transferred to other cities in Chile. The receipt of the registration card of Señora Padilla is very encouraging. Señora Padilla is going to make her home in Antofagasta and her husband who was the former Consul in Los Angeles is very much interested in the Cause and has been very helpful. Beside this, Mrs. Atwater tells of a large piece of property which Sr. Herrera desires to give to the Cause as soon as the Spiritual Assembly may legally take possession of it and that the plan is to cultivate it and plant productive things there. The area of the land is about forty acres. Extension teaching work was to begin at once in Valparaiso. Also Mrs. Atwater tells of a very fine letter which they had received from John Eichenauer which rejoices both them and the committee as it is highly advisable that the pioneer communities should communicate with each other and thus lend encouragement.

**Brazil**

An interesting letter has been received from Beatrice Irwin telling of her many interesting contacts in South America. Miss Irwin's journey was undertaken in the interests of her profession but she utilized every moment and every opportunity to advance the knowledge of the Faith. Her lectures drew fine audiences and she was able to distribute Bahá’í literature to many important people among the intellectuals of Brazil both in Rio and Sao Paulo.

**Bolivia**

The Committee hopes very soon to be able to announce that a new pioneer has gone into the field of Bolivia where already Mrs. Adler has left three very ardent believers with whom we are in regular correspondence. But the need for pioneers is very great and it is of the utmost importance that we are to carry forward the work which the Guardian has indicated and which Abdu'l-Bahá so strongly enjoined upon us we must have other applicants. We do not intend to relax one moment in the pursuit of our objective unless we are definitely prevented by war conditions, and then it would not be from our desire but because as obedient servants to our Government, we must follow their decrees. We believe however that there will be no cessation to the forward march of the Faith notwithstanding international conditions.

**Peru**

We must not bring this report to a close without mentioning Miss Nicklin and the success which she is having in Lima, Peru. Although she has been located only a short time she has already established a Nursery School which is meeting with the greatest approval of the Peruvian mothers who are sending their little children to her. She is living in the family of some delightful refugees and is making
many valuable acquaintances. The initiative which is manifest in the work of our pioneers is something truly remarkable and it fills our hearts with admiration and rejoicing.

NELLE S. FRENCH
Corresponding Secretary

This, the Most Fateful Hour in Their History

"A triple call, clear-voiced, insistent and inescapable, summons to the challenge all members of the American Bahá'í community, at this, the most fateful hour in their history. The first is the voice, distant and piteous, of those sister communities which now, alas, are fettered by the falling chains of religious orthodoxy and isolated through the cruel barriers set up by a rampant nationalism. The second is the plea, no less vehement and equally urgent, of those peoples and nations of the New World, whose vast and unexplored territories await to be warmed by the light and swept into the orbit of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. The third, more universal and stirring than either of the others, is the call of humanity itself crying out for deliverance at a time when the tide of mounting evils has destroyed its equilibrium and is now strangling its very life.

"These imperative calls of Bahá'í duty the American believers can immediately if only partially answer." . . .

"And yet, though their influence be at the present hour indecisive and their divinely-conferred authority unrecognized, the role they can play in both alleviating the hardships that affect their brethren and in alleviating the ills that torment mankind is none the less considerable and far-reaching. By the range and liberality of their contributions to mitigate the distress of the homeless, the exiled and the imprisoned; by the persistent, the wise and judicious intervention of their elected representatives through the authorities concerned; by a clear and convincing exposition, whenever circumstances are propitious, of the issues involved; by a vigorous defence of the rights and liberties denied; by an accurate and dignified presentation of the events that have transpired; by every manner of encouragement which their sympathies may suggest, or their means permit, or their consciences dictate, to succor the outcast and the impoverished; and above all by their tenacious adherence to, and wide proclamation of, those principles, laws, ideals, and institutions which their disabled fellow-believers are unable to affirm or publicly espouse; and lastly, by the energetic prosecution of those tasks which their oppressed fellow-workers are forbidden to initiate or conduct, the privileged community of the American Bahá'ís can play a conspicuous part in the great drama involving so large a company of their unemancipated brethren in the Asiatic, the European and African continents.

"Their duties towards mankind in general are no less distinct and vital. Their impotence to stem the tide of onrushing calamities, their seeming helplessness in face of those cataclysmic forces that are to convulse human society, do not in the least detract from the urgency of their unique mission, nor exonerate them from those weighty responsibilities which they alone can and must assume." . . .

"Though powerless to avert the impending contest the followers of Bahá'u'lláh can, by the spirit they evince and the efforts they exert to circumscribe its range, shorten its duration, allay its hardships, proclaim its salutary consequences, and demonstrate its necessary and vital role in the shaping of human destiny. Theirs is the duty to hold, aloft and undimmed, the torch of Divine Guidance, as the shades of night descend upon, and ultimately envelop the entire human race. Theirs is the function, amidst its tumults, perils and agonies, to witness to the vision, and proclaim the approach, of that re-created society, that Christ-promised Kingdom, that World Order whose generative impulse is the spirit of none other than Bahá'u'lláh Himself, whose domain is the entire planet, whose watchword is unity, whose animating power is the force of Justice, whose directive purpose is the reign of righteousness and truth, and whose supreme glory is the complete, the undisturbed, and everlasting felicity of the whole of human kind. By the sublimity and serenity of their faith, by the steadiness and clarity of their vision, the incorruptibility of their character, the rigor of their discipline, the sanctity of their morals, and the unique example of their community life, they can and indeed must in a world polluted with its incurable corruptions, paralyzed by its haunting fears, torn by its devastating hatreds, and languishing under the weight of its appalling miseries demonstrate the validity of their claim to be regarded as the sole repository of that grace upon whose operation must depend the complete deliverance, the fundamental reorganization and
The Race Unity College Project

The Race Unity Committee has sponsored, over a period of eighteen months, a project for reaching the colleges of bi-racial areas with introductory presentations of the Baha’i Faith. Louis Gregory, Lothar Schurz, and Mrs. Dorothy Baker assisted in initiating the project. Approximately sixteen thousand students have been reached at the present time. Mrs. Baker will add thirty new colleges, eighteen white groups and nine Negro schools, bringing the project to a total of well over sixty colleges and thirty thousand student hearers.

In the fall of 1941 the circuit included eleven white colleges, five colored, and two Indian. The theme of the lecture was the world as a single organism, motivated by a world faith. The Pattern for Future Society, by Shoghi Effendi, supplemented by The Image of God, was distributed throughout the schools, and a book will be presented to each library.

There were Baptist schools, Presbyterian schools, Methodist schools, and State colleges; colored schools, white schools, Indian schools; city schools and hill schools, and one was a large and beautiful Quaker college. Only one white man was to be found on the fall circuit who had ever heard of the Baha’i Faith. He was a student at the Quaker college, and had made the Baha’i Faith the subject of his term theme. Taking the pamphlet of Shoghi Effendi in his hands he said, “These writings are very great. Don’t you think you might compromise a little because of organizations like the Ku Klux Klan?” One of our companions replied: “The speaker has said that this Faith is the Kingdom of God. If this is true, you cannot compromise it or divide it.” The dean became thoughtful and then said, “This Faith may be worth dying for.”

Race Unity Committee

Publishing Announcements

The Publishing Committee calls attention to the following list of new titles, including The Baha’i World, Vol. VIII.

The Baha’i World, Vol. VIII, 1988 pages, with special Frontispieces and about 200 illustrations. See separate description of its contents. Per copy .................... $5.00

Baha’i Procedure, revised edition. This compilation of the Guardian’s instructions and of procedures adopted by the National Spiritual Assembly has been completely revised. It contains new material not available when the work was originally prepared, the order of contents has been altered, and all material not representing definite rules of action has been eliminated. The size has also been changed. This revised edition has the same page size and appearance as Baha’i Administration and The World Order of Baha’u’llah. Contents: Part One, The Individual Believer; Part Two, The Local Spiritual Assembly; Part Three, National Spiritual Assembly; Part Four, Annual Convention; Part Five, Declaration of Trust and By-Laws of the National Spiritual Assembly, By-Laws of a Local Spiritual Assembly. Per copy, in fabrikoid ...... $1.00 Per copy, bound in paper ...... $0.75

Three Spiritual Truths For a World Civilization, words of Baha’u’llah with explanation and application to current conditions taken from the Guardian’s World Order letters. 12-page leaflet for use as teaching literature. Temple illustration as frontispiece. Sold only in lots of 100. Per hundred copies $2.00

Classification of Baha’i Study Sources, by William Kenneth Christian. A list of all available Baha’i texts in the English language, classified according to their source. A guide to the literature for all Baha’i students. Paper pamphlet, eight pages. Per copy ..................... $0.10

Study Outline and Aids for The Advent of Divine Justice, Prepared by the Study Outline Committee, this Outline supplies for groups and study classes, as well as the isolated student, a method of using the Guardian’s The Advent of Divine Justice as a study text. The Outline contains 26 mimeographed pages, bound in heavy paper. Its arrangement includes: Table of contents, explanation of the text; references for each subject; topical study; questions about matters arising from consideration of the text; references for further study; glossary. Per copy ..................... $0.35

In Spanish

La Religion Mundial, translation of the Guardian’s World Religion. Sold only in lots of one hundred copies. Per hundred copies ... $1.50

Address orders to Baha’i Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Star of the West

Back Number Wanted

The Publishing Committee needs copies of Star of the West, Vol. III, No. 1. Friends able to supply one or more of this issue are requested to communicate with the Committee at 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.
Radio Exhibit for Convention

The National Radio Committee is planning an Exhibit for the Convention that all present may get an inclusive view of actual work done by all the Assemblies and Regional Committees of the United States and Canada, and their indomitable pioneers in far lands.

In order to make this exhibit a complete success, it will be necessary for each Assembly and every Regional Committee and every pioneer teacher to send in their information just as soon as possible to the Secretary of The National Radio Committee, Mrs. Wendell Bacon, Monson, Mass.

We shall need to have the call letters of each station used and their station folder giving the radius covered by each station, as we intend to show the actual coverage of each station broadcast on a large map of the United States and Canada, together with others reaching South America, and broadcasts also given in South America through the efforts of our pioneers, that no single broadcast may be left out. Please give us your full support in this Exhibit, so that this map may be a truly inclusive bird’s eye view of our work.

Radio Committee

By Florence Morton, Chairman

The Bahá’í World

Vol. VIII

The biennial international record whose contents are chosen and arranged by the Guardian has rapidly developed not only in its importance as the organ of the Bahá’í world commonwealth but also in the scope and variety of its contents.

The current issue, Volume VIII, covers the two-year period April 21, 1938 to April 20, 1940. It is the largest book yet to appear in the series, containing 1088 pages and 200 illustrations, including special frontispieces and also maps.

Only a few brief references can be made here to its impressive wealth of picture and of text. The Frontispieces are: The Purest Branch, Monuments of the Mother and Brother of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to Mt. Carmel, the passing of Munirih Khanum. Part Two, the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, with numerous selections and documents including newly incorporated Assemblies, the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár, Bahá'í Calendar and Festivals, Youth Activities, References to the Faith, In Memoriam articles and photographs. Part Three, Bahá'í Directory, bibliography, with titles of publications printed in 43 different languages. Part Four, articles and reviews, music, poems, contents of all previous volumes, and maps.

The Guardian has said that The Bahá’í World is the best means by which the individual believer may keep abreast of the steady development of the Faith throughout the world. To pilgrims he has declared that it is one of the best mediums for teaching.

The price of the current volume, as reported in the Publishing Committee announcement, is actually less than the cost of each book.

It is hoped that plans can be made for placing a certain number of these books in important Libraries, giving review copies to newspapers and magazines, etc. Local Assemblies can assist greatly by arranging for the distribution of some copies in their city.

The friends will appreciate the unusual difficulties under which the Editorial Committee worked to secure the articles and illustrations from various parts of the world due to international conditions, and what a great proof and testimony of the power of the Cause has been created by the Guardian out of the material he has had available.

World Order Magazine

As we approach the Bahá’í new year, March 21, the business department of World Order (the Bahá’í Magazine) is hopeful that the event will be marked by a peak subscrip-
tion enrollment bringing the magazine within sight of its goal, to become self-sustaining.

This would indeed be a glorious and inspiring accomplishment to the editorial department, contributing friends and Baha’is throughout the world.

Monthly visits of the magazine bring to its Baha’i subscribers an ever-broadening knowledge of Bahá’í teachings, most comforting to Bahá’is and enlightening to non-Bahá’is.

The yearly subscription rate continues at $1.50 for single individual subscriptions or, five or more yearly subscriptions, on one order may be enrolled at $1.25 each. Address: World Order Magazine, Subscription Department, 110 Linden avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Photographs—Ringstones

The Committee on Miscellaneous Materials, the appointment and function of which was announced two months ago, is pleased to make the following report:

Steel engravings of the “smiling” photograph of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá are again available in an edition of about 200 copies. When these are gone the Committee is uncertain when another edition can be struck from the plate, as this engraving requires use of a special quality paper the manufacture of which has been suspended.

Each engraving is mailed in a special wrapping to assure safe delivery. Per copy, postpaid, $1.75.

A few Bahá’í ringstones are also available, at two prices, $2.50 and $3.25 each, depending on size and quality of stone.

Address orders to H. E. Walrath, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, Ill.

Winter Session Louhelen Bahá’í

The Winter Session at the Louhelen Bahá’í School, December 26, 1941 through January 1, 1942, demonstrated the integrating force of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. The believers who gathered there from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, New York, Maryland, and Michigan centered their energies upon the propagation of the Bahá’í teachings. The power of attraction when believers stand shoulder to shoulder is great. Seekers from Flint came to the school. Some arrived at breakfast and stayed through until bedtime. This was the first Winter Session that we were unable to house all who wished to stay at night.

At the after-breakfast devotions, the friends shared with each other treasures they had mined from Shoghi Effendi’s translations of the “Prayers and Meditations.” These led up to the forenoon focus upon the best ways of “Developing the Inner Life Through Prayer in Action,” with topics arranged by Mrs. Bertha H. Kirkpatrick and based on “Gleanings From The Writings of Bahá’u’lláh and the Prayers and Meditations.” The give and take of thought between Bahá’ís during these meetings further stimulated those who had come out to investigate the teachings.

This inspiration was augmented by the afternoon Forum, under the guidance of Mr. Frank Warner, who ably coordinated the developing thought surrounding the subject of “Bahá’í Understanding of World Conditions and Bahá’í Responsibilities.” The Promised Day Is Come and other letters of Shoghi Effendi, together with Foundations of World Unity, were the basis of study.

Twenty-six seekers gathered the opening night to hear the Bahá’í message from the lips of Mr. Warner. Speaking on the subject “Facing Facts Today,” on Tuesday, December 30, Mr. Warner spoke to the Flint Shrine at a luncheon meeting.

On Saturday afternoon, following the Forum, representatives from the Child Study Groups in nearby communities came to the school to hear Prof. Stanwood Cobb speak on “New Horizons for the Child.” Sunday afternoon found the group again devoting their time to a meeting oriented to the attraction of the public. More than fifty Bahá’ís and their friends heard Mr. Cobb, Miss Rafealita Hilarico from Manila, Sr. A. Leao from Rio de Janeiro, and Mr. Frank Warner speak on different aspects of the “Oneness of the World of Humanity.” The audience responded with keen and intelligent questions that were most stimulating.

Cars full of inquirers drove in for the informal evening meetings, and light refreshments were served. The first evening was devoted to a demonstration fireside group; the next night Dr. Cobb told some of his famous stories; then at another, Mr. Warner chatted with us about his trip through fourteen European countries and showed pictures taken in the Holy Land; music and book reviews took up a fourth after dark program; the Nineteen Day Feast of Honor was celebrated on the 30th; and on the 31st, we had an old time stunt party that was knit together with reminiscences and songs.

One of the winter session students brought out the thought that “here is a spirit of deep consecration, of firm resolve, of staunch fearlessness, and of level-headed balance that is most invigorating…” and to the truth of this expression of the theme of the Louhelen Bahá’í School, all present concurred. Throughout the seven days we spent together there was a warmth of companionship that gave us all an awareness of the protection of Bahá’u’lláh, and the ever-present guidance of our Guardian, whose prayers for us were answered in the opening of our minds and hearts, in the deepening of our sense of responsibility toward the spiritual democracy of which we are a part.

Louhelen Bahá’í School Committee

Green Acre

Special Notice

The friends are informed that the name “Green Acre Inn” was adopted for the building at Green Acre many years ago, before Green Acre became a Bahá’í institution, in fact even before Sarah J. Farmer initiated her great lecture seasons. Now that Green Acre is functioning as a Bahá’í School, the National Spiritual Assembly prefers to designate the property as “Green Acre Bahá’í School” dormitory, dining room, etc. There is also a legal reason involved, as Green Acre has recently been recognized by the Federal Treasury Department as a religious and educational institution not required to file the reports submitted by commercial hotels. Furthermore, by not conducting anything resembling a hotel or inn or public boarding house, the Green Acre Trustees will not become involved in litigation over claims for damages arising from accidents, etc.

The Bahá’í Schools are open not only to believers but to persons who wish to take the Bahá’í courses offered each season, but they are not public resorts of ordinary summer or winter vacation type.
Bahá'í Youth Bulletin

An issue of the Bahá'í Youth Bulletin is to appear early in February. Its contents include: Actions Today, by Ruhíyyih Khanum; Challenge and Opportunity, Winnifred Baker; The Guardian, Ruth Moffett; Teaching in the Colleges, Dorothy Baker; Youth in Paraguay, Elisabeth Cheney; Youth Notes; Symposium Outlines.

The subscription rate to Bahá'í Youth Bulletin is 40c per year, or four consecutive issues. Its function is to unify, coordinate and give expression to Bahá'í youth. The present number has special importance in supplying the material needed for the Youth Symposium which has become such an important annual affair.

Send subscriptions to Robert A. Gaines, Business Manager, Brighton, Mich. Send articles and news items to Editor, Bahá'í Youth Bulletin, 112 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Inquiry About French Literature

The National Spiritual Assembly requests believers who have Bahá'í books and pamphlets in French to send the titles of each to the National Bahá'í Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill. There is need of French literature in connection with teaching activities in both North and South America, and when the available texts are known and listed, arrangements can be made to reproduce certain texts by the photo-offset process directly from the printed pamphlet or book. Kindly report only the titles of such texts as are in clear type and on clean paper, as old books do not reproduce well by this method.

Library Committee Activities

The total number of books donated by this committee during the past three months is 239; these books were donated to 78 libraries, including 44 public libraries, 6 college and university libraries, 2 state libraries, 1 provincial library in Canada, the American Unitarian Association, a Veterans' Hospital Library, 2 State Penitentiaries, and 20 army, naval and air-field libraries.

1. There is not much of interest to report for these past three months; however, it is encouraging to report the ready acceptance of our books by the various types of army libraries, including some Service Clubs. Camp Stronach, established for Conscientious Objectors, is the second important camp of this type to accept an ample supply of books. In Alaska, five libraries accepted books: Fort Richardson, 2 Naval Bases and 2 Army Defense Projects. The California and Nevada Regional Teaching Committee has been especially active in army placements.

2. Several Assembly Library or Teaching Committees have reported that they are surveying library needs in their cities and are planning to place a basic book in their Branch libraries and that they are bringing the collections up-to-date in the Main Libraries.

3. The Librarian of the South Carolina State Penitentiary wrote that several of the men had been inquiring about the Bahá'í Faith. After books had been sent to that library, Mr. Norris, the librarian, wrote the following interesting letter: "Your book 'Baha'u'llah and the New Era' arrived to-day and I wish to thank you for such a very interesting book, and I'm sure that the men here also wish to thank you. It is really one of the most interesting books I have ever been fortunate enough to read. Since reading the book I agree with Miss Helen Keller whole-heartedly, and I wish you and the Bahá'í Faith all the luck in the world in these troubled times." Our Committee seldom receives such a frank expression of appreciation from a librarian.

4. Miss Beryl Edgecombe of this committee has kindly supplied us with a copy of the American Library Association National Bulletin and the New York Library Directory which should be helpful in the library work and will assist us with library records and in determining the size and importance of public libraries to which books are sent.

Ellen Sims, Chairman

Braille Committee

The Bahá'í Committee on Braille Transcriptions wishes to express its appreciation of the remarkable achievement of Mrs. Bahiyyih Valentine of New York City in completing the Braille Course and receiving a Certificate as Certified Braille Transcriber from the National Red Cross.

Mrs. Valentine writes that she has attained the age of 86 years — she has indeed proved the promise of good found in Isaiah 40th chapter and last verse: — "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with
The administration of a local Assembly is its core. The local Assembly, and this plan has been adopted in view of the fact that authority and responsibility of records pertaining to local communities are properly preserved by the local Assembly, and this plan has been adopted in view of the fact that authority and responsibility of local Assembly will turn them over to the keeping of the records of all correspondence, etc.; the National Archives Committee to provide for press clippings, letterheads will each local Assembly kindly consider this explanation.

**Local Assembly Letterheads**

In Bahá’í Administration is a letter from the Guardian which instructed the National Spiritual Assembly concerning the correct title or designation it should use on its letterhead. The same instruction applies to the local Spiritual Assemblies in their field. As at present there is a wide variety of letterheads being used, the National Assembly wishes to point out that the title or designation of a local Assembly is its corporate name, and in this title all the words should be of the same size and style of type.

For example:

**Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’í's of Chicago**

Or:

**Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’í's of Cloverdale Township**

Before ordering a new supply of letterheads will each local Assembly kindly consider this explanation.

**Records of Dissolved Assemblies**

To assist in the preservation of the records of local Spiritual Assemblies, including Minutes, files of press clippings, programs, correspondence, etc., the National Spiritual Assembly has authorized the Archives Committee to provide for the keeping of the records of all dissolved Assemblies pending the restoration of the Assembly in each case. The believers who have in their personal custody the records of a dissolved Assembly are requested to send the records to the National Bahá’í Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill., and the National Assembly will turn them over to the Archives Committee for custody.

It is understood that all such records pertaining to local communities are properly preserved by the local Assembly, and this plan has been adopted in view of the fact that authority and responsibility of an administrative nature no longer exists when the status has been altered, temporarily, to that of a group. A group, as the Guardian advised us recently, is not an administrative body.

**Enrollments and Transfers**


Enrollment of isolated believers reported during January, seventeen.

**In Memoriam**

Grant, O my Lord, that they who have ascended unto Thee may repair unto Him Who is the most exalted Companion, and abide beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of Thy majesty and the Sanctuary of Thy glory. — Bahá’u’lláh.

Mrs. Elizabeth K. Peters, Los Angeles.

Mrs. Clark Gable, Los Angeles.

Mrs. George Ostburg, West Quincy, Mass.

Mrs. Ida Watson, Chicago.

**Bahá’í Directory**

**Additions and Revisions to February 6, 1942**

**COMMITTEES**

Mrs. Charles Bishop, Secretary, International Bahá’í School. Address changed to 476 South Euclid Avenue, Pasadena, Calif.

**ASSEMBLIES**

Binghamton, New York. New Secretary appointed: Miss Ida Noyes, Corresponding Secretary, 43 Davis Street.

**Bahá’í Calendar**

Period of the Fast, nineteen days beginning March 2.

Feast of Naw-Ruz, March 21.

Nineteen Day Feasts: Dominion, February 7; Loftiness, March 2; Splendor, March 21.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: March 6, 7, 8 and 9, at Wilmette.

**The Bahá’í World Community**

Each bulletin and each letter arriving from a Bahá’í Assembly in some distant land has in these days become a cherished token of His Grace in raising up one body of believers among mankind, an undivided body of incorruptible oneness, immune to onslaught of prejudice and of fear.

From current correspondence is gathered the intensely interesting notes and reports reproduced here for the readers of Bahá’í News.

1. From Haifa News Letter

The Summer School report of the Bahá’í youth of Iran has been received by the Guardian. The report describes the work of the school during the second summer of its existence. It is an outstanding example of fruitful and praiseworthy Bahá’í activities in Persia.

The Summer School was held in Hadji Abad, forty kilometres outside Tehran. The period of study was divided into five sessions of ten days each. The program included morning and afternoon classes. The morning classes studied regularly the History of Nabil—"The Dawn-Breakers," and "Some Answered Questions." These classes were primarily for Bahá’í students who were receiving their education in high institutions of learning and who were desirous to prepare themselves for serving the Cause in the near future. In the afternoons, the meetings were in the form of conferences conducted by Bahá’í lecturers and educators. They dealt with Bahá’í subjects in general. Not only were these conferences instructive as a medium of interchange of ideas, but they proved to be socially valuable occasions for all believers to come together as one body and foster the spirit of Bahá’í fellowship and communion among all those present. A number of discussion groups conducted by old believers were also held and were very enlightening and helpful.

The recreational side of the Summer School was not neglected. Mountain climbing and other outdoor sports and outdoor games were organized and enjoyed by many.

There was also a special program arranged for younger Bahá’ís between five and fifteen years of age. This included a Kindergarten attached to the School.
We have also received the annual report of the National Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Egypt. After referring to the unsettled world conditions and their effect on Egypt and the believers there, the report states that towards the middle of May, the Egyptian police confiscated from the press where they were being printed, the Arabic translations of Nabil's Narrative, "The Dawn-Breakers." After many efforts by the National Assembly, the confiscated copies were released on condition that this book should not be distributed in Egypt or sent out of the country. The Censorship Bureau of the Egyptian Ministry of the Interior has requested the Assembly to renew their guarantee every fifteen days that the said book will not be put in circulation. The secretary of the Assembly is faithfully carrying out this request. Meanwhile, the Assembly is continuing its efforts to remove the ban on this famous book of the Bahá'í Faith.

The Guardian has also received the minutes of the Eleventh Convention of the Bahá'ís of Iraq. We learn from these minutes that seventeen Bahá'í representatives met in Baghdad on the 24th of April, 1941. Reports on Bahá'í activities in Iraq were read and discussed. The Bahá'í situation in various Bahá'í centers in the country—specially the condition of Bahá'í Assemblies in those places—was fully reviewed with the representatives at the Congress and measures were recommended for further progress and development of Bahá'í organizations there. The convention considered specially the importance of having a Bahá'í Guest House in Baghdad and recommended to the incoming National Spiritual Assembly the building of such a House so that it could be used by the believers passing through Iraq instead of their having to board in hotels. It was noted with pleasure and satisfaction that the number of Bahá'í travelers passing from Iran or their way to the Holy Land had increased lately. It was also recommended that efforts must be redoubled to acquire a plot of land in Baghdad for the purpose of having a private and independent cemetery for the Bahá'ís there. Towards the end of the meeting, the members of the new National Bahá'í Assembly for the coming year were elected.

The Bahá'í Summer School of India and Burma was held this year in Lahore from 15th to the 22nd of October. Dyal Singh Public Library Lecture Hall which has seating arrangements for 80 persons was engaged for holding the classes. The morning sessions were devoted every day to the study of the Word of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá. The evening sessions were open to the public and a course of 6 lectures on Comparative Religion were delivered with a parallel course on Bahá'í topics such as the true significance of the Day of Judgment, the New World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, God and His Manifestations, and the History and Teachings of the Bahá'í Faith. Lectures on Hinduism, Buddhism and religions of China and Japan were delivered by Prof. Pritam Singh. The Religion of Zoroastrianism was dealt with by Mr. Isfandiar Bakhhtiar and the Religion of Islam by Mr. Iml. The history and teachings of the Bahá'í Faith were taken up by Prof. Pritam Singh and Abbas Ali Butt.

Short appreciative notes on the Bahá'í Faith appeared in the Civil and Military Gazette of Lahore and a note on Bahá'í Summer Schools appeared in the Tribune.

News letters published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'í of Iran contain encouraging news of the believers in that land. In recent issues, which we have received with pleasure we have read the following items which will be of interest to the Friends throughout the West.

The flow of eager Iranian pilgrims to and from Haifa has imparted a new life to the gatherings and activities of friends in this country. The spiritual refreshment so abundantly manifest in their faces, the life-giving messages of encouragement that they convey from our beloved Guardian and the glad- tidings that they bear to us of the divine order and regularity prevailing in the world's spiritual centre, combine to give us strength to bear the brunt of what remains in store for all in the near future.

A class of a new type was recently inaugurated in Tehran by the Central Teaching Committee. It consists of an outline of condensed data necessary for an average Bahá'í teacher who may tour inside Iran. Four months of intensive teaching are required for the study of this course. Those who pass the examinations are to travel to places to be designated by the National Spiritual Assembly.

Mr. Meyvan reports progress from Isphahan on the work which is being done in the new cemetery for the remains of the twin-brother martyrs of Isphahan, Sultan and Mahshib-ul-Shuhada, and of the late Mrs. Keith Ransom-Kehler.

2. From Bahá'í Journal, London

"Rejoice safety, admire dauntless courage, marvel unquenchable spirit English believers. Sharing joyful news noble perseverance with pilgrims arriving in increasing numbers from Near and Middle East. All praying continued safety, extension activities, sore tried exemplary servants Faith Bahá'u'lláh throughout British Isles. Urge persistent efforts utilize utmost limit priceless spiritual opportunities present hour."

Dear Friends:

Above is the cable which the Guardian sent to the Annual Convention, and it was in an atmosphere of joy and encouragement engendered by such an exhilarating message that the Convention began and continued. Over thirty believers, fourteen of them delegates, were present during all or some of the meetings, and the whole Convention was notable for its vitality and for the increasing unity among the friends. We can surely say this was the best one yet.

THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Chairman...Mr. A. Norton
Vice-Chairman...Mr. A. Sugar
Secretary...Miss D. Cansdale
Assistant Secretary...Miss A. E. Baxter
Treasurer...Mr. A. Norton

Mrs. H. M. Balyuzi
Mrs. K. V. Brown
Mr. D. Hoffman
Mrs. C. Langdon-Davies
Mr. P. Wilkinson

During Convention, the following cable was sent to the Guardian:

"Convention radiant, record attendance, deeply grateful your message, resolves intensify teaching to achieve greatest effort yet made British Isles. Deepest love."
And two days after the end of Convention came the following reply:

"Exhilarated resolution intensity teaching, admiration heightened, praying redoubled fervour."

Surely nothing more can be said—it is deeds, not words, which are needed now.

The World Congress of Faiths held a series of lectures and discussions in London on "World Religions," each Faith being given one of the sessions. The Bahá'í session was the last one, and aroused interest and comment. Through this an excellent contact was made with the National Adult School Union.

It was unfortunately necessary to abandon the plans for Summer School. This was a great loss, as we had come to anticipate the vivid and rich experience which it offers, and it was also an important part of our Teaching. Two week-ends were arranged, one in Nottingham and one in Orpington, which were attended by friends from other parts of the country, and these helped, in a small way, to make up for the major loss. The N.S.A. has determined to try to hold Summer School for a week this year.

During the year an attempt was made to evacuate a number of Bahá'í children to America. The American friends, with characteristic generosity, offered hospitality to the children. It was unfortunate that after the work of the American N.S.A., which resulted in numbers of offers from the American believers, and after the work done on this side, the scheme should have fallen through, due to the difficulties faced by the Government. We wish, however, to record our gratitude to the American believers.

3. From Bahá'í Quarterly, Adelaide, South Australia

The Winter session of Yerrinbool Bahá'í School was held at "Bolton Place," Yerrinbool, N.S.W., 14th to 20th June, 1941.

Our Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, has set as objectives of our Summer Schools: "To deepen the knowledge of the Cause; to strengthen the Unity of the Cause; to teach the Cause and prepare teachers; to attract new souls; to arouse enthusiasm for continued study at home; to widen acquaintance and friendship; to gain knowledge of other problems and find light through consultation on our own; We think there was no one there who failed to inhale the fragrances that are diffused when sincere souls are gathered together in the name of Bahá'u'lláh or to feel the love that spreads from Unity in the love of God."

Owing to the cold and short days of winter, study sessions were held in the afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m.

The opening of the school commenced on June 14th when the number of souls present totalled 30, not counting the children of whom there were about nine. All present registered their names in the visitors' book.

Picnic lunch was held outside under the trees on the long table, and the sun was shining brilliantly, which added to the enjoyment of the feast. After lunch, all gathered under the erected marquee for the opening, when Mrs. Bolton took the chair in the absence of the Chairman. After welcoming all present and reading telegrams of greeting from those unable to be present, Mrs. Bolton called upon Mrs. Hyde Dunn for the opening prayer and talk. Mrs. Hyde Dunn's prayer and talk impressed very much all those present, and some very appropriate words were uttered.

The next speaker was Miss Margaret Rowling, whose subject was Bahá'í Administration. Miss Rowling very ably prefaced her reading from Bahá'í Procedure with an outline of the reason and wisdom for Administration being a necessary part of the Bahá'í Faith. She then read that portion dealing with Unity.

Mr. Cornwall read an article from the newspaper Sydney Morning Herald dated 14th June by Rhoda Astair entitled, "Reform and the Spirit," which had a bearing on the New World Order. A short discussion took place, and the meeting closed with prayer.

Following is the Roster of Devotional Meetings:

June 14th Unity—Mrs. Hyde Dunn
15th Justice—Mrs. Hyde Dunn
16th Power—Mr. Cornwall
17th Wisdom and Understanding—Miss Gilbert.
18th Charity—Mrs. Chalker

19th The need of a Divine Educator—Mrs. Bolton
20th Life after Death—Mrs. Bolton.

OFFICERS OF N. S. A.

The following have been elected for the current year:
Chairman: Mr. R. Brown
Vice-chairman: Mr. O. A. Whitaker
Secretary: Miss Hilda Brooks
Treasurer: Mrs. S. M. Jackman.

Dear friends and co-workers:

The war continues. The resultant strains and stresses become more tense and are reflected in the mental atmosphere of our daily lives. As Bahá'ís we must endeavour to counter this by an intensified effort to express complete unity and harmony in our own ranks. Such harmony is an essential background of all successful effort and its achievement a concrete example of the possibility of a unified world.

The hearts of the Melbourne Bahá'í Group were gladdened and refreshed by the visit of Miss Hilda Brooks and Mrs. Hawthorne during April and June. Two lectures were arranged. The first took the form of a reception for which the Gold Room was engaged at the "Victoria." Miss Brooks' address on "Bahá'u'lláh and the New World Order" aroused deep interest with requests for literature on the Teachings. Supper was served and a pleasant hour followed. The second lecture was arranged when Miss Brooks and Mrs. Hawthorne passed through Melbourne on their return from Brisbane. This was an advertised public meeting at which 40 stragglers were present. A well thought out address on "This New Age" was received with sympathetic attention by the audience. Quite a number stayed after the lecture to ask questions and request literature and further lectures. We feel greatly indebted to Miss Brooks and her very able helper, Mrs. Hawthorne, and extend our deep thanks to both.

ELEANOR WHEELER
Secretary Melbourne Group

The N.S.A. is grateful to the Melbourne friends for their co-operation and their tireless efforts to assist Miss Brooks in spreading the Glad Tidings in Melbourne.
Communications from the Guardian

"(My) overburdened mind relieved, (my) saddened heart comforted, (by) American Bahá'í Community's high resolve (and by) National Assembly's dual decision (to) consume exterior ornamentation (and) authorize construction (of) steps (of) Mashriqu'l-Adhkar. Undismayed (by) vastness (of) unfinished tasks, undaunted (by) physical obstacles raised (by) world-encircling conflict, fortified (by) consciousness (of) past victories, spurred on (by) urgency (and) solemnity (of) the hour, undeflected (by) machinations (and) faithlessness (of) the breakers (of) Bahá'u'lláh's (and) 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Covenants, American believers must unanimously pledge themselves (to) subordinate every activity, canalize every resource, exert every ounce (of) effort (to) insure befitting discharge (of) their supreme one responsibility (to) carry (the) light (of) the Faith (and) cast (the) anchor (of) the administrative order (in) every Canadian province, every North American state, every republic (of) Latin America. (The) Concourse on high applaud, bless (and) envy (the) mission fallen (to) the lot (of) such stalwart champions laboring so ably, (so) valiantly, for so mighty (a) Cause, under such tragic circumstances, in so promising (a) field, at so significant (a) period (in) Bahá'í history."

—SHOGHI Effendi.

Cablegram received March 14, 1942.

Dear and valued co-workers:

The entry of the United States of America into the war invests it with the character of a truly world-embracing crisis, designed to release world-shaking, world-shaping forces, which, as they operate, and mount in intensity, will throw down the barriers that hinder the emergence of that world community which the World Religion of Bahá'u'lláh has anticipated and can alone permanently establish. It marks a milestone on the road which must lead the peoples of the North American continent to the glorious destiny that awaits them. It confronts the American Bahá'í community, already so well advanced in the prosecution of their Seven Year Plan, with a challenge at once severe and inescapable. The exterior ornamentation of their consecrated Edifice has been providentially expedited to a point where its completion is now assured. The intercontinental and national teaching campaigns, that constitute the second and even more vital aspect of that plan, though progressing magnificently in the States, in Canada and throughout Latin America, are still far from having attained their consumation. The obstacles which the extension of the war to the Western Hemisphere has raised are, I am well aware, manifold and formidable. The heroic self-sacrifice exhibited by the North American Bahá'í community will, I am confident, surmount them. The Hand of Omnipotence, which has led so mighty a member of the human race to plunge into the turmoil of world disaster, that has provided thereby the means for the effective and decisive participation of so promising a nation in the immediate trials and the future reconstruction of human society, will not and cannot allow those who are directly, consciously and worthily promoting the highest interests of their nation and of the world, to fall short of the accomplishment of their God-given task. He will, more than ever before in their history, pour out His blessings upon them, if they refuse to allow the present circumstances, grievous though they are, to interfere with the full and uninterrupted execution of this initial undertaking in pursuance of their world mission. The coming two years must witness, fraught as they may well be with the greatest ordeal afflicting their countrymen, a manifestation of spiritual vitality and an output of heroic action, commensurate with the gravity and afflictions of the present hour, and worthy of
the concluding years of the first Bahá’í century.

Haifa, Palestine
January 15, 1942.

Shoghi Effendi, much as he deeply appreciates the donations of the N.S.A., representing as they do the contribution of the friends to the World Interests of the Faith, feels very strongly that from now on the N.S.A. should concentrate all their resources on the fulfillment of the Seven Year Plan, including any money they might, in their love and devotion, wish to send to him for the Faith here. Will you kindly convey to your fellow-National Assembly members both the expression of his deep gratitude for this latest contribution, and his wish that it be the last from them until the Plan is completed in triumph?

Haifa, Palestine
January 13, 1942.

Tablet to the Americas

Regarding the efforts that have been made by Mr. Remey in connection with the Tablet supposed to have been revealed by Bahá’u’lláh to the Americas: the Guardian has already written Mr. Remey that no such Tablet was revealed. In the Aqdas, however, Bahá’u’lláh addresses the rulers and presidents of the American Republics. This has given rise to the misapprehension that He addressed a Tablet to them similar to His Epistles to some of the rulers in Europe.

Acceptance of Election

Concerning the question of refusal by certain believers to accept election to an administrative post: the Guardian strongly feels that criticism, opposition, or confusion do not provide sufficient grounds for either refusal or resignation. Only cases of physical or mental incapacity, which, by their very nature, are extremely rare, constitute valid reasons for such an act. The difficulties and tests involved in the acceptance of administrative posts, far from inducing the believers to dissociate themselves from the work of the Cause, should spur them on to greater exertions and to a more active participation in the privileged task of resolving the problems that confront the Bahá’í community. Only in cases where individual believers, without any valid reason, deliberately refuse the repeated exhortations, pleas, and warnings addressed to them by their Assemblies, should action be taken in removing them from the voting list. This is a measure designed to sustain the institutions of the Faith at the present time, and to insure that the abilities and talents of its, as yet, limited number of supporters are properly consecrated to its service. The believers, for the sake of the Cause, now in the period of its infancy, should accept their duties in a spirit of self-sacrifice, and should be animated by the desire to uphold the verdict of the electorate, and to lend their share of assistance, however difficult the circumstances, to the effective administration of the affairs of the Faith.

The same sanction should apply to those who persistently refuse to dissociate themselves from political and ecclesiastical activities. This is a general principle which is being maintained throughout the Bahá’í world, and the believers throughout the East are already aware of the absolute necessity of refusing any political or Moslem ecclesiastical office.

Formation of Assemblies in Villages

The Guardian approves the action taken by your Assembly recognizing villages as civil units suitable for the formation of local Assemblies in States where there are no townships, and the county unit is too large for united action by a Bahá’í community.

Assembly Members and Committee Appointments

Regarding the non-appointment of Assembly members to membership on national committees, the Guardian firmly believes that no such principle should be recognized. Those who are best fitted for the specific work assigned to the committees should be elected, irrespective of their membership on either national or local Assemblies. The greater the pressure on those who shoulder both committee and Assembly responsibilities, the greater the reward and the richer the blessings vouchsafed to those who willingly and gratefully sustain this double burden.

Concentration on Seven-Year Plan

In conclusion, the Guardian wishes to re-emphasize the necessity of concentrating during the remaining two years, and in spite of America’s entry into the war, all the resources of the Community on the final aspect of the Seven Year Plan, which can alone bring it to a successful consummation. The difficulties that have arisen should stimulate the friends to greater and still more heroic exertions on behalf of a Cause which they have served and are still serving with such exemplary tenacity, fidelity, vigor, courage and devotion.

January 15, 1942.

Corrections in Cablegram

Received February 9, 1942

The cable company has corrected one sentence in the text of this cablegram received from Shoghi Effendi, and the friends are advised to note the following sentence which replaces the sentence as phrased in the February issue of Bahá’í News—

“The enviable North American Bahá’í community must, supported (by its) daughter Assemblies in the Western Hemisphere, hold the fort alone if necessary.”

Letters to Believers

With the Guardian’s consent, the two following excerpts from letters written by him to believers are shared with the friends.

“...and in spite of America’s entry into the war, all the resources of the Community on the final aspect of the Seven Year Plan, which can alone bring it to a successful consummation. The difficulties that have arisen should stimulate the friends to greater and still more heroic exertions on behalf of a Cause which they have served and are still serving with such exemplary tenacity, fidelity, vigor, courage and devotion.”

“In America, where racial prejudice is still so widely prevalent, it is...”
the responsibility of the believers to combat and uproot it with all their force, first by endeavoring to introduce into the Cause as many racial and minority groups as they can approach and teach, and second by stimulating close fellowship and intercourse between them and the rest of the community.

"It should be the paramount concern of your committee to foster this aim through every means available. Not only the colored people, who because of the increasing receptivity they are evincing to the Message truly deserve special attention, but all other minorities, whether racial or religious, such as Jews or Red Indians, all alike should be contacted and confirmed. The greater the receptivity of a particular class or group, the stronger should work the desire and determination of the believers to attract and teach its members. In a time when the whole world is steeped in prejudices of race, class and nation, the Bahá'ís, by upholding firmly and loyally this cardinal principle of their Faith, can best hope to vindicate its truth, and establish its right to bring order and peace out of the chaos and strife of this war-torn world." — From letter to Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Chairman, Race Unity Committee, February, 1941.

"A Challenge at Once Severe and Inescapable"

To the Spiritual Assemblies, Communities and groups of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.

Beloved Friends:

The revered Guardian bids us measure our spiritual responsibility by the unit of the single hour. Each span of sixty minutes allotted to us brings its own unique opportunity and its challenge. To rise into this new and holier atmosphere of light we must leave personal preoccupations and treasures behind.

"The Hand of Omnipotence ... will not and cannot allow those who are directly, consciously and worthily promoting the highest interests of their nation and of the world, to fall short of the accomplishment of their God-given task."

How can we grasp, and utilize, an occasion for service to the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh whose immensity is so far beyond our limited powers?

Obedience to a spiritual command implies, first, a turning of the whole being to the command, then a complete readiness to permit the command to use our lives for its perfect consummation. We need not lament that we are not wiser, stronger, more learned, younger or having more liberty of action. For that lament is in itself a distraction from the command. All we can give is what we have and are at the moment the command comes.

If the power behind the command were not greater than we, it would not be a spiritual summons. That power knows us better than we know ourselves. It simply asks for obedience—not for reasons why we are unable to obey conveniently until some later time. The spiritual power has but one criterion, whether the individual believer wills to obey or interposes the veil of self-will which would bar the spirit out.

For the institution likewise, the command brings supreme challenge and test. Does our Assembly, our Committee, our fireside group, our Nineteen Day Feast concentrate all its forces upon response to the command to teach; or do we allow ourselves to be diverted by secondary matters which blind us to the Divine command that we establish His Cause throughout North, Central and South America?

The teaching work has become our first concern. "The exterior ornamentation of their consecrated Edifice has been providentially expedited to a point where its completion is now assured." The value of each institution will be estimated in these days by its capacity to contribute to the intercontinental teaching campaign. The administrative elements of consultation, authority, function—all today must bear fruit in the spreading of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh in the North, in the South, in the East and in the West.

Great and mighty tasks have been done in the history of the Cause in America, but the past has been the making of the tools and the acquirement of capacity to use them, for the Victory which is to crown the conclusion of the first Century of the Bahá'í Era in 1944.

May we all become more mindful of the teachings and the sacred
nature of consultation and unity for service to Bahá'u'lláh. "He will, more than ever before in their history, pour out His blessings upon them, if they refuse to allow the present circumstances, grievous though they are, to interfere with the full and uninterrupted execution of this initial undertaking in pursuance of their world mission."

Faithfully yours,

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Annual Convention Announcements

Dates of Convention sessions: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, April 30, May 1, 2 and 3, 1942, to be held in Foundation Hall, Bahá’í House of Worship, Wilmette.

Public meeting, Wednesday evening, April 29. Plans are under way for a Race Unity dinner and public program in Chicago, Wednesday evening, April 29, conducted by the National Race Unity Committee and the Chicago Assembly jointly at the request of the National Spiritual Assembly. Tickets to the dinner are $1.50, and orders should be sent at once to Mrs. H. E. Walthr, Secretary, 4639 Beacon St., Chicago, Ill.

Convention Committee: Edna True, General Chairman; Mrs. Carl Hannen, Chairman of Housing and Hospitality Committee, 112 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.; John Haggard, Chairman of Information Bureau; Mrs. Harriet Hilpert, Mrs. May Scheffler, Committee on dining arrangements.

Ridvan Feast, Friday evening, May 1, after dinner. Program by Milwaukee Assembly; Refreshments by Chicago Assembly.

Morning devotional period, conducted by Waukegan Assembly.

Convention photograph, early Saturday afternoon, May 2.

Public meeting in Foundation Hall of the Temple, Sunday, 3:30 p.m. May 3.

Believers wishing rooms in Wilmette should make reservations through the Housing and Hospitality Committee. The Committee will also secure rooms at a hotel in Evanston for those who prefer these accommodations. Believers who make their own hotel reservation can select any available hotel they prefer, among them being: North Shore Hotel, Hotel Evanston, Orrington Hotel, The Homestead, and the Georgian.

Convention theme: "The Unfinished Tasks of the Seven Year Plan"—

a. Unoccupied States and Provinces of North America.
b. Restoration of Dissolved Spiritual Assemblies.
c. Latin American Countries Without Pioneers or Groups.
d. Completion of Temple Construction.

For presentation of reports, plans and projects for the coming year in relation to these tasks, as well as general discussion, a session has been assigned to the National Teaching Committee, the Inter-America Committee, the Committee on Assembly Development and the Temple Trustees respectively.

The general subject of "Our Facilities for Accomplishing These Tasks" is assigned in the Agenda to three consecutive sessions, with reference to the functions and activities of the following Committees: Race Unity, Bahá’í Schools, Publicity, Radio, Contacts, Library, Exhibits, Child Education, Youth, and World Order Magazine.

A printed Agenda will be sent each delegate with a blank ballot about April 1.

Canadian Bahá’í Fund

Since its inception in October, 1940, a total of $2,875.03 was received. On January 31, 1942, there was a bank balance of $653.44, with two outstanding checks amounting to $150.00, leaving a net balance of $503.44 on hand. During this period, five pioneer teachers were maintained in the Middle West and Maritime Provinces. A great deal of work has been accomplished by these devoted and sacrificing friends; a great deal remains to be done to fulfill our obligations to establish an assembly in every Province of the Dominion before April, 1944. There are excellent prospects that before long a few of the remaining Provinces will be settled but some of the other Assemblies are working and need strengthening and the help and assistance of outside teachers is indicated in order not only to keep alive these Assemblies but to insure their strength and endurance.

In order to attain our goal, a constant flow of funds is necessary and we are confident that the sacrifice and devotion of the believers will not fail in answer to the repeated appeals made by our beloved Guardian and the reward of happiness promised for us who have proven and are proving their sacrifice and devotion is so great as to dazzle our greatest imagination.

The writer wishes to express his gratitude and satisfaction and would like to refer to a letter received lately from one of the largest contributors to the Fund which stated that ever since he contributed, his business is prospering and the more he contributes the more his business is increasing.

SIEGFRIED SCHOPFLOCHER,
Assistant Treasurer

How to Send Contributions

In sending contributions to the National Fund, the friends are advised to use checks or postal orders and not to send cash. A number of letters have been received inquiring about contributions sent by believers which have failed to arrive at the Treasurer's Office. Lost postal orders or checks can be replaced, but if cash disappears in transmission it is difficult to recover.

Notice About Status of Believers Absent from Their Community for Civil Defense or Draft Service

The important question has arisen whether to transfer to the isolated list the believers who leave their community temporarily in connection with civil defense or military duty. The National Assembly has adopted the principle that such believers should not be transferred, but listed as voting members temporarily absent, where the intention is to return and permanent residence has not been established elsewhere. Their local Assembly is urged to keep in close touch with these friends and see that their copy of Bahá’í News is forwarded.

Village Unit a Recognized Civil Area

Shoghi Effendi has approved, in a letter published in this number of Bahá’í News, an action of the National Spiritual Assembly taken in August, 1941, in order to meet a situation reported by a Regional Teaching Committee.

The question was, whether to approve the formation of a Spiritual Assembly in an unincorporated vil-
lage located in a State which has no townships, and in a county too large to serve as area for one local Spiritual Assembly.

The National Assembly, recognizing the need for clarification of this important matter in localities having conditions not met by any previous definition of areas of local jurisdiction, recorded the following view:

“Voted to adopt the principle that in the matter of Assembly areas in a county which is too large to be a Bahá'í administrative unit, and which county contains no townships, in such cases the National Spiritual Assembly will recognize a permanent unincorporated civil community having definite geographical boundaries as an area suitable for the establishment of a Spiritual Assembly.”

The action was then referred to the Guardian and approved by him.

This means, in brief, that nine or more Bahá'ís living in an unincorporated village can form a local Spiritual Assembly, provided the village has a definite area for establishing the fact of residence, and provided the county has no township which could serve as an Assembly area for believers residing outside any incorporated town or city in the township.

Passages Suitable for Reading
Prior to Bahá'í Elections
1. Bahá'í Administration, p. 21, par. 1
2. Bahá'í Administration, p. 21, par. 3,
   “The prime requisites...Threshold.”
3. Bahá'í Administration, p. 78, par. 2,
   sentence 5, 6, 7, “How great...experience.”
4. Bahá'í Administration, p. 126, “The
elector is called upon...uphold.”
5. Bahá'í Administration, pp. 55, 56,
   “Again...fulfilled.”

Prayers
Bahá'í Prayers, ed. 1941, p. 55, par. 1
Bahá'í Prayers, ed. 1941, p. 58
Prayers and Meditations, p. 173, “I
beseech Thee...p. 174, the Self-
Subsisting.”

Inter-America News

The whole Bahá'í world should be very gratified at the reports of our pioneers in the Latin-American field. We may, with security, expect to see the organization of Spiritual Assemblies in several of the countries on April 21. Clarence Iverson has sent us several new registration cards and assures us that San Salvador now has the required number for organization. Clarence also reports that he was recently invited to be the announcer of a Salvadorian Radio program which went to 62 stations over CBS.

John Eichenauer will remain in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, until after the organization of a Spiritual Assembly in that country when he will proceed to Guatemala to take up the teaching work there. These two young men have made a very estimable reputation in Central America and we find them becoming valuable factors in the life of the countries apart from their actual teaching efforts.

Chile

Mrs. Atwater sends the most cheering news from Chile. Several of those who have accepted the Faith in Santiago have removed to other cities and are planning to establish study classes there. Mrs. Atwater has been at her post for some time over a year and she has returned home for a change but will make arrangement to go back. Work is now going on in Valparaiso and the Assembly in Santiago will organize on April 21.

Brazil

As mails are very slow we do not hear regularly from the cities on the east coast, but a recent letter from Mrs. Leonora HolsappleArmstrong offers to any pioneer to Brazil the use of her apartment in Rio or of part of her house in Bahia. We are so greatly in need of pioneers in that huge country and with the Guardian’s words still ringing in our ears to do everything to facilitate the teaching work in Central and South America we are earnestly appealing to the friends to give this subject their prayerful consideration.

New Spanish Translation

Very recently the manuscript of the Spanish translation of the Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh was received. The work of translating was done in Buenos Aires by Dr. Tormo and Sr. Ricci with some assistance of Miss Lillian McRae. After that was completed the manuscript was brought to this country where Sr. Ricci and Sra. Arias of New York reviewed it together. We are assured of the excellence of the translation, and hope that it will soon be in print. (The book is now on the press.)

Radio Broadcasts

We are reminded by Mrs. Sylvia King that she has arranged two Spanish broadcasts which are the first which have occurred and that Mrs. Amalia Ford and she were the speakers. Word has been received
from Chile and also from Brazil that they were picked up and although not very plain, furnished great joy to the listeners among the Bahá'ís when they heard for the first time the name of Bahá'u'lláh spoken over the air.

Publicity
San José (Costa Rica), Havana and Santiago have recently had fine publicity about the Cause and there is scarcely a month passes that we do not receive word that John Eicheneuer has written an article for some Central American paper; and also Buenos Aires has done her share of bringing the Cause before the reading public. To all centers recently we have sent copies of the planograph of the Temple hoping that this may awaken interest and can be used in the news.

Havana
Miss Josephine Kruka writes from Havana that the Center is used every day for meetings of one kind or another and that she has a class for children which is quite remarkable as they are learning English and at the same time learning about the Cause, that they are very enthusiastic and as we have seen a photograph of the group we are assured of the radiance of their faces. Miss Rhoads loves it, but she finds it so lovely and we know that Miss Louise Caswell, P. O. Box 1256, Canal Zone.

Appeal for Pioneers
The Inter-America Committee begs the friends to consider the fact that in all the vast continent of South America we have only about ten teachers, yet the Guardian has so stressed the work of Inter-Continental teaching that he has contributed towards its success! Our pioneer teachers have done and are doing yeoman service, but we must have assistance. We seek young people and particularly request that even if it is not possible to go into the field at once that any intention to go be made known to us and that it be borne in mind that in Brazil where the greatest need seems to be, only Portuguese is spoken. We are assured of financial assistance from the National Fund and there is work for those who are prepared and are resourceful.

Appeal for Pioneers

Bolivia
Arrangements have been made to send Miss Flora E. Hottes as a pioneer to Bolivia and we understand that she will depart about April 2 on her important mission.

Venezuela
The matter of Venezuela is still concerning us and we are hoping to hear of some one who will take up this work. This country is said to be so lovely and we know that Miss Rhoads loves it, but she finds it difficult to introduce the Faith and we feel that we would like to assist her by sending someone who has a profession by which he would be able to support himself.

Opening in Panama
Word has come that a new believer in Panama has a photograph studio which he offers to a pioneer wishing to settle in that country, one who can conduct the business. This seems to be an opportunity for some American Bahá'í to enter the pioneer field under conditions enabling him to become self-supporting. For details, write the established pioneer teachers, Mrs. Cora Oliver and Mrs. Louise Caswell, P. O. Box 1256, Canal Zone.

Publishing Committee

Announcement is made of two new Study Outlines which offer a helpful group approach to study and discussion of subjects of fundamental Bahá'í importance.

Introduction to the Study of the Qur'án, prepared by Study Outline Committee. This 25-page outline enables a group to take up the study of the Qur'án, knowledge of which is so important for Bahá'ís. It includes: The Guardian's words on how to study the Qur'án, Explanation of Qur'anic symbols, and 10 Lessons preceded by a Plan of Study which explains that certain general and important topics of the Qur'án have been selected as subjects for the 10 lessons, which may be studied by individual believers or made the basis of group discussion. References are to the Rodwell translation of the Qur'án. Price per copy, $0.35.

The Kitáb-i-Áḏán, Bahá'u'lláh's Book of Ceriture, prepared by Horace Holley. This outline carries the student through the work which the Guardian described as "this book of unsurpassed preceminence among the writings of the Author of the Bahá'í Revelation," not by dealing with the book consecutively but considering it as a number of fundamental subjects: The Path of Faith, Prophecy and Symbol, God in Manifestation, The Presence of God, The Return. Each subject indexed with sub-subjects and their references in the text. 6 pages. Per copy, $0.20. Send orders for these and other books and pamphlets to Bahá'í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

World Order
With the publishing of the March 1942 issue, World Order Magazine completes its seventh yearly volume, and subscribers can now send in their 12 copies dating from April, 1941, to and including March, 1942 for binding. Bound copies of Vol. VII, dating from April 1941-March 1942 are obtainable at $2.00 per copy, postage prepaid to any address in the United States, American possessions, Canada, or wherever postal service is available. Subscribers who wish their own copies bound, can mail them to World Order, 110 Linden Ave., Wilmette, Illinois, and have them bound for $1.20, return postage included. Missing copies are supplied at 15¢ each.

The new volume is bound in dark green pebbled fabricoid, head and foot band, gold letter stamping on back-strip, uniform in style and finish with previous volumes.

Complete index of titles and name of authors covering all articles in this volume, appears in the March, 1942 issue and illustrates the wide scope of the many all-important features reflecting the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh and of lasting value to all believers of the Bahá'í Faith.

Address Business Manager, World Order Magazine, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

National Press Book
The American press is responding to the increased activities of the American Bahá'í Community in their Seven Year Plan. The Press Books of 1941-1942 as of February 15th this year carry clippings from 30 states and provinces of the United States and Canada as well as from Alaska, Hawaii, Costa Rica, Cuba, Nicaragua, Argentina, China and India. The English, Spanish, German and Finnish languages are represented.

Four factors predominate in local
news items about which long and short articles have been written. These include Convention activities, Regional Teaching Conferences, Summer School Sessions and Temple progress.

The Press Books close March 31 this year to be prepared for the Convention. Many publicity clippings will be mailed in on or before that date which we will report later as the Press Books grow.

In May last year our friend Dave Hoff of the Associated Press asked for material on the Temple for a special article to be released through their special feature department. In November the Associated Press released Mr. Hoff’s well-written article with a picture of the Temple which was timely last May. Since November 16 we have received in clipping form this article from eleven different papers. In many cases the local editors had changed the wording. The article appeared in Birmingham, Alabama; New Haven, Conn.; Springfield, Ill.; Rochester, N.Y.; Portsmouth, N.H.; Milwaukee, Wis.; Allentown, Pa.; Omaha, Neb.; Indianapolis, Ind.; San Francisco, Cal.; and New York City in a German language paper.

The Chicago metropolitan papers are taking an increased interest in the Temple as it nears completion. During last Convention all four papers carried good articles on the meetings and personnel. In June, one paper carried a short story on the nine texts over the entrances. In September the Tribune carried a long article in its Sunday metropolitan section. In October this same paper carried material on the Temple twice in the “Line ‘O Type” column on the editorial page. The first quarter column was given to this at one time, later a poem written by an outsider appeared in this column. At present three papers have special material and pictures for releases of their own later in the year.

In Illinois new towns appear on the index sheet as a result of the Regional Teaching Committee. These include, Lake Forest, Skokie, Glenview and Moline. Morton, Illinois published material on Bahá’í meeting through efforts of Hazel Foster of Peoria. Dixon, carried picture of the Temple with an article through a Bahá’í friend of the editor, Mrs. Hopper of Port Chester, N.Y. The friends of Oak Park, Urbana and Peoria have been successful in their publicity efforts. Mrs. Matthisen has been successful in many types of publicity in the Antioch paper; announcements of radio talks, Bahá’í prayers published without comment, Library book gift, Temple activities and meetings. The Waukegan friends have been very successful in using a great deal of publicity in two papers for every meeting.

In Indiana both the Fort Wayne and South Bend groups have reported notices of meetings in clippings. The Indianapolis friends found a Race Unity Conference a successful medium for publicity.

In Iowa, the Davenport papers carried a number of articles on the activities of the Regional Committee there.

From Wisconsin, our Press Books have pages of publicity from Milwaukee and Racine. The Racine friends have been unique in their consistent success in having notices, articles and pictures published.

Michigan state reports material from the papers of Ann Arbor, Detroit, Grosse Pointe, Flint, Davison, Grand Haven, Grand Rapids, Muskegon and Ludington. New this year is the report of an Inter-Community conference in the Hart Journal. Also new is the clipping from the Houghton Mining Gazette resulting from Miss Josephine Krucka’s work. The numerous activities at the Louhelen School as well as many inter-Community Conferences are reflected throughout the Bahá’í publicity of the state. Mrs. Bertha Kirkpatrick, alone in Olivet, has sent us clippings on the Cause. One unusual article on the Bahá’í attitude toward war appeared in Grose Pointe.

The Canadian friends found their Western Canadian Regional meeting of August 23 lucrative in publicity. The papers of Vernon, B. C. Armstrong and Enderby replied to their efforts; The Calgary Herald and Winnipeg reported this Conference as well as other activities of Rowland Estall. The Edmonton papers reported Bahá’í work of Emeric Sala in that city. The Vancouver paper reported the Bahá’í marriage of Ann Wylie and Roland McGee.

This report will be continued monthly to include all the publicity which has come to the files of the Bahá’í News Service Committee. We sincerely hope that the friends will send all their material in, as it will be invaluable in the future as archives material when history is rewritten.

Bahá’í News Service Committee

Study Outlines

As there are no study outlines on several important books and subjects at the present time the Study Outline Committee wishes to suggest to believers that contribution of out-

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Honolulu, incorporated under charter granted July 12, 1940, amended 1942
Trends and forecasts.
The Bab-i-Bahá’í Era.
Prophecies of this day.
Marion Holley

Tuesday, March 31
The Bahá’í in the World Crisis.
Attitudes toward current issues.
Participation in current activities.
Contribution to the present and future.
Charlotte Linfoot

Wednesday, April 1
The Coming World Order.
Lesser Peace—Most Great Peace.
Bahá’í Solutions.
Administration—
‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Will, etc.
Leroy Ias

Thursday, April 2
Application in Teaching.
How to use this material in teaching the Faith.
A summarizing up and a plan for action.

Friday, April 3
Public Meeting.
In cooperation with the 3 Bay Assemblies.
A first application of the knowledge and enthusiasm gathered from the Spring Session.

AFTERNOON CLASSES

2:4 P.M.
Techniques of Teaching.
General assignment: Prepare a 15 to 20 minute Bahá’í talk.

Monday, March 30
Purpose of the course: Theory and Practice of effective presentation of the Bahá’í Faith.
Brief analysis of some factors that contribute to effective teaching.
1. Spiritual Pre-requisites.
2. Psychological considerations.
3. Essentials of Public Speaking.
4. General considerations.

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday
Building the talk.
Discussion of principles involved.

Friday, April 3
Giving the talk.
To be followed by discussion based on above requirements.

Library Committee
The Library Committee would like to make it clearly understood by the friends that books cannot be sent out to libraries unless the requests received by us are accompanied by written evidence that the books will be received and used in the libraries. Will the friends kindly cooperate with us in this matter to prevent any return of book shipments to the Publishing Committee? Always make certain that the librarian knows that the books will be sent as gifts, that they will be shipped from the Publishing Committee and will not come directly from the Library Committee and that our books are primarily religious publications of the Bahá’í Faith and not merely tracts on world unity and universal peace.

Bahá’í World, Volume 7, is no longer available for free distribution to libraries. Again, may we list the books which are on our donation list to prevent offering other titles to librarians with subsequent delays and cross-correspondence: Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era, Foundations of World Unity, World Order of Bahá’u’lláh, Some Answered Questions, Advent of Divine Justice, Promise of All Ages, and The Promised Day Is Come.

Address for correspondence: Mrs. S. H. Sims, Chairman, Box 116, Avon, N. J.

Notice
During the changing of the editorial office for World Order magazine from Wilmette to Peoria in December a memorandum bearing the name of the author of a manuscript was lost. Will the writer who contributed “The Synthesis” make his name known to Mrs. Alice S. Cox, 1100 West Gift Ave., Peoria, Ill. He will then receive delayed acknowledgment of his manuscript.

Bahá’í News Service
Announcement
The friends are requested to send to Bahá’í News Service all the clippings which are intended for the permanent publicity record of the current year. The Committee wishes to complete two Press Books by Convention time, and as several weeks are needed for this work the clippings should be sent as soon as possible. Kindly address them to Bahá’í News Service, % Virginia Russell, 2622 Prairie Avenue, Evanston, Ill.

Bahá’í Youth Bulletin
Bahá’í Youth, dated February, 1942, is Vol. VII, No. 4 of the bulletin issued by the National Youth Committee through its editorial member.
The contents include: Actions Today, Ruhiyih Khanum; Challenge and Opportunity, Winifred Louise Baker; The Guardian, Ruth Moffett; Teaching in the Colleges, Dorothy Baker; Youth in Paraguay, Elizabeth Cheney; Youth Notes; Symposium Outlines.

Subscriptions, 40 cents a year, ten cents a copy, received by Robert A. Gaines, Brighton, Mich.
Alaska Pioneer Receives
Eskimo Teaching Post

The National Teaching Committee has received a letter from the Secretary of the Alaska Regional Teaching Committee which reports a most interesting situation, and the news is shared with the friends.

"Janet Whitenack has actually received a temporary probational appointment with the Office of Indian Affairs to teach at Tululakson the Kuskokwim River, about 80 miles east of Bethel. It is near Akiak and is a 100% Eskimo community — no whites at all and no liquor.

"Janet writes 'I cannot tell you just how it affects me, but I feel that my destiny is there, and that I shall make that my life work. I'll be entirely on my own, and will be nurse, doctor, etc. as well as teacher. The responsibility is tremendous but I am praying for guidance and help. If I am satisfactory, apparently I can stay there indefinitely. . . will be able to build the lives of about 100 Eskimos, with practically no interference from any other whites.' . . . Janet was very frank with the Supervisors and spoke of the Cause. They had heard of the Bahá’í Faith but knew nothing about it.

"Janet will write and tell you more particulars. We talked over long distance today and she said it was extraordinary, the interview with the Supervisors of the Office of Indian Affairs, (The Office of Indian Affairs covers the whole Territory of Alaska — both Indian and Eskimos.) A month or so ago I had an interesting talk with Mr. Hirst, who is the chief supervisor of the whole of Alaska. Doctor Ruth Gruber arranged for us to meet. We talked of Janet and of her splendid qualities and of her desire to serve with the Eskimos. He was impressed and said he would do what he could. No doubt he approved the appointment. Dr. Gruber is in Alaska for one year — appointed by Mr. Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Department of the Interior. She is presumably writing a book on Alaska and possibly working on the possibility of evacuees colonizing there later on. She is an exceptionally fine person and is already deeply interested in the Bahá’í teachings. So you see she was partly instrumental in bringing about this great happening.

"Great pleasure in saying that we had an overflow audience so large that it is estimated that between seventy-five and one hundred people were turned away, despite the fact that both the library and the hall were crammed full and all of the Bahá’ís were asked to stand and give their seats to the guests. A rough count showed the audience present to be between three hundred seventy-five and four hundred people.

After the formal presentation of the program, everyone inspected the exhibits of Inca Art, including pottery, silver, Peruvian dolls and a comprehensive display of photographs showing the ancient art of the Inca Kingdom and scenes of present-day Peru and Ecuador.

Three ads were inserted in the best Spanish newspaper of New York, "La Prensa," and this paper also gave us three very nice write-ups. Everyone was unanimous in saying that this evening was one of the finest of its type that we have had in New York.

The Inca Evening is to be followed by a Mexican Evening on March 26 at which time it will be announced that those who have been attending these various Latin American programs and are interested in knowing more about the Bahá’í faith can attend a special weekly study class which will be given in both Spanish and English.
As a suggestion to other Centers attempting this variety of program, we would like to say that the success has been due to the building up of a good mailing list, proper advertising, and careful preparation so that each of these affairs is a finished professional job. These Assemblies will find that the travel bureaus are very helpful in offering material for such evenings, and that in many cities where there are consulates, help can be obtained from this agency also.

MILDRED R. MOTTAKEDH, Chairman

Temple Guides Committee

The following report presents the activities of this Committee for the months of September, October, November and December, 1941:

The following are statistics on visitors to the Temple for the last four months of 1941:

- In September the total number of visitors was 2,630, which was greater than any number that previously visited in September. These came from 39 states, the District of Columbia, Winnipeg and Manitoba, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Uruguay, Straits Settlements, Monterey and Mexico City, Mexico, the Philippines and Puerto Rico. Included among the September visitors were the following organizations, each of which attended as a group:
  - 22 members Women's Society, Lutheran Church, Waukegan, III.
  - 40 members Chicago Ass'n of the Blind.
  - 12 students National College of Education, Evanston, III.
  - 51 members Women's Society, 1st M. E. Church, Waukegan, III.

- In October, in spite of the heavy rains, the total number of visitors was 1,782. These came from 33 states and from Jamaica, British West Indies, and Mexico. Attending in a group were these organizations:
  - 28 students National College of Education, Evanston, III.
  - 12 public school pupils, Western Springs, III.
  - 109 members Art Institute, Chicago.
  - 20 soldiers, Fort Sheridan, III.
  - 20 Zeta Tau Alpha Alumni, Chicago Area.
  - 57 Senior Class, College of Civil Engineering, Univ. of Illinois.
  - 40 delegates to U. S. Postmasters' Convention, Evanston, III.

- In November there were 847 from 22 states, the District of Columbia, Windsor and Winnipeg, Canada, Vienna, Austria, and Manila, P. I. Organizations visiting were:
  - 39 youth Union Church, Kenilworth, Ill.
  - 21 youth Congregation Israel, Glencoe, Ill.
  - 13 members Unitarian Church, Hinsdale, Ill.

- In December there were 427—a large number for this cold month. They came from 14 states, District of Columbia, Ingersoll, Ontario, Canada, and from Brussels, Belgium. The only organization visiting was:
  - 9 members Class in History of Religion, College of Naperville, Naperville, Ill.

The number of Sunday visitors in September and October was much greater than in previous years, the larger attendance numbers including, per Sunday, 490, 488, 383, 294, 378, and 218 as examples.

Bahá'í Calendar

Feast of Ridván: April 21-May 2.

The first day of Ridván to be observed at about 3:00 P.M., April 21.

Declaration of the Báb: May 23.

To be observed on May 22, at about two hours after sunset.

Nineteen Day Feasts: Glory, April 9; Beauty, April 28; Grandeur, May 17.

Annual Election of local Spiritual Assemblies: April 21.

Meeting of National Spiritual Assembly: April 29, at Wilmette.

Annual Convention: April 30, May 1, 2, 3, in Foundation Hall, Bahá'í House of Worship, Wilmette.

National Race Unity Banquet, April 29. (See Convention announcement.)

Bahá'í Directory

Additions and Revisions to March 9, 1942

COMMITTEES

CONTACTS—Mrs. Catherine Hall unable to serve.

Race Unity—Mrs. Alice S. Cox added to Committee.

REGIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE—Ontario. Lucille C. Giscome and Lloyd Gardner added to Committee.

Dr. Thelma Colman and Frank Harvey unable to serve.

California, Nevada. Virginia Orbinsen appointed Secretary. Address for correspondence, 1505 East Windsor Road, Glendale, Calif. Mrs. James E. Crouchley, Mr. and Mrs. William Sears and Charles Bishop added to Committee. Artemus Lamb unable to serve.

Colorado, Utah, Wyoming. Artemus Lamb added to Committee.

Washington, Oregon. Mrs. Harry Taylor appointed Secretary. Address for Correspondence, 412 South 4th Street, Tacoma, Wash. Mrs. Janet Ward added to Committee.

Ohio, Indiana, Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia. Mrs. Addie T. Miller added to Committee.

New Jersey, Delaware, Eastern Pennsylvania. Francis H. Bent added to Committee.

ASSEMBLIES

Rochester, N. Y. Change of address. Christine McKay, Secretary, 201 Rutgers Street, Park Ridge, III., Scranton, Pa., and Albuquerque, N. M., dissolved for lack of numbers.

Enrollments and Transfers


Eighteen isolated believers enrolled in February.

In Memoriam

Grant, O my Lord, that they who have ascended unto Thee may repair unto Him Who is the most exalted Companion, and abide beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of Thy majesty and the Sanctuary of Thy glory.—BAHÁ’U’LLÁH

Mr. Thurston Vaughn, New York.

Miss Charlotte E. Bingham, New York.

Mr. A. W. Randall, Vista, California.

Mr. Will Stewart, Topocka.

Mrs. S. D. Montgomery, Santa Maria, California.

Mrs. Revella Ackerman, Riverside, California.

Miss Ethel Byler, San Antonio.

Mrs. Alma Russell, Evanston.

Mr. Johannes Anderson, Chicago.

Mr. Herman Huber, Chicago.

Mrs. Louis Keller, Lake Harbor, Michigan.
Messages From the Guardian

1. To the 1942 Convention

Last phase (of) Seven Year Plan so auspiciously begun, so vigorously prosecuted, (is) opening. (The) first Bahá’í Century (is) fast running out. (The) agonies (of a) travelling age (are) culminating. (The) Báb’s stirring, unique injunction, directing (the) peoples (of the) West (to) leave their cities (to) insure (the) triumph (of the) Divine Cause (was) recorded (a) century age (in) the Qayyúmi-Asmá’i Bahá’u’lláh’s significant summons calling upon all (the) Presidents (of the) Republics (of the) western hemisphere (to) champion (the) Cause (of) Justice (was) issued seventy years ago (in) His Most Holy Book. (The) broad outlines (of) ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s matchless design, conceived twenty-five years ago (for the) benefit (of the) North American believers, (was) transmitted (to) posterity (in the) Tablets (of the) Divine Plan. (The) Seven Year Enterprise, regarded (as the) initial stage (in) the execution (of a) World Mission, (has been) already launched. (The) gigantic Temple undertaking, constituting (the) major obligation (of) this enterprise, (has been) virtually consummated. (The) vast Intercontinental Teaching Campaign (is) visibly yielding first fruits (in) every Republic (of) Latin America. Upon (the) crucial year ahead hinge (the) fortunes (of this) historic crusade. From Alaska to Chile, (the) Americas (are) astir (with the) leavening influences (of the) rising Order (of the) newborn Revelation. (The) great Republic (of the) West (is) inescapably swept (into the) swelling tide (of the) world tribulations, presaging (the) assumption (of a) preponderating share (in the) establishment (of the) anticipated Lesser Peace. Invisible hosts (are) marshalled, eager (to) rush forth (and) crown every effort, however humble, however belated, exerted (to) speed (the) unfinished tasks. Again (I) renew plea (for) closer communion (with the) Spirit (of) Bahá’u’lláh, (for) more passionate resolve, (for) more abundant flow (of) material resources, (and for) wider dispersion, intenser concentration, by (a) still greater number (of) pioneers, settlers (and) itinerant teachers (to) insure for (the) Plan (a) termination commensurate (with and) wondrous as (the) exploits marking (the) opening decade (of) first Bahá’í Century. Myself deprived (of) personal participation (in the) task allotted (to the) prosecutors (of the) epoch-making Plan, (I am) impelled (to) deputize five members (of the) American Bahá’í community (to) help fulfill (in) my behalf whatsoever pioneer field (is) most vital (to) its urgent requirements. Pledging (five thousand dollars (for) accomplishment (of) this purpose.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Cablegram received April 26, 1942.

2. To the National Spiritual Assembly

Rejoice (in the) formation (of the) new Assemblies. Extend cordial welcome. Praying still greater success. Urge concentration (on) potential Assemblies, particularly (in) States (and) Provinces where none exist.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Cablegram received April 30, 1942.

Welcome renewed determination reflected (by) Assembly. Praying befitting discharge (of its) solemn, urgent responsibilities. Love.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Cablegram received May 5, 1942
First copy (of The) Bahá’í World received. Deepest loving appreciation (to) all contributors (for this) magnificent production.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Cablegram received May 12, 1942.

3. To Officers of the N. S. A.

He also hopes that the National Assembly, aided by the Teaching and Inter-America Committees, will strengthen the work of the pioneers and exert their utmost endeavor that they not only remain at their posts, but that new ones go out to strengthen and reinforce the work.

It is hard to conceive of a time which will demand greater dedica-
tion and sacrifice, endurance and courage, than the period at present ahead of the American Bahá'ís. All those noble traits of dedication and eagerness to devote all their energy to promoting the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh, which they have increasingly demonstrated these past years, must now rise to meet the challenge of the ordeal which they now, in common with the vast majority of their fellowmen, must support and pass through.

(From letter dated December 21, 1941, written through his secretary, to Allen B. McDaniel)

The prosecution and completion of the task to which the American believers have pledged themselves must be insured, despite and in the very midst of the ordeal which they are now facing. The greater the anguish which this ordeal must entail, the more formidable the obstacles it will raise, the more meritorious their achievement, and the greater the spiritual power which their enterprises must and will exert in the future. I will pray that their efforts will be crowned with success that will cause the whole Bahá'í world to marvel.

(The Guardian's postscript to the above letter)

It does indeed seem strange that people who have seen literally prophecy after prophecy fulfilled, and all that the Bahá'ís were led to anticipate, come to pass, still remain veiled from the reality of the Faith and spiritually lethargic. How deeply they will rue their lost opportunity when once their eyes become open!

Shoghi Effendi hopes that the N. S. A. and Teaching Committee are meeting with a wider response to the call for pioneers and teachers. The American believers have carried on with such enthusiasm and devotion, and established such a record, that now all the Bahá'ís of the world over have the impression that they can do almost anything! They must exceed their own past records for speed and accomplishment in order to triumph in the Seven Year Plan.

(From letter dated February 28, 1942, written through his secretary, to Roy C. Wilhelm)

The Spirit of the Convention

The Divine Cause moves majestically onward, enlightening darkened horizons; diffusing its fragrances over vast regions; raising with full faith and confidence, the Call of God; pointing the Way.

Whenever two or more Bahá'ís meet there are signs of eternal fellowship. But especially significant of spiritual attraction and power are these annual gatherings which draw together remote regions of the Earth into harmonious and loving brotherhood, through their chosen representatives. Such was the Thirty-Fourth Annual Convention of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada, which had both the seen and unseen Favor of God. The place was the foundation hall of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár, Dawning Place of the Mentions of God, and the time overlapped the end of the Ridván period, the great Festival which commemorates the Declaration of Bahá'u'lláh, a period of supreme happiness throughout the Bahá'í world.

Contact with influential people outside of the orbit of the Faith brings to light their increasing respect and reverence for the Bahá'í. The quiet, unobtrusive dignity, large-heartedness and sincerity of the friends, their patience and steadfastness through the period of derision and scorn, the marvelous beauty unfolded with the progress of Temple construction, have all been factors in this changed attitude in the greater Chicago area.

A National Broadcast June 14

The National Radio Committee informs the friends that Mrs. Lethia C. Fleming of the Cleveland Bahá'í community is to be the guest speaker on the Wings Over Jordan program Sunday morning, June 14. Her subject is “Beauty and Harmony in Diversity” from one of 'Abdu'l-Bahá’s talks.

This program is given over the CBS stations throughout the country. The hour differs from East to West, but the central time is 9:30 a.m.

This important occasion will not only be of great interest to believers but an excellent opportunity to bring the Bahá'í message to the attention of friends. The Committee suggests that Bahá'ís write appreciative letters to the station after the talk.

Race Unity Banquet

A prelude to the Convention was the Race Unity Banquet the evening before, held in the Chicago Woman's Club and seating about two hundred and seventy-five among the most talented people of Chicago and its environs. It was sponsored by the National Spiritual Assembly, with its program and arrangements worked out jointly by the National Race Unity committee and Chicago Assembly. Mrs. Dorothy K. Baker, Chairman of the National Race Unity Committee, presided and following the pleasing repast, introduced about a score of speakers for short addresses. The chairman herself voiced hearty welcome to all, extending the warm greetings of the National body which had delegated two of its members to attend, in view of its own enforced absence. The scene of the banquet was one of harmony and beauty in diversity. Two American Indians, one of whom spoke in English and the other in his native tongue; a Chinese; a local American journalist who formerly worked in Japan; an Esperantist who spoke in the tongue that seeks world service; two very prominent colored editors, who gave unqualified approval to Bahá'í ideals and working plans; a Latin American representative; three Persians of rank and various Bahá'í speakers, whose golden glow of heavenly teachings inspired all, were among the high lights of this beautiful setting. Besides all this, a rich musical program presented by a variety of artists from many groups, augmented the pleasure of entertainment and instruction. Although this banquet is now an annual event, this particular effort seemed to mark the spring tide of such noble endeavors serving the world of humanity.

The Convention Begins

The Convention's first and successive days were enriched by the early morning prayers and readings, selections especially made for their beauty and creative power. A spiritual atmosphere is the best incentive to work.

Allen B. McDaniel, chairman of the National Spiritual Assembly, calling the convention to order, expressed in feeling terms the blessed privilege of being identified with
service in this the ninety-ninth year of the Bahá'í era, now begun. Elation was expressed over the completion of five years of the Seven Year Plan and confidence that the western heirs of the Dawn-Breakers would overcome the tears and ordeals which the future may bring and, through Divine Favor, pave the way for the coming of the Most Great Peace.

The convention organized with the election of George O. Latimer as chairman and Horace Holley, secretary. The first roll-call showed a majority of the delegates present, with about two-thirds answering later calls.

The secretary read the Guardian's cablegram to the Convention, which is reprinted in this issue of Bahá'í News.

The Convention, after due consideration, cabled the Guardian as follows: "Delegates, friends grateful, overjoyed your soul-stirring message and bounty bestowed, example set for American Bahá'í community. With hearts overflowing with love (we) long to lighten your burden. Resolved rededicate ourselves (with) intense concentration (on the) accomplishment (of the) goal. Supplicating your prayers."

The world currents and influence of the convention may be illustrated in part by inspiring and beautiful greetings received by wire or cable from Allentown, Pa.; La Paz, Bolivia; Rutland, Vt.; San Francisco, Calif.; San José, Costa Rica; Laramie, Wyoming; Anchorage, Alaska; Pentwater, Mich.; Beverly, Mass.; East Orange, N. J.; Birmingham, Ala.; Honolulu, H. I.; Denver, Colo.; Seattle, Wash.; Plainville and Wrentham, Mass.; Westmount, Montreal, Canada.

Early on the first day, the passing of Mr. Ben Taylor of Cincinnati, one of the oldest Bahá'ís in service, was announced and the convention paused in silence while prayers for the departed were read.

National Secretary Reports

The National secretary presented his supplementary annual report, setting forth various activities not previously mentioned.

The approach of the Contacts Committee to a thousand prominent Americans, through letters and excerpts from the Sacred Writings; the Race Unity Banquet under National Auspices; the availability to the

friends of photostat copies of the Wills of Bahá'u'lláh and of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, at small cost; the formation of new Assemblies and restoration of others; the organization of five new centers in Latin America; the increasing effectiveness of regional committees among isolated believers and the service rendered by the Bulletin; the activities of the Race Unity Committee in carrying the message to seventy Colleges; Bahá'í schools and their expanding curricula; the activities of the Radio and Children's committees; the various messages from the Guardian, the belief, relayed from the Orient and gaining ground in that area, "that American Bahá'ís can accomplish anything;" the burial of two famous Bahá'ís, Mirzâ Abul Fazl and Lua M. Getsinger, in a Bahá'í cemetery in Egypt, and assurance that the grace and bounty of the Holy Spirit descends to pure hearts, were the features of this luminous report.

The National Treasurer

Next came the National Treasurer, with an exhortation not to lean upon the past, but to be alive to the duty of today and the joy of sacrifice. One hundred percent of cooperation would make all things possible. While the Treasurer's homily continued in this strain, with expression of regret that the annual budget was still thousands short — his faithful assistant, who was stationed at a favored spot, brought him the joyful news that during the brief session of the convention the budget deficit had not only been made up, but receipts now put the annual budget a thousand or more dollars over the top! Thus the tears of the Treasurer were turned into laughter, in which the delegates heartily joined. The convention registers outpourings in ways more than one!

National Teaching

This was especially a teaching convention and the National Teaching Committee, a body noted for great devotion and efficiency, had its interesting and thrilling time of demonstration. They gave a graphic picture of the vast field of action, supported by names of workers and statistics, showing the victories of the past five years and the need of more intensive and sustained efforts during the residuum of two, during which the completion of the Seven Year Plan as outlined by the

Guardian, puts a responsibility upon every soul. The destiny of mankind is affected by these efforts, since only the Divine Relief can assuage universal suffering. The call of the Guardian some years ago for nine souls to volunteer brought a response from eighty-one. Now there is an urgent call for sixteen to do pioneer service, the yet unfinished task. Who will hear and heed this call?

This report precipitated a prolonged discussion in which many futile suggestions of methods and approach, wisdom, sacrifice, the eloquence of deeds above words, prayerfulness, service, harmony, intense concentration, etc. received warm and earnest mention. Some of those willing to fill the needed quota were found present. So the appeal is heard and the work progresses.

The convention gave a cordial welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Habib Sabet and their two children, visitors from Iran. Another distinguished visitor was Senor Pedro Espinoza, of the Spiritual Assembly of Mexico City who is most enthusiastic over the spread of the teachings in that great country, which already has a good teaching unit.

Inter America Teaching

This great arm of service made an inspiring report of the teaching work in various Latin American countries, all of which requires tact, wisdom and perseverance. Mention was made of many brave souls, who are overcoming unusual difficulties and are attracting by Divine Favor, the hearts.

The matter of obtaining passports, visas, transportation is not easy at such a time of upheaval. It is the duty of every believer to support this great campaign. A wealth of the Creative Words, bearing upon teaching gave many quotations. The freedom of South Americans from racial prejudice is in their favor in accepting the teachings. The Inter America School plays a noble part in training teachers. Mr. and Mrs. Rafi Y. Mottahedeh gave an interesting account of their flying trip to South America for teaching.

The Temple

The Temple supervising engineer, Mr. McDaniel, whose gratuitous and faithful services have been a bounty to the friends over so long a period of years, spoke happily of the dream-reality now become a physical fact. The epic of transformation, from the ugliness of the undressed foundation to the temple's present loveliness, struck a poetic vein. The work of completing the two remaining faces, to go forward simultaneously with that on the two miles of steps started May 18. The former will be completed in about two months, the latter by November. The steps will be of the same material as the rest of the Temple.

The designs for interior decoration, purchased years ago from Mrs. Bourgeois, are now with the Guardian. The inscriptions over the doors will eventually become visible so as to be read at a reasonable distance. How great is the victory that temple construction should go forward during the years of world-wide depression and amidst the greatest upheaval known to mankind. On Mr. McDaniel's suggestion a word of loving appreciation was sent Mr. John A. Earley, with prayers for his early recovery.

Annual Election

At the time appointed, and following Bahá'í procedure, the election was held for the new National Spiritual Assembly. This resulted, by report of the tellers in the re-election of the former body. The tellers who spent several hours in counting the ballots were voted the thanks of the convention. The new national body was later announced by Mr. Holley, organized as follows: Allen B. McDaniel, chairman; George O. Latimer, vice-chairman; Horace Holley, secretary; Louis G. Gregory, recording secretary; Roy C. Wilhel, treasurer; Siegfried Schopf, assistant treasurer; Dorothy K. Baker, Leroy Loeas and Amelia E. Collins.

The Southern Field

The cooperative services of the Race Unity and Southern Regional Committees was an interesting phase of the convention story. Brave pioneers and itinerant teachers in their efforts to spread the teachings in a region largely fundamentalist in religion and reactionary in race-relations are meeting with notable successes. Slow but quite marked progress is made. The first definite instructions of the Guardian about the work in the South, to wit, that teachers in that region should consult with the minority group, find out from them who are the liberals among the majority, and then proceed with teaching, is fraught with divine wisdom and if followed would greatly facilitate the progress of the cause. The world is now in a state of rapid change and those who are just and are genuinely interested in human welfare are obviously the most likely to be attracted by the Great Message.

The chairman of the Race Unity Committee spoke of her committee's purpose, under instructions of the Guardian, to reach as many minority groups as possible. We are not to let old traditions guide us; nor let discredited ideas and leadership swerve us from service. Strike out into new paths and pursue new ideals under the Supreme Guidance of Bahá'u'lláh.

Firmness in the Covenant

The most important task of teaching firmness in the Covenant and avoiding association with Covenant-breakers, was assigned Albert R. Windust, chairman of the Spiritual Assembly and veteran Bahá'í of Chicago. His was one of the ablest elucidations of the subject ever made on such an occasion, replete with illustrations and authorities quoted. Covenant-breakers, animated by pride and disobedience, attack the principle of Prophetic succession and direct their bitter hatred against the appointed Center or Guardian of the Cause. Quoting the memorable words of the Master:

"They are indeed counted as dead. And the dead disintegrate and spread infection."  "He that sits with leper catches leprosy."

In the region of Chicago there is a man who for perhaps forty years has carried on a one-man propaganda, trying to show that Subhi Ezel, the apostate half-brother, and not Bahá'u'lláh, was the rightful successor of the Bahá! Behold how obstinacy and absurdity march together in this strange and impossible mind! Other Covenant-breakers, professing loyalty, attacked the Master. Others in the same way, because he has balked their greed and corruption, now attack our Guardian, although pretending loyalty to the Master. Can the beetle love the rose or the bat the sunshine? Even the density and obstinacy of such souls have an effect the least suspected by themselves. Their futile efforts to destroy the Cause focus a searchlight upon their own motives which results in
greater faith and higher attainments among united, loving and loyal friends.

Various Committees

The Radio committee reported broadcasts over a wide area which made use of one hundred and sixty-six stations. A planograph was distributed which equips workers to obtain a favorable hearing from broadcast station program directors.

The Publicity committee reported upon plans for press notices and appeals. The convention recommended the use of a publicity expert to aid this work.

The Contacts committee has a record of approaches by letter to many prominent people. It is not too much to hope that at no distant day, many very clever people will be drawn into the Faith.

The Archives and History Committee gave explanation of the Sacred relics displayed on the walls.

The Exhibits Committee offered the Temple itself as the greatest exhibit. Two beautiful pictures of it, made by Carl Scheffler, adorned the walls. In the corridors were impressive exhibits of practically all the various committees, with many pictures, charts and explanations.

The Study Outline Committee reported, among various labors, an outline for the study of Islam. Now available to the friends.

The various school committees, Green Acre, Geyersville, Louhelen and International unfolded the expanding curricula of their scientific and spiritual training.

The Child Education Committee reported progress in that fascinating field of work.

The chairman whose genial spirit both guided and entertained the delegates, brought its business sessions to its close by a prayer read by Mrs. Sarah Walrath.

Prior to this however, the Assembly Development Committee had a hearing which was improved to impress the progress of the Cause which would be very rapid through a full functioning and active administration, as a stimulus, guide and guard in each and every center. A strong, virile, Spiritual Assembly makes a live, active community.

El Ridván

This greatest of all Baha’i festivals was observed on Friday evening of the convention. It was arranged by the Spiritual Assembly of Milwaukee, whose chairman presided. First came the reading of Tablets of Baha’u’llah addressed to Kings, Statesmen and important personages of the world. Then came an address by Mr. Habib Sabet, visitor from Iran, whose quaint humor and powers of description drew a vivid contrast yet oneness of spirit between East and West. Miss Elsie Austin presented the Baha’i teachings in language of such originality, spirituality and charm as to attract all hearts.

Ali-Kuli Khan, N. D. was at his best, giving with rare eloquence a spiritual and philosophical explanation of the meaning of Ridván. The Baha’i friends were very inspired and happy, a state that was shared by the visiting friends.

Public Teaching Meeting

Carl Scheffler was happy as chairman. Mrs. Loulie A. Matthews presented “The House we live in.” That house, she said, is your identity. It must be in order and lighted by faith. As with the individual so must it be with the nation and the world. She then related the stories of the Bab and Baha’u’llah and their successive calls to mankind. A bright future for America is indicated and all were invited to enter the Divine Cause as the Realm of Life.

Mr. Ali M. Yazdi, third generation Baha’i, spoke on “The Challenge of the Times.” He said in part: We become aware of values by losses. Now, while mankind suffers, is the time to do good work. We must build real harmony out of the false unity created by wars, a new world designed for peace. This means one world neighborhood and the coordination of all human endeavors. Baha’u’llah has revealed to us the plan. Life will become a noble and exciting adventure under His New World Order. To live in this day is a privilege from God. We witness the birth of an age for which men have longed.

Summary

The convention is now a bright memory. But it is certain that its influence lives and grows. The bounties from the Abha Kingdom descended in such abundance as to inspire gratitude and reverence in hearts. Those who witnessed the difficulties of the past year may well marvel at the victory’s magnitude,
due to the secret forces of Celestial Strength. Divine Promises give the assurance of greater victories.

May we not cherish the hope that the love, loyalty and approved activities of the American friends may be as a magnet, divinely charged, to attract ere long, the presence in our midst of our well-beloved Guardian? His coming at some time is indicated. At such a time as he deigns to make the journey, the Temple of God, in its transcendent beauty, will welcome him. A thousand and homes will offer him service. Thousands of hearts gladdened by his presence, will overflow with love. Ten thousand times ten thousand minds will be enlightened by his mature wisdom.

LOUIS G. GREGORY, Convention Reporter

The Sixth Year of the Seven Year Plan

Beloved Friends:
The Guardian has inaugurated the last phase of the Seven Year Plan by his cablegram of April 26 addressed to the Convention. The delegates and Bahá’í friends present at the Convention felt themselves inspired and renewed by the experience of dedication to the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. As from a throbbing heart, the potent impulse generated in that experience has been communicated throughout the American Bahá’í community—to the Assemblies, to the believers, to the local and National Committees.

It is for us now to direct this holy and passionate zeal into definite undertakings for the fulfillment of the Seven Year Plan. We have but two years in which to make our individual and collective effort and reveal the degree of our longing to serve His Cause.

Important projects are already under way, for both the Inter-America and National Teaching Committees held continuous consultation with volunteer teachers and pioneers during the Convention period, and the incoming National Spiritual Assembly acted at once on the recommendations prepared by these two Committees.

In its successive messages to the friends in Bahá’í News, the National Spiritual Assembly will concentrate on the vital needs and steps of progress in the teaching work and in the Temple construction, and report the condition of the National Fund in relation to the current annual budget.

Annual Budget

1. Teaching, including North and South America and providing for all Committees related to teaching work or teaching facilities $50,000

2. Temple construction, to provide all necessary funds for completion of main story exter- ornal ornamentation, for the surrounding steps, and for payment of balance due on work done in 1941 40,000

3. Administrative expense, including all Committees not financed from the budget for teaching, the Convention, Bahá’í News, etc. 20,000

4. Maintenance of Bahá’í Trustee properties, including insurance, taxes, repairs and caretaking 20,000

5. Repayment of balance due on loan incurred in 1940 for Temple construction 14,000

6. Reserve for contingent items 6,000

TOTAL $150,000

In announcing this budget, the National Spiritual Assembly must again emphasize the basic importance of the National Fund as the “life blood” of our unified Bahá’í activity, and the symbol of our sacrifice to the common goal. The individual believer is urged to ponder his own responsibility, and the local Assembly is requested to present the needs of the Fund at meetings of community consultation.

Temple Construction

On Monday, May 18, work was resumed at the House of Worship. The plan is to complete the last two main story faces and the steps by November, 1942, thus exemplifying the Guardian’s words in his Convention message: “The gigantic Temple undertaking, constituting the major obligation of this enterprise, has been virtually consummated.”

Photographs illustrating the progress of the work will be published as frequently as possible in Bahá’í News. All the materials, including the carved castings, are in readiness, and the final responsibility of the Bahá’í community in this historic undertaking is to meet the construction expense set forth in the budget. For details, consult the article in Bahá’í News for February, 1942.

North America Teaching

Last January the friends were given in Bahá’í News two maps showing the unsettled States and Provinces of North America. Twenty-three States, six Provinces, and the Territory of Alaska were listed. Now, from reports of local elections held April 21, it becomes possible to remove from that list the following areas: Louisiana, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia. But New Mexico has since been placed on the occupied list.

This leaves twenty States, three Provinces and Alaska to settle with a Spiritual Assembly by 1944.

In January there were twenty-four dissolved Assemblies to be restored. The recent elections restored the Assemblies of Moncton and St. Lambert, Canada, Lansing, Michigan, and Salt Lake City, Utah, but transferred Brookline, Massachusetts, to the number of Assemblies gone out of existence. All the election reports are not yet received, but the full and final Assembly roll for 1942-1943 will be published next month.

Latin America Teaching

As stated elsewhere in this issue, seven new cities and one existing Assembly reported this year, and reports are awaited from two other Assemblies, making a total of ten local Spiritual Assemblies.

This comes to us as impressive evidence of the spiritual power which the devotion of the pioneers and the energy and planning of the Committee has released in the Inter-Continental teaching field.

Plans are under way to settle pioneer teachers in Venezuela, Columbia and Brazil, while Dr. Malcolm King of Milwaukee has arisen to volunteer to settle in Jamaica two years for teaching activity. A detailed survey of current work will be reported next month.

“Again I Renew Pleas”

The Guardian’s message identifies each of us with the full success of the teaching work. “Invisible hosts are marshalled, eager to rush forth and crown every effort, however humble, however belated, exerted to speed the unfinished tasks. Again I renew pleas for closer communion with the Spirit of Bahá’u’lláh, for more passionate resolve, for more abundant flow of material resources, and for wider dispersion, intenser concentration, by a still greater number of pioneers, settlers and itinerant teachers to insure for the Plan a termination commensurate
with and wondrous as the exploits marking the opening decade of the first Bahá’í Century.’ ”

The all-loving Father, Bahá’u’lláh, offers His children the supreme heavenly Gift—the privilege of sacrificing themselves for the Cause of God. We will search the whole world over and find nothing in palaces, universities, factories or legislatures to compare with the blessing bestowed upon the Bahá’ís. Pure intention, heroism, spiritual knowledge—every form of capacity any believer may possess in any degree—are in these days to be fulfilled, assuring to the faithful servants an eternal blessing.

Centering our firm vision upon the radiant goal, assured of success, rejuvenated in spirit, may we redouble our effort to accomplish definite tasks in this, “the crucial year ahead” upon which “hinge the fortunes” of the Divine Plan.

National Spiritual Assembly

Annual Election

The election held Friday, May 1, 1942, resulted in the following vote for members of the National Spiritual Assembly:

Horace Holley, 131; Louis G. Gregory, 125; Roy C. Wilhelm, 115; Mrs. Dorothy Baker, 112; Allen B. McDaniel, 110; Siegfried Schopflocher, 100; George O. Latimer, 98; Leroy Icas, 85; Mrs. Amelia E. Collins, 84.

These members organized by the election of the following officers:

Allen B. McDaniel, Chairman; George O. Latimer, Vice Chairman; Horace Holley, Secretary; Roy C. Wilhelm, Treasurer; Louis G. Gregory, Recording Secretary; Siegfried Schopflocher, Assistant Treasurer.

Newly-Established and Restored Assemblies

The result of teaching efforts made last year has been gratifying in the number of new Assemblies established and former Assemblies restored to the roll.


This adds fourteen Assemblies to the number of established Bahá’í Communities, and from the unoccupied areas it removes the following States and Provinces: New Orleans, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia.

The Bahá’ís of Snohomish County, Washington, also formed an Assembly, but the recognition of such a large area for a local Assembly has raised an important administrative principle which has been referred to the Guardian. If the Guardian directs the National Assembly to accept this county community, the number of new Assemblies elected on April 21, 1942, will be eleven instead of ten.

Latin-American Assemblies

The Faith of Bahá’u’lláh has made remarkable progress and achieved signal victories in Central and South America in the fourth year of the Seven Year Plan.

It is a great privilege to announce that election reports have been received from eight cities.

These reports have made it possible to recognize the Spiritual Assemblies now existing in the following cities:

Montevideo, Uruguay; Tegucigalpa, Honduras; Port au Prince, Haiti; Havana, Cuba; Puntarenas, Costa Rica; San Salvador, El Salvador; Mexico, D. F.; and Puebla, Pue., Mexico. To these eight Assemblies may doubtless be added the two Assemblies existing last year—Buenos Aires, Argentina, and San Jose, Costa Rica—whose current election reports have not yet been received.

The Assembly of Puntarenas was developed by teachers from San Jose, and the Assembly of Puebla by Sr. Pedro Espinosa of Mexico City, showing how much can be expected of the new friends in Latin America as their numbers increase and they are supplied with comprehensive selections from the teachings in their native tongue.

The Crucial Year Ahead

Already the sixth year of our Plan is rushing on its way. Almost three months have vanished from the “crucial year ahead” on which, Shoghi Effendi has cabled, “hinge (the) fortunes (of this) historic crusade.” Those who attended the Convention have now returned to their home communities, bearing the sober news of immense teaching requirements, the recognition of which implanted in every delegate an urgent resolve to “speed (the) unfinished tasks.”

The nature of these tasks was clearly defined during the Convention sessions. In North America we learned of the formation in April, 1942, of eleven Spiritual Assemblies, seven in virgin territories, thereby bringing the total of remaining virgin States and Provinces to twenty-four. Included were three disbanded Assemblies, leaving twenty-three yet to be re-established. To complete this gigantic work the National Teaching Committee asked for six...
in the Convention sessions, seeking and finding beneath the dome of our wondrous Temple a fresh spirit with which to conquer the obstacles ahead, can never doubt that victory awaits us in 1944, if we but take the steps that lead to victory. Is not the path to be found in these words of our Guardian: “Invisible hosts (are) marshalled, eager (to) rush forth (and) crown every effort, however humble, however belated, exerted (to) speed (the) unfinished tasks.”

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Inter-America News

Publicity

The Cause is receiving the most gratifying publicity in the publications of both Central and South America, and many clippings are coming in which we are preserving as an historical record. These clippings show the wisdom and tact with which our pioneers are using and evidence, by the amount of space involved, the willingness of the Press to present our purpose and carefully composed articles telling of the work of the pioneers.

Recently an article appeared in a magazine in Havana, and while not entirely correct, it was intended to be friendly and interested. John Stearns has sent us some copies of the Voice of Ecuador in which his article appeared in both Spanish and English, whereupon we promptly subscribed for the Magazine feeling that our interest might be helpful in fostering continental unity.

Cuba

A most enthusiastic letter has recently been received from Josephine Kruka telling of the celebration of Youth Day in the Baha'í Center in Havana which has resulted in the formation of a study class of young people who are very eager to learn of the Faith. Before Youth Day Miss Kruka had already established a small class for young people of from ten to seventeen years which was meeting with the greatest success.

San Domingo

Margaret Lentz also observed Youth Day with a party which was attended by a large group of young students, some of whom are living in the same house where she is, and this, too, will result in a study class. She was really overwhelmed by the reception which they gave to her suggestions and the appreciation of her hospitality.

Puerto Rico

San Juan is certainly blest since now it has six American pioneers residing there. Beside Rouhiyyih Jones and Mrs. Katherine Disdier, Mrs. Guthrie, Mrs. Manangella and Mr. and Mrs. McComb have taken up their residence in San Juan and are assisting in the activities of the community in Red Cross work and social welfare. This is a splendid way to become acquainted and to demonstrate the Baha'i love for humanity and willingness to be of assistance wherever possible.

Chile

Mrs. Marcia Atwater arrived in California on March 13 from Santiago by plane since her health had suffered somewhat from the change of climate. Mrs. Atwater is radiant about the growth of the Faith in Chile and the unity which is coming about in the country itself which is subject for comment everywhere there. She will return in a short time and will remain indefinitely there where now the work is extending to Valparaiso as well as Antofagasta and other cities. A great deal of publicity has been given to the Faith and some of the foremost writers and educators have evidenced their interest in most gratifying statements. Mrs. Atwater has brought quantities of clippings as well as many fine translations of the Baha'i Writings in Spanish. There are now four native Chileans pioneering in various parts of the country.

Argentina

A letter from the chairman of the Assembly of Buenos Aires has written for fifty registration blanks as they wish to make a new list of membership. We are not sure whether this means that there are now fifty members, but the number looks very promising and the zeal of the friends there is wonderful.

Panama

Our two pioneers in Ancon have now realized their hearts' desire since recently they have been reinforced by the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Hamilton who are going to reside in Cristobal and thus they can meet and study together even
though they are not in the same city.

**Venezuela**

Priscilla Rhoads writes that there are openings for young people in Caracas if they have some profession. She says that all the work is done by young people and we are very eager to see other pioneers there at once. After the Guardian’s last cable we are confidently expecting applications to come in!

**Costa Rica**

There are now two beautiful magazines of the highest order whose columns are open to the Faith. *Alma Tica* magazine has for months been bringing out articles accompanied by photographs of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, the Temple and the first Spiritual Assembly in Costa Rica; but now the *Repertorio Americano* of Sr. Joaquín García Monje, which is a leading literary publication with wide circulation, will print articles in both Spanish and English on the Cause and Mrs. Woolson will write for it. *Alma Tica* Magazine is edited by Señora de LaFrank who is a member of the Spiritual Assembly and in no other publication that we know has the Cause been so beautifully presented.

Due to the extension work which has been done by the San José believers themselves there is to be a second Spiritual Assembly in Costa Rica in the city of Puntarenas. This certainly is cause for rejoicing. The friends in San José hope that the beautiful magazines may find interest among the believers in this country. Since they are published in Spanish and English, this committee will be glad to furnish particulars.

**Honduras**

The 21st of April has seen the formation of a Spiritual Assembly in Tegucigalpa where John Eichenauer is now working. John sends “miles” of newspaper clippings from various parts of the Republic and recently the arrival of John’s brother Marshall who, he says, is there on a visit, has been the occasion of another burst of newspaper publicity which is something splendid. John has visited many of the towns in Honduras and success attends him everywhere.

**San Salvador**

Clarence Iverson writes that he has recently officiated at the dedication of a new organ in one of the churches and that the priest has asked him to teach music. He says the priest knows he is a Bahá’í but that “he doesn’t seem to mind.”

**Bolivia**

Mrs. Adler, who returned from Bolivia last August, left three ardent believers in La Paz and Flora Hottes, who went there some weeks ago as the latest of our pioneers, will surely augment the number. She is a librarian by profession and will try to introduce some work for children’s books there.

**Literature**

We are advised by the National Assembly that a copy of *The Bahá’í World*, vol. VIII, has been sent to the largest Public Library in each of the Latin American countries. We are also to distribute copies in Spanish of the Obligatory Prayers, and the “Basis of Bahá’í Community.” The Spanish translation of the “Dispensation” is now with the Publishing Committee and is awaited with great eagerness. We are grieved that we cannot produce the French and Portuguese translations also at this time.

Copies of our State Department’s certification of the Declaration of Trust and By-Laws have been sent to our pioneers as a further evidence of their credentials in case of need.

We sincerely regret that space does not permit us to write more fully of all the fine reports we receive but the friends are assured of the wonderful growth of the Faith in the field we represent.

**Bahá’í School Programs**

1. **Green Acre Bahá’í School**
   - July, August, 1942
   - Devotions, 7:45 A.M., Library
   - Morning Classes
     - *The Influence Of Bahá’u’lláh In Modern Civilization*, Harlan Ober.
     - July 27 through August 7—Essentials of The Bahá’í Faith, Dr. Glenn A. Shook.
     - Establishing a Bahá’í Community, Mary Collison.
   - August 10 through August 21—Essentials of The Bahá’í Faith, Rexford and Sylvia Parmelee, Harriet Pettibone, Jessie Revell.
   - Bahá’í Proofs, Ali-Kuli Khan, N.D.
   - August 24 through Sept. 4—Essentials of The Bahá’í Faith, Ruth Moffett.
   - August 24—28—Practical Applications of The Bahá’í Faith, Mamie Seto.
   - August 31—Sept. 4—’Abdu’l-Bahá and the Divine Plan, Horace Holley.
   - Aftemoon Classes
     - August 10 through August 21—Discovering the Most Great Ocean, Willard and Doris MacKay.
     - August 24 through Sept. 4—Prophecy Fulfilled in This Day, Ruth Moffett.

**YOUTH WEEK**

August 2 through August 8

**Youth Discussions and Activities**

Activities and classes arranged for children throughout the season.
**Evening Meetings**

Mondays—Fellowship Night, in charge of Bahá’íh Ford.
Tuesdays—Open.
Wednesdays—Activity Night, in charge of Harry Ford.
Thursdays—Open Forum. Chairman, Dr. Glenn A. Shook.

**Sunday Meetings**

11 A.M.—Public Meeting at the Hall. Special Speakers and Music.
3 P.M.—Music and Art Programs.

Conferences
July 4, 5—Teaching Conference, Chairman, Helen Archambault.
An Inter-Community Conference under the direction of the Green Acre Program Committee, in cooperation with the New England Regional Committee, the Eliot Assembly Extension Teaching Committee and the Boston, Mass., Extension Teaching Committee.
July 25, 26—Inter-America, Chairman, Mrs. Frances Ober.
August 9, 10—Youth Conference, Chairman, Jeanne Steed.
August 15, 16—Race Amity, Chairman, Louis G. Gregory, assisted by Dorothy Baker.

A series of Lecture Recitals on Music will be given during the season by H. R. Austin.

**Rates:**
$16 to $24, weekly, room and board; slightly higher for corner rooms, $3 to $4 daily. Special rate for entire season. Half rate for children under ten years.
$14, rate for Youth Week.
Due to war conditions no dogs will be allowed at the summer school dormitories or cottages.

**Please make reservations early!**
Apply to Mrs. Flora Valentine, 42 Regent St., Saratoga Springs, N. Y. After June 15th, address Mrs. Flora Valentine, Manager, Green Acre Bahá’í School, Eliot, Maine.

Green Acre Bahá’í School Committee:
Lorna Tasker, Chairman; Marjorie Wheel-er, Corresponding Secretary; Hattie Chamberlin, Recording Secretary; Louis G. Gregory, Harlan Ober, Dr. Glenn A. Shook, Rachel Small, Harry Ford, Bahá’íh Ford, Justin Williams, Jeanne Steed, Youth Representatives.

2. Geyserville Bahá’í School
July 5 to July 25, 1942
Bosch Place, Geyserville, Calif.

**First Week: July 6-12, inclusive**

**Mornings** — General Courses — open to everyone.
9:15-9:30 — Devotional Meeting.
8:45-10:45 — Highlights of Bahá’í History. Showing main events and the thread running through.
11:00-12:00 — Islam — Its history and teachings.

**Afternoons** — Specialized Courses for Bahá’í Students — by enrollment.
2:00-3:00 — The Three Conditions of Existence. The World of God. The World of the Kingdom. The World of Creation.
3:15-4:15 — Teaching Laboratory. Actual presentation of the Cause by members of the class before hypothetical groups, followed by discussion.
3:15-4:15 — Spanish.
4:30-5:00 — Half Hour of Music.

**Evenings** — General Sessions — open to everyone.
8:00-9:00 — The Bahá’í Faith in Practice. (Continuation of second week.)

**Second Week: July 13-19, inclusive**

**Mornings** — General Courses — open to everyone.
9:15-9:30 — Devotional Meeting.
9:45-10:45 — Basic Bahá’í Teachings I: Spiritual Teachings. God and Creation; Manifestations; The concept of Progressive Revelation. The nature of man. Immortality. Prayer, etc.
11:00-12:00 — Bahá’í Administration. Principles and practice.

**Afternoons** — Specialized Courses for Bahá’í Students — by enrollment.
2:00-3:00 — Questions Most Frequently Asked by Inquirers. Assignment, study and discussion.
3:15-4:15 — Spanish.
4:30-5:00 — Half Hour of Music.

**Evenings** — General Sessions — open to everyone.
8:00-9:00 — The Bahá’í Faith in Practice. Bahá’í character Attitudes toward current issues. Bahá’í participation in current activities. Social and administrative standards.

**Third Week: July 20-25, inclusive**

**Mornings** — General Courses — open to everyone.
9:15-9:30 — Devotional Meeting.
11:00-12:00 — Humanity’s Coming of Age. Biological Evolution — current scientific data and the Bahá’í concept. Social and political evolution. Religious evolution, etc.

**Afternoons** — Specialized Courses for Bahá’í Students — by enrollment.
2:00-3:00 — The Three Conditions of Existence. The World of God. The World of the Kingdom. The World of Creation.
3:15-4:15 — Teaching Laboratory. Actual presentation of the Cause by members of the class before hypothetical groups, followed by discussion.
3:15-4:15 — Spanish.
4:30-5:00 — Half Hour of Music.

**Special Events:**

**Reservations:**
Write to: Miss Gladyce Linfoot, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, California.
Rates: Dormitory two persons, one room $5.00 per week per person. Upstairs, or rooms in near-by houses, $2.00 or $2.50 per week per person.

Geyserville School Committee:
Ali M. Yazdi, Chairman; Gladyce Linfoot, Secretary; John Boseh, Amelia Bowman, Louise Groger, Anita Ions, Irvin Somerhalder, Marion Yazdi.

3. Louhelen Bahá’í School Program, Summer 1942

**Laboratory Session**
July 4 to July 13, inclusive
“The Promised Day Is Come”. Alice Cox Forum
Rinaldo Quigley
Rates, per day, including meals:
Per person, single room .................. $2.35
Per person, double room .............. $2.00
Per person, dormitory ........................ $1.60

**Midsummer Session**
July 15 to August 7, inclusive
“The Spiritual Responsibilities of the Americans” Marzieh Gail
This session designed for tutorial study and informal teaching work.
Rates, per day, including meals:
Per person, single room .................. $2.35
Per person, double room .............. $2.00
Children 12 years old and under, per day, per person .................. $1.50

**General Session**
August 9 to August 16, inclusive
“The Spiritual Evolution of Mankind” F. St. George Sandplo
“The Bahá’í in Everyday Life” Mamie Seló
“The Law of Consultation” Elisabeth Cheney
Forum
Teaching Staff
Rates, per day, including meals:
Per person, single room .................. $2.35
Per person, double room .............. $2.00
Per person, dormitory ........................ $1.60

**Baha’i News**
Youth Session
August 19 to August 25, inclusive
The Law of Consultation .......... Philip Sprague
The Concept of Progress .......... Stanwood Cobb
Fundamentals of the Bahá'í Faith .......... Arnold Ketels
Reading for Radio .......... Teaching Staff
Chorus .......... Esther Wilson
Forum .......... Edmund Mlesler
Counselors-Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Davison.
Mrs. Beatrice Eardley, Louhelen School Committee:
Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Louhelen Bahá'í School, Davison, Michigan. The school is located on M 15, 3 miles south of Davison, Michigan.

Louhelen School Committee:
Edmund Mlesler, Chairman; Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary; Phyllis Hall, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Beatrice Eardley, Harry Whang, L. W. Eggleston, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Dorothy Gart.

Schedule of Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly
All meetings during the current year will be held at the Hazíratu'l-Quds, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois. On account of the increasing difficulty of the problem of transportation, and for the sake of economy in travel expense as well as the time of the members, the schedule adopted calls for longer meetings, with a slightly larger interval between meetings.

The current schedule, it will be noted, contains five more days of business sessions than would be provided if the Assembly met for two days at monthly intervals. For most of the members, the schedule adopted calls for longer meetings, with a slightly larger interval between meetings.

May 2, 3, 4; June 12, 13, 14, 15; July 17, 18, 19, 20; September 11, 12, 13, 14; November 12, 13, 14, 15; January 8, 9, 10, 11, 1943; March 5, 6, 7, 8; April 27, 28.

Bulletins for Believers Subject to the Draft
Local Assemblies have received copies of two special bulletins, issued by the National Spiritual Assembly for the information of the Bahá'ís who wish to apply for noncombatant service in connection with their draft questionnaire.

The first bulletin was dated March 21, 1942. In April, 1942 a second bulletin was distributed informing believers how to proceed with an appeal in the event that the local draft board denied them the status of noncombatant.

Each bulletin has also been sent to individual believers asking for copies, and a copy has also been filed with the Regional Teaching Committees to advise them in meeting questions from isolated friends.

In June, 1942, two more bulletins are being distributed, which deal with a change in the form of the draft questionnaire bringing the matter up to date for Bahá'ís of the United States.

The special committee has also drafted a bulletin for Canadian believers which will be distributed as soon as possible. The bulletins previously issued have not dealt with the subject in relation to Canadian statute and practice since that country has not had a compulsory draft.

To sum up: Assemblies in the United States have access to four bulletins and should study these in order to assist members of their community. These three bulletins will be sent to any isolated believer subject to the draft. In a brief time a special Canadian bulletin will be distributed to Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees of that country. Isolated believers of Canada subject to the draft will receive a copy on request.

Bahá'í Status for Believer in Military Service
From the Regional Teaching Committee of New England we have this excerpt from a letter written by Ashley King, now serving in the medical detachment at Lovell General Hospital, Fort Devens.

"Recently they decided to include our religion on the little identification tags we wear around our necks: 'P' for Protestant, 'C' for Catholic, 'J' for Jewish. They were somewhat at a loss what to do in my case. They kept suggesting that 'Bahá'ísm' must be an offshoot of one of the other three Faiths, but I insisted that it was independent but embraced them all, so finally they had the full word 'Bahá'í' printed on my tags . . . ."

Annual Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Bahá
Subject to any changes found necessary, the Committee has prepared the following program for the Annual Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to be held at Evergreen Cabin, West Englewood, N. J., Saturday, June 27, the thirtieth annual gathering of Bahá'ís to commemorate the Unity
Feast and address given by the Master in 1912.
2:30 p.m. to 3:20 p.m., Symphony orchestra; solos by Walter Olitski of the Metropolitan Opera Company.
3:30 to 4:30 the meeting: Theme—The Promised Day Is Come. Readings from the Master’s talk by the chairman, Philip Sprague. Address of welcome, Roy C. Wilhelm. Speakers to be announced.
4:45 to 5:00 p.m. Prayer meeting in the grove conducted by Mrs. Maud Gaudreaux.
5:15 p.m. Refreshments served at Evergreen Cabin.

1943 Convention
The next Annual Convention has been scheduled for the four-day period of April 29, 30, May 1 and 2, 1943.

Publishing Announcements
1. In Spanish
The Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh, translated into Spanish. Paper cover. Per copy, $0.75.
Obligatory Prayers (Las Oraciones Obligatorias), translated into Spanish. Paper cover. Per copy, $0.15.

2. In English
Catalog. A new catalog, corrected to April 1, 1942, is available and copies will be sent free on request.
A Child’s Prayer Book. Compiled by Child Education Committee and issued as a pamphlet reproducing the hand-lettered original pages of the compilation. Paper cover. Per copy, $0.15.
I, Mary Magdalene, by Juliet Thompson. Copies of this novel of the days of Christ formerly sold at $2.50 can now be obtained for $2.00.
The Publishing Committee can supply copies of Rodwell’s Koran, the translation recommended by the Guardian for Bahá’í students of Island. Per copy, $1.00.
Send orders to Bahá’í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Teaching Bulletin, “A World Faith”
The friends are reminded that the public teaching bulletin, formerly entitled A New World Order, now called A World Faith, is obtained from the National Bahá’í Office and not from the Publishing Committee. These leaflets are furnished at the rate of 50 for 50c, 100 for $1.00, etc. Make check or postal order payable to National Bahá’í Fund.

Cases of Mental Illness
In view of the fact that delegates raised at the Convention the question of how local Assemblies are to deal with believers who appear to suffer some degree of mental illness, the National Assembly wishes to advise the friends that this matter was referred to the Guardian some years ago.
His instruction, contained in a letter dated May 30, 1936, makes it clear that expert medical opinion is to be obtained, and that prayer alone is not sufficient.
"Regarding persons whose condition has not been defined by the civil authorities after medical diagnosis, the Assembly on the spot must investigate every case that arises and, after consultation with experts, deliver its verdict. Such a verdict, however, should, in important cases, be preceded by consultation with the N.S.A. No doubt, the power of prayer is very great, yet consultation with experts is enjoined by Bahá’u’lláh. Should these experts believe that an abnormal case exists, the withholding of voting rights is justified."

Temple Model Display at Phoenix
From Mrs. Miriam Bugby we have this interesting report:
"The first week the Model was flat in the window with the flowers around and we thought much more attractive than on the pedestal but we could not very well ask her to change it for the picture. However the picture is quite good.
"On Wednesday before the Youth meeting on Feb. 22nd, Adrienne talked over the radio, the announcer over K.P.H.O. introduced her: 'Miss Adrienne Ellis, Chairman of the Bahá’í Youth Group of Phoenix, will speak on The Architecture and Significance of the Bahá’í Temple which is being erected in Wilmette, Illinois, and dedicated to the promulgation of Universal religion and Universal Peace.'
"Her talk was lovely and the announcement at close was: 'A Model of this beautiful Temple is on display at 838 North Central Avenue.'
"Then he announced the Youth meeting by saying: 'The Bahá’í Youth of Phoenix will observe International Bahá’í Youth Day by presenting a Symposium on The Ideals of Bahá’í Youth on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 22nd, at 3 o’clock at the Young Women’s Christian Association club room. The public is cordially invited to attend.'
"They were very nice at K.P.H.O. and we were grateful for time on the air."

Enrollments and Transfers

In Memoriam
Grant, O my Lord, that they who have ascended unto Thee may repair unto Him Who is the most exalted Companion, and abide beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of Thy majesty and the Sanctuary of Thy glory.—Bahá’u’lláh.
Mr. William J. Burnett, Glendale, Arizona.
Mr. Richard Marshall, San Francisco.
Mr. George Drum, Washington, D.C.
Mrs. Idella Shirley, Vista, California.
Mrs. Frieda Kalfus, Los Angeles.
Mrs. Samuel Rodman, Batavia, New York.
Miss Gertrude Bulkema, Chicago.
Mrs. Alvina Ayres, Celena, Ohio.

Bahá’í Calendar
Declaration of the Báb: May 23.
To be observed on May 22, at about two hours after sunset.
Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh: May 29.
To be observed at three A.M. (standard time).
Nineteen Day Feasts: Grandeur, May 17; Light, June 5; Mercy, June 24.
Meetings of National Spiritual Assembly: May 2, 3, 4; June 12, 13, 14, 15, 1942, at Wilmette.
“The Prosecution of the World Mission”

A Letter from Shoghi Effendi

Dearly Beloved Co-Workers:

Viewed in the perspective of Bahá’í history, the Seven Year Plan, associated with the closing years of the First Bahá’í Century, will come to be regarded as the mightiest instrument yet forged, designed to enable the trustees of a firmly established, steadily evolving Administrative Order to complete the initial stage in the prosecution of the world mission confidently entrusted by the Center of the Covenant to His chosen disciples. The Divine Plan, thus set in operation, may be said to have derived its inspiration from, and been dimly foreshadowed in, the injunction so significantly addressed by Bahá’u’lláh to the Chief Magistrates of the American continent. It was prompted by the contact established by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá Himself, in the course of His historic journey, with the entire body of His followers throughout the United States and Canada. It was conceived, soon after that contact was established, in the midst of what was then held to be one of the most devastating crises in human history. It underwent a period of incubation, after His ascension, while the machinery of a divinely appointed Administrative Order was being laboriously devised and its processes set in motion. Its initial operations were providentially made to synchronize with the final years of a century that witnessed the birth and rise of a Faith of which it is the direct consequence. The opening stage in its execution has been faced by, and will survive, the severe challenge of a crisis of still greater magnitude than that which baptized its birth. The conclusion of the first phase of its tremendous and irresistible unfoldment is now approaching. The hopes and aspirations of a multitude of believers, in both the East and the West, young and old, whether free or suppressed, hang on its triumphant consummation. The Temple itself, that fair incarnation of the soul of an unconquerable Faith, and the first fruit of the Plan now set in motion, stands in its silent beauty, ready to reinforce the strenuous endeavors of its prosecutors. Towering in grandeur and resplendent in its majesty it calls aloud incessantly for a greater, a far greater number of pioneers who, both at home and in foreign fields, will scatter to sow the Divine seeds and gather the harvest into its gates. The Author of the Plan Himself, looking down from His retreats above, and surveying the prodigious labors of His defeatless disciples, voices, with even greater insistence, the same call. The time in which to respond to it is relentlessly shortening. Let men of action seize their chance ere the swiftly passing days place it irretrievably beyond their reach.

Shoghi Effendi

Haifa, Palestine, May 26, 1942

This Crucial Year

Progress Report No. 1 Issued by the National Spiritual Assembly for the Period May 4—June 30, 1942

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes to present to the entire Bahá’í community of North America a definite and a continuous picture of the plans and activities undertaken this year for completing the unfinished task of the Seven Year Plan. There need be no time spent on appeals or explanations. Our spirits, our strength, our resources, are pledged to action and to action alone.

1. Recognition has been extended to 101 local Assemblies, with a possibility that the question involving the area of another Assembly can be settled in favor of its continuance, thus giving us 102 Spiritual Assemblies as the basis of the Administrative Order in the United States and Canada.

2. The National and Regional Committee appointments have been made for the year beginning July 1, 1942, and the list is published, with ad-
dressers for correspondence, in Bahá’í News for July. Each Committee list is accompanied by a brief description of its function, for the guidance of its members and the information of the believers. Our National and Regional Committees are instruments for activity of increasing scope and variety. Let us learn better how they can assist.

3. At the May and June meetings, the National Spiritual Assembly acted upon a great number of projects submitted by the National Teaching and Inter-America Committees. Not all such projects can be reported definitely at the time they are approved, because some are contingent upon later conditions, and many activities now contributing to the success of the Seven Year Plan are the result of projects initiated some months ago. Still more are being carried out by Regional Committees and by the Extension Committees of local Assemblies without need of specific approval.

4. The following teaching projects approved since the Convention, however, can be presented as a progress report, with fuller details in the form of news items later on:

- Eastern Canada Regional Teaching project for Ottawa; Mrs. Doris McKay, teaching in Prince Edward Island; Teaching Conference for Southern areas at Vogel Park; Mrs. Beulah Proctor, teaching in Halifax; Mrs. Annie Romer, teaching in Iowa; Mrs. Margaret Ellis, teaching in Jackson and Greenwood, Miss.; Mrs. Margarette Bruegger, teaching in the Dakota area; Mrs. Ruth Moffett, project in the Kansas-Missouri region; Wm. Kenneth Christian, teaching in Iowa; Mrs. Loulie Mathews and Mrs. Helen Bishop in Oregon.

5. Inter-America teaching projects have been planned and all possible preliminary steps taken for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Jamaica, Colombia, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Chile; and continued teaching activities arranged for Havana and San Domingo.

6. In order to stimulate the teaching activities with a powerful spiritual reinforcement, the National Assembly has authorized the publication of three special pamphlets as soon as possible. One to be a compilation of words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá; one to contain words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá; the third to include selections from the writings of the Guardian. The plan is to print a large quantity and make the cost low enough to free these compilations for widespread teaching use. Titles and price to be announced.

7. A special committee consisting of Mrs. Loulie Mathews and Mrs. Helen Bishop has made a general compilation of the Bahá’í Writings to be translated into Spanish for Inter-America teaching use. This project was initiated by the National Assembly in order to provide, in Spanish, a one-volume selection giving students and believers in Latin American countries access to the Teachings in their majesty and power. The translating work has begun. It is hoped that this work can appear before the end of 1942.

8. The exterior ornamentation of the main story faces of the House of Worship has been completed except for a few hours of work which are to be done at times when it will not interfere with the rapid progress of the work on the steps. One of the last two scaffolds can be taken down shortly, but the scaffolding with the hoist must remain in place until the steps are finished. The friends will go back over their files of Bahá’í News and trace the successive contracts under which the dome, clerestory, gallery, pylons and main story ornamentation have been completed, and to these contracts add those made necessary for grading the grounds and providing tunnels and areaways, they will be overjoyed at the contemplation of a tremendous task now complete except for the steps. May our joy be transmitted into increased determination to teach the Cause.

As of June 19, the total of the additional funds needed to finish the Temple construction work in the Seven Year Plan is estimated to be $25,757.53. This sum must come into the National Fund at the rate of about $5,000.00 per month from June 15 to October 15, that there may be no interruption this calendar year.

Any interruption of the contract this summer and early fall will mean a complete suspension for an indefinite period, probably a number of years, too late for the Seven Year Plan.

9. The resolutions voted by the Convention have been respectfully considered by the National Assembly, and definite decision made on each one. The record of the resolutions and the subsequent action is to be presented to the believers in Bahá’í News for August as the July number is taken up with the list of committees and other current items.

10. A summary of current financial items. From May 1 to June 30, the National Fund received $16,131.47. Contributions came in from 78 Assemblies, 70 groups and 79 isolated believers, in June. Expenditures included: for Temple construction, $7,232.95; National and Regional Teaching, $2,185.00; Inter-America Teaching, $1,263.53; Deputizations, $2,927.00; The Bahá’í World, Vol. VIII, $1,124.00.
With the inspired help of the “chosen disciples” of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, each progress report will present more and more record of action and accomplishment. From time to time the work of National Committees other than Teaching and Inter-America will be featured.

National Spiritual Assembly

Letters from the Guardian

The following excerpts are taken from a letter written by Shoghi Effendi, through his secretary, to Roy C. Wilhelm, Treasurer, on May 15, 1942.

“The Convention response, as well as all the recent news from the U. S. A., have greatly encouraged him. He feels the strong, purposeful determination of the believers as well as of their representatives, to see the Plan through to complete victory. In view of his own burdens and cares, this greatly cheers him.

“He hopes that every available agency of the administration will be used to insure the speedy fulfilment of this year’s teaching requirements and that everything will be done to encourage new pioneers to volunteer and go forth while there is yet time. As he already pointed out in his Convention cable, this year is the year. The major part of the work must be gotten under way now, so that before 1944 it will have yielded its fruit; otherwise it will be too late.”

With the Guardian’s permission, this excerpt is published from letter written to Mrs. Marie Hopper on November 21, 1941.

“I wish to add a few words to what has been written on my behalf and stress afresh the vital importance of increasing by every means in our power the number of pioneers who for however short a period are able to help in promoting the establishment of the Faith in South America. The utmost encouragement, moral and material, should be extended to those heroic workers who are willing in these days of uncertainty and turmoil to travel to or settle in those regions. You will, I am sure, with your co-workers, strain every nerve to stimulate the friends and facilitate their journey and reinforce their endeavors in such a vital sphere of Bahá’í activity.”

Similarly, the National Assembly is permitted to share with the friends these excerpts from a letter written to Mrs. Marie Hopper on October 26, 1933.

“Perhaps the reason why you have not accomplished so much in the field of teaching is the extent you have looked upon your own weaknesses and inabilities to spread the Message. Bahá’u’lláh and the Master have both urged us repeatedly to disregard our own handicaps and lay our whole reliance upon God. He will come to our aid if we only arise and become an active channel for God’s Grace.

“Do you think it is the teachers who make converts and change human hearts? No, surely not. They are only pure souls who take the first steps and then let the spirit of Bahá’u’lláh move and make use of them. If any one of them should even for a second think, or consider his achievements as due to his own capacities, his work is ended and his fall starts. This is the fact why so many competent souls have, after wonderful services, suddenly found themselves utterly impotent and perhaps thrown aside by the spirit of the Cause as useless souls. The criterion is the extent to which we are ready to have the will of God work through us.”

Letters written to Mrs. Amelia Collins on October 5, 1941, and February 3, 1942.

“Mrs. Greenleaf’s passing deprives the friends of yet another veteran and outstanding teacher. The Guardian hopes and prays that among the younger Bahá’ís many will train themselves to follow her example and profit by the methods she used so successfully in spreading the Cause. Deep knowledge of the teachings, profound human sympathy, a heart which mirrored the Master’s love, and a winning sweetness and friendliness were hers. She will indeed be greatly missed.”

“His thoughts are increasingly turned to the American believers as the end of the First Bahá’í Century approaches, as he feels so strongly the tremendous, worldwide importance which their success involves. They are not merely struggling for the furtherance of the Cause in their native land, but for the achievement of parts of a Divine plan which involves the progress and happiness of all men. Their individual and collective responsibility is, therefore, very great, very precious, and presents them with an opportunity to serve mankind which they may never again have because mankind’s life may never again pass through such critical years. His ardent prayers continually surround them.”

With the Guardian’s consent also are published these excerpts from letters written to Mrs. Amelia Collins on October 5, 1941, and February 3, 1942.

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American Memorial to 'Abdu'l-Bahá
To maintain in Evergreen Cabin, West Englewood, N. J., an exhibit of books and photographs commemorating the visit of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to North America in 1912; to recommend other appropriate activities such as meetings and lectures which will contribute to the Memorial in perpetuating the spiritual significance of the Master's mission; to conduct the annual gathering which has been known as the "Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Bahá" on the anniversary of the Unity Feast held in 1912.
Mrs. Edith Ingalls, Chairman, 474 West 238th Street, Fieldston, N. Y.
Juliet Thompson
Curtis Kelsey
Roy C. Wilkinson
Philip Sprague
Mrs. Carrie Kinney
Mrs. Charles Krug
Mrs. Amy Raubitschek
Mrs. Hazel Rawitsch

Archives and History
To receive Tablets and other material suitable for the National Archives; to maintain the National Archives and organize its contents; to assist local Assemblies to develop local Archives; to obtain and organize historical data on special subjects as may be required from time to time.
Edwin Mattoon, Chairman
Mrs. Florence Zuschak, Secretary, 418 Tenth St., Wilmette, Ill.
Mrs. May Scheffler
Bertha L. Herklotz
Hashim Hassan
Mrs. Doris Holley
Mrs. Minnie Hannen

Assembly Development
To assist in the development of Assemblies by arranging for personal visits by members of the Committee or by selected teachers, in order to take up with the Assembly the essential matters on which its services to the Cause and the growth of the community depends, and help outline teaching plans, etc.
Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Chairman
Louise G. Gregory, Secretary, Elliot, Maine
Mrs. Amelia Collins

Bahá’í Exhibits
To prepare material suitable for use in public exhibits; to supervise and conduct exhibits in state Fairs and regional or national Expositions.
Carl Scheffler, Chairman, 2651 Lincoln St., Evanston, Ill.
Betty Scheffler
Clarene Niss

Bahá’í News
To edit Bahá’í News for the National Spiritual Assembly.
Hurpose Holley, Secretary, 536 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, Ill.
Mrs. Dorothy Baker
Louis G. Gregory

Bahá’í News Service
To release articles suitable for publicity use by local Assemblies; to insert approved articles in the press direct on a national scale; to provide information on publicity for Assemblies, groups and active teachers; to provide data and illustrations on special subjects.
Mrs. Sarah Walrath, Chairman, 4638 Beacon St., Chicago, Ill.
Virginia Russell, Secretary
Mrs. Hazel Rawitsch

Bahá’í World Editorial
To obtain material from all parts of the Bahá’í world community, including reports, articles, historical data and illustrations, suitable for use in the successive volumes of The Bahá’í World, which material is then sent to the Guardian and the selection of the contents is made by him.
Garretta Busey, Chairman
Mrs. Mabel Paine, Secretary, 606 West Pennsylvania Ave., Urbana, Ill.
Mrs. Anna Kunz
Jessie E. Revell
Rex Parmerle
Mrs. Mariel Gail
Robert Gallick, Jr.
Mrs. Annamarie Ronnel
Virginia Ormsby
Louis G. Gregory
Mrs. Victoria Bedekian, Photograph Editor

Braille Transcriptions
To provide Bahá’í literature in Braille for the blind; to place Bahá’í Braille literature in libraries and other institutions; to encourage the formation of groups of Bahá’í workers to increase the supply of Braille transcriptions.
Ella Quain, Chairman, 1089 Glenwood Blvd., Schenectady, N. Y.
Hilda Stauss
A. C. Engelder
Mrs. Lothar Schurgast
Mrs. H. O. Bolon
Mrs. Amélie Gibson
Mrs. Elmer Duckett
Mrs. Paul Schoeny
Mrs. Mayme Jackson

Child Education
To compile the Bahá’í teachings on this subject; to prepare lessons suitable for classes of Bahá’í children; to cooperate with Bahá’í child education activities maintained in local communities.

Contacts
To mail selected literature to non-believers of capacity and influence; to develop the mailing list for the public teaching bulletin, A World Faith.
Ethe Revell, Chairman, 2331 No. 19th St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Lucy J. Marshall
Mrs. Florence Keefer
Mrs. David Earl
Mrs. Hilbert Dahl
Mrs. Evelyn Kemp
Mrs. John DeMille
Mrs. George R. True
Julia Goldman

Inter-America
To plan and supervise teaching activities throughout Central and South America; to assist the pioneers; to encourage the formation of local groups and guide their development in administrative practice; to supervise the translation of Bahá’í literature into Spanish, Portuguese and other languages as required.
Dagmar Dole, Chairman
Mrs. S. W. French, Secretary, 796 Chester Ave., San Marino, Calif.
Edna True, Legal Adviser and Travel Agent
Mrs. Edward Bode
Edward Bode
Mrs. Octavio Illescas
Octavio Illescas
Mrs. Shirley Warde
Charles Wolcott
Gwen Bell
Mrs. Mathews

International Auxiliary Language
To develop and encourage the interest in the Bahá’í principle of an international auxiliary language, without giving endorsement to any of the existing languages in this field; to make possible effective cooperation with other workers in the field of international language; to provide Bahá’í literature in Esperanto and other languages.
Roan U. Otloft, Chairman, 73 Stanton St., Dorchester, Mass.
Mrs. Patrick Quinlan
Mrs. Luella Beecher
Hugh Rouse
Dr. C. R. Witt
Mrs. Elsa Chaslon
Lucy J. Marshall
Mrs. Anna Kincaid
A. E. Regal
Mrs. Mabelle Davis
Josephine Kruta
Mrs. Mabel Vicary
David Earl

Legal
To examine the incorporation papers prepared by local Assemblies;
Radio

To provide information needed for local incorporation; to assist the National Assembly in meeting any other legal questions that might arise.

George O. Latimer, Chairman
Horace Holley, Secretary, 536 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, Ill.
Elsie Austin
Judge Chester F. Barnett

Library

To place literature in public and university libraries; to encourage local Assemblies to provide books for local libraries; to maintain a record of all Bahá’í literature in public libraries as far as can be determined.

Mrs. S. H. Sims, Chairman, Box 116, Avon, N. J.
Florence King
Beryl Edgescomb
Mrs. Charles Krug
Mrs. Frances McCobb
Duncan MacAlear

Publishing

To print and sell the literature approved and authorized by the National Assembly.

Horace Holley, Chairman
H. E. Walrath
Carl Scheffler
Staff: Clara R. Wood, Manager, 110 Linden Ave., Wilmette, Ill.
J. T. Wood

Race Unity

To compile the teachings on this subject; to prepare bulletins of information for local Assemblies and active teachers; to plan race unity activities and programs; to conduct special meetings; to cooperate with Assemblies in race unity activities; to bring the Bahá’í teachings to the minority groups in America.

Mrs. Frank A. Baker, Chairman
Mrs. Elcure Ebersole, Secretary, 924 No. Main St., Findlay, Ohio.
Louis G. Gregory
Mrs. Sarah Walrath
Clarence Niss
Lotha Schurgast
Ell W. Powlas
Mrs. Alice S. Cox

Radio

To make available approved radio scripts on a variety of Bahá’í subjects; to cooperate with local Assemblies, groups and traveling teachers in the extension of radio work; to stimulate the use of radio for teaching.

Mrs. W. E. Bacon
W. E. Bacon
Prof. Glenn A. Shook
Mrs. A. F. Matthiessen

Reviewing

To pass upon the accuracy of manuscripts submitted through the

National Assembly; to examine manuscripts for literary quality and effectiveness and their usefulness as contributions to the published literature.

Mrs. Mary Collison, Chairman, 631 Castle St., Geneva, N.Y.
Mrs. Marguerite Firoozl
Gretchen Westervelt

Bahá’í Schools

To provide instruction and study courses; to train teachers; to conduct the school program; to encourage attendance at the school.

COMMITTEES FOR 1942 SUMMER SESSIONS

GREEN ACRE
Lorna Tasker, Chairman
Mrs. Hattie Chamberlin, Recording Secretary
Louis G. Gregory
Glenn A. Shook
Rachel Small
Harlan Ober
Mrs. Harry Ford
Harry Ford
Jeanne Steed
Justin Williams

GEYSERVILLE
A. M. Yazdi, Chairman
Gladys Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.
John Bosch
Irvin Somerhalder
Louise Groger
Mrs. Marian Yazdi
Anita Ioss
Mrs. Amelia Bowman

LOUHELEN
Edmund J. Miessler, Chairman
Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary,
Louhelein Ranch, R. D. Davison, Mich.
Phyllis Hall, Recording Secretary
Mrs. Beatrice Eordley
Harry Whang
L. W. Eggleston
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick
Mrs. Dorothy Graf

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

To provide instruction for the training of Bahá’í teachers wishing to serve in other lands, especially, at present, in Central or South America; to stimulate Latin American contacts and activities by local Assemblies in North America.

Mrs. E. R. Mathews, Chairman, P. O. Box 1064, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Mrs. Charles Bishop, Secretary
E. R. Mathews
Mrs. Enos M. Barton
George O. Latimer
Mrs. Marion Little
Mrs. Florence Morton
Philip Sprague
Mrs. R. Y. Mottahedeh

Study Outline

To compile outlines suitable for Bahá’í study classes; to examine and recommend outlines submitted to the committee; to encourage and promote the practice of organized Bahá’í study.

Dr. Genevieve L. Coy, Chairman, 117 West 18th St., New York, N. Y.
Helen Campbell
Mrs. Frank Dyar

SELECTIVE SERVICE ADVISORY

To prepare bulletins explaining how drafted believers are to fill out the questionnaire; to advise on ways...
and means for obtaining non-combatant status under the draft.
Allen B. McDaniel, 1000 Chandler Bldg., Washington, D. C.
Paul Haney

Teaching
To prepare plans for and assist the National Assembly in the execution of: nation-wide teaching projects; inter-regional teaching projects; preparation of information, material, plans and methods that will lead to more effective teaching. Supervision of Regional Teaching Committees; receipt of reports from them.

Leroy Joas, Chairman
Charlotte M. Linfoot, Secretary, 158 Nova Dr., Piedmont, Calif.
George O. Latimer
Mrs. Amelia Collins
Ali M. Yazdi
Marion Holley
Mrs. Amelia Bowman

Temple Guides
To conduct visitors through the House of Worship; to hold classes for training Temple guides.

Mrs. John Haggard, Chairman, 1229 Cleveland Ave., Wilmette, Ill.
Edwin W. Mattoon
Mrs. Mineola Hansen
Mrs. Harriet Hilpert
Edvard Lindstrom
Laurence LaRocque

Temple Library and Sales
To maintain the sale of literature in Foundation Hall; to provide facilities for the purchase of Bahá’í photographs, ringstones, display and exhibits material, slides, and other facilities for teaching.

Harry E. Walrus, Chairman, 4639 Beacon St., Chicago, Ill.
Mrs. Flora Ernst
Mrs. May Scheffler

Temple Program
To conduct the weekly public meeting in Foundation Hall; to conduct such other devotional or public meetings as may be approved from time to time by the National Assembly.

Edna True, Chairman.
John Haggard, Secretary, 1229 Cleveland Ave., Wilmette, Ill.
Monroe Joas
Mrs. Janet Lindstrom
Dr. James Lewis
Mrs. Edna Coleman
Mrs. Harriet Hilperi

Youth
To stimulate and coordinate activities of Bahá’í Youth throughout the American Bahá’í Community; to initiate worldwide Youth Symposiums; to issue a quarterly bulletin of youth news and information; to provide study material.

(Members to be announced)

World Order Magazine
To edit the periodical representing the American Bahá’ís.

Mrs. Alice S. Cox, Secretary, 1109 West Gift Ave., Peoria, Ill.
Garrelta Busey
Mrs. J. E. Kirkpatrick
Horace Holley

Regional Teaching
To coordinate inter-community conferences; to cooperate with local Assemblies in organizing teaching circuits; to route traveling teachers within the region; to assist groups and prepare them for the election of a Spiritual Assembly; to encourage and stimulate teaching activities of isolated believers; to extend teaching work to areas within the region where no Assemblies or groups exist; to supervise the work of the Extension Teaching Committee of local Assemblies; to exercise initiative in the areas outside the jurisdiction of local Assemblies; to endorse applications for enrollment and transfer of isolated believers. The Regional Teaching Committee reports to the National Teaching Committee on all teaching matters and is under its supervision. On matters concerning enrollments, transfers and other administrative details it reports directly to the National Spiritual Assembly.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, ALBERTA
Mrs. Katherine Moscrops, Secretary, 6009 Alma Rd., Vancouver, B. C.
Mae McKenna
Dora Skinner
Austin Collins
Evelyn Cliff
Harold Moscrop

MANITOBA, SASKATCHEWAN
Bowman, Estall, Secretary, P.O. Box 121, Winnipeg, Man.
Ernest Court
Elizabeth Brookes
Mrs. Sylvia King

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John Roberts, Secretary, 4 Millbank Ave., Toronto, Ont.
Mrs. Laura Davis
Amy Putsun
Lucille Giscome
Lloyd Gardner
Mrs. John Roberts

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Ragnar Mallet
Margaret Mocher
Ernest Sala
Siegfried Schopflocher
John DeMille
Winifred Harvey
Mrs. Beulah Proctor
Mrs. Agnes King

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Mrs. Florence Morton

Mrs. Wendell Bacon
Mrs. Victor Archambault
Richard Gladding
Roushan Wilkinson
Harlan Ober
Ralph Bates

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Mrs. Morris Bush
Ida Noyes
Mrs. Helen Inderlie
Zeab Holden
Elizabeth Brooks
Mrs. Gertrude Atkinson

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Mrs. Marion Longear
Virginia Orbison
Mrs. Sylvia Ioas
Mrs. Jesse Kemper
Mrs. Nan Crouchley
Mrs. Valerie Allen

The Committee is able to supply a few copies of Vol. II in the large size in which the original edition was printed. No doubt a number of the friends would like one of these in order to complete their set of three volumes in uniform size and binding. While available per copy ....... $1.00

Mysteries of Civilization, 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Only a few copies of this work are available, and the Committee does not know when a new edition will be made. Bahá'ís who wish to possess this text for their collection of the literature are urged to order a copy at this time. (This title was not included in the recently revised Bahá’í catalog because the Committee believed that the supply will soon be exhausted). Per copy .................. $1.50

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Publishing Announcements
Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, Vol. II.

California, Nevada
Robert Thiess, Secretary, 4575 Finley Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.
Mrs. Marion Longear
Virginia Orbison
Mrs. Sylvia Ioas
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Mrs. Valerie Allen

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Arlington, Virginia, newly established April 21, 1942.

Mrs. Helen Robinson
David Mayberry
William Sears

Wyoming, Utah, Colorado
Arunnur Lamb, Secretary, 405 Felt Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah
Mrs. Gladys Roberts
Raphael Lillywhite
Theresa Lillywhite
Mrs. N. R. Wallace
Mrs. Florence Lilliendahl
Mrs. Hazel Roberson
Mrs. Valeria Thornton

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Charles Adams, Secretary, 106 So. Main St., Helena, Mont.
Charles Bryan
Mrs. Lorrol Jackson
Mrs. Mildred Coesey
Mrs. Betsy Nelson
Mrs. Ethel Thompson

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Mrs. Clara Rainboth
Mrs. Myrtle Campbell
Mrs. Hilda Wilks
Mrs. Alta Kruger
Mrs. Lavina Sprau Walters
Harry Taylor
Mrs. Margaret Slange
Levi Munson

Alaska
Honor Kempton, Secretary; Temporary Address, 134 W. 9th Ave., Anchorage, Alaska

Honor Kempton

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Brazil

Send orders to Bahá'í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Study Courses

Course of Study Based on Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, prepared by Mrs. Gertrude Robinson. This material enables an individual or a group to study the teachings with one text, the Esslemont book. It is recommended to communities for use in preparing all their members to face the task of teaching the Faith. Per copy $0.25

Children's Study Course for Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, compiled by Child Education Committee. This course was designed for a class of young people averaging twelve to fifteen years of age. It gives the adult teacher a simple, direct and flexible outline for use in taking up the Esslemont book with the children. The sheets are punched to fit any standard 8½ by 11-inch three-ring binder. Per copy $0.50

Study Outline on The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, sold in lots of five for $0.25.

Send orders to Bahá'í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, III.

Inter-America News

The Inter-America Committee was greatly heartened and deeply touched by the immediate and enthusiastic response of the friends to the Committee's appeal, at the recent Annual Convention, for pioneers in the Latin-America teaching field. Each offer was most gratefully received and has been very carefully considered by the Inter-America Committee and the National Spiritual Assembly. The Committee's only regret is that it has not been possible so far to accept the valued services of all who so selflessly offered themselves in this tremendously important phase of the Seven Year Plan. Because of the increasing difficulties in obtaining passports and the necessary visas, and even in procuring transportation during the international crisis, the outcome of the efforts now being concentrated on the vital Inter-America work is still uncertain, but the Committee hopes, in the next Bahá'í News, to be able to give some definite report to the friends on the posts being filled at this time and on the pioneer chosen for each post.

Bolivia

Recent letters from Flora M. Hottes mention her increasing happiness in her work, the new acquaintances she is making, her progress in Spanish, and report a beautiful contribution to the Temple Fund from one of the Bahá'ís of La Paz, Sra. Yvonne de Cuellar. As the first contribution from a Bolivian, this is truly an historic event.

Ecuador

The Committee is delighted to receive an enthusiastic letter from Hans Dore, secretary of the group in Quito, reporting the activities of the friends there and enclosing some excellent snapshots.

Guatemala

The believers will be glad to hear that John Eichenauer is now well established in Guatemala City and plans to remain there until an Assembly is formed in this important Republic.

Peru

Reports from Eve Nicklin in Lima bring very interesting news of her little school for children which continues to work so successfully. She also tells of some very heartening and encouraging results from some former work and contacts which she had thought had been in vain.

Library Committee

The Library Committee is planning to present copies of The Bahá'í World, Volume VIII, to some of the leading college and university libraries throughout the country. However, we cannot furnish copies to the main public libraries in some of the large cities as we have in the past. Several of the Gift Departments of leading libraries have expressed the desire to receive copies of new publications as released to keep their collections up-to-date. It would seem important to place a copy of this volume in such libraries as the Main Library in Boston, Chicago, New York, San Francisco, etc. Such a gift would have to be made through local Assemblies. Any Assemblies making such a gift of this important volume might drop a card to the national library committee for our files.

Mrs. Stuart Sims, Chairman
Box 116, Avon, New Jersey

Race Unity Banquet

The Convention Race Unity Banquet this year inspired a new sense of fellowship. Like the International Nights of New York, the banquet sought to produce, under Bahá'í auspices, a unity in diversity of gifts. There was the varied music of Beatrice Hammett, Walter Deppe, Dorothy Rice, Robert McFerrin and Walter Olitzki. There were represented six languages; among them the Esperanto greeting of Mrs. Etty Greffe, the Indian prayer of Mr. Ass Hill, and the musical flow of Persian
as spoken by Mr. Habib Sabet and interpreted by Marzieh Gail. The brief talks of Albert Windust, Marian Steffes, Ali-Kuli Khan and Mrs. Stuart W. French imbued the meeting with Bahá’í spirit and gave background to a number of guest speakers, each of whom represented a racial or national group of importance.

The banquet is typical of what every community can do. The oneness of mankind, our watchword and uncompromised standard, is graphically taught by such efforts of the friends. These gatherings are prototypes of the new society. They are the proof that a new race is slowly growing up.

**RACE UNITY COMMITTEE**

**The Third Latin-American Session**

The International School Committee announced a program of great interest for the sessions of its third season at Temerity Ranch, Pine Valley, Colorado Springs, the property dedicated by Mrs. Loulie Mathews to the Cause.

July 1, public meeting at Halfway House, Colorado Springs, a Round Table discussion by Mrs. W. M. LaFarge, Mrs. R. D. Little and Max Greeven.

July 2, at the School, talk on Appreciation of Art by Percey Hagerman and showing of paintings of the Renaissance by Mrs. LaFarge.

July 3, at the School, Symposium on The Rhythm of Creation by Mrs. R. D. Little, Mark Tobey and Velma Vetter.

July 5, at the School, lecture by Raphael Lillywhite on The Influence and Evolution of Art.

July 6, at Fine Arts Center, Colorado Springs, talks by Mrs. Gladys Wells and Mrs. W. M. LaFarge on Bringing Spanish American Appreciation to our children.

July 7, at Fine Arts Center, readings on Prophecies for This Day from All Religions and all Ages, and Summary, Pattern for Future Society, by Mrs. E. R. Mathews.

**National Press Book**

The awakening of Latin America reports itself in the few but excellent articles on the Bahá’í News Service in recent months. The magazine, Alma Tica from Costa Rica, carried long articles on the Bahá’í activities there in its September, October and December issues with pictures of ‘Abdül-Bahá, the Temple and the friends. The papers, LaRaran and Dienario de Costa Rica, published articles on the activities of John Eichenhauer. A paper of Managua, Nicaragua, also carried an article on John’s work. Just after last year’s Press Books closed we received copies of the Argentine magazine, Aquí Esta, for January, 1941, which printed a lengthy article on Bahá’í activities in connection with Philip Sprague’s visit. The Havana Post of Cuba reported the work of Mrs. H. Emogene Hoagg.

The North China Daily News of Shanghai, China, is represented again this year with four long articles on the Faith. Mrs. Margaret Atwater of Miami, Florida, sent Bahá’í material to this paper. The Rangoon Times of Burma also carried a long article which has come to our files.


In October the friends of Honolulu dedicated their new Center before Hawaii became active in the theater of war. A number of clippings report their dedication service and other activities including the donation of books to the Public Library. The Fairbanks, Alaska, News-Miner carried several articles on the School at Geyserville and Janet Whitenack’s trip to the States. Their articles included many details of the Faith.

From Washington state we have a long article in the Chelan Valley Mirror reporting the successful Northwest Regional Teaching Conference. The Spokesman-Review of Spokane carried a very good survey of the four Bahá’í schools.

The California friends have had unusually consistent success with the medium of publicity. The activities of the Geyserville School are reported in many papers in and near Geyserville as well as farther south. The Geyserville Press carries full pages of ads and the detailed program of classes and meetings. The merchants welcome the Bahá’ís in their advertisements.

The Berkeley Gazette reported many local Bahá’í activities. The Burlingame paper carried the Temple picture. The Sacramento Union reported Geyserville activities. The Pasadena Star-News consistently carries Mrs. Stuart W. French’s fine articles under the heading of “Loom of Reality”. The San Francisco Chronicle and the News both carried long and short articles on the local and Geyserville activities, printing pictures of ‘Abdul-Bahá and the Temple. The Mission Merchant’s News carried a picture of the Temp-
The State of Colorado is represented by clippings from the Denver Post reporting our International School activities and the Colorado Springs Gazette and Telegraph printing fine material not only on the personnel and activities of the School but also local Bahá’í meetings.

Regional Teaching Bulletins

The National Spiritual Assembly is impressed by the increasing usefulness of the bulletins which a number of Regional Teaching Committees have been distributing. They can more and more render important service by unifying the teaching efforts of groups and isolated friends. In order to set a standard to which all the Regional Committees can conform in preparing and distributing such bulletins in future, the National Assembly has adopted the following principle:—
1. Size — not over four 8½ by 11-inch pages a month, or eight pages of half that size. 2. Contents — the essential feature of these bulletins is the presentation of Regional plans and Regional activities. Anything further is duplication of National bulletins or News, but excerpts from plans reported by the National Teaching Committee or the National Spiritual Assembly might be permitted, with some excerpts from the Bahá’í teachings, the Guardian’s messages, etc. 3. Distribution — to groups and isolated believers in the region; to Extension Teaching Committees in the region; to the National Teaching Committee; and eleven copies to the National Spiritual Assembly for the Guardian, the members, and the permanent files.

Teaching Project at San Jose

The San Francisco Assembly Extension Teaching committee in conjunction with the Regional Teaching committee of California planned an "all out" teaching campaign for the city of San Jose, California, for October, 1941.

It was their plan to utilize all the teaching facilities which had been developed by the various National committees, and to synchronize these activities into a workable and impressive method of introducing the Faith into a new city.

The plan worked out included the following activities:
1. Publicity in Newspapers.
2. Sending out of invitations to build up the public gatherings.
3. Exhibit of Bahá’í Temple model.
4. Placing of Literature in the Public Library.
5. Radio broadcast.
6. Assemblies, groups and Isolated Bahá’ís holding Fireside meetings.
7. Public Meetings.
8. Distribution of Free Literature.
9. Follow-up study class.

The Committee surveyed the entire situation very carefully in advance, and worked out in detail, just how and when each element of the project was to be carried forward.

The Public Library was visited, and when it was found appropriate Bahá’í books were not available, arrangements were made to place books in the Library. Books were also placed in the Hospitality House, which had been established in the heart of San Jose, for army and navy men.

A survey was also made of the newspapers in San Jose, as well as the surrounding area. Contacts were made with Editors of Newspapers, to be sure that the notices of activities would be published. Releases concerning the public meetings were sent to 11 local papers; while releases were sent to an additional 21 newspapers in Northern California as well as 2 newspapers in Nevada, of the Radio Broadcast. Of the 32 papers to whom releases were sent, 17 printed the notices. In addition to this, the Floral company using the Bahá’í Temple Model, as a part of their exhibit at the County Fair, also sent releases to newspapers, some of which mentioned the Temple and the Faith.

The efforts to have the Temple Model exhibited finally met with the request of one of the most important Floral companies of San Jose for permission to use the model, as the center of a booth they had planned at the Santa Clara County Fair to be held in San Jose, at the time of our Teaching Campaign. The Fair is attended by all the people of San Jose and the surrounding area. The Exhibit arranged by the Floral Company, in conjunction with the Bahá’ís, prominently portrayed the Temple on a most attractive pedestal with a prayer altar before it; all imbedded in a bower of beautiful white flowers. The theme of the exhibit was "United Prayer for the Peace of All Nations". This exhibit took the Blue Ribbon for the best theme.

The radio talk was arranged for 7:30 p.m., October 28, over station KQW, two days before the first of the public meetings. The subject of the Bahá’í talk, "After this War", was for 15 minutes. KQW is one of the large stations of the coast, and therefore the talk could be heard from Arizona to Oregon, and inland through Nevada. Letters were sent in advance to all Isolated Believers, Groups and Assemblies, notifying them of the Broadcast, and encouraging them to hold Fireside Gatherings, making the subject matter of the Broadcast the theme of their discussion at the Fireside Gatherings. There were 16 Fireside Gatherings, in 15 cities and towns. These cities extend from Phoenix, Arizona to Reno, Nevada to centers throughout Northern California. Thus it will be seen how a Bahá’í talk on a Radio station, can be made a teaching medium for all our groups and Isolated Believers, who are normally deprived of outside teaching help because of their location, etc. One interesting aftermath of the Radio project was the "Fan Mail" which was received by the radio station. There were about 75 who wrote in asking for further data, or expressing appreciation for the broadcast.

The public meetings were held in a Hall of the Civic Center. Invitations had been sent to some 700 selected people in San Jose and surrounding area; including educators, business people, those interested in Universal matters as well as students of the State College. The theme of the campaign was "Security for a Failing World".

Follow-up meetings were announced, and study class arranged. The class is now in progress, and it is confidently expected a number of
people will become Baha'is as a result of this program.

The opportunities for publicizing the Faith, as well as carrying forward active direct teaching, through the excellent facilities the National Assembly has been making available through their various committees, go far beyond the average thought when a plan is worked out for coordination and synchronization of these facilities into a general program of activity.

The time is short, and we must make coordinate use of each and every facility made available to us, so as to insure reaching the goal set by Shoghi Effendi for the Seven Year Plan.

REGIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE
By: Sylvia Ioas

Supplement to Annual Report of the National Spiritual Assembly 1941-42

A few words are offered in order to bring the report up to the end of the current Baha'i year.

Realizing the extreme importance of the Guardian's The Promised Day Is Come, the Assembly turned to the Contacts Committee for assistance in the compilation of a list of one thousand persons outside our Baha'i ranks in the United States and Canada, to whom complimentary copies of this work might be sent. The Contacts Committee responded with a list representative of all regions, and we need not doubt but that spiritual influences and outcomes resulted from this direct mode of teaching.

Similarly the Assembly has continued its distribution of the public teaching bulletin, now entitled A World Faith, to a public list of about two thousand persons. Through other channels such as the Contacts and Regional Committees, local Assemblies and a few individual believers, several thousand more copies are placed in the hands of potential Baha'is. Years ago the Guardian urged us to concentrate on a few persons of capacity as part of the general teaching effort, and one method of doing so is to make use of this brief reprint of words of Baha'u'llah, utterances of 'Abdu'l-Baha, and writings of the Guardian.

The National Assembly has found it impossible to maintain its teaching program during the past two years consisting of a schedule of public meetings and regional conferences in different cities, and this has been a matter of regret, but the press of business and the increasing difficulty of the times has made it necessary to concentrate its meetings upon its own agenda of work. However, the decision to recognize the Race Unity banquet which the Chicago Assembly has held for years on the evening preceding the Convention, and consider this a national activity conducted jointly by the Chicago Assembly and the National Race Unity Committee, has resulted in a most gratifying extension of the Convention period to include a second public meeting.

To contribute to the influence of the Cause in Latin America, the Assembly has donated a copy of The Baha'i World (Vol. VIII) to eighteen leading Public Libraries in the various countries as well as to the Library of the Pan American Union in Washington.

It will be of profound interest to the friends to note that local Assemblies and also individual believers may now obtain a photostatic copy of the Will and Testament of Baha'u'llah, and of the Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Baha, reproduced from certified copies sent us by the Guardian in the form of photographs of hand written originals. How can any human being realize the privilege of being able to draw near to and behold for himself such documents of universal meaning and divine power? It is by Their authority that we serve the Cause, and under Their protection that the communities and institutions of a World Faith survive world chaos in order to lay the basis of the Most Great Peace!

The formation of new Assemblies represents the harvest of all teaching and administrative effort during the year. Although the returns are not yet complete, nevertheless the list of new Assemblies and of those which have been restored is most impressive.

In North America the newly established Assemblies so far reported are: New Orleans, Halifax, Houston, East Orange, Winnipeg, Ann Arbor, Shorewood, Arlington, Englewood, Beverly. Assemblies restored are: St. Lambert, Moncton, Salt Lake City, Lansing.

From Latin America comes fervent greeting from newly-formed Assemblies in Port au Prince, Haiti; San Salvador, El Salvador; Havana, Cuba; Tegucigalpa, Honduras; Puebla, Mexico; Puntarenas, Costa Rica; Montevideo, Uruguay. As a

Temple Model displayed at San Jose County Fair, California, October, 1941, expressing the theme of United Prayer for All Nations.
small dial may show a reading of the power of a mighty current, so these reports from our sister Republics are an indication of how rapid has become the flow of the spiritual force in these days of destiny for the friends of God. A new Assembly may be outwardly weak and inexperienced, lacking facilities for public teaching work, but inwardly it is a drop in the ocean of the new World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, and a pillar in the advent of divine Justice on earth.

But the number of Assemblies alone is not a full measure of growth in the American community. Individual initiative and community or committee resourcefulness also disclose the degree of development. Glancing back over the whole field of activity of the year we discern clear signs that the power to live and to spread the Faith has been greatly augmented.

Among these signs are: the use of the regional conference as a source of unity and power for increased teaching by groups and isolated friends; the regional bulletin, a direct communication to groups and isolated believers; the Race Unity Committee's presentation of the Message to more than sixty colleges; the preparation of new types of Temple display by the Exhibits Committee and of colored slides for illustrated lectures by Edwin Mattoon; the extension of Bahá'í Summer School activity to winter and spring sessions; the publication of unpublished Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahá in World Order Magazine; the Radio Committee's more concentrated method of presenting Bahá'í material to broadcasting stations; the beginning of a Memorial of 'Abdu'l-Bahá at Evergreen Cabin, under a new National Committee; the Child Education Committee's attractive hand-lettered prayer book for children and youth; the development of Latin American programs by some of the larger Assemblies; the step taken by the Temple Program Committee in emphasizing the national character of the Temple public meetings by means of a new type of printed announcement.

In conclusion we report the latest messages received from the Guardian.

Writing to Mr. McDaniel on December 21, 1941, the Guardian declared: "The prosecution and completion of the task to which the American believers have pledged themselves must be insured, despite and in the very midst of the ordeal which they are now facing. The greater the anguish which this ordeal must entail, the more formidable the obstacles it will raise, the more meritorious their achievement, and the greater the spiritual power which their enterprises must and will exert in the future. I will pray that their efforts will be crowned with success that will cause the whole Bahá'í world to marvel."

To Mr. Wilhelm, through his secretary, the Guardian wrote on February 28, 1942: "Shoghi Effendi hopes that the N.S.A. and Teaching Committees are meeting with a wider response to the call for pioneers and teachers. The American believers have carried on with such enthusiasm and devotion, and established such a record, that now all the Bahá'ís the world over have the impression that they can do almost anything! They must exceed their own past records for speed and accomplishment in order to triumph in the Seven Year Plan."

On April 25, after cabling Shoghi Effendi that the amount of the Abul-Fadl Memorial Fund had been cabled to the National Assembly of Egypt, he sent this reply: "Deeply appreciate your efforts. Abul-Fadl has been buried (in the) Bahá'í cemetery."

This brings us to the great message cabled to the Convention as received April 25. Copies have been made for delegates and Bahá'í guests. Comment is not made here that the National Assembly has been the channel through which the message could be conveyed to the Convention itself. No doubt its effect will be so profound that the character of the coming Bahá'í year will be reflected in the pure mirror of the Guardian's sacrificial participation in the pioneer teaching work.

By Shoghi Effendi's wisdom we have this year learned that it has been destined for America to be immersed in the world disturbances in order to have a preponderant share in the achievement of the Lesser Peace. We have learned that the part played by the Bahá'ís will affect the future of the American Republics. We have learned that divine assistance comes to every worker through whatever obstacles of difficulty and hardship may exist. As the light of the sun is transmitted through space as energy, to be transmitted into heat and light when it meets the atmosphere of the earth, so the Holy Spirit penetrates all substances and resistances exerted by human conditions, revealing itself as grace and mercy wherever it encounters the pure heart of faith. Not in spite of difficulties but on account of them does His work proceed. If we can but learn the deeper mystery of faith, the tasks of the coming year can all be done.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Bahá'í Calendar

Martyrdom of the Báb, July 9, at about noon (standard time).

Nineteen Day Feasts: Words, July 13; Perfection, August 1; Names, August 20.

Meetings of National Spiritual Assembly: July 17, 18, 19, 20, at Wilmette; September 11, 12, 13, 14, at Wilmette.

Enrollments and Transfers

Chicago, three and two youth. Los Angeles, three. Milwaukee, two.
Washington, two. Halifax, one. Flint, one. Cabin John, one. Boston, one. Miami, one. Scranton, one. Wauwatosa, one. Yorkers, one youth. Salt Lake City, one. East Cleveland, one.
Isolated believers enrolled in May, 12; in June, 10.

Corrections

Immediate opportunity is taken to correct three errors which were inadvertently overlooked in proofreading the pages of Bahá'í News for June, 1942.

Page 1, in date of issue. Instead of "Year 98" it should be "Year 99."

Page 4, lines 14 and 15 of first column. Instead of "many futile suggestions" it should be "many fertile suggestions."

Page 7, second column, lines 4 and 5. Instead of "New Orleans" in the list of unoccupied States and Provinces, it should be "Louisiana."
"Still More Compelling Manifestations of Valor"

Communication from Shoghi Effendi

(My) heart (is) aglow (with) pride (and) gratitude (for the) formation (of) ten Assemblies (in) Latin-America (and) establishment (of) fourteen additional Assemblies (in the) United States (and) Canada. However much elated (I) refuse (to) believe (that the) stout-hearted, far-sighted, sternly-resolved American Bahá'í community will be willing (to) rest, at so critical (a) juncture, (on the) laurels toilsomely, deservingly won. Spurred (by) newly achieved victories, roused (by) sight (of) progressive restriction (in) teaching field (in) Eastern Hemisphere, galvanized (by) ceaseless assaults (of) deluded adversaries, (the) dauntless defenders (of) Bahá'u'lláh's (and) 'Abdu'l-Bahá's indestructible Covenants (in the) New World must, will arise (to) insure further deployment (of) forces (on the) pioneer front extending (the) length (and) breadth (of the) Americas. Immediate unprecedented multiplication (of) pioneers (is) imperative. Extension (of) facilities (for) further encouragement by all administrative agencies (is) urgently required. Nothing short (of)

prompt, wide, systematic, sustained dispersion can properly safeguard (the) fruits (of) past labors (and) sacrifices, can compensate (for the) disabilities afflicting (the) incapacitated communities (of) other Continents, can adequately fulfill (the) purpose for which entire administrative machinery (was) painstakingly fashioned, can conclusively confound machinations (of) contemptible enemies, can substantially reinforce impetus already imparted (to) pioneering activities (of) Oriental believers, can sufficiently empower (the) American Bahá'ís (to) discharge (their) paramount obligation (to) contribute (to) fulfillment (of) America's spiritual destiny, or can precipitate (the) flow (of) spiritual energies enabling (the) soul (of the) community and individuals comprising it (to) draw nigh (to), imbibe (the) Spirit (of) Bahá'u'lláh, prove worthy (of the) untold blessings (of) 'Abdu'l-Bahá, (and) hand down unimpaired (to) future generations (the) torch transmitted (to) them (by their) heroic spiritual predecessors (of) Persia. (I am) eagerly, prayerfully awaiting still more compelling manifestations (of the) invincible valor (of the) executors (of the) Divine Mandate now approaching (a) fateful milestone (in) Bahá'í history.

(Signed) Shoghi Rabbani

Received July 14, 1942.

Letters from the Guardian

The Guardian has already acknowledged the receipt, by cable, of the 100 photographs of the Temple, some of which were sent him air mail, and he has distributed a considerable number already amongst the believers of the Near East, and he feels sure so impressive a photograph of the exterior ornamentation will greatly stimulate the friends in their various activities in the service of the Cause.

He has been informed by the Bahá'ís in Egypt of the receipt of the sum cabled by your Assembly to them for its Memorial to Mirzá 'Abú'l-Faḍl, and he deeply appreciates your prompt response to his request in this connection. The remains of that illustrious teacher have already been ceremoniously transferred to the new Bahá'í cemetery allocated by the Egyptian government to the Cairo Bahá'ís. The believers in other centers in Egypt are now negotiating with the authorities concerned for similar cemeteries to be established in their respective localities. The Guardian is sending you under separate cover a photograph of the ceremony in connection with the reinterment of Mirzá 'Abú'l-Faḍl's remains, for publication in Bahá'í News.

Regarding the question of inserting the names of the translators of
Bahá’í sacred writings: the Guardian feels there is no objection to this. As to the manner in which the names of the translators should appear in a book such as “Bahá’í Scriptures” he prefers to leave this matter to the discretion of your Assembly.

The Guardian is cabling you today acknowledging the receipt of 96 copies of The Bahá’í World to date. He has already started distributing them to eminent sympathizers and friends of the Cause in various countries, who, he feels, cannot but be deeply impressed by the steady expansion of the institutions of the Faith in both the East and the West, as witnessed by this book. For such a publication to be brought out and distributed far and wide in time of war is in itself a remarkable testimony to the irresistible march of the Faith and the vitality of its indomitable spirit. He would suggest that three copies of this valuable biennial be sent to every National Spiritual Assembly. The copies for Persia should be sent through the N.S.A. of Iraq.

Shoghi Effendi has been greatly heartened and cheered by the news of the splendid Convention held this year and its complete consecration to the unfinished tasks of the Seven Year Plan. The character of its sessions, the expansion of its subsidiary activities, the spirit which animated its deliberations and the number of delegates and friends that participated in its proceedings, are a befitting commencement for a year that must witness unprecedented victories in the national and international teaching fields, as well as the consummation of the thirty-year enterprise of the Temple of Bahá’u’lláh.

The newly elected National Assembly must, in the course of this crucial year, keep in the closest possible touch with the two major teaching committees on whom the prosecution of the twin teaching enterprises of the American believers directly devolves. In conjunction with them, the National representatives of the American Bahá’í community must, by every means in their power, ensure an unprecedented increase in the number of pioneers and visiting teachers, both at home and in foreign fields, for this constitutes the bedrock on which the structure of these enterprises can alone rise and be firmly established. The Guardian’s contribution of five thousand dollars to finance five pioneers, is designed to provide an incentive to those who are in a position to either provide the material means or to arise themselves in person for the furtherance of pioneer activity in virgin territories.

In large rural areas such as exist in the State of Washington, recognized voting districts may be considered as units for the formation of Spiritual Assemblies. The National Assembly, the Guardian feels, may follow in such cases the election district divisions. The application of this principle he leaves to your Assembly.

Haifa, May 26, 1942

He was happy to hear that the work on the Temple is going to be carried out without delay, and that at last we are in sight of our goal and have every assurance of its speedy accomplishment.

He feels that all concerned should exert their utmost endeavor to assure that the remaining faces and the circular staircase will be finished this year. This will not only free Bahá’í funds for the now all-important teaching work, but act as a tremendous advertisement of the Faith and its principles.

No channel should be left unexplored in the endeavor to exploit to the full the teaching and publicity value of our first western House of Worship. It has been so long in the building that the friends themselves scarcely aware that their hour of triumph is at hand! Both they and the public at large should be stimulated into a fresh realization of what they have achieved. It is the tangible evidence of the power of the American Bahá’í Community, few in numbers, but mighty in the spirit they draw from their Faith.

(The Guardian’s postscript) Dear and valued co-worker: The completion of the Temple should, and I feel confident will, release tremendous and unprecedented forces of spiritual energy destined to be wholly consecrated to the teaching tasks now confronting the American believers. The concentrated, the sustained, and undivided attention of the individual believers and all Bahá’í agencies, local, regional, as well as national, should be directed to the attainment of this supreme, this shining goal. The increase in the number of pioneers, of every class, race, age and outlook is the vital need of the present hour. May the Beloved bless richly and continually this mighty and glorious endeavor.

(Signed) Shoghi Effendi.

Haifa, June 17, 1942. (Addressed to Allen B. McDaniel)

Let Men of Action
Seize Their Chance

Twenty-one months remain in which we, the followers of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh in the United States and Canada, can fulfill our spiritual opportunities of the Seven Year Plan. The Temple, resplendent in its radiant beauty, is nearing completion and is a glorious challenge to us believers individually and collectively to arise for renewed efforts and for greater sacrifice and service to settle the virgin areas in each and every state and province of the United States and Canada.

Functioning in some 100 organized Bahá’í communities, and as groups or isolated believers throughout this broad land, each and every believer has a part to play in achieving this important phase of the world mission entrusted by the Master to His disciples in the western hemisphere. To play his part every believer must strain every effort and concentrate every resource of time and energy and capacity on the task of teaching.

In our Assembly life and group activities let us remember that the administrative order is a means to the achievement of our goal, and not an opportunity for the clash of personalities, a form of contentious
dissension, or an arena for the display of human ambitions and personal advancement. Our Assembly and group meetings, the Unity Feasts and Committee meetings, are the collective means provided for us to work together toward our spiritual objective. Only as each individual in due humility and with severance submerges the self in harmonious and unified group activity can progress be made and results achieved. Our beloved Master while referring to the establishment of the local Assembly in this country, declared that its members should associate “like a flock of doves” with unity and devotion.

The Guardian in his recent letter has issued a clarion call for believers to “scatter to sow the Divine seeds and gather the harvest.” The days of these remaining twenty-one months are swiftly and relentlessly passing. Soon it will be too late, unless we arise as one great soul in many bodies to do our Master’s work. “Let men of action seize their chance ere the swiftly passing days place it irretrievably beyond their reach.”

**NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY**

**Enrollment of Bahá’í Youth**

The procedure under which a person of from 15 to 20 years of age is accepted and registered as a Bahá’í youth seems to require a little explanation. It is based upon the principle that the youth, while accepting the Cause, does not assert his or her qualifications for voting membership as does the adult applicant but asserts the intention of applying for membership when he or she reaches the age of 21 years.

The Bahá’í youth, therefore, does not automatically become a member of the community when reaching the age of 21, but to become an adult voting member the youth fulfills his or her intention by applying for membership in the usual way. Where the youth lives in an organized community, he or she appears before the local Assembly. Where isolated, the youth signs a new form of Youth Registration card and transmits it through the Regional Teaching Committee to the National Office. This new form of card is being printed, and copies when ready will be sent to the Regional Secretaries.

**Request to Committees**

1. The National Spiritual Assembly requests each National Committee to report its definite recommendations and also to provide news items, but to discontinue the practice of sending copies of minutes of Committee meetings. Committees are urged to study their functions and their possibility of service continually, and to recommend such activities and projects as each Committee feels will enable it to render the utmost service to the Cause. What the National Assembly seeks is concentration upon capacity to work and elimination of unnecessary detail and routine in this crucial time.

2. Wherever a Committee budget is voted or an activity permitted, the Committee carrying out the activity is requested to follow the activity through to a conclusion, and then make a report on the results; and in general Committees are requested to render an accounting of the activities each conducts with the specific approval of the NSA.

**Youth Activity**

Local Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees are requested to encourage youth activity. News of youth is wanted for publication in Bahá’í News. No appointment of a National Youth Committee has been made this year but the Committee will be resumed when the National Assembly has sufficient information about local and Regional groups, their needs, and trends in this important field. Youth groups are urged to study the Guardian’s references to their ideals and work in *Advent of Divine Justice*, in the first edition of *Bahá’í Procedure* and elsewhere as far as possible.

**1942 Convention**

**Resolutions and Recommendations, With Action Taken by the National Spiritual Assembly**

1. That Assemblies endeavor to do pioneer work outside their community, carefully budget their funds, train new teachers, plan public lectures and select a place in which to establish the Faith.

The NSA is happy to record the fact that the general teaching programs in operation for a number of years have included this important item for local Assemblies.

2. That the Convention request the incoming National Spiritual Assembly to set up machinery in connection with the proper committees, which would expedite matters of emergency.

The National Assembly cannot delegate its own authority and function.

3. That the NSA urge each newly elected Assembly to read and study *Bahá’í Procedure*.

This recommendation is brought to the attention of the friends.

4. That believers who are troublemakers in their local community should not be appointed as members of National committees.
Memorial Gathering

The Temple Program Committee has announced that on August 16, at five p.m., a memorial meeting will be conducted in Temple Foundation Hall, in order to associate the American believers with Bahá'ís of other countries in mourning the passing of a distinguished Egyptian believer, Ábdul Jálil Béy Saád. This meeting is held at the request of Shoghi Effendi as cabled to the National Spiritual Assembly on June 28.

In appointing the National Committees, the effort of the Assembly is to include only the believers who appear to be qualified by capacity and who fully conform to the principles of consultation.

5. That the NSA appoint Regional Race Unity Committees.

The race unity work is highly specialized. Every believer is expected to remember that this is a cardinal principle of his teaching effort.

6. That a list of Race Unity references be published in Bahá'í News. Lists of race unity references have already been published in Bahá'í News and also made available by the Race Unity Committee in bulletins. See Bahá'í News for January, February and April, 1940, and elsewhere in the present issue.

7. That a press representative be engaged. (To work out Temple publicity when the construction work has been completed.)

Whenever technical experience is required, the Assembly will make suitable connections with professional press experts, but the organic function of preparing Bahá'í material can only be done by an experienced Bahá'í Committee. The Assembly has already appointed a special committee in its own body to deal with the press in important matters which cannot be referred to a committee in the usual way.

8. That a compilation of Teachings and Bahá'í principles be made, concerned with the subject of world development after the war, and that copies be made available to local Assemblies for distribution to representative persons in their locality.

The Assembly realizes the need for such a compilation and has the matter under advisement.

9. That the Convention go on record as endorsing a project to index the principal Bahá'í books of reference by subject or topic, the mechanics to be worked out and arranged in the immediate future.

The matter of indexing Bahá'í books is indeed important at this time, and the Assembly is taking steps to appoint a committee to complete the indexing work going on over a number of years.

10. That in preparing the Agenda for the 1943 Convention, the NSA consider the introduction of an all Committee chairman to the Convention body on the opening day in order to facilitate the work which the Committee might accomplish by consultation with the believers during the Convention.

This matter will be considered when the Assembly prepares the Agenda for the next Convention.

11. That the NSA appoint a National committee of artists to pass upon photographs of 'Abdu'l-Bahá for reproduction and use by the believers.

The Assembly would like to mention the fact that it inquired of the Guardian some years ago which of the photographs of 'Abdu'l-Bahá should be preferred for general use among the friends. In reply he wrote, through his secretary, as follows: "In connection with the selection of particular photographs of 'Abdu'l-Bahá for circulation among the friends, the Guardian strongly feels that no definite ruling should be laid down establishing the superiority or distinction of any particular photograph. The friends should be left quite free to use their individual independent judgment in this matter."—May 15, 1940.

12. That the NSA request the Inter-America Committee to write Assemblies, groups and pioneers in Central and South America to convey the love and greeting of the Convention delegates, and their wishes for success in the teaching work.

The Assembly will prepare a paragraph to be distributed by the Inter-America Committee in its Bulletin in order to give effect to this recommendation.

13. That (a) the delegates recommend that the NSA appoint the major committees now and not July 1, on account of the emergency conditions; (b) that the National Assembly ask the local Assemblies to appoint their committees now and start them working at once; (c) that committees be appointed on the basis of ability and expert action and that committee members be discharged who do not carry on the work; (d) that 3 advisers be appointed by the NSA to coordinate and intensify the work of the major National committees.

A. The NSA points out that the Committee term of office has been definitely established as from July 1 to June 30 of each year and each Committee is expected to continue its full functions up to the end of its term of office. B. The same principle applies here as in A above. C. The Assembly hopes that it will never be called upon to discharge a Bahá'í committee member for failure to serve the Cause. D. As stated in a previous paragraph above, the Assembly cannot delegate its own authority but must exercise it as a body of nine members.

In reporting these Convention recommendations, the National Spiritual Assembly wishes to express its gratitude for the spiritual height attained by this Convention, the ardor of the delegates and their clear determination to make possible a complete response to the Guardian's appeal for a successful consummation of the Seven Year Plan.

National and Regional Teaching Activities

Ever since the Convention, which opened the sixth and "crucial year" of our Seven Year Plan, the American community has experienced in the teaching field the impetus of that "tremendous and irresistible unfoldment" which is hurrying the Plan to "its triumphant consummation." Stirred to a well-nigh unbearable impatience by the Guardian's heart-moving words, and affected by the calls to teaching which he tells us are flowing from the Temple and our beloved Master, it is small wonder that our efforts everywhere are finding a new momentum and earning a rapidly-consolidating success.

Already since Convention some twenty-one pioneers and resident teachers have entered the field, or will do so by September, and many others are working out their plans with the Committee. Yet these are only the vanguard of that greater, "far greater number of pioneers" whom the Plan requires to "sow the
Divine seeds and gather the harvest into its gates.’ May the early news which is outlined here awaken an army of believers to the wondrous victories which await them in twenty-four States and Provinces still unconquered by the Faith!

Some of the most impregnable Provinces of Canada are soon to feel the redoubled efforts of Bahá’í pioneers. Evelyn Cliff of Vancouver has secured a teaching transfer to Calgary, Alberta; accompanied by Anne McGee, a member of the Vancouver youth group, these two will greatly strengthen Doris Skinner’s persistent work. Sylvia King will also concentrate on this center in October. The newly-formed Winnipeg Assembly, still further increased in numbers from May to July through a nine-lesson course on “The Power of Reconstruction,” is extending its interest to Regina, Saskatchewan. A Winnipeg believer, Ernest Court, will spend four months in that city, and frequent assistance will be sent him by his home community. The Maritime Provinces, which include the virgin Prince Edward Island, will be visited by Harlan Ober in August, to supplement Doris and Willard McKay. The key city of Ottawa, where Winnifred Harvey has already attracted a large circle of friends, will be further developed by the help of Helen Gidden, who is moving from Toronto. Four Summer Conferences are scheduled throughout Canada in August, in Riding Mountain National Park, Manitoba; Rice Lake, Ontario; Quebec; and New Brunswick. May these gatherings open the doors for Prince Edward Island, the two other virgin Provinces, and the whole of this Dominion of great destiny!

Pioneers and Regional Committee of New England are concentrating on study classes in New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Mrs. Harry Ford at Portsmouth and Mr. and Mrs. Ober in Rutland and Providence have assisted their work. A campaign to re-establish the Assembly of Brookline is planned for Ruth Moffett, and the Teaching Committee is anticipating the valued help of Dorothy Baker for Vermont and Rhode Island in the near future.

The Southern States are the focus of almost unbelievable confirmations. Greensboro, N. C., was opened to the Faith by Ruth Moffett in March and April, through a series of lectures inaugurated during “the worst blizzard of the year.” Lectures in colleges, a Temple display, radio broadcasts every other day for a month on Station WGBG, all contributed to develop a study group of seventeen with three believers. Muriel Stilson of Yonkers will move to Greensboro to continue this work. In October two outstanding Bahá’í youth, Eva Lee Flack of Los Angeles and Adrienne Ellis of Phoenix, are planning to settle in Asheville, N. C., the former home of Miss Flack. Many Bahá’í contacts were made in Durham, N. C., in June by Joy Earl, who spoke to eighty teachers attending the “Workshop.” Mrs. Earl also spoke with students and faculty of Fiske University, Nashville, and Tennessee State Teachers College, where she addressed 500 teachers at summer session.

The Group in Jackson, Miss., is preparing for Assembly status next spring with the aid of Margaret Ellis of Covington, La. Intensive teaching is going forward in Birmingham, Ala., where Virginia Camelon is spending several months to supplement the resident pioneers. A teaching circuit is bringing regular assistance to Arkansas, including Ruth Cornell, Dorothy Logeln, Pearl Berk, and Esther Klein, while Reszi Sunshine is remaining this summer to cooperate with the circuit and strengthen the work.

Now that Texas has an Assembly, Kathryn Frankland is moving to Albuquerque, N. M., where the Assembly must be re-established. Other plans for the South this year include teaching campaigns in Louisville, Ky., Huntington, W. Va., Delaware, and Knoxville, Tenn.

The Faith’s momentum in the South may be measured by the report from the Teaching Conference at Cheaha Park, Alabama, that forty-nine participated, “twice as many as had ever attended Vogel Park conferences.” “Our general theme for study was ‘Some Steps Toward Permanent Peace’; the first part, ‘The Divine Plan,’ was given by Mrs. Moffett, and the second part, ‘Building the Consciousness for the New Day,’ was presented by Miss Virginia Camelon . . . At Cheaha we were on the mountain top. . . . Twice we had prayers at the Tower. . . . which marks the highest spot in Alabama. It is also higher than any other place in Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, or Florida.”

Our Regional Committee assures us that Iowa will form its first Assembly next April, as teaching has been steadily carried on by Annie Romer in Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, and Davenport for some months. Great impetus was given the Bahá’ís of St. Louis, Mo., and Topeka, Kan., after Convention by the visit of Ruth Moffett, whose lectures resulted in new study classes and the enrollment of three believers in and around Topeka.

Supplementary pioneers are adding great strength in the Western

**Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Winnipeg, newly established April 21, 1942.**
States. Ruth Westgate and Mildred Hiatt of San Francisco have just moved to Denver, Colo., and Artemus Lamb also plans to live there, thus centering the Regional Committee in this area. Both disbanded Assemblies of Denver and Colorado Springs were much stimulated by contact with Mark Tobey this summer, and Mr. Tobey reports that Colorado Springs now has enough believers to re-organize. Laramie, Wyo., has received many visiting teachers of late, and Valeria Thornton and her mother, Mollie Young, have established residence there. In Boise, Idaho, an extended teaching campaign was conducted this spring by Alta Krueger of Portland, yielding three new believers and a study class. Two Bahá’í youth of San Francisco, Farrukh Iaas and Sally Sanor, have become resident pioneers in Boise, bringing the Group to six members; they will be assisted for several months by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Munson. Supplementary teaching has been added in Reno, Nevada, where Eleanor Adler will stay for three months. In California the disbanded Santa Rosa Assembly has attracted four resident teachers, Mr. and Mrs. William Sears, and Roan Carter and Ella Duffield of Los Angeles.

Although Alaska is surrounded by difficulty, Honor Kempton reports that the Faith is forging ahead and two friends have recently enrolled. Miss Kempton, who had to come “Outside” for medical aid, hopes to return to Anchorage in the Fall.

Dear friends, confronted by these examples of devotion to the goals of our Seven Year Plan, how can we resist the incessant call to join them at the front lines of our expanding, conquering Faith? Of this call and the priceless opportunities it spreads before us, the Guardian himself reminds us: “The time in which to respond to it is relentlessly shortening. Let men of action seize their chance ere the swiftly passing days place it irrevocably beyond their reach.”

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Inter-America News

Peru

Letters from Miss Nicklin are evidence of her happiness and success in her work in Lima. Beside her little school which is now very comfortably located, she is teaching in the finest hospital in Peru, in Bea Vista. Her class in English consists of 22 nurses. It is a French Catholic Hospital and provides many interesting contacts but the work of establishing a study group has still not been successful. Her income in the various activities brings in a good living and she feels that there is more work there than she can undertake. Peru would therefore be a good opening if it were possible now to secure passports. This, however, is becoming more and more difficult as the flood of travel, especially since the airways are the only means, is tremendous and therefore permission is rarely granted except to those who are assured of employment before going.

Guatemala

Johnny Eichnauer is now located in Guatemala City, has a fine position with the Pan American Airways Construction Co. and has also been appointed Prof. of English in the Government Orphan Institution, which appointment came to him from the Governor himself. John has a “way with him” which procures for him the cordial relations with people of prominence and especially with the Press. There is a fine study group in Guatemala, large enough now to form an Assembly and by April 21st will no doubt be a record breaker.

Nicaragua

Mathew Kaszab has been given permission to return home for rest and change. His future plans are uncertain, but he has had a strenuous time in Nicaragua where he has served faithfully and well.

Cuba

Miss Kruka has sent some very interesting photographs and one especially is noteworthy; it shows the Perez family, the first Bahá’í family in Cuba, of which Perfecto Perez is the first believer to have accepted the Faith in Cuba. The history of the family is very interesting. The grandfather was a very spiritual man and because of his unusual powers he was accused of witchcraft and put in prison. While a prisoner he was offered a cup of poison with which to end his life but he told the authorities that his faith was such that he was sure if he took the poison he would not die. He drank it and sank to his knees in prayer, was spared and thus was released from prison and never troubled again. The young brother of Perfecto is the greatest assistance to Miss Kruka in teaching the children in her Bahá’í class.

Honduras

The new Spiritual Assembly is functioning splendidly and we learn of a new registrant. Also Sra. Maria Teresa Tuells is leaving for Mexico City and another member of the Spiritual Assembly has been elected to fill her place.

Ecuador

News from Quito is always brief, but always very reassuring. The two companions of John Stearns are working with him in furthering the Faith.

Venezuela

Miss Priscilla Rhoads has been quite ill, but we have heard indirectly that she is much better. We are hoping soon to send another pioneer to Caracas to help her, but here again we shall not be certain until we receive favorable report upon the passport.

Haiti

After the successful formation of a Spiritual Assembly the Blackwells have offered to remain until the community is enlarged and strengthened.

San Domingo

Miss Lentz has employment in Trujillo and is working on translations for the committee during the time that her Bahá’í students are enjoying their vacation from the University.

Jamaica

Dr. Malcolm King of Milwaukee is returning to his native home in Jamaica to reside permanently. He proposes to devote his time to teaching the Faith.

Bolivia

Radiant letters from Miss Hottes. She has found a truly Bahá’í welcome among the friends whom Mrs. Adler left in La Paz and they are earnestly studying and teaching all the time.

Salvador

Clarence Iverson is enjoying having his mother with him and he is
working steadily for the promotion of the Faith and has a fine position.

Costa Rica

The two Assemblies in Costa Rica, at San José and Puntarenas, and the two in Mexico, Mexico City and Puebla, are thus far in the lead towards a National Spiritual Assembly. But the knowledge of the Cause is widely spread in the Argentine and in Chile and if we can strengthen the Centers in all of the Republics we shall certainly attain the goal of a Spiritual Assembly in each of the countries by the expiration of the Seven Year Plan. This is our goal. This must succeed. We must not disappoint the Guardian for only he can tell how serious the consequences would be if we were to fail.

Uruguay

An enthusiastic letter from Mr. Barton states that there are now thirteen registered members in Montevideo. They have almost completed the translation of the thirty-six lessons on the Foundations of World Unity which when completed and reviewed will, we hope, be found approved and recommended for publication. Mr. Barton tells of three of their members who have embarked upon the translation of the “Dawn-Breakers” with immense enthusiasm. This is indeed a gigantic task which will greatly increase the knowledge of the Faith and the growth of the translators.

Spanish Translations

Our authorized translator, Mrs. Clotilde Arias of New York, now has in hand the compilation made by Mrs. Mathews and Mrs. Bishop of excerpts from all the Writings which will provide for our Spanish believers a book much the same as our Scriptures was for us in the beginning.

Nellie S. French, Secretary

Committee List

ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS

Reviewing: Mrs. Marion Mills added.

Baha’i News Service: Clarence Niss appointed Chairman.

Inter-America: Mrs. Octavio Illiescas unable to serve.

Regional Teaching Committees: Ontario—George Spendlove added. California and Nevada—Virginia O'Brien unable to serve on account of plans to go as pioneer teacher to Chile. Dr. Clyde Longyear added. New England—Mrs. Harlan Ober added. North and South Carolina, Georgia—correction in spelling of name of Mrs. Mary Ann Lefler. New York—Mr. and Mrs. Roland Hughes and John Woolston added. Mrs. Marguerite Firooz and R. C. Collison unable to serve. New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania—Mrs. Jean Sharpless, Mrs. Ethel Crane and Mrs. Harriet Kelsey added.

Publishing Announcement

Selected Writings of Baha’u’llah, Selected Writings of ‘Abdu’l-Baha, Selected Writings of Shoghi Effendi: a compilation of the fundamental Baha’i teachings in the form of three pamphlets sold only in the set of three and not by the individual pamphlet. 48 pages each, bound in strong paper covers. Price for the set of three pamphlets, postpaid, $3.25.

Study Outline, Muhammad and the Founding of Islam, prepared by Study Outline Committee. This is a mimeographed booklet containing 53 pages. The Outline is based on Bahá’í literature. There are five sections and an Introduction which explains how the Outline is to be used and giving titles of the essential Bahá’í books needed for reference. References are also to the Qur’an. This Outline follows and supplements the Outline on Introduction to the Qur’an announced a few months ago, and the two together offer American believers a thorough grounding in Islam, Muhammad and the Founding of Islam, per copy, $2.60.

Race Unity

An Up-to-date Bibliography

GENERAL READING


Louis Adamic, From Many Lands, 1940.

The Atlantic presents We Americans, 1939. (Statements are from such leaders as Franz Boas, Edward P. Cheyney, Frank H. Haskins, Alfred H. Holt, E. A. Hooton, Ales Hrdlicka, Julian Huxley, and James Wekton Johnson.)

THE ESKIMO

W. B. Van Valin, Eskimo Land Speaks, 1941.

THE NEGRO

Alain Locke and Bernhart J. Stern (co-ed.), When Peoples Meet, 1942.

W. E. Burghardt Du Bois, Dusk of Dawn, 1940; also, Black Folk, Then and Now, 1939.

Horace R. Cayton, Black Workers and the New Unions, 1939.


THE JEW
B. A. Rosenblat, Federated Palestine and the Jewish Commonwealth, 1941.
I. Unterman, Jewish Youth in America, 1941.
R. B. Gittlesohn, Modern Jewish Problems, 1941.
Samuel W. McCall (and others), For the Honor of the Nation, 1939.
I. Goldstein, Toward a Solution, 1940.
L. W. Schwartz, Where Hope Lies, 1940.
S. Goldman, Undefeated, 1941.

THE INDIAN
Clark Wissler, Indians of the United States, 1940.
L. B. Priest, Uncle Sam's Step Children, 1942.
G. D. Harmon, Sixty Years of Indian Affairs, 1941.

RACE UNITY COMMITTEE
Honolulu Bahá'ís Dedicate New Center
On October 20, 1941, the Anniversary of the Birth of the Báb, the Herald and Inaugurator of the Bahá'í Dispensation, the Honolulu Bahá'í Center was dedicated.

After the prayer of, “God testifieth that there is none other God but Him...” from Prayers and Meditations, offered by the chairman, the ceremony of embedding a box containing important data on the history of the Bahá'í Cause in the Hawaiian Islands took place.

The chairman then welcomed all present and gave a special message to the children of the Bahá'í Children's Classes and their parents (the parents are not Bahá'ís) and then dedicated simple impressive words the Honolulu Bahá'í Center to the service of God and Mankind.

Our deeply appreciated messages and greetings from our Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, our National Spiritual Assembly as well as greetings from the Assemblies of San Francisco and Maui were then read. It was a great joy to us to know that these Friends were united with us in our prayers that God would accept and bless our dedication in the service of the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh.

Miss Agnes B. Alexander, who forty years ago was the first to bring the Bahá'í Message to the Hawaiian Islands, read a dedicatory prayer from Prayers and Meditations by Bahá'u'lláh.

Mr. A. Y. Seto as guest speaker from San Francisco, prefaced his address by a tribute to the early Christian missionaries to the Islands. “A new missionary work is needed, now,” he said, “needed for the education of the people toward a new way of living and thinking to prevent future wars, a new way that will lead to World Unity and Cooperation.”

Mr. Seto spoke of the Báb, the Herald and Inaugurator of the Faith, and explained the Bahá'í understanding of the oneness of Humanity and the oneness of all the Prophets of God.

The Program ended with a prayer by Mrs. S. A. Baldwin, who represented the Maui Bahá'í Assembly and Community.

A social hour with refreshments served in the library concluded our happy ceremony.

* A photograph of the Honolulu Bahá'í Center was reproduced in Bahá'í News, June, 1942.

Tenth Theosophical Fraternization Convention
An invitation was given the National Spiritual Assembly to provide a Bahá'í speaker for the program of the Symposium concluding the sessions of the Tenth Theosophical Fraternization Convention at Toronto.
F. St. George Spendlove was requested to represent the Bahá'ís, and reports received indicate a public meeting of considerable interest. The Symposium session, held Sunday evening, May 31 at the Roof Garden of Royal York Hotel, included the representatives of Buddhism and of Theosophy as well as Bahá'ís.

The pages of Proclamation of Universal Peace record the many occasions on which the Master spoke as guests of Theosophists.

Latin-American Assemblies
Last month there were listed eight Assemblies whose election had been reported from Central and South America. Since then reports have been received from the Spiritual Assemblies of San Jose, Costa Rica, and Buenos Aires, Argentine Republic.

A fervent welcome, and loving best wishes, is extended to these stalwart new co-workers by the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.

In Memoriam
Grant, O my Lord, that they who have ascended unto Thee may repair unto Him Who is the most exalted Companion, and abide beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of Thy Majesty and the Sanctuary of Thy Glory.— Bahá'u'lláh.
Mr. Benjamin Taylor, Cincinnati.
Mr. Emil De Litz, Racine.
Mr. Ferdinand Peterson, Racine.
Mr. Howard Russell Hurlbut, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.
Mrs. Lillian Viehhstadt, East Cleveland.
Mr. Harry Mory, Manitowoc, Wisconsin.
Mr. Hildore Jelliset, Seattle.
Mrs. Harriet Cline, Verdugo City, California.

Enrollments and Transfers

Bahá'í Calendar
Nineteen Day Feasts: Names, August 20; Might, September 6; Will, September 27.
Memorial Gathering in honor of Abdul Jalil Bey Saad, Temple Foundation Hall, August 16, at 5:00 P.M.
Summer School Sessions: see programs published in June issue.
Meeting of National Spiritual Assembly: September 11, 12, 13, 14, at Wilmette.

Beginning of construction of Hazíratu'll-Quds by the N.S.A. of the Bahá'ís of Egypt and the Sudan at Cairo.
“An Intensification of Bahá’í Activity”

Dearly-beloved co-workers:

I am thrilled with admiration as I contemplate, at this advanced stage in the unfoldment of the Seven-Year Plan, the vastness of the field already covered by the pioneer activities of its stalwart and valiant prosecutors. The heights of heroic self-sacrifice to which they have attained, the depths of faith and devotion they have plumbed in the course of their ceaseless exertions are no less noteworthy than the immensity of the task they have already performed. An effort so prodigious, a mission so sublime, a solidarity so truly remarkable, an achievement which in its scope and quality stands unparalleled in American Bahá’í history, provide a befitting climax to the century old record of magnificent accomplishments associated with the rise and progress of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. Such a glorious century, so unique in the annals of mankind’s spiritual history, is, however, not yet completed. The gigantic enterprises which the American believers are pledged to consummate are as yet but partially concluded. The remaining two years must witness an intensification of Bahá’í activity, throughout the entire Western Hemisphere on such a scale as to eclipse the splendor of all past achievements, and worthy crown this initial phase in the progressive evolution of the Divine Plan. An unprecedented multiplication in the number of pioneer teachers and settlers; an unexampled flow of material resources for their maintenance and the extension of their labors; a still wider dissemination of Bahá’í literature, to aid and support them in their presentation of the Faith to Latin American peoples; an immediate increase in the number of groups and Assemblies in the States and provinces of North America; an increased awareness on the part of all believers, whether in the North or in the South, whether newly enrolled or of old standing in the Faith, that every one of them shares, vitally and directly and without any exception, in the responsibility for the successful prosecution of the Plan; a still firmer resolution not to allow a world-convulsing conflict, with its attendant miseries, perils, dislocations, and anxieties, to deflect them from their course or distract their attention; these are the crying needs of this critical, this challenging, this swiftly passing hour; to exploit its possibilities, to meet its challenge, to grasp its implications, is the manifest, the inescapable and urgent duty of every member of the Bahá’í communities now laboring so assiduously in the Western Hemisphere.

May the cumulative effect of their concentrated and sustained labors shed further lustre on the concluding years of this, the first century of the Bahá’í Era.

Haifa, Palestine
August 15, 1942

Pioneers to Retain Their Posts

He is fervently praying that the new pioneers, who have volunteered to teach in Colombia, Venezuela, Chile and Nicaragua, will be able to complete the necessary arrangements for their voyage to South America, and will be enabled, without interruption or delay, to consolidate and extend the range of the activities inaugurated in those countries. Every effort should be made to increase the number of such pioneers, to facilitate their departure, to insure their settlement in virgin territories, to keep in close and constant touch with them, and to reinforce their activities through visiting teachers, adequate financial assistance, and constant moral encouragement. The Guardian wishes to urge them, and those who have preceded them, to retain their posts at all costs, to face the obstacles in their path with courage, faith and
confidence in the future outcome of their work. The National Assembly, on the other hand, must do everything in their power to enable these self-sacrificing workers to continue their pioneer services, and to discourage their return until the results of their labors are so substantial as to insure the continuity of the Bahá’í Community after their departure. This is their greatest responsibility, their immediate task, and the most meritorious service they can render the Cause, at this juncture, in the American Continent.

Excerpt from letter written by Shoghi Effendi, through his secretary, August 15, 1942, to the National Spiritual Assembly.

Pioneer Activity of Utmost Importance

He considers that at present pioneer activity is of the utmost importance and that the NSA should do everything in their power to insure that those who have gone to Central and South America, as well as those who are going there, remain there and consolidate their work—otherwise all the efforts and all the money, sacrificed by the believers for this effort, will have been spent practically in vain. The same applies to a lesser degree to the work in the United States and Canada. Whereas in these parts the difficulties of pioneer settlement for the purpose of teaching the Faith are not so great, the work still remaining to be done is tremendous. The Guardian feels that the paramount need is to get the people to settle in the virgin territories as quickly as possible, and that if too much emphasis is laid on the highest possible requirements for pioneers, the work may risk remaining unaccomplished. The believers have future years in which to improve on the groundwork done at present, but they only have about two years left to do this all-important groundwork in. Speed should be your motto.—Excerpt from letter written by Shoghi Effendi, through his secretary, August 15, 1942, to the National Spiritual Assembly through the Treasurer.

This Crucial Year

Progress Report No. 3 Issued by the National Spiritual Assembly for the Period July 1-Aug. 31, 1942

The National Spiritual Assembly continues its series of reports of plans and activities aimed at completing the unfinished tasks of the Seven Year Plan.

11. The Inter-America teaching effort increases in intensity and scope. Passports have been issued to Ruth Shook for Colombia, to Virginia Orbison for Chile, and to Gwenne D. Sholtis for Venezuela. Each of these pioneers is prepared to settle in the country and strive for the establishment of a Spiritual Assembly. There has been much delay in obtaining airplane reservations, due to serious restrictions imposed on civilian travel. The final report is that Miss Sholtis left New Orleans by boat for Canal Zone on August 25 with the intention of flying from Canal Zone to La Guaira. Miss Shook has been waiting at Brownsville, Texas, for plane reservation. Early in September she left for Guatemala City by rail, hoping to take a local plane to Colombia. Miss Orbison flew to Mexico City on August 20 and took train from there to Guatemala City, hoping to find local plane reservations available for the remainder of the journey. The National Spiritual Assembly approved a project for pioneer settlement by Mrs. Eleanor Adler for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, but necessary papers have not been obtained.

12. Plans for construction of the Memorial to May Maxwell at Quilmes Cemetery, Buenos Aires, have proceeded rapidly since the Convention. With the invaluable cooperation of Salvador Torno of the Spiritual Assembly in that city, a block of Carrera marble has been selected and purchased. With the marble assured, the greatest obstacle in the way of the project has been removed. Now we are fortunate in having the placing and execution of the contract supervised by a representative of the National Spiritual Assembly, Mrs. Amelia E. Collins, in consultation with Mr. Torno and Wilfrid E. Barton. Mrs. Collins has had three reservations taken away since July 25, due to priorities for passage, and now will proceed by boat from New Orleans September 24 for Valparaiso, Chile, from where she can obtain passage to Buenos Aires.

13. The exterior ornamentation of the Temple has been completed. All work on the nine faces of the main story was finished in July. Work on the steps is well under way, and we have the contractor’s assurance that the steps will be done this calendar year. Progress photographs reproduced in Bahá’í News from month to month will enable the friends to follow the course of this, the concluding construction work on the Temple called for under the Seven Year Plan.

14. The National Spiritual Assembly has approved a number of recommendations and projects submitted by the Race Unity Committee. These include: effort to establish editorial columns in newspapers and periodicals published by minority groups in order to promote the subject of the oneness of mankind; reprint of Louis Gregory’s article entitled Bahá’í To Jew in World Order Magazine in an edition of 2,000 copies; intensive follow-up work by Louis Gregory and Elsie Austin in Negro colleges in the South; race-relations talks by Mr. Gregory in white colleges of the South; visits to Indian and white colleges by Mrs. Baker in the Southwest; monthly one-page letters on race unity work addressed to local Assemblies; a Race Unity Conference to be held at Green Acre. A compilation on Race Unity, made by Mrs. Alice S. Cox and Mrs. Maye Harvey Gilt, part from Bahá’í sources and part from non-Bahá’í scientific and sociological sources, has been referred to the Reviewing Committee.

15. The drive for accomplishment of the teaching tasks in North America gains great momentum with each passing month. The following projects have been started, or approved for immediate action, since those listed in paragraph 4 of the report in Bahá’í News for July:—Nellie Roche, Regional Secretary, follow-up work in Birmingham; intensive teaching campaign in Saskatchewan and Alberta; Mrs. Eleanor Adler, teaching work in Reno, Nevada; Lulu Barr, continued teaching work in Saskatchewan; Mrs. Ruth Cornell, teaching work in Hot Springs for two months; Ruth Westgate and Mrs. Mildred Hiatt, settlement in Denver; Mrs. Ruth Moffett, additional work in Greensboro, S. C.; Mrs. Clara Rainboth, work with groups in Washington; Muriel Warnick, teaching in Edmonton; Mrs. Marcia Atwater, teaching in Edmonton; Regional Teaching project in Wilmington, Del.; Ridgewood, N. J.; Regional Teaching project for Denver; Mrs. Kathryn Frankland, settlement in Albuquerque; Mrs. Loroi Jackson,
settlement in Lead, S. D.; Mrs. Charlotte Grover, settlement in Lead, S. D.; Mrs. Sara Ellen Peake, settlement in Louisville, Ky.; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Walters, settlement in Albuquerque; Mrs. Mable Ives, teaching in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Omaha, Neb.; Mrs. Ruth Moffett, teaching in Wilmington, Del.

16. An inter-regional radio campaign has been approved, under which stations will be selected in various parts of the country for a series of five or six talks. A monthly budget has been appropriated. The purpose is to reinforce the present teaching activities of Assemblies, Regional Committees, groups and National Committees by providing an additional public presentation of the Faith. Definite plans will be reported to all concerned. The first series was arranged over WUIT, Chicago, and includes six five-minute talks at 1:20 P.M. Sundays beginning September 13. Mrs. Nina Matthisen, member of the National Radio Committee, worked out all the detailed arrangements of this program.

17. A summary of current financial items. From May 1 to August 31, the National Fund received $30,671.15. In August donations arrived from 75 Assemblies, 77 groups and 91 isolated believers, to the amount of $8,681.53. August expenditures included: Temple construction, $5,000.00; National and Regional Teaching, $800.00; Inter-America Teaching, $1,196.07; Administrative expense, $1,024.55; Temple maintenance, $600.25; Green Acre maintenance, $133.35.

The Call to Pioneer

The call to pioneer, to “scatter to sow the Divine seeds,” has summoned American believers throughout the course of the Seven Year Plan. In fact, it has claimed us since the earliest days of our mission under the Divine Plan. But with Convention, 1942, this call became an insistent challenge, pressed home continuously by the Guardian’s emphatic words. “Immediate unprecedented multiplication (of) pioneers imperative,” he cabled. “Nothing short (of) prompt, wide, systematic, sustained dispersion can properly safeguard (the) fruits (of) past labors (and) sacrifices....” “The time in which to respond to it is relentlessly shortening. Let men of action seize their chance ere the swiftly passing days place it irretrievably beyond their reach.”

Although many believers have felt the impact of this call and have hastened to carry our beloved Faith to distant places, the vast majority of us are still to be found at home. Disturbed though we may be by the Guardian’s ceaseless pleas, we have not as yet visualized our personal role in this mighty effort, nor imagined ourselves capable of any heroic endeavor. Yet Shoghi Effendi is asking for “a greater, a far greater number of pioneers.”

To the Teaching Committee it appears that the present need is for a new type of worker. In every State and Province the preliminary steps have been accomplished. Resident pioneers have settled and in some localities groups are now established. The call today is not so much for public speakers, not even for teachers of long experience, but rather for believers of faith and dedication. Baha’i families are wanted who will move to new homes to strengthen the “pioneer front.” Believers are needed who will carry on study classes, reflect through their lives the light and warmth of the Faith in darkened communities, who by their very presence will widen the basis and stimulate the activities of newly-formed Baha’i centers. These are assignments which every Baha’i can undertake. All are wanted. “The increase in the number of pioneers, of every class, race, age and outlook is the vital need of the present hour,” the Guardian writes. Our paramount need is for such believers who, by settling in virgin States and Provinces, will constitute the strong second line in the army of Baha’ullah’s “dauntless defenders.”

It is the Committee’s deepest belief that now is the time when we must respond to the Guardian’s call. Now is the “crucial year” on which “hinge the fortunes (of this) historic crusade.” Now is the year when the foundations must be laid for Spiritual Assemblies in twenty-three virgin areas. Beloved friends, the call today is for action. The call is for pioneers.

National Teaching Committee
The friends in Montevideo are diligently working on the translation of the Dawn-Breakers. They have already completed the translation of the Thirty-six lessons which should give them a wonderful knowledge of the Cause.

When all our prospective pioneers are settled and the visiting teachers have passed through the different centers and held public meetings, then we shall expect very great results. We have still ten groups to bring to the point of becoming Assemblies before the expiration of the Seven Year Plan. This must be our goal and our constant prayer.

INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE
By: Nellie S. French, Secretary

The Dispensation of Baha'u'llah in Spanish

The appearance of this fundamental exposition of the Faith by the Guardian in a Spanish edition symbolizes the power we attain through Baha'i consultation, since this important work was made possible by the combined effort of many.

The original translation was made by Miss Lillian MacRae in Buenos Aires, and then reviewed by a Committee consisting of Salvador Tomo, Miss MacRae, and Sr. Ricci and Sr. Barrows, all members of the Spiritual Assembly of Buenos Aires. This Committee revised the translation.

The translation was then brought to New York by Sr. Ricci and was again gone over to put in final form by Sr. Ricci and Sra. Anduaga, after which the Guardian's words were printed for use in the Inter-America field. Incidentally, the cost of translation was met by a special donation from Philip Sprague.

Race Unity Conference

The Race Unity conference at Green Acre had five meetings over a period of three days. Two of these meetings, the second and last, were conducted as forums for general discussion, in addition to formal addresses. It was held under the joint auspices of the Race Unity and Green Acre Program Committees.

The chairman of the various meetings in order were, Horace Holley, Miss Lorna B. Tasker, All-Kuli Khan, N. D., Matthew W. Bullock and Harlan F. Ober. These devoted workers held their meetings to a high plane of dignity, movement, courtesy, scientific illumination and spirituality. Presentation of the prayers and teachings, with a universal outlook for all races and nations, and the leading part to be played by America in the guidance of the nations to world harmony and peace, brought a stimulus, sustained interest and cheerful atmosphere to the entire conference. There was a good attendance despite the difficulties of travel.

Mrs. Dorothy K. Baker made three scheduled addresses, her subjects being: "Achievements of Minority Groups," "The Cause and Cure of Prejudices," and "Sharing Civilization." Among many principles of reality, she advocated a better adjustment between nations, races and classes, universal education, the diffusion of spiritual as well as scientific knowledge and a far more universal outlook for all mankind.

Another feature of the program was the address of Miss Mabel I. Jenkins on "Two Great American Poets." These were, Phillis Wheatley, black slave girl who was a contemporary of George Washington and won praise from him for her poetry, and from other illustrious people at home and abroad. She was called the poet laureate of Greater Boston, in her day. The second poet mentioned was James Weldon Johnson, author of "God's Trombones" and "The Negro National Anthem." Readings from their lines and something of their life stories were of deep interest and great value.

Various phases of freedom as advocated by men of genius were examined in the light of the Baha'i Teachings by Louis G. Gregory. Among other speakers were Mrs. Doris McKay of Moncton, Canada, who told of the enlargement of her outlook and interests to include all races, by the illumination of the Baha'i Teachings, and what happiness this brought her. Mrs. Ethel Hunt of Washington D. C. spoke for the Jewish minority. A voice of universality and good will was that of Mrs. Jane Kelly, of Birmingham, Ala., a new Baha'i from the deep South and one greatly pleased with Green Acre, where all races, nationalities and faiths are drawn together.

An interesting phase of forum dis-
cussion was on the best names for minorities. Much of interest and value from the standpoint of approaches, customs and usages, past and current, with scientific and spiritual significances in a rapidly changing and evolving world, occupied the attention of the conference. The deep earnestness of the workers and the spiritual harmony which prevailed and the genuine sociability of all present were most impressive as among the signs of the New Day when freedom, peace and happiness are to be the heritage of all mankind through Divine Providence which brings the Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh.

Letters of regret came from Dr. Leslie Pinckney Hill, Editor Roy Wilkins, Dean W. M. Menchan, Dr. W. N. DeBerry, Prof. R. Augustus Lawson, Dr. Edward F. Gein, who were prevented from attendance only for what seemed the most cogent reasons. These are all distinguished leaders among the largest minority group. They are prospects for another year.

The music of the conference was rendered by Mrs. Eula Fritz of Schenectady, N. Y., and Miss Mon­aver Bechtold of Brooklyn, adding much to the joy of the gatherings.

"If ye meet the abased or the down-trodden, turn not away disdainfully from them, for the King of Glory watcheth over them and surroundeth them with such tenderness as none can fathom except them that have suffered their wishes and desires to be merged in the Will of your Lord, the Gracious, the All-Wise." (Gleanings, P. 314.)

RACE UNITY COMMITTEE

Appeal for Bahá'í Students

A letter has been received from Miss Margaret Lentz, pioneer teacher in Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic, urging young believers to consider enrollment as students in the University of Santo Domingo. For those able to do so, the information is reported that the entrance requirements include a high school degree, but the chief difficulty would be in obtaining transportation. Living expenses would be about $50.00 a month, in addition to the university fees.

The address of the University Registration Office is Rodolfo Beneti Burgos, Director del Registro Uni­versitario, Trujillo City, Dominican Republic.

Temple Slides for Illustrated Lectures

The National Spiritual Assembly has recently approved the preparation by the National Archives and History Committee of a set of 46 (size 2x2 inch) slides for still projection, showing the historical background, the progress of construction, and various details in the exterior ornamentation of the Bahá'í House of Worship in Wilmette.

These slides will be available in October, and they will be supplied in the form of a roll or positive, 35 mm. film strip containing 36 black and white transparencies or separate views, to be cut apart and mounted between glass covers by the user, together with 10 natural color transparencies ready for mounting.

For projection of the slides after mounting, an S.V.E., Eastman, or Argus kodaslide type projector is recommended, the light strength used (from 100 to 300 Watts) depending upon the size of the audience.

For mounting the transparencies, "S.V.E. slide binders", which may be had in local photo shops, are at 50c per dozen, are suggested.

The cost of the black and white film strip (36 views) is $1.50, and of the color transparencies (10 views), the cost is $2.50. Either group A or B of the color slides (5 views each) may be had for $1.35. A check or money order for the total amount plus 25c to cover postage and insurance should accompany each order.

Orders may be placed by local Assemblies, Extension Teaching Committees, or teachers in the field through the Temple Library and Sales Committee, Mr. Harry E. Walrath, Chairman, 4639 Beacon St., Chicago, Ill.

Publishing Announcements

Bahá'í Writings—Prayers revealed by Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and Excerpts from Bahá'í Writings: this very attractive new compilation is intended particularly for the new friend and the seeker who requires spiritual food. The prayers and other selections have been carefully chosen for their appeal and help to those who have not yet accepted the Faith. An exquisite gift. Bound in red leather with gold title, 56 pages, four by six and a quarter inches in size, $1.00. Bound in red paper, $0.50.

Believers who have ordered copies of the Qur'an are advised that the
American firm handling this work by importing copies from England has been out of stock though a fresh supply was ordered some months ago. They expect that their order will arrive by the next ship, and the Publishing Committee will fill all outstanding orders as soon as possible. (This refers to the Rodwell translation, recommended by the Guardian. Price per copy, $1.00)

Address orders and inquiries to Bahá’í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

**World Order Magazine**

The steady day-by-day enrollment of new and renewal subscriptions brings to the business office many appreciative letters. One active teacher writes: "Save me a complete series of the Star of the West, they contain so much splendid, inspiring and impressive teaching material."

The magazine today, as World Order, continues this mission of spiritual reinforcement, knowledge and guidance.

Leading articles in recent months:
- April, Charter for World Peace, by Alice Simmons Cox; May, Unchallengeable Victory, by Maye Harvey Gitt; June, The Souvenir of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, by Shirley Warde; July, Bahá’u’lláh as Protector, by Mabel Hyde Paine; August, A Calendar for a World Faith, by Horace Holley; September, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Call for Firmness in the Covenant.

The business office shares with the friends this significant incident: on the very day that the newspapers reported the bombardment and invasion of Burma, the office received a cable from a New York bank that they had received instructions from the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of India and Burma to pay for seventy yearly subscriptions to the magazine.

Subscriptions, $1.50 a year. Address Publication Office, World Order Magazine, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Call

The American Bahá’í community was profoundly stirred by the Master’s Tablet calling to firmness in the Covenant, His last and final exhortation addressed to the American friends. The text was translated and certified by Shoghi Effendi in January, 1922, after the Ascension, and this Tablet came to America at about the same time as the text of the Will and Testament.

This great Call has been made available to the new believers by reprint in the September number of World Order Magazine, accompanied by a brief compilation of relevant passages.

**Temple Guiding**

From January to August, 1942, there were 10,423 visitors guided through the Temple, only about 200 less than in the same period of 1941, which is a remarkable showing in view of the limitations on transportation this year.

In May, 1942, visitors came from 33 states, the District of Columbia, the Province of Ontario, Canada, Cuba, Brazil and Bolivia; in June, from 42 states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Bulgaria, Bolivia, Colombia, Mexico and India; in July, from 34 states, the District of Columbia, the Provinces of Saskatchewan, British Columbia, and Alberta, Canada, Brazil, Bolivia, India, Germany, Afghanistan, Turkey and Korea; in August, from 38 states, the District of Columbia, the Provinces of Manitoba and Ontario, Canada, Costa Rica, India and China.

There have been more guides to help in this work in 1942, due partly to the assistance of six from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, five from Waukegan, Illinois, and one each from Winston, Wisconsin, Kenosha, Wisconsin, and Batavia, Illinois. These guides have spent considerable time and money in traveling to do this work. They say they consider guiding in the Temple a privilege and a joy and feel sustained all the next week. Some of the guides from Chicago spend four hours traveling to and from the Temple each day they come and some guide one or two days each week. The radiance of their beautiful spirits shines in their faces.

More with such a spirit will be needed soon, for the National Spiritual Assembly, as well as some of the contractors and periodicals, will publicize this Temple when the outside is finished late this year. Guide classes will be started during the first part of October, at whatever times and places are most convenient for those interested in attending. In order to cover the material in the course it will be necessary for classes to meet every week until May 1. Please notify a member of the Guides Committee if you wish to join a class. The Chairman’s address is 1229 Cleveland St., Wilmette, III. The telephone is Wilmette 5039.

A booklet covering the portion of the Guide Course dealing with the Temple itself — its architecture, symbolism, history, materials and construction, and other information has been approved by the Reviewing Committee and can be ordered through the Bahá’í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Ave., Wilmette, III. This should be useful to those displaying the model or wishing to give a lecture on the Temple. (The Publishing Committee will announce this course when the edition is ready).

Many people all over the country who are now Bahá’ís first learned of the Faith through coming to the Temple. About 17,000 a year are given the message there. From forty to eighty people come each week day, and hundreds on Sundays and holidays. It should be remembered that this is perhaps the only place in the world where the Bahá’í teachings can be presented every day to so many voluntary and willing listeners. In these chaotic times when it is so necessary that mankind know about the solution Bahá’u’lláh has given them for the problems of the world, we can do teaching work in the Temple on a large scale. The Guardian has said guides must have a sound knowledge of the Teachings and know all the facts about the Temple. We hope more Bahá’ís in the Chicago area will prepare for this work by enrolling in the classes in October.

Assemblies and Groups wishing to organize Guide Classes may obtain study outlines from the Guides Committee.

**Temple Guides Committee**

**By:** Mary J. Haggard

**Chairman**

**Revision of Bulletin on Change in Draft Questionnaire**

With reference to the Bulletin entitled "Change in Draft Questionnaire Affecting Bahá’ís Subject to Selective Service," issued by the NSA in May, 1942, this Bulletin is being reprinted with one alteration.
suggested by the Selective Service Advisory Committee.

In the original text, the final paragraph on page 2 reads as follows:

"I wish to apply for noncombatant service in accordance with the provisions of Section 5(g) of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, and of Local Board Release 51."

In the revised text, the sentence quoted above is preceded by the words: "If and when I am classified as available for service." The alteration has been made in order to make it clear that the believer is stating his attitude about noncombatant service after he has been called up, and is not volunteering his services in a noncombatant capacity.

In this connection, it might be well to call attention to paragraph 363 under Section XXV, entitled "Procedure on Claims of Conscientious Objectors." This paragraph is in Vol. III of the Selective Service Regulations, and reads as follows:

"A registrant who claims to be a conscientious objector shall offer information in substantiation of his claim on a special form (Form 47) which when filed shall become a part of his questionnaire. The local board, upon request, shall furnish any person claiming to be a conscientious objector, a copy of such special form (Form 47). In the case of any registrant who claims to be a conscientious objector, the local board shall proceed in the ordinary course to classify him upon all other grounds of deferment and shall investigate and pass upon his claim as a conscientious objector only if, after physical examination, but for such claim he would have been placed in Class I-A, Class I-B, Class I-D, or Class I-E. The procedure for appeal from a decision of the local board on a claim for conscientious objection is provided for in paragraph 375."

**Hospitality Extended to Latin American Visitors**

The members of the Inter-America Committee are finding many ways to extend hospitality to visitors from South and Central America, who are passing through Southern California.

Recently thirty-five young men from the different countries of Central and South America, who are in this district in order to study the different branches of aviation, were extended the hospitality of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wolcott, of Los Angeles Bahá'í community, and were met and entertained there.

The evening proved to be a tremendous success as a gesture of friendship and a tactful way of showing our Bahá'í interest and desire to further friendly relations with South America. Mrs. Helen Bishop gave a little address of welcome in Spanish and read from the words of ‘Abdu'l-Bahá, the Bahá'í attitude towards strangers, expressing our eagerness to foster friendly relations.

Mr. Wolcott, the host, has been very active in meeting these young men and entertaining them both individually and collectively in his home since this occasion.

The evening was spent in dancing and singing and many opportunities were afforded to explain the Bahá'í attitude toward members of other nations and other systems of thought.

As an example of the universality of the meeting, one of the Committee members had in her car a Venezuelan, a Brazilian, a Panamanian and two Guatemalans, and the exchange of Spanish and English was highly amusing and contributed to the festival spirit of the evening.

**Enrollments and Transfers**

Hereafter, the National Spiritual Assembly will publish enrollments of new believers, and transfers of believers, as separate items, and Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees in their reports are requested to keep the same distinction.


Isolated believers enrolled in July, 1942, nine. Enrolled in August, eleven.

**In Memoriam**

Grant, O my Lord, that they who have ascended unto Thee may repair unto Him Who is the most exalted Companion, and abide beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of Thy Majesty and the Sanctuary of Thy Glory.—BÁHÁ'U'LLÁH.

Mr. Albert E. Lewis, Los Angeles.
Mrs. George L. Loeding, Chicago.
Mrs. Mary A. Hoyt, Denver.
Mr. Rudolph Steinmetz, Minneapolis.
Mr. Oscar O. Winter, Minneapolis.
Mrs. Faith Amberg, Baltimore.
Mrs. Coralie Franklin Cook, Washington, D.C.
Mr. Richard Barnitz, Washington, D.C.
Mrs. Theresa Hill, Circleville, Ohio.
Mrs. Nancy Brown Van Riper, Circleville, Ohio.
Mrs. Electa Timmerman, Springfield, Mass.

Bahá’í Calendar

Anniversaries: Birth of the Báb, October 28; Birth of Bahá’u’lláh, November 12; Day of the Covenant, November 26; Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, November 28.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly, November 12, 13, 14, 15, at Wilmette.

Annual Reports—Concluded
April, 1941—April, 1942
Reginal Teaching Committee for California and Nevada

This Committee has tried earnestly to carry out the many exhortations and injunctions of the Guardian for the Seven Year Plan. The Regional Committee’s part in this plan is to assist isolated Bahá’í and Bahá’í groups with their teaching efforts, the re-establishing of disbanded Assemblies, and the establishment of the Faith in new cities outside the areas in which Local Spiritual Assemblies are carrying on extension work. It is to exercise initiative in the areas outside the jurisdiction of local Assemblies, and coordinate Inter-Community Conferences. In accepting these responsibilities, this Committee has sponsored and performed the following activities:

Firesides and Public Meetings

Regular firesides were held at Inglewood, Huntington Park, Alhambra, Riverside, and Santa Rosa, Burbank and Claremont, California; also Reno and Las Vegas, Nevada. The attendance was small, numbering about two or twenty-five. Sporadic firesides were held at Santa Barbara, Monrovia, Ojai, Arcadia, Fresno, Bakersfield, Knightsen, Long Beach, Santa Maria, and Healdsburg, with an average attendance of around twenty.

Public meetings were given in Fresno, Bakersfield, Lower Lake, Healdsburg, Santa Rosa, Pacific Grove, Reno, Las Vegas, Alhambra and Burbank. All of these were small also, with an average audience of about twenty, but as high as eighty-five.

This committee wishes to express its gratitude to the following friends for their generous contribution of time and services as speakers and teachers at the above meetings: Valeria Thornton, Sara Kenny, Sarah Witt, Eleanor Adler, Helen Bishop, Willard Hatch, Marion Holley, Leroy Ioas, Sylvia King, Shirley Warde, Dagmar Dole, Mary Gail, Mr. Sabot of Persia, Charlotte Linfoot, Robert Gulick, Margaret Sears, and Mrs. Amelia Collins.

Attendance became so poor at firesides and public meetings that constant effort was devoted toward evolving new ways and means of attracting the public. Some of these methods are described hereafter in this report.

Youth “Flying Squadron”

This proved to be one of the most stimulating of the many ideas presented. The Youth Group of the San Francisco Bay area offered to send out monthly a flying squadron on week-end trips to points within the area for the purpose of presenting public symposiums on the Cause. This was immediately accepted and a schedule worked out covering Santa Rosa, Reno, Sacramento, Pacific Grove, Fresno, Modesto, and Pacific Grove again in the order named. Through the combined efforts of the Youth Group, parents, Isolated Believers, and Regional Teaching Committee, meeting places, audiences, sleeping accommodations and transportation were arranged for, and the trips made with most successful results. Both the inquirers and believers were most inspired by the splendid talks and sincere enthusiasm of the youth. Those participating were: Anita Ioas, Fernuk Ioas, Sally Sanor, Frances Nowlin, Barbara Rutledge, Jack Patoh, Margaret Rutledge, and Alex Holcombe.

This committee hopes that it will be so blessed as to always be able to have such a project under way.

Unity Festivals

This method of spreading the name, spirit, and foundation principles of the Cause was found to be particularly effective in those cities having several different racial groups such as are found on the Pacific Coast.

The anniversary of the Declaration of the Báb was celebrated in this manner in Bakersfield, in the beautiful Palm Room of the Bakersfield Motel given for the occasion by the management. The Chinese, Japanese Christian, Japanese Buddhist, Mexican, Negro Baptist, A.M.E. Church, and Mennonite groups participated, each contributing music or dancing or both, and in addition many individuals and the splendid High School Mixed Chorus. Edna Tillyer was Chairman and chief promoter of the evening, and Sylvia King, Valeria Thornton, and Artemus Lamb gave brief Bahá’í messages. About two hundred and fifty attended, of whom only ten were Bahá’ís so it can be seen that this proved to be a most successful way to spread the teachings of Bahá’u’lláh. The affair attracted much attention among the citizens of Bakersfield and was much played up in the local press. This idea was originally obtained from Sylvia King last year when Naw-Rúz was celebrated in such a manner in Fresno.

Club Solicitation

An attempt was made to interest the various service and social clubs in using Bahá’í speakers on their platforms. Attractive brochures were made up on four of the outstanding Bahá’í speakers and distributed by mail to the clubs. In many cases these were followed up by additional letters or by telephone or personal calls and attention directed to future dates and places at which the speakers could be heard. Also, at the Women’s Club in Beverly Hills, in Southern California the local Assemblies assisted the Regional Teaching Committee in arranging an audition of the speakers being publicised by holding a public meeting, Mrs. Stuart French and Mrs. Shirley Warde were the speakers, to which were invited the Program Chairmen of the clubs and at which these speakers talked. About two hundred and fifty clubs were circularized and of these eight have so far used one or more of our speakers. Of course, all of those contacted were made acquainted with the word “Bahá’í and many were given the message.

Radio

A detailed radio report has been
furnished to the Radio Committee. In brief, however, Bahá’í talks were given over nine different stations under the complete or partial supervision of the Regional Teaching Committee, most of which were presented by the studios as sustaining time. In some cases a known audience was built up by notifying the believers and friends in the area ahead of time, but in most instances this was impossible because of the shortness of the notice given by the station. This is the chief disadvantage of using sustaining time. This committee is particularly indebted to Edna Tillyer, and Marion Yazdi in this phase of teaching and also to Kenneth Christian, and Marzieh Gail.

Literature

A personal survey was made (by Artemus Lamb) of all the Public Libraries in the whole region from Geyserville south to the border. Bahá’í books were placed in all the most likely towns. Fifteen of such Libraries as well as those of two colleges accepted Bahá’í literature for the first time and additional books were added to the Libraries of eight more towns. At the request of the National Library Committee all the Army and Navy Camps in the region were contacted and Bahá’í books accepted in nineteen of them. This committee greatly appreciates the splendid cooperation of the Library Committee and the Publishing Committee in this work. One conscientious objectors’ camp received a set of books at the request of an “inmate”.

In addition, World Order Magazine subscriptions were presented to two public and three college libraries. Also, at the suggestion, and with the generous help of, the Publishing Committee, World Order Magazines were placed on sale in magazine stores in some cities. So far the circulation has been chiefly limited to Bahá’ís but we believe that it is well worth while to continue this experiment, as long as the dealers will consent to receive the magazine, as a very inexpensive but dignified way of keeping the Cause before the public. Upon the arrangement of Mrs. Leroy Ioas with the Librarian, books were sent to the San Mateo County Library.

Newspaper Publicity

No particular projects pertaining to this very fertile field were undertaken although where possible articles announcing and following-up all possible events were submitted to the newspapers. Two isolated believers, Edna Tillyer and Estelle Wacaser, gained splendid publicity by writing regular columns for their local papers. This would seem to be a teaching phase worthy of further investigation and efforts. Many inches have been obtained as a result of the public meetings held.

Teaching Conferences

Only one teaching conference was sponsored by the Regional Teaching Committee itself, and this was so successful that more are being planned. In this one held in Alhambra in Southern California, the local Assemblies of Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, Glendale, and Pasadena, gave generous and valuable assistance. The program consisted of a morning conference devoted particularly to the isolated believers and their activities, buffet lunch, and afternoon public meeting. Leroy Ioas gave a stirring talk to open the morning session and acted as the final court of appeals for all knotty problems. Ralph Brown and Helen Bishop gave the talks in the afternoon and Edward Bode presided. About one hundred and fifty attended in the morning and approximately two hundred and fifty in the afternoon. The spirit of enthusiasm and unity was very marked and more are being looked forward to, as the Guardian asks the believers to persevere in holding such meetings.

In such a report it is impossible to describe in detail the worthy efforts made by the believers and teachers in many places. A few outstanding ones may be mentioned:

Fresno

The Naw-Rúz meeting held in Fresno by Mrs. Delia Brandin, a new believer. This meeting was not as large, nor did it include as many participants as last year, on account of the war. A banquet, with Mrs. Valeria Thornton of Beverly Hills and Mrs. Edna Tillyer of Bakersfield as speakers succeeded in interesting about seventy-five people. “Friendship rather than form seemed to be the order of the whole evening.”

Ojai

Mr. Sabet with Virginia Orbison as interpreter spoke to the Community Art Center of Ojai in March. About eighty-five people listened, asked questions and had tea. More Bahá’í speakers were asked for also literature. This meeting was held by the efforts and financial assistance of Mrs. Elizabeth Carpenter and Mr. and Mrs. M. Carter of Santa Paula.

Inter-America Friendship Meeting

An Inter-America Friendship meeting held on April 12, just before Pan-American Day, at the Brazilian Room near Berkeley, had as participants and speakers the Mayor of Berkeley, Mr. F. Gaines; Latin American musicians; Consuls; a speaker in the person of the Honorable Fernando Bereckemeyer, Consul General of Peru; Marzieh Gail...
read a passage from 'Abdu'l-Bahá on Sympathy Towards Strangers.

The meeting was financed by Mrs. E. R. Mathews. Over twenty-five inches of publicity was obtained, and over a hundred people attended. Seventy-eight were non-Bahá'ís. It was probably the largest meeting north of Fresno ever sponsored by the Regional Teaching Committee. Mayor Gaines of Berkeley remarked that the Bahá'ís were to be congratulated for sponsoring such an admirable program.

**Burbank Meetings**

As part of the Regional's activity in re-establishing disbanded Assemblies, a series of five public meetings were held on Sunday evenings in Burbank during March. The speakers were Mrs. Charles Reed Bishop, who spoke twice. Mr. Habib Sabet, Persian visitor (with Marzieh Gail as interpreter), Mrs. Shirley Warde, Miss Virginia Orbison, and Mrs. Valeria Thornton.

The attendance was from twenty-five to fifty persons. The Temple model was displayed in the hall for two weeks where about five hundred persons saw it, and could read the literature. It was later displayed in the Police Officers' League street window. Fairly good newspaper publicity was obtained in Burbank and Glendale.

**Santa Rosa**

During the month of March, Mrs. G. A. Finks of Los Angeles made a stay in Santa Rosa for the purpose of trying to re-establish the Spiritual Assembly there. It was a very difficult task valiantly essayed, as many special problems are involved. Mrs. Finks succeeded in many new contacts, and some of her experiences were remarkable.

**Las Vegas**

Mrs. Sarah Witt was sent by the National Teaching Committee for regional teaching in Las Vegas. Many valuable contacts were made, and the Regional Committee hopes that this will be followed up by another teacher soon.

Work progressing on the dome of the Hazíratu'l-Quds of the N.S.A. of the Bahá'ís of Persia at Tihran.

**Reno**

Through the courageous efforts of the pioneer in Reno, Helen Griffing, and assisting traveling teachers, there are now seven believers in Reno.

**Regional Bulletin**

As transportation has become increasingly difficult, a Regional bulletin called Bahá'í Pioneering was started for the purpose of keeping the isolated believers and groups informed of the activities of the Cause in our region, and in stimulating them and giving them ideas for teaching, and for carrying out their duties for the Cause. This bulletin was started in January and appears (almost) monthly. About one hundred and forty copies are mailed.

**Regional Changes**

In January, Mr. Artemus Lamb resigned as Secretary, after having performed prodigious work in traveling throughout the region, and in directing the affairs of this Committee. Virginia Orbison was appointed to succeed Mr. Lamb for the rest of the term.

Mrs. James Crouchley and Mr. Charles Bishop were appointed to succeed Mrs. Isabel Thompson and Mr. John Keith.

While no new Assemblies have been established in this Region during the year, still, we know that multitudes of persons have heard of the Cause, have declared interest, and many are studying earnestly. A few have signed cards. While the task set to us by the Guardian seems nearly impossible surely we shall be aided in accomplishing all that is expected. In so doing, we shall ourselves grow in efficiency, good will, and harmony, putting aside all issues but the one all-important issue of carrying out the will of the Guardian, who says "... American believers must unanimously pledge themselves to subordinate every activity, canalize every resource, exert every ounce of effort to insure befitting discharge of their supreme one responsibility to carry the light of the Faith..."
Supremely Urgent Call — Stupendous Exertions Required
Message From the Guardian

Fate (of) Seven Year Plan (is) perilously hanging (in the) balance. (This) pivotal year, born amidst high hopes (of) unprecedented upsurge (of) the unbreakable spirit (of) the American Bahá’í community, (is) already half spent. Obstacles, engendered by steadily-deepening, world-convulsing conflict, (are) hourly increasing. (I am) moved (to) plead afresh (for) immediate multiplication (of) pioneers in teaching field, North, South, (on a) scale far surpassing anything hitherto contemplated. (The) present tempo (of) teaching activities (is) clearly insufficient (to) insure definitive, all-embracing victory. (I am) impelled by extreme gravity (of this) swiftly-passing hour (to) address (an) appeal (to) individuals, groups (and) Assemblies, (to) embrace (an) irrevocable resolution, gird themselves (for) superhuman effort, and deputize pioneers (at) whatever cost, however inadequate (their) qualifications, for immediate settlement (of) areas needing assistance. Strictest economy (in) all administrative departments henceforth imperative. Still more abundant flow (of) resources (to the) National Fund, involving still nobler self-sacrifice, (is) demanded. Definite removal (of) every restriction, (the) extension (of) every facility, (for) encouragement (of) prospective settlers, (is) urged. (The) adversaries (of) the Faith (are) jealously vigilant. (The) sister communities (are) watching (in) anxious suspense (to) behold befitting consummation (of) America’s epoch-making achievements. Swift action, boldly conceived, unanimously supported, systematically conducted, can alone retrieve present situation. (The) time (is) too short, conditions too critical, need too great, opportunity too precious, issues at stake too momentous, to justify slightest complacency, allow least relaxation (in) the stupendous exertions required (to) seal (the) triumph (of) the greatest collective enterprise launched during (the) fifty years (of) American Bahá’í history. Prayerfully, longingly awaiting decisive answer, at this late hour, (to my) supremely urgent call.

October 3, 1942

“Heroism Is Needed”

These, indeed, are the days when heroism is needed on the part of the believers. Self-sacrifice, courage, indomitable hope and confidence are the characteristics they should show forth, because these very attributes cannot but fix the attention of the public and lead them to inquire what, in a world so hopelessly chaotic and bewildered, leads these people to be so assured, so confident, so full of devotion? Increasingly, as time goes by, the characteristics of the Bahá’ís will be that which captures the attention of their fellow-citizens. They must show their aloofness from the hatreds and recriminations which are tearing at the hearts of humanity, and demonstrate by deed and word their profound belief in the future peaceful unification of the entire human race. — Shoghi Effendi, in letter written through his secretary to Willard P. Hatch on October 26, 1941. This excerpt is published with the Guardian’s consent.

This Crucial Year

Progress Report No. 3 Issued by the National Spiritual Assembly for the Period Sept. 1 - Oct. 31, 1942

The message from the Guardian which precedes this progress report places the teaching activities on a basis of spiritual obligation which can but intensify the zeal and quicken the conscience of every true believer. Our collective undertaking becomes nothing short of a mighty crusade in which the American Bahá’í community is thrown against the spiritual ignorance, the social
A Statement on the Master’s Will and Testament

This issue of Bahá’í News contains an insert published in connection with the distribution of the text of the Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. The insert consists of a statement prepared by the National Spiritual Assembly to assist new believers to grasp the meaning of the Will. The insert, if removed from the issue, can be used as a separate pamphlet.

letin recently sent to all the friends. Every believer can now examine the list of unsettled states and provinces and determine, not whether to help, but how — by settlement, by traveling teaching, or by contribution to the National Fund so that others may go. The projects approved since our last progress report, item 15, in October Bahá’í News, are:— Adrienne Ellis and Eva Lee Flack, settlement in Greensboro, N. C.; Mrs. Marcia S. Atwater, follow-up teaching in western Canada; Evelyn Cliff, Anne McGee, settlement in Calgary; Mrs. Mabel Ives, intensive teaching in Louisville, Ky.; Mrs. Sara Ellen Peake, settlement in Louisville; Orelia Rexford, intensive teaching in Omaha and in Colorado Springs; Mrs. Valeria Thornton, intensive teaching in Laramie, Wyo.; Nellie S. Roche, Regional Secretary, follow-up teaching in Birmingham, Ala., and Knoxville, Tenn.

22. To September 30 from May 1, the National Fund received $38,601.54. The September contributions amounted to $7,930.49. Seventy-four Assemblies contributed in September, sixty-four groups contributed, and seventy-six isolated believers sent donations to the Fund. September payments included: Temple construction, $12,752.46; Temple maintenance, $1,289.70; Administration, $1,214.58; National Teaching, $1,253.50; Regional Teaching, $687.00; Inter-America teaching, $992.76.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Arise with every power to assist the Covenant of God and serve His vineyard. Be confident that a confirmation will be granted unto you and a success on His part is given unto you. Verily, He shall support you by the angels of His holiness and reinforce you with the breaths of the Spirit that ye may mount the Ark of Safety, set forth the evident signs, impart the spirit of life, declare the essence of His commands and precepts, guide the sheep who are straying from the fold in all directions, and give the blessings. Ye have to use every effort in your power and strive earnestly and wisely in this new century. By God, verify the Lord of Hosts is your support, the angels of heaven your assistance, the Holy Spirit your companion and the Center of the Covenant your helper. Be not idle, but active, and fear not. Look unto those who have been in the former ages — how they have resisted all nations and suffered all persecutions and afflictions, and how their stars shone, their attacks proved successful, their teachings established, their regions expanded, their hearts gladdened, their ideas cleared and their motives effective. Ye are now in a great station and noble rank and ye shall find yourselves in evident success and prosperity, the like of which the eye of existence never saw in former ages.

El-Bahá and salutations be upon every one who is firm in the Covenant, free from dissension, sanctified from deceits and steadfast in the path — Tablets of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá page 162.

War Department Approves Bahá’í Symbol

A letter written by the Quartermaster General, War Department, Washington, August 14, 1942, to the National Spiritual Assembly, through its Chairman, is reprinted in Bahá’í News for the information of the friends. This letter, written in reply to application made by the National Spiritual Assembly, approves the use of the Bahá’í symbol (the Greatest Name) on stones marking the graves of believers killed in the war and buried in military cemeteries or private cemeteries.

War Department
“Office of the Quartermaster General
“Washington
“August 14, 1942

“Mr. A. B. McDaniel
1000 Chandler Building, Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of August 4th, requesting authority for
the use of the Baha'i symbol on the stones which will mark the graves of the followers of the faith of Baha'u'llah, who may be killed in this war and buried in military cemeteries or private cemeteries.

The authorized design for the Government headstones of the general type is the Latin Cross for those of Christian Faith and the Star of David for those of the Hebrew Faith. However, if the emblem of the Baha'i is desired on any Government headstone to be placed in a Military Cemetery or a Private Cemetery and information to that effect is furnished at the time the decedent is interred in the case of a National Cemetery or when application is made for a headstone in the case of a Private Cemetery, the space for the emblem on the Government stone will be left blank in order that such emblem may be placed thereon at private expense.

For the Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

(signed) C. G. Reynolds,
Colonel, Q. M. Corps,
Assistant.
lecture series by Mrs. Ruth Moffett in September. An average of 16 non-Baha'is attended the series which resulted in the organization of a study class.

The Baha'i Group in Providence, R. I., has recently enrolled another new member. Mrs. J. R. Bolles and Miss Jeanne Bolles addressed public meetings in both Providence and Pawtucket in October.

Following her work in the New England region in September, Mrs. Moffett spent October in Wilmington, Del., giving an average of two lectures daily. In response to the call for additional Baha'i settlers for Wilmington, Cynthia Powell of New York City has moved to that city and will be joined November 1st by Dorothy Champ also of New York City.

Our pioneers in West Virginia will have the assistance of Virginia Camelon for the next two months. Public meetings, fireside meetings, college contacts and radio programs are being planned in both Huntington and Charleston.

On October 15 Mrs. Mabel Ives began a two month's teaching program in Louisville, Ky. This city has a group of five Baha'is, including Mrs. Sara Ellen Peake of New York City who moved to Louisville to assist Mrs. Olivia Kelsey in the preliminary work for Mrs. Ives' program.

Although it was necessary for Muriel Stilson to leave Greensboro, North Carolina, due to ill health, prior to her departure three new believers were added to the Baha'i group there. The addition of Eva Flack and Adrienne Ellis of Los Angeles the middle of October brings the number of Baha'is in Greensboro up to seven.

The teaching work in Birmingham, Ala., started by Mrs. Mabel Ives early in the year has gone forward steadily since May under the leadership of Virginia Camelon and Gertrude Gewertz. In September the activities were greatly accelerated as the result of the visit of Mrs. Dorothy Baker who gave two public lectures with an attendance of 50 and 70, respectively. Winston Evans made many prior contacts with key people and secured outstanding publicity in newspaper columns that are read widely throughout the South. Mrs. Joy Earl spent a week in Birmingham in October assisting with the follow-up work among the Negro contacts. She addressed a number of women's groups and started a study class of ten key Negro leaders.

In Jackson, Miss., where a year ago there were no Baha'is, there is now a group of eight. Mrs. Margett Ellis of Covington, La., who has spent several weeks in Jackson from time to time, has now settled there for a four months' period. Two public meetings held in conjunction with the Regional Teaching Conference on October 3 and 4, resulted in excellent newspaper publicity which stressed the fact that the conference was attended by Baha'is from five states.

Following her work in Denver, Colo., Orcella Relford conducted a campaign in Omaha, Nebraska in early October. Her three Baha'i lectures were attended by 125, 75 and 50 people respectively. The follow-up work is going forward under the leadership of Mrs. Florence Holinger of Chicago who conducts two classes daily. The afternoon meetings are attended by seven to ten students and the evening attendance averages 25. To further stimulate the work there, the Regional Teaching Committee for that area will hold a teaching Conference and public meeting in Omaha, November 8.

The enrollment of fourteen new Baha'is in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, during Mrs. Mabel Ives' visit there in September, brought to fruition the teaching work carried on by Mrs. Annie Romer and circuit teachers since last fall. Thus Iowa is assured of at least one Assembly next April.

New Mexico is another unsettled State that has acquired enough Baha'is to re-establish the Assembly in Albuquerque next April. This was made possible by the response to calls for pioneers by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Walters of Brooklyn, N. Y. A Regional Teaching Conference scheduled for that city for October 18 featured as the guest speaker, Mrs. Dorothy Baker, who is visiting colleges in the Southwest.

Colorado is still another State that will no longer be listed as a pioneer area next year. The two disbanded Assemblies in Colorado Springs and Denver have now increased their membership beyond the required nine, and flourishing study classes are under way in both cities.

Mrs. Valeria Thornton, who moved to Laramie from California in July, has reported at length on a very successful Inter-Racial Musical which brought the Baha'i Faith to the attention of many leading citizens of that city. Appropriate follow-up is being carried on through fireside meetings. A study class of twelve meets weekly and in October the group welcomed Mrs. Clair Gillespie of River Forest, Illinois, who answered the call for Baha'i settlers. Commenting on her arrival Mrs. Thornton writes: "One can already feel the power that comes with the addition of another Baha'i."

The recent enrollment of another new member in Boise, Idaho, brings that Baha'i group up to seven. Farukh Ios and Sally Sanor, the young California pioneers who settled there in July, report that a strong study is held weekly. Twenty-six attended an informal meeting addressed by Leroy Ios in Boise in September.

Lead, S. D., has also received two new Baha'i settlers,—Mrs. Charlotte Grover of Glendale, Calif., and Mrs. Lorrol Jackson of Butte, Montana. Although this addition brings the Baha'i group membership to eight, there is a possibility that the number may be reduced owing to the impending transfer of four members to other parts of the country.

In North Dakota a Baha'i group of 9 adults and 4 youth has been formed in the Muhammadan community of Glenfield through the efforts of Mrs. Marguerite Bruegger, our Fargo pioneer. This young group is to be given further teaching assistance by Mrs. J. Stapleton, and Miss Dahiya Abas, of Minneapolis.

Mrs. Alice Dudley of Detroit has moved to Fargo to assist with the establishment of an Assembly there. With the assistance of the Regional Teaching Committee Mrs. Bruegger will conduct a series of 13 radio broadcasts beginning in November.

The five members of the group in Reno, Nevada, have had the assistance of Mrs. Eleanor Adler since the middle of July. Several fine inter-racial meetings have resulted in fine publicity for the Faith.

After four months of medical care and rest in California, Honor Kempston has returned to Anchorage, Alaska, being one of only two women who were able to secure passage. By an odd coincidence her companion was found to be an acquaintance.
made this summer who is going to Anchorage to live.

Although these brief sketches are indicative of the confirmations which attend the teaching efforts of our pioneers the task is still far from being accomplished. Of the 24 pioneer states and provinces only three at this point have promise of Assemblies by next April! The need is for more and more Bahá’í settlers.

"The gigantic enterprises which the American believers are pledged to consummate are as yet but partially concluded, the remaining two years, must witness an intensification of Bahá’í activity... on such a scale as to eclipse the splendor of all past achievements..."

—Shoghi Effendi

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Inter-America News

"Be not concerned with the smallness of your numbers, neither be oppressed by the multitude of an unbelieving world... Exert yourselves; your mission is unspeakably glorious. Should success crown your enterprise America will surely evolve into a center from which waves of spiritual power will emanate, and the throne of the Kingdom of God will, in the plenitude of its majesty and glory, be firmly established." (The Advent of Divine Justice, p. 52.)

Argentina

Such glorious work is going on in Argentina and Sr. Tormo writes of study groups in three other cities which are being taught by the visiting friends from Buenos Aires. The friends are looking forward with great eagerness to the proposed visits of Mrs. Collins and Mr. Sprague.

Bolivia

Miss Hottes writes that she has not suffered from the great altitude of La Paz and that she is working constantly and with the assistance of Mme. de Cuellar and three other confirmed believers they foresee a great future for the work there. They are longing to establish a school for teachers and hope to open up a line of well chosen publicity which has not been attempted before.

Brazil

Mrs. Leonora Holsappie Arm-

strong is finally, we hope, to see the consummation of her hopes for the arrival of a resident teacher in Bahia for plans are underway for such a teacher, and possibly for two teachers beside Mr. Sprague, who plans to spend some time in Bahia which was especially mentioned with significance by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

Costa Rica

We have not heard recently from the two Assemblies in Costa Rica except word which has come from Miss Orbison who stopped in San José en route to her destination in Chile. We know however that the friends are very active and very devoted due to the teaching efforts of Mrs. Gayle Woolson whose work speaks for itself.

Chile

Miss Virginia Orbison, after much delay due to being many times "off-boarded" from the planes which were to have carried her but were required for army transports, arrived at Santiago de Chile late in September. She has been especially fortunate in her connections which will open many avenues and permit her to carry on the beautiful work begun by Mrs. Marcia Atwater who also hopes to return to Chile in the near future.

Cuba

Miss Josephine Kruka has been in Washington for a much needed rest but is eager to return to Havana where she has left a group of children who are our pride and joy; besides there is a splendid Assembly in Havana where they have a center of their own and are strictly observing all Feasts and holding classes.

Colombia

Our newly appointed pioneer for Colombia, Miss Ruth Shook, after a week of waiting for her plane reservations to be made good, finally decided to proceed by rail to Mexico City and from there she proceeded via Guatemala and San Salvador. Great courage and great perseverance is being displayed by these intrepid pioneers of which Miss Gwenne Dorothy Sholtis is also one.

Dominican Republic

Miss Lentz is again pleading for some young university students to join her and assist her with the splendid group which she has brought together from the ancient university of Trujillo. We hope it is not too late to get exchange students into the Republic, but if it is there are other young people who should be thinking of this opportunity.

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’í of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, newly established April 21, 1942.
Ecuador
Three young men are now working with John Stearns and eagerly awaiting the arrival of visiting teachers who will put the finishing touches to their splendid endeavors. We confidently expect great results from this corner of the world.

Guatemala
John Eichnauer and his brother Marshall are now located in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala, where they are employed by the Pan American Airways Construction Co. No one of all our pioneers has had the amount of splendid newspaper publicity that John has had for the Cause. All his articles have been written in Spanish and translations sent to the committee and we are impressed with the good judgment which John has used in publicizing the Cause.

Honduras
News has come to us that Sr. Tany Viana, who was the first to accept the Faith in Honduras, is not only teaching the Faith but has organized a class in Esperanto which is very commendable.

Mexico
The two Spiritual Assemblies in Mexico, i.e., Mexico City and Puebla, are doing splendid work. Bulletins or news letters are sent to all believers every nineteen days announcing the various classes and urging the friends to bring their acquaintances and take up some of the subjects which are being taught preparatory to uniting with the Cause.

Nicaragua
At last reports Mathew Kaszab was about to return home for a visit but he has been requested to remain if possible in view of the Guardian's urgent appeal. Mr. Kaszab's teaching work has been extending rapidly in recent months.

Haiti
Very encouraging news has come from Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell and at last they have been able to acquire some more French books. These have been very much needed and they are now asking for French translations of the Dispensation and the Will and Testament.

Peru
In Lima where Miss Nicklin is working she is having great success with her little school and her class at the hospital but the interest in the Cause is slow and she is longing for assistance. She has recently moved to a new address but will shortly have a post box which she will be able to use and will send us the number if anyone wishes to write her.

Panama
Panama is having all the visitors. They are happily on the path of all pioneers whether they travel by steamer or by plane, but they are still urging us to send them some permanent residents to bring their membership up to the nine required.

Puerto Rico
The friends in San Juan have entered unhesitatingly into the life of the country and are making friends and gaining the confidence of the people which is a sure way of progress.

San Salvador
Clarence Iverson writes that his organ programs are to be broadcast each Sunday morning and we are inquiring the wave length hoping to be able to tune in. He sends a fine photograph of the Spiritual Assembly and says his mother is still with him and in good health.

Uruguay
Wilfrid Barton always sends interesting reports of the teaching and translating work which is being done in Montevideo and makes us long to visit that lovely city and know these zealous friends.

Venezuela
Miss Priscilla Rhoads has been quite ill but we are happy to know that she has recovered and has anticipated the arrival of Miss Gwennie Dorothy Sholtis who arrived in Caracas late in September. Miss Sholtis gave up her plane reservation because of the many delays and travelled by steamer to Panama braving the perils of the Gulf of Mexico, but she arrived safely in Panama having made some very interesting contacts on the steamer despite the terrific storm which they went through. These two pioneers in Venezuela should be making good returns in the near future judging from their zeal and devotion.

Jamaica
Although not within the category of the Latin American Republics Jamaica is to have a resident teacher in Dr. Malcolm King who is returning to his native land to teach the Cause and has promised to keep the Inter-America Committee informed of the progress of his work there.

Announcement by Child Education Committee
To Groups and Isolated Believers: The Committee on Child Education has been working for some time formulating a plan for the education of Bahá’í children in accordance with the Teachings of Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. We have the beginning of such a plan.

Now we need to know our children. Your part in helping to set up this plan for universal education is to send us the information about them. Please send this speedily.

This is a child census. It is important that it be complete.

For each child up to and including fifteen years we need to know:
- Child’s name
- Child’s age
- Date of birth
- Parent’s name
- Address

Whatever other information will be helpful, grade in school, interests, etc. may be added.

Please send to the Committee within a few days.

Harry E. Ford, Chairman
Little Falls, N.Y.

Radio Teaching Activities
A most successful series of weekly radio broadcasts is being sponsored by the Baltimore Community in that city over station WBFR on Sunday afternoons at 5 o'clock.

After earnest consideration of teaching plans, the radio was chosen as the best means for bringing the Cause to public attention, and a sum of money was given by one of the believers for that purpose. In cooperation with the National Radio Committee which supplied the scripts, the series was started on August 9 and the final talk will be given on November 8.
Intensive preparatory work was done, not only in the city, but in all the surrounding towns and cities, by the Baltimore friends and the Regional Teaching Committee for that area. Ten-minute talks were prepared under the general title "The Future We Face" and the radio announcer at the end of every talk gives briefly the Bahá’í principles, as well as the subject for the following week. As requested by the national committee to anyone giving radio talks, copies of the script are offered at the close of every broadcast. This is most important, and already the Baltimore friends have reaped the results by getting in contact with several new people who have written to the station for the talks. New classes are being formed with these people for further study.

Before the series was arranged, very interesting meetings were held with station officials. The salesman took two of the believers in charge of radio arrangements to meet the program manager, who in turn became interested. Finally when the series was arranged, these two believers were asked to meet with eight men of the station’s planning board who asked questions about the Faith for an hour and a half. The Bahá’í attitude toward war, the colored race, and what was meant by “world executive” and “international force” were among the questions asked by this planning board before the series was accepted.

A different speaker almost every week has added to the publicity value of the series, and fifteen newspapers in and near Baltimore have carried both paid publicity and news articles about the series each week.

A complete report will be given on this effort when the series is finished, so that the experience and value of the work may be shared with all the friends.

Radio Committee
By: Mrs. Alice Bacon

Race Unity Committee

Requests have come to us for statements on the subject of racial unity from the direct Bahá’í Writings. A more complete study can be made from references, and it is suggested that Feast readings or general presentations may be chosen from the same references. A helpful list is here supplied:

Baha’i References

A. Spiritual truth of the oneness of mankind.
1. All men are created in the image of God.
2. Color variations not important.
   - Star of West, 13:307; Promulgation, 65, 42, 54, 227; Racial Amity, 8.
3. Diversity in unity.
   - Advent, 32; Wisdom, 46-47.
4. Capacities and character the true distinctions.
   - Promulgation, 422-3, 227-8; Some Answered Questions, 247-51; Wisdom, 135.
5. Human unity manifest in World Order of Bahá’u’lláh;
   - World Order of Bahá’u’lláh, 41, 158-7.

B. Grave importance of modern race problems.
1. All prejudice harmful.
   - Promised Day, 15, 117-118; Promulgation, 293, 310, 281.
2. Negro-white discord critical.
   - Advent, 33.
3. Unity a prerequisite of peace and welfare of mankind.
   - Advent, 33; Gleanings 286, 96; Epistle to the Son of the Wolf, 14; Promulgation, 259; Racial Amity, 11.

C. Solution of race problems: accomplishment of human unity in the Kingdom of God upon earth.
1. Spiritual power, ideals, necessary for achievement of oneness.

Promulgation 65, 315, 217, 229; America’s Spiritual Mission, 17-18; Advent 45-46.
2. Bahá’u’lláh brings to world the power of the Spirit.
   - Gleanings, 95-96, 286-7, 254, 255; Promulgation 159, 197; World Order of Bahá’u’lláh, 197-8; Promised Day, 128.
   - To Jews, Promised Day, 78-79; to Eskimos, ASM 49-50; to white and Negro, Star of West 11:167; to Indians, ASM 19; to Latin America, ASM, 18, 19; to world, ASM 12.
3. Understanding of unity in diversity important.
   - World Order of Bahá’u’lláh, 41, 197.
4. Courageous action commanded.
   - Unity a law today.
   - Gleanings, 286-7; ESW 2; WOB 36; Promulgation 316. Responsibilities for development, association, marriage, etc., Wisdom, 11-12, 33; Promulgation, 42, 195-9; Advent 31, 33; Racial Amity, 20; Bahá’í Administration, 120-121; Bahá’í News, No. 90, p. 1.
5. Challenge to America.
   - ASM, 18; Promulgation, 54, 33-34.
6. World-wide suffering to fuse peoples.
   - WOB 193-4; Promised Day, 127.
7. Bahá’u’lláh’s World Order plan essential to unity.
   - WOB 19-20.
D. Guardian calls for immediate action in America.
Advent, 28, 29, 30, 33-34, 45; Baha'i Administration, 119.

E. Guardian describes design of unity in World Order.
WOB 203-6.

Non-Baha'i References
The friends will be interested in reading the November issue of Survey Graphic when it comes from the press, for it will be special number called "Color" and will consist of more than one hundred pages on the serious race situation throughout the world. Such writers as Edward C. Carter, Elmer Carter, Edwin R. Embree, Lester Granger, Syud Husain, Charles S. Johnson, A. Phillip Randolph, Walter White, Lin Yutang and Sterling Brown will discuss aspects of the problem. The edition is to be specially edited by the well-known Negro scholar, Alain Locke, whose books on this same subject have given him a recognized place as an authority. Have you seen his recent book, "When Peoples Meet?"


Indians of South America, by Paul Radin. Doubleday, Doran and Company.

Latin America, by Preston James. Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Co.

All three books are highly valuable in gaining an understanding of the Indians of the western hemisphere.

Race Unity Committee

Publishing Announcement
A World Faith, studies in the teachings of Baha'u'llah prepared by ten different contributors to a symposium published in World Order Magazine. These ten brief papers provide an excellent introduction to the Cause. 68 pages. Paper cover. Per copy...$0.25.

Appreciations of the Baha'i Faith. The series of remarkable statements written about the Faith by prominent persons in many countries, which the Guardian has made a feature in successive volumes of The Baha'i World. This pamphlet reprinting these testimonials is very interesting and helpful to the new believer, and an impressive proof of the Cause to inquirers. Paper cover. 15c per copy. Sold only in lots of five. Five copies .............. $0.75.

The Publishing Committee wishes to obtain a copy of Star of the West, Vol. III, No. 16. This issue is needed to complete a volume.
Address orders and correspondence to Baha'i Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Committee List
Additions and Revisions
Baha'i Schools
To provide instruction and study courses; to train teachers; to conduct the school program; to encourage attendance at the school.

Green Acre
Lorna Tasker, Chairman
Roushan Wilkinson, Secretary, R.F.D. 150, No. Attleboro, Mass.
Louis G. Gregory
Harlan Ober
Glenn A. Shook
Rachel Small
Mrs. Harry Ford
Harry Ford

Geyserville
Glady's Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.
Mrs. Amelia Bowman
John Bosch
Anita Ioas
Irvin Sonnerhalder
Mrs. Louise Groger

Leubelen
Edmund Miessler, Chairman
Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary, Leubelen Ranch, R. D. 3, Davison, Mich.
Phyllis Hall, Corresponding Secretary, 2367 Woodstock Drive, Detroit, Mich.
Mrs. Beatrice Bardley
Harry Whang
L. W. Eggleston
Kenneth Christian
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick
Mrs. Dorothy Graf

International School
To provide instruction for the training of Baha'i teachers wishing to serve in other lands, especially, at present, in Central or South America; to stimulate Latin American contacts and activities by local Assemblies in North America.

Mrs. Loulie A. Mathews, Chairman
Mrs. Wanden La Farge, Secretary, Fountain, Colo.
Mark Tobey
Max Greven
Mrs. Inez Greven
Mrs. Marion Little
George O. Latimer

Youth
To stimulate and coordinate activities of Baha'i youth throughout the American Baha'i community; to initiate worldwide Baha'i symposiums; to issue bulletins of suggestions, plans and news of youth activity; to provide study material.

Ana Joas, Chairman, 840 46th Avenue, San Francisco, Calif.
Peggy Miller
Leila Storch
Alex Holcombe
Marion Holley, Youth Advisor

Archives and History: Mrs. Carl Scheffler, 1821 Lincoln Street, Evanston, Ill., appointed Secretary.


Enrollments and Transfers


In Memoriam
"... The true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation."
Baha'u'llah.

Mrs. Stella C. Dewart, St. Albans, Vermont.

Dr. Florence McShane, Altadena, California.

Mrs. Elizabeth F. King, Indianapolis.

Mrs. Oscar Charles Garrett, Chicago.

Mrs. Flora F. Lybrand, Washington.

Mrs. J. Mackett, Milwaukee.

Baha'i Calendar
Anniversaries: Birth of Baha'u'llah, November 12; Day of the Covenant, November 26; Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Baha, November 28.

Nineteen Day Feasts: Power, November 4; Speech, November 23; Questions, December 12; Honor, December 31.

Meeting of National Spiritual Assembly: November 12, 13, 14, 15, at Wilmette.
The Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá
Charter of a Divine Civilization


The American Bahá’í community today includes a generation of new believers who entered the Cause after the Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in 1921. It is the privilege and duty of the older Bahá’ís to assist these friends to understand what poignant and heart-shaking experiences stirred the Bahá’í community during the fateful years when the inviolable power of the Covenant was being established throughout the West.

To realize the meaning and appreciate the blessing of His Will and Testament, it is essential to enter into the spirit of those years and retrace the Master’s steps as He demonstrated His authority as Interpreter and Exemplar of Bahá’u’lláh’s Faith. For the truths, the directions, the prayers, the appeals and the interpretations which constitute the text of the Master’s Will were given forth to the friends in embryonic form during His life and mission on earth. In Tablet and address, in deed and action, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá instructed and trained His faithful believers in the spiritual mysteries of unity, sacrifice, authority, devotion, knowledge, worship and administrative action which come to their climax and fulfilment in the text of His Will. The problems, the issues, the burdens which befall the Bahá’ís now, individually and collectively, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá encountered in their most forceful and grievous form, and the Victory won by the Center of Bahá’u’lláh’s Covenant became the victory of every true Bahá’í. For example: ‘Abdu’l-Bahá exemplified the perfection of love and service to others, whether friend or foe, but when the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh was assailed from within by treacherous and implacable enemies claiming to be believers, the Master by His own decisive action expelled these traitors from the Cause and declared that association with them was forbidden to Bahá’ís.

The Cause of Bahá’u’lláh has advanced by certain definite stages and eras, each characterized by a new blessing and distinguished by a new text. First, after the martyrdom of the Báb, there came the supreme blessing and gift, the Manifestation of Bahá’u’lláh, but not all the followers of the Báb, nor even of Bahá’u’lláh’s own household, could spiritually recognize and accept Bahá’u’lláh’s divine Power. The Cause was therefore purged of its impurity, and the principle of unity was confirmed. Then Bahá’u’lláh passed on, in 1921, leaving His Testament appointing ‘Abdul-Bahá, and again tumult and confusion seemed to arise and threaten the Cause like the waves of a stormy sea. But this outward tumult and confusion served merely to separate true believer from secret foe. Once more the Bahá’í community, strengthened and purified, met a divinely-ordained test and ordeal and by the experience became better prepared to serve the Faith. The evidence of a divine Faith is its power not only to remain steadfast under the onslaught of hostile parties outside the Cause, but also to purify itself from the insidious whisperer of doubt who works within. Bahá’u’lláh bestowed upon the Master a unique authority and a unique mission. The Master alone could understand that mission and exercise that power. From 1892 to 1921, He stood as the sacred Center of the Bahá’í community of East and West, its inspiration, its teacher, its defender, its guide and its leader. ‘Abdul-Bahá was in Himself the “Shield of His Covenant.” ‘Abdul-Bahá “guarded the Temple of His Cause.” ‘Abdul-Bahá led the “Hosts of His Testament” who “preserved the Sanctuary of His Most Beneficial Law.”

In former Dispensations, the spiritual intention of the Founder of religion has not fully penetrated the body of His followers. They have substituted human devices and expedients for the universality of Revelation. But between Bahá’u’lláh and the worldwide body of His followers, ‘Abdul-Bahá has stood steadfast, preserving the Faith and, in His Will and Testament, assuring its preservation to the end of the Bahá’í cycle.

The Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá since 1921 has been the power and authority which determine the faith of the individual believer and the spiritual integrity of the Bahá’í community, whether of town, city or nation, in the East or in the West. Through the Will and Testament, as through a pure channel, the Spirit of Bahá’u’lláh flows forth to all parts of the world, developing those institutions which are to maintain the Most Great Peace, and transform a world of darkness into a world of light. Divine Guidance comes to the world through this channel. Those who deny the Will and Testament deprive themselves of connection with Bahá’u’lláh, and isolate themselves from the Community of the Greatest Name.

Turning to the text of the Will, we find that it was revealed in three different parts or sections. Each was revealed at a different time. All were signed or sealed by the Master, and the text was written in His own hand.

As we ponder this tremendous document, we find in the text the development of certain themes.

**Subjects of the Will and Testament**

1. Appointment of Shoghi Effendi as Guardian of the Bahá’í Faith, sole interpreter, after ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, of the Bahá’í Writings, and chairman of the Universal House of Justice; the Guardian to appoint Hands of the Cause; and provision for succession of the Guardianship through the period ended by the coming of the next Manifestation.

2. Method of election of the Universal House of Justice; its functions.

3. Sacred obligation to teach the Cause; the greatest gift of God is teaching.

4. The Bahá’í attitude of obedience to civil government.

5. Consort with all peoples, kindreds and religions in love and fellowship.

6. Explanation of the stations of the Báb and Bahá’u’lláh.

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7. A fixed money offering to be made to God through the Guardian.

8. The greatest of all things is the protection of the True Faith of God; the sin of Covenant-breaking (disobedience to `Abdu'l-Bahá); Mirzá Yahyá's rebellion against Bahá'u'lláh; sedition of Muhammad-Áli after the Master's appointment as Center of the Covenant.

9. The members of the Holy Family, the Hands of the Cause and the beloved of the Lord must obey and turn into Shoghi Effendi. Disobedience to the Guardian is denial of Bahá'u'lláh. It is incumbent upon the believers to take the greatest care of Shoghi Effendi. To none is given the right of asserting a personal opinion in relation to the Master's commands. All must turn to the Center of the Cause, Shoghi Effendi, and to the House of Justice.

There is a mysterious potency in the Word which Bahá'u'lláh explains in "The Kitáb-i-Iqán": "Meditate profoundly, that the secret of things unseen may be revealed unto you, that you may inhale the sweetness of a spiritual and imperishable fragrance, and that you may acknowledge the truth that from time immemorial even unto eternity the Almighty hath tried, and will continue to try, His servants, so that light may be dispensed from darkness, truth from falsehood, right from wrong, guidance from error, happiness from misery and roses from thorns."

This general truth throws a clear light on those portions of the Master's Will which deal with Covenant-breakers, and particularly with the disobedience and hostility of Muhammad-Áli. 'Abdu'l-Bahá's own half-brother, Bahá'u'lláh, in the "Kitáb-i-Iqán," declares that members of the Holy Family are to be respected by the believers. Concerning Muhammad-Áli, who was younger than `Abdu'l-Bahá, Bahá'u'lláh stated that the Lesser Branch was to be after the Greater Branch, and He further declared: "God's Will and Testament enjoin upon the Branches, the Twigs, and the Kinsfolk, one and all, to gaze unto the Most Great Branch" (i.e., `Abdu'l-Bahá). Therefore, when the Master ascended, Muhammad-Áli, a the eldest surviving brother, would have been head of the Holy Family and possessed of great influence in the Cause has not the Master's Will testified to Muhammad-Áli's disobedience to Bahá'u'lláh's command. Muhammad-Áli by his own action was cut off from the Holy Tree; and as the Master's Will records: "We wronged them not, but they have wronged themselves."

Here, in brief, is the reason why 'Abdu'l-Bahá in His Testament presented the case of the Covenant-breakers so emphatically:—He assured that the believers throughout the world would turn to Shoghi Effendi as the true Center of the Cause, and not to Muhammad-Áli, the self-revealed rebel against the Manifestation. By grasping this principle, and realizing that faith is no more pretense of universal tolerance but full obedience to divine laws and commands, the believers today have no difficulty in discerning the disobedience and the rebellion of all who now, or at any later time, repudiate the Guardian and flout the Bahá'í Administrative Order while claiming to be Bahá'ís.

'Abdu'l-Bahá was made by Bahá'u'lláh the touchstone distinguishing believer from non-believer, friend from enemy. His Will and Testament create a continuance of the self-revealed rebel against the Manifestation, every class and every creed, every race, every nation, every class and every creed will find that its real relationship to God and to mankind has been made conditional upon its acceptance of this Will, the Testament of `Abdu'l-Bahá, moreover, makes our faith dependent not only upon acceptance of the world order of Bahá'u'lláh but likewise upon our activity and sacrifice in teaching the Cause. We have a spiritual life to live and not merely a set of principles to approve.

The Master's blessed love for the Bahá'ís, consummated in the Will He left them on His departure, summons each believer to translate his belief into sacrifice and deeds. Our predecessors in service, the Persian Bahá'ís, demonstrated their faith in suffering martyrdom for the beloved. Now that the American believers have been given the sublime mission of spreading the Faith far and wide throughout the world, we must anticipate the need for spiritual heroism in meeting whatever obstacle or challenge confronts us on the path. Whoever demonstrates his faith against opposition, test and hardship will receive a mighty reinforcement from Bahá'u'lláh. Such a believer is made a new being, immersed in a sea of light and life. His doubts and fears are consumed, and his innate capacity and true self transcend his former self, as the tree transcends the seed!

For twenty years the Guardian has been carrying out the provisions of the Master's Will and Testament, administering the affairs of the Cause, developing its nascent institutions, and expounding the meanings of the Will to the believers throughout the world. The new friends are advised to study and ponder the Guardian's general statement on the Cause entitled "The Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh," published both as a pamphlet and as a chapter in the book, "The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh." Therein He explains with utmost clarity the station of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and the Master's conveyance of authority to the Guardianship and the Administrative Order of the Cause.

The following excerpts from words of Shoghi Effendi present us with the essential truth on which our understanding of the Will is to be based.

"'Abdu'l-Bahá, Who incarnates an institution for which we can find no parallel whatever in any of the world's recognized religious systems, may be said to have closed the age to which He Himself belonged and opened the one in which we are now laboring. His Will and Testament should thus be regarded as the perpetual, the indissoluble link which the mind of Him Who is the mystery of God has conceived and brought into being. We are, then, faced with the necessity of choosing between the three ages that constitute the component parts of the Bahá'í Dispensation.

"The creative energies released by the Law of Bahá'u'lláh, permeating and evolving within the mind of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, have, by their very
impact and close interaction, given birth to an Instrument which may be viewed as the Charter of the New World Order which is at once the glory and the promise of this most great Dispensation ... Bahá'u'lláh's inscrutable purpose, we must ever bear in mind, has been so thorough-
ly infused into the conduct of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and their motives have been so closely welded together, that the mere attempt to dissociate the teachings of the former from any system which the ideal Exemplar of those same teachings has established would amount to a repudiation of one of the most sacred and basic truths of the Faith." (The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, pages 143, 144)

SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

1. References to 'Abdu'l-Bahá in the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh

When the ocean of My presence hath ebbed and the Book of My Revelation is ended, turn your faces toward Him Whom God hath purposed, Who hath branched from this Ancient Root. And again, when the Mystic Dove will have winged its flight from its Sanctuary of Praise and sought its far-off goal, its hidden habitation, refer ye whatsoever ye understand not in the Book to Him Who hath branched from this mighty Stock.—The Kitáb-i-Áqdas

It is incumbent upon the Aghásn, the Afrá and My kindred to turn, one and all, their faces towards the Most Mighty Branch. Consider that which We have revealed in Our Most Holy Book: "When the ocean of My presence hath ebbed and the Book of My Revelation is ended, turn your faces toward Him Whom God hath purposed, Who hath branched from this Ancient Root." The object of this sacred verse is none other except the Most Mighty Branch ('Abdu'l-Bahá). Thus have We graciously revealed unto you our potent Will, and I am verily the Gracious, the All-Powerful.—The Kitáb-i-Ahd.

There hath branched from the Sadratú'l-Muntahá this sacred and glorious Being, this Branch of Holiness; well is it with him that hath sought His shelter and abideth beneath His shadow. Verily the Limb of the Law of God hath sprung forth from this Root which God hath firmly implanted in the Ground of His Will, and Whose Branch hath been so uplifted as to encompass the whole of creation. Magnified be He, therefore, for this sublime, this blessed, this mighty, this exalted Handiwork! ... A Word hath, as a token of Our grace, gone forth from the Most Great Tablet—a Word which God hath adorned with the ornament of His own Self, and made it sovereign over the earth and all that is therein, and a sign of His greatness and power among its people ... Render thanks unto God, O people, for His appearance; for verily He is the most great Favor unto you, the most perfect Bounty upon you; and through Him every mouldering bone is quickened. Whoso turneth towards Him hath turned towards God, and whoso turneth away from Him hath turned away from My Beauty, hath repudiated My Proof, and transgressed against Me. He is the Trust of God amongst you, His charge within you, His manifestation unto you and His appearance among His favored servants ... We have sent Him down in the form of a human temple. Blest and sanctified be God Who createth the form of a human temple. Blest and sanctified be God Who createth...—The Tablet of the Branch.

2. The Covenant: Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá

Inasmuch as great differences and divergences of denominational belief had arisen throughout the past, every man with a new idea attributing it to God, His Holiness Bahá'u'lláh desired that there should not be any ground or reason for disagreement among the Bahá'ís. Therefore with His own Pen He wrote the Book of His Covenant, addressing His relations and all people of the world, saying: "Verily, I have appointed One who is the Center of My Covenant. All must obey Him; all must turn to Him; He is the expounder of My Book and He is informed of My purpose. All must turn to Him. Whosoever He says is correct, for verily He knoweth the texts of My Book. Other than He, no one doth know My Book." The purpose of this statement is that there should never be discord and disagreement among the Bahá'ís but that they should always be united and agreed. ... Therefore whosoever obeys the Center of the Covenant appointed by Bahá'u'lláh has obeyed Bahá'u'lláh, and whosoever disobeys Him has disobeyed Bahá'u'lláh. Beware! beware! lest any one should speak from the authority of his own thoughts or create a new thing out of himself. ... His Holiness Bahá'u'lláh shuns such souls.

3. The Will and Testament: Words of Shoghi Effendi

On one hand the remarkable revelations of the Beloved's Will and Testament, so amazing in all its aspects, so emphatic in its injunctions, have challenged and perplexed the keenest minds, whilst the ever-increasing confusion of the world, threatened as never before with disruptive forces, fierce rivalries, fresh commotions and grave disorder, has well-nigh overwhelmed the heart and damped the zeal of even the most enthusiastic believer in the destiny of mankind.

And yet, how often we seem to forget the clear and repeated warnings of our beloved Master, who, in particular during the concluding years of His mission on earth, laid stress on the "severe mental tests" that would inevitably sweep over His loved ones of the West—tests that would purge, purify and prepare them for their noble mission in life. (Bahá'í Administration, 43, 44.)

Humanity, torn with dissension and burning with hate, is crying at this hour for a fuller measure of that love which is born of God, that love which in the last resort will prove the one solvent of its most incalculable difficulties and problems. Is it not incumbent upon us, whose hearts are aglow with love for Him, to make still greater effort, to manifest that love in all its purity and power in our dealings with our fellow-men? May our love of our beloved Master, so ardent, so disinterested in all its aspects, find its true expression in love for our fellow-brethren and sisters in the faith as well as for all mankind. I assure you, dear friends, that progress in such matters as these is limitless and infinite, and that upon the extent of our achievements along this line will ultimately depend the success of our mission in life. (Bahá'í Administration, 52)
Enduring, Momentous Victory

A Message From the Guardian

Acclaim with grateful heart, on twenty-first Anniversary of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Ascension, the glorious emergence of the firmly-welded, incorruptible American Bahá’í community from severest crisis since His passing which the blindness of the breakers of Bahá'u'lláh's and 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Covenant has, amidst His kindred, and in the City of the Covenant, recently tragically precipitated. Posterity will unhesitatingly recognize so spontaneous, shining, stirring demonstration of fidelity rendered alike to the Lord of the Covenant and to its Center as a victory more enduring, more momentous, than any triumphs, however notable, which the standard-bearers of the Administrative Order, the champion builders of the Temple, the stalwart executors of the Divine Plan have achieved or may yet achieve in the closing years of the expiring First Bahá’í Century. Nursed since birth in the lap of the unfailing solicitude of the Center of the Covenant, torch-bearer of the Divine Order recognized as child of that Covenant, vanguard of that host destined to diffuse the Light of that same Covenant over the face of the entire globe, American Bahá’í community is now assuming rightful place at the forefront of the world-wide, loyal, unbreachable spiritual army of Bahá'u'lláh preparing, both in the East and West, to launch still greater campaigns, scale loftier heights, at the dawning of the Second Bahá’í Century.

November 30, 1942

This Crucial Year

Progress Report No. 4 Issued by the National Spiritual Assembly for the Period November 1-30, 1942

Last month we published the Guardian’s message of October 3, and the responses made by the friends up to the time of the meeting of the National Assembly held November 12, 13, 14 and 15 were so impressive that a message was sent to Shoghi Effendi as follows:

"Your teaching appeal producing most widespread, fervent, sacrificial response ever made by American believers. Thoroughly convinced that spiritual condition has been created for complete eventual success of Seven Year Plan. Entire community stirred to depths, moving forward with ever-increasing impetus. Hearts filled with reverence and gratitude for your unfailing guidance. This upsurge is the testimony of America’s devotion to beloved Guardian."

23. Forty-three Assemblies had responded, besides some groups and individuals. A total of forty-nine pioneers and settlers was listed as ready to undertake a mission, and many others were reported as volunteering for weekend or occasional activity. This correspondence revealed extraordinary effort to contribute for deputizing in addition to regular donations to the National Fund.

On November 10 the National Teaching Committee reported data covering its immense undertakings since the Convention period. Up to October 20, twenty-two believers had been settled in unoccupied areas. From then to November 10, four additional settlers were sent out, another four were to proceed at once, making thirty pioneer settlements in all. In addition, the National Teaching Committee received twenty applications from Convention time to October 20, and twenty-nine applications from then to November 13, or a total of forty-nine applications over and above the thirty settlers sent out.

These records all combine to present a clear picture of a powerful spiritual community rapidly arousing to consciousness of its capacity when consecrated to the mighty task.

Now let us mark well the Guardian’s message of November 30, received after he had learned of this upsurge of teaching spirit—the message preceding this progress report. These words have such profound meaning that we can ponder them over and over, for they connect our collective activities of this hour with the victory over negative forces which have assailed the Cause both in America and in Haifa itself. Shoghi Effendi acclaims the response of the friends to his appeal as a victory greater than any the American believers have or will achieve in these closing years of the First Bahá’í Century. Fidelity has been rendered to Bahá'u'lláh, the Lord of the Covenant, and to ‘Abdu'l-Bahá, its Center.

The privilege of association in such a triumph can only express itself in acts and deeds.

24. Mrs. Amelia E. Collins has been completing the details in connection with the work of constructing the Memorial to May Maxwell in Buenos Aires, and is devoting herself to teaching and contacts in that city and with other Assemblies.
and groups on her return. Philip Sprague, volunteering to serve in the Inter-America field, has also been active in Buenos Aires, after meeting the friends and pioneer teachers in Panama, Quito, Lima and Santiago. Mrs. Enos M. Barton has proceeded to Montevideo, making as many stops as possible en route. Winifred Baker has obtained passport and reservations for Colombia.

25. A new National Committee has been appointed, the Baha’i College Foundation, with the function of sending out teachers who can present the Message to college faculties and undergraduates, with a view to ultimately establishing organized Baha’i facilities at colleges and universities. The great population of teachers and students is one to which the Message must be given with all possible effort, as it is stirred to the depths and uncertain of the future.

26. The Temple construction work has proceeded rapidly in recent weeks and the Trustees have been assured that the steps will be completed by December 31. To commemorate the end of construction of the exterior ornamentation called for in the Seven Year Plan, the National Assembly will issue in December an illustrated pamphlet entitled “The Baha’i Temple, House of Worship of a World Faith.” This presents the history of the enterprise, technical details of construction, and the significance of the Mashriqul-Adhkar. The Baha’i News Service Committee is working on a special press campaign which will bring the finished building to the attention of technical and trade papers as well as the daily press.

27. From May 1 to October 30 the National Fund received $49,784.94. The October contributions amounted to $11,183.30. Seventy-nine assemblies sent contributions, eighty-four contributed, and donations came from 104 isolated friends. October expenditures amounted to $13,753.61, including $8,761.50 for Temple construction, $1,097.01 Temple Maintenance, $1,220.00 National and Regional Teaching, $1,291.46 Inter-America teaching, $488.30 for other Committee budgets, and $1,125.38 for administration.

Concentration of Resources

In order to effect all possible economy in administrative expense, for the concentration of resources on teaching and Temple construction, the National Spiritual Assembly has voted to reduce the size of Baha’i News for the present to four pages. The editor has been directed to go over and edit such reports as are too long to fit into the new arrangement.

The Annual Reports issued prior to the Convention are also to be cut to about half the length of the 1942 edition, which means briefer statements by the National Committees, and the digesting of Regional teaching reports by the National Teaching Committee and their presentation in its annual report.

Regional Teaching Committees are requested to restrict their bulletins to one sheet.

The Guardian’s direction that administrative economy be exercised immediately applies to local Assemblies as well as to the National body. The NSA is taking steps to effect all possible economy and expects that each local Assembly will do the same.

The Guardian’s Request

In a letter dated November 14, 1923, (page 45, third edition of Baha’i Administration) Shoghi Effendi gave utterance to an earnest request that all the believers offer prayer on his behalf. The exact words are reprinted here, so that the friends who wish to quote the request may follow the Guardian’s own phraseology:

“I cherish the hope that from now on, the Beloved may bestow upon me all the strength and vigor that will enable me to pursue over a long and unbroken period of strenuous labor the supreme task of achieving, in collaboration with the friends in every land, the speedy triumph of the Cause of Baha’u’llah. This is the prayer I earnestly request all my fellow-brethren and sisters in the Faith to offer on my behalf.”

Spiritual Prerequisites

In The Advent of Divine Justice, the Guardian lays down the spiritual prerequisites of success upon which depend the outcome of all our Baha’i activities. “This rectitude of conduct, honesty, fair-mindedness, reliability, and trustworthiness, must distinguish every phase of the life of the Baha’i community,” he states on page 19.

Speaking of teachers in this Cause, Baha’u’llah revealed the following: “They whose hearts are turned towards Him Who is the Object of the adoration of the entire creation must needs, in this Day, pass beyond and be sanctified from all created things, visible and invisible. If they arise to teach My Cause, they must let the breath of Him Who is the Unconstrained stir them and must spread it abroad on the earth with high resolve, with minds that are completely detached from and independent of all things, and with souls that are sanctified from the world and its vanities.”

“So mut string of conduct,” the Guardian continued . . . “must constitute the brightest ornament of the life, the pursuits, the exertions, and the utterance of every Baha’i teacher, whether laboring at home or abroad . . .”

In keeping with these truths, the National Spiritual Assembly feels that it is of paramount importance, especially in these crucial days, to keep all Baha’i teaching activity severed from even the appearance of confusing the teacher as such with any financial interest or material gain in the teacher’s relations with those who are primarily seeking spiritual knowledge and instruction.

The practice of a trade, craft or profession is obligatory in this Revelation, and its normal exercise is part of the average life. It is not any person’s daily work which might involve the Cause in criticism, but the association of personal interest with the sacred responsibility of sharing the Message.

Inter-America News

During the past few weeks we have seen Miss Shook favorably established in Bogotá, Colombia, where already she has made a place for herself among the American and English communities and has been assured of the interest which her profession will arouse. She is now expecting Miss Winifred Baker to join her and the Committee is happy to mention the very fine qualifications which Miss Baker has to offer for pioneer service.

This brings us to the point of emphasizing the need for thorough study of Spanish or Portuguese for
those who may be intending to enter this field. A letter from Philip Sprague urges that more attention be paid to this study. Philip, by the way, is a flaming torch, for wherever he goes he displays such tact and such loving helpfulness that we receive the most glowing reports of his work.

Miss Virginia Orbison who is now well settled in Santiago, Chile, is exuberant over the visit of Mrs. Collins who, she says, has deeply impressed the people and has spoken with such authority that the Administrative Order is beginning to assume the great importance which it is destined to awaken when it is clearly understood and put into practice.

Mr. Sprague visited Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and Chile at last reports, and Mrs. Collins was in Buenos Aires attending to the details of the memorial to Mrs. Maxwell. When these two pioneer teachers return they will bring to us the great wave of loving unity which is steadily growing in South America.

Regarding Central America there are now four Spiritual Assemblies but we still have to see the organization of Guatemala and Nicaragua, both of which will receive our immediate attention for there are certainly enough students of the Faith in those countries to bring about the formation of Spiritual Assemblies this year.

Miss Gwenne Sholtis is settling into Venezuela but feels somewhat the lack of Spanish which she is now devoting much time to. We could use a pioneer in Venezuela who knows Spanish and could assist as we have at this time no registered believers there.

Miss Margaret Lentz is still urging us to send some young people who could enter the University in Trujillo and associate with the students many of whom have become interested in the teachings. Could not some young person volunteer for this lovely service?

It is becoming increasingly evident that we are to have the assistance of certain local believers in several of the Republics to pioneer either in their own countries or in others where little work has been done. If all goes well we hope to see Mr. Barton and Sr. Torno go together to Asuncion, Paraguay, where Elizabeth Cheney has left such fine budding plants and so many who are truly devoted to the Faith, this plan however is dependent upon many sanctions.

Mrs. Amédée Gibson of the Los Angeles Community is doing a beautiful service for the friends in Haiti. Mrs. Gibson is French and is making typed copies of various of the Writings and binding them with her own hands. These examples of her work and devotion are very gratefully received by the Committee and forwarded to the Spiritual Assembly of Port-au-Prince.

Race Unity

Reports From the Assemblies

Constructive reports on the Race Unity work are coming in from many of the Assemblies. We regret that there is not space to share all of them with you, but a few excerpts are listed below.

San Francisco — "Our most recent attempt, a Chinese evening, was the most successful in bringing out an audience. Fifty-nine invitations sent to Fellowship and Teaching Committee contacts included a notice of the Friday evening public meeting, an illustrated Temple lecture, as well as the Chinese evening on Saturday night. . .As a result there were fifty-eight people present for the Chinese program, eighteen of them non-Baha'is and five children. There were five Chinese, five Negroes and two Mexican."

Peoria — "Last night at Feast, we had a large table of books and magazines on the Race situation, and a talk given by one of our mem-
members who had just visited in Memphis at Henderson College."

Philadelphia — "Last year we entertained at our Center a group of very progressive Negro college boys and girls known as the 'West Phil. Civic Club'. We hope to meet with this group again in the near future."

Urbana — "Our bit of race unity work lately has been a twelve-minute broadcast on the subject, "The Question of Prejudice," a talk written by Mrs. Alta Gaines. It was so well liked by some of the Negro audience that we have had and granted five requests for copies of the talk. The Illinois Times, Danville, Ill., printed it all on the front page of the paper."

Englewood — "We expect to have many Bahá'í evenings and days of a social nature this fall and winter for through these affairs a friendship and closeness is developed that brings the members of our community closer together."

Phoenix — "We have read with great interest the appearance in Bahá'í News of "An Up-to-date Bibliography" and will certainly make use of this in our study of the races and hope to have some interesting reports to make to the National Committee before long."

Milwaukee — "We are in touch with Indian, Mexican, Negro and Jewish groups and are continuing this work to the best of our ability and time, including musical and international nights."

Arlington — "The local Negro library has gladly accepted Bahá'í books. We hope at a later date to be able to report a program of activity with this minority race."

East Orange — "While we do not have a Race Unity Committee at the present time, we hope to be able to form one at an early date. We also expect to cooperate with the Newark, Bloomfield and Montclair Assemblies in giving a Race Unity Meeting in the very near future."

Ann Arbor — "Carver Center, a Negro Community house which recently has been established in Ypsilanti, had a program of music and poetry yesterday which was attended by several Ann Arbor Bahá'ís. Catherine Faily, isolated believer in Ypsilanti, was largely responsible for the program. We have contributed work, books, time and money for the development of this Negro community center in Ypsilanti, and occasionally we have had our Bahá'í Feasts at Dunbar, the Negro community center in Ann Arbor."

Los Angeles — "In fact, the race unity question, as far as regards the colored race, as an obstacle in the Bahá'í Community work of the official committees, does not seem to exist here. There are about a dozen colored members in the local Bahá'í Community, and almost all of them are active in serving the Faith in some manner. They have appeared on programs, both as chairmen and as speakers. And with credit to themselves."

Chicago — "Our plan is to take advantage of present-day publicity relative to international racial unity and have made contacts for speakers such as: Mr. Benjamin Ojike, Nigeria, Africa — B. A. Oxford, Eng. B. Sc. Ohio State, Ph. D. Chicago. Mr. C. Y. Hu, Soo Chung, Prov. China — B. Sc. Nanking Univ., China, M. Sc. Univ. of Cal. Mr. Tson, Chinking, China — B. S. Ass. Univ., S. W. China, M. Sc. Chicago. Miss M. Garay, Chilí, S. A. — B. A. Chicago, M. Soc. Sc. Chicago. These speakers have been contacted and are awaiting dates. This is our start, I hope, that with the help of our committee, to present a fine program this year."

Many more replies have been received, and excerpts from them will be published later."

Dorothy Baker, Chairman Sarah Walrath, Secretary

Exhibits Committee
The Committee on Bahá'í Exhibits advises the friends that production of the Temple cutouts and displays has been delayed due to inability of the manufacturer to obtain stock of cardboard. The display which was to have been sent to Regional and National Teaching Committees last month will be delivered later, but the date is uncertain.

Publishing Announcements
The Bahá'í Temple, House of Worship of a World Faith, illustrated pamphlet issued by the National Spiritual Assembly to mark the completion of the exterior ornamentation this winter. 32 pages and paper cover, 7½ by 10 inches. It provides information of importance to believers and is suitable for use as general teaching literature. Sold in lots of ten for $1.00.

Information About the Bahá'í House of Worship. 24 mimeographed pages, size 8½ by 11 inches. This makes generally available the information compiled by the Temple Guides Committee for its guide study classes: data and facts about the architect, architecture, grounds, history of building, materials and methods of construction, symbolism of the design, principles of Bahá'í worship, etc. Most helpful for teachers and exhibitors of the Temple model. Per copy, $0.25.

New editions of Spanish leaflets: Principios de la Fe Bahá'í, per copy, $0.05; El Mashriqu'l-Adhkar, brief statement about the Temple. Per copy, $0.05.

The friends are informed that the compilation entitled Bahá'í Writings was a donation to the Cause and receipts from sales go to the Temple Fund.

Kindly send orders well in advance, to offset delays in transportation beyond our control. Address: Bahá'í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

The Bahá'í World
Will all who find references to our Faith in non-Bahá'í books or magazines which are not already listed in Bahá'í Bibliography of The Bahá'í World, volume VIII, please send such references to Mrs. Bertha H. Kirkpatrick, Olivet, Michigan. Information should include name of book, author and publisher and page on which reference occurs. If reference is in a magazine, name of magazine, month or week and year of issue and author of article with page should be given.

In Memoriam

"The true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation."

—BAHÁ'U'LÁH

Mrs. Anna Australia Jones, West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Dorothy Graff, Philadelphia.

Bahá'í Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Questions, December 12; Honor, December 31; Sovereignty, January 19; Dominion, February 7.

Meeting of National Spiritual Assembly, January 8, 9, 10, 11, 1943, at Wilmette.
This Crucial Year

Progress Report No. 5 Issued by the National Spiritual Assembly for the Period December 1-31, 1942

28. This number of Baha'i News presents a photograph of a completed side of the House of Worship. At the time of this writing, there remains but a week before the exterior ornamentation of the Temple is finished and all the hoists, scaffolding and other operating material, including the shed, and also the debris, are cleared away.

We stand at a great, a long-awaited, an inspiring hour in the history of the American Baha'i community. Though the interior is still to be designed before the sacred edifice can be employed for its entire spiritual purpose, and that consumption lies in the Second Baha'i Century, nevertheless we have collectively fulfilled the sacred trust given us by the blessed Master Himself, defined clearly for us by the Guardian in the Seven Year Plan.

What the power of unity and devotion can accomplish has been demonstrated, first to ourselves, and then to the world. "Whoever arises for the service of this building," was the Master's assurance to the few hundred Bahá'ís of North America some thirty-five years ago, "shall be assisted with a great power from His Supreme Kingdom and upon him spiritual and heavenly blessings shall descend...." And again: "The Mas'úriqul-Adhkár is the most important matter and the greatest divine institution." The building of this House of Worship for Bahá'u'lláh united the believers, concentrated their efforts, led them through the early stages of administrative order, and welded them into a great body imbued with organic qualities of a Baha'i community.

At present, the House of Worship is significant from its contribution to the teaching work. In the teaching phase of the Plan we have a mighty task which, for this era of the Cause, corresponds to the vital importance of the Temple in previous years. In establishing Baha'i communities in the unsettled areas of North America, and a nucleus in the remaining countries of Central and South America, we will be required, and enabled, to manifest new and higher spiritual virtues and powers. Faith does not await the development of capacity before it begins its work, for nothing develops in inaction. Faith is assurance that the capacity will be given if we sincerely and whole-heartedly plunge into the work. As the Master declared: "It is known and clear that today the unseen divine assistance encompasseth those who deliver the Message. And if the work of delivering the Message be neglected, the assistance shall be entirely cut off, for it is impossible that the friends of God could receive assistance unless they be engaged in delivering the Message."

We may understand the Guardian's message of November 30 as signaling the birth of the era dedicated wholly to teaching effort. The results are assured, but we must raise the new spiritual edifice stone by stone, and press the work without interruption, so that the spiritual task may not stand uncompleted when the First Century ends.

29. In the Inter-America field there are two important new pioneer projects under way. Winnifred Baker, of Lima, Ohio, started forth on Saturday, December 26, as another pioneer for Colombia, where she will be associated with Ruth Shook in carrying on the teaching. Jean Silver, after a change of plan became necessary, has applied for passport to settle in Rosario, the second largest city of Argentine. The hope is that she may be able to begin her journey to this post early in January.

30. Recent teaching projects initiated in North America through the National Teaching Committee include: Mrs. Margaret Ellis, Jackson, Miss., three months; Mrs. Ruth Cornell, Hot Springs, Ark., for two months; Mrs. Marguerite Bruegger, Fargo, N. D., for two months; Virginia Camelot, West Virginia, two months; Mrs. Florence Holsinger, Omaha, Neb., one month. Other projects not previously reported include: Mrs. Marcia Atwater, Edmonton, Alberta, seven weeks; Sylvia King, Regina, Sask., three months; Harlan Ober, meetings in Prince Edward Island; Dorothy Champ, settlement in Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. Ruth Moffett, Wilming­ton, Del., one month, Greensboro, N. C., and Augusta, Ga., one month; Mrs. Clair Gillespie, settlement in Laramie, Wyoming; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Walters, settlement in Albuquerque, N. M.

31. Mrs. Dorothy Baker has recently visited a large number of colleges in the Southwest, in continuance of the special race unity project initiated last year. Details will be published when the final report is received. Louis G. Gregory has been teaching in a number of Southern colleges in November and December, and a more detailed report of this work will also be made available.

32. The Library and Sales Committee is rendering an important service by concentrating the distribution of Baha'i material, not handled by the Publishing Committee, in one central agency. This Committee fills cash orders received, and has no budget for placing any free material. At present, through the Chairman, Harry E. Walrath, the Committee can fill orders for Bahá'í ringstones, photographs of the Master and of the Temple, Temple slides for illustrated lectures, and the new Temple display announced in this issue of Baha'i News.

33. From May 1 to November 30, 1942, the National Fund received $61,149.29. The November contributions equalled $11,364.35. Seventy-four Assemblies sent contributions, eighty-five groups donated, and 113 isolated believers made donations. November expenditures amounted to


Baha'i News

$17,263.99, of which $9,982.99 went to Temple construction, $762.16 to Temple maintenance, $1,350.83 to Green Acre maintenance, $1,278.00 to National Teaching, $1,100.00 to Regional Teaching, $1,191.00 to Inter-America Teaching, and $1,051.71 to administration. The completion of Temple construction will bring to an end the incurrence of further construction costs, but monthly payments must be made beginning January in the amount of $3,000.00 per month for six months in order to pay Temple obligations already incurred. The steps contract has exceeded the contractor's estimate by about $20,000.00, and it is this unexpected excess which we must refund in 1943.

-NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Preferred Mileage for Local Chairmen and Secretaries

The Office of Price Administration, Washington, D. C., has just written its final decision in the matter of the application made by the National Spiritual Assembly for extra gasoline rationing for Chairmen and Secretaries of Local Assemblies, and for all members of the Regional Teaching Committees. As stated in its letter cited below, the government bureau considers that the local officers qualify, but not the Regional Committee members.

The letter, dated December 21, 1942, and addressed to Mr. A. B. McDaniel, states:

"Upon a review of the facts presented by representatives of the Baha'i Faith, we conclude that the chairmen and secretaries of the Local Spiritual Assemblies of the Baha'is may be eligible for preferred mileage under the provisions of Section 7706 (k), Mileage Rationing: Gasoline Regulations (Ration Order No. 5c), to meet the religious needs of the localities they regularly serve. These officers conduct the religious meetings of the community, or congregation, perform funeral services, are authorized in three states to perform the marriage service, and in general perform religious services similar to those rendered by ministers of other religious sects or churches.

"Members of Regional Committees, however, are ineligible under the Preferred Mileage Section of the Gasoline Regulations since these officers serve isolated individuals or unorganized groups who are members of the Faith and clearly are not regularly serving a congregation as required under Section 7706 (k)."

(signed) THOMAS E. HARRIS
Assistant General Counsel

Convention Notice

During December, each local Assembly received a form entitled "Application for Participation in Annual Baha'i Convention of 1943". This is to be filled out and returned to the National Office by February 1. Assemblies are requested not to overlook this customary procedure, as otherwise the Convention call would be delayed.

Action on the Pioneer Front

Beloved Friends:

The summons of the Guardian to "swift action, boldly conceived, unanimously supported, systematically conducted," has called from the American believers an instant, far-reaching response. Our Baha'i Community is at last on the march. Now in the last months our energies are being coordinated, and the goals of the Seven Year Plan have become, at this late date, our single objective.

Action on the pioneer front is the core of our great endeavor. Without pioneers, those "celestial warriors" of whom the Master spoke, no victories in the virgin States and Provinces can be conclusively won. What, then, are the prospects of pioneers and settlers, among all who have heard the Guardian's call?

Let us bear in mind that the virgin field, as distinct from disbanding Assemblies, required eighty-one settlers. Now, since receipt of Shoghi Effendi's cablegram about November 1st, the following actions can be reported:

Settlers already established .....8
Settlers now planning to go .....12
Settlers transferring residence a short distance to aid the Plan. 13

Total 33

Of these 33 settlers, only 21 will be established in virgin States and Provinces. The remaining 12 will assist disbanding Assemblies. Thus we are still 60 settlers short of achieving our paramount goal!

On the other hand, the Teaching Committee is in correspondence with some 50 additional believers who have answered the Guardian's summons, and many will surely be added to the pioneer rolls. Besides all these, the Regional Committees will receive the names of 28 volunteers for traveling and circuit teaching.

What has been accomplished in the past six weeks bids fair to eclipse our efforts of the preceding six months. Between Convention and November 1st the American Community sent out 24 pioneers and settlers, 23 of whom were established in virgin territories and 1 in a disbanding Assembly. Throughout that same period, approximately 15 teachers were actively engaged in public campaigns and follow-up study classes in areas of the Seven Year Plan. Already we can confidently report that Local Assemblies will be organized in Iowa, North Carolina, Idaho, New Mexico, Colorado, and New Hampshire; and there seems reasonable assurance of success in seven other Virgin States.

Thus, the "crucial year" has awakened our collective strength as never before. We have carried our Faith into action at numerous strategic points. The way is clear to final victory. But we dare not falter nor relax. Success must be added to success, the obstacles which are "hourly increasing" must be firmly and fully met, the "stupendous exertions required" must be freely and passionately expended. In this way and in this way alone, can we "seal (the) triumph (of the) greatest collective enterprise launched during fifty years (of) American Baha'i history."

Beloved friends, the call is for pioneers! The time is critically, imperatively short! The "Guardian's Summons to Teaching" has not yet received our complete reply. Let us hear from you in the next few days or weeks, that your name, too, may be written on the glorious pioneer roll.

-NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

A New Kind of Settlement

Elsewhere in this issue the Teaching Committee has reported thirteen settlers who are answering the Guardian's summons to teaching by moving short distances, establishing residence within the limits of one or
another of the cities which represent the goals of the Seven Year Plan. The cities receiving such assistance are Boise, Idaho; Reno, Nevada; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Burbank, Huntington Park, and Alhambra, California.

Here we have a kind of settlement which is of immense value to our teaching goals, yet which is possible to many believers who cannot hope to move a longer distance. These settlers did not have to give up their positions and responsibilities. What they did was to move their homes from some area of no direct significance, to a nearby point located within the pattern of the Seven Year Plan.

Throughout the United States and Canada there must be dozens of believers who have in their grasp a similar opportunity. The needs and the times are calling these friends to a decision. The very circumstances of the War are urging upon them a speedy action, as the difficulties of housing and transportation daily close in upon them. And how great is their responsibility to act, when viewed in relation to the selfless sacrifices of those who are uprooting all the conditions of their lives, to move to some distant pioneer front.

It may be that these very believers, who hold in their hands such a precious opportunity to advance the Plan, are holding as well the key to victory or loss for the American Community. We do not have resources to waste. And the time for action in every phase of the Plan is now. In the words of Shoghi Effendi, "Speed must be your motto."

It is our heartfelt hope that all of the friends will give this matter their most urgent attention, by studying again the cities listed in "The Guardian's Summons to Teaching." Then, if it lies within your power, we urge that you decide to move, and move at once, to one of the cities of a Virgin State or disbanded Assembly.

—National Teaching Committee

Inter-America News

Costa Rica

Costa Rica maintains the lead in Press work for we have recently received from Mrs. Gayle Woolson an article from "Repertorio Americano" entitled "El Templo de la Luz y Profecia" which appeared in October's issue, and another article "La Luz del Oriente" with a photograph of 'Abdu'l-Bahá—from "El Libano" of San José. These articles are written in Spanish and are evidence of the excellent work which Mrs. Woolson is doing. She is surely to be congratulated. Honduras too is full of life and Sr. Viana has established beside a class in Esperanto, a class for young people which he writes us is flourishing. We have been informed of seven new registrations in Tegucigalpa during the last few weeks.

Ecuador

We point to Quito with a glow of pride. John Stearns, who is a member of the Quito Symphony Orchestra, is now sponsoring a Radio program under the auspices of his Kandy Kitchen. His programs present lovely classical music and, besides, readings from the Teachings! These broadcasts come over short wave (32.05 meters, 9355 kc.) Monday evenings at 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. We are assured that they can be picked up all over South America and occasionally Spain, and that we might be able to receive them here. If anyone gets them we would appreciate hearing from them. L. Gonzales, the first Bahá'í of Ecuador, is the speaker on this program.

Dominican Republic

Miss Lentz writes that she is just about to celebrate her third anniversary as a resident of Trujillo. She has worked very hard and very steadily and recently has been rewarded by the acceptance of a distinguished young man. She is still expecting some believer, a youth, to go there and assist her with the young university students who are coming to her reunions.

Colombia

Miss Ruth Shook has taken an apartment in Bogotá and is furnishing it so that she may have a place...
where she can carry on her Bahá'í activities. Mrs. Barton has also just visited her and reports that Miss Shook has made ever so many friends and is very much beloved.

**Venezuela**

Miss Sholtis has sent in her first registration card of a beautiful young actress who, she says, is radiant. Miss Sholtis' health has been restored and she is energetically working.

In recounting the work of the various Republics the friends will miss a statement about Paraguay. This country and one or two other spots are our gravest concern. Something must be done to continue the work which Elizabeth Cheney has so splendidly established there in Asunción and this is a call for pioneers. May Bahá'u'lláh send us someone for Paraguay and for Nicaragua and Guatemala, and Guayaquil, Ecuador. There are positions in Panama, there is an opening in Guayaquil, and then think of San Domingo! Shall we not gladden and surprise the Guardian?

—**Nellie S. French, Secretary**

**Temple Display, Temple Slides, Temple Photograph**

The fragile and expensive Temple model has been replaced by the Exhibits Committee, which has prepared a reproduction of a painting of the Temple on linen, measuring 30 by 30 inches, mounted like a wall map with wood at top and bottom, ready to hang on any flat surface. The face of the picture has been given a special cellulose finish for extra protection. This Temple display, which rolls up when transported, will be exceedingly useful to local Assemblies as well as individual believers. It can be obtained for $5.00 from the Temple Library and Sales Committee, H. E. Walrath, Chairman, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, Ill.

The two sets of Temple slides recently announced will be ready during January, and all orders on hand will be filled during the month. There are 36 black and white slides, measuring 2 by 2 inches, and ten color slides of the same size. The cost for both sets, postpaid, is $4.25, and orders are to be sent to the Temple Library and Sales Committee as above. All the material needed to prepare a lecture to accompany the slides can be obtained in the new study course entitled “Information About the Bahá'í House of Worship,” sold by the Publishing Committee at 25c per copy.

A photograph showing the completed House of Worship, measuring 7½ by 9½ inches, can also be obtained from Mr. H. E. Walrath at 40c each, postpaid. This picture is suitable for framing, or can be used in making a halftone plate for publicity, for illustrating local programs, announcements, etc.

**Temple Guiding**

Despite restriction on transportation, the Bahá'í House of Worship continues to be a magnet that attracts thousands of visitors annually. The total number of visitors for the first ten months of 1942 was 11,852, a decrease of only 2,416 over the same period of 1941. This difference would be greatly reduced had we not discontinued guiding this year about September 15, four weeks earlier than in former years, due to the exceptional coldness of the weather.

From January through June this year there has been an increase in the number of visitors each month over like months of 1941, the decrease setting in since June. Visitors have come this year from all the States, as well as from Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Alaska, six provinces of Canada; Cuba, Mexico, Brazil, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Colombia, Bulgaria, Germany, England, Turkey, Iraq, India, Afghanistan, Korea and China.

The Guides Committee again appeals to communities in the Temple area to cooperate in supplying guides or guide material, and potential guides are again urged to attend the Temple class for guides which meets in the Temple every Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m. The Teacher is Mr. Edwin Mattoon. Lesson sheets will be furnished upon request.

Each year nearly 17,000 people have come to the Temple from all parts of the United States and the world. It is incumbent upon all Bahá'ís, who are not actually engaged in teaching work that keeps them away, to participate and do their share in this important phase of Bahá'í teaching. Nor is it merely an obligation. It is a privilege all should share.

**Enrollments and Transfers**

Enrollment of new believers reported:—

- Los Angeles, one. Glendale, two.
- Helena, one. Ann Arbor, one. Flint, five. New York, eight and one youth.
- Detroit, three. Montreal, one. Washington, one. Chicago, four and one youth. Nashville, one. Berkeley, one.
- Transfers:— San Francisco, three.
- Springfield, Ill., two. Montreal, one.
- In October, enrollment cards were received from thirty-seven adults and five youths in the regional areas. In November, twenty-three adults and one youth enrolled.

**In Memoriam**

. . . The true believer, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation.

—**Bahá'u'lláh**

Mr. Oscar M. Clark, Clearlake Highlands, California.

Mrs. Alice Alexander, Upton, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Ides Johnson, Manapois, California.

Mrs. Ida Finch, Seattle, Washington.

Mrs. Irena Stevens, Topeka.

Mr. Albert Engelder, Cleveland.

Mrs. Blanche A. Ledyard, Los Angeles.

**Bahá'í Calendar**

Nineteen Day Feasts: Sovereignty, January 19; Dominion, February 7; Loftiness, March 2.

Period of the Fast: Nineteen days beginning March 2.

Meetings of National Spiritual Assembly: January 8, 9, 10, 11; March 5, 6, 7, 8. At Wilmette.
Messages from the Guardian

Just informed by mail of the magnificent response made by American believers in recent teaching appeal. Convey to pioneers of the newly launched sacrificial campaign assurance of my inexpressible gratitude. The area of the unfinished tasks is visibly diminishing as Bahá’í century speeds to close. Urge every hesitant believer, however unprepared and inexperienced, audaciously to arise, determinedly to press forward, nobly persevere to reinforce the ranks of the trailbreakers of the Formative Age now unitedly arisen to seal the triumph of the initial undertaking marking the opening phase of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Divine Plan.—January 6, 1943.

The immortal Lu, mother-teacher of the American Bahá’í Community, herald of the dawn of the Day of the Covenant, has been ceremoniously and reverently transferred by Egyptian brethren representing the local Bahá’í communities to the immediate vicinity of the grave of far-famed ‘Abdu’l-Fa‘lî, in the newly established Bahá’í cemetery in Cairo. The Ismá‘ílîyyih believers together with Assembly delegates of Egypt have held an inaugural ceremony at the second Bahá’í cemetery allocated by the Egyptian authorities. The sacred rights of the persecuted, expelled community, repeatedly denied legitimate burial, are now vindicated. The progressive emancipation of the Faith of Bahá’ulláh from the traditional shackles of religious orthodoxy is increasingly evident and humbly, gratefully recognized by followers of the Faith the world over. —January 7, 1943.

Heart aglow with pride, love, gratitude for superb achievement of completion of exterior of the House of Worship, Mother Temple of the West. Bahá’ulláh’s high behest, enshrined in His Most Holy Book, has been brilliantly executed. The thirty-five year old enterprise, initiated on same day that the Báb’s sacred remains were transferred to Mount Carmel, has been triumphantly consummated. The unique Edifice, singled out for consecration by the hands of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, has been nobly reared. The Greatest Holy Leaf’s last ardent wish has been befittingly fulfilled. The Concourse on high is jubilant. Myself bow head in joyous, reverent recognition of prodigious accomplishment which deserves to rank among the outstanding enterprises launched in the Heroic Age and the most signal victory won since the inception of the Formative Period of the Bahá’í Dispensation. —January 18, 1943.

Assure relatives of Mathew Kaszab of my heartfelt condolences and profound sympathy for the loss of this heroic pioneer. His services are unforgettable and abundantly rewarded. Loving prayers.—January 19, 1943.

This Crucial Year

Progress Report No. 6 Issued by the National Spiritual Assembly for the Period January 1-31, 1943

34. An event of unique importance throughout the Bahá’í world is the construction of the Memorial to May Maxwell at Quilmes Cemetery, in the suburbs of Buenos Aires. After a block of Carrera marble was purchased, and a number of prominent sculptors consulted by representatives of the Spiritual Assembly of Buenos Aires, Mrs. Amelia E. Collins made a special journey there to represent the National Spiritual Assembly in making final arrangements, selecting the sculptor, and placing the contract. Mrs. Collins has fulfilled this mission, and the work is now proceeding. The dedication of the Memorial by the Bahá’ís of Buenos Aires and other Latin American cities is planned for March 21.

35. Between January 22 and 25, twelve Area Conferences were held in order to concentrate energy upon the importance of increasing the number of pioneers and settlers going forth to the key cities where Assemblies are to be formed. The meetings were held in the following cities: New York, Boston, Montreal, Washington, Cincinnati, Chicago, Toronto, Vancouver, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Milwaukee. At ten of these gatherings a member of the National Spiritual Assembly presented the urgent teaching needs, and at all the meetings a National or Regional Teaching Committee representative explained the definite requirements of the key cities and handled questions raised by volunteers. The movement of the American Community in the direction of service established by the Guardian gathers momentum with each passing day.

36. The Bahá’í News Service Committee has carried out a very extensive program of publicity releases to announce the completion of the Temple exterior. A letter, an article, a photo or offer of cut or mat, and a copy of the New Temple pamphlet, was sent out to 500 daily papers and technical journals. 500 Temple pamphlets have been given the Temple Guides Committee for special distribution in 1943. The Race Unity Committee has sent 175 of the pamphlets to its list of papers representing minority groups, while about 100 copies have been mailed out to Negro leaders. The Contacts Committee has developed a list of 1000 persons of capacity and influence, and a complimentary pamphlet is being sent to each of these. Pioneer teachers in both North and South America have been given a copy, while a sample copy was mailed to local Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees. Finally, a shipment has been made to the National Spiritual Assemblies as well as to the Guardian.

37. At the January meeting, approval was given to a number of projects submitted by the National Teaching Committee: Mrs. Mable Ives, Louisville, Ky; Mrs. Virginia Camelon, Charleston, W. Va; Mrs.
World Significance of Temple Completion

Since the news of the completion of the exterior ornamentation spread out into various parts of the Baha'i world, five National Spiritual Assemblies have sent special messages to the American Baha'is.

"British believers thrilled by heroic achievement of Temple, grateful for inspiring example." — Dorothy Canedale, Secretary.

"Egyptian believers heartily congratulate American believers on magnificent blessed historic achievement of completion of first Temple in the Western World." — Dr. Mohammed Saleh, Chairman.

"Heartily congratulate completion of exterior of edifice of Baha'i House of Worship the foremost historic achievement of emblem of universal peace and oneness of mankind." — Abbasally Butt, Secretary (India).

"With cheerful hearts full of love of beloved American Baha'is, on behalf of the Baha'is of Iran and ourselves sincerely, humbly convey to the representatives of the American Baha'i community and friends Abba' congratulations on completion of thirty-five-year-old enterprise, the first Maghriqul-Aqajkar of the West, consummation of task ranking among the outstanding achievements of the First Baha'i Century, and with complete submission supplicate His Holiness Baha'ullah to continue to shower His blessings on those marvelous supporters of the beloved Cause." — Rouhani, Secretary.

"Australian believers delighted at the announcement of completion of the exterior of the edifice of first Baha'i Temple of the Western World. Heartiest congratulations to the American believers for their wonderful achievement." — Hilda Brooks, Secretary.

The following message also has come: "New Zealand friends rejoice in completion of Temple." — Dulcie Burns, Secretary, Auckland.

Publishing Announcements

Selected Writings of Baha'u'llah; Selected Writings of 'Abdu'l-Baha; Selected Writings of Shoghi Effendi: three pamphlets which provide the basic teachings and explanations of the Faith for individual and group study. Not sold separately. For the three, $0.25.

The Baha'i Temple, House of Worship of a World Faith: illustrated pamphlet describing the Temple, explaining its purpose, giving the historical background of the development of the American Baha'i community, and presenting the supervising engineer's statement of the technical problems solved in construction. With excerpts from the words of 'Abdu'l-Baha and the Master's photograph. Ten copies for $1.00.

World Order Magazine: the magazine prepared for the believers, to increase their knowledge and further their capacity to teach and serve the Cause. The necessary contact with the Faith for isolated believers and groups. Yearly subscription, $1.50, for U. S., Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Central and South America. Other countries, $1.75.

Address Baha'i Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

World Order Magazine

The October, November and December issues contain Albert R. Windust's series of compilations on The Covenant. This material goes to the heart of the Message, and has value for permanent reference.

The October number included The Purpose of Affliction, Elizabeth Hackley; In Haifa, poem, Polly McClenenn; Independent Investigation of Truth, William Kenneth Christian; Education for Armageddon, Garret Busey; The Repudiation of Materialism, Robert Louis Koehl; The Timeless Land, Book Review, Arthur Dahl.

In November the contents, in addition to the Windust compilation, were: The World Is Made Flesh, Mary Hammond; On Carmel's Aged Slopes, poem, William Kenneth Christian; The Baha'i Community, A Divine Creation, Chester F. Barnett; A Divine Policy, Horace Holley; Love and Justice, Henry C. Beecher.

December contents include: Cycles of Civilization, J. M. Haggard; The Covenant, Part III, Albert Windust, This Challenging Hour, Charles S. Krug; Creation and Revelation, Editorial, Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick; The Baha'i Community, — Community Not Church, — William Kenneth Christian; and the regular department, With Our Readers.
Race Unity

Reports from the Assemblies (Continued)

Binghamton — "Our first project under our teaching plans for this year was a visit by Mrs. Zenobia Dorsey of Scranton, Pa., and Miss Alice Higginbotham...Binghamton has just had to wake up to the race problem this summer when a large number of Negro troops was sent here to do guard duty...We asked for ways in which to be of service, and gave magazines and games for the rooms. We were able to serve by giving sandwiches for a dance which was planned. A committee from the Assembly had an interview with the Commanding Officer and explained the wisdom of the central location for activities. On October first we are moving the Bahá’í Center back to the downtown district, and hope for more ways to be of service there."

New Haven — "We have many friends among the Negro race here. Two of that race are members of our community. These friends have been made by personal calls at the homes; by attending meetings from time to time to which we are invited, such as annual tea given by the Phyliss Wheatley Home for colored girls; parties given by a Neighborhood Reading Club at Christmas time or one attended recently to honor the President of the National Federation of Colored Woman’s Clubs, Mrs. A. B. DeMent, who had not heard about the Faith and was very glad to receive literature. Also at the affair we met two young men both graduates of Fisk University who had heard about the Faith through Bahá’í teachers who had lectured there. One of these young men is blind and he will receive Bahá’í books in Braille very soon. We have a long list of these Negro friends who receive information about and invitations to all our open meetings, to which quite a few respond."

Sacramento — "An Interracial U.S.O. has been started in Sacramento. I understand it is the first interracial one in the country but Mr. Ben Ellison, its director, incidentally a Negro and a Bahá’í, hopes that later additional ones will be started all over the country. Mr. Ellison is a gifted, talented man and is an adept at putting on interesting programs for the service men of all races. He was transferred to our community from Pasadena and we looked him up immediately. Our group is cooperating with him, sponsoring a canteen night once a month. Various other groups from churches and clubs, white, colored, Chinese, Filipino, Mexican, etc., also have canteen nights, each taking one night a month. Mr. Ellison asked if it might not be a good idea to have a table with Bahá’í pamphlets."

New Orleans — "Up to the present time we have had no group activities in this connection. However, a few of our members are in contact with some colored people who seem interested in the principles of the Faith and we are planning to direct our efforts towards forming a study group among these people where one or more of our members will aid in their study until such time as they are ready to become believers and attend the Feasts. Bahá’í books have been placed in libraries of some of the colored universities and this practice will be continued and followed up."

Stimulating letters have also come from Santa Barbara, Cal.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Cleveland, Ohio; Washington, D. C.; Madison, Wis.; Buffalo, N. Y.; Winnipeg, Canada; Dayton, Ohio; Teaneck, N. J.; Greenwood, Miss.; Racine, Wis.; Kansas City, Mo.; Springfield, Ill.; Ypsilanti, Mich.; South Bend, Ind.; Boston, Mass.; Vancouver, Canada; Detroit, Mich.

Dorothy Baker, Chairman

Inter-America News

The members of the Inter-America Committee are deeply grieved to announce the passing of Mathew Kas zab, that faithful and energetic pioneer in the service of Bahá’u’lláh. No details have as yet reached us beyond the fact that Mathew was enroute home and reached the end of his earthly journey in Brownsville, Texas. Mathew’s service was fraught with many trials and much suffering and the welcome which must have been his as he ascended to the Abhá Kingdom must have been such as is accorded to a martyr in the Faith! Nicaragua will have been quickened by his presence and the believers whom he has left there will ever keep his memory alive.

Many plans are developing as a result of the suggestions of Mr. Sprague and Mrs. Collins who are now back from their long journeys. We are rejoiced to report that Miss Eisenberg has volunteered to go to Paraguay for a sojourn of three months or longer.

The photograph of Srta. Leonora Marin, the first registered believer in Venezuela, has reached us. Congratulations to this beautiful young woman and to her teacher, Miss Shollis.

Miss Kruka has returned to Havana and Miss Hottes to her post in Bolivia while we learn that Mrs. Marcia Atwater is now again in her beloved Chile after a difficult journey down the west coast of South America.
We are in receipt of some beautiful publicity arranged by Mrs. Leonora Armstrong in Portuguese in Recife, Brazil. Mrs. Armstrong's unremitting labors for the Faith in Brazil and other countries in S. America over a long period of time are of the utmost importance and place her in the forefront of Latin American pioneers. She has left no avenue of service untried and spared no effort however difficult to awaken the people of that vast country of Brazil.

Dr. Malcolm King writes from Jamaica of the splendid work he is doing. He is not satisfied with results, but experience has taught us that he has succeeded far beyond the usual results of a pioneer in so short a time. The pioneers find that in every case they must make haste slowly. Congratulations and loving greetings to all.

NELLIE S. FRENCH, Secretary

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Braille Transcriptions

The Committee on Braille Transcriptions urges that those Assemblies who have not already done so, fill in and return the questionnaires sent them as the committee would like to have as complete a record as possible of the needs in the communities for this type of Bahá’í work. Please address replies to Miss Ella C. Quant, 1689 Glenwood Blvd., Schenectady, N.Y.

Library

During the three months ended December 16, 1942, the Library Committee placed 97 books in 41 different Libraries, including seven Public, five State, six Army, two Conscientious Objection camps, one College, eight Peace Organizations and fourteen State Prison Libraries. The latest news regarding Army Libraries is the acceptance of ten sets of books by the Headquarters of the Seventh Corps Area to cover the additional libraries opened in that region since the previous Bahá’í donation.

Among the encouraging letters received the following excerpts are shared with the friends:

"Dr. R. B. von Klein, Chancellor, is very much interested in peace and will be interested, I know, in reading your publications" — Los Angeles Library of World Affairs. "We shall be very glad indeed to receive these publications which represent the Bahá’í views on International Relations and World Peace. This is a subject in which the Hoover Library is vitally interested and we shall welcome the contributions of the Bahá’í Faith." — Hoover Peace Library. "It is a real pleasure to add this inspiring, important and attractive book to our collection." — Tuskegee Institute. "Prisoners as a general rule are interested in comparative religions. Your donations will be placed in circulation immediately upon arrival." — Alabama State Prison.

Temple Display

In addition to the map-type of Temple display announced in Bahá’í News for January, the Exhibits Committee has now received delivery of a smaller Temple display with folding easel back for use in window displays or where the illustration is to be placed on a table or other flat surface. The intention was to make this display a cut-out, so that the Temple would show in silhouette, but this proved to be unfeasible. The new Temple display measures 18¼ʺ by 17½ʺ. It is a photographic enlargement of a painting of the House of Worship on linen with heavy board backing and easel, packed in a carton for convenient mailing or other transportation. The price is $3.50 each, postpaid. Send order to Temple Library and Sales Committee, H. E. Walrath, Chairman, 4839 Beacon Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Bahá’í News

Bahá’í Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Dominion, February 7; Loftiness, March 2; Splendor, March 21.

Period of the Fast: Nineteen days beginning March 2.

Feast of Naw-Rúz: March 21.

Meetings of National Spiritual Assembly: March 5, 6, 7, 8, At Wilmette.

Committee List

Inter-America: Miss Christine Lofstedt added. Mrs. Shirley Wardle unable to serve. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bode unable to serve. Mrs. Oc-tavia Illiscas returned to membership.


Bahá’í News Service: Mrs. Margot McNamer Johnson added.

Race Unity: Mrs. Sarah E. Wal­rath appointed Secretary. Mrs. Ebersole unable to serve.

Louhelen School: Paul Pettit, Clement Perry, Dick Suhm added.

Contacts: Mrs. G. I. Geary added. Mrs. DeMille unable to serve.

Regional Teaching: Mrs. Kathryn Frankland added to committee for Arizona and New Mexico and taken from committee for Texas. Mrs. Edna Maloney added to committee for Eastern Canada. George Sulerud added to committee for Minnesota, North and South Dakota. Ingenuus Bentzar added to committee for California and Nevada. Reginald King added to committee for Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. Mrs. Clair Gillespie added to committee for Wyoming, Utah, Colorado. Dr. A. H. Kessler, Homer Dyer, Mrs. Edna Williams added to committee for Tennessee and Alabama.

Committee for Translation of Bahá’í Texts into German: Siegfried Schopflocher, Chairman, Mrs. Anna Neumann, Carl Neumann. Chairman’s address for correspondence, 1102 University Street, Montreal, Quebec.

Bahá’í College Foundation: Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Chairman, Mrs. Marzieh Gail, Wm. Kenneth Christian. Chairman’s address for correspondence, 615 West Elm Street, Lima, Ohio.

Library: change of address, Mrs. Stuart Sims, R. 2, Box 189, Neptune, N. J.

Youth Committee: Changes in membership. Margaret Miller, Chairman, 1330 26th Avenue, San Francisco, Calif. Anita Ioas, Lella Storch, Alex Holcombe, Doris Birtcil, Ann Holt, Marion Holley, Youth Advisor. Geysville School: Changes in membership — Mrs. Sylvia Ioas, Chairman, Gladys Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif. Mrs. Amelia Bowman, John Bosch, Anita Ioas, Irvin Sowem­halder, Mrs. Louis Groger, Mrs. Amelia Collins, Mrs. Marguerite Sears, Ted Groger.
Messages From the Guardian

1. To the N.S.A.

Dear and valued co-workers:

The recent response of the American friends to my appeal for pioneers to go forth and settle in virgin territories and places where the need is greatest has raised a load from my heart, and mightily reinforced the hopes and expectations which their past achievements have aroused within me. We stand at the threshold of the last year of the first Bahá’í century. The unfinished tasks, however much they have been reduced, are still formidable. The Temple is as yet unfinished. The initiation of a nation-wide publicity campaign, intelligently directed and energetically pursued, utilizing to the full all the advantages gained in recent years in so many fields of Bahá’í activity still remain to be undertaken. Measures for a befitting celebration of the centennial anniversary of the Faith must be carefully considered and duly executed. The aims and purposes of our beloved Cause, the achievements of its heroes, martyrs, teachers, pioneers and administrators, the unity of its followers, the character of the institutions they have reared, should, one and all, be ably presented, widely broadcast, carefully explained in publications, through the radio and the press. There is no time to lose. A great responsibility rests on the elected representatives of the most envied community in the Bahá’í world, whose advantages are unique, whose capacities are incomparable, whose vision, courage, tenacity, resolution and loyalty are exemplary; which has amply demonstrated its worthiness to be the recipients of the countless favors showered upon it by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and of the specific bounty conferred upon the rulers and presidents of the continent of which it is a part by no one less than Bahá’u’lláh Himself, in His Most Holy Book. To His “Apostles,” as testified by the Center of His Covenant, I direct my fervent plea that they establish, beyond the shadow of a doubt, in these concluding months of the first Bahá’í century, their indisputable right to be designated by so exalted a title, and vindicate their ability to execute the mission with which that title has invested them.

Your true brother,

Smooch

January 8, 1943

The following passages were written by the Guardian through his Secretary, in the same communication of January 8:

The Guardian approves the using of the words of the Bahá’í marriage service by the believers in communities which have not acquired legal capacity to conduct a marriage ceremony, provided it does not become an established rule, to be rigidly carried out by the Bahá’ís.

At the present time, when he is weighed down with his own cares and problems, the determination and devotion, loyalty and enthusiasm manifested by the American believers greatly helps and sustains him. He is praying for unprecedented victories to crown their labors, and he feels certain that, in these remaining months, before the Century draws to a close, your Assembly, as well as the believers, will rise to such heights of service as shall befittingly crown their past labors and bring the century to a successful consummation.

The following excerpt is from a letter written by the Guardian, through his secretary, on January 30, 1943:

He does not feel that the Bahá’í News letter, published monthly for the information of the Bahá’ís, should be reduced in size, as it is read with deep interest by the believers everywhere, and the information it contains of the activities of the friends is a great stimulus to the work everywhere.

The re-establishment of disbanded Spiritual Assemblies in States and Provinces already possessing an Assembly forms no part of the Seven Year Plan. Concentrate attention and resources on virgin territories.—February 8, 1943.

2. To Individual Believers

The following excerpts are from letters written by the Guardian through his secretary to individual believers, and are reprinted with the Guardian’s consent.

“The Cause, although it embraces with equal esteem people of all ages, has a special message and mission for the youth of your generation. It is their charter for their future, their hope, their guarantee of better days to come. Therefore the Guardian is especially happy that the young Bahá’ís are active in the pioneer work.”

“The formation of your first Spiritual Assembly in Honduras was a source of great joy to him, and he hopes that you will do all in your power to strengthen it and help it to function smoothly. It is the nucleus of all community life, and requires often adjustment and sacrifice from all concerned, until they learn how to function according to the higher laws of Bahá’u’lláh.

“The Guardian found the publicity you had received very sympathetic in tone. If the South Americans have the courtesy, kindness, and warmth expressed in these papers, as well as the deep capacity for faith and steadfastness, so characteristic of the Latins, they should indeed make wonderful Bahá’ís.

“The Guardian would advise you to be very careful about associating with Orientals and preferably avoid them. They are sometimes connected with Covenant-breakers, whether they know it or not, such as one of those whom you mention in your let-
ter, who is the son-in-law of a well-known Covenant-breaker here."—To John Eichenauer, Jr., June 16, 1942.

"Regarding the whole manner of teaching the Faith in the South: the Guardian feels that, although the greatest consideration should be shown the feelings of white people in the South whom we are teaching, under no circumstances should we discriminate in their favor, consider them more valuable to the Cause than their Negro fellow-southerners, or single them out to be taught the Message first. To pursue such a policy, however necessary and even desirable it may superficially seem, would be to compromise the true spirit of our Faith, which permits us to make no such distinctions in offerings its tenets to the world. The Negro and white races should be offered, simultaneously, on a basis of equality, the Message of Bahá'u'lláh. Rich or poor, known or unknown, should be permitted to hear of this Holy Faith in this, humanity's greatest hour of need.

"This does not mean that we should go against the laws of the state, pursue a radical course which will stir up trouble, and cause misunderstanding. On the contrary, the Guardian feels that, where no other course is open, the two races should be taught separately until they are fully conscious of the implications of being a Bahá'í, and then be confirmed and admitted to voting membership. Once, however, this has happened, they cannot shun each other's company, and feel the Cause to be like other Faiths in the South, with separate white and black compartments.

"Even in places where the two races can meet together in the South, he feels it would be, in certain cases, preferable to teach them separately until they are fully confirmed and then bring them together.

"'Abdu'l-Bahá Himself set the perfect example to the American believers in this matter—as in every other. He was tactful, but the essence of courage, and showed no favoritism to the white people as opposed to their dark-skinned compatriots. No matter how sincere and devoted the white believers of the South may be, there is no reason why they should be the ones to decide who and how the Negro Southerner shall hear of the Cause of God; both must be taught by whoever rises to spread the Message in those parts."—To Mrs. Mabel Ives, July 5, 1942.

"Now that they (the American believers) have erected the administrative machinery of the Cause they must put it to its real use—serving only as an instrument to facilitate the flow of the spirit of the Faith out into the world. Just as the muscles enable the body to carry out the will of the individual, all Assemblies and Committees must enable the believers to carry forth the Message of God to the waiting public, the love of Bahá'u'lláh, and the healing laws and principles of the Faith to all men."—To Eleanor Keffer, July 6, 1942.

"Deep as are family ties, we must always remember that the spiritual ties are far deeper; they are everlasting and survive death, whereas physical ties, unless supported by spiritual bonds, are confined to this life. You should do all in your power, through prayer and example, to open the eyes of your family to the Bahá'í Faith, but do not grieve too much over their actions. Turn to your Bahá'í brothers and sisters who are living with you in the light of the Kingdom.

"Indeed, the believers have not yet fully learned to draw on each other's strength and consolation in time of need. The Cause of God is endowed with tremendous powers, and the reason the believers do not gain more from it is because they have not learned to draw fully on these mighty forces of love and strength and harmony generated by the Faith."—To Roan Orloff, received July 31, 1942.

This Crucial Year

Progress Report No. 7 Issued by the National Spiritual Assembly for the period February 1-28, 1943

40. The reports of membership in the local communities received from the local Assemblies in connection with the Annual Convention provide an occasion for presenting important statistical information concerning the American Bahá'í Community. The following data may be compared with the figures presented in the bulletin entitled "Teaching in North America" published as an insert in Bahá'í News of January, 1942. To simplify the statistics, they are presented in several classifications, as follows:

A. As of the end of February, 1943, there are 98 Spiritual Assemblies in the United States and Canada with communities qualified for representation in the Thirty-Fifth Annual Convention.

B. The entire membership reported by these 98 Assemblies is 2662, representing the adult, voting Bahá'ís.

C. The number of isolated Bahá'ís—believers not associated by residence with other believers, and therefore not part of even a small group—is 984.

D. The total number of believers who at the end of February were members of local groups of various sizes is 932.

E. The total number of groups (from two believers up) is 220.

F. To show the make-up of groups from the point of view of their relative numbers, we have the following data:

Number of groups with minimum of two believers, 67; with three believers, 46; with four believers, 27; with five believers, 24; with six believers, 17; with seven believers, 13; with eight believers, 12.

G. The number of groups with nine or more Bahá'ís, thus qualified to form an Assembly on April 1, is 14. These groups are located as follows: Portsmouth, N. H., Brookline, Mass., Akron, Ohio, Wilmington, Del., Louisville, Ky., Pittsburgh, Pa., Maywood, Ill., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Green Bay, Wisc., Colorado Springs and Denver, Colo., Albuquerque, N. M., Burbank and Huntington Park, Calif.

H. The point of teaching concentration is in the key or goal cities, the cities where an Assembly is to be formed before the end of the Seven Year Plan so that there may be at least one Assembly in every State and Province of North America. The following list shows the present status of these vitally important groups:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State or Province</th>
<th>Bahá'í Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Birmingham, 8; Tuskegee, 8;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Anchorage, 4;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>Calgary, 5; Edmonton, 7;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
<td>Carmichael, 1;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Ed. Is.</td>
<td>Charlotte, 1;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>Little Rock, 6; Hot Springs, 4;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>Colorado Springs, 12; Denver, 13;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The known membership list of the American Baha’i Community as of the end of February, 1943, including members of communities, groups and isolated believers, totals 4,578.

41. In the Inter-America field, it is hoped that new Assemblies can be formed this year in Guatemala, Chile, Ecuador and Panama, and the existing ten Assemblies can be continued, making a total of thirteen Assemblies.

42. The National Spiritual Assembly has been working for some time on a new general compilation of Bahá’í Writings to replace the compilation entitled “Bahá’í Scriptures” which appeared about twenty years ago. The Bahá’í Literature in English has been greatly extended by the Guardian’s series of translations, and today a clear distinction is made between authoritative Tablets and the written notes made by pilgrims. The new work, now on the press, includes five chapters or general subjects selected from Writings of Bahá’u’lláh, and four chapters or subjects from Writings of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. The intention has been to produce a representative selection of Bahá’í Literature in one volume, and by placing a large order, to be able to offer the book at a low cost. This notice reports an action taken and is not an announcement of the book. When ready, it will be announced by the Publishing Committee in the usual way.

43. From May 1, 1942, to February 28, 1943, contributions were made to the National Fund in a total of $91,159.48, on the annual budget of $159,000.00. The sum of $7,412.49 was received in February, from 72 Assemblies, 69 groups and 108 isolated believers. The expense in February was $16,843.74, including $10,359.75 for Temple construction and on Temple loan, $1519 for teaching in North America, $465.85 for Inter-America teaching, $1422.92 for administration, $1369.49 for teaching literature, including the illustrated Temple pamphlet, Temple maintenance, $817.08, Green Acre maintenance, $116.40, and on Committee budgets, $333.71.

**Bahá’í News**

**North America Teaching**

As this report is written only two months remain in our “pivotal” and “crucial” year, while fourteen months away stands the “fateful milestone.” It is important now to record the progress we have won in 1942-43, more particularly in the past few months, and to ask ourselves whether the speed now gained is matching the speed of this swiftly-vanishing century.

The National Teaching Committee, in January, felt keenly the inadequacy of momentum in the teaching service of the friends. It therefore recommended to the National Assembly a new attack on five fronts of action, to bring to a maximum the upsurge of settlements called for by Shoghi Effendi. As a result, and surely through the power released with the completion of the Temple, the broad program of settlement and teaching for which the Guardian asked, is now unreasonably developing. Today it seems clear that we have passed the turning-point in the Seven-Year Plan. Nevertheless, if the goals are to be achieved, this momentum we have gained must be steadily continued.

The five-point program was inaugurated by the calling of National Area Conferences, January 22-25, by the National Assembly in the twelve most densely-populated Bahá’í centers. No longer could the American Community be satisfied with the efforts of a relatively few settlers, a few Assemblies, or Teaching Committees. The Area Conferences opened the chapter of joint effort on a national scale; they gave a first-hand view of needs to the believers everywhere; they pointed out the road to unqualified victory. That road, in the latest words of Shoghi Effendi, is for “every hesitant believer, however unprepared and inexperienced, audaciously to arise ... to reinforce the ranks of the trailblazers of the Formative Age.”

Although complete results of the Conferences are not yet available, we know that at least forty volunteers for settlement have stepped forward. We know that, instead of needing 83 additional Bahá’ís in goal-cities of the Plan, on February 15th we lack but 55! We are assured that on April 21 Spiritual Assemblies will be elected in at least eight of the twenty-five virgin States and...

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**Bahá’í Book Exhibit, Gordian Book Store, Wilmette, on display during the 1942 Convention sessions.**
Provinces, and that eight other groups are nearing their goal. True-
ly, "the area of the unfinished tasks is visibly diminishing."

The essential, however, is to maintain this unbeatable momentum.
Four other fronts of action are indispensable to our national pro-
gram.

First, settlers and believers in virgin areas must stabilize their re-
sidence. From October through January we had to record twelve losses
of registered Baha’is in goal-cities, through moving alone. It is certain
that the responsibility of all those on the pioneer front is very great.
What they do to uphold the Plan may be a telling factor in the final
score.

Secondly, teaching must be intensified in virgin States and Provinces.
The National Teaching Committee is now working out circuit plans
which will send vital teaching assistance to new groups everywhere,
fortifying the efforts of our settlers and pioneers.

Thirdly, isolated believers, especially those living near goal-cities,
have a wonderful chance to advance the Plan by transferring their resi-
dence to these key places. This is one of the most important types of
settlement under the Plan.

Finally, the backbone of our pro-
gram, its central drive, must be to multiply unceasingly the ranks of
our settlers until victory is assured. Our goal is not only to reduce the
unfinished tasks, but to eliminate them altogether. We are publishing
with this report a Pioneer Roll of Honor, listing the names of all those
friends who have moved into virgin areas and disbanded Assemblies
since last Convention. It will be seen that several Baha’I communities
have contributed magnificently to the pioneer ranks this year, while
others have not as yet seized their historic and priceless opportunities.
The hours are rushing by in which, as communities and individually, we
can earn the bounties promised by Baha’u’llah.

The National Teaching Commit-
tee feels the friends may face the future months with confidence, for
they are now demonstrating their ability to fulfill the Seven-Year Plan
to its last requirement. Nothing must interfere with our new-found
momentum!

Let us also record that not only in
the direct tasks of the Plan has our
all-important teaching work been
carried forward. The subsidiary ef-
fort to reestablish disbanded Assemblies
is likewise meeting with success.
Regional and Extension Com-
mittes have been most diligent; be-
tween to secure these cities; until now it seems certain that six or seven Assemblies
will reorganize on April 21. While we now
know from Shoghi Effendi that the
reestablishment of these Assemblies
forms no part of the Seven-Year
Plan, yet we recognize that this
work, too, must surely be accom-
plished. What achievement could be
more thrilling than to complete it
in the first Baha’I Century?

Beloved friends, let us hold close-
ly to these words of the Guardian:
"To his apostles, as testified by
the Center of His Covenant, I direct
may fervent plan that they establish
beyond the shadow of a doubt,in
these concluding months of the first
Baha’I Century, their indisputable
right to be designated by so exalted
a title, and vindicate their ability
to execute the mission with which that
title has invested them."

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

### Pioneer Roll of Honor

**Convention, 1942—February 15, 1943**

**VIRGIN STATES AND PROVINCES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Pioneer Front</th>
<th>Home City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evelyn Clift</td>
<td>Calgary, Alberta</td>
<td>Vancouver, B. C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne McGee</td>
<td>Calgary, Alberta</td>
<td>Vancouver, B. C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clifford Gardner</td>
<td>Charlottesville, P. E. I.</td>
<td>York, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lily Deemer</td>
<td>Boise, Idaho</td>
<td>Spokane, Wash.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmon Jones</td>
<td>Sioux Falls, S. D.</td>
<td>Butte, Montana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorrol Jackson</td>
<td>Boise, Idaho</td>
<td>Rural Boise, Idaho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethel Thompson</td>
<td>Boise, Idaho</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falurth Isio</td>
<td>Boise, Idaho</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sally Sanor</td>
<td>Denver, Colo.</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Westgate</td>
<td>Denver, Colo.</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mildred Littl</td>
<td>Reno, Nevada</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ada Littl</td>
<td>Edmonton, Alberta</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaite Tesas</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Hendry</td>
<td>Jackson, Miss.</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Sears</td>
<td>Jackson, Miss.</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Bode</td>
<td>Reno, Nevada</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ada Bode</td>
<td>Greensboro, N. C.</td>
<td>Los Angeles, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myrtle Robinette</td>
<td>Louisville, Ky.</td>
<td>Los Angeles, Calif.</td>
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<td>Fred Dennis</td>
<td>Louisville, Ky.</td>
<td>Los Angeles, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Fred Dennis</td>
<td>Birmingham, Ala.</td>
<td>Los Angeles, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nina Crouchley</td>
<td>Reno, Nevada</td>
<td>Glendale, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleanor Adler</td>
<td>Sioux Falls, S. D.</td>
<td>Glenale, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Bode</td>
<td>Reno, Nevada</td>
<td>San Antonio, Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adrienne Ellis</td>
<td>Greensboro, N. C.</td>
<td>Decatur, Ala.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KathrynFrankland</td>
<td>Albuquerque, N. M.</td>
<td>Minneapolis, Minn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elsa Steinberg</td>
<td>Sioux Falls, S. D.</td>
<td>Reno, Nevada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laetavla Voelz</td>
<td>Regina, Saskatchewan</td>
<td>Reno, Nevada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Gillespie</td>
<td>Laramie, Wyoming</td>
<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faye Roberts</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>Detroit, Mich.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frances Alynn</td>
<td>Albuquerque, N. M.</td>
<td>Kittery, Maine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alice Dudley</td>
<td>Faro, N. D.</td>
<td>Ellist, Maine</td>
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<td>Lois Newman</td>
<td>Portsmouth, N. H.</td>
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<td>Maude Mickie</td>
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<td>Alta Wheeler</td>
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<td>Ellist, Maine</td>
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<td>Jessie Higman</td>
<td>Portland, N. X.</td>
<td>Saratoga Springs, N. Y.</td>
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<td>Marie Hopper</td>
<td>Portland, N. X.</td>
<td>Tungsten, N. Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flora Valentine</td>
<td>Portland, N. X.</td>
<td>Tungsten, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muriel Strick</td>
<td>Sioux Falls, S. D.</td>
<td>Tungsten, N. Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Walters</td>
<td>Albuquerque, N. M.</td>
<td>Brooklyn, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Richard Walters</td>
<td>Albuquerque, N. M.</td>
<td>Brooklyn, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Ellen Peake</td>
<td>Louisville, Ky.</td>
<td>New York, N. Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy Champ</td>
<td>Wilmington, Del.</td>
<td>New York, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Doull</td>
<td>Providence, R. I.</td>
<td>New York, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Wm. Doull</td>
<td>Providence, R. I.</td>
<td>New York, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Bode</td>
<td>Birmingham, Ala.</td>
<td>New York, N. Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frances Jones</td>
<td>Birmingham, Ala.</td>
<td>New York, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Anderson</td>
<td>Charleston, W. Va.</td>
<td>New York, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Bachman</td>
<td>Charleston, W. Va.</td>
<td>New York, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doris Liston</td>
<td>Wilmington, Del.</td>
<td>Washington, D. C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caroline Stewart</td>
<td>Wilmington, Del.</td>
<td>Washington, D. C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adah Schott</td>
<td>Charleston, W. Va.</td>
<td>Washington, D. C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**National Teaching Committee**
Thunan Ella Asher Goodrick Huntington Park, Calif. Los Angeles, Calif.
Ernest Mayme Mrs. Fred Kluss Ena Rice-Wray Rose Steinberg Florence Hilsinger Pittsburgh, W. E. Holsinger, Assemblies, have and thrills us as we receive more Buenos Aires in collaboration with a bly to arrange for the publication of economy. This will tee of that Community. This will phlets and also no doubt video. now returned to her work splendid results which, we stand, have shared with this committee. whose letter from the Guardian they have received. We regret that through an oversight we have failed heretofore to mention that they now have established themselves with the Government which enables them to carry on their work legally and with full Government permission. This is indeed a great accomplishment. One of the members of the Spiritual Assembly, conscious of the need for further pioneer teaching in some of the other Republics since the passing of Mathew Kaszab all Nicaragua as yet unorganized, has volunteered to render services under the direction of this Committee.

Ecuador
John Stearns writes that he now has “only one to go” which means that they now have eight members and we are confident that the ninth as required for the formation of an Assembly will soon be enrolled. John’s Radio Programs are continuing and we are hoping to assist in providing suitable material for his splendid programs.

Bolivia
Flora M. Hottes has returned to La Paz after a month’s sojourn with Miss Eve Nicklin in Lima, Peru. She writes enthusiastically of her visit and of the contacts made both in Peru and Bolivia.

Argentina
Buenos Aires also has a Radio connection which is presenting the Teachings in a most effective manner and we have only splendid news regarding the spread of the Faith there.

Paraguay
We hope very soon to announce the settlement of a pioneer teacher in Asuncion. Ever since Elizabeth Cheney was obliged to leave Paraguay we have hoped for someone to go there to assist those lovely souls who have responded to the call of Bahá’u’lláh and now our hopes seem to be realized.

Venezuela
We marvel at the initiative displayed by our pioneers among whom Miss Sholtis shines brilliantly. She now has taken rooms in the center of the city and is teaching both the Cause and English.

Lack of space deprives us of mentioning further details about the other countries but we are none the less conscious of the outstanding efforts of our faithful pioneers in every center.

NELLIE S. FRENCH, Secretary

Publishing Committee

Two Shall Appear, A Religious-Historical Drama in Five Acts, by Olivia Kelsey. This dramatic presentation of the early days of the Faith, approved by the Reviewing Committee a few years ago, has recently been published, and the Publishing Committee can fill orders at the rate of $0.75 per copy. The author’s Foreword states that the “principal source of data is The Dawn-Breakers by the Persian historian, Nabil.”

Address Bahá’í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Among the Colleges

The College project opened this year with a fall trip through the Southwest, during which Dorothy Baker visited twenty-seven new schools. Four of these were Negro, four Indian, and the remaining number, white. Books were left in all School libraries, and pamphlets by Shoghi Effendi distributed to all students. In ninety or more Colleges, over a period of two years, Mrs. Baker has yet to see a single Bahá’í pamphlet on the School grounds or in any condition of discard. Classroom visits following the Chapel talks revealed the fact that
young people are definitely interested in Shoghi Effendi. One youth, at the close of a discussion period, came forward and said, "Where does the Guardian live? I am to be inducted next week. Perhaps I shall go to Africa and be able to cross over to Haifa! Perhaps I shall see the Guardian of the new Civilization before you do!"

One College represented a very interesting religious minority, the Latter Day Saints. Here the students took copious notes in Chapel, and the Dean himself mentioned having heard 'Abdu'l-Bahá speak in Washington in 1912. "I have wondered," he said, "where you Bahá'ís have been, and why you have not long ago visited the Colleges."

Another unique institution to hear the message of the Guardian was the Spanish-American Normal College at El Rito, N. M. These students speak Spanish and English equally well, and supply teachers to all of that mountainous region. They were fiery, ardent young people, who felt keenly the Guardian's view of America's spiritual leadership. One young woman said, "After the war we might be able to travel, as you do, and go about in Southern countries, speaking these things in Spanish!"

There are no amusements, not even moving pictures, in the vicinity of these young Latins, surrounded as they are by jagged peaks that look for all the world like giant ice-palaces. Some day a teacher will remain there and build great Bahá'ís.

At Pine Bluff, Ark., on the campus of the State Negro University, the members of the faculty came forward at the close of Chapel, and talked for almost an hour, losing entirely, it afterward appeared, their lunch period. The Bahá'í principles interested them not at all, but they were held by the thought that a spiritual commonwealth had been born, indivisible in its nature, and committed to a unified racial life in its essential pattern; that it could never be rent apart religiously, and that its unique organism, under the Guardian, was already an actual, living, breathing civilization, slowly growing up. This was no hollow promise, but a tested Reality.

The second stage of the College project fell into the hands of Louis G. Gregory, who made a follow-up tour of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama, late in the fall of 1942, and in the winter toured West Virginia, Virginia, and North Carolina. To the Negro Colleges he took the message of the spiritual importance of the coming of Bahá'u'lláh, and to the white Colleges he gave the Bahá'í teachings on race relations. The friendly reactions of the white Schools, in the light of existing prejudices, are of deep interest to us. Salem College, of West Virginia, writes: "The students were well pleased, and invited him to return. I want to thank you for sending him to us." In the heart of Mississippi, where race feeling runs so high as to make such a subject well-nigh impossible, the students waited in long rows in the hall, to shake his hand and wish him well. It was their first adventure in receiving a colored speaker, and only their second experience with the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.

This follow-up stage of extending the teachings to College will take the form of annual platforms, in order that the highly transient student body of America may have the fresh impact of the Faith each year. Unfortunately the lowered draft age will curtail temporarily this phase of the work.

The third stage of College development will move around the effort to establish permanent study groups in many of the Colleges. Mrs. Joy Earl, working under the Race Unity Committee, has this winter made a start in a few of the Schools. Particular success greeted her in Miles College, of Birmingham, and North Carolina University, at Durham, where members of the faculty are already making a close study of the Faith.

The intensive phase can be greatly assisted by resident students who watch for opportunities to bring speakers. We have recently heard from Jack Fatooh at Berkeley, that it may be soon possible to display the Temple and bring a talk to the campus that will deal with the new architecture.

The College Foundation Committee is happy to hear from the friends in Colleges everywhere.

Mrs. Dorothy Basset, Chairman

National Youth Committee

This year young Bahá'ís throughout the world will meet on March 7 to celebrate the eighth annual World Bahá'í Youth Day. The challenging theme, "World Unity Is Our Goal," has been selected from the Guardian's letter, "The Unfoldment of World Civilization." In spite of war and other unfavorable conditions, Bahá'í youth feel that this is one of their most significant opportunities to demonstrate to the rest of the world the unity and vitality of their Faith.

Regional Teaching Committees and Local Spiritual Assemblies are urged to respond to the questionnaires sent out by the National Youth Committee in October regarding youth activities and Bahá'í men in service. Failure to answer is depriving both youth and service men of the youth bulletin and correspondence.

The National Youth Committee feels that contact with our Bahá'í men in service is extremely important. The Committee attempts to put these service men in touch with the nearest Bahá'í group or Assembly, and it is hoped that a warm hospi-
Volume 8, Numbers 1 and 2, of the bulletin, Bahá’í Youth, have been published and mailed throughout the country. Youth who have not yet received their copies should ask for them from their Local Spiritual Assembly or Regional Teaching Committee.

MARIE MILLER, Chairman

French Book Needed

The National Spiritual Assembly is in need of a copy of the book by the late M. Hippolyte Dreyfus and will greatly appreciate the gift of a copy by any believer who owns the book in its Second Edition. It is the French and not the English translation of the book which is sought.

Application for Classification in Class IV-D of Selective Service

A notice has already appeared in Bahá’í News reporting that local Chairmen and Secretaries are eligible for preferred mileage. The procedure for these officers to follow is to apply to their local rationing board for B or C gasoline books, presenting credentials to show their status as officer of the local Spiritual Assembly, and pointing out that recognition has been given by the National OPA Office in Washington and that a certified list of all local Assembly officers is on file in that Office.

The National Spiritual Assembly has also applied to the Selective Service System for recognition as an independent religious faith, the official representatives of which, rendering the services discharged by ministers, should receive allocation to Class IV-D under the draft. The Bahá’í petition has been placed on file for reference in case questions are raised by State draft boards in connection with applications received by local boards from individual believers for the IV-D classification.

The procedure is for the individual believer qualifying as discharging a ministerial function in the Bahá’í community to file a special petition with his local draft board, when called into the service, for allocation to Class IV-D, and explain that the National Office of the Selective Service System has the necessary information on file. It has not been made clear whether such petitions from Regional Teaching Committee members, in addition to petitions from local Assembly Chairmen and Secretaries, will be approved, for unlike the OPA Office, the Office of the Selective Service System has not definitely accepted a certified list of Bahá’í representatives but will pass upon each case on its own merits.

Bahá’í Directory

Last month it was reported that Mrs. DeMille was unable to serve as member of the Contacts Committee. This was due to change of residence, but the Committee has assigned her a new area for correspondence and her work as member of the Contacts Committee is being continued.

Enrollments and Transfers

Enrollment of new believers reported by local Assemblies:

- Detroit, three.
- Phoenix, four and one youth.
- Winnetka, two.
- Milwaukee, three.
- Honolulu, one.
- St. Paul, one.
- Jacksonville, two.
- Spokane, two.
- Oakland, one.
- Vancouver, one.
- Seattle, four.
- Madison, one and one youth.
- Springfield, Mass., two.
- Miami, two.
- Los Angeles, one.
- Rochester, one.
- Wilmette, two.
- Helena, one.
- Kansas City, one.

Enrollments by transfer reported by local Assemblies:

- Chicago, five.
- Winnipeg, two.
- Philadelphia, two.
- Los Angeles, four.
- Flint, one.
- Binghamton, one.
- Bever-
ly, one. Seattle, four. Wilmette, one. Jersey City, one.

In December, fourteen enrollment cards were received from adults in regional areas; in January, the same number of enrollments were recorded. Fourteen enrollments were likewise received in February.

**In Memoriam**

...The true believers, whose existence and life are to be regarded as the originating purpose of all creation.—Baha'u'llah.

Mrs. Edgar Meyer, Arvada, Colorado.

Miss Marie Du Bedat, New York.

Mr. Carl Rasmussen, Racine.

Mrs. Alice W. Alexander, Upton, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Eliza Lewis, Boston.

Mr. Mathew Kaszab, Brownsville, Texas.

Miss Esther Foster, New York.

Mrs. Kate Morris, New York.

Mrs. Mary Munson, Portland, Oregon.

Mrs. Catherine Tweed, Portland, Oregon.

Mrs. Elizabeth Sutherland, River Forest, Illinois.

Mrs. Joseph Clevenger, New York.

Mr. Hector Stevens, Topeka, Kansas.

Mrs. Nicholas Marangella, Hawthorne, New Jersey.

Dr. B. C. Smith, Atascadero, California.

**Baha'i Calendar**

Nineteen Day Feasts: Lohness, March 2; Splendor, March 21; Glory, April 9; Beauty, April 28.

Period of the Fast: Nineteen days beginning March 2.

Feast of Naw-Ruz: March 21.

Feast of Rídvan: April 21—May 2.

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: March 5, 6, 7, 8. At Wilmette. April 28. At Wilmette.

Thirty-Fifth Annual Convention: April 29 and 30, May 1 and 2. Temple Foundation Hall.

**Incorporated Assemblies**

The incorporated Assemblies are requested to proceed with effort to obtain civil recognition of their right to conduct legal marriage ceremonies, a matter which was brought to the attention of local Assemblies in a bulletin last summer. If an Assembly is unable to obtain the necessary authority, it is requested to obtain a copy of the State statutes dealing with the subject and forward it to the Legal Committee which will endeavor to advise the Assembly how to proceed.

The recognition of this legal right of a local Assembly to perform a marriage service is an important step in the development of the Baha'i community as an independent religious body.

**Literature for Men in Service**

Literature can be obtained by men in service for reading tables of camps and training schools. Where permission is obtained from the chaplain or other officer in charge, a copy of Baha'u'llah and the New Era, Temple pamphlet, and Appreciations of the Baha'i Faith will be supplied without cost on application to the National Teaching Committee. As the Library Committee also has a special project for military and naval stations, the believer is requested to check the Baha'i literature already in the Camp Library before ordering in order to avoid duplication of material.

In cases where Baha'i men in service find requests for literature arising from talks they have been able to give, copies of A Pattern for Future Society will be sent free on request made through the National Teaching Committee.

**New Believers**

Local Assemblies are informed that whenever they report the names and addresses of newly enrolled believers, the National Assembly now sends each of such believers a letter of spiritual greeting and welcome, together with a copy of the Master's Will and Testament.

**Believers in Key Areas**

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes to make a special appeal to all believers who live near one of the key cities where Assemblies are to be formed under the requirements of the Seven Year Plan. The appeal is to make every effort to transfer their residence to that town or city and thus make a direct contribution to the vital teaching objective established by the Guardian in North America. The list of these cities was printed in the bulletin entitled "The Guardian's Summons to Teaching" issued in October, 1942.

It is the conviction of the Assembly that a good number of believers will find it possible to adjust their affairs so as to establish residence where voting believers are most urgently needed.
Messages From the Guardian

The report that the New History literature includes a Tablet of the Master urging civil disobedience regarding war, is another indication of the gross misrepresentations of the Faith by that Society, whose publications are deliberately and maliciously aimed at undermining the loyalty of the believers, at creating confusion among them, and causing internal disruption. (Through his Secretary, January 8, 1943)

Highly approve memorandum regarding special Anniversary publication. Advise your Assembly undertake preparation immediately. Praying Divine Guidance that the gathering on May 20, 1944, can now begin to visualize the focal point of all our deepest hopes and most ardent efforts in their culmination one hundred years after the most glorious and blessed hour when the Báb declared His Mission to our world. More than obedience to law and command, the Bahá’ís of East and West make their lives an expression of fervent gratitude to God and devotion to His Manifestation.

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In connection with the above he wishes me to add that the actual Celebration gathering, commemorative of that glorious occasion when the blessed Báb declared His spiritual Mission to the world in 1844 should take place exactly two hours and 11 minutes after sunset on May 22, in the Temple—naturally other Bahá’í Centers all over the continent of America must hold their special Commemorative meeting at the same time. The delegates and friends must hold their special Commemorative meeting at that time. The date of the Convention must be fixed by your Assembly in such a manner that the gathering on May 22, 1944, will fall approximately in the middle of the Convention period.

It is certainly a wonderful occasion to look forward to! (Through his Secretary, February 27, 1943)

Overjoyed at the multiplying evidences of the extraordinary progress of the manifold activities of the consecrated American Bahá’í Community. Please, afresh, on eve of the last remaining year of the first Bahá’í Century strain every nerve and concentrate all resources to insure further immediate increase in the number of pioneer settlers in the virgin areas. Call is urgent, hour crucial, golden opportunities slipping away. No sacrifice too great to achieve the consummation of the hopes embodied in the Seven Year Plan. I direct my special appeal to the large, flourishing communities promptly and effectually to cast their weight in the scales to stimulate the dispersion vitally required to achieve the final victory. I am praying the watchful Master to speed the valiant stewards of the Covenant along the path leading to the shining goal.

Received March 15, 1943

This Crucial Year

Progress Report No. 8 Issued by the National Spiritual Assembly for the Period March 1-31, 1943

44. Plans for the celebration of the Bahá’í Centenary in America are in active motion, with the approval of the Guardian. His message approving the memorandum of plans submitted to him after the January meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly was received on March 1, and is shared with the friends in this issue of Bahá’í News. Later in March came another message from Haifa amplifying the first, and this also is reprinted in these pages. We can now begin to visualize the focal point of all our deepest hopes and most ardent efforts in their culmination one hundred years after the most glorious and blessed hour when the Báb declared His Mission to our world. More than obedience to law and command, the Bahá’ís of East and West make their lives an expression of fervent gratitude to God and devotion to His Manifestation.

In addition to the commemorative meeting to be held at the House of Worship, local gatherings will be conducted in all Bahá’í centers. The local Assemblies are urged to prepare for that great occasion, as for example in recording the history of the Faith in their own city, appointing a Committee to develop the program, etc.

45. The Bahá’í School Programs for the 1943 season have been completed, and each School will issue its own announcement. The National Spiritual Assembly hopes that the School announcements will receive the special attention of all the friends this year. Local Assemblies can cooperate by providing for discussion of School programs at the Nineteen Days Feast, and Regional Committees can present the School plans in their bulletins for the information of groups and isolated believers. Every believer who can attend a School session this year is urged to notify the School Committee as early as possible and make a definite reservation. Those in charge of housing and food arrangements face great difficulty on account of the emergency conditions, and they require and deserve the utmost consideration so that each School may render a great, an unparalleled service to the Cause. The Green Acre Program includes study courses from July 12 to September 3. At Geyserville the session will extend from July 4 to July 18. The sessions of Louhelen School include a Laboratory Session, July 1 to 12, Junior Youth Session, July 14 to August 3, Midsummer Session, July 23 to August 3, General Session, August 5 to 12, and Youth Session, August 14 to 20.

46. A Committee has been formed within the membership of the National Spiritual Assembly to carry out plans for publicity and contacts of a special type. This Committee will bring the Bahá’í Peace Plan to the attention of organizations and outstanding leaders; it will prepare a number of statements about the fundamental nature and aims of the Faith which local Assemblies and active teachers can use as press releases; it will concern itself with preparation of material to meet attacks and misrepresentations aimed
The Bahá’í News

against the Cause; and it will issue a general statement about the Faith which can be used in books of public reference. The friends can assist greatly by sending to the National Office names and addresses of leaders in the field of post-war peace plans, and information about post-war plans as published or as adopted by responsible organizations.

47. The National Spiritual Assembly has created a Committee on Pamphlet Literature to gather and recommend for publication the text for a new series of pamphlets which can contribute to the teaching and promotion of the Cause, including the re-issue of pamphlets now out of print. Three or four subjects have already been selected and these will be brought out during the spring of 1943. The policy has been adopted that the National Assembly can and should assist by providing free literature to Assemblies which have no available public teachers or lecturers, so that contacts by the individual believers can be stimulated.

48. An important compilation on the subject of race unity, prepared by Mrs. Maye Harvey Gift and Mrs. Alice Simmons Cox, and sponsored by the Race Unity Committee, has been approved for early publication. Its title is “The Coming Race Unity.” The compilers have accomplished something new in the field by combining the Bahá’í teachings on the subject with excerpts from current race unity writings of scientists and social philosophers. The book is also equipped with bibliography and other reference material of great value. American believers will be able to render an important service to the victory of the Bahá’í principle of the oneness of mankind by assisting in the wide distribution of this text. Part of the edition is to be given to the Race Unity Committee for donation to leaders of opinion, active organizations, and the press.

49. Plans have been approved by which Miss Jean Silver will go forth as pioneer teacher to Cuba, and Miss Etta Mae Lawrence is to proceed to Buenos Aires, where a business position has been assured. Thus two more devoted American workers enter the field of Inter-America teaching in order to assure the victory of the Divine Plan. From Puerto Rico comes the glad tidings that the Bahá’í group in the city of San Juan is already large enough to form a Spiritual Assembly on April 21. It is interesting to note that an Assembly in Puerto Rico, like an Assembly in the Hawaiian Islands, has the status of active membership in the Bahá’í community of North America and will be represented at future Conventions.

50. At the March meeting of the National Assembly, approval was given to a large number of teaching projects developed by the National Teaching Committee. These projects included the following teachers and locations: Jean Hendrie, Omega; Clare Gillespie, Laramie; Muriel Stilson, Sioux Falls; Elsa Steinmetz, Sioux Falls; Flora Valentine, Portsmouth; Mr. and Mrs. William Doull, Providence; Frances L. Wells, San Bernardino; Rose Steinburg, Columbus; Lauretta Voelz, Regina; Mary Bode, Reno; Adeline Lohse, North Augusta; Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Stone, Brattleboro; W. J. Christie, Novel; Anne MacNally, Providence; Fleury Martini, Little Rock; Ruth Cornell, Little Rock; Margaret Ellis, Jackson; Ruth Moffett, Augusta; Virginia Camelon, Charleston; Kathryn Frankland, Albuquerque; Mable Ives, Albuquerque.

Thirty-Fifth Annual Convention

In view of the emergency travel condition this year, which has led to the cancellation of many national Conventions, it seems desirable to emphasize the fact that a Bahá’í Convention combines two functions — that of general consultation on the activities of the Faith, and that of electing the members of the National Spiritual Assembly. The Guardian many years ago provided for any emergency condition that might make it impossible for the body of the delegates to convene by directing the absent delegates to cast their vote by mail. For while the annual consultation can be suspended, the election must be conducted each year.

In calling the Convention this year, the National Spiritual Assembly has discharged its responsibility in meeting the obligation to provide for the annual election. As for the other important function, of consultation, discussion and recommendation, this depends on the ability of individual delegates to attend the Convention in person, and the delegates and friends will naturally adhere fully to whatever regulations the government may issue controlling travel.

The informal suggestion is made that the friends gather locally for consultation on the Convention subjects where representatives are unable to attend the National gathering this year. Indeed, no effort can be spared if we are to grasp the full meaning of the spiritual tasks which the American community has been called upon to achieve by May, 1944.

Suggestions sent by mail will be given full consideration, and in order to concentrate the attention and prayers of the absent delegates on specific matters of current Bahá’í importance, a simple Agenda has been prepared, a copy of which follows. It has been decided to omit the usual Bahá’í exhibits this year.

Convention Theme: Bahá’í Year 100

Thursday Morning, April 29
Opening of Convention by Presiding Officer of the National Spiritual Assembly
Roll Call of Delegates
Election of Convention Officers
Convention Message to the Guardian
Supplementary Report of Secretary
National Spiritual Assembly
Reports of Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer
Report of Temple and Other Bahá’í Trustees

Thursday Afternoon and Evening
North America Teaching: Unfinished Tasks, Plans and Projects

Friday Morning, April 30
Inter-America Teaching: Unfinished Tasks, Plans and Projects

Friday Afternoon
Election of National Spiritual Assembly

Friday Evening
Race Unity
Bahá’í Schools
College Teaching
Youth Activities

Saturday Morning, May 1
Publicity
Radio
Contacts
World Order Magazine

Between Saturday Morning and Afternoon Sessions—Convention Photograph

Saturday Afternoon
Plans for Centenary of Bahá’í Faith

Saturday Evening
Ridván Feast

Sunday Afternoon, May 2
Bahá’í Congress

Ballots—Mailed to delegates on or before April 3. Each ballot is accompanied
Inter-America News

Pan American Day

Expressions of good will and appreciation are to be broadcast on April 14 to all South and Central American countries on this special Latin American Day. These tributes are being voiced by various important organizations through the instrumentality of the Pan American Union. The Inter-America Committee forwarded to the National Assembly the following tribute prepared by Charles Wolcott which will be part of the Inter-National Broadcast on Pan American Day:

"On this day, the twelfth anniversary commemorating the birth of political, economic and spiritual unity of the 21 Republics of the American continent, the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada sends sincere greetings to Latin America with the earnest hope that the Continental solidarity and understanding so far achieved will become the cornerstone of a universal and enduring peace, and create power to assist, with the hands of justice, the broken-hearted, and crush the great oppressors with the forces of divine truth."

(Signed) American Bahá'ís

Mathew Kaszab

In loving memory of our departed pioneer teacher the following tribute in the form of a burial stone is being prepared through the initiative and generous donation of Mrs. Loulie Mathews, to be set up at his last resting place in Brownsville, Texas:

(Design of the Greatest Name)

MATHEW KASZAB
Died January 13, 1943.

Pioneer Bahá'í Teacher in Nicaragua
"His services are unforgettable"

Shoghi Effendi

Ecuador

Quito, Ecuador, has achieved its required number and in terse and eloquent terms John Stearns writes: "Please send more registration cards." There is a wealth of joyous satisfaction in those few words.

Venezuela

Miss Sholtis has sent another sheaf of clippings from Spanish publications in Caracas. One is headed "Notes on the Spiritual Mission of Gwenne Dorothy Sholtis" and the other: "The Greatest Event of History." This is a truly wonderful accomplishment, evidence of the devoted services of Miss Sholtis.

Costa Rica

From San José we have received another issue of the Alma Tica magazine which contains a long article written on the Faith and illustrated, by Mrs. Gayle Woolson. San José also is supplying a pioneer teacher now to go to Nicaragua to pick up the threads left by Mathew and we hope soon to see them woven into a Spiritual Assembly.

Argentina

Buenos Aires is soon to welcome a new pioneer from New York as Miss Etta Mae Lawrence is to leave very soon to assist in the work of the young people in the Buenos Aires Community. Our loving prayers go with her on this glorious mission.

Cuba

A request came from the secretary of the Spiritual Assembly of Havana for some Bahá'í literature in Chinese and fortunately we were able to supply a copy of Some Answered Questions. The book reached Havana safely and was very gratefully accepted by the Chinese gentleman for whom it was intended and he is sharing the contents with his friends.

Colombia

We take this opportunity to congratulate Miss Ruth Shook who was recently married and is now living in Bogotá and although letters are very rare due to censorship we know that she is very well and happy and is carrying on her teaching of the Faith. We know that she has married a man from this country but we have not yet learned her married name. Loving greetings to all.

NEILIE S. FRENCH, Secretary

Bahá'ís Subject to the Draft

The Selective Service Advisory Committee has informed us that there has been a change in the Army Regulations which affects those who, like Bahá'ís, apply for, or now have, the noncombatant status. To qualify
for admission to Officers Candidate School, this regulation now applies: “Applicants classified as conscientious objectors, or claiming such objection, are eligible only if they refuse by affidavit their objection.” That is, if they abandon their noncombatant status.

To meet this development and clarify the matter for Baha’is, the National Assembly adopted the following statement:

“The National Assembly records its understanding of the Guardian’s instructions concerning the duty of Baha’is in time of war as obligating each believer called under the draft to apply for noncombatant status, in which status he gives full obedience to the military authority of his country; that this obligation does not mean he is a conscientious objector who refuses obedience to military authority, but on the other hand it makes incumbent upon the Baha’i to apply for and maintain the noncombatant status without regard to its consequences upon his personal safety, his convenience, the type of activity he must discharge or the rank to which he may be assigned.”

The purpose is to emphasize the fundamental principle that up to the extent of his personal will, the individual Baha’i is noncombatant but if he is required by the military authority to be a combatant he will obey. Where there is no compulsion upon him, he will not abandon the noncombatant status.

It is unfortunate that the phrase “conscientious objector” is employed in the army and draft regulations in two different ways, applying to the complete pacifist and also to the Baha’i who is not a pacifist. Assemblies and Regional Committees can assist the friends by clarifying the Baha’i attitude wherever it is not yet known.

A new bulletin entitled “Statement of Baha’i Position on Military Service for Use by Believers in Presenting Claims for Noncombatant Duty Under U. S. Draft Law” has been prepared, and copies have been sent to local Assemblies and to Regional Teaching Committees. A copy will be sent to believers subject to the draft, on request. It directs the Baha’i how to make correct application for Classification in Class I-A-O. Baha’is do not apply for classification in Class IV-E which is reserved for pacifists. This bulletin also states that the War Department has made a new ruling which provides that individuals who obtain a noncombatant status can be assigned only to the Medical Corps.

Since this bulletin was prepared, the Baha’i Selective Service Advisory Committee has received a letter from the Adjutant General stating that “Army regulations are now being amended to permit qualified soldiers in this classification (noncombatant) to appeal for admission to the Medical Administrative Corps Officer Candidate School.” This makes it clear that drafted Baha’is can apply for admission to this Officer Candidate School, though other schools for training Officers are not open now to men in the noncombatant classification.

Annual Committee Reports

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes the National Committees hereafter to cover in their Annual Reports the twelve-month period, March 1 to February 28, which coincides with the fiscal period represented by the Treasurer’s Annual Report. The period of the Committee term of office, July 1 to June 30, is unsuitable for these Reports since Annual Reports are printed and circulated prior to the Convention.

Annual Reports of Local Assemblies

The local Assemblies are reminded of the desire of the NSA that each Assembly prepare and submit an annual report of its activities and those of the local community. These reports can cover the period, April 21-April 20, coinciding with the Assembly term of office.

The Assembly Reports received during the past two years have been very much appreciated.

Committee List

Pamphlet Literature—a new Committee appointed at the March, 1943 meeting. George O. Latimer, Secretary, 1927 N. E. 40th Avenue, Portland, Oregon, and Mrs. Dorothy Baker.

Geyserville School—Mrs. Sarah Kenny and Ray Brackett added. Anita Ioas and Mrs. Marguerite Sears unable to serve.

Regional Teaching Committees—Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, Esther Klein added. Roberta Wilson unable to serve. Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, Mrs. Sarah Eason unable to serve.

Baha’i Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Glory, April 9; Beauty, April 28; Grandeur, May 17.

Feast of Ridván: April 21-May 2.

Declaration of the Báb: May 23.

Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh: May 29.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: April 28, at Wilmette.

Thirty-Fifth Annual Convention: April 29 and 30, May 1 and 2. Temple Foundation Hall.

Publishing Announcements

The friends are reminded of the facilities which are available for the study of Islam. There are two study outlines, as follows:

Introduction to the Study of the Qur’an, per copy, 35c.

Muhammad and the Founding of Islam, per copy, 60c.

A limited supply of the Rodwell translation of the Qur’an is also on hand, at $1.00 per copy. This book is obtained from England, and shipments are slow and irregular.


Address orders to Baha’i Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Membership Status of Absent Believers

A believer who is absent from his community retains his voting membership provided he has the intention of resuming residence, but if he is a member of the Spiritual Assembly and his absence is indefinite, his membership on the Assembly is to be replaced so that the Assembly will have the services of nine members able to meet. To obtain recognition, new Assemblies must have nine resident members able to meet regularly.
Publication of Letters
From the Guardian
For a number of years the National Spiritual Assembly has published in Bahá’í News only such excerpts from letters written by the Guardian to individuals as the Guardian has specifically permitted. The NSA feels that the same principle applies to the publication of the Guardian’s letters to individuals in local and regional newsletters.

Wills Naming the NSA As Beneficiary
Believers wishing to provide a bequest for Bahá’í use will find a form of bequest on page 21 of the revised edition of Bahá’í Procedure. The believers who draw up wills naming the National Assembly as beneficiary are requested to send a copy to the National Office for the records.

Braille Transcriptions
The Committee on Braille Transcriptions has received five orders and a number of interested inquiries for the second edition of the Braille “Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era.” Copies are being placed by friends in Libraries of New Orleans, Houston, and Albuquerque.

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Will the friends in the various Centers who have borrowed Braille books from the Bahá’í Braille Reserve Library in Cleveland, Ohio, for blind contacts in their respective localities, ascertain as soon as possible whether these books are being used by the blind? If no longer in use, kindly return to Mrs. Mayme Jackson, 9615 Shakespeare Parkway, Cleveland, Ohio.

Some of these Braille books have been out on loan for three years, and our supply of available Braille Bahá’í pamphlets and booklets is being depleted.

Ella C. Quant, Chairman

Temple Library and Sales Committee
The friends are informed that a new Temple card is now available, with the “reflection picture” of the House of Worship on one side, and the nine texts of Bahá’u’lláh on the other. Orders will be filled at the rate of 100 for $0.75, postpaid. Address orders to the Committee through H. E. Walrath, Chairman, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago.

Announcement is also made of a new Temple picture, a printed reproduction of Carl Scheffler’s etching—type pen and ink drawing. The illustration itself measures 10” by 10”, while the paper mounting measures 13½” by 14”. Suitable for framing, Price, postpaid, 25c. Order through Mr. Walrath.

In Memoriam
Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It confereth the gift of everlasting life—BAHÁ’U’LLÁH
Miss Gwendolyn McReynolds, Colorado Springs.
Mrs. Carrie McGriff, Lima.
Mrs. Muriel McComb, Glenwood Landing, N. Y.
Mrs. Lillian McClellan, Cleveland.

Mathew Kasab, Bahá’í pioneer to Nicaragua, with some members of the group he formed in Managua.

Enrollments and Transfers
Enrollment of new believers reported by local Assemblies:

Enrollments by transfer reported by local Assemblies:
Toronto, one. Lima, one. Los Angeles, one. Chicago, one youth.

Enrollment of isolated believers in March—twenty-eight.

The Guardian’s Answers to Questions
With the Guardian’s consent, the following explanations made by him to questions submitted by the late Francis A. Kelsey are published for the information of the friends.

1. Regarding the passage beginning with the words “Knowledge consists of twenty-seven letters...” this should not be interpreted
Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’is of Port au Prince, Haiti, newly established April 21, 1942. Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Blackwell, pioneers who developed this Baha’i Community, are both in the picture.

literally. It only indicates the relative greatness of superiority of the new Revelation.

2. The fundamentals of all Divinely-instituted religions cannot be rigidly classified. No definite or exhaustive list of them can be set up, as we have no means of ascertaining that what we consider to be those fundamentals are common to all such religions.

3. The declaration of the Bab took place on May 22nd after sunset, and as the Baha’i day starts and ends with sunset, the feast of the Declaration is celebrated on May 23rd and not the 22nd.

4. Regarding the date of the birth of Jesus Christ: ‘Abdu’l-Baha’s statement on the subject should be considered by the Baha’is as the standard, and as the basis of their calculation.

5. There is disagreement among Oriental scholars relative to the exact date of the birth of Muhammad. You should refer to authorities on the subject such as Sale, whose translation of the Qur’an has become almost classical.

6. Baha’u’llah was born at dawn.

7. The Bab was born before dawn.

8. ‘Abdu’l-Baha has given no explanation regarding the 500,000 years period of the Baha’i cycle. Individual believers are free to work out for themselves the explanation they desire, so long as they do not impose their views on others.

9. Inherited characteristics of the soul are not innate, while the inherent ones are innate and not acquired. The inherent characteristics of the soul derive from man’s own nature.

10. There is no authority for the statement which is alleged to have been said by ‘Abdu’l-Baha to the effect that cancer is a spiritual disease. The saying is quite unauthoritative, and should not be circulated.

11. Jesus’ name has never been confounded with that of Joshua. The two have always been considered as quite distinct.

12. Yes, the Guardian considers “astrology,” which is a pseudo-science, as for the most part “nonsensical,” as it is mostly made up of superstitious beliefs and practices.

13. There is no objection in principle to an Assembly being re-elected, whether in toto or in part, provided the members are considered to be well-qualified for that post. It is individual merit that counts. Novelty, or the mere act of renewal of elections, are purely secondary considerations. Changes in Assembly membership would be welcome so far as they do not prejudice the quality of such membership. Once Assembly elections are over, the results should be conscientiously and unquestionably accepted by the entire body of the believers, not necessarily because they represent the Voice of Truth or the Will of Baha’u’llah, but for the supreme purpose of maintaining unity and harmony in the Community. Besides, the acceptance of majority vote is the only effective and practical way of settling dead-locks in elections. No other solution is indeed possible.

14. ‘Abdu’l-Baha gives no reason whatever why Friday has been chosen as the day of rest in the Baha’i calendar. He just affirms it.

15. The belief according to which Judah represents the Jews, and Israel the Chosen People, is erroneous.

16. The Teachings throw no light on the question as to what became of the ten tribes of Israel or whether they were absorbed into some other nation or not.

17. Also no reference is to be found in the Baha’i Teachings regarding the pyramid of Cheops, and as to its being considered a monument of prophecy.

18. This statement which ‘Abdu’l-Baha is alleged to have made is absolutely unauthoritative and should be disregarded. (Question was: ‘Abdu’l-Baha is alleged to have said that Baha’u’llah was the seventh in order of the Universal Manifestations; that Jesus was the sixth, that Melchisedek was the fifth and that the four prior to them are unknown.)

19. The separation of sheep from the goats is purely figurative, i.e., the faithful from the unfaithful.

The Baha’i World Community

1. News From Iran

The flow of eager Iranian pilgrims to and from Haifa has imparted a new life to the gatherings and activities of friends in this country. The spiritual refreshment so abundantly manifest in their faces, the life-giving messages of encouragement that
they convey from our beloved Guardian and the glad-tidings that they bear to us of the divine order and regularity prevailing in the world's spiritual center, combine to give us strength to bear the brunt of what remains in store for all in the near future. Every believer is moved beyond himself to rise to still higher display of energy and devotion in the path of service. Some of the messages brought by the pilgrims who recently returned may be summarized as follows:—

1. Contributions are asked from all friends in Iran towards the funds of the Ḥażīratu'l-Quḍā in Damascus.

2. Further warning was conveyed to friends not to meddle with politics of any kind and not to take part in every controversy as to which of the belligerent Powers is to be blamed for the war.

3. A copy of Finnish translation of Dr. Esselmont's Book published at Helsinki during the recent war and bombardment there, was presented by the Guardian to the Bahá’í Library of Tihrán.

4. The Guardian very strongly desires all friends to show loving kindness to all members of the Community irrespective of their race or creed. Friends must in no way be influenced by the political dislikes now in vogue against any race or creed or nationality. All minorities must receive utmost kindness from friends. Copy of a Tablet from the Master was brought by one of the pilgrims which contains the following passage:—

‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s belief is the oneness of the world of humanity; all people are the Lord’s flock and the Lord is the kind shepherd of all. We bear no grudge against any religion; we invite all to the oneness of mankind. But all must drink from the source of Bahá’u’lláh’s teachings so that strife, struggle and dissension may vanish from among men. All people are like unto different birds which must gather around the spring of Bahá’u’lláh’s teachings.”

5. Bahá’ís are encouraged again most vehemently by the Guardian to forsake country and home and to emigrate into neighboring countries with a view to settling down and creating Bahá’í centers there. Balúchistán, Afghanistan, Kurdistan, Ahsa (country of Sháhíz Ahmad Aḥsá’í, the Herald of the Báb’s Cause), Yaman, and Hijáz were especially mentioned. The example of Bahá’í friends in America was often cited by the Beloved Guardian. They were able through migration to win over to the Cause vast realms and cities. A number of young Bahá’ís have accordingly volunteered to emigrate to these countries and thus to fulfill one of the expressed wishes of the Guardian. The restrictions over the departure from the country of all Iranians are numerous and often almost unsurmountable, but efforts are being made to cope with them.

Panibh-Chulih is a village of some fifty households near Sarí, in Mazindaran. On Saturday, the 26th of Mīhr 1320 (18th October 1941), at about the hour of midnight, an armed band entered the house of Darvīsh Ibrāhīm Māddah Akbarī, a well-known believer of that place. They awoke Alikhan, the servant, who was sleeping at the door and inquired as to where Yaquīb, the eldest son of the household, was. The faithful servant, seeing this strange and armed crew, introduced himself as Yaquīb. One of the visitors, however, who knew Yaquīb, broke forth angrily "What? You are not Yaquīb!", and called out loudly, "Yaquīb! Yaquīb! Come forth! Guests have arrived!" Roused by this disturbance, Yaquīb stirred forth and welcomed the visitors, and they called for tea. Yaquīb straightway returned to the room and took up the samovar to prepare tea. Yusuf, his younger brother, wished to issue forth from the room to fetch water, but his exit was barred by the intruders who forbade him egress. When asked the cause, the ruffianly crew refrained from giving any reply but surrounded him and, in a body, forced him to re-enter the room. Yusuf, finding it beyond his power to resist 20 armed men, submitted, and resigned himself to his fate. Several of these ruffians then gained entrance into the room and, having satisfied themselves from a thorough search that it contained no weapons of defence, kicked the samovar into a corner and ordered all the inmates to seat themselves against the wall, face to face with the intruders.

There were eight members in the family, as follows:—

1. Darvīsh Ibrāhīm Māddah Akbarī, the father, aged about 62 years
2. Yaquīb Akbar, Māddah’s son, aged about 40 years
3. Yusuf Akbar, Māddah’s son, aged about 24 years
4. Nargis Kānum, Māddah’s daughter, aged about 30 years
5. Surūr Kānum, Māddah’s daughter, aged about 18 years
6. Zīa, Māddah’s son, aged about 20 years
7. Shīyīdīn Kānum, Māddah’s wife, aged about 60 years
8. Shīmsī Kānum, wife of Yusuf, aged about 18 years

These hapless ones sat down as hidden by their persecutors, and Yusuf, who stood up and requested them to take whatever they pleased of their property but spare their lives or, at least, allow their womenfolk a safe exit, was the first to be dispatched with three gunshots. The second volley was directed towards the eldest son, Yaquīb. Next, a bullet aimed at Nargis’ head blew her brain to bits. The lamp had by now gone out and the room was filled with smoke, so Māddah, the father, rose in his place; he thus sustained injuries only on his hands and legs. The murderers abstained from killing Shīyīdīn Kānum, the mother, as she was a siyyid. Shīmsī Kānum, who was beside her husband, received a bullet in her leg and swooned, but Surūr and Zīa hid behind a pile of cotton in a corner of the room and hence escaped any harm.

2. Nāyīn from ʿIrāq

The students of the Bahá’í Summer School in Baghdad have been extremely delighted and honored by the receipt of the blessed telegram which our Beloved Guardian has addressed to them in reply to the telegram they sent to him at the opening of the Summer School.

Our beloved Guardian has attached great importance to the question of the Bahá’í Summer School in ʿIrāq, and has impressed upon the N.S.A. the necessity of supervising the organization and working of this Bahá’í Educational Institution, on the same lines as those adopted by the Spiritual Assembly of The United States and Canada, based on instructions issued to them by the Guardian, in this connection.

The Guardian’s message was a
source of a great encouragement to the youths of Baghdad, and their sincere efforts to raise the standard of this Bahá’í Institution in its second year of existence, whether from educational or other point of view, have certainly been crowned with success.

There is no doubt that this Institution, which is of considerable importance to the Bahá’í World, is at present in its infancy, and its development and advancement to maturity will only depend upon the care and attention given to it by the believers, so that in course of time, these Summer Schools will turn into Bahá’í colleges, from which will graduate torch-bearers of divine guidance, and messengers of love and peace to all humanity.

The subjects which our beloved Guardian has advised our Spiritual Assembly to teach at the Summer School have added an important matter to this year’s program, and have given some increased beauty and attractiveness, which had their best impression on the students.

Below is the program of this year’s Summer School, together with the names of the lecturers:

History of the Bahá’í Cause, Adib R. Baghdadi.

Bahá’í Administration and Justice, Nurru’d din Abbas.

Outstanding Events in the First Bahá’í Century, Munir Wakil.

The Future of the Bahá’í Cause, Aziz Sabur.

The Laws and Comments Thereon, Jamil Najji.

Society Under the Bahá’í Teachings, Hassan Safa’.

3. News From Haifa

We have learned from Iran that complying with the explicit request of the Guardian, the bodies of the two famous Bahá’í martyrs, known universally in the Bahá’í world as “the King of Martyrs” and “the Beloved of Martyrs,” as well as the remains of the renowned Bahá’í teacher, Mrs. Keith Ransom-Kehler, have been transferred from their original burial place to the new Bahá’í cemetery of Isfahan. The transfer took place on the 27th of September, 1941, in the presence of eight members of the Spiritual Assembly of Isfahan, a representative of the Bahá’í National Assembly and a Bahá’í mason. An official report describing in detail the procedure of the transfer and the exact position of the new tombs has been signed by the above-mentioned believers and sent to the Guardian in Haifa.

One of the evil spirits who has tried for years to injure the Bahá’í Faith in Persia is known under the pseudonym of “Ayati,” his real name being “Aváreh.” He, at first, associated himself with the Cause and was, indeed, at one time, a Bahá’í lecturer and teacher. But his unstable character, coupled with a proud and rebellious nature, could not withstand the spiritual tests and trials that confronted him. The inner flimsy fabric of his soul collapsed. The outward mask of pretended loyalty and faithfulness to the Faith slipped down from his face revealing the concealed mockery of sham behind it. He stubbornly put forward his own views about the Cause and his own interpretation of its Teachings. His waywardness increased day by day until it was turned into an open rebellion—a rebellion bristling with intense hatred and enmity not only towards the Faith itself, but towards the very person of its Founders. This naturally brought about his downfall and separation from the Bahá’í Community.

Thereafter, for many years and with tireless energy inspired by a consuming hatred, he engaged himself with heart and soul in various seditious activities with the avowed intention of maiming and crippling the Faith in Persia. Among those activities was the publication of a periodical called “The Saltcellar.”

Using his venomous pen, he ridiculed and vilified the Bahá’í Teachings in prose and verse. He filled his “Saltcellar” with foul calumnies and malicious slanders against the Founders of the Bahá’í Faith.

But seldom do such characters escape divine retribution on this earth. The state of ignominy and disgrace of “Ayati” is revealed by his own pen in the following note (translated from the Persian) which appeared in the newspaper called “The Weekly Star”—published in Tiran—Vol. V. No. 1272 and dated Friday, 12 Esfand, 1320 (March 6, 1942).

“My dear Editor.

“It has taken me a long time to render you homage and fealty and to express to you in writing the enthusiasm which was awakened in my heart by the kindling of your Star’s light. But, believe me, for a person like Ayati who has reached senility, with the infirmities of old age upon him, and who is the subject of ignominy from all sides—instead of receiving relief and assistance—life is indeed a sorrowful burden for him. For after five years during which the publication of his magazine called the ‘Saltcellar’ was suspended, because of the crooked policy of the former régime, there was much hope and expectations run high during this new period concerning freedom of speech and freedom of the press. But it seems that I am ill-fated for as soon as I took up my pen and published two numbers of the ‘Saltcellar,’ then all of a sudden the third number which was still unfinished, was confiscated at the printing press, by the orders of the governor of Yazd.”
Messages from Shoghi Effendi

1. To the Convention

An All-America Centennial Convention

I desire to announce to the elected representatives of the valiant, blessed, triumphant American Bahá'í Community assembled beneath the dome of the recently completed Mother Temple of the West on the occasion of the Convention inaugurating the hundredth year of the first Bahá'í Century, the momentous decision to convene, in May, 1944, an All-America Centennial Convention comprising delegates to be separately elected by each State and Province in the North American continent, and to which every Republic of Latin America may send one representative. All groups, all isolated believers, as well as all local communities already possessing Assemblies, will henceforth share in the election of Convention delegates. The multiplication of Bahá'í Centers and the remarkable increase in the number of groups and isolated believers, prompt my decision. The historic occasion of next year's festivities, commemorating as it does the One Hundredth Anniversary of the birth of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh and the Fiftieth Anniversary of its establishment in the Western Hemisphere, and celebrating the completion of the exterior ornamentation of the first House of Worship in the Western World, imperatively demand it. Details of the project have already been mailed. I congratulate the best-beloved American believers, I share their joy and wish them Godspeed, confident of still greater victories as they forge ahead in the course of the second Bahá'í Century along the path leading them to their high destiny. I hope to forward, in time for the solemn thanksgiving service to be held in the auditorium of the Temple on the evening of May twenty-second, at the hour of His epoch-making Declaration, a sacred portrait of the Bab, the only copy ever sent out from the Holy Land, to be unveiled at the dedication ceremony and to repose for all time, together with Bahá'u'lláh's blessed hair, beneath the dome of the Holy Edifice within the heart of the North American continent.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Haifa, April 14, 1943

To Seal the Triumph

The eleventh hour for the Seven Year Plan has struck. The last twelve months of the first Bahá'í Century are opening. The exterior ornamentation of the mightiest structure yet reared to the glory of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh has been con­summated a year ahead of schedule. The Republics of Central and South America, originally expected each to establish no more than a single nucleus of resident believers already boast in the formation of ten Spiritual Assemblies. The hopes centering on the major tasks of the Plan have been amply fulfilled, nay, exceeded. Neither the convulsions of world catastrophic conflict from without nor the severity of the tests engendered by the Covenant-breakers from within have proved able to divert the American Bahá'í community from its chosen course or dim its radiant faith or deflect its high purpose. The one remaining task confronting it in the virgin areas of the North American continent demands one last, supreme effort to harness all available resources to achieve total victory. The hour requires all ranks of the faithful unitedly to arise, widely disperse, speedily settle, tirelessly persevere, unstintingly sacrifice and deservedly win the immortal prize to seal the triumph of the initial stage of the Plan bequeathed to the American believers by 'Abdu'l-Bahá a quarter century ago.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Received April 23, 1943

2. To the National Spiritual Assembly

Dear and valued co-workers:

The completion of the exterior ornamentation of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár in Wilmette, the most hallowed Temple ever to be erected by the followers of Bahá'u'lláh, and the crowning glory of the first Bahá'í century, is an event of unique and transcendental significance. Neither the first Mashriqu'l-Adhkár of the Bahá'í world, reared in the city of Iqiqábád, nor any House of Worship to be raised in succeeding centuries, can claim to possess the vast, the immeasurable potentialities with which this Mother Temple of the West, established in the very heart of so enviable a continent, and whose foundationstone has been laid by the hand of the Center of the Covenant Himself, has been endowed. Conceived forty years ago by that little band of far-sighted and resolute disciples of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, members of the first Bahá'í community established in the Western Hemisphere; blessed and fostered by a vigilant Master Who directed its course from the hour of its inception to the last days of His life; supported by the spontaneous contributions of Bahá'ís poured in from the five continents of the globe, this noble, this mighty, this magnificent enterprise deserves to rank among the immortal epics, that have adorned the annals of the Apostolic Age of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.

The debt of gratitude owed by the entire Bahá'í world to its champion-builders is indeed immeasurable. The admiration which this brilliant exploit has evoked in the breasts of countless followers of the Faith in East and West knows no bounds. The creative energies its completion must unleash are incalculable. The role it is destined to play in hastening the emergence of the world order of Bahá'u'lláh, now stirring in the womb of this waking age, cannot as yet be fathomed. We stand too close to so majestic, so lofty, so radiant, so symbolic a monument raised so heroically to the glory of the Most Great Name, at so critical a stage in human history, and at so significant a spot in a continent so richly endowed, to be able to visualize the future glories which the con-
summation of this institution, this harbinger of an as yet unborn civilization, must in the fulness of time disclose to the eyes of all mankind.

That so laborious, so meritorious an undertaking has been completed a year before its appointed time is a further cause for rejoicing and gratitude, and an added testimony to the vision, the resourcefulness, and enterprising spirit of the American believers.

No need, however, to dwell at length on their past achievements, remarkable and exemplary though they have been, nor is this the time to expatiate on the superb spirit which has characterized their stewardship in the service of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. Tasks of extreme urgency, of great magnitude, of the utmost significance await them in this concluding year of the first Bahá'í century, and at this hour of great peril, of stress and trial for all mankind. The sacred — the pressing, the inescapable teaching responsibilities assumed under the Seven Year Plan must be resolutely faced as befits those whose record has shed so brilliant a light on the annals of the first Bahá'í century. The consolidation of each and every nucleus formed so painstakingly in every republic of Central and South America, the formation of a Bahá'í Assembly in every virgin State and Province in the North American Continent, call for undivided attention, for further heroism, for a concerted, a persistent, a herculean effort on the part of the stalwart builders of that bounteous Edifice which posterity will recognize as the greatest shrine in the Western world.

Nor must the elaborate preparations in connection with the forthcoming celebration of the centenary of our glorious Faith be overlooked or neglected, if we would befittingly consummate this first, this most fecund, century of the Bahá'í era. An unprecedented, a carefully conceived, efficiently co-ordinated, nation-wide campaign, aiming at the proclamation of the Message of Bahá'u'lláh, through speeches, articles in the press, and radio broadcasts, should be promptly initiated and vigorously prosecuted. The universality of the Faith, its aims and purposes, episodes in its dramatic history, testimonials to its transforming power, and the character and distinguishing features of its World Order should be emphasized and explained to the general public, and particularly to eminent friends and leaders sympathetic to its cause, who should be approached and invited to participate in the celebrations. Lectures, conferences, banquets, special publications should, to whatever extent is practicable and according to the resources at the disposal of the believers, proclaim the character of this joyous Festival. An all-America Convention, at which representatives of Bahá'í centers in every Republic in Central and South America will be invited to participate, and to which, for the first time, all isolated believers, all groups, and all communities already possessing local Spiritual Assemblies will have the right to appoint delegates and to share in the election of the National Spiritual Assembly, will, moreover, have to be held to commemorate this epoch-making event. A dedication ceremony, in consonance with the solemnity of the occasion, and held beneath the dome of the Mashriq 'l-Adhkár, on the very day and at the very hour of the Báb's historic Declaration, followed by a public session, consecrated to the memory of both the Báb and 'Abdu'l-Bahá, should constitute the leading features of this historic Convention.

For it should be borne in mind that in the year 1944 we celebrate not only the termination of the first century of the Bahá'í Era, but also the centenary of the birth of the Bahá'í Dispensation, of the inception of the Bahá'í cycle, and of the birth of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and commemorate as well the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Bahá'í Faith in the Western world.

No effort, nor any sacrifice can be deemed too great to insure the decisive, the brilliant success of the celebrations which this historic year, of such manifold significance, must witness. He Who in the past, has in diverse ways and on so many occasions, graciously and unfailingly guided, blessed and sustained the members of this privileged community will, no doubt, continue to aid and inspire them to carry on a victorious conclusion the unfinished tasks which still confront them, and will enable them to crown their labors in a manner that will befit their high destiny. "Saeedu

Hejaz

March 28, 1943

Magnificent Victory

I acclaim magnificent victory in the teaching field during the course of the sixth year of the Seven Year Plan. I heartily congratulate the National Teaching Committee and feel proud of its high endeavors and of the self-sacrifice of the beloved pioneers. Abiding gratitude.

Shoghi Effendi

Received May 2nd, 1943.

My fervent Prayers

I assure the members of the re-elected Assembly my fervent prayers for unprecedented victories in the concluding year of the Bahá'í Century. I gratefully recognize their share in the magnificent achievements of recent years. Deepest love.

Shoghi Effendi

Message Received May 4, 1943.

The Teaching Work

Concerning the teaching work in North, Central and South America, the Guardian has already advised your Assembly that the reconstitution of the disbanded Assemblies in the States and Provinces where a Spiritual Assembly already exists does not form an objective of the Seven Year Plan. The friends should concentrate on their goal which is to have at least one Assembly in every State and Province before May of 1944, and at least one permanent resident believer in every Republic in Central and South America. In view of this, special attention should be paid to those Latin Republics where the situation, from the Bahá'í viewpoint of establishing the Faith, is precarious. Every encouragement should be given to those volunteers who express a wish to settle in virgin areas. Nor should there be any delay in arranging for their settlement — whatever their qualifications they should, during these crucial remaining months of the first Bahá'í century, be sent out to the places most urgently requiring attention. Through further urgent appeals for pioneers, through a series of area conferences, through special teaching circuits for the key cities; through constant reminders that the time is getting short; that all volunteers will be acceptable, and will be speedily dispatched to the centers in most need, the success of the Seven Year Plan must be assured and the magnificent undertaking launched by the American Bahá'ís carried to a glorious consummation. (From the Guardian,
through his secretary, March 28, 1943).

Letter from the National Spiritual Assembly
Beloved coworkers and friends:

In accordance with the law of the Bahá'í Dispensation, the local Spiritual Assemblies in all parts of our world community were renewed on April 21 during the days of Ridván consecrated by the Declaration of Bahá'u'lláh. Under the successive impulses of the Holy Spirit, which will never fail the faithful followers of Bahá'u'lláh, these potent and responsible Bahá'í institutions are annually given new life and new opportunity through the choice and decision of the friends.

Moreover, under that same divine law, the annual national gathering of the representatives of all the local communities has been held in the Foundation Hall of the completed Temple structure. Our activities, our plans and our policies, illumined by the light of guidance from the Guardian, have been lifted up into the heaven of consultation, transmuted into expressions of unity and cooperation, and vitalized by the creative will which moves us steadily forward to our spiritual goal.

From that gathering, where the energies of achievement were generated, the spirit has penetrated to all the communities of America.

Now it is for us to reflect this spirit and fulfill our devotion in the completion of that mission entrusted to us as the most important work of the Cause in the fateful concluding years of the first Bahá'í Century. The Bahá'í year 100 calls for most intense effort, most radiant faith, most loyal cooperation. In return it offers us blessings and privileges beyond our realization.

Our first duty is to extend loving welcome and congratulation to the twenty-nine Spiritual Assemblies added to the American Bahá'í community on April 21. In them we see the assurance of victory, and in them we receive a great and surpassing reinforcement of our collective power.

The friends are asked to pray for the confirmation of these new Assemblies in their Bahá'í service, that they may possess unassailable strength and steadfastness, and grow continuously in their fulfillment of their high mission. To assist them in the exercise of their new duties and responsibilities, Bahá'í Procedure has been compiled and published, and the new Assembly members will find useful direction in those passages appearing on pages 29 to 44 and 108 to 115 of the revised, 1942 edition. The local By-Laws are binding upon all Assemblies whether or not legally incorporated.

The incoming National Spiritual Assembly has before it many constructive suggestions from the Convention and also from national committees. At the next meeting the main outlines of the work will be laid down for the year. In the Guardian's two Convention messages, and in a letter received from him since the Convention, we have the great objectives of our Bahá'í effort clearly defined.

Annual Budget

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Administration</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Loans</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Teaching, including budgets and projects for the NTC, RTC, IAC, Temple Program and Guilding, Race Unity, Radio, Bahá'í Schools, College Teaching, Teaching Literature, Publicity, Child Education, and all other activities contributing directly to the Teaching work</td>
<td>80,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Temple Sidewalk</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<td>5. Annual Convention</td>
<td>2,000</td>
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<td>6. Centennial</td>
<td>9,000</td>
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<td>7. Properties Maintenance</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Contingent</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$135,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The steady flow of contributions to the National Fund throughout the year will give each important activity the reinforcement it needs for successful completion within the allotted time. The local Spiritual Assembly can not over-emphasize this principle in consultation with the believers at the Nineteen Day Feasts. These are the successive occasions provided us for consultation and unity of spirit for national as well as local undertakings. Let us make these gatherings so radiant and inspiring that no believer will be willing to remain absent if physically able to attend.

The believers serving in groups, and the isolated friends, can now arise for redoubled activity in gratitude for the blessing accorded them by the Guardian in his new plan basing the Convention and the National Spiritual Assembly upon the universal franchise of Bahá'ís.

We have reached a great and decisive hour in the history of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. In our sacred union the vile and insidious attacks of the avowed enemies and Covenant-breakers produce no result. With the institutions, the experience, the devotion and enthusiasm developed by the American believers we can establish a great spiritual foundation on which can arise for the whole world to behold the Bahá'í observance in May, 1944, of the Declaration of His Holiness the Bab.

Devotedly your coworkers, National Spiritual Assembly

Annual Election

The election held Friday, April 30, resulted in the following vote for members of the National Spiritual Assembly:

Horace Holley, 129; Louis G. Gregory, 124; Dorothy Baker, 120; Roy C. Wilhelm, 110; Allen B. McDaniel, 108; Amelia E. Collins, 106; LeRoy Iova 101; George O. Latimer, 89; Siegfried Schopflocher, 85.
These members met in the evening of April 30 and organized by the election of the following officers:

George O. Latimer, Chairman; Allen B. McDaniel, Vice Chairman; Horace Holley, Secretary; Louis G. Gregory, Recording Secretary; Roy C. Wilhelm, Treasurer; Siegfried Schopfocker, Assistant Treasurer.

Schedule of Meetings

The National Spiritual Assembly has adopted a schedule of meetings which decreases the necessary travel of its members, but provides thirty full days of consultation—two more days than last year.

1943:
- May 2, 3, 4
- June 21, 22, 23, 24, 25
- September 16, 17, 18, 19, 20
- December 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

1944:
- February 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
- April 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
- May 19, 20
- Convention May 21, 22, 23, 24

New and Restored Assemblies

Formed April 21, 1943

Brattleboro, Vermont; Portsmouth, New Hampshire; Brookline, Massachusetts; Providence, Rhode Island; Red Bank, New Jersey; Wilmington, Delaware; Chevy Chase, Bethesda, Maryland; Charleston, West Virginia; Greensboro, North Carolina; Delaware, West Virginia and North Carolina are newly occupied States in this area.

New and Restored Assemblies which have been formed in unoccupied States and Provinces, or the former Assemblies which have been restored. More reports will doubtless come in, but up to the present date the communities brought into the World Order of Baha'u'llah include:

1. New England: Brattleboro, Vermont; Portsmouth, New Hampshire; Brookline, Massachusetts; Providence, Rhode Island. The three unoccupied States in this region have been won for the Seven Year Plan.

2. Atlantic Coast: Red Bank, New Jersey; Wilmington, Delaware; Chevy Chase, Maryland; Charleston, West Virginia; Greensboro, North Carolina. Delaware, West Virginia and North Carolina are newly occupied States in this area.

3. South Central: Louisville, Kentucky; Birmingham, Alabama; Jackson, Mississippi; Little Rock, Arkansas. These Assemblies account for four more unoccupied States.

4. Central and Western: Fort Wayne, Indiana; Maywood, Illinois; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Topeka, Kansas; Denver, Colorado; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Laramie, Wyoming; Boise, Idaho; Reno, Nevada. The six newly occupied States in this great region represent a most important victory won by the pioneers, the Regional Teaching Committees and the National Teaching Committee.

5. Pacific Coast: Alhambra, California; Burbank, California; Burlingame, California; Huntington Park, California. In this State three former Assemblies have been restored.

6. Canada: Edmonton, Alberta. This Assembly removes one of the Provinces of Canada from the unoccupied list.

A year ago we reported that twenty States, three Provinces and the Territory of Alaska had to be settled by 1944. Now of these, sixteen States and one Province have unfurled the banner of the Most Great Peace.

The continent of North America, dear friends, is swiftly being prepared for its magnificent destiny. A Bahá'í community has been arising in these thirty-five years marked by the Annual Conventions which must not only exemplify the application of the Bahá'í Revelation to the lives of a great company of believers, but
also develop power and force to roll
back the onslaughts of those who are
offended and threatened by the es-

tablishment of justice and unity in
the world.

Under the dome of the beloved
Temple we can realize as never be-
fore the gathering of this deep, calm
and invincible power of faith. We

can pledge ourselves to a fuller
unity and a more active and con-

stant cooperation. We can extend
loving welcome and spiritual con-
gratulation to all these new com-

munities; and we can resolve that dur-
ing the seventh and last year of the
Plan the remaining tasks will be
fully done.

Our hearts can go forth, more-
over, to the increasing company of
Bahá’í coworkers in the other Amer-
ican Republics. For the multitudes
of souls in those lands we are as
trustees and agents of this World
Faith. Through our sacrificial effort
they are to be given the divine bless-
ing of truth and freed from the dark-
ess of superstition and ignorance.

In them lie talents, capacities and
facilities which when confirmed in
service will double and treble the
powers we can now bring to the
Cause. In their spiritual youth our
enthusiasm can be renewed, as by
our experience their efforts can be
directed into the right paths. Envi-
able is the Bahá’í record of achieve-
ment on the part of the pioneers
from North America, the groups
and communities of native Bahá’ís
formed in previous years, and the
Inter-America Committee which has
carried one of the greatest respon-
sibilities assigned us under the Seven
Year Plan.

No farther away in spirit, but in-
accessible to us by travel and per-
sonal contact, are the Bahá’í com-

communities of the British Isles, Europe,
North and South Africa, Palestine,
Iran and ‘Irán, India and Burma,
Australia and New Zealand, China
and the Far East. Though much de-
layed, bulletins, news letters and
other communications arrive from
many centers in other lands, and
the reality of a world faith exists
unimpaired. Perhaps a notable part
of the mission given our Bahá’í com-

munity will be achieved as result of
the unprecedented scattering of
American youth to the ends of the
earth under the pressure of military
operations. For hundreds of years
the world came to these shores, to
form a new race. Now their de-
scendants return, and this dispersal
is no doubt a significant aspect of
the Divine Plan beyond our present
knowledge and outside our control.

In ‘Iran, the birthplace of Bahá’u-
’lábá’s Dispensation, a great Ameri-
can establishment is being devel-
oped. Above and within these human
arrangements are the spiritual
forces working for the assured goal
and result made known to us in the
Bahá’í Writings. If we do our part,
we shall find the means to spiritual
victory already prepared.

This, the Thirty-Fifth Annual Con-
vention, gathers in the Foundation
Hall of a House of Worship com-
pleted at last in its superstructure
and exterior ornamentation. No
words are needed to release in our
hearts the flood of gratitude and joy
at having been endowed with the
blessing of participation in the con-
struction of this Temple of the World
Faith. But we can resolve as we
depart to share with other believers
the radiance of this gathering, the
inspiration that arises whenever a

national meeting of Bahá’ís takes
place.

There are, unquestionably, certain
things still to be done in and around
the Temple before it is entirely

ready for the honor of the Bahá’í
Centenary next year, and these final
details are dependent upon the re-

sources available in addition to what
will be needed for the teaching work.
The Foundation Hall is in need of
renovation if not enlargement; and
the grounds will not provide a suit-
able setting for the House of Wor-
ship until at least some simple and
preliminary landscape gardening
work is done.

As for the coming year, its special
achievements will be along the lines
which the Guardian in his messages
to the Convention has laid down.
But our concern and our resolve ere
the sixth year pass into history
might well be that the time has

come for the American Bahá’ís to
undertake the employment of larger
public facilities as channels through
which the Message may pour in
greater volume to the public. How
much longer is the daily voice of
the radio to tell of everything else
on earth except the Cause of God?

What of the press, the encyclopedias,
the text books, the works of modern
history, the magazines? The con-
quest of these public facilities chal-

lenges us to a supreme height of
teaching effort between now and
May 23, 1944. Our unoccupied States
and Provinces are not geographical
units alone—they are also of the
order of social and mental realms
awaiting the coming of pioneers and
settlers who can use these public
facilities in His Name and for His
purpose.

National Spiritual Assembly
By: Horace Holley, Secretary

Appreciation of Services
of Convention Committee
and Helpers

The annual gathering of the Ameri-
can believers is made possible by a
vast amount of work done by the
Committee and by other believers who volunteer to assist. The arrangements carried out this year were so efficient and contributed so much to the comfort of the friends and the success of the meetings that the delegates, the visitors and the members of the NSA have all made grateful acknowledgment.

The Committee members who served this year were: General Chairman, Edna True; Chairman of Housing Committee, Mrs. Mineola Hannen; Chairman of Meals Committee, Mrs. Harriet Hilpert; Chairman of Information Committee, John Haggard; Chairman of Devotions Committee, Mrs. Helen Hammond; Chairman of Ridvan Feast Committee, Mrs. Sarah Walrath; Chairman of Ridvan Feast Program Committee, Mrs. Corinne True.

With the kind cooperation of the local Ration Board, good, wholesome meals could be served at the close of each session by the efficient Food Committee under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Hilpert, ably assisted by Wyatt Cooper as chef, and by other workers including Effie Lundberg, Mrs. Ettie Graefe, Mrs. Sarah Walrath, Sophie Loeding, Mrs. Gertrude Henning, Mrs. Florence Gibson, Mrs. Mary Haggard, Mrs. Margaret Newman, Dr. Katherine True, Mrs. Helena O'Grady, Mrs. Doris Holley, Helen Hicks.

Inter-America News

The Baha'is of North America have participated in the radio program of Salutations to the people of Latin America through the broadcasting of the following message:

**TO THE PEOPLE OF LATIN AMERICA**
**% PAN AMERICAN UNION**
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

"On this day (April 14) the twelfth anniversary commemorating the birth of the political, economic and spiritual unity of the twenty-one Republics of the American continent, the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States and Canada sends sincere greetings to Latin America with the earnest hope that the continental solidarity and understanding so far achieved will become the cornerstone of a universal and enduring peace, and create power to assist with the hands of justice, the broken-hearted, and crush the great oppressors with the forces of divine truth."

—American Baha'is

First Baha'i Youth Symposium, Havana, Cuba, arranged by Miss Josephine Kraka.

Jamaica

We have recently received from Dr. King a beautiful Jamaican flag which will be displayed with those of the Latin American Republics, since Jamaica for the present comes within the stewardship of the Inter-America Committee. Dr. King is working assiduously and has has some very fine publicity.

Youth Symposium

The most encouraging reports are coming in about the observance of the Youth Symposium in Latin America. No doubt the National Youth Committee will have much to report about this, but it is also very gratifying to us that with the use of our address list they were able to reach the various centers in time and to have had word back. Great credit is due to Wilfrid Barton who immediately offered to translate some of the important passages from the Guardian's letters and send them to the different countries for use on that day. Now that this effort has been initiated we are sure that in all future years this splendid work will go on binding the young people closer and closer together.

Bolivia

Miss Hottes is a wonderful letter writer and keeps us informed of many interesting contacts that she is making. Recently a young woman whose father is a Protestant minister to the Aymara Indians has become interested in the Cause and very much touched by the beauty of the Baha'i prayers. She has asked permission to translate some of them into the Aymara language so that she may give them to the Indians. Miss Hottes had showed her the words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá about the Indians and she is urging her father to look into the Cause. We recall that Mrs. Adler when in La Paz had interested a native Indian woman and sent us a beautiful photograph of her.

Haiti

Miss Lentz has been visiting the Blackwells and having a much needed vacation from her strenuous work in San Domingo. There is quite a large group in Port-au-Prince and they have been taught with what French literature could be procured. Mrs. Amedée Gibson of Los Angeles has made some very valuable typed copies of the Writings and they have been deeply appreciated.

Costa Rica

Always on the alert, San José writes that now they have interested a group in another city of Costa Rica and they are beginning a study class there; the city is in the Province of Alajuela. Mrs. Woolson writes that recently a group of thirteen from San José went there to hold a meeting and to visit with the ones who are interested. Alma Tica Magazine continues to publish exhaustive articles on the Faith written in Spanish by Mrs. Woolson, who is now very proficient.

Ecuador

Hans Döry, Secretary of Quito group, has sent in a wonderful report of the progress of the Faith in Ecuador. There are nine believers in Quito but unfortunately one of them does not reach the age of twenty-one until July of this year. There are two believers in Guayaquil and one in the city of Ambato. John Stearns' Radio program now will send forth a program purely Baha'i and we shall watch with keen interest this courageous undertaking.

Panama

A fine example of cooperation is shown in the plan of Sr. Ulloa of Costa Rica who is going to Panama to assist the two pioneers there.

As space is limited we must confine our report to few notes but the friends will be interested to know that we recently had a call from John Eichenauer, Jr., who has been inducted into the service and is hoping to be assigned to the Medical Corps.

Next month, God willing, we shall be able to announce the organization of several new Spiritual Assemblies. We hear that Bahia, Brazil, can now reach the age of nine is now complete.

Nellie S. French, Secretary
Bahá’í Schools

Programs for 1943

1. GREEN ACRE

July 12-16 "What is the Bahá’í Faith?" Curtis Kelsey; "Faith and Immortality," Charles S. Krug.


Aug. 2-6 "The Islamic Background of the Bahá’í Faith," Dr. Ali Kuli Khan, N.D.


Sunday morning meetings will be arranged especially to attract the public. Interesting evening meetings are being prepared — to be announced later. Green Acre will be open for guests commencing July 3rd, although the School sessions will not begin until July 12th. Reservations should be made as soon as possible with Mrs. Flora Valentine, 158 Cabot Street, Portsmouth, N. H.

After July 1, address Mrs. Valentine at Green Acre, Eliot, Maine.

2. GEYSERVILLE

(July 4-18)

MORNING CLASSES

"The Promised Day Is Come." First week — "The First Hundred Years;" Second week — "Unfolding the Most Great Peace."

The dawn of the spiritual and social foundations of universal peace during the last century. Contemporary peace plans contrasted to the program of Bahá’u’lláh; the evolving structure of World Order which His Teachings unfold.

"The Victory of the Spirit." Two weeks planned to deepen our grasp of Bahá’u’lláh’s basic spiritual Teachings, mankind’s only key to enduring victory.

AFTERNOON ROUND TABLE

"The Bahá’í Way of Life." First week—"The Bahá’í in His Community;" Second week — "The Bahá’í in Society."

Study and discussion, under the Big Tree, of Bahá’í responsibilities and service: (1) within the Administrative Order, and (2) through teaching opportunities which surround us all.

FOUR EVENINGS

"The Pioneer Front." First week—"North America;" Second week—"Latin America."

The thrilling progress of the Faith along the pioneer front, as seen by National and Inter-America Teaching Committees, with vital experiences and anecdotes shared by pioneers in person and through mail.

For reservations write to: Miss Gladys Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, California.

Rates: Dormitory—two persons, one room $5.00 per week per person; dormitory upstairs or rooms in nearby houses $2.00 and up per week per person.

3. LOUHELEN

LABORATORY SESSION

(July 1-12, inclusive)

Mornings: — The Price of Fellowship, Miss Edna True; The Peoples of Latin America, Mrs. Lotte Graeffe.

Afternoons: — New Light in the World’s Bibles, Mrs. Maye Harvey Gift.


Rates for Laboratory Session, per day, per person, single room, $2.50; double room, $2.10; dormitory, $1.65. (Including meals).

JUNIOR YOUTH SESSION

(July 14 to July 21, inclusive)

For Boys and Girls 12 to 15 years.

Mornings

Bahá’í Fundamentals — Creative Study — Music — Choral Speaking.

Afternoons


Recreation Afternoons and Evenings Teaching Staff

Miss Cora Edge — Supervisor of Art, Grand Haven Schools; Mrs. Clinton Wideman—Public School Teacher, Detroit, Michigan; Mrs. Lotte Graeffe—International Traveler, Olivet, Michigan; Mrs. Ethelyn Adele LeBarge—Child Specialist, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Rates for Junior Youth Session (including meals)

Per day, per person $1.50

Youth rate for Youth only at Junior Youth Session.

MIDSUMMER SESSION

(July 23 to August 3, inclusive)

The Power of Prayer

Rates for Midsummer Session (including meals)

Per day, per person, single room, $2.50

Per day, per person, double room, $2.10

Children, 12 years old and under, per day, per child $1.65
GENERAL SESSION
(August 5 to August 12, inclusive)

Mornings
'Abdu'l-Bahá and the Divine Plan, Mr. Horace Holley; The Dawn-Breakers, Miss Gretchen Westervelt.

Afternoons
Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, Mr. F. St. George Spedlove.

Evenings

Rates for General Session (including meals)
Per day, per person, single room: $2.50
Per day, per person, double room: 2.10
Per day, per person, dormitory: 1.65

YOUTH SESSION
(August 14 to August 20, inclusive)

Mornings
Bahá'í Administration, Mr. Arnold Ketels; The Chosen Highway, Miss Gretchen Westervelt; Choral Singing, Miss Esther Wilson.

Afternoons
Youth Forum, Mr. Edmund J. Miessler.

Evenings
Recreation.
Counsellors: Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Suhm, Miss Esther Wilson.

Rates for Youth Session
Per day, per person (inc. meals): $1.50
Youth rate for Youth only at Junior Youth Session.

All Sessions
Alice Gertrude Kidder, D.O., will give a talk on "A Balanced Bahá'í Life, Body, Mind and Spirit."

Please make your school and travel reservations early.

LOUVILLE BAHI' SCHOOL
2306 South State Road (M-15)
DeWion, Michigan

4. WESTERN CANADA REGIONAL CONFERENCE
Rowland Estall, Regional Secretary, announces plans for a Summer Conference, combining intensive educational program with conference and a vocational atmosphere, to be held in Moose Mountain Provincial Park, Saskatchewan, July 18-24. Accommodations will be in the Chalet, single or double rooms or cabins. A week's stay will cost from $8.00 to $10.00 per person, with meals at reasonable rates additional.

For reservations and further details, address Rowland Estall, Secretary, P.O. Box 121, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

On Sunday, May 30, the Memorial to May Maxwell will be dedicated by the Bahá'ís of Buenos Aires at Quilmes Cemetery in behalf of all the believers of North and South America. Illustrations of the completed monument are on their way and when received will be reproduced in Bahá'í News. On May 30 may all of us set aside time for prayer and meditation that we may be associated in spirit with the gathering called to honor one whose martyrdom has been a sacrifice consecrating the Inter-America teaching work.

In Memorium
"I testify, O my Lord, that Thou hast enjoined upon men to honor their guest, and he that hath ascended unto Thee hath verily reached Thee and attained Thy Presence. Deal with him then according to Thy grace and bounty!"—Abdu'l-Bahá.
Mrs. Emma L. Hinman, New Haven.
Mrs. Lela D. Kos, Chicago.
Mr. Louis Farrell, Sherbrooke, Quebec.

Bahi'i Calendar
Nineteen Day Feasts: Grandeur, May 17; Light, June 5; Mercy, June 24:
Declaration of the Bab: May 23.
Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh: May 29.
Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: June 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, at Wilmette.
Commemoration of 'Abdu'l-Bahá: Thirty-first Annual Gathering: June 26 at Evergreen Cabin, West Englewood.
Summer School Sessions: see special announcement.

Bahi'i Directory
Regional Teaching Committee, State of New York: Ida Noyes, 43 Davis Street, Binghamton, appointed Secretary. Wm. Kenneth Christian unable to serve.

Enrollments and Transfers
Enrollment of new believers reported by local Assemblies:
Montclair, one. Los Angeles, one.
New Orleans, one. Vancouver, one.
Shorewood, one. Oklahoma City one. Peoria, two. Beverly, one.

Enrollments by transfer reported by local Assemblies:
Milwaukee, two. Washington, four.
New Orleans, three. Peoria, one.
Beverly Hills, two. Glendale, one.
Los Angeles, one. Indianapolis, one.

Enrollment of isolated believers in April—thirty-one.

Committee Budgets
National Committees having budgets from the National Fund are requested to account to the Treasurer for any unexpended budget items on hand at the end of the committee term of office, June 30.

The Bab's Address to Letters of the Living
"O my beloved friends! You are the bearers of the name of God in this Day. You have been chosen as the repositories of His mystery. It behooves each one of you to manifest the attributes of God, and to exemplify by your deeds and words the signs of His righteousness, His power and glory. The very members of your body must bear witness to the loftiness of your purpose, the integrity of your life, the reality of your faith, and the exalted character of your devotion. For verily I say, this is the Day spoken of by God in His Book . . . Such must be the purity of your character and the degree of your renunciation, that the people of the earth may through you recognize and be drawn closer to the heavenly Father Who is the Source of purity and grace." (The Dawn-Breakers, page 92)

Corrections
Bahi'i News of March, 1943, reproduced on page 7 a photograph attributed to a Temple model display in Halliburton Building, Phoenix, Arizona. The Halliburton Building is in Los Angeles and is the address of the local Spiritual Assembly and Bahá'í Center.

The Annual Report of the Contacts Committee, 1942-1943, in connection with the activities of Mrs. George R. True stated "no record." The Committee wishes to change this to read that approximately 385 letters were mailed by Mrs. True as member of the Contacts Committee.
Sealing the Triumph of the First Stage of the Divine Plan

MESSAGE FROM SHOGHI EFFENDI

Successive reports, proclaiming the American believers' brilliant feat, the completion of the exterior ornamentation of the Temple, their historic exploits in the spiritual conquest of every Republic of Latin America, as well as their impending victory to be won through the establishment of the structural basis of the Baha’i administrative order in the virgin States and Provinces of North America, are thrilling the Eastern communities of the Baha’i world with delight, with admiration and with wonder.

Ninety-five Persian families, emulating the example of the American trail-blazers of the Faith of Baha’u’llah, have recently forsaken their homes and followed in the footsteps of pioneers already departed from Persia yesterday evening to hoist its banner in the adjoining territories of Afghanistan, Baluchistan, Sulamaniyyih, Hejaz and Bahrayn Island.

Local Assemblies have been founded in Kashmir Valley in the extreme north and in Madras Presidency in the extreme south, as well as in Haydarabad, the leading stronghold of Muslim orthodoxy in India.

The National Baha’i Administrative Headquarters of the Egyptian believers are nearing completion. A similar institution is in process of establishment in India’s capital city, Delhi. A Guest House, adjunct to the newly built Administrative Headquarters of the Baha’is of Iraq, has been constructed.

Baha’i communities of East and West are arising in the fourth year of the devastating conflict in the full strength of their undistructible solidarity, resolved to write, through immortal deeds, further glorious pages in the last Chapter of the first Baha’i Century.

I appeal to the standard-bearers of Baha’u’llah’s ever-advancing army to safeguard the spiritual prizes already won and maintain every outpost of the Faith established in the southern hemisphere. I entreat them to exert still more magnificent efforts to discharge befittingly the one remaining responsibility in the North American continent.

I am praying for the achievement of a resounding total victory in all the Americas, thereby sealing the triumph of the first stage in the Divine Plan for whose execution the entire machinery of the Administrative Order was for no less than sixteen years patiently and laboriously erected.

SHOGHI RABBIAN
Received May 27, 1943.

Regarding the passages in the “Promulgation of Universal Peace”, the word “income” should be changed to “need” until such time as the text of the Master’s address in the original is found and verified. This particular address, however, is not available at present. The second passage is obviously a mistake and should read: “If his production exceeds he will pay a tax.”

As already stated in a previous communication, the observance of the centenary of our Faith should be held in May, 1944, at which time the annual Convention should also take place; the friends should gather in the auditorium of the Temple on the 22nd of May, two hours and eleven minutes after sunset, which is the exact time of the Bab’s Declaration. On that occasion they should also celebrate the completion of the exterior ornamentation of their Temple. This meeting, so historic in nature, will thus be both a dedication ceremony of the House of Worship, as well as a celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Faith. While gathered in the auditorium no addresses should be delivered, but appropriate selections from the revealed writings should be read, whether prayers, meditations, Tablets, the addresses of the Master or selections from the Bible or the Qur’ân. Passages from the writings of the Bab should be a special feature of the readings selected for this occasion. Singing, whether by soloists or choirs, should form part of the program. The utmost care should be taken to insure that the standard of the vocal music should befit that solemn occasion. The Guardian approves the selection of some of the psalms of David as an evidence of the universality of the Faith which should be amply demonstrated on that occasion. In order to consummate that historic celebration on that day the Guardian suggests that a meeting should be held in the Foundation Hall immediately following the dedication ceremony in the auditorium, at which addresses should be delivered, and non-Baha’is be invited to take part. The program for such a meeting should be elaborate and carefully prepared, and every effort should be made to have men of capacity and eminence as well as well-known Baha’i speakers participate. The agenda of this meeting is left to the discretion of your Assembly, but the Guardian advises you, in view of its importance, to seek the suggestions of the believers before making your final decision. Any new features the friends or the Assembly may wish to add would be most welcomed by the Guardian, who feels that the significance of the Faith, its universality, its world-wide influence, its indestructible unity, its moving history, its world order, its first House of Worship, in the Western World, and its attitude to other Faiths should be clearly and eloquently set forth and explained.
In honor of this unique occasion the Guardian hopes to send a copy of the portrait of the Báb and some of His relics to be displayed for the first time to the assembled believers in the auditorium of the Temple on that memorable evening, after which they should be placed in a safe spot within the Temple together with the Hair of Bahá'u'lláh previously presented to the American believers. Under no circumstances should the portrait of the Báb be left exposed or hung on the wall of the Temple, nor should any copy of it be made. Only on very rare occasions should it be displayed, and whenever shown should be in no other place except the Foundation Hall of the Temple. Its display in the auditorium is permitted only for this occasion. No such portrait is to be found anywhere in the Bahá'í world — with the exception of Haifa — nor is the Guardian contemplating sending any copy at present to any other Bahá'í community. This indicates the importance he attaches to the Temple in America, which he feels is a befitting edifice to enshrine it. The utmost vigilance should be exercised that no copy be made of it in the future, or any attempts be made to reproduce it in any way.

This celebration, on the 22nd of May, 1944, is one feature of the festivities commemorating that historic event. The Convention period, during which these festivities are to be held, should be extended to at least a full week, during which the greatest publicity should be given to the events that are being commemorated. A banquet, at which distinguished friends, sympathizers and admirers of the Cause should be invited to be present, should be held in a befitting setting in the city of Chicago where the Cause was first established in America. In this connection, the Guardian would like to point out that that first center was, as affirmed by Dr. Khayrullah himself, established by him in 1894. Hence, it is justifiable to consider the establishment of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh in the continent of America to have begun in 1894. The American believers will, therefore, be celebrating in May, 1944, at once the hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the Faith, the completion of the exterior ornamentation of the Temple, and the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Bahá'í Faith in the Western hemisphere and, indeed, in the entire Western world. To this marvelous coincidence adequate recognition should be given during the dedication ceremony in the form of thanksgiving prayers, in the meetings held in the Foundation Hall of the Temple, at the sessions of the Convention, through the press, and over the radio.

As to this particular Convention itself, the Guardian feels that the Bahá'ís in Central and South America should be invited to participate and to send, if possible, one representative from each country. These representatives would have the right to deliberate and participate in all the discussions of the Convention, only, naturally, for that year. They would not, however, exercise the right to elect the National Assembly which will be restricted to the delegates from the United States and Canada. In a sense the Convention will represent the entire community of the followers of Bahá'u'lláh throughout the Americas, gathered to celebrate, in the newly completed Temple, the centenary of their Faith, and commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of its inception in the Western Hemisphere.

As the number of local Spiritual Assemblies in North America is steadily increasing, and will soon reach a point when it will be impracticable to apportion the 171 delegates among them, and as the number of delegates should not at present be further increased, the Guardian considers it advisable to introduce a new basis for election on the occasion of this historic Convention. This new principle will enable all Bahá'ís, whether belonging to communities that have an Assembly or to groups, and even all isolated believers, to participate in the election of delegates for the national Convention. Such a step has become necessary in view of the fact, that the number of the Bahá'ís in localities where there are only groups or isolated believers has increased to such an extent as to constitute more than half of the total number of believers living in localities where there is a Spiritual Assembly. All the Bahá'ís will participate, through this new method, in the election of the national delegates — a step that will greatly increase the electorate, and broaden the basis of Bahá'í representation. The unit will, henceforth, have to be regarded as the State or Province, rather than the locality in which the believers reside. In other words, the hundred and seventy-one delegates will have to be apportioned among the States of the U.S.A. and the Provinces of Canada, in direct proportion to the number of believers residing in each one of them. The Bahá'ís in each State and Province must either through correspondence or, preferably, by coming together whenever feasible, elect from among all the believers in that State or Province, the number of delegates allocated to them by the National Spiritual Assembly. In those States where there are numerous local Bahá'í communities it may be found advisable to divide each one of them into districts, allocating to each district a portion of the delegates assigned to that State, and in direct proportion to the number of believers living within the specified district. It is for the National Assembly to consider the most efficient methods whereby all the American believers will henceforth be able to participate in the election of their delegates. This method will promote Bahá'í solidarity in every State and Province, and, by bringing together the believers, enable them to function more efficiently and harmoniously, and promote the work of the Cause that lies ahead. No more befitting occasion could be found on which to initiate this measure than when the Bahá'í representatives of North, Central and South America are gathered to celebrate such historic events in the annals of the Cause.

In connection with these celebrations the Guardian would advise your Assembly to consider the following suggestions:
1. Baha’is unable to participate in the festivities in Chicago and Wilmette should be urged to observe befittingly these anniversaries in their respective localities. Articles in the press, radio broadcasts, invitations to well-known friends and admirers of the Cause, the showing of the Master’s film, the playing of the record of His voice, banquets, exhibitions of the Temple models, etc., should characterize these festivities.

2. The special attention of the friends and visitors, during this celebration should be directed to the fact that the event marks also the hundredth anniversary of the birth of ‘Abdu’l-Baha. This should be emphasized in the addresses delivered in the special anniversary publication, the souvenir pamphlets, the articles for the press and the radio broadcasts.

3. A special anniversary publication should be issued under the supervision of the National Spiritual Assembly and following the general lines indicated in the memorandum submitted by them to the Guardian.

4. The preparation of a smaller souvenir pamphlet, adorned by the Paris photograph of the Master and an artistic reproduction of the Temple, containing a brief outline of the salient events of the first Baha’i century, and prefaced by a short statement of the aims and purposes of the Faith, attractively bound and to be presented to the distinguished guests participating in these celebrations.

5. Special instructions to the Baha’is of Central and South America to celebrate the occasion and to gather at the exact time of the Bab’s Declaration, and to give as wide a publicity to the event as their resources permit.

6. The appointment of a special committee as soon as possible to insure the carrying out of the necessary measures, under the close supervision of the National Assembly, for the proper execution of these plans.

7. An effort should be made to give publicity to this event and its celebration through national radio broadcasts, and, if feasible, to broadcast the ceremony from the auditorium of the Temple.

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Memorial to May Ellis Maxwell, Quilmes Cemetery, Buenos Aires, Argentina, dedicated May 30, 1943.

The Guardian hopes to send a color film of the Holy Shrines and gardens in ‘Akká and Haifa to be shown to the friends at the Convention and circulated amongst the various centers.

In conclusion, he wishes to assure you, one and all, of his special prayers for the success of the mighty efforts which he is sure you will exert to insure the triumph of the Seven Year Plan, as well as the glorious celebrations which must consummate the first Baha’i century.

March 28, 1943

Words of the Bab Addressed to Quddus

"The days of your companionship with Me are drawing to a close. The hour of separation has struck, a separation which no reunion will follow except in the Kingdom of God, in the presence of the King of Glory. In this world of dust, no more than nine fleeting months of association with Me have been allotted to you. On the shores of the Great Beyond, however, in the realm of immortality, joy of eternal reunion awaits us. The hand of destiny will ere long plunge you into an ocean of tribulation for His sake. I, too, will follow you; I too will be immersed beneath its depths. Rejoice with exceeding gladness, for you have been chosen as the standard-bearer of the host of affliction, and are standing in the vanguard of the noble army that will suffer martyrdom in His name. In the streets of Shiraz, indignities will be heaped upon you, and the severest injuries will afflict your body. You will survive the ignominious behavior of your foes, and will attain the presence of Him who is the one object of our adoration and love. In His presence you will forget all the harm and disgrace that shall have
bepalpen you. The hosts of the Un-
seen will hasten forth to assist you,
and will proclaim to all the world
your heroism and glory. Yours will
be the ineffable joy of quaffing the
cup of martyrdom for His sake. I,
too, shall tread the path of sacrifice,
and will join you in the realm of
eternity."

The Thirty-Fifth Annual
Convention

The Bahá’í annual Convention,
answering its thirty-fifth call, as-
sembled in the Temple foundation
at Wilmette, III., Thursday, April 29.
During its three-day session ninety-
nine of its accredited delegates, a
wide margin over a majority, an-
swered the roll. Visiting friends
came in such numbers as to fill all
seats throughout the time. The Im-
pression of a sea of humanity, each
wave surging with divine harmony,
love and spiritual illumination, is
one to be cherished. Most of these
friends came from nearby centers.
But it was also noticeable that re-
gions as remote from each other
as the two oceans, Canada and the
deep South, were drawn together
during this Ríḍván festival. Red,
white and black as to ethnic stocks;
Jew, Catholic, Protestant, Moslem,
as to religious background; wealth
and poverty as to economic values;
prestige and obscurity as to so-
cial preferment; each and all en-
tered the majestic and wondrous
Temple of God and found fellowship
under the Banner of Bahá’u’lláh.

Allen B. McDaniel, chairman of
the National Spiritual Assembly,
called the Convention to order, voic-
ing in golden phrases the praises
of God, whose mighty confirmations
assembled us. Radiant faces were
significant of a universal faith, call-
ing together the workers for a new
world order. In contrast to a world
filled with confusion, fear and chaos,
hope, love, faith and courage were
evident. The Master’s dedica-
tion of this Temple site thirty-one
years ago was feelingly mentioned.
And now, under the guidance of our
revered Guardian, we have com-
pleted the sixth year of the Seven
Year Plan. Let us be ever mindful
of his exhortation to draw near to
Bahá’u’lláh that He may draw near
to us.

The Convention organized with
the election of Philip Sprague of New
York as chairman and Horace Holley
as secretary. The chairman mod-
cess took hold, stressing the need
of improvement as we move for-
dward to the desired goal.

The first order was the reading
of two telegrams from the Guard-
ian. They were also spread in
writing among the delegates. Shoghi
Effendi showers his loving encour-
gagement upon the American friends,
indicating a high station and in for-
tune even greater triumphs for this
community. Raising the standard
of justice, he points out that iso-
lation is no longer a condition of the
American friends. Therefore,
in order that all the friends may
exercise the right to vote, a new
apportionment is provided in which
each state or province is the unit
and all the qualified friends therein
may vote for Convention delegates.
These most important messages were
elsewhere printed in full in the last
issue. As a great sign of bounty,
the likeness of His Holiness, the Báb,
is to be sent to America as a most
precious relic for the Temple ar-
chives. Also plans are unfolded for
the Centennial Convention next year,
which promises to be a glorious,
ePOCH-making gathering.

The Convention in reply, sent
the following message to the Guardian:
"Hearts overflowing (at the) mag-
titude (of the) new vision (of) com-
plete Western participation. Rever-
ent appreciation (for the) anticipat-
ed gift (of the) portrait (of the)
Holy Báb. (We) pledge (the) utmost
exertion (of the) American Bahá’í
community toward total victory (of
the) Centennial celebration. (We)
supplicate (our) beloved Guardian’s
continuous prayers (for the) con-
summation (of the) divinely appoint-
ed task. Loving devotion."

The National secretary presented
his annual supplementary report
covering such matters as could not
be included in his general report.
The Faith gained two hundred and
twenty-four new members during
the current year; emphasis upon
educating, calling to mind the duty
of each Bahá’í to bring one person
per year, at least, into acceptance
of the Faith; the enviable record of
achievement in Canada; bulletins
and new teaching pamphlets, foreign
publications; contacts with Iran;
progress and completion of Temple
construction; foundation hall renova-
tion; landscape gardening; increas-
ing channels of publicity; such as
calendars, radio, press; pioneer
settlers in virgin territories; twenty-
eight new centers, etc., convey a
summary of this report.

Two object lessons were presented
making vivid and picturesque the
recital of the plan. The first was a
chart containing a single line divided
into three sections running in differ-
ent directions. The first part was a
slant downward from the begin-
ing upward, indicating the slow
increase of pioneer teaching. Then,
strange to say, the second part of
the line was a slant downward
though not as far as the level of
starting. Then, under the strong
impetus of the Guardian’s appeal,
so greatly did pioneers respond that
this index line shot upward, almost
in a perpendicular direction. A far
more impressive object lesson was
the presence in the Convention of
about twenty-eight friends who have
engaged in pioneering and settle-
ment work. These heroic souls were
invited to stand before the conven-
tion. The committee chairman ex-
tolled their merits, to the approval
of all the friends.

Of the virgin teaching areas there
remain but seven to be settled and
in these a start has already begun.
Eighteen such areas have been
settled during the past year and
twenty-nine have been settled dur-
ing the past six years. The progress
of the past year synchronized with
the completion of the Temple orna-
mentation, releasing great spiritual
confirmations. The pioneers have

Announcement of
New Bahá’í Book
The long-awaited one-volume
selection of Bahá’í Writings is now
in publication, replacing the former
Bahá’í Scriptures. The new book
contains 465 pages, including In-
dex, and its Contents include ex-
cerpts from fifteen different Bahá’í
books, pamphlets or magazines.
The title is Bahá’í World Faith. Of
its nine Chapters, five are Words
of Bahá’u’lláh, four the Words of
‘Abdu’l-Bahá. Printed on thin
paper, bound in facsimile. The low
cost, $1.50 per copy, results from
having ordered an edition of 10,000
copies at one printing. Delivery
promised by July 15. Assemblies
should place large orders now —
every believer will desire a copy.
made great sacrifices. In one case, a temperature of 50 degrees below zero was encountered in Canada.

The momentum acquired by the teaching effort bids fair to bring to a successful conclusion the Seven-Year Plan, for which but a year remains. But in the meantime there should be no relaxation of effort in any of the various lines of service.

Inter-America Teaching

The report of this second great arm of teaching was presented by its Committee Secretary, Mrs. Nellie S. French. Mexico City has done a fine work in spreading the teachings to five groups in various sections of the country. Ten Spiritual Assemblies were organized in Latin America during the past year. Recent obstacles and dangers could not escape notice. One of the friends, Mrs. Collins, had her plans for a journey upset three times by forces not under control. But at length she set out under difficulties and had a successful trip. Returning, the situation seemed so difficult under new trials, that she made these words of Bahá'u'lláh a prayer:

"Put your whole trust and confidence in God, Who hath created you and seek ye His help in all your affairs. Succor come from Him alone. He succoreth whom He will with the hosts of the heavens and of the earth."—(Promised Day Is Come, Page 22)

All difficulties melted away.

Philip Sprague related some of his teaching experiences in South America. Mrs. H. Emogene Hoagg mentioned the Cuban work and Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Blackwell, just returned from Haiti, were successful there in organizing a Spiritual Assembly, with the son of a former Haitian President as its chairman, and with a community of fourteen. They gave an interesting account of Haitian customs.

More literature is needed for Latin America and a compilation prepared by Mesdames Loulie A. Matthews and Helen Bishop will soon be available. Miss Roan Orloff, Boston delegate, has recently completed the translation of the Dawn-Breakers into Esperanto, a service which will greatly facilitate knowledge of the Faith in foreign lands. The bulky manuscript was turned over to the National Spiritual Assembly during the Convention period.

The Election

The Convention in accordance with its legal requirements balloted for the new National Spiritual Assembly, on Friday of the sessions and following prayers and readings. The tellers reported those elected for the ensuing year as follows: Horace Holley, Louis G. Gregory, Dorothy K. Baker, Roy C. Wilhelm, Allen B. McDaniel, Amelia E. Collins, Leroy Ioa, George O. Latimer, Siegfried Schopflocher. Later the new body reported the following organization: George O. Latimer, chairman; Allen B. McDaniel, vice-chairman; Horace Holley, secretary; Louis G. Gregory, recording secretary; Roy C. Wilhelm, treasurer; Siegfried Schopflocher, assistant treasurer.

Spiritual Greetings

Friends in various cities sent loving messages: Alberquerque, New Mexico; Honolulu, H. I.; British Columbia; Louden County, Va.; Charleston, W. Va.; Spokane, Wash.; Chicago; Philadelphia; Denver, Colo.; Laramie, Wyo.; Syracuse, N. Y.; Rockford, Ill. The spirit of all these beautiful messages is conveyed by one from San Jose, Costa Rica, in Spanish, with its English translation as follows: "The Bahá'í Committee of San Jose, Porto Rico, convey to all their brothers who united in our glorious Temple, fraternal greetings and our best wishes for the continued success and happiness of all. May the resolutions taken at the Convention be luminous torches which will enkindle greater faith in all the hearts of our brothers who are scattered throughout the world, and awaken spiritual unfoldment in all those who have not yet learned of the light and truth so beautifully expounded in the Bahá'í Teachings. May this sincere and loving fraternal greeting assure you that this community has worked arduously and that the fruit gathered is the best offering we can present to adorn those halls toward which all our spirits are directed."

(Signed) "Bahá'í Group of San Jose, '22 de Abril de 1943' Costa Rica."

Youth and Education

Three Bahá'í Schools, Green Acre, Louhelen and Geyserville made known their interesting schedules for the summer's work. An unusual number of young people attended the Convention, soon discovering each other, arranged a conference and luncheon, formu-
lated plans and had an interesting hearing before the Convention. The National Assembly delegated two of their more youthful members to confer with them so as to relate their ideas and activities to the National Youth Committee, an administrative step.

Publicity
This committee advised against a beggarly attitude in contacting the press. Better, give the true impression that here is something of value. Convey the international scope of the Faith. Offer specific news of current happenings, such as to the Race Unity banquet. Make it a habit to present to the public the right thing at the right time and in the right quantity. This committee has made nine news releases and they have been received and published by the press. Some success has also been obtained in foreign publicity. This committee through Clarence Niss, offers to serve any who will ask for information.

Race Unity and College Circuits
These two committees have functioned during the past year with pleasing results, finding an astonishing readiness to hear the Bahá’í Plan of World Unity with its related principle of the oneness of mankind. The avidity with which Bahá’í literature is received and read in cultural circles is impressive. The heroic souls who are upholding this principle with courage and wisdom, especially in the South, are worthy of the highest admiration and praise. ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in one of His Tablets mentions “The Art of Manipulation and the Inflexibility of Will.” His attitude toward races during His American tour has been pointed out by the Guardian as a model for each and all to follow. Timidity and fear conceal the merits of the Cause. Firm adherence to its principles and ideals, with kindness and good-will to all, disclose divine values and serve as channels of confirmation and victory. Bahá’ís can lead a crucified humanity to the way of relief.

Mrs. Dorothy Baker gave a fascinating recital of her college work and of the sweet humility and readiness which met the teachings everywhere. Clarence Niss told of service to the press of minority groups with Bahá’í Editorials and of the warm appreciation they met. Eli W. Powell spoke for the American Indians. It was also brought out that both white and colored colleges of the South, as elsewhere, are now ready to receive Bahá’í speakers of both races. Shall we now hesitate or doubt the increasing capacity of mankind for the Program of God?

Radio
Mrs. Bacon of the Radio Committee suggested the establishment of a sending station in the Temple itself. This the committee achieved temporarily, by successful plans for Allan B. McDaniels to give a radio address from the Temple and on the Temple. This happy delivery described the symbolism, the outward beauty and the spiritual significance of the structure.

The committee further recommended that regular broadcasts about the Temple and Teachings would be a good investment for Bahá’í funds. A brilliant address by William B. Sears, Bahá’í, and radio expert, added much to the instruction and entertainment of the friends.

Contacts
This committee reported over nine hundred letters with literature sent authors, educators, editors, etc. Replies came from many notables. Friends are invited to cooperate by sending names of good prospects for advanced thought.

World Order Magazine
This Magazine Committee explained their wish to do a two-fold service. Help the Bahá’ís in teaching the Faith and to make contacts with new people. The back cover always contains a very comprehensive statement. The various numbers express much planning ahead. Cooperation is asked; also wide-awake contributions.

Braille
Miss Ella C. Quant of the Braille Committee, made an earnest plea for the blind, especially those deprived of sight in later life. During the past year twenty-two people have been brought closer to Bahá’u’lláh by Braille study. Some of the Boston friends, who are active in this humane service are now in close touch with Perkins Institute of that city. Sometimes the loss of the eyesight makes the insight keener and more penetrating. The true vision is of reality.

Bahá’í Centennial Celebration
The hundredth anniversary of the Bahá’í Faith gives promise of being a brilliant and elaborate celebration. The Convention will be in session a week. Prominent people, both within and without the Faith, will make addresses. As illustrating the universal nature of the Faith readings will be made from the Bible and Qurán as well as the Teachings. Every phase of Bahá’í activity and every institution of the Faith will have its history and work set forth briefly in a Centennial booklet. A motion to invite Shoghi Effendi to be present on this occasion was heartily, unanimously and enthusiastically carried.

El Ridvan
This great Feast was celebrated on Saturday evening of the Convention with a record attendance. The readings selected were Tablets of Bahá’u’lláh, followed by explanatory Tablets of ‘Abdül-Bahá and letters of Shoghi Effendi. Mrs. Corrine True was chairman. She is one of the very few people, if not the only one, who has attended all of the thirty-five annual Conventions. Although well in the evening of life one seeing her radiance and hearing her eloquent expressions might think her still in the meridian of life. This Feast is always a very happy occasion alike to friends and visitors.

The chairman at the Sunday Teaching Congress was Mrs. Amelia E. Collins. The speakers, who were heard to good advantage, were Mrs. A. Y. Seto and Leroy Ioas, both of San Francisco, California. This meeting was a very successful one. The subjects were: Birth of a World Faith and Development of a World Order.

Summary
The Convention took a new and sustained flight in the direction of perfect harmony, cooperation and peace. Its spiritual atmosphere was made possible by prayerfulness and loving kindness. There was joyfulness over the notable victory won, yet a solemnness in the view of greater responsibilities and works ahead.

The friends seemed alert and well trained in guarding the sacred edi-
office of the Faith from the machinations of Covenant breakers. Nor could any breath from the Nether world becloud its radiance or mar that loyalty which is its own stronghold and security.

The unity of the Convention greatly quickened the dispatch of business. For the first time within memory, the last session closed much earlier than the time set by the agenda, due to the meeting of minds with hearts united. 'Abdu'l-Baha once described true consultation as a line connecting Earth with Heaven. At one end of the line is the Supreme Concourse; at the other, the gathering of the friends. The Faith is an ever unfolding vision of reality. Greater things seem in store for the American friends than minds can now conceive. We are blessed beyond our dreams and happier, far happier than we know. But the joy of a community depends upon its capacity, developed by Divine Favor, to make joyful mankind. In the process of growth there are tears as well as laughter.

**Letter From the National Spiritual Assembly**

Beloved Coworkers and Friends:

The American Baha'is community has been profoundly stirred by the significance of the Centenary of the Faith to be celebrated next May. That we are now in the Centennial Year and our opportunity to serve under the Seven Year Plan is now in its final phase is a source of renewed determination to every believer. Since the Convention the friends have been awaiting the announcement of plans and activities worthy of our unique destiny.

This announcement the National Spiritual Assembly is now privileged to make. A nationwide teaching plan, coordinated, intensive and continuous, has been adopted, and in the promotion of this plan each Assembly and group is called upon to hold one public meeting with addresses keyed to the subject. The friends are requested to note the list of Committees appointed, each with its phases of publicity, public meeting, and study classes arranged for those interested, release our best efforts and prepare the way for the Centennial, the supreme experience of this generation of Baha'is.

The friends are requested to note the list of Committees appointed, each with its own defined area of function, as published in Bahá'í News for July. We should be familiar with the services set up to assist us with material, programs or information.

May we all, dear friends, strive to learn the divine art of unified action this year, and confirm our zeal and devotion with the joy of association with all other believers. Out of...
this unity of hearts will come the power to establish His teaching and His law in this darkened world.

The Eleventh Hour

The sixth year of the Seven Year Plan carried the American Community to a height of achievement which Shoghi Effendi himself has acclaimed a "magnificent victory". Through the widespread devotion and efforts of the friends,—through pioneers, settlers, traveling teachers, and concentrated activities of Committees—the Faith swept forward into eighteen virgin States and Provinces. The tremendous events of the "crucial year" turned the tide in our North American teaching campaign. We no longer struggle against possible defeat. The long-sought goals are in sight. Although "the eleventh hour for the Seven Year Plan has struck," there is hope and confidence in "total victory".

Let us for a moment survey the accomplishments of the sixth year of the Plan, as they are thrillingly disclosed at Convention:

In the first five years—9 virgin States and Provinces were won.
In the sixth year—18 virgin States and Provinces were won.
In the first five years—29 new Assemblies were gained in North America.
In the sixth year—29 new Assemblies were organized in North America.

From Convention, 1942, to Convention 1943, the pioneers and settlers who answered the Guardian's call were 105. Of these 96 moved to virgin areas, and 19 to disbandied Assemblies. One-fourth of the total number (25) moved to new homes between March 15, 1943, and Convention time; in this issue their names are added to the Pioneer Roll of Honor which was published in the Annual Report.

Here in these striking facts, the American Community may find just cause for gratitude and pride. But figures do not tell the real story, no, nor the hundreds of stories which underlie this work. Only those at the forefront of effort can know the fears and joys of the pioneer front. Perhaps these words from two settlers will speak more tellingly.

"Next to being a pioneer, being a settler is a tremendous bounty. How

VIRGIN STATES AND PROVINCES

Since the accompanying article on "The Eleventh Hour" was prepared, the National Teaching Committee has become increasingly concerned by the lack of volunteers for the pioneer front. As outlined in the article, there are still seven virgin States and Provinces, needing thirty pioneers and settlers to assure the formation of Local Spiritual Assemblies.

The offers to settle, since Convention, have been alarmingly few. Two months have already passed in this seventh year. We must not forget that plans for settlement, in such a difficult period, often require much time to complete, especially for Alaska and the two Canadian Provinces. As "standard-bearers of Bahá'u'lláh's ever-advancing army," we American Bahá'ís cannot afford to let the least delay in discharging our "one remaining responsibility." Our object is total victory; we can insure it only through an immediate and wide-spread response to the Guardian's call.

The Teaching Committee urges all those whose hope is to uphold an active share in the Seven-Year Plan, to volunteer at once for settlement in one of these virgin areas. Write or telegraph Miss Charlotte Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, California.

Remember—this is our eleventh hour! The Guardian has cabled that our task "demands one last, supreme effort to harness all available resources to achieve total victory."

-NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

I pray that those who are hesitating will see the light and answer the call. Daily we have the assurance that 'God will assist those who arise to serve,' and how wonderful that assurance is for it's proven every day, both spiritually and materially. It's the most tremendous bounty for one does so very little and receives so much."

"I wish you could convey to those volunteers who turn back my most earnest prayer that they remain steadfast in spite of all difficulties, for sometimes the desired results only come at the eleventh hour. We cannot fail our Guardian's call, the very success of our beloved Cause hinges in the balance. One person, failing in his duties may be the one to spell its failure or one person alone and unassisted, suffering adversities, by holding on until the very end may be the very one to bring the success so anxiously awaited by our beloved Guardian. Let each one feel that the success of the Cause rests upon his shoulders alone."

Now the sixth year of the Plan has passed and the months allotted to us by Bahá'u'lláh are swiftly vanishing. The Guardian has cabled that "The one remaining task... demands one last, supreme effort to harness all available resources to achieve total victory."

The first and imperative demand is to complete the settlement of seven virgin areas. The following list shows these remaining areas and the number of settlers needed in each:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Virgin Area</th>
<th>Settlers Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage, Alaska</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regina, Saskatchewan</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlottetown, P.E. Island</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fargo, North Dakota</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sioux Falls, S.D.</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenville, S.C.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL NEEDED</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The second demand, as critical as the first, is to consolidate and insure the work in areas already won. Fifteen of the eighteen Assemblies organized in 1943 have less than twelve members, while eleven have only nine members. We need a margin of safety; we must be certain of victory—no matter what comes. Here are several essential ways to achieve this:

1) The Faith counts upon pioneers and settlers who have moved to these areas to hold firmly to their posts. There is a solemn responsibility undertaken at the call of the Guardian. Each of them must see his job through to the end, working to deepen and extend the knowledge of the Faith, for our objective is no less than the permanent and solid foundation of Spiritual Assemblies, the bedrock of the unfolding Order of Bahá'u'lláh.

2) Additional settlers are needed to strengthen these many new Assemblies. Here is an opportunity which every believer is qualified to accept. A vast field of progress awaits the friends, where the work of teaching and consolidating the Faith calls for many hands. What else can these
words of the Guardian signify? "The hour requires all ranks of the faithful to arise, widely disperse, speedily settle, tirelessly persevere. . . ."

3) Traveling and circuit teachers, and friends who can visit and assist in making contacts, will greatly stimulate and enliven the new communities.

It is urgent that every believer immediately determine how he can best respond to the Guardian’s most recent plea, "for further heroism, for a concerted, a persistent, a herculean effort." The National Teaching Committee and the Regional Teaching Committees eagerly await offers of teaching assistance in accordance with the needs outlined above. May the glimpse of approaching victory quicken and renew our hopes. May the momentum of our onrushing Faith accelerate with the needs outlined above. May the needs of South and Central America. This list does not include the Assembly formed in Puerto Rico, as that is classified with the Assemblies of the United States and Canada.

Latin American Assemblies

Up to May 27, 1943, the National Spiritual Assembly had received notice of the election of a local Spiritual Assembly in the following cities of South and Central America. This list does not include the Assembly formed in Puerto Rico, as that is classified with the Assemblies of the United States and Canada.

Buenos Aires, Argentina.
San Jose, Costa Rica.
Punatarena, Costa Rica.
Mexico, D. F.
San Salvador, El Salvador.
Havana, Cuba.
Port au Prince, Haiti.
Tegucigalpa, Honduras.
Guatemala City, Guatemala.
Santiago de Chile.

Inter-America News

The eagerly awaited record of the formation of new Assemblies in Latin America is not entirely complete but we are able now to report that Santiago, Chile, Guatemala City, and Puerto Rico (San Juan) have reached that goal and we feel confident that Bahia, Brazil will have been re-established. But on the other hand we have had to drop back because at last reports sent from Montevideo they lacked one member, and Puebla, Mexico also was minus its quota; but on the whole we are very happy to announce that we now have thirteen Spiritual Assemblies and there are several other places where we may confidently expect to have an Assembly by next year. The committee is busily engaged in trying to compile a correct list of believers, but we find this very difficult as reports list certain names for which we have no cards and we have several cards which do not agree with the lists received to date.

Conference of National and Regional Teaching Committees, Temple Foundation Hall, May 1, 1943.

![Conference Image]

PIONEER ROLL OF HONOR
March 15th to May 15th, 1943

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Pioneer Front</th>
<th>Home City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frances Wells</td>
<td>Anchorage, Alaska</td>
<td>San Bernardino, Calif.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruth Barr</td>
<td>Regina, Saskatchewan</td>
<td>Saskatoon, Sask.</td>
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<td>Oscar P. Stone</td>
<td>Brattleboro, Vermont</td>
<td>Englewood, N.J.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Oscar P. Stone</td>
<td>Brattleboro, Vermont</td>
<td>Englewood, N.J.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Eva Kisser</td>
<td>Providence, Rhode Island</td>
<td>Chepachet, R.I.</td>
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<td>Harlyn Schott</td>
<td>Charleston, West Virginia</td>
<td>Lima, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Harlyn Schott</td>
<td>Charleston, West Virginia</td>
<td>Lima, Ohio</td>
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<td>Mrs. Luda Dabrowski</td>
<td>Greenville, South Carolina</td>
<td>Larchmont, N.Y.</td>
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<td>Mr. H. W. Holmes</td>
<td>Little Rock, Arkansas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. H. W. Holmes</td>
<td>Little Rock, Arkansas</td>
<td>Lima, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Barbara McCurdy</td>
<td>Laramie, Wyoming</td>
<td>Denver, Colo.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Raphael Lillywhite</td>
<td>Laramie, Wyoming</td>
<td>Denver, Colo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Eunice Shurcliff</td>
<td>Laramie, Wyoming</td>
<td>Ipswich, Mass.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gladys Fox</td>
<td>Laramie, Wyoming</td>
<td>Lima, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Margery Dixon</td>
<td>Reno, Nevada</td>
<td>Riverside, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Belcher</td>
<td>Sioux Falls, South Dakota</td>
<td>Syracuse, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Myrtle Barnes</td>
<td>Jackson, Mississippi</td>
<td>Los Angeles, Calif.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Charlotte Fosselman</td>
<td>Jackson, Mississippi</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Dorothy Campbell</td>
<td>Jackson, Mississippi</td>
<td>Pascagula, Miss.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Adeline Lohse</td>
<td>Greenville, South Carolina</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albert Kalfus</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>Los Angeles, Calif.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bruce Davison</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>New York, N.Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Villa Vaughn</td>
<td>Greenville, South Carolina</td>
<td>New York, N.Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Emogene Hoagg</td>
<td>Greenville, South Carolina</td>
<td>Berkeley, Calif.</td>
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Disbanded Assemblies

Mrs. Dorothy Scotts ...... Huntington Park, California ... Lima, Ohio
Mrs. Nancy M. Smith ...... Huntington Park, California ... Long Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Lilian Morris ...... Huntington Park, California ... Gardena, Calif.

Mrs. Rowan Carter is now helping with the teaching work in Fargo, North Dakota.

Cuba

Our two faithful pioneers, Miss Kruka and Miss Silver are making every stroke count. They write that 38 persons signed their Ridvan Feast list and there was great enthusiasm and many desired to attend classes. Of course the Youth group in Havana holds the record for attendance, accomplishment and activity. The members of this group are younger than most youth groups as will be seen from their photographs. Miss Silver is now teaching both adults and children and sharing the days with Miss Kruka.
Puerto Rico

We quote from the report recently received from Mrs. Ayne McComb secretary of the newly established Spiritual Assembly as follows: "Constant opportunities open for us to give out literature. It is marvelous how the divine message is spreading throughout the Island without a studied effort on our part. . . . The Faith has reached people in the cities of Carolina, Guaynabo, Rio Piedras, Arecibo, Aguadilla, Cabo Rojo, Mayaguez, San German, Ponce, Caguas, Juncos and Rio Grande. . . . One readily understands then why this Island has been termed "Where the Americas Meet".

Colombia

Mrs. Ruth Shook has returned from Bogotá for a visit but will be at her post again in the fall and in the meantime Miss Winnie Lou Baker is living in Bogotá and is employed there.

Panama

Several new names are being added to the list in Ancon and our pioneers there are also meeting men in the armed forces who are attending meetings. Miss Gwene Dorothy Sholtis is now in Panama awaiting news of transfer to some other post. She did wonderful work in Venezuela but has left Priscilla Rhoads to carry on in Caracas as Gwene is needed elsewhere. She has learned Spanish very well and we must capitalize on this knowledge to use her services in less developed regions.

Chile

Gloving reports come in from Santiago and photographs of the Youth Group which constituted the attendance at the Youth Symposium confirm our highest hopes. An interesting event occurred also in connection with the visit of Vice-President Wallace to Chile as one of the native believers was appointed by the Chilean Government to attend him personally during his entire sojourn. Mrs. Atwater is writing for the Chilean press and we have recently received a lengthy clipping which is the beginning of a series of articles which she is to write in Spanish, being assisted for the present by eminent writers whom she has met and interested, Sra. Yvonne de Cuellar who resides in La Paz, Bolivia, and was our first believer there has been sojourning in Santiago and enjoying the meetings. The joyousness with which Miss Virginia Orbison writes of the teaching activities in Santiago leaves no doubt of the penetration of the spirit there.

Jamaica

We received, in time for the Convention, a small Jamaican flag from Dr. King and no doubt he was wishing he might have accompanied it and been at the Convention also. This flag and the beautiful set of those from all the South and Central American Republics were intended for ornamentation of the Inter-America booth but since no booths were constructed because of war conditions, the flags were displayed as a loving tribute to our friends in far away lands.

Haiti

It was a great surprise and pleasure to greet Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Blackwell who arrived at the Temple during the course of our session. They both look very well and gave a verbal report of the work in Port-au-Prince as well as delivering the greetings of the faithful community there. The home of Mr. and Mrs. McBean is the center for meetings and we are told that Mrs. McBean devotes herself to making things comfortable for the friends and to supplying delicious refreshments for the Feasts in true Bahá’í style.

News from Mrs. Barton from Montevideo informs us that she will attend the unveiling of the monument to Mrs. Maxwell in Buenos Aires on May 30, and will then return home by way of the west coast.

The Guardian mentions in a recent letter the "vital and ever-increasing importance" of this Inter-America work and urges us to concentrate at all costs our attention and energies on maintaining the centers already established in Latin America so that a nucleus of two native believers may be found in each of those Republics by 1944.

We beg the continued assistance of the friends that the means to fulfill these obligations may be forthcoming.

Inter-America Youth Activities

". . . . Train these children with divine exhortations. From their childhood instill in their hearts the love of God so that they may manifest in their lives the fear of God and have confidence in the bestowals of God. Teach them to free themselves from human imperfections and to acquire the divine perfections latent in the heart of man. . . . Know ye the value of these children, for they are all my children." ('Abdu’l-Bahá in Promulgation of Universal Peace.)

The Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs Washington, D. C. has issued a book on "Children of Other Americas". We suggest this since more and more the Inter-America Committee is hearing of the work being done by our pioneers for children in Central and South America. A compilation suitable for translation might be very valuable.

MEXICO CITY reports that on several occasions the Bahá’í Community there has held special entertainments for children, not only children of the Bahá’í families, but especially under-privileged children who have been made very happy by stories and little gifts and the friends have felt amply repaid and will continue this work.

HAVANA is perhaps the most outstanding center for the work with children and we are always proud and happy to hold them up as an example of what can be done. Correspondence with our two pioneers there might assist others to know how to win the interest and cooperation of the children whose parents are not associated with the believers and who might be won themselves through the medium of their little ones.

SAN SALVADOR writes of a school for the under-privileged children in their city. We are eager for more information about this and hope to hear more particulars from Clarence Iverson.

BAHÍA, BRAZIL —— Well do we remember the little home which Leonora Holsapple had established in Bahía. Thirteen little girls were residents of this home which, under supervision, they conducted themselves, attending to all the household duties as well as being taught the principles of the Faith. These
little girls recited a Bahá’í prayer for us which Leonora had translated into Portuguese. These children must now be grown and we rejoice in the effect which this training must have had on their lives and those with whom they are associated.

PERU—Miss Nicklin has also been teaching children in her kindergarten class who, although not specifically Bahá’í, cannot fail to absorb the wonderful plan for a better world from her loving training.

Due to our eagerness to fulfill our obligations to the Seven Year Plan certain changes and adjustments are being made to reinforce some centers and enable us to make use of our pioneers who have already acquired a knowledge of Spanish, for the time is too short and the work too difficult to permit us to depend now on as many new pioneers as we would have liked to see in the field. By next month we shall have some further announcements to make but we hope that those who may be considering the Latin American field will not forsake the study of Spanish and Portuguese as the need will be very great after the war, with the beginning of the second century of Bahá’í Era.

NELLE S. FRENCH, Secretary

Assembly Roll 1943-1944

Alabama:
Birmingham, Miss Nina K. Howard, 2215 Ridge Park Avenue.

Arkansas:
Little Rock, Mrs. Lucy Hawkins, 2111 Louisiana Street.

Arizona:
Phoenix, Mrs. Miriam Bugbee, 1739 West Van Buren Street.
Phoenix (East Rural), Mrs. James Harris, 4630 North 7th Street.

California:
Alhambra, Mrs. Jessie B. Kemper, 1717 S. Date Avenue.
Berkeley, Mrs. Helen B. Rutledge, 2629 Stuart Street.
Beverly Hills, Mrs. B. Cohen, 205 North Almont Drive.
Burbank, Mrs. Zona D. Smith, 1014 E. Angelina Avenue.
Burlingame, Mrs. Volera F. Allen, 631 Walnut Avenue.
Geyerville (Cloverdale Township), Mrs. Mildred M. Brackett, Glendale, Miss Dagmar Dole, 1230 Graynold Avenue.
Huntington Park, Mrs. Dorothy Stotts, 6731 Rugby Avenue.
Los Angeles, 5, Mr. Willard P. Hatch, 4367 West 8th Street.
Oakland, Mr. Elmer Dearborn, 365 Jayne Avenue.

Egyptian Bahá’ís present on the occasion of the transfer of the remains of the Late Lina Getsinger to the new Bahá’í Cemetery in Cairo.

Pasadena, Miss Emmalu Wever, 249 North Madison Street.
Sacramento, Miss Elizabeth L. Duffy, 2238 E. Street.
San Diego, Mrs. Gladys Loudon, 1745 First Avenue.
San Francisco, Miss Nadeen G. Cooper, 743 Page Street, Apt. 7.
Santa Barbara, Mrs. Gertrude V. Seter, 1430½ Bath Street.

Canada:
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Miss Elizabeth Brookes, P.O. Box 121.
Vancouver, British Columbia, Mrs. F. Sherborne, P.O. Box 744.
Edmonton, Alberta, Miss Kathleen M. Runell, 1112–122nd Avenue.
Toronto, Ontario, Mrs. Victor Davis, 44 Chestnut Park Road, Rosedale.
Hamilton, Ontario, Miss Muriel Hutchings, Mountain Sanatorium.
Montreal, P.Q., Mr. Ernest Sala, 423 Mayor Street.
St. Lambert, P.Q., Mrs. Prudence George, 371 Notre Dame Avenue.
Moncton, New Brunswick, Mr. Irving Geary, 32 Ralph Street.

Colorado:
Colorado Springs, Miss Gladys Roberts, 815 N. Hancock Avenue.
Denver, Mrs. Nathaniel Clark, 2136 Columbine Street.

Connecticut:
New Haven, Miss Gertrude Duell, 561 Whalley Avenue.
West Haven, Mrs. Robert E. Bradley, 31 Thomas Street.

Washington, D.C.:
Mrs. Rayford C. Parmelee, 4700–47th Street, N.W.

Delaware:
Wilmington, Mrs. A. K. Kalantar, 3100 Monroe Street.

Florida:
Jacksonville, Miss Kathryn L. Vernon, 707 First Street.

Miami, Mrs. Maxwell E. Buffin, 49 S.E. Sixth Street.
St. Augustine, Mrs. Frances A. Shaw, 139 Central Avenue.

Georgia:
Atlanta, Mrs. P. D. Cunningham, 1262 Euclid Avenue, N.E.

Hawaii:
Honolulu, Miss Henrietta From, 70 N. Judd Street.
Sprecklesville, County of Maui, Mrs. Mary T. Fantom.

Idaho:
Boise, Miss Elizabeth Adelmann, 906 E. State Street.

Illinois:
Chicago, Mrs. H. E. Walrath, 4639 Bexon Street.
Dannville, Mrs. Mary L. Schroeder, 1230 Wellington Street.
Evanston, Miss Virginia Russell, 2622 Prairie Avenue.
Maywood, Mrs. Gladys Amerson, 901 S. 7th Avenue.
Peoria, Mrs. Jacqueline Summers, 425 New York Avenue.
Springfield, Mrs. Gretchen Schultz, 1638 S. 16th Street.
Urbana, Mrs. H. A. Harding, 704 W. Nevada Street.
Waukegan, Mrs. Louise Nioblack, 11 Jefferson Avenue.
Wilmette, Miss Bertha Herbecause, 431 Greenleaf Avenue.
Winnetka, Mrs. Willis S. Hilpert, 465 Chestnut Street.

Indiana:
P. H. Wayne, Mrs. Maye Worthington, 2606 Winter Street.
Indianapolis, Mrs. Helen Patterson, 2235 St. John Street.
South Bend, Mrs. Sarah Russell, 1031 Lincoln Highway West.

Iowa:
Cedar Rapids, Miss Charlotte Thornton, 219 Iowa Theatre Building.

Kansas:
Topeka, Miss Fern Latimer, 822 West 8th Street.
Kentucky:
Louisville, Mrs. Sara Ellen Peake, 201 Spring Drive.

Louisiana:
New Orleans, Miss Pearl Berk, 2003 Carondelet Street.

Maine:
Eliot, Mrs. Dorothy Cress.

Maryland:
Baltimore, Mr. Albert E. Dorrida, P.O. Box 850,
Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Miss Hanna Lohse, 6 Quincey Street, Chevy Chase.
Cabin John, Mr. William B. Palzer, P.O. Box 175.

Massachusetts:
Beverly, Miss Helen A. Miller, 15 Ives Street.
Boston, Miss Alice N. Parker, Room 419, 25 Huntington Avenue.
Brookline, Mrs. Gertrude Ambrose, 1477 Beacon Street.
Springfield, Mrs. R. A. Bates, 98 Princeton Street.
Worcester, 3, Miss Fanny M. Holmes, 103 Webster Street.

Michigan:
Ann Arbor, Mrs. Jennie Smith, 115 N. Seventh Street.
Detroit, Mrs. Jessie B. Hall, 2387 Woodstock Drive.
Flint, Miss Mabel Kitchener, 1123 S. Saginaw Street.
Grand Rapids, Miss Clara A. Edge, 1965 Plainfield Avenue, N.W.
Lansing, Mrs. Kittie A. Shetlyer, 813 Fayette Street.
Muskegon, Mrs. Bernice Neal, 332 Jackson Avenue.

Minnesota:
Minneapolis, Miss Sina O. Olsen, 123 S. 11th Street, Apt. H.
St. Paul, Mr. Kenneth K. Kadrie, 864 Sims Street.

Mississippi:
Jackson, Miss Helen Yerger, 526 High Street, Jackson (38), Miss.

Missouri:
Kansas City, Mrs. J. B. Becktel, 202 W. 39th Street.

Montana:
Helena, Mr. Charles M. Bryan, 207 Sixth Avenue.

Nevada:
Reno, Mr. Robert T. Imagire, 845 Aitken Street.

New Hampshire:
Portsmouth, Mr. Frank Ashton, 85 Austin Street.

New Jersey:
East Orange, Mrs. Paul H. Wright, 105 Leslie Street.
Montclair, Miss Anna E. Van Blaricum, 19 Walnut Crescent.
Newark, Mr. F. W. Clark, 21 Milford Avenue.
Red Bank, Mrs. Stuart Sims, 19 Leroy Place.
Teaneck, Mrs. Amy G. Raubitschek, 126 Evergreen Place, West Englewood.

New Mexico:
Albuquerque, Mrs. Kathryn Frankland, 123 S. Edith Street.

New York:
Binghamton, Miss Ida L. Noyes, 43 Davis Street.
Buffalo, Mrs. Calvin Pritchard, 215 Humboldt Parkway.
Geneva, Mrs. R. C. Collison, 66 Castle Street.
 Jamestown, Mrs. Ralph Emery, 81 Fairmount Avenue.
New York City, Miss Helen Campbell, 15 West 9th Street.
 Rochester, 7, Miss Christine McKay, 201 Rutgers Street.
 Syracuse, Mrs. E. B. Belcher, 909 Ackerman Avenue.
Yonkers, Mr. Samuel Newman, 59 Mulford Gardens.

North Carolina:
Greensboro, Miss Evangeline Rickart, 1107½ Magnolia Street.

Ohio:
Cincinnati, Miss Hilda Stauss, 3640 Euphraw Avenue, Westwood.
Cleveland, Mrs. Mary J. Elmore, 2325 65th Street.
Columbus, Mrs. Margarette Acebo, 658 Oak Street.
Dayton, Miss Hazel Volz, 2837 Wayland Avenue.
East Cleveland, Prof. Wm. Sandos, 1770 Delmont Avenue.
Lima, Mrs. Marie Kramer, 436 Kenilworth Avenue.

Oklahoma:
Oklahoma City, Mrs. A. P. Entzminger, 734 N.W. 20th Street.

Oregon:
Portland, Mr. J. W. Latimer, 1927 N. E. 40th Avenue.

Pennsylvania:
Philadelphia, Mr. Clarence W. Fisher, 7153 Bryan Street, N. Tairy.
Scranton, Mrs. Ruth Little, 1413 Pennsylvania Avenue.
West Chester, Mrs. Ashton B. T. Smith, 117 East Gay Street.

Puerto Rico:
San Juan, Mrs. Aynd McComb, P.O. Box 2130.

Rhode Island:
Providence, Mr. William Doull, 57 Olney Street.

Tennessee:
Memphis, Miss Corilla Gray, 330 Linden Avenue.
Nashville, Miss Nellie J. Roche, 703 Commerce Union Bank Building.

Texas:
Houston, Mrs. Donald L. Corbin, 3409 Mt. Vernon Street.

Utah:
Salt Lake City, Mrs. Florence Lillianhall, 130 N.W. Temple Street.

Vermont:
Brattleboro, Mr. Oscar P. Stone, 24 Chapin Street.

Virginia:
Arlington, Mrs. Gretchen Bronswick, 1319 North Adams Street.

Washington:
Richmond Highlands, Mr. W. B. Schneider, P.O. Box 15.
Seattle, Miss Elsa Nordquist, 4508 18th Avenue, N.E.
Spokane, Mrs. E. L. Beasley, 4615 N. Madison Street.

West Virginia:
Charleston, Mrs. Marian C. Lippitt, 1512 MacCorkle Avenue.

Wisconsin:
Kenosha, Mr. Louis J. Voelz, 610 Sheridan Road.
Madison, Mrs. Leon Griffin, 410 West Shore Drive.
Milwaukee, Mrs. Claire Fricke, 1128 N. 21st Street.
Racine, Mr. Harold R. Olsen, 2007 Slauson Avenue.
Sheboygan, Mrs. Oliver Neden, 3514 N. Murray Avenue.
Wauwatosa, Mrs. Harry Nelson, 9615 Harding Boulevard.

Wyoming:
Laramie, Mrs. Valeria Thornton, 412½ S. 12th Street.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES
1943-1944

American Memorial to 'Abdu'l-Bahá
To maintain in Evergreen Cabin, West Englewood, N. J., an exhibit of books and photographs commemorating the visit of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to North America in 1912; to recommend other appropriate activities such as meetings and lectures which will contribute to the Memorial in perpetuating the spiritual significance of the Master's mission; to conduct the annual gathering commemorating the Unity Feast given by 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 1912.

Mrs. Edith Ingles, Chairman, 474 West 23d Street, Fieldstone, N. Y.
Juliet Thompson, Curtis Kelsey, Roy C. Wilhelm, Philip Sprague, Mrs. Amy Raubitschek, Mrs. Agnes Tichenor, Mrs. Carrie Kinney.

Archives and History
To receive Tablets and other material suitable for the National Archives; to maintain the National Archives and organize its contents; to assist local Assemblies to develop local Archives; to obtain and organize historical data on special subjects as may be required from time to time.

Edwin W. Mattoon, Chairman, Mrs. May Scheffler, Secretary, 1621 Lincoln Street, Evanston, Illinois.
Bertha L. Harkhotz, Hashim Hassan, Mrs. Doris Holley, Mrs. Minola Hannen.

Assembly Development
To assist in the development of Assemblies by arranging for personal visits by members of the Com-
mittee or by selected teachers, in order to take up with the Assembly the essential matters on which its services to the Cause and the growth of the community depends.

Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Chairman, Louis G. Gregory, Secretary, Eliot, Maine.

Mrs. Amelia Collins.

**Baha'i Exhibits**

To prepare material suitable for use in public exhibits; to supervise and conduct exhibits in state Fairs and regional or national Expositions.

Carl Scheffler, Chairman, 1821 Lincoln Street, Evanston, Illinois.

Betty Scheffler, Clarence Niss, Mrs. Doris Holley, Albert Wandast.

**Baha'i News**

To prepare the Centennial program for the meeting in Foundation Hall and all other related public meetings except the dedication meeting in the Temple auditorium.

Edna True, Chairman, 418 Forest Street, Wilmette, Ill.

Mrs. Margery McCormick, Horace Holley, Mrs. Sarah Walrath, Carl Scheffler, Albert Windust, Mrs. Nancy Bowditch, Philip Mr. Sprague, Allen B. McDaniel, Charles Mason Reym, Mrs. Loulie Mathews, Leroy Ios, Max Creeven, Mrs. Sarah Kenney, Mrs. Lorol Schopfcher, Rowland Estell, Louis G. Gregory.

**Baha'i News Service**

To release articles suitable for publicity by local Assemblies; to insert approved articles in the press; to provide information on publicity for Assemblies, groups and active teachers; to provide data and illustrations on special subjects.

Clarence Niss, Chairman, Virginia Russell, Secretary, 2622 Prairie Avenue, Evanston, Illinois.

Mrs. Hazel Rawlisch, Evelyn Erdman, Laurence W. LaRoque, William Henning.

**Baha'i World Editorial**

To obtain material from all parts of the Baha’i world community, including reports, articles, historical data and illustrations, suitable for use in the successive volumes of the Baha’i World.

Garreta Busey, Chairman, Mrs. Mahbub Paine, Secretary, 801 Pennsylvania Avenue, Urbana, Illinois.

Mrs. Anna Kunz, Jessie E. Revell, Roxford Parman, Mrs. Marthea Gail, Robert Gulick, Jr., Mrs. Bertha H. Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Margaret Ruge, Virginia Obison, Louis G. Gregory, Mrs. Victoria Bedikian, Photograph Editor.

**Baha’i Service for the Blind**

To provide Baha’i literature in Braille for the blind; to place Baha’i literature in libraries and other institutions; to encourage the formation of groups of Bahá’ís to increase the supply of Braille transcriptions; and to provide other means for serving the blind.

Ella C. Quant, Chairman, 1932 Glenwood Boulevard, Rhinecliff, N.Y.

Hilda Staus, Hilbert Dahl, Gertrude Schurgast, Zarah G. Schoenly, Mrs. Maryne Jackson, Mrs. H. Engelder, Mrs. Mable Perry, Dale Cole, Mrs. Bessie Dukett, Mrs. Arnshe Gibson, Mrs. Catherine Cole, Bahiyih Valentine, Alice Doolittle, Mrs. Doris Bolton, Mrs. Eula Fritz, Adolph Feher, Mrs. Carrie Turner.

**Legal**

To examine the incorporation papers prepared by local Assemblies; to provide information needed for local incorporation; to assist the National Assembly in meeting any other legal questions that might arise.

George O. Latimer, Chairman, Horace Holley, Secretary, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

Elise Austin, Chester F. Barnett.

**Publishing**

To print and sell the literature approved and authorized by the National Assembly.

Horace Holley, Chairman.

Harry E. Walrath, Carl Scheffler. Staff: Clara R. Wood, Manager, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

J. T. Wood.

**Race Unity**

To compile the teachings on the subject of race education; to prepare lessons suitable for classes of children; to cooperate with child education activities maintained in local communities.

Harry E. Ford, Chairman, Mrs. Roberta Christian, Secretary, 938 Lancaster Avenue, Syracus.

Mrs. Margaret Ford, Mrs. A. B. Bevan, Mrs. Reva Belcher, Mrs. Mary McClennen.

**Contacts**

To teach selected lists of people with printed literature through correspondence.

Mrs. Marguerite True, Chairman, 322 Moran Road, Grove Point, Michigan, Ebel Revell, Lucy J. Marshall, Mrs. Florence Kerner, Mrs. J. Joy Earl, Mrs. Meta L. Dahl, Mrs. Evelyn Kemp, Mrs. Amine DeMello, Julia Goldman, Mrs. Audrey Roberts, Winifred Harvey.

**Inter-America**

To plan and supervise teaching activities throughout Central and South America; to assist the pioneers; to encourage the formation of local groups and guide their development in administrative practice; to supervise the translation of Bahá’í literature into Spanish, Portuguese and other languages as required.

Octavio Ilescas, Chairman, Mrs. Nellie S. French, Secretary, 786 Chester Avenue, San Marino, Calif.

Edna True, Mrs. Inga Ilescas, Christine Lowsted, Dr. Clyde Longyear, Mrs. Marion Longyear, Mrs. Gene Stoudig, Mrs. Loulie Mathews, Mrs. Harriet Wocott, Charles Wolcott.

**International Auxiliary Language**

To develop and encourage the interest in the Bahá’í principle of an international auxiliary language; to make possible effective cooperation with other workers in the field of international language; to provide Bahá’í literature in Esperanto and other international languages.

Roan U. Orloff, Chairman, Hotel Canterbury, 14 Charalegate, W., Boston, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Dell Quinlan, Mrs. Luella Breecher, Hugh House, Charles R. Witt, Mrs. Elsa Chaston, J. Marshall, Mrs. Anna Kincaid, A. E. Regal, Mrs. Mabel Davis, Josephine Kruks, Mrs. Mabel Vicky, Herbert Seidler.

**Library**

To place literature in public and university libraries; to encourage local Assemblies to provide books for local libraries; to maintain a record of all Bahá’í literature in public libraries as far as can be determined.

Mrs. Ellen Sims, Chairman, 19 Leroy Place, Red Bank N. J.

Robert Gulick, Jr., Helen Reynolds.

To compile the teachings on the subject of race unity; to prepare bulletins of information; to plan race unity activities and programs; to conduct special meetings; to cooperate with Assemblies in race unity activities; to bring the Bahá’í teachings to the minority groups in America, and to place race unity editorial material in the press.

Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Chairman, Mrs. Sarah Walrath, Secretary, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, Illinois.
Radio
To make available approved radio scripts on a variety of Bahá’í subjects; to conduct radio campaigns; to stimulate the use of radio for teaching.

Mrs. Florence Morton, Chairman, Mrs. Mildred Mottaheh, Secretary, 103 E. 8th Street, New York, N. Y.

E. Y. Mottaheh, Mrs. Alice Bacon, Glenn A. Shook, Mrs. Anna Smith, Mrs. Hazel Langrall, Mrs. Shirley Warde, William Sears, Mrs. Nina Matthesen, Wendell E. Bacon.

Reviewing
To pass upon the accuracy of manuscripts submitted through the National Assembly; to examine manuscripts for literary quality and effectiveness and their usefulness as contributions to the published literature.

Mrs. Marion Little, George Shirak, Mrs. Alice Bacon, Glenn A. Shook, Mrs. Anna Smith, Mrs. Hazel Langrall, Mrs. Shirley Warde, William Sears, Mrs. Nina Matthesen, Wendell E. Bacon.

Bahá’í Schools
To provide instruction and study courses; to train teachers; to conduct the school program; to encourage attendance at the school.

Green Acre School
Lorna Tasker, Chairman, Roushan Wilkinson, Secretary, R.F.D. 190, North Attleboro, Massachusetts.

Louis G. Gregory, Harlan Ober, Glenn A. Shook, Rachel Small, Margaret Ford, Harry Ford.

Geyserville School
Mrs. Sylvia Ioas, Chairman, Gladys Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, California.

Mrs. Amelia Bowman, John Bosch, Irving Davis, Mrs. Louise Groger, Mrs. Amelia Collins, Ted Groger, Mrs. Sarah Kenny, Ray Brackett.

Loulouhelen School
Edmund Miessler, Chairman, Mrs. Helen Eggleston, Secretary, Louhelen Ranch, Davison, Michigan; Phyllis Hall, Corresponding Secretary, 2086 State Road, Davison, Michigan.


International School
To provide instruction for the training of Bahá’í teachers wishing to serve in other lands, especially, at present, in Central or South America; to stimulate Latin American contacts and activities by local Assemblies in North America.

Mrs. Louise A. Mathews, Chairman, Mrs. Wenda La Farge, Secretary, Foundation, Colorado.

Mark Tobey, Max Greshen, Mrs. Inez Greshen, Mrs. Marion Little, George O. Latimer.

Study Outline
To compile outlines suitable for Bahá’í study classes, to examine and recommend outlines submitted to the committee; to encourage and promote the practice of organized Bahá’í study.

Dr. Genevieve L. Coy, Chairman, 19 Patchin Place, New York, N. Y.

Kelen Campbell, Mrs. May Dyar.

Selective Service Advisory
To prepare bulletins assisting drafted believers to obtain recognition of their Bahá’í status under the Selective Service Act.

Allen B. McDaniel, P.O. Box 96, Waterford, Va.

Paul Harvey.

Temple Guides
To conduct visitors through the House of Worship; to hold classes for training Temple guides.

Mrs. Mary Haggard, Chairman, 1229 Cleveland Street, Wilmette, Illinois.

Edwin W. Matison, Mrs. Mineola Hansen, Mrs. Harriet Hilpert, Edward Lindstrom, Laurence LaRoque.

Temple Librarian and Sales
To conduct the sale of literature in Foundation Hall; to provide facilities for the sale of Bahá’í photographs, ringstones, display and exhibits, slides, and other Bahá’í material.

Harry E. Walrath, chairman, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, Ill., Mrs. Flora Ernst, Mrs. May Scheffer.

Temple Program
To conduct the weekly public meeting in Foundation Hall; to conduct such other devotional or public meetings as may be approved from time to time by the National Assembly.

Edna True, Chairman, John Haggard, Secretary, 1229 Cleveland Street, Wilmette, Illinois.

Monroe Ioas, Mrs. Janet Lindstrom, Dr. James Lewis, Mrs. Edna Coleman, Mrs. Harriet Hilpert.

Youth
To stimulate and coordinate activities of Bahá’í youth throughout the American Bahá’í community; to initiate worldwide Youth symposiums; to issue bulletins of suggestions, plans and news of youth activity; to provide study material.

Paul Pettit, Chairman, Clement Perry, Secretary, 10817 Earl Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

Robert Miessler, Margery Ulrich, Youth Advisor: Mrs. Margarita Ulrich.

World Order Magazine
To edit the American Bahá’í magazine.

Horace Holley, Chairman, Mrs. Alice S. Cox, Secretary, 1106 W. Gift Avenue, Peoria, Illinois.

Garreeta Busey, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Gertrude Henning.

Institute of Bahá’í Education
To bring the Bahá’í Faith for the first time, in its universal aspects, to all American colleges, by lecture and literature; to provide a regular service of annual speakers to all colleges that would welcome it, by means of chapel platforms and classroom discussions; to continually deepen the interest of faculty members and students, arranging wherever possible, classes for regular study of the Faith and training for Bahá’í membership.

Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Chairman, 615 West Elm Street, Lima, Ohio.

Mrs. Marzieh Gei, William Kenneth Christian.

German Translation
To translate Bahá’í texts into German.

Siegfried Schopflicher, Chairman, 1102 University Street, Montreal, P.Q., Canada.

Mrs. Hanna Neumann, Karl Neu mann, Mrs. Carol Hautz.

Pamphlet Literature
To gather manuscripts for a new series of pamphlets which will assist the smaller communities in their teaching work.

George O. Latimer, Secretary, 1927 N.E. 46th Avenue, Portland, Oregon.

Mrs. Dorothy Baker.

Teaching
To prepare plans for and assist the National Assembly in the execution of: nation-wide teaching projects; inter-regional teaching projects; preparation of information, material, plans and methods that will lead to more effective teaching; Supervision of Regional Teaching Committees; receipts of reports from them.

Leroy Ioas, Chairman, Charlotte M. Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, California.

George O. Latimer, Mrs. Amelia Col linger, Mrs. Sarah Kenny, Marion Holley, Mrs. Amelia Bowman.

Regional Teaching
To coordinate inter-community conferences; to cooperate with local Assemblies in organizing teaching circuits; to route traveling teachers within the region; to assist groups and prepare them for the election of a Spiritual Assembly; to encourage and stimulate teaching activities of isolated believers; to extend teaching work to areas within the region where no Assemblies or groups exist; to supervise the work of the Extension Teaching Committee of local Assemblies; to exercise initiative in the areas outside the jurisdiction of local Assemblies; to endorse applications for enrollment and transfer of isolated believers.

The Regional...
Teaching Committee reports to the National Teaching Committee on all teaching matters and is under its supervision. On matters concerning enrollments and transfers it reports directly to the National Assembly.

**British Columbia, Alberta**
Doris Skinner, Secretary, 305 Sixth Street, West Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Mrs. Katherine Moscrop, Mae McKenna, Austin Collins, Harold Moscrop, Ann McGeer, Anita Ios, Mrs. Evelyn Cliff Southwell, Clifford Gardner.

**Manitoba, Saskatchewan**
Rowland Estall, Secretary, P.O. Box 121, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

**Ontario**
John Roberts, Secretary, 4 Milbank Avenue, Toronto, Ontario. Mrs. Laura Davis, Amy Putnam, Mrs. Ethel Priestley, Lloyd Gardner, George Spencelove, Mrs. Audrey Roberts.

**Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia**
Mrs. Rosemary Sala, Secretary, 423 Riverside Drive, St. Lambert, P.Q. Ragni Mattson, Siegfried Schopflocher, Ernest Sala, Margaret Mosher, Winfred Harvey, Mrs. Beulah Proctor, Mrs. Agnes King, Mrs. Edna Maloney.

**New England**
Mrs. Hattie Chamberlin, Secretary, 11 Maple Terrace, Three Rivers, Massachusetts.

**New York**
Mrs. Ruth Hart, Secretary, "Knollwood" R.D. #3, Waterloo, N.Y.

**New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania**

**Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia**
Mrs. Annamarie Honnold, Secretary, 902 S. Orme St., Arlington, Va.

**Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky**
Mrs. Florence Reeb, Secretary, 2815 Sherwood Road, Apt. A, Columbus, Ohio. Mrs. Mary Elmore, Charlotte Lindenberg, Lothar Schurgast, Mrs. Addie Miller, Arthur Patterson, Mrs. Helen Patterson, Mrs. Margarite Ulrich, Edmund Miessler.

**Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa**
Mrs. Margery McCormick, Secretary, 502 Chestnut Street, Winnetka, Ill. Clarence Niss, Charles Reimer, Mrs. Gertrude Struven, Mrs. Adelaide Huff, Dr. Katherine True, Monroe Ios, Chris Leins, Mrs. Ettu Catlin.

**Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska**
Mrs. Opal Winans, Secretary, 421 N. Spring St., Independence, Mo. Bertha Campbell, Mrs. May Brown, Mrs. Madeon Becktel, J. B. Becktel, N. Forsybe Ward, Mrs. Valma V. Sherrill, Nayan Hartfield, Mrs. Eunic Baker.

**Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota**
Elsa Steinmetz, Secretary, 1420 S. Spring Avenue, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

**North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia**
Mrs. Terah Smith, Secretary, 572 Page Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

**Florida**
Mrs. LuVille Buffin, Secretary, 49 E. 6th St., Miami, Florida.

**Tennessee, Alabama**
Nellie J. Roche, Secretary, 703 Commerce Union Bank Building, Nashville, Tennessee.

**Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas**
Mrs. Mary Corbin, Secretary, P.O. Box 255, Covington, Louisiana.

**Oklahoma, Texas**
Mrs. Doris Corbin, Secretary, 2409 Mt. Vernon St., Houston, Texas.

**California, Nevada, Arizona**
Robert Thues, Secretary, 4576 Finley Avenue, Los Angeles, California. Mrs. Sylvia Ios, Mrs. Nancy Phillips, Mrs. Sarah Witt, Mrs. Jessie Kemper, Mrs. Valeria Allen, Ingenes Bentar, Mrs. Helen Robinson, David Mayberry, Mrs. Miriam Bugbee.

**Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico**
Artemus Lamb, Secretary, Lancaster Hotel, 1785 Sherman, Denver, Colorado. Mrs. Ladys Roberts, Raphael Lillywhite, Mrs. Florence Liilliendahl, Mrs. Valeria Thornton, Mrs. Claire Glespie, Dr. E. Lenore Morris, Mrs. Kathryn Frankland, Ruth Westgate, Mrs. Rita Wallace.

**Montana, Idaho**
Charles Adams, Secretary, 106 S. Main St., Helena, Montana.

**Washington, Oregon**
Mrs. Myrtle Campbell, Secretary, 1315 E. 47th Street, Seattle, Washington. Mrs. Marjorie Taylor, Mrs. Louis Speno, Mrs. Clara Rainboth, Mrs. Hilda Wilks, Mrs. Lavina Spraf Walker, Levi Munson, Mrs. Marget Stange.

**Alaska**
Honor Kempton, Secretary, The Book Cache, Anchorage, Alaska.

Janet Whitenack, Betty Becker, Nina Lundquist, Mrs. Frances Wells.

**Baha’i Publications**
Fundamentals of Baha’i Membership—a teaching and study outline based on The Dispensation of Baha’u’llah, by Shoghi Effendi. The outline was prepared by the Study Outline Committee in 1939-1940 and the present edition has been simplified. Ten pages, mimeographed text, per copy, $0.20.

In addition to increasing monthly enrollment of individual new World Order subscribers for the coming Baha’i year, the editorial and business staffs hope that a substantial number of new subscriptions may be recorded for Organizations, University, College and Public Libraries.

Reflecting, as it does, the vital prophecies and teachings of Baha’u’llah, World Order Magazine is destined to experience growing popularity with library readers in search of enlightenment on the subject of world federation, unity of mankind and “The Most Great Peace” as foretold by Baha’u’llah nearly a century ago.

A powerful contributing factor towards attaining the much desired increase in library subscriptions for World Order lies in securing listings for the magazine in a publication called “Reader’s Guide to Periodical Literature.” This pub-
Photographs for the Bahá'í World

Material is now being collected for the Bahá'í World, Volume X. Will all who have photographs illustrating (1) summer school activities, (2) pageants, (3) exhibitions, (4) activities of traveling teachers or any other events or institutions of the Cause within the two year period March 21, 1942-March 29, 1944, please send them in with name and date of each.

The Guardian is giving great emphasis to the importance of the volume of The Bahá'í World in which these photographs will appear, as it will be the volume representing the last two years of the first century of the Bahá'í era. As the volume will contain some surveys of the whole century older photographs which have not appeared in previous volumes, are also desired. The committee will return your photographs if you request it.

Please send photographs to Mr. Victoria Bedikian, Little Falls, New Jersey or to Mrs. Anna Kunz, 714 Iowa St., Urbana, Illinois. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

—The Bahá'í World Editorial Committee

Bahá'í Summer Conference

Moose Mountain Provincial Park
Saskatchewan

PROGRAM
July 18, 8:00 P.M.
Welcome to Conference; outline of purpose and procedure; introduction to courses; announcements.

July 19-23
1. Study Course on "DEEPENING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE."
This is a course using the study outline of this title. The meetings will begin with prayers and suitable readings, followed by talks from various speakers and a discussion.

1. God's Will for Man; The Purpose of Creation; The Soul as Capacity to Know and Love God.

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On Solicitation of Funds

The new friends are reminded of the protection afforded to Bahá'ís in relation to their expenditure of funds for Bahá'í purposes. The only authorized agencies of the Cause receiving donations for Bahá'í use are the Treasurers of National and local Assemblies. If conditions arise in which the question is one of meeting individual cases of need and distress, believers should make sure that any appeals for personal help actually come from Bahá'ís and not from persons claiming membership in the Faith for a material motive. Every traveling believer should have proper credentials. As for solicitation of funds for purposes which non-Bahá'ís claim are for similar ends as those of the Cause, such claims have no real foundation. Only the Bahá'í community can achieve the goals established in the Bahá'í teachings.

Enrollments and Transfers

Enrollment of new believers reported by local Assemblies:


Enrollments by transfer reported by local Assemblies:


Enrollment of isolated believers in May—ten.

In Memoriam

"I testify, O my Lord, that Thou hast enjoined upon men to honor their guest, and that He hath ascended unto Thee verily reached Thee and attained Thy Presence. Deal with him then according to Thy grace and bounty!"

'Abdu'l-Bahá

Miss Jean Anthony, New York.

Mrs. Lucy B. Price, Circleville, Ohio.

Mrs. Lillian James Price, Newark.

Mrs. Clark R. Thompson, South Gate, California.

Mrs. Agnes Kahlke, Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Mrs. Rebecca Dixon, Hillsboro, New Brunswick.

Mrs. Gertrude Walker Crowley, Salem, Michigan.

Miss Florence A. Riedle, Chicago.

Mrs. Lily Bow, Houston.

Mrs. Lucille Bates, Minneapolis.

Mrs. Mable Ives, Glenview, Illinois.

Bahá'í Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Words, July 13; Perfection, August 1; Names, August 20.

Martyrdom of the Báb: July 9, at noon.

Summer School sessions: See announcements, June and July Bahá'í News.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: September 16, 17, 18, 19, 20.

Addresses for Service Men

American believers now abroad, who may have opportunity to call at Bahá'í Centers in Australia or New Zealand, will be interested in the following addresses. Though not recent addresses, information about the Bahá'í Centers can be obtained from:

Miss Hilda Brooks, Box 447 D, G. P. O., Adelaide, S. Australia.

Miss Dulcie Burns, P. O. Box 1906, Auckland, N. Z.

Miss Gladys Moody, 1st Floor, Piccadilly Arcade, Castleragh St., Sydney, N. S. W.

The End of Religious Schism

The sign of spiritual weakness in religion, marking the end of its ethical influence, has always been the appearance of schism—the division of the religious community into two or more independent bodies, each claiming equal authority and right. The history of the great religions makes it clear that such irretrievable breaks in the unity of faith do not occur until the faith has developed forms and practices outside and beyond the sacred text on which the religion is based.

Religious schism, that is, becomes possible only where there is honest ground for difference of opinion concerning vital truths, or justifiable conflict concerning the application of authority and power. Among the conditions which in the past have made for schism among followers of a Prophet are: the rise and undue development of a professional clergy; the substitution of attitudes toward the church for the fundamental revealed attitudes to God; the materialization of worship and its transformation from an inner spiritual experience into a form of economic exploitation; the seizure of power and authority by a class and the division of the community into privileged and unprivileged parties; the use of religious influence for the establishment of political policies; cruelty and immorality on the part of the professed leaders of the church; and unbridled personal ambition.

In the Bahá'í Faith we have religion established on a new and firm basis which eliminates the conditions which make schism possible or inevitable. Bahá'u'lláh has extended the power of divine truth and will from the realm of pure worship or general truth into the realm of social action. He created the office of Interpreter in the person of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and made obedience to 'Abdu'l-Bahá equivalent to obedience to Himself. He provided for the expression of His Faith in human action by creating social institutions endowed with authority in relation to actions but specifically deprived of power to alter, amend or add to the sacred text or introduce any new forms of worship. Aside from these institutions and such persons as, like 'Abdu'l-Bahá, were given unique power, the community of believers is composed of persons who are forever equal in their degree. No individual Bahá'í as such can ever claim authority over another.

In providing the truths, principles and institutions necessary for a World Faith, Bahá'u'lláh closed the door forever to any schismatic movement. No Bahá'í can ever pose as the apostle of freedom or the hero of justice in this religious community. The relation of the individual to mankind has been permanently defined, and no disturbance of an emotional nature or eruption of private conscience can produce the equivalent to those universal laws which Bahá'u'lláh Himself revealed.

The world's schismatic is prevented from operating in any area of darkness where the observer could be unable to distinguish between truth and falsehood, integrity and dishonor. The Bahá'í Faith has no realm of uncertainty and confusion where the schemer can lurk undetected, and no field of action where the rebel can foment disunity without involving the application of a final authority which every Bahá'í unequivalently recognizes and obeys.

The student who wishes to trace this truth throughout its historic Bahá'í pattern can turn to the writings of Bahá'u'lláh in which He condemns the schismatic and deniers in His mission; and can turn to the
The Bahá’í World Community

News of the activities of the Bahá’ís in India is very encouraging and reflects great loyalty and devotion to the Cause of God. The following excerpts are quoted from a letter addressed to the Guardian by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of India and Burma and dated May 25, 1942.

"As regards the progress of the Six-Year Plan two new Assemblies were elected on the 21 of April—in Hyderabad (Deccan) and in Kotah. In addition to Mr. Saroosh F. Yagangi and Mrs. Firuz Saroosh, who have settled in Bangalore, Mr. Isfandiar F. Yagangi from Poona and Mr. Rustam M. Sherafi from Bombay have gone with their families and settled in Panjgani. The two families have formed a group there and they hold meetings to which they invite others also.

"Dr. M. E. Lukmani has gone to Sholapur and has opened a homeopathic dispensary there. Attached to the dispensary he has a Bahá’í library where he invites people and holds talks with them.

"Dr. M. Jan from Calcutta has migrated from Calcutta and settled in Chapra, a town in Bihar. He has started a homeopathic dispensary and teaches the Divine Faith to the people.

"Messrs. Mihirban Jamshed and Shah Bahram Mazkoori have gone from Karachi to Multan for settlement. They have opened a business there and attached to it they have a Bahá’í library where they invite people and give them the Message of Bahá’u’lláh.

"We have a very wide and, we hope, an effective teaching scheme for next year. Mr. Ilmi is to be temporarily relieved of his editor’s duties and he may visit the places where new Assemblies and groups have been formed so that he may help them in consolidating and teaching the Faith in their respective localities.

"Mr. Abdullah Fazil who has gathered a group of educated Europeans and Indians around him in Bangalore may go to Kashmir and then to Punjab and Lucknow.

"Mr. Samadani may go on tour in Punjab, Sind and other places. Mr. Abul ‘Abbas Risiti may stay at Lahore where he will try to evolve the group into a spiritual Assembly. He will also visit the Mofassil towns in the Punjab.

"We hope these proposals will be approved and these teachers will soon start on their respective missions.

"We have also received with pleasure the Bahá’í News Letter of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of India and Burma, dated April, 1942. The following is a gist of its contents:

The program of the Symposium was suggested and prepared by the National Youth Committee and consisted of the following items:
1. Seventh Bahá’í Youth Day on February 22, 1942.

The following two telegrams were exchanged between the National Youth Committee and the Guardian:
"Bahá’í Youth offer love and devotion and held a symposium symposium supplicate prayers confirmation."

"Assure Bahá’í Youth deepest appreciation praying success symposium aim to persevere."

As an example of unity in diversity it is interesting to note that Bahá’í addresses were delivered in no less than five different languages. Here is an illustration:

A talk on "The Most Great Peace" was delivered in Gujarati, "The New World Order" in Persian, "Universal Peace" in Urdu, "Renewal of Religion" in Bengali and "An Economic Solution" in English.

The leading local papers in Bombay, Karachi and Poona published notices about the Symposium and appreciative notes and comments about the Bahá’í Faith. The Bombay Sentinel wrote about a column under the headline "Follow Bahá’u’lláh—Avert War" and the "Sunday Standard" (of Bombay) gave a summary of the speeches under the heading "The Bahá’í Idea."

Annual Reports of Local Assemblies

A number of the local Assemblies have sent in brief but general surveys of their community activities during the year ended April 21, and excerpts from these will be issued in Bahá’í News through successive months.

Assemblies which have not yet made their annual report are requested to submit one at their early convenience.

COLUMBUS, OHIO

The Assembly sponsored 7 public meetings. Among the guests were Mrs. Bolles, Miss Bolles and Mrs. Powell, who returned from the Convention: later Prince Nwafor Orizu of Nigeria, Mrs. Della C. Quinlan of New York and Dayton, Mr. Schurgast of Cincinnati, O. The 3 other public meetings were held in homes of believers and local friends took part in the program.

The Teaching Committee was responsible for open meetings during the Intercalary Days, when each day a meeting was held. Those days were looked forward to by the believers each year bringing a closer unity among the friends and a deeper understanding of the Teachings. A regular weekly study class was held, mostly attended by believers only. While a followup class was held, also an Administration class, but because of lack of attendance was discontinued. A Sunday-morning-prayer-meeting was held during last summer and fall, and those attending expressed their spiritual as well as material refreshments they had received from the gatherings. For several months a public-speaking class was held un-
der the guidance and assistance of the Regional Teaching Committee's secretary. This class was most stimulating and students regretted that each meeting had a closing time.

KENOSHA, WISCONSIN

Every Sunday evening our public service is held in Bahá'í Hall and an out-of-town speaker, when available, gives the address.

- Occasionally mid-week lectures are held when we can secure some prominent out-of-town Bahá'í teacher. A series of five talks (one each week) brought many visitors to our Hall.

Our Extension Teaching Committee sponsored a series of Temple talks with slides in nearby towns, namely: Salem, Union Grove, Lake Geneva and Burlington. Racine Assembly cooperated in this and Mr. Ed Struven gave the talks.

A very inspiring Sunrise Prayer meeting was enjoyed by all present, on the shores of Lake Michigan, after which breakfast was served while the sun was coming up.

Our annual picnic was held at Brown's Lake, near Burlington and many were in attendance.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

The Teaching Committee held weekly meetings during the early part of the summer and began a formal series of study classes in October, commencing with a public meeting in the Marlborough Hotel. The latter was attended by about 30 people and about 12 people came at various times to the continuing weekly study course held in 203 Paris Building. The Assembly undertook the rental of this room as a central location easily accessible during the winter months. In addition to a steady attendance of our own members an average of four non-Bahá'ís came to this study class consistently. This group gave opportunity to all the Bahá'ís to take part in preparation and presentation of material in the class.

The Youth Group, beginning with an informal fireside group at the home of Mrs. Jean Johnston, evolved into a study class in Bahá'í Principles and is now undertaking a special research along Race Unity lines. A public symposium, planned to coincide with the Annual Bahá'í Youth Day throughout the World, was held in room 203 Paris Building and was attended by 23 people including the Bahá'ís. This group has attracted upwards of 15 young people. Most of them are making a sympathetic and practical approach to Bahá'í principles.

The Children's Committee began a weekly class activity which has been consistently attended by three and four children at the home of Miss Stella Pollexfen.

The Race Unity Committee made preliminary contacts with the Canadian Unity Council which may be of value in developing race unity work next year.

The community strengthened its connection with larger fields of Bahá'í work outside the community by the participation of eight of its members in the Summer Conference at Clear Lake last summer, arranged by the Regional Teaching Committee for Manitoba and Saskatchewan. It also undertook financial support for the Regina Teaching Project of Mrs. Ruby China. During the year we welcomed Anne McGee and Evelyn Cliff of Vancouver, Ruby China of West Vancouver, Lauretta Voelz of Kenosha, Wis., and Lulu Barr of Saskatoon, all of whom paid us brief visits and contributed their share to our knowledge of and connection with other Bahá'í communities.

HELENA, MONTANA

There was no Radio broadcast this year. The Local Radio Company are not permitted to sell time to Religious Organizations and we refused any time of the “Religious hour” conducted by the Ministerial Association.

Good newspaper publicity has been had during the year; about thirty news and publicity items were given us in both the local newspapers.

Two new members were gained this year; our methods in increasing the community apparently are slow, but those that have been added are of capacity and firmness.

Two youths have declared their intention to become Bahá'ís upon reaching the necessary age.

Many contacts have been made with the Negro and Chinese people of Helena, and literature has been given them, but no fruits have appeared.

PORTLAND, OREGON

All the public meetings were held at Hall 210A, Studio Building, 919 S.W. Taylor Street. A series of printed programs was prepared and distributed. The local Bahá'í speakers who took part in one or more programs were Levi Munson, Lucien B. Nash, Dr. Henry Dale, George Latimer, Curtia Taylor, Alice Roberts, Rachel Porter, Dr. Chester Easter, Florence Campbell, Solvig Corbit and Ella and Lillie Meissner. Visiting speakers were Mr. Leroy Ioas of San Francisco, Mark Toboy of Seattle, Mrs. Ruth Stephenson and Dr. Harry Taylor, who gave several fine lectures during the year.

Due to the severe storm in January several meetings had to be given up.

Several special meetings were held during the year. A social gathering to interest new friends was held at the Easter home on May 21st, with as many guests as believers and Mark Toboy gave a fine talk on “Oneness”. The friends enjoyed an evening at the Stephenson home as their guests and a special meeting was arranged at the Young home to meet Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Kelsey of West Englewood, New Jersey. Mr. Kelsey showed his colored pictures of Haifa and the Temple and moving pictures of the various Trustee properties were also shown and a delightful evening was passed.

The community was host to a meeting of the Regional Teaching Committee of Washington and Oregon at the Feast of September 5, 1942 held in the Young home. In the absence of Leroy Ioas, George Latimer of the National Teaching Committee, led the interesting discussion on our local and national teaching problems. Visiting believers to this conference were: Marjorie Taylor of Tacoma, Mr. and Mrs. Wilks and their daughter, Myrtle Campbell, Hazel Stauter and Mrs. Clifton of Seattle, Lorrol Luther of Everett, Mrs. Ethel Edell of Pasadena and Mr. and Mrs. John Clifters of Corvallis. Alta Krueger, a member of the RTC took an active part in the discussion. Levi Munson is the other member from our community on this Committee and has attended meetings in Seattle. The Latimer family attended the Fall Conference of the RTC of British Columbia and Alberta in Chilliwack and reported on the activities of this group. The need for more group and fire-side teaching meetings and a larger attendance to our public meetings appear to be the need for the coming year.
VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Special emphasis having been placed in the past year, both by the Guardian and the National Spiritual Assembly, for the need of pioneers in other areas, we are happy to report the following members of this community answered this urgent call. Miss Eve Cliff obtained an exchange of school for one year and journeyed to Calgary. Mrs. Anne McGee also resigned her position here and left for Calgary. Mrs. Moscrop returned to Regina and way points. Her stay helped to keep the Faith in the minds of the contacts she had made previously. Miss Muriel Warnicker spent several months in Edmonton and presented the Baha'i Faith to many people. During her visit she was ably assisted by Mrs. Marcia Atwater, and their work is now showing great results. Mr. Cliff Gardner, who was a member of this Community for a time and who later left for Chilliwack, returned to Vancouver for his marriage which was held under the auspices of the Baha'is, and then left to pioneer in Calgary also. This exodus to Calgary we anticipate will bring forth great results.

A Conference held in Chilliwack was attended by several Vancouver members and their friends, also visitors from Portland, Vernon, Calgary and Armstrong. This Conference was extremely invigorating.

During the year we were privileged to receive visits from Mrs. Marcia Atwater who met the Baha'is on her trip to Edmonton and spoke at a semi-public meeting on her return. We were intensely interested to hear of her work in Chile and Edmonton. Mr. and Mrs. Latimer and Mr. George Latimer paid us one of their valuable visits after attending the Conference at Chilliwack. A public meeting was arranged and Mr. George Latimer gave one of his enlightening talks. Miss Doris Skinner of Calgary also visited Vancouver after the Chilliwack Conference. She attended the Public Meeting and also spoke at other meetings while here.

Two other visitors were entertained from Portland during the summer of 1942. Mr. Rowland Estall of Winnipeg paid us a short visit and gave us an interesting insight into the valuable work being done by the friends in Winnipeg. He also stressed the need for pioneers for Regina and Mrs. China of West Vancouver has recently answered this call.

The Teaching Committee arranged most interesting programs during the year and weekly meetings are still being carried on. A most interesting evening was spent when a large number of members met the Hon: Dr. Shih, Chinese Consul General to Canada, when he, as guest speaker, gave an interesting talk on the religions of China. He expressed his great interest in the gathering and stated he would be happy to meet with us again. A book was presented to him as a token of appreciation for his kindness in speaking to the Group. Another evening was well attended by Baha'is and friends when Mrs. Steeves gave a talk on Russia which brought forth some interesting lights showing the changes which have taken place in that vast country. In addition to this two members carried on Fireside Groups in their homes.

An Esperanto class, held in the Baha'i Room, has been sponsored by this Assembly, and as well as learning this International Language it is felt many contacts may be attracted to the Cause of Baha'u'llah through this medium. Some students have already attended some weekly meetings and others are asking questions and reading literature.

(To be continued)
Messages From the Guardian

“Inform believers that local Assemblies may be formed as soon as nine or more believers are available without postponing the election until April, in order to speed and stimulate the teaching work in the last year of the first century.”

Received June 24, 1943

The next message is in reply to a question addressed to Shoghi Effendi inquiring whether members of local Assemblies desiring to pioneer may resign from their administrative post. “I approve resignation provided the Assembly is not dissolved.”

Received June 25, 1943

“I greatly rejoice in the vigorous manifold measures undertaken to insure the success of the forthcoming Celebration. Though physically absent I will participate in spirit in the rejoicing and thanksgiving for the signal victories of the American Bahá’í community crowning the first Bahá’í Century.”

Received July 2, 1943

On August 2 a brief message came stating that “Bahá’í National Headquarters have been established in Delhi.”

“The American believers’ seven year enterprise consecrated to the service of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh, deriving direct inspiration from ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Divine Plan, launched on the eve of the world catastrhonic conflict, recognized as the greatest collective undertaking in the annals of the first Bahá’í Century, is rapidly culminating. Their sister communities of Persia, British Isles, Egypt, Irã, India, Syria, Australia and New Zealand marvel at the scale of the prodigious labors of the American Bahá’í community, grateful for rejoicing at the accumulating evidences of its incomparable victories and are galvanized into action, inspired to emulate its example. The multiplication of Bahá’í centers in recent years in both East and West, the erection of administrative headquarters, the purchase of historic sites, the settlement of virgin areas, the migration into neighboring territories are all directly attributable to the potent impulse communicated through the superb action initiated and executed by the American adherents of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. The initial stages of the momentous plan have been brilliantly executed. The most formidable obstacles impeding its progress have been courageously faced and progressively swept away. Its first fruits, exemplified by the completion of the exterior ornamentation of the Temple and the formation of a nucleus of the Faith in every Republic of Latin America, have been triumphant gathered. The pivotal year marking the turning point of its fortunes has been immortalized by the unparalleled exploit of the formation of twenty-eight Assemblies in the States and Provinces of the North American continent. The range of its unfinished tasks is swiftly diminishing. Total victory is within sight but the six remaining virgin areas of Alaska, Saskatchewan, Prince Edward Island, South Carolina, North Dakota and South Dakota, as well as the inadequately reinforced Republics of Nicaragua, San Domingo, Paraguay, Bolivia, Venezuela and Peru still demand the concentrated and sustained attention of the National representatives of the American Bahá’í community, the speedy assistance of the National Teaching and Inter-America Committees, and the systematic support of all subsidiary agencies both regional and local. The goal cities and the far-off Republics are calling for fresh recruits to complete the pioneer roll of honor. Veteran believers, however brilliant their record, neo-phyes, however limited their experience, are alike summoned as the final hour approaches to rush forth in a last supreme effort to bridge the remaining gaps in the spiritual front extending the entire length of the Western Hemisphere. I am ardently supplicating fresh outpourings of the sustaining grace of the Lord of Hosts to enable His stalwart warriors befittingly to consummate the crowning crusade of the first century of the Bahá’í Era.”

Received August 2, 1943

Letter From the National Spiritual Assembly

Beloved Co-workers and Friends:

We enter now the decisive part of this portentous Bahá’í year when our collective efforts for the Cause are to be fulfilled in the celebration of the Centenary of the Declaration of the Báb. We are acting as a united body in the carrying out of a teaching plan embracing the entire community of North America, and calling for the concentration of our full resources of mind and heart.

The theme of the oneness of mankind—race unity—demands our devoted attention and endeavor throughout September and October, the fundamental teaching of the Faith, its most challenging principle, its swift healing antidote for the ills of a divided world.

Two aspects of the new teaching plan merit careful consideration; first, the importance of the opportunity offered for far more effective public teaching work than we have ever had before. It is the time to improve our methods and attain a truly impressive standard of public presentation. Not only the local Assemblies but also the National Committees are fully involved, since it is the Committees which are responsible for the development of new and more extensive teaching material.

Second, the significance of the theme itself, not only in the light of the revealed Teachings but also in relation to the ominous manifestations of inter-racial bitterness which at present suggest the approach of a crucial stage in the ordered life of the nation. As was pointed out
during the course of the Bahá’í Race Unity Conference held at Green Acre this summer, the matter of race relations in America has become a world issue. The peoples look to North America for proofs of justice, esteem and spiritual fellowship among the races. When such proofs are forthcoming, the peoples will have a basis for hope in the development of true peace. Therefore our Bahá’í understanding and energetic effort in the promotion of the principle of the oneness of mankind represents a direct and indirect contribution to world justice and peace possessing incalculable possibility.

In “The Advent of Divine Justice” Shoghi Effendi calls race unity “the most vital and challenging issue confronting the Bahá’í community at the present stage of its evolution.” Continuing he declares: “The ceaseless exertions which this issue of paramount importance calls for, the sacrifices it must impose, the care and vigilance it demands, the moral courage and fortitude it requires, the tact and sympathy it necessitates, invest this problem, which the American believers are still far from having satisfactorily resolved, with an urgency and importance that can not be over-estimated. White and Negro, high and low, young and old, whether newly converted to the Faith or not, all who stand identified with it must participate in, and lend their assistance, each according to his or her capacity, experience, and opportunities, to the common task of fulfilling the instructions, realizing the hopes, and following the example, of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

“Freedom from racial prejudice, in any of its forms, should, at such a time as this when an increasingly large section of the human race is falling a victim to its devastating ferocity, be adopted as the watchword of the entire body of the American believers, in whichever state they reside, in whatever circles they move, whatever their age, traditions, tastes, and habits. It should be consistently demonstrated in every phase of their activity and life, whether in the Bahá’í community or outside it, in public or in private, formally as well as informally, individually as well as in their official capacity as organized groups, committees and Assemblies.”

May every Assembly, group and individual believer find the wisest and most effective manner to serve this most urgent call in relation to the conditions existing in their own locality and their own personal lives. May Bahá’u’lláh accept us and use us as instruments for the expression of His will!

Devotedly your co-workers,
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Convention Resolutions

The National Spiritual Assembly reports on actions taken after consultation on the various Resolutions duly voted by the Annual Convention of 1943.

1. No action taken on the recommendation that believers be appointed to give full time to the promotion of Green Acre.

2. The recommendation that a National Committee be appointed to design Bahá’í cards for Bahá’í occasions was referred to the Publishing Committee.

3. It is recorded that the recommendation that the Radio Committee be requested to report the cost of a nation-wide radio talk was incorporated into the matters which the Radio Committee has been requested to consider.

4. It is recorded that the National Assembly has already acted on the matter of adopting a plan for National radio talks this year.

5. Mr. Allen B. McDaniel has been requested to give the Radio Committee a copy of his radio address on the Temple as delivered during the Convention period, that copies may be made available for use by other believers.

6. It is recorded that action has been taken on the recommendation that a bulletin be prepared containing information about radio teaching.

7. Action has been taken on the recommendation that the text of all new pamphlets on the subject of Peace and other subjects of general public interest and importance be printed in World Order Magazine.

8. A special Committee has been requested to submit plans for the improvement of Temple Foundation Hall, in accordance with the recommendation that the Hall be done over for the Centenary meetings next year.

9. A special Committee has been appointed to submit plans on ways and means for the exhibition and preservation of the sacred relics in the Archives, as recommended by the Convention.

10. No action was taken on the resolution recommending that a Bahá’í meeting place be established at all Army camps.

11. No action was taken on the recommendation that the grove at West Englewood, where the Master held the Unity Feast in 1912, be turned into a public park. This grove is part of the property held by National Bahá’í Trustees, and the Guardian has designated this property as the site of a future Memorial to ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s American visit.

12. Concerning the recommendation that all believers be provided with an identification card, it was voted by the National Spiritual Assembly, in working out details for the 1944 Convention, to include a method for establishing the Bahá’í status of the delegates and Bahá’í guests for attendance at the business sessions of the Convention.

Pioneer Teachers and Administrative Responsibility

A believer who wishes to volunteer for pioneer teaching work, but has certain responsibilities in the Bahá’í community, can carry out his or her intention after taking steps to satisfy such responsibilities.

If a member of a local Spiritual Assembly, the believer is permitted to resign under an instruction from the Guardian, recently received, with the condition that the resignation does not dissolve the Assembly. This means that the Assembly can accept and act upon a resignation made by one of its members in order to be free to leave the city for a teaching post elsewhere.

If the believer is a member of a National Committee, he or she is to submit the resignation in writing to the Secretary of the National Spiritual Assembly, who is authorized to advise the believer that the resignation will be accepted at the next meeting of the NSA.

To Achieve Our Goals

Beloved Friends:

The hopes of the Guardian for an early conclusion of the Seven Year
Plan are now clear before us. By permitting the election of Spiritual Assemblies, as soon as nine believers can be found in a community, he has thrown open the doors. It is anticipated that the believers of Fargo, N. D. and Anchorage, Alaska, will soon have availed themselves of this thrilling opportunity, and that the friends in the six remaining virgin Provinces and States will quickly follow in their path.

Which of these six shall be the first to organize? Which shall be the last? How quickly can all the goals be reached? These are the challenging questions which the Guardian’s action has raised. These are the questions which every believer must be revolving in his mind and heart at this critical hour. For the time to share in these historic tasks is rapidly passing. Only those who hasten to the goal cities will be able to participate in their completion, and only those who determine to settle in the next few weeks will be forever remembered among the pioneers of the Seven Year Plan.

Now that the National Assembly has unfolded the prospect of a vast nation-wide public teaching campaign, the importance of a speedy conclusion of the Plan is evident to us all. Only when Assemblies have been safely elected in each of the remaining areas can the American Bahá’í Community, with a clear heart, expend its undiminished energies in this campaign to crown the hundredth year with total victory.

For these reasons the National Teaching Committee is calling upon the friends to provide all the necessary moves at the earliest date, they can never exceed the magnificent deeds of souls like Mabel Ives, those who have dedicated their lives to the triumph of the Seven Year Plan. The singleness of Mrs. Ives to the fulfillment of the Guardian’s hopes for North America will be remembered in years to come. Her achievements in numerous virgin States and Provinces are yet to be recounted. Throughout the entire course of the first six years of the Plan she gave her energies, her time, and her spirit. It is surely significant that her passing should have been in Oklahoma City, the first of the Assemblies to be pioneered and organized under the Plan. Not until the last hour did her labors cease. She was an example to us all.

Beloved friends, a statement of the needs of the six remaining States and Provinces accompanies this article. It should be noted that Halifax, Nova Scotia has been added since our last report, having reverted to group status. These long-sought goals can and must be reached by September.

Meanwhile, a great and continuing need is for circuit teachers to strengthen and aid our newly-won Assemblies. Fifteen of the Assemblies formed in the sixth and seventh years have eleven or less believers.

With these facts in mind, which of us can escape the urgency of the Guardian’s call? “I appeal to the standard-bearers of Bahá’u’lláh’s ever-advancing army to safeguard the spiritual prizes already won. . . I entreat them to exert still more magnificent efforts to discharge befittingly the one remaining responsibility in the North American continent.”

All offers to settle or teach should be sent at once to Miss Charlotte Linfoot, Secretary, National Teaching Committee, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, California.

—National Teaching Committee

Bahá’í Publications

Peace: A Divine Creation, a pamphlet compiled to meet the
need for the Bahá’í attitude on peace and future world order. Contains selections from the Writings of Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, with the Guardian’s statement on world order. Ten copies for $1.00.

The World Faith of Bahá’u’lláh, four-page folder summarizing the aims, teachings, history and administrative order of the Faith prepared by the National Spiritual Assembly. For general teaching and publicity use. A suitable enclosure with programs and announcements distributed by mail, and adapted for contact work. 100 copies for $2.00.


Teaching Literature

In connection with the function of the Committee on Pamphlet Literature, the National Spiritual Assembly has approved the following plan for the distribution of teaching literature to the smaller communities without cost.

1. The following pamphlets are now available, and new titles will be announced from time to time: The Manifestation, The Laboratory of Life, Principles of the Bahá’í Faith, World Religion, Three Spiritual Truths. Further information about the contents of these pamphlets can be found in the Bahá’í Catalog.

2. A quantity of one or more of the pamphlets, up to a value of $5.00, will be sent on request to Assemblies of communities having not over 25 members.

3. To obtain a supply of the literature for teaching use, the local Assembly is to apply directly to the National Office, and the Publishing Committee will be authorized to ship the pamphlets and charge the cost to a special budget of $2,500 which has been established for that purpose.

4. The purpose of these grants of free literature is to assist the smaller communities to augment their teaching effort. The pamphlets can be used in connection with public or fireside meetings, and for distribution by individual believers to personal contacts.

The Báb Reveals His Commentary

“It was still early in the afternoon when the Báb requested Háji Mírzá Siyyid ‘Ali to bring His pen-case and some paper. He then started to reveal His commentary on the Suríh of Kawsar. How am I to describe this scene of inexpressible majesty? Verses streamed from His pen with a rapidity that was truly astounding. The incredible swiftness of His writing, the soft and gentle murmur of His voice, and the stupendous force of His style, amazed and bewildered me. He continued in this manner until the approach of sunset. He did not pause until the entire commentary of the Suríh was completed. He then laid down His pen and asked for tea. Soon after, He began to read it aloud in my presence. My heart leaped madly as I heard Him pour out, in accents of unutterable sweetness, those treasures enshrined in that sublime commentary. I was so entranced by its beauty that three times over I was on the verge of fainting. He sought to revive my failing strength with a few drops of rose water which He caused to be sprinkled on my face. This restored my vigor and enabled me to follow His reading to the end.”—The Dawn-Breakers, 175-176.

Inter-America News

Guatemala

The members of the newly formed Spiritual Assembly of Guatemala are enthusiastically carrying out their new responsibilities, and we pray that their united efforts for the progress of the Cause will attract bountiful spiritual confirmations. Delightful letters have come from Sr. Batres, Secretary of the Assembly, and Clarence Iverson, of San Salvador, who with his mother visited in Guatemala City for several days.

Mr. Iverson took with him his collection of slides of the Bahá’í Temple, which he presented for the pleasure of the local friends. Other opportunities to show the Temple slides were given, through the courtesy of the Theosophical Lodge on one occasion, and to a group of North Americans now living in Guatemala City on another, with much enjoyment of these pictures of the first American Bahá’í House of Worship evidenced by those attending these meetings.

Honduras

The activity of the Bahá’ís in Honduras is a truly inspiring joy to us all. Sr. Santos Domínguez has contributed a valuable booklet, entitled “Primer Centenario,” to the growing supply of Bahá’í literature in Spanish. Sr. Domínguez has incorporated in this booklet the history of the development of the Cause in Honduras, together with a statement of the Teachings translated from our own literature. Another enterprise initiated in Tegucigalpa is a monthly Bulletin issued by Sr. Viana to be sent to all the believers as a means of keeping them in touch with the activities of the Cause. Sr. Viana writes that the “Primer Centenario” has been forwarded to many friends interested in the Faith throughout Honduras. Photographs of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, together with grateful appreciations from the Committee were sent to both of these devoted servants of Bahá’u’lláh.

New Assemblies

The Spiritual Assembly of Santiago, Chile, is now functioning very well. With this objective achieved, the National Spiritual Assembly has approved a project to send Miss Virginia Orbison to carry on the work in Asuncion, Paraguay. Miss Orbison writes us that she has been meeting many new people recently in Santiago, and that Mrs. Atwater has been able to enlarge the teaching scope through radio broadcasts. These are splendid foundations upon which the new Assembly can build their teaching work.

John Stearns was elated to report the confirmation of a new believer, Mrs. Huber, in Quito, Ecuador. The
long-coveted goal of a Spiritual Assembly there is now accomplished and our congratulations and loving greetings are joyously sent to the Quito friends.

Panama

A severe attack of asthma necessitated our dear Miss Sholtis' return from Venezuela. After a period of treatment in Panama failed to relieve her sufficiently to return to her post she followed the advice of physicians and was accompanied by Mrs. Louise Caswell on the trip home. We are happy to report that Miss Sholtis is now greatly improved and is recuperating at the home of her sister in Cicero, Illinois. She left a number of people in Caracas deeply interested in the Cause, and one believer, a beautiful young girl who, in the course of her Bahá'í study is radiant at being able to name the months of the Bahá'í Calendar in three languages—her native Spanish, English, and Persian!

Mrs. Caswell's aid to Gwennie Sholtis has provided us with the unexpected pleasure of having a first hand account of the teaching work being done in Panama. Mrs. Cora Oliver and Mrs. Caswell share an attractive apartment which is also the local Bahá'í Center. Meetings are held twice a week, providing one evening in which the Teachings are given in Spanish, the other conducted in English. All of the registered believers do not live in one area and thus there is no Assembly yet, but Mrs. Caswell tells us that she and Mrs. Oliver are very hopeful that shortly there will be additional registrations to make the establishment of an Assembly possible. During Mrs. Caswell's brief visit here we received the good news that Miss Julia Regal has obtained a position in Panama and will soon join the group there.

Salvador

A stimulating report of the school in San Salvador comes from Clarence Iverson, who describes it as both a "Bahá'í school and a philanthropic institution." This school is for boys who lacked the means to complete their education, fills this need and combines with it the teaching of the Bahá'í Principles. The following courses are now being given: "Bahá'í Culture; English; shorthand; Radio Telegraphy; Arithmetic, First Aid (Salvador Red Cross) and Grammar."

No charges are made for the classes, but a charge of a few cents per month is made to defray the expenses of the hall, chairs, lights and similar upkeep.

Jamaica

Dr. Malcolm King continues to have the excellent support of the press in Kingston, and in addition to a personal interview on the Bahá'í Faith, was graciously given space in three issues of the Jamaica Daily Gleaner. He mentioned the selection of "The Bahá'í Pattern for Future Society" as the topic for one of these articles.

The Committee is grateful to receive from the National Spiritual Assembly the French translation of the "World Economy of Bahá'u'lláh" which will be of great teaching assistance in the areas where literature in French is required.

INTER-AMERICA COMMITTEE

Bahá'í Bibliography

Will Bahá'ís please be on the lookout for references to our Faith by non-Bahá'ís in non-Bahá'í books and magazines and report the same to Bertha H. Kirkpatrick, Olivet, Mich. The title, publisher and date of publication should be included and the page on which reference is found. Such references are for use in Bahá'í Bibliography in Volume X.
Race Unity Committee Offers
New Compilation

The theme assigned for the first of the series of four public meetings for the year is Race Unity, "the Watchword" of American Bahá’ís. Our own racial solidarity and our approach to the coming racial solidarity of the whole world is a challenge to every Bahá’í committee and group to look first at its own defenses and having made doubly certain that they are sincere and strong, to offer the very essence of that strength to the public.

This Centennial year is a time of ringing triumph, a time to point to a world commonwealth that brooks no compromise with the old divisions, but stands its ground firmly, a living, growing thing, completely whole in its growing, proving by its own single-heartedness its right to lead the world to peace.

Second only to teaching unity by community example comes the opportunity to offer speakers, and to ourselves be voices on this great subject. The new compilation will be of the greatest assistance here. Arranged by Mrs. Alice Cox and Mrs. Mae Harvey Gift, the Race Unity Committee last year submitted it for publication. It is now in published form under the title "Race and Man." Every community and group is urged to provide this reading now, and many of the friends will surely wish to individually own copies. It contains a mine of references, both Bahá’í and general, on the subject of Race Unity and without a doubt all libraries, schools, social workers, and public minded people would be happy to receive them. It offers a fine contact with minority leaders of every description in your city. The Race Unity Committee would deeply appreciate hearing from the groups and Assemblies who have successfully placed copies of the compilation.

Appeal for Inter-America
Pioneers

The Inter-America Committee must have assistance in the teaching field in Latin America. There are four countries which have not yet reached the goal set for the Seven Year Plan. These are Peru, Venezuela, Colombia and San Domingo. The requirements are two native believers. This committee can only entertain applications made exclusively for Inter-America teaching work. No application can be considered for a stay of less than one year. We would particularly desire one of our men teachers for Paraguay, someone who could remain there. There are a number of people interested but we need a permanent resident. Please address at once the secretary of the committee.

MRS. NELLIE S. FRENCH,
786 Chester Ave.,
San Marino, 9, Calif.

Child Education

During the past year the Committee on Child Education attempted to gather a census of the children of Bahá’ís. We are happy to report our findings. We have divided the children into four age-groups: Pre-school; five to eight years, inclusive; nine to twelve years, inclusive; and thirteen to fifteen years. There are now registered in these groups the following numbers of children:

- Pre-school .......................... 53
- 5-8 yrs. .......................... 87
- 9-12 yrs. .......................... 88
- 13-15 yrs. .......................... 76
- Total ................................ 304

These figures, of course, will be constantly changing, but we feel that they are of very great present interest as they clearly indicate the need for educational material suitable to the requirements of children under fifteen.

We wish to thank all the friends who cooperated so wonderfully during the past year and made this census possible.

The committee has several requests to make. First, will all of you who have ideas for books or lesson plans for children please get them down on paper and send them to this committee? We should like to have many manuscripts from which to select a few to recommend for publication these coming months. Please keep in mind the age grouping and aim your work at one of these groups. Some working ideas we have considered are: a child's history of the Cause, the story of the Temple, stories from the Dawn-Breakers, etc. We are sure that we shall be flooded with perfectly splendid material!

Second, material and data are required for inclusion in the next volume of Bahá’í World, such as reports of activities, pictures of children's groups and classes, etc. Please send anything you have of this nature to Mrs. David S. Ruhe, 840 Cherry St., N. W., Atlanta, Georgia.

Third, we hope that the friends will continue in the fine cooperative spirit and help us to keep our census file up to date by reporting new arrivals, changes of address, etc. to this committee.

Our primary objective this year is to produce at least one book for children, and we are now hard at work on a book for children in the five to eight year group, and pray that it may be published before the great Centennial celebration in 1944.

CHILD EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Roberta K. Christian, Sec.
959 Lancaster Ave.
Syracuse, 10, N. Y.

Seven Valleys and
Four Valleys

The friends are advised that the National Spiritual Assembly has received word from the Guardian which explains that the Seven Valleys and the Four Valleys revealed by Bahá’ulláh are separate Tablets, and not a continuity of one Tablet. His words are: "The 'Seven Valleys' and the 'Four Valleys' should be regarded as independent Tablets, as they were revealed to different people."

A Card Record of
Believers' Qualifications

The National Spiritual Assembly would like to suggest that local Assemblies consider the possibility of preparing a set of reference cards, one for each member of the community, listing their qualifications and experience in relation to different types of Bahá’í activity. Any As-
Election of Local Assemblies

The attention of the believers is called to that message from the Guardian received June 24 which states that local Assemblies may be formed this year as soon as nine or more believers are available, waiting until April 21, 1944.

Regional Committees on request will be given copies of the bulletin outlining the method of forming a new Assembly and of the Assembly Roll form so that the qualified groups can report their election and obtain the recognition of the National Spiritual Assembly.

Suggestions Requested Concerning Centenary Program

In the Guardian’s letter outlining the meeting to be held in Temple Foundation Hall on the evening of May 22, 1944, he instructs that the believers be asked to submit their suggestions regarding the nature of the program. Members of local communities are to submit their ideas through the local Assembly. Other believers can address their suggestions to the Bahá’í Centenary Committee. It is hoped that many helpful ideas will be received.

New Basis of Annual Election

The Guardian’s instruction concerning the election of delegates to the 1944 Convention as representatives of States and Provinces rather than local communities has been receiving careful study by the National Spiritual Assembly. Certain specific points have been referred back to the Guardian for further elucidation in order to prepare the way for calling for the election of delegates next Spring.

Suggestions From Contacts Committee

1. The Contacts Committee offers its service to those in virgin areas and small communities. If they will send to this Committee a list of the outstanding civic and humanitarian leaders, doctors, lawyers, engineers and educators, such persons will be contacted, and thus pave the way for further contact by traveling teachers and regionally-selected people of capacity.

2. It may be well to repeat a thought emphasized at the Convention; which is, that when one has in mind the contacting of a Government official, unless one has an ordinary direct personal relationship with such person, he should write the National Contacts Committee, submitting this name and address. The Contacts Committee will in turn write the National Spiritual Assembly, as a special committee has been appointed by the National Spiritual Assembly, of its own body, to make certain special public contacts to bring the Bahá’í Peace Message to influential groups and public figures.

In Memoriam

“I testify, O my Lord, that Thou hast enjoined upon men to honor their guest, and he that hath ascended unto Thee hath verily reached Thee and attained Thy presence. Deal with him then according to Thy grace and bounty!”

‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Mrs. Annie K. Lewis, New York.
Mrs. Emma Idella Ralph, Portland.
Mr. Robert L. Gulick, Tryon, N.C.
Mrs. Hattie Vaupel, Louisville.
Mrs. Margaret Elizabeth Schneider, Richmond Highlands.
Miss Joanne Doris Svendsen, Madison.
Mrs. Marie Selectman, Indianapolis.
Mr. William Jackson, Dayton.
Mr. W. J. Bean, San Francisco.
Mr. R. G. Jeffery, Atascadero, Calif.
Mrs. Josephine Hall Clark, Denver.
Mrs. Mary Allen Smith, Newark.
Mrs. Ida Jellett, Richmond Highlands.
Mrs. Effie Goldthorp, Helena.
Mr. Sydney Sprague, Los Angeles.
Enrollments and Transfers

Enrollment of new believers reported by local Assemblies:

- Chicago, eight.
- New York, three.
- Washington, two.
- Atlanta, one.
- San Francisco, one.
- Houston, one.
- Boise, one.
- Portland, one.
- Lima, one.
- Glendale, one.
- Yonkers, one.
- New Haven, one.
- New Orleans, one.
- Detroit, two.

Enrollments by transfer reported by local Assemblies:

- New York, three.
- Yonkers, one.
- Portland, one.
- Washington, three.
- Chicago, one.
- Los Angeles, one.
- Cleveland, one.
- Detroit, one.
- Birmingham, one.

Enrollment of isolated believers in July, fifteen.

Bahá'í Directory

Revisions received since the publication of the Assembly Roll and National Committee appointments in the July issue:

- Detroit, Mrs. Etta J. Catlin, Corresponding Secretary, 2367 Woodstock Drive, Detroit, 3.
- Denver, Mrs. Mildred H. Clark, Secretary, Bahá'í House, 821 Marion Street, Denver, 3.
- Providence, William Doull, Secretary, 92 University Avenue.
- International Auxiliary Language Committee: Herbert Seidler unable to serve.
- Regional Teaching Committee of Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Artemus Lamb, Secretary, 2138 Glenarm Street, Denver, 5, Colo.

Bahá'í Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Might, September 8; Will, September 27; Knowledge, October 16.

Anniversaries: Birth of the Báb, October 20.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: September 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, at Wilmette.

Greeting From Youth Committee of Persia

Dear Beloved Friends,

With hearts overflowing with joy and ecstasy, the entire Bahá'í youths in Persia rejoice at the news of the glorious consummation of the beloved Temple Edifice which is the concrete expression representing the fundamental principle of the unity of mankind.

Words are inadequate indeed to convey to you the extent of our abounding love and admiration for this magnificent achievement or to attempt to describe, however brief, the brilliant efforts and abundant sacrifices manifested by the American friends over a period of 30 critical years for the successful conclusion of this collective enterprise.

The cumulative effect of this delightful news has permeated our hearts with the abiding consciousness of the crying need for a higher standard of devotion and courage required to insure a signal victory in the teaching field in the face of overwhelming obstacles and uncertainties.

On occasion of the Ridván Feast, 1943, we take this opportunity to extend loving greetings to all the Bahá'í youths and beloved friends in the United States and Canada, to the valiant American pioneers who have set such a sublime example of devotion and sacrifice and to the growing multitude of the ardent believers throughout Latin America.

On this blessed occasion culminating in the termination of the first Bahá'í Century, we join you to turn our hearts to the Abhá Kingdom imploiring to confer upon us spiritual wisdom and insight in order to prove worthy to promote the sacred interests of His Cause and to deliver His Message of salvation to a suffering humanity.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE, PERSIA.
The Few Remaining Months of this Century

Message from Shoghi Effendi

Dearly-beloved co-workers:

The latest evidences of the magnificent success that has marked the activities of the members of the American Bahá’í community have been such as to excite the brightest hopes for the victorious consummation of the collective undertaking they have so courageously launched and have so vigorously prosecuted in recent years. As the first Bahá’í Century approaches its end, the magnitude and quality of their achievements acquire added significance and shed increasing luster on its annals. The proceedings of the recently held annual Convention; the formation of twenty-eight Assemblies in the course of the year that has just elapsed; the splendid progress achieved in the Latin-American field of Bahá’í activity; the superb spirit evinced by the pioneers holding their lonely posts in widely scattered areas throughout the Americas; the exemplary attitude shown by the entire body of the faithful towards the machinations of those who have so sedulously striven to disrupt the Faith and pervert its purpose—these have, to a marked degree, intensified the admiration of the Bahá’í communities for those who are contributing so outstanding a share to the enlargement of the limits, and the enhancement of the prestige, of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. The preparations which the American believers are undertaking for the celebration of the Centenary of the Faith must be such as to crown with immortal glory the fifty-year long record of their stewardship in the service of that Faith. Such a celebration must, in its scope and magnificence, fully compensate for the disabilities which hinder so many Bahá’í communities in Europe and elsewhere, and even in Bahá’u’lláh’s native land, from paying a befitting tribute to their beloved Faith at so glorious an hour in its history. The few remaining months of this century must witness a concentration of effort, a scale of achievement, a spirit of heroism that will outshine even the most daring exploits that have already immortalized the Seven Year Plan and covered with glory its valiant protagonists. The plea I addressed to them, at this late hour, will, I am sure, meet with a response no less remarkable than their past reactions to the appeals I have felt impelled to make to them ever since the inception of the Plan. He Who, at every stage of their collective enterprise, has so abundantly blessed them, will, no doubt, continue to vouchsafe the blessings until the seal of unqualified victory is set upon their epoch-making task.

Haifa, August 8, 1943.

The following excerpts are also published from that portion of the same letter written through his Secretary:

"Regarding the status of believers resident in British territories of the West Indies: the Guardian feels that in view of their proximity to the U. S. A. they should be regarded as centers under the supervision of the American Bahá’í National Assembly. They are not included as objectives of the Seven Year Plan which comprises only the sovereign republics of Central and South America."

"The Guardian has recently, in a detailed cable, urged that special attention be directed, during these remaining months of the first Bahá’í Century, to the strengthening of the centers requiring assistance in the Latin Republics as well as in the virgin areas of the North American continent, in order to assure the establishment of a permanent center in each of these Republics and the formation of a Spiritual Assembly in each remaining virgin area. Through further appeals for more pioneers at this eleventh hour; through further self-sacrifice aiming at the provision of ampler funds for the dispatch of these pioneers and other teaching purposes, the few unfinished tasks of the Plan must be speedily accomplished in order to insure the total success of the forthcoming Centenary Celebrations. During these remaining months the Guardian will, as he has already assured you in that cable, pray with redoubled fervor for the complete success of this vast undertaking, this organized crusade, the like of which has never been launched during the entire course of one hundred years of Bahá’í History."

The following message was received October 5:

My heart is overflowing with joyous gratitude at the magnificent advance made in numerous spheres of Bahá’í activity. The formation of an Assembly in the few remaining areas of the North American continent, the consolidation of the foundations of the newly-established Assemblies, and the preservation of the status of the Bahá’í centers in all Republics of Latin America, imperatively demand vigilant care, concentrated attention and further self-sacrifice from the vanguard of the valiant army of Bahá’u’lláh. The beloved Faith is surging forward on all fronts. Its undefeatable, stalwart supporters, both teachers and administrators, are steeling themselves for noble tasks, braving acute dangers, sweeping away formidable obstacles, capturing new heights, founding mighty institutions, winning fresh recruits and confounding the schemes of insidious enemies. The American Bahá’í community must, and will at whatever cost, despite the pressure of events and the desolating war, maintain among its sister communities the exalted standard of stewardship incontest-
able set during the concluding years of the first Bahá'í Century. The confident spirit, unaltering resolution animating its members, their tenacious valor, elevated loyalty, nobleness of spirit and mighty prowess, will, ere the expiry of the century, crown with complete victory the monumental enterprises undertaken during the course of the fifty years of its existence.

—Shoghi Effendi

Letter from the National Spiritual Assembly

Beloved Co-workers and Friends:

The nationwide, coordinated teaching campaign arranged for local Bahá'í communities during this year of the Bahá'í Centenary has been inaugurated. The theme of race unity announced for the period of September and October has been presented to the public with vigor and clarity in cities throughout North America. Now as we are on the eve of the second period, November-December, when religious unity will be upheld by all the Bahá'ís, it is essential that any misunderstanding about the nature of this effort be removed, so that the entire community of believers may concentrate upon achieving their mission of preparing the public for the Centenary of our Faith in May, 1944.

Each local Assembly, or group, is to participate in the nationwide campaign in accordance with its capacity and the nature of the local condition. This is not a teaching plan which operates for the local community by effort from outside. What the National Assembly endeavors to accomplish is to place effective teaching material in your hands, and to assist in the following ways: First, by sponsoring a series of radio talks in three cities where the stations broadcast over wide areas: New York, Chicago, and San Francisco; second, by authorizing the National Teaching Committee to provide circuit teachers as possible for the smaller communities; third, by donating teaching literature up to $5.00 per community where there are not over twenty-five believers; and fourth, by sending out for each of the four themes a Portfolio of Teaching Material related to the subject. It is clear that the supreme opportunity afforded the friends is to center their efforts in constructive teaching work which is local in action but national in importance and purpose. From time to time suggestions will be made in order to help improve the methods of action.

The programs adopted by some of the Assemblies for the race unity theme have already been reported, and examples will be given here representing how the teaching is being planned by both large and small communities.

The San Francisco Assembly conducted a Symposium on Racial Foundations for World Order in the Gold Ball Room of the Palace Hotel on September 24. The Chairman of the meeting was Leroy Iboa, the speakers participating were Dr. Rudolph I. Coffee, President, Temple of Religion; Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Department of Social Sciences, Hon. Robert W. Kenny, Attorney General, and Mrs. Dorothy Baker, member of the National Spiritual Assembly and Chairman of the National Bahá'í Race Unity Committee. Some seven hundred and fifty persons attended this meeting, making it one of the largest Bahá'í meetings yet held in America. The testimony paid the Faith by the well known and influential non-Bahá'í speakers was a great service to the Cause and emphasized the exposition of the Bahá'í teachings on race delivered so eloquently by Dorothy Baker.

In Pittsburgh, likewise, the theme of race unity was presented through a program combining speakers from within and outside the Cause. This meeting was held September 28 in the Social Room of Stephen Foster Memorial. Walter S. Buchanan presided; Mrs. F. B. Chalfant of the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education described the Inter-racial Good Will Program of the Public Schools in Springfield, Mass.; and Mrs. Marguerite Ullrich presented the Bahá'í teachings. Discussion and informal and friendly conversation followed the talks, members of the audience signed their desire to attend a study class; and a photograph of the gathering was taken by the Negro paper, "The Pittsburgh Courier." The Pittsburgh community, it will be noted, is among the dissolved Assemblies which have recently regained Assembly status.

The Wilmette believers after analysis of their local teaching problem decided that since no public meeting could be arranged comparable to those conducted in the House of Worship by the National Temple Program Committee it would be more effective to take the teachings directly into the homes of the people. An arrangement was accordingly made with the local paper, "Wilmette Life", to purchase a column of space four times during the year, for presentation of each of the four

Bahá'ís of Buenos Aires gathered for observance of Nineteen Day Feast in November, 1942. Mrs. Amelia E. Collins, representing American N. S. A., was present.
is a simplified course which can be conducted by any believer or used by any fireside group, requiring only two reference books—Selected Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and of Shoghi Effendi (set of three pamphlets sold at one price) and Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, by J. E. Esslemont. The Outline, the three pamphlets of Selected Writings, and the Esslemont book, bound in paper, at the special price of $0.75. All of these but with the Esslemont book bound in fabrikoid, $1.00. The separate prices are: Study Outline, $0.15; three pamphlets of Selected Writings, $0.25; Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, paper bound, $0.50; Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, fabrikoid, $0.75.

Pamphlet literature series. The Pamphlet Literature Committee has developed two new pamphlets and recommends the reprint of another, making an initial offering of three pamphlets to be used in the extensive teaching work this year. All the pamphlets in this series are to be 3½ by 5½ inches in size, suitable for mailing in ordinary envelopes and can be obtained at the uniform price quoted below.

Religion and the New Age, Dr. George Townshend, 100 copies for $2.00.

Victory of the Spirit, Dorothy Baker. 100 copies for $2.00. (This text appeared in World Order Magazine for October with the title "The Path to God.")

The Bahá'í Principle of Civilization, Horace Holley. 100 copies for $2.00.

Race Unity

Our nation-wide teaching campaign, centering this fall on Race Unity, first of the four themes of the year, brings to light a surprising degree of willingness on the part of the American public to cooperate with the Bahá'í platforms everywhere. An example of this may be seen in the project of San Francisco where a Bahá'í chairman and speaker were assisted by the leading Negro social worker of the city, a well-loved Rabbi, head of the Temple of Religion and known throughout the country, and the Attorney General of the state of California. Over seven hundred attended the meeting. Reports from Los Angeles, Phoenix, Albuquerque, Denver, Colorado Springs, and other cities, bring news of equally distinguished collaborators.

Milwaukee Youth are continuing a most interesting experiment in Race Unity. They have recently concluded a second inter-racial fellowship night at the Y. M. C. A., entertaining some thirty Japanese and twenty Chinese friends. This was followed by "A Persian Night," a playlet enacted at the Bahá'í Center. At a recent Milwaukee Feast, a profound consciousness of the dawning unity between continents and races was born when Blue
Mountain, an Inca Indian visitor, first Indian believer of South America, stepped forward to meet Mrs. Marian Steffes, Oneida, first registered North American Indian believer.

Good news comes to us of contacts among the Indians of the Chicago area. Through the efforts of Mrs. Mary Stevison of that city, successive meetings have been held at 1651 Junquil Terrace, to entertain the Indian friends in small, intimate groups. At intervals, Mrs. Stevison has taken these friends to the Bahá'í House of Worship to hear the Sunday afternoon speakers and to have the privilege of the guided tours through the Temple. This joyous occasion has always been followed by tea and informal lessons by a variety of Bahá'í speakers at her home. An increasing number of young Indian women are showing interest in the Faith through these sustained efforts.

Miss Janet Whitenack, who spent a year at Tulaksaak, Alaska, an all-Eskimo community, was invited, upon her departure, to address the little village on the subject of her Faith. As far as we are informed, this historic event constitutes the first group approach to the northern race with whom we are so little acquainted. The Committee feels that Miss Whitenack is to be heartily congratulated, and hopes that she will be enabled to return to them at some future time for further friendly contact. Mrs. Kathryn Frankland of Albuquerque reports the confirmation of a brilliant young Eskimo friend, Melba Call, first of the Eskimos to accept full membership in the World Order of Bahá'uláh.

Oneness of Humanity Keynote of Green Acre Conclave

The following account is substantially as appearing in the Portsmouth, N. H., Herald of August 17, 1842:

The outstanding event for the week at Green Acre was the Race Unity conference with four sessions during three days. This conference was fortunate in having as its opening chairman and keynote speaker Harlan F. Ober of Beverly, Mass., one who has rendered outstanding services to the Faith both in the Orient and Occident. He set forth the purposes of the conference with emphasis upon the oneness of humanity and true fellowship among all races, drawing a word picture of a future world order in which all inharmonies of thought would end. Bahá'ís can carry their optimism through this great upheaval, for through Divine Revelation they have faith in the ultimate outcome. Teachers should be ready to address great audiences in future.

Miss Lorna B. Tasker reviewed the life of the world famous Negro scientist, the late George W. Carver, showing his great contribution to national and world culture, relating many incidents of his career, correlating the ideals which governed his life with the principles of the new age as proclaimed by Bahá'uláh as the real cause of his greatness. In answer to inquiry, it was stated that over a period of twenty-five years Dr. Carver had met in succession seven Bahá'í workers and teachers, was much attracted by the spirit of the faith and with a clear vision saw its value.

At the second session Horace Holley, chairman, spoke on Race and the New Psychology. This address was a treasure trove from the mines of science, religion and philosophy. It clearly proved the widening horizon of men's minds as influenced by the great Spirit poured upon mankind by Bahá'uláh. Hesmat Ala'i Irani stated that race adjustment had now ceased to be only a local affair and has become a world matter of absorbing interest. Not what men say, but what they actually do about it is now of the utmost importance to win confidence.

Mme. Ali-Kuli Khan related interesting stories of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and His loving, wise and generous attitude toward all races during His American tour. Other speakers at this session were Dr. T. E., A. Macurdy of Boston, Rev. J. N. Samuelson, Belboder of Dayton, Ohio, and Louis Caution of Cambridge, Mass., color-ed friends, who praised the spirit of the conference and the beauty of Green Acre.

The third session's consultation centered around Race and Spiritual Renewal. Dr. Glenn A. Shook as chairman, briefly reviewed the new book entitled Race: Science and Politics, quoting a passage to show how shallow has been the foundation of race prejudice during centuries and ages. The author, Ruth Benedict, has been a deep student of racial groups over a long period of time and her conclusions harmonize with the Bahá'í teachings. Mrs. Mary Alice McClennen, a young Bahá'í teacher of unusual promise, spoke on the laboratory nature of Green Acre service, where visitors may see the ideals of the new age day by day applied to all races. The Holy Spirit confirms those who walk in the path. Another contribution came from Rev. Dr. E. Eliot Dur­rant, pastor of a large colored church in Harlem, N. Y., and a frequent visitor at Green Acre. Mrs. Louise A. M. Gregory sang Negro spirituals.

Miss Mabel I. Jenkins of Kittery read extracts from the works of two Negro poets and told of her race contacts during a visit to Hampton Institute, Va., where she formerly was a teacher. Her services to Green Acre cover a long period as she was a close friend of Miss Sarah J. Farmer, the founder. Another speaker was Miss N. Grace Bissell, Bahá'í pioneer teacher at Rutland, Vt.

At the final session Louis G. Gregory, chairman, made an address on Race and the New Sociology. Mention was made of sociology as a new science which has sprung up in this day and how its students study groups, caused and motivated by such influences as education, economics, government, religion and race. But the Supreme Sociologist, Bahá'uláh, bestows the mysterious Power which can fuse all into harmony and productive strength.

Mrs. Doris Holley emphasized the need of present opportunities, observing that it is far easier to approach and understand those near at hand, even though of a different race, when they share the same language, laws, customs and civilization, than to fellowship with those at a great distance.

John A. Robarts of Toronto voiced the Spirit of Unity, quoting from the farewell address of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to His American friends delivered on ship board. Miss Maud Mickel, pioneer teacher, related interesting stories of racial contacts and improved conditions in race relations.
during her stay in South Carolina, as showing an unmistakable trend. She was able to aid both groups.

Maj. Gertrude Atkinson presented Historical Aspects of Race, showing how during the ages suffering has always preceded the progress of races and other groups. That the whole world is now suffering is significant of better things to follow. Mrs. Lorraine H. Welsh of Pt. Huron, N.Y., drew attention to the fact that Negro history is now being taught in many schools of both races, an innovation which can but increase the appreciation of races for each other.

This conference, an annual event, brings the record attendance for the season at Green Acre. Warm appreciation and praise were expressed to all who had lent their presence or had taken part, and suggestions for each and all to continue the work with bright minds and loving hearts brought the conference to a happy end, a period foreshadowing a bright future for those who know and do the divine good pleasure.

—Race Unity Committee

Notes from the Teaching Front

The Guardian has told us that the significance of our teaching work in North America lies in "the establishment of the structural basis of the Bahá‘í administrative order." As news flows in from every part of the continent, proclaiming the progress of the Seven Year Plan, we are thrilled to note how deep and wide are the foundations being laid. Evidences are many that the Faith is rising on a basis of enduring strength.

One of the first acts of the newly-formed Spiritual Assembly of Denver was to participate in an Inter-Faith Conference held June 13th at Grace Community Church, under the sponsorship of the Inter-Faith Commission of the Denver Council of Churches. This conference, attended by over three hundred, heard discussions on the theme, "Religion, the Conscience of Humanity," presented by members of the Hindu, Jewish, Buddhist, Christian, Islamic, and Bahá‘í religions. Each speaker outlined "the origin, history, and basic teachings of his faith with the aim of finding points of agreement rather than of difference." During the question period, we are told, the majority of questions were asked of Valeria Thornton, the Bahá‘í speaker. Conference chairman was Dr. Conrad Rheiner, Pastor of the Universalist Church of Denver, but the idea was originated and much of the organization carried out by Artemus Lamb, member of the Denver Bahá‘í Assembly. The reason expressed by the Bahá‘ís for holding such a conference was the world crisis calling for "understanding and tolerance between all the peoples and religions of the world." According to Mr. Lamb, "the result seems to be much publicity for the Faith, the direct giving of the Message, the public recognition of the Faith as the newest of the world's great religions, and the beginning of a movement in Denver towards the study of the various religions of the world." Before disbanding the conference voted to sponsor a two-day institute of the same Faiths in the Fall. Surely this is auspicious news of the progress of the Cause in Denver, and leads the way for Bahá‘í communities everywhere in the unfoldment of Bahá‘u’lláh's distinctive principle of religious unity.

In Reno the Faith has pioneered in still another direction, that of racial unity. The first Spiritual Assembly of Nevada is representative of three racial groups, white, negro, and Japanese, and we understand that the young Japanese secretary is the first of his nationality to be elected to an Assembly. Fireside meetings in Reno are thrilling experiences, foreshadowing as they do the future World Order of Bahá‘u’lláh!

From Alaska comes word that Janet Whitenack has resigned her teaching position in Tuluksak to insure the victory of the Seven Year Plan at Anchorage. The occasion of leaving the Eskimo village gave Miss Whitenack a remarkable chance to present the Message to eighty-five Eskimos, who invited her to speak at their church service on the fourth of July. She writes, "With a native interpreter it took about three quarters of an hour. It is difficult to know what the response was. They seemed interested, and several thanked me for talking to them. ... One man said, 'Everybody liked it.'"

While the necessities of the Seven Year Plan have taken Janet Whitenack away from the Eskimos, strangely enough in Albuquerque, N. M., the first Eskimo Bahá‘í has been confirmed. Kathryn Frankland
The formation of a Local Assembly in Edmonton, Alberta, last April was a striking evidence of the power and vitality of the Faith. No group existed in Edmonton when Muriel Warmick went there last summer. Soon, however, she had attracted a number of people to whom Marcia Atwater was then sent as a teacher. In November, after several had enrolled as believers, Anita Ioss moved to Edmonton as a pioneer. Less than a year elapsed from the beginning of this swift campaign to its climax in the election of an Assembly. Today Edmonton possesses nine native Bahá'ís, in addition to its settlers, and teaching opportunities have so increased that Anne McGee was recently transferred from Calgary to aid the work. Thus a bright victory has been won in this virgin Province, marking another milestone in the evolving Order of Bahá'u'lláh.

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Inter-America News

Exhilarating evidences of "the miraculous unfolding of a fresh marvel every day" are showered upon us as the friendly postman delivers the news of our pioneers. Airplanes whisk them from Texas to Panama, from Chile to Argentina, across mountains and jungle valleys and seas. And airplanes bring their precious reports of goals achieved, and new seeds planted.

Central America

An exuberant letter from Julie Regal expresses her gratitude to Mrs. Cora Oliver for her help in securing the Canal Zone position which makes it possible for Julie to assist the teaching work in this important Republic during the next crucial months. Miss Regal enjoyed a brief chat with Mrs. Caswell in Chicago which served to add to her fervor to participate in the teaching activities of this cross-roads of the world.

During the few weeks of her unexpected holiday Mrs. Caswell visited the friends in many localities. As soon as she had established Gwennie Sholtis under medical care, Mrs. Caswell went direct to the Geyserville Summer School and was present for the closing days of the Session. A brief visit with the friends in San Francisco was followed by a two-day stay in Los Angeles. The Bahá'ís of that area were delighted to hear of the increasing development of the Cause in Panama and of the teaching work which has been carried forward during Mrs. Oliver's and Mrs. Caswell's pioneer service there.

The Committee's warm appreciation to Sr. Santos Dominguez for his recently published "Primer Centenario," received a reply from him which was radiant with spiritual grace, with the dignity of deep humility, and gratitude that his "small work had proved useful for the spreading of the Great Cause."

Sr. Hernandez, Assembly Secretary of the thriving Bahá'í Community of San José, Costa Rica, writes of the meetings, held twice weekly, which are a part of the teaching activities in this city. Sr. Hernandez also rejoices that a new supply of books has arrived to give an added impetus for a broader scope in the teaching field. The eagerness of all these energetic friends for an ever larger supply of the Bahá'í literature is a gratifying evidence of the solid foundations which are being laid in these blessed Bahá'í Centers.

Clarence Iverson is again in San Salvador but his recent letters have been filled with the activities of his month's visit in Guatemala, from which point his mother returned for a few months visit to the States.

With characteristic enthusiasm Clarence's letters reflect his happiness in meeting with the friends in Guatemala City. He renewed old friendships, made many new acquaintances, and was given numerous opportunities to show his collection of the Temple slides for various types of gatherings. On one of these occasions some of the friends who were present had seen the Temple at different stages of its construction, and all were keenly interested in the beauty of its completed exterior.

In a delightful letter from Sr. Batres, Secretary of the Guatemala City Assembly, we hear most graciously of the pleasure the Bahá'í friends had received from Clarence's sojourn. Sr. Batres also wrote of the earnest endeavors of the Assembly members to consecrate themselves to their new responsibilities that the Cause may be established upon the firm and noble foundations of the Divine Plan. A beautiful registration book, the gift of Sr. Torres, will record the membership of this new Community of the Most Great Name.

On her return to Panama, Louise Caswell wrote at length, and touchingly, of her visit to Mathew Kaszab's grave in Brownsville, Texas. "An imposing Bahá'í stone" distinguished Mathew's resting place from the many other graves marked only by "wooden crosses or just a stick."

Flying south Louise's plane conveniently made scheduled stops in Guatemala, San Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. At each point there was time for a brief, happy visit with some of the Bahá'ís living in these Republics.

A few stimulating hours with three believers in Guatemala was followed by a joyful reunion with Clarence Iverson in San Salvador. "Their boys' school," writes Louise, "is one of the outstanding works in Latin American pioneer work."

A charming letter from the Secretary of the San Salvador Assembly tells how close to their hearts is this "youth Academy, founded in March" for which they are busily engaged in "seeking solutions of the teaching and needs of the students" whose ages range from sixteen to twenty years. Other activities are the meetings held on Saturdays and Sundays. The messages of the Guar-
dian and the monthly Inter-America bulletins are translated and read at these meetings. The Baha’i Procedure in Spanish has been gratefully received—"some articles of this Procedure are read in each Sunday’s Spiritual Assembly meeting."

Honduras provided Louise with a glimpse of Gayle Woolson, which was “heavenly,” for all its brevity. In Managua the word of arrival had been delivered in time for a beloved little Nicaraguan believer to meet the plane and have every precious moment for a mutually inspiring visit. This valiant Baha’i has “a quenchless enthusiasm for the Cause, and is fanning the immortal flame which has been lit in Nicaragua.”

Glowing proof of her words greeted Louise’s return to Panama. An eminent Nicaraguan educator and statesman, fulfilling lecture engagements at Universities of Central and South America, arranged his plans in Panama to permit him to meet with the Baha’is and to serve as speaker for their Spanish meeting. “This very humble and noble person,” explained Louise, had come to them from the gentle believer in Nicaragua!

South America

Vivid letters from Virginia Orbison have thrilled us this past month, as she flew across the Southern Continent, from Santiago, Chile, to go to the support of Asuncion, Paraguay for several weeks.

Nearly three weeks were spent with the friends in Buenos Aires, awaiting plane space to Asuncion, and Virginia thoroughly enjoyed the frequent meetings, with the more than thirty believers of this great metropolis of Argentina, made possible by the unexpected delay. The Guardian has written a number of letters to the Argentina Baha’is, and these messages, full of encouragement for their great work and destiny, have proven a mighty bulwark for this strenuous pioneer period.

Baha’i meetings in Buenos Aires are held twice weekly. Virginia spoke at five of these gatherings, and adds—“my Spanish has a special flavor, but it makes understanding!” She continues, “the dear and devoted Etta Mae Lawrence is installed in a sweet apartment, which will be full of friends always . . . what has impressed me so deeply is the genuine closeness and profound love that exists between the believers and everywhere is so evident. Perhaps May Maxwell’s wonderfully loving spirit is pervading all of this country. It is profoundly moving to arrive in a strange city, among people that one has never seen, and immediately to have a feeling of deeper intimacy and genuine affection than one ever approaches with other friends. This is what makes the goal of the Baha’i Faith absolutely certain of attainment.”

Two happy days were spent in Montevideo, where the hospitable Uruguayan Baha’is arranged for Virginia to speak to twenty-five people. Wilfrid and Marta Barton took her for a delightful drive “to see this beautiful city strung out along the mouth of the river.”

Later Virginia sketched her first impression of Asuncion, Paraguay—“There are many Americans here from the States . . . The weather is a bit of perfection just now. It is nearly tropical here and extremely picturesque. Orange trees in bloom and fruit on the street give a wonderful fragrance, and the flowering trees are breathtaking in their beauty. One of the friends has written and is producing his own play at the main theatre next month.”

Flora Hottes, from the mountain city of La Paz, in Bolivia, draws entrancing verbal pictures that we wish all of you might have in their entirety. “The Message has been literally sown broadcast in the period of your two pioneers,” writes Miss Hottes, “and not a week goes by but there is some new contact or some old one renewed.” A broad range of human relationships and needs, significant of the universality of the Cause, is revealed in the descriptions of the varied Baha’i activities being carried on in La Paz.

“Several new refugees have become interested in the Faith, fine people, who are touched with new hope, and will come to us again to hear more . . . The boys are still coming, and some of the thoughts they gather are clearly reflected in their school themes. . . . The minister to the Aymara Indians, whose daughter we see occasionally in the school office, came for tea, and looked into the new books. He liked them for their love and tolerance, and said he was going to a meeting of young people with whom he wished to share these great ideas.”

A public meeting was arranged at which an accomplished young Chilean woman, whom Flora had met in Lima a year ago, was invited to be the guest speaker. Her humanitarian work for women gave an opportunity to “outline the Cause in relation to the great developments of the age” and to connect the dynamic influence of Tahirih in the growing emancipation of women. Another
guest, a young Bolivian woman lawyer, was deeply stirred to return with her mother for a fuller understanding of the greatness of the Message.

The La Paz group had befriended a little boy whose parents had been unable to provide him with the surgical care he needed. "Recently the father and mother came to talk to us about the Cause. They are real people of the country — so kind and hospitable. To visit them one rides through the real indigenous section of the city, the markets, the crowds of Indians, streets filled with the native folk with their burdens and their babies on their backs. So much life and needing so much of what our Faith will ultimately bring to humanity."

When school is out in October, Flora will take a holiday in a lower altitude and will spend a month or two with Eve Nicklin in Lima.

Dominican Republic

Margaret Lentz sends us word of her new living arrangements in a letter vibrant with her plans for the teaching work to which she will now devote her entire time. At her pleasant hotel-pension she will also help the attractive young daughter of the owner to acquire English.

Miss Lentz wrote of her pleasure at a recent Embassy Reception when she learned, in the course of a conversation with the new Consul, that he had lived for some time in Bahia and enjoyed knowing Mrs. Holsapple-Armstrong during her residence there.

Haiti

L'Assemblée Spirituelle des Bahá'ís, Port-au-Prince, Haiti! With this letter-head the mailbag brings thrilling proof of the onward march of the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh!

Mr. Gerald McBean, Secretary of the newly established Spiritual Assembly of Port-au-Prince, sends the joyful news of two new believers accepted into the Faith. These two members have joined the Cause since the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell, and Mr. McBean adds—"...This will be good news to them. We are sorry they had to leave us, but we are doing our best to carry on the work. As usual the meetings are held at my home every Thursday night."

The friends in Haiti are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the French translations which are being provided by the National Spiritual Assembly. "...nearly all of our friends are French speaking and most of our literature is in English. These reprints will help us wonderfully."

Mrs. McBean also writes with poignant sincerity of their joy in serving the Faith and of their deep desire to help establish a beautiful Bahá'í Center in Haiti—"...we miss the Blackwells, they were much beloved in Haiti."

Ecuador

Another new believer is joyfully reported from Ecuador. Hans Dory, Secretary of the Spiritual Assembly of Quito announces that the Quito Community now numbers ten members.

Uruguay

The happy news of a wedding comes to us from Montevideo! The first of two joyous letters from Mrs. Mary Barton brought word of her happiness in the engagement of her son, Wilfrid, to Senorita Marta Brito del Pino, charming daughter of a distinguished family of Uruguay. Mrs. Barton's second letter told of the beautiful wedding which was solemnized, early in July, at the home of the bride, in the presence of many relatives and friends. Mrs. Barton writes glowingly of her delightful and accomplished new daughter and of Wilfrid's great happiness. Our congratulations and felicitations to Mr. Barton and his lovely bride.

Mrs. Mary Barton has been doing valuable teaching work in Montevideo since her arrival there in January. She has recently returned home, having postponed her return in order to remain for Wilfrid's marriage.

Jamaica

Dr. Malcolm King, preparing to return to the States for a time, has sent a detailed record of his contacts since his arrival in Jamaica. Many hundreds of people have heard the glorious Message and from all parts of the island have come inquiries about the Faith.

Notice of The Bahá’í World, Vol. X

Because Volume X of The Bahá’í World is the last volume of the first Bahá’í century it is of unusual importance. It will contain much material of historical interest and value relating to the whole of the first Bahá’í century as well as to the two years, April 21, 1942-April 20, 1944.

The committee desires particularly photographs both those illustrating events and institutions of the Cause, such as summer school activities, pageants, exhibitions, activities of traveling teachers etc., during the two-year period covered by the book and those of earlier date. Please send them to Mrs. Anna Kunz, 714 Iowa Street, Urbana, Illinois.

Please send references to the Faith which appear in non-Bahá’í books, pamphlets and magazines, also references in specialized reference works to Mrs. Bertha H. Kirkpatrick, Olivet, Michigan. These references should give name of book or magazine, author, publisher and page on which reference is found. The dates of these publications should be within the period 1942-1944.

Any other material which would prove interesting to the public at large or valuable to be preserved in the records of the book please send to the Secretary of the committee.

Care should be taken not to repeat material which has been used in former volumes.

Please send your material so that it will reach the committee by January first, 1944.

All material gathered will be sent by the committee to the Guardian, who selects what he considers best for the book.

Baha’i World Editorial Committee,
Mrs. Mabel H. Paine, Secretary
606 Pennsylvania Avenue,
Urbana, Illinois

Request for Material on Youth or Children's Activities

We would like to renew our plea for all material relating to youth activities and children's activities for publication in The Bahá'í World, Volume X. While we have had interesting accounts and photographs from a good many youth groups, some of our largest youth groups have not...
Publishing Committee
Overcoming Emergency Conditions

Due to the emergency conditions affecting all publishing activities today, our Bahá’í Publishing Committee is making a determined effort to anticipate future demands for the books and pamphlets. Advance orders for paper and binding cloth have already been placed for the next volume of The Bahá’í World as well as for a new book which the Guardian is preparing to send in manuscript form in a few months.

It has become evident that a policy is needed in order to assure that the books and pamphlets of first importance can be kept in stock at all times, even though this may require the temporary discontinuance of certain standard books and pamphlets. The lack of paper and the inability of binding departments to fill orders not having war priority has seriously restricted our freedom to develop the important publishing work along lines of normal expansion.

For example, in the production of the compilation Bahá’í World Faith, the intention was to make the book as light in weight as possible, but the selection of grades of paper had become so restricted that the type of book readily possible a few years ago could no longer be manufactured. Moreover, the schedule called for the appearance of this book in time for the Convention, but unavoidable delays in manufacturing postponed publication until after August first.

By bringing out the set of three pamphlets entitled Selected Writings of Bahá’u’lláh, of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and of Shoghi Effendi, in an edition of 25,000 sets, and the new compilation Bahá’í World Faith in an edition of 10,000, the Publishing Committee has assured itself of capacity to provide Bahá’í literature for a period of from two to three years. The next step in the policy to be worked out with the approval of the National Spiritual Assembly is to establish an immediate printing schedule embracing every book and pamphlet needed in the teaching work for the next four years for which printing and paper facilities can be obtained.

New and Restored Assemblies

The National Spiritual Assembly is happy to report that four Assemblies have been formed in recent weeks, two in virgin areas, and two being the restoration of Assemblies that were dissolved for lack of numbers.

The new Assemblies are: Anchorage, Alaska; Fargo, North Dakota; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Omaha, Nebraska. Thanks to the Guardian’s recent direction, these Assemblies could be formed without awaiting until April 21, 1944.

All newly formed Assemblies are requested to report their establishment on one of the forms provided by the N. S. A., send a full list of members of the community with addresses, and also provide three copies of a group photograph.

Bahá’í Directory

ASSEMBLIES

Anchorage, Alaska—Mrs. Frances L. Wells, Secretary.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—Mrs. Otto Zmesklik, Secretary.

Santa Barbara, Calif.—Charles A. Butler, Secretary, 312 East Fugues Street.

Rochester, N. Y.—Mrs. Rochelle Boonshaft, Secretary, 171 Alexander Street.

Columbus, Ohio—Mrs. Margaret Acebo, 77 Franklin Avenue, Columbus 5.

Portland, Oregon—George O. Launier, Secretary, 1927 N. E. 40th Avenue.

COMMITTEES

Library: Mrs. Dorothy Fisher added.

Radio: Address correspondence to Mildred Mattacheich, Secretary, 225 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Youth: Marjorie Ulrich, Secretary.

Regional Committee: Charles A. Butler, Secretary.

Contact: Mrs. Evelyn Kemp, 4628 Franklin Avenue, Columbus 5.

Archives: Mrs. Caucasian Struven and Mrs. Beatrice Ashton added.

Regional Teaching Committees: Louisiana, Arkansas—Mrs. Keller and Mrs. Simms transferred from the Regional Committee of Tennessee and Alabama.

North and South Carolina—Mrs. Dorothy Logelin has moved from this region.

California, Nevada, Arizona
—Mrs. Marion Longyear and Mrs. L. B. Herbert added; New York—John Woeston and Mr. and Mrs. Roland Hughey added; Mrs. Roberta Christian unable to serve; Ontario—Lloyd Gardner has moved from this region; Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland—Mrs. Florence Hamilton and Mrs. Martha Dorrida added. The Regional Teaching Committee appointed for Alberta and British Columbia has been dissolved and two separate Committees appointed for these two Provinces, as follows:—

Alberta Regional Teaching Committee
Doris Skinner, Secretary, 303 Sixth Street, W, Calgary, Alta.
Ann McGee
Anita Loos
Clifford Gardner
Nan Greenwood

British Columbia Regional Committee
Mrs. Katherine Moscrop, Secretary, 6009 Alma Road, Vancouver, B. C.
Mae A. McKenna
Mrs. Eve Cliff Southew
Ethel Hammond
Harold Moscrop
Austin F. L. Collin
Muriel Warnicker
Elizabeth McGee

Bahá’í School Committees
(Fer 1944 Season)

Green Acre
Lorna Tasker, Chairman
Roushan Wilkinson, Secretary, R.F.D.
Harlan Ober
Glen A. Shook
Rachel Small
Mrs. Mary A. McClemcen
Mrs. Margaret Newman

Geyserville School
Mrs. Sylvia Loos, Chairman
Gladys Linfoul, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.
John Bosch
Mrs. Amelia Bowman
Mrs. Sarah Kenney
Ray Brackett
Mrs. Amelia E. Collins
Irwin Somerhalder
Louise Groger
Milred Nichols

Louhelen School
Edwin Miessler, Chairman
Mrs. Helen Eggleson, Secretary, Louhelen Ranch, R.F.D., Davison, Mich.
Phyllis Hall, Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Beatrice Eardley
L. W. Eggleson
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick
Paul Pettit
Dr. Alice Kidder
Charles Reimer

International School
Mrs. Louise A. Mathews, Chairman, P.O. Box 1064, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Mark Tobey
Max Greven
Inez Greven
Marion Little
George O. Latimer
Roberta Wilson
Mrs. Wanden LaFarge

The Committee known as Institute of Bahá’í Education has been reconstituted with a different title.

Bahá’í College Speakers Bureau
Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Chairman
Mrs. Kenneth Christian, Secretary 928 Lancaster Avenue, Syracuse, N. Y.
Mrs. Marguerite True
Dr. Glenn A. Shook
Mrs. Marguerite Firooz
Mrs. Mary Collison

In Memoriam
Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.

Mr. J. W. Latimer, Portland.
Mrs. Mary Revell, Philadelphia.
Mr. Frederick Arthur Clapp, Los Angeles.
Mr. Earl E. Carré, Mariposa, Calif.
Miss Katherine Bacchus, Colorado Springs.
Miss Mary Young, Syracuse.
Mrs. Leonora Obendorfer, Brooklyn.
Miss Nancy Brown Van Riper, Circleville, Ohio.
Mr. Henry Benning, Kenosha.
Mr. Rudolph Heman, Cabin John.
Mrs. Theresa Hill, Circleville, Ohio.
Mrs. Isadore Chamberlain, Hackensack, N. J.
Dr. Lilian K. Sieken, Indianapolis.
Mrs. Alice Ward, Richmond High.

Enrollments and Transfers

Enrollments by transfer reported by local Assemblies:

Enrollment of isolated believers in June, nine; in July, fourteen and one youth; in August, twelve; in September, thirteen and five youth.

Bahá’í Calendar
Nineteen Day Feasts: Power, November 4; Speech, November 23; Questions, December 12; Honor, December 31.

Birth of the Báb, October 20; Birth of Bahá’u’lláh, November 12; Day of the Covenant, November 26; Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, November 28, at 1:00 A.M.

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: December 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, at Wilmette.

Teaching theme for November and December: Religious Unity.

Yerrinbool School, Australia
(Reprinted from “Bahá’í Quarterly”)
On Saturday, June 5th, friends journeyed to Yerrinbool to attend the Bahá’í Winter School. On Sunday, June 6th, in glorious weather, 36 friends gathered at “Bolton Place” for the Unity Feast. At 2:30 p.m. the Chairman of the committee opened the school and Mrs. Hyde Dunn read the prayer for All Nations. Mr. Bolton as Chairman welcomed the friends and read telegrams and messages of congratulation.

Mrs. Bolton read “The Souvenir of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá” by Shirley Warde from the World Order Magazine which reported a gathering in America in June, 1912, when ‘Abdu’l-Bahá held a unity feast.

Then Mrs. Dunn gave a short talk to the young people in reference to their responsibilities in the New World Order and congratulated them upon the enthusiasm which they displayed in all their activities. Mrs. Hall gave greetings from the Sydney community, and Mrs. Hambridge greetings for the Yerrinbool group.

On Monday morning the friends gathered in the Hyde Dunn Memorial Hall when the School sessions opened with devotions on Healing. Monday afternoon was devoted to the study of The Dawn-Breakers between 2 and 4 p.m. On Monday evening the Covenant of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá was studied.

On Tuesday morning devotions were held and in the afternoon further studies and readings from The Dawn-Breakers. Tuesday evening was devoted to the reading of healing prayers and the “Experience of a Pioneer” from World Order Magazine.
On Wednesday morning devotions were from Prayers and Meditations. On Wednesday afternoon the dedication of the Hilda Gilbert Cabin was performed by Mrs. Hyde Dunn with a reading from the Gleanings (page 151) “Life after Death.” At the dedication Hilda’s favorite prayer “Forgiveness” was recited by Mrs. Bolton. After this ceremony a reading from The Dawn-Breakers was given by Mr. N. Walker. In the evening questions and answers were the order of the day.

On Thursday morning devotions were held and readings were selected by Mrs. Gale from the Gleanings. On Thursday afternoon Mrs. Hambridge selected readings from the Gleanings on Justice. Thursday evening was devoted to the study of Administration by Miss Belling.

On Friday morning Mrs. Coleman led the devotions, followed by further studies of The Dawn-Breakers. Friday evening concluded by the study of the Covenant and prayers.

The School closed on Saturday.

The entire study periods and periods of leisure were characterized by harmony and concord and as the garden develops and takes on a definite shape it will be a perfect setting for peace and tranquility which is so essential in these days of chaos and strife. So I would urge the friends to prepare now for the Summer School that is to be held in January, 1944, as we all know this is to be one of the most important years in Baha’i history.

We had the privilege and pleasure of having two non-Baha’is with us, who both proclaimed their firmness and acceptance of the Revelation of Baha’u’llah before the school closed.

All we are asked to do is sow the seed and God will reveal to the people in His time the greatness of His Cause. Indeed we are living in a very great day.

Baha’i Winter School Committee,
A. Tunks, Secretary.

Teaching Activity in England


Although we have for the moment put a great accent on publicity, we have not during the year forgotten our obligation to teach the Faith to all who are willing to learn. Both the local assemblies and the National Teaching Committee have done everything they can to foster existing outlets and to create new ones.

The National Teaching Committee’s work lies mainly amongst those believers who are not members of a local community. Their name was during the year changed from the lonely word “isolated” to the brave and encouraging “pioneer.” Working all by yourself, perhaps without even seeing a fellow Baha’i for months, is not by any means easy. It takes courage and fortitude to keep on trying, especially if for a long time no tangible results are achieved. It shows the strength of the pioneers and the degree of their faith that out of the nine new believers declared during the year, seven are due to teaching efforts of pioneers or, in one case a group, rather than the work of Assemblies.

The National Teaching Committee, realizing that it is through the pioneers that new communities must come into being, has tried to help them as much as possible, by keeping in touch by correspondence, by giving suggestions, explanations of the Teachings, etc., through the Journal, and by offering to send any help which might be needed. The response to their efforts has not been quite what was hoped, but this no doubt will gradually change as the Faith becomes known and the pioneers are more and more involved in active teaching. The National Spiritual Assembly has also tried to help the pioneers, to understand their difficulties and to keep in touch with them by sending various of its members to visit different pioneers, to consult and discuss with them, rather in the way that a local Assembly consults with the believers at a 19-day Feast.

Believers serving in the Army have done their best to help the teaching work. One has given talks on the Faith to Toc H in Dartwich; one, who is in the Shetland Isles, has written asking for books to be sent. Another, who is in the Midlands, has also been trying everything he can think of. This believer was the main originator of an innovation in the Midlands, when four believers came together at Miss Eastgate’s home near Birmingham and for the first time held a Naw-Ruz Feast in that part of England.

A number of fireside meetings have been held in Blackburn during the year, and one was held at Blackpool where a newly declared believer lives.

There has been a good deal of activity in Northampton. A believer has gone to live there and by advertisements in the local press and by personal efforts, a number of fresh people have been contacted, and one has already declared himself a believer. The resident pioneer has held fireside meetings and has also spoken at various meetings, one a very large one.

Other pioneers may not have addressed big audiences or even held fireside meetings, but most of them have taken every opportunity to speak of the Faith here and there, helping thereby in publicity even if not yet in more intensive teaching.

Some months ago the N.S.A. appointed one of its members as Contacts Secretary, to deal with such things as statements in the press sympathetic to the Baha’i principles, and to contact prominent people. During the year various people have been reminded of previous contact with the Faith, such as King Haakon of Norway, who was sent a telegram of greeting on his seventieth birthday, the Dean of Canterbury who was sent some books, and President Benes, Sir Ronald Storrs, and some others were sent a photograph of the Temple with greetings at the New Year.

Linked up with teaching is the question of the literature used. In August the N.S.A. appointed a committee, the members of which were to consult informally with members of the community and prepare a long-term plan for new literature needed. This committee has produced several suggestions, which in the course of time will be carried out, and also one idea which has already been put into practice. The committee stated that there was a definite need for a Baha’i periodical for sale to the public, and out of this arose the decision to revive our previous magazine, “New World Order,” but in view of the present situation it has to be a quarterly instead of a monthly. Production has been greatly helped by a generous gift from one of the believers to give it a start. The first issue was out in time for Naw-Ruz, with the main subject of “World Unity.” The next one is to feature the Temple.
Bahá'í Martyred at Ival, Mazindaran

The village of Ival is a summer resort of Mazindaran, about 16 farsakhs from Sari. There are about a score of Bahá'í families there comprising in all some 200 souls. Our informants reported that during the course of the attack one Bahá'í, Mirza Aqa Jan Jazbani, was put to death. To verify this report, we immediately deputed an agent to Ival. Before his return Aqa-Ja vilu' llah Jazbani, brother of the murdered friend, presented himself at the Sari Assembly and his answers to our queries brought out the following facts:

On the morning of the 2nd or 3rd of the current month, a party of eight armed horsemen proceeded to the home of Mirza Aqa Jan Jazbani and summoned him to the house of a Yaqub, the headman of the locality. Unaware of their design and wicked intent, this friend, accompanied by four others, appeared at the summoned spot. They were seized on arrival and their hands tied behind their backs. All manner of torture then was levelled against their persons and all manner of abuse directed against their Faith. A ransom of one thousand tumans was further demanded of each prisoner. To this Mirza Jazbani replied, "Not even if we sell our total effects to the last button can we raise the sum you have named. Nevertheless, free one of us to enable him to collect whatever sum is within our means and submit it to you," Jazbani was thereupon, set at liberty and by scraping together what he had of his own and some sums from others he was able to realize the amount of four hundred tumans which he presented to his captors. Finding the proffered sum to be less than their demand, these men commenced their persecution and put the friends to the rack. Thereafter they conveyed all five of them, handcuffed and with bare feet, to Gird-Mir, a village one farsakh from Ival.

The same 'evening, another batch of fourteen armed horsemen dismounted at Ival. It was dark by the time they learnt the result of the activities of their accomplices; nevertheless, a local inhabitant, an oppressor and enemy of the Cause, Saad'u'lllah Ismail by name, who had at one time professed adherence to the Faith and had associated with the friends, directed them to the residence of each and every believer of that locality. Here these monsters wrought that which the pen shrinks from mentioning. They ended with plundering all their property, setting fire to all Bahá'í books and effects, and even the Assembly records which were in Jazbani's house. The local Bahá'í census they carried away with them.

The next morning, all the captives, save Jazbani, were released. The enemies designed to pick off one of these by rifle-shot, when they had proceeded some distance. This friend, however, Faraj'u'lllah Naimi by name, realized their sinister intention and, having once escaped their clutches, fled and gained safety.

Some hours later, Mirza Aqa Jan Jazbani, who was half-dead from the tortures inflicted on him, was allowed to return home. He had not gone far, however, before three of the ruffians shot at him from behind and there in the wayside martyred him.

(The above report was taken from statement issued by the Spiritual Assembly of Sari in December, 1941.)

Frankland Home Transferred to Berkeley Assembly

Arrangements have been completed whereby Mrs. Kathryn Frankland made a gift deed to the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Berkeley conveying, subject to a life estate, her old home located in an attractive residence section of the city. In this generous and greatly appreciated gift she was joined by her daughter, Mrs. Helen Kitzmiller, of LaJolla, California and by Miss Julia C. Culpe, of Los Gatos, California, who also had an interest in the property.

The Frankland home is affectionately held in memory by Berkeley Bahá'ís. There Mrs. Frankland and her devoted husband during his lifetime, conducted earnest pioneer activities in the beginning of the Bahá'í Cause in Berkeley, and not a few of the community owe their first interest in the faith to spirited meetings held under the Frankland roof.

It was necessary for the Bahá'ís of Berkeley to become incorporated in order to receive title to this property and the community is much indebted to Miss Gladysce Linfoot and Attorney Maurice R. Carey for valuable legal services unselfishly contributed.

True to the same ideals that left their lasting impression on the Bahá'í Cause in Berkeley, Mrs. Frankland has been serving with much success in the pioneer field of Texas and New Mexico.
“Imperishable Bounties”
Letter from the Guardian

Dear valued co-workers:

The vigorous action promptly taken by your Assembly to insure the success of the forthcoming Centenary Celebration is highly commendable, and provides a fresh demonstration of the magnificent response made by the American believers to every call demanding renewed exertion on their part in the service of the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh. The progress recently achieved in building up Spiritual Assemblies in the virgin areas of the North American continent has been truly remarkable. To consummate so vast an enterprise, however, a still more compelling display of the vitality of the spirit animating the American Bahá’í community is required, a still greater concentration of effort is needed, an even more stirring evidence of the daring boldness of its members is imperative. Whoever will arise, in these concluding, fast-fleeting months of the last year of the first Bahá’í Century, to fill the remaining posts, and thereby set the seal of total victory on a Plan so pregnant with promise, will earn the lasting gratitude of the present generation of believers in both the East and the West, will merit the acclaim of posterity, will be vouchsafed the special benediction of the Concourse on High, and be made the recipient of the imperishable bounties of Him Who is the Divine Author of the Plan itself. Whoever will rush forth, at this eleventh hour, and cast his weight into the scales, and contribute his decisive share to so gigantic, so sacred and historic an undertak ing, will have not only helped seal the triumph of the Plan itself but will also have notably participated in the fulfilment of what may be regarded as the crowning act of an entire century. The opportunity that presents itself at this crucial hour is precious beyond expression. The blessings destined to flow from a victory so near at hand are rich beyond example. One final surge of that indomitable spirit that has carried the American Bahá’í community to such heights is all that is required, as the first Bahá’í century speeds to a close, to release the flow of those blessings that must signalize the termination of the first, and usher in the dawn of the second, Bahá’í Century. —Shoghi Effendi
Haifa, November 16, 1943.

... 

Certificates of Incorporation

He requests you to send him from now on, two copies of the photo­static reproductions of incorporation certificates of any Assembly which becomes incorporated in future, and immediately after its incorporation. He has already placed in the Hall of the Mansion the copies of all the incorporation certificates of the Assemblies, and he wishes to have a complete record of them in that historic building, so close to the shrine of Bahá’u’lláh.

Local Election Date, Latin America

The Guardian’s directions regarding the formation of local Assemblies before April 21st applies to Central and South America as well as to the North American communities.

Teaching Effort in Latin America

The maintenance of the existing Assemblies in Central and South America, at whatever cost, and the reinforcement of the groups that have been formed, should be the constant care of the N. S. A. and the special object of the Inter-America Committee during the remaining months of this last year of the first Bahá’í Century, particularly the Republics where the situation is still precarious and the foundation as yet insecure.

Teaching Effort in North America

Every effort should be made to carry out the last details of Assembly settlement in the United States and Canada, so that there will not be the slightest failure to impair, at the last moment, the truly glorious achievements of the American believers in connection with the Seven Year Plan. The Guardian views with immense pride and satisfaction the almost miraculous success that has attended their efforts during the past year and a half, and he desires that, on the occasion of so momentous a celebration as that of the 100th anniversary of the Faith, the record should be complete, the roll call filled, and the mighty task victoriously concluded.

(The above passages are excerpts from that portion of the Guardian’s letter of November 16, 1943, written through his secretary).

Letters from the Guardian to Individual Believers

With Shoghi Effendi’s consent, excerpts from two of his letters to believers are published here for the information of the friends.

From letter written on January 25, 1943, to Mr. and Mrs. William Kenneth Christian:

“The questions you ask in your letter about individual guidance have two aspects, one might say. It is good that people should turn to God and beseech His aid in solving their problems and guiding their acts, indeed every day of their lives, if they feel the desire to do so. But they cannot possibly impose what they feel to be their guidance on anyone else, let alone on Assemblies or Committees, as Bahá’u’lláh has expressly laid down the law of consultation and never indicated that anything else superseded it.

“As to meditation: This also is a field in which the individual is free. There are no set forms of meditation prescribed in the teachings, no plan as such, for inner development. The friends are urged—nay enjoined—to pray, and they also should meditate, but the manner of doing the latter is left entirely to the individual.
"The same thing is true of teaching methods; no system, for teachers to practice, exists. But obviously the more people know about the teachings and the Cause, the better they will be able to present the subject. If some people find that prayer and placing all their trust in God, releases in them a flood of inspiration, they should be left free to pursue this method if it is productive of results.

"The inspiration received through meditation is of a nature that one cannot measure or determine. God can inspire into our minds things that we had no previous knowledge of, if He desires to do so.

"We cannot clearly distinguish between personal desire and guidance, but if the way opens, when we have sought guidance, then we may presume God is helping us."

From letter written to Mrs. Amelia E. Collins:

"Regarding your question concerning the Fast: Travelers are exempt from fasting, but if they want to fast while they are traveling, they are free to do so. You are exempt the whole period of your travel, not just the hours you are in a train or car, etc. If one eats unconsciously during the fasting hours, this is not breaking the Fast as it is an accident. The age limit is seventy years, but if one desires to fast after the age limit is passed, and is strong enough to, one is free to do so. If during the Fast period a person falls ill and is unable to fast, but recovers before the fast period is over, he can start to fast again and continue until the end. Of course the Fast, as you know, can only be kept during the month set aside for that purpose."

Letter from the National Spiritual Assembly
Beloved Co-workers and Friends:

This letter comes to you under date of 1944, the most fateful and significant year in our Bahá’í lives. It culminates a century of Revelation, creation, sacrifice and consecrated service. It fulfills the first and most important measure of achievement laid upon the community of believers. It finds the world engulfed in the toils of war and conscious of the immense difficulties of attaining peace when the conflict ends. The radiant Figure of the Báb sends forth its illumination to the hearts of the faithful. The Guardian, appointed Trustee of all the divine hopes for a regenerated and united mankind, calls upon us to redouble our effort in pressing forward to the sublime goal.

Now only a few months, weeks, days and hours remain in which to complete the task assigned the American Bahá’ís to discharge before the Centenary of the Declaration of the Báb finds us assembled in the House of Worship after sunset, May 22.

As reported by the National Teaching Committee on November 30, there are five unfinished tasks which require additional settlers:

Regina, Saskatchewuan, settlers needed. 2
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, settlers needed
Moncton, New Brunswick, settlers needed
Halifax, Nova Scotia, settlers needed
Reno, Nevada, settlers needed

Number of new settlers needed at once:

To state this need in figures of unoccupied areas and settlers required is to show the marvelous work done in the past few years, for the goal is now within our grasp. But in spiritual matters there is no such thing as "almost accomplished" or "nearly done" or "only slightly imperfect." We must accomplish the Seven Year Plan completely and perfectly or acknowledge that we have failed.

Therefore the National Spiritual Assembly sends out for the National Teaching Committee this most urgent and imperative call. Only eight settlers are requested, but this is a minimum number. It does not provide settlers for other areas where the unavoidable loss of one single believer would dissolve the Assembly and replace the State or Province in the list of virgin areas still demanding help.

Twelve or more settlers are needed! This number of souls must be kindled with zeal and enthusiasm, charged with the spirit of heroic mission, and dispatched to their posts within the next few weeks. Every believer in the land must ponder his or her responsibility under this final call. Every Assembly must accept the challenge to discover the pioneers in its own community. Every Regional Teaching Committee must earnestly scrutinize its list of believers in prayerful resolve to find ready and willing Bahá’ís.

The volunteers are to report immediately to the National Teaching Committee, Miss Charlotte Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.

"Progress in the completion of the tasks of the Seven Year Plan has been slowing up," the National Teaching Committee has written, "due largely to the general feeling that seems to exist among the American Bahá’ís that the goals have been achieved or are within easy reach. Actually we still have five virgin areas and need for at least nine settlers. Many of the Sixth Year Assemblies are very weak and in need of a great deal of teaching assistance."

"The American Bahá’ís should not be permitted for a moment to overlook the fact that our position with respect to the Seven Year Plan is still extremely precarious."

All this means, dear friends, that concentration upon the Seven Year Plan is still our central and predominating responsibility. The plan of the five successive teaching themes and the portfolios of teaching material being given the Assemblies are aimed to draw the local communities within the spiritual arena of teaching effort, not as a substitute for the Seven Year Plan, but deeper consecration to assure its complete success.

In a few short months, whether we celebrate the Centenary in the House of Worship at Wilmette, or in our local Center, or alone in our own home, it will be as though we have the glory of meeting the Báb. The Letters of the Living who met Him gave their lives to receive Life. Can we hold back, refusing to give our time, our effort, to fulfill their sublime martyrdom?"

—National Spiritual Assembly

Bahá’í Centenary Plans
SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

The Centenary Committee has received a large number of signed application forms as requested in the first Announcement included as insert in Bahá’í News for November, 1943. The purpose of that application is to acquaint the Committee with the approximate number of friends who plan to attend the Centenary and Convention sessions. As the Committee is explaining to each applicant by letter, the sending of the signed form does not mean that
an actual reservation has been made. Reservations are made after the applicant receives information concerning the accommodations available and has made his selection and sent the cash required.

ROOM SHORTAGE
The Centenary and Convention coincide with an emergency situation as far as rooms in private homes or hotels are concerned in the Chicago area. The vast increase in the population due to construction of new industries and the establishment of various military establishments makes it necessary to search out every possible facility in order to meet the needs of the Baha'is and their guests.

An appeal is made that believers having homes or apartments in the Temple area with a room or so that could be used during the Centenary week notify the Committee so that these special accommodations may be added to those already in sight.

Rooms will be assigned in the order of the applications as soon as possible. Those who have their written application need take no further step until they hear from the Committee. However, there are doubtless many more believers who expect to come, and all these friends are urgently requested to fill out and return the application form as repeated on page six. Such applications do not obligate the sender financially—they are merely a notice of intention, and each notice will be acted upon by the Committee as soon as possible.

Further announcements will be made in Baha'i News from month to month. Please watch for them. To repeat the information already given:

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS
1. The dates are FRIDAY, MAY 18, through THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 25. The Convention will begin Friday morning, and the first public meeting will be held that evening. The morning and afternoon sessions are to be for the business of the Convention, except Sunday afternoon, when a public meeting will be conducted; and evenings are to be public meetings in accordance with the following schedule:
2. Friday evening, May 19—Public meeting on the subject of the Temple.
3. Sunday afternoon—Public meeting for the presentation of the Faith.
4. Monday evening, May 22—The meeting of spiritual dedication in Temple auditorium, followed by the most important of the public meetings in Foundation Hall.

Tuesday evening, May 23—Public meeting with speakers chosen from North America pioneers.
Wednesday evening, May 24—Public meeting with speakers chosen from Latin American pioneers.
Thursday evening, May 25—Banquet in a Chicago hotel.

The Committee feels a great responsibility in its task of providing accommodations for all the friends who wish to attend this occasion of surpassing historic importance. The only way that this responsibility can be met is by making the necessary arrangements now with hotels and owners for rooms on the basis of the number of reservations actually applied for before December.

North America Teaching
The culminating year of the first century has opened with far-reaching activities. In every part of the United States and Canada pioneers, settlers, and teachers are proclaiming the Faith with challenging and vital force. A record of those bold spirits who have added their names to the Pioneer Roll of Honor since May, 1943, is published in this issue. We wish there were space to recount the adventures and bounties which have sustained them in their irresistible advance on every front.

Since Convention four Spiritual Assemblies have been formed, three in virgin territories—Anchorage, Alaska; Fargo, N. D.; and Omaha, Nebraska—and the fourth in Pittsburgh, Pa., which was formerly disbanded.

In this same period more than twenty-five teachers have undertaken circuits or special assignments to pioneer areas and newly-organized communities. Everywhere their reports reflect a universal readiness to investigate the Plan of Bahai 'u'llah. Perhaps the following notes on a few of these circuits will speak for the achievements of all.

During August and early September Mrs. Milly Collins visited the friends in the Pacific Northwest, the Prairie Provinces of Canada, and North Dakota. After "three happy days" in Vancouver, Mrs. Collins stopped in Calgary where individual and fireside meetings with friends of this pioneer group resulted in enthusiastic plans for a study class. Next came a week in Edmonton with six meetings, described in glowing terms by the Local Assembly. Delighted with her talks for inquirers, the believers also found their own knowledge clarified and deepened. "She gave us so much encouragement in the work already done and to be done in the future." Then followed a week in Regina for intensive work in this important virgin Province, and a short visit to Winnipeg, after which Mrs. Collins arrived in Fargo "exactly at the psychological moment" to assist the friends to prepare for the election of the first Spiritual Assembly of North Dakota.

Another extensive circuit was carried out by Virginia Camelon, who left the South in mid-August to assist with teaching campaigns in St. Louis, Kansas City, Topeka, Omaha, Fargo, Winnipeg, and Regina. It is reported that the St. Louis group is
fast approaching Assembly status. Both here and in Fargo Miss Camelon found an especially warm public response to the Faith. Five public meetings and several informal occasions were arranged in Fargo, the latter attracting many of the city's outstanding women. In a radio talk Miss Camelon introduced the newly-formed Baha'i Community, emphasizing its future significance for the State. "Fargo," she pointed out, "has now become part of an historic and world-embracing force." A brilliant public meeting with fine publicity was held in Winnipeg, and in Regina a series of four public meetings was arranged causing widespread interest. Writing of the universal response Miss Camelon commented: 'All these groups seem to be the result of long years of work everywhere, the fruiting is now evident.'

Eastern Canada received the news of the clear victory with enthusiasm. The Baha'i Community held high hopes in Canada, and important contacts were also made in the Toronto Assembly, and the Regional Committee held high hopes for Fuskegee where Mr. Washington was a former student.

These are but samples of the dynamic work which Bahá'í teachers have undertaken throughout the country. Other projects already carried out (by mid-October) included: Louis Gregory ..... Central States
Marguerite Ulrich ..... Pittsburgh
Muriel Warmnick ..... Regina

PIONEER HONOR ROLL
To October 15, 1943

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Home City</th>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Janet Whitehead</td>
<td>Anchorage, Alaska</td>
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<td>Miss Geddes</td>
<td>Anchorage, Alaska</td>
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<td>Mrs. Grace O. Peterson</td>
<td>Regina, Sask., Canada</td>
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<td>Mrs. Doris McKay</td>
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<td>Mrs. Helen Gidden</td>
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<td>Miss Agnes McKinon</td>
<td>Charlottetown, P.E.I.</td>
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<td>Miss Rosalind Shaw</td>
<td>Halifax, Nova Scotia</td>
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<td>Miss Marion Matthews</td>
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<td>Miss Jesse Perry</td>
<td>Wilmington, Delaware</td>
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<td>Mrs. Grace Wilder</td>
<td>Greenville, South Carolina</td>
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<td>Mrs. Hattie Shelben</td>
<td>Jackson, Mississippi</td>
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<td>Mrs. Sarah Ellen Peake</td>
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<td>Miss Emmalou Wever</td>
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<td>Mrs. India Haggerty</td>
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<td>Mrs. Ethel McAllister</td>
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<td>Mrs. Alice Mickle</td>
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<td>Miss Frances H. Jones</td>
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<td>Mrs. Betty Greer</td>
<td>Fargo, North Dakota</td>
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<td>Mrs. Edna Angell</td>
<td>Fargo, North Dakota</td>
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<td>Mrs. Marjorie Debilt</td>
<td>Fargo, North Dakota</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. S. V. Corbet</td>
<td>Laramie, Wyoming</td>
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DISBANDED ASSEMBLIES

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<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh, Penn.</td>
<td>Of Oregon-Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Florence Zmeskal</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, Penn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Agnes Maye Ayres</td>
<td>Findlay, Ohio</td>
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Harlan Ober ..... Maritime Provinces
Roan Carter ..... Fargo
Marguerite True ..... Sioux Falls
Monroe Jones ..... Sioux Falls
Valeria Thornton ..... Butte
Imogene Talbot ..... Butte
Sara Witt ..... Butte
Claire Rainbooth ..... Oregon-Washington
Dagmar Pole ..... Tacoma,
Richmond Highlands, Spokane
Kathryn Frankland ..... Laramie, Denver
Franccs H. Jones ..... Omaha
Carl Schefley ..... Omaha, Little Rock
Eva McCullister ..... Greenville, Alabama
Margret Little ..... Jackson, Little Rock
Helen Inderlied ..... Greensboro

These projects, combined with others already planned or under way, undoubtedly represent the most intensive and widespread campaign effort ever released for the triumph of the Faith in North America.

The Bahá'ís of Denver have recently completed two successful experiments in indirect teaching. The Inter-Faith program arranged last June, which resulted in a permanent Inter-Religious Study Group, has been reported previously. More recently a "Brotherhood of Man Program" was carried out under the chairmanship of Artemus Lamb, in which eleven local organizations including the Bahá'ís participated. The approach used in inviting groups was to point out "that none of them knew much of anything about the others, and that it should be most educational, inspiring and beneficial for each and the public in general to have a joint program at which each organization would introduce itself and its platform on the brotherhood of man." The meeting was highly successful, with a Judge of the State Supreme Court as presiding officer and an audience of over 400 to hear speakers and examine literature displays of each group. "Such a splendid feeling of fellowship and trust has come out of this affair that it is impossible to describe," Mr. Lamb has written, adding that the purpose of these efforts was "not merely to display the Bahá'í principles but to obtain recognition of the Cause and to get it directly into circles where it seemed no other way would do it." He reports that Denver is gratified with the results.

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Final Tasks of Seven Year Plan

With the completion of the pivotal sixth year of the Seven Year Plan, the American Community won a height from which "total victory"
was "in sight." Only seven States and Provinces stood between us and the final goal. Since the Convention five of these assignments have been thrillingly consummated, with the election of Spiritual Assemblies in Fargo, N. D., on September 2nd; Anchorage, Alaska, on September 8th; Omaha, Nebraska, on October 11th; Sioux Falls, S. D., and Greenville, S. C., on November 5th—bringing within the orbit of the Faith these far-flung territories.

Now, in mid-November, with Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Nevada as added tasks, we are confronted with five remaining objectives. Here is the actual situation:

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<th>Bahá’í News Needed</th>
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<td>Reno, Nevada</td>
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<td>Charlottetown, P.E.I.</td>
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<td>Moncton, N.B.</td>
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<td>Halifax, N.S.</td>
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<td>Regina, Sask.</td>
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Clearly, we stand in a strong but critical position. Our strength is proven, the steps to be taken are but few. Actually, only eight Bahá’ís are needed to fulfill the goals in North America! Yet the Teaching Committee is compelled to report that it lacks these volunteers.

The months are swiftly passing; we dare not hesitate. Our sure weapon of conquest is a swift and sweeping response to the Guardian’s uncompromising call: “Veteran believers, however brilliant their record, neophytes, however limited their experience, are all summoned as the final hour approaches to rush forth in a last supreme effort to bridge the remaining gaps in the spiritual front extending the entire length of the Western Hemisphere.”

Beloved friends, this summons to “a last supreme effort” comes from the Guardian himself. As in those early days when Shoghi Effendi raised the call for “nine holy souls” and we with thrilling momentum fulfilled his anxious and expectant hopes, is not today our golden, our compelling hour to arise again and claim a brilliant victory?

—National Teaching Committee

New Temple Photographs

This issue of Bahá’í News reproduces three new Temple views taken by Curtis Kelsey, and later issues will illustrate more of this series of pictures. The friends have long wanted a selection of attractive pictures of the House of Worship with the completed exterior decoration, and the National Spiritual Assembly has arranged for the sale of photographs through the Temple Library and Sales Committee.

The size is eight by ten inches, and the cost per picture is 40c which includes packing and shipping.

Send cash with order (and specify whether glossy or mat print is wanted) to H. E. Walrath, Chairman, 4839 Beacon Street, Chicago, Ill. Order by key number as assigned to each of the photographs reproduced in Bahá’í News.


Honduras

The Spiritual Assembly of Tegucigalpa has had the joy of welcoming Sr. Antonio Fernandez as a member of the Bahá’í Faith. The announcement was also received that Sr. Leonigualdo Alfaro is now serving as the Assembly Secretary of this thriving community.

Delightful letters from the friends in Tegucigalpa express their deep gratitude for the teaching stimulus gained by the “many packages of wonderful literature” they have received from the National Spiritual Assembly. Sr. Dominguez and Sr. Viana describe their local plans for a special program in honor of the Bahá’í Centennial. Sr. Viana is preparing a summary of the teaching methods he has developed for his weekly children’s class. “Sixteen wonderful children” attend this Sun-

Inter-America News

“We have heard with joy the glorious news of the surging response to the Divine summons. Sixteen adult believers, and two youths, are newly enrolled recruits in the ranks of Bahá’u’lláh’s Universal Cause! Like powerful magnets, their devoted service will attract added bounties for the six Latin-American countries which are

their homelands. A precious harvest, indeed, has thus been garnered from the sacrificial labors of our valiant pioneers and their loyal supporters in the American Bahá’í Community. Five new believers were enrolled a month ago.

Delightful letters from the friends in Tegucigalpa express their deep gratitude for the teaching stimulus gained by the “many packages of wonderful literature” they have received from the National Spiritual Assembly. Sr. Dominguez and Sr. Viana describe their local plans for a special program in honor of the Bahá’í Centennial. Sr. Viana is preparing a summary of the teaching methods he has developed for his weekly children’s class. “Sixteen wonderful children” attend this Sun-
day morning class. Additional newspaper contacts are being initiated, and the Libraries of Honduras have been supplied with Bahá’í literature in Spanish.

**El Salvador**

Delightful letters have come from Senora Montalvo, Secretary of the San Salvador Spiritual Assembly. This enterprising Assembly maintains a circulating library of Bahá’í literature, conducts study classes twice weekly, sponsors the Bahá’í Youth Academy, and carries on extension teaching work in four additional towns and cities in El Salvador.

Clarence Iverson writes that they are much encouraged by the increased interest being shown among the residents of Santa Ana, the second largest city in El Salvador. Members of the San Salvador Assembly visit Santa Ana as often as possible and continue the work in all the extension areas through the供应 of books and pamphlet material.

Clarence Iverson has cheered us with his decision to remain for another year at his post in San Salvador. He sent us a splendid photograph of the young people who attended the Bahá’í Youth Academy, and comments that the school will close for the customary vacation period of November and December. They plan, however, to organize as a Bahá’í Youth Group and carry on activities!

The Extension Teaching work undertaken by the San Salvador Assembly in the neighboring city of Santa Ana, is bearing fruit. The Santa Ana Library recently asked for a supply of Bahá’í books, and one of the San Salvador friends promptly made the journey to fulfill this welcomed request.

Another San Salvador member is spending two months visiting the Bahá’ís of Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Sr. Vega expects to leave Costa Rica for a prolonged visit in Panama.

Thus the Divine Plan continually evolves! Threads of friendly human contacts weave back and forth, bringing out in ever elaborated beauty the Divine Pattern of World Unity. Business trips, vacation journeys and letters of introduction all combine to draw together the friends of many lands, through the imperishable bonds of service to our beloved Faith.

**Haiti**

The Spiritual Assembly of Port-au-Prince joyfully announces the acceptance of two new believers—Mr. Royer DeJean and Mr. Andre Paul. Letters from both Mr. and Mrs. Mckean are radiant with gratitude for this testimony of the growth of the Cause in Haiti. Every avenue of approach is being explored by the Assembly for ways and means of establishing the Faith in Port-au-Prince with befitting strength and dignity.

The National Spiritual Assembly has arranged to assist the Spiritual Assembly of Port-au-Prince, to broaden the scope of their teaching activities through the additional increase of pamphlet material in French.

In nearby San Domingo, Margaret Lentz has found a charming house which she hopes will lend itself to a wider range of Bahá’í activities for the city of Trujillo. The return of Dr. Berges to Trujillo will broaden the scope of the concentrated teaching efforts that these two workers will strive to carry out during the coming months.

**Jamaica**

To Marie Louise Browne and Marion Lord Maxwell, of Kingston, has come the imperishable privilege of being the first residents of Jamaica to enlist under the Banner of Bahá’u’lláh. Dr. Malcolm King’s many months of patient, loving service for the Cause has been bountifully rewarded in the confirmation of these two radiant believers. We rejoice with him that Miss Browne and Miss Maxwell will carry forward the Divine Plan in Jamaica when he returns, shortly, to the United States.

To the precious nucleus of two believers in Kingston has been added the thrilling strength of three new members! Both men and women are now sharing the privilege of establishing the foundations for the Spiritual Assembly of Kingston, Jamaica. We send our heartfelt congratulations to Miss Siley, Mr. Duff, Porter and Mr. Mitchell—new members of the Bahá’í World Community.

Poetic beauty graced Dr. King’s expression of his heart’s gratitude to Bahá’u’lláh, and to all the friends “whose prayers most assuredly have been answered in a definite way.” Tenderly he writes of his plans to assist the group to grow in understanding of their new and sacred trust—“and on November 4th, God willing, I am hoping to give the first Bahá’í Feast in Jamaica, according to the method used in the United States. Is this not a most glorious blessing? I hope God will continue to crown my effort, and keep me in His service without deflection in ardor and love of His sublime Cause. Time is short and the sand in the hour glass is running low. We must spread the Teachings of Bahá’u’lláh for God’s Divine Kingdom to everyone, or we shall be found wanting in our responsibilities, and unworthy recipients of such a noble heritage in this Divine Springtime of His Revelation.”

Dr. King sent us a number of newspaper clippings containing the series of articles on the Faith which he had been invited to write. These clippings, he tells us are only a few, and the others will arrive later! “The paper in which these articles are

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**Committee on Bahá’í Centenary**

Edna True, Chairman
418 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois

To cooperate with your Committee in its effort to estimate the number of reservations required by Bahá’ís who wish to attend the Convention and Centenary, I hereby report my intention to be present. Kindly send me information and rates covering accommodations for the following number of persons in my family or party:

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<td>Address</td>
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published circulates, not only in Jamaica," he comments, "but also in Central America and the United States. God's mysterious forces will cause them to be seen by people with receptive hearts."

Paraguay

Virginia Orbison's buoyant letters have flown swiftly to us from Asuncion, during the two months of her visit there. In one of these, she wrote with deep tenderness of the celebration of the Feast of Might—the first Feast to be held after her arrival. Typifying the chaos of the world, a roaring storm of thunder, wind and rain raged outside, through which the little band of believers had bravely struggled in order to meet together. A sense of physical and spiritual sanctuary was heightened by the "very impressive atmosphere of love and unity among all." This momentous night marked "another fruit-bearing of Elizabeth Cheney's efforts in Paraguay"; the first two Bahá'ís of Asuncion made this the occasion for a heart-warming reaffirmation of their Faith, and two others of the original group made their declaration of Faith and enrolled as members.

Virginia has renewed the interest of a number of charming and talented people, also a part of Elizabeth Cheney's spiritual legacy, as well as meeting many new friends. Physicians, writers and educators have listened graciously to the Great Message. In several instances, their courtesy has flowered into a more intensive eagerness to learn of the promise of peace enshrined in the Bahá'í Revelation. In every contact of her daily life, Virginia has offered warm friendliness, and the "Glad Tidings," to young and old, to Paraguayan acquaintances in varied walks of life, and to people from other countries who are finding a refuge and a new homeland in Paraguay.

Argentina

Sr. Barros, the energetic Secretary of the Spiritual Assembly of Buenos Aires, has supplied us with a most informative resume of the various activities of this largest Bahá'í community of South America. Local work functions progressively, by means of regularly scheduled classes, and supplementary study is made available through their circulating library. Extension teaching work continues in neighboring areas, with intensive effort directed to two adjoining cities over a period of months.

The National Spiritual Assembly has authorized that Bahá'í literature in Spanish be published in Buenos Aires to facilitate quicker distribution throughout the South American countries. Sr. Barros writes of the earnestness with which the members of the Reviewing and Publishing Committee are seeking to expedite the work. He mentions that Wilfrid Barton, of Montevideo, Uruguay, is a valued member of this Committee and joins their consultations as frequently as possible.

Bolivia

Flora Hottes bestows fascinating news from La Paz in intimate, flowing phrases which banish distance and bring these dear Bolivian neigh-
bears very close to us. We share the richness of their joy in the declaration of a new believer—the fifth Bolivian Bahá'í! This gracious new member moved almost immediately to Tarija, and yearns to spread the Creative Message in this southern city of Bolivia. Through their prayers and frequent letters, the Bahá'ís of La Paz will support this brave pioneering work of their beloved friend—"who is lovely to look at and lovely in her desire, sweetly and sincerely, to know and serve the Cause."

Every contact of daily life is utilized that the Teachings may be offered to those in all walks of life. The kindly serving maid becomes aware of new horizons; the little seamstress stitches new hope into the garments she mends; a talented young Bolivian diplomat snatches spare moments from a busy day to read from his treasured collection of Bahá'í literature. Loving and patient work continues with the Indian friends, to whom gentle explanations are offered. A former happy acquaintance was renewed, and more books were given, when a charming couple returned for a brief visit in La Paz from their home in Isla del Sol. Writes Flora: — "These two splendid people have given years of wise and selfless service to the Indians of Isla; they are the very highest type of Bolivians. . .always together, they read and meditate upon the great universal truths of Bahá'u'lláh, and they love His Cause.

"Gradual as is the unfoldment of the wonder of the Cause in hearts and minds, nevertheless I think that some day there will be a noble harvest of believers here. And how I love this country and the people! . . . Our little Bahá'í Group in La Paz is devoted, loyal and generous, and is achieving a greater and greater unity in cooperation and consultation."

Miss Hottes pleads the ever increasing need for Bahá'í literature, the outgrowth of widening opportunities for attracting the interest of studious cultured individuals. Their gatherings are drawing many guests distinguished for their achievements in various fields of the sciences and the arts. A recent evening brought together some of the college friends of Senora de Castillo's son, and a number of the literary men of La Paz. One of these guests "read a very beautiful poem, which he had written and dedicated to one of our former meetings."

This brilliant galaxy of writers, professors and authors contributed a stimulating and unforgettable evening.

Colombia

Mail from Bogota tells us that this capital city of Colombia is now blessed by eight resident Bahá'ís! Six Colombian believers are enrolled as members and are striving to deepen their knowledge of the Faith, with the help of Winnie Lou Baker and Gerrard Sluter. We hope to have further interesting word for you of this Bahá'í Group as additional letters come flying up to us bearing more details of their activities. A glorious future is destined for each of these South American Republics whose citizens so nobly respond to the call of God.

Venezuela

The first issue of an exceptionally attractive new magazine, entitled "Pro-America" arrived by recent post. This beautiful magazine is published in Caracas by the Consejo Nacional de la "Unión de Mujeres Americanas." Auspiciously, enshrined within its pages, is a significant discourse from the Bahá'í Writings on the equality of the sexes. We send our felicitations and congratulations to the editors and their able co-workers. May their glorious purpose succeed far beyond even their fondest hopes!

The demand for Bahá'í literature in the Latin-American countries is growing by leaps and bounds. Approved Spanish translations of various pamphlets, and selected compilations, are being published as rapidly as possible. Sr. Lupe Torres, of the Berkeley, California, Bahá'í Community, recently completed a scholarly translation of the "Pattern For Future Society," an excerpt from the Guardian's World Order Letters. Copies of this translation have been sent to all the Bahá'í centers where the Spanish language is used.

Mrs. Leonora Hoisapple Armstrong continues her valuable labors of translating the needed literature into Portuguese for use throughout Brazil.

—INTER AMERICA COMMITTEE
By Marion H. Longyear

Radio Teaching

With the national radio campaign so well under way, the National Spiritual Assembly has felt it advisable to ask the friends to consider the unique nature of this new and universal medium which serves to link together countless persons in the reception of one and the same message or program.

By its very nature the radio is a universal teaching medium, since the influence of radio talks cannot be confined to any limited place such as the administrative area assigned to any one local Spiritual Assembly. The talk is carried out far and wide as on invisible wings—an audible edition of a book or pamphlet which if printed and circulated to the same number of persons would represent a considerable undertaking.
Every believer using the radio necessarily transcends the administrative bodies which bear responsibility for the accuracy of talks and lectures delivered to audiences in the customary way. Therefore the administrative body or individual believer employing the radio should regard itself or himself as a trustee acting for the entire Bahá’í community.

The importance attributed by the National Spiritual Assembly to the quality of the Bahá’í material employed in radio programs is indicated by its recent action in appointing a Radio Script Reviewing Committee as announced elsewhere in this issue. Its purpose in establishing this Committee was to make available the best possible Bahá’í radio material, and to stimulate the greater use of radio as a teaching medium. Moreover, the National Assembly feels its responsibility in making it possible to maintain radio activities under its National Bahá’í Radio Committee.

At present a national radio campaign is being conducted by the Committee in three different cities.

In New York the station is WQXR, the Bahá’í program being known as “Musical Calendar,” a broadcast going on Wednesday evenings at 9:15. This program consists of selected classical music, with comments on the composer, with a period in which passages are read from the Bahá’í teachings. No lecture or address is given. The program is identified as Bahá’í, the public meeting held weekly at the New York Bahá’í Center is announced, and Bahá’í literature offered to those requesting it.

This type of program is new and experimental, but the Committee and the New York Assembly, which participates jointly in the program, are satisfied that it is producing excellent results.

In Chicago the station is WCLF, the Bahá’í program is also entitled “Musical Calendar,” and the time is 9:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings for thirteen weeks, beginning December 28.

A program has likewise been arranged in San Francisco but the details are not yet reported. This program will be described in Bahá’í News next month.

To have three campaigns proceeding simultaneously is a great undertaking and a powerful effort on behalf of the Faith. Every local Assembly, Regional Teaching Committee and group in these three areas should take vigorous action in order to make use of this potential force. Like the momentum of a river turned into useful work by the construction of dams, sluices and waterwheels, the best of radio programs will accomplish little unless we ourselves develop the contacts and teaching activities taking full advantage of its influence.

Baha'i House of Worship
Photograph No. 3

Ninth Bahá’í World Youth Symposium

Once again the Bahá’í Youth of the World will meet together on February 27, 1944, in spirit and in love for the Ninth “World Bahá’í Youth Symposium.”

It is hoped that the Bahá’í youth everywhere, no matter how few the number, will hold a fitting program for this occasion, either by them-
selves, or by joining with youth from nearby vicinities.

"The Bahá’í Centennial" has been chosen for the main theme. This cannot be over-emphasized, as in May, 1944, "we will celebrate not only the termination of the first century of the Bahá’í Era, but also the centenary of the birth of the Bahá’í Dispensation, of the inception of the Bahá’í cycle, and of the birth of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and commemorate as well the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Bahá’í Faith in the Western World."

The four subjects follow:
- History of the Bahá’í Faith.
- The Bahá’í House of Worship.
- The New World Order of Bahá'u'lláh.
- The Need of Spiritual Living.

Transliteration of Bahá’í Terms

In one of the Guardian’s earliest letters (March 12, 1923) published in Bahá’í Administration, he directed the believers to follow the system of transliteration provided for the accurate writing and printing of Bahá’í terms. The code sent with that letter was reproduced here scrupulously and at all times to have been followed, and endorsed, a "curate writing and printing of Bahá’í Terms have been made available in transliterated letter."

Publicity Bulletin

The Bahá’í News Service Committee has just sent out the first of its bi-monthly bulletins containing releases and suggested types and ways of obtaining publicity. If you did not receive a copy and would like one, write the secretary, Miss Virginia Russell, 2322 Prairie Avenue, Evanston, Illinois.

Please send two copies of all publicity clippings, assembled, to the secretary. All clippings must be received not later than March 31 to appear in the Press Books for 1943-44.

Appeal By Archives Committee

The response of the American believers has been most generous to the recent appeal of the National Archives and History Committee that the Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the letters of the Guardian be placed in the National Bahá’í Archives before the close of the first century. Lists of these Tablets and letters and other sacred objects given to the Archives are now being completed under the names of the donors. Orders will be filled in the near future for more than 300 photostatic copies of these sacred manuscripts, received within the past three months.

Local Assemblies and groups are requested to remind the friends at the next Feast that this is their last opportunity to become one of that great company of believers who, within the first fifty years of the history of the Faith in America, have added their most precious possessions to that growing spiritual treasury of the original writings of the Master and the Guardian,—the National Archives.

MAY SCHEFFLER, Secretary, 1821 Lincoln Street Evanston, Ill.

Calls for Bahá’í Books in Public Library

The Library Committee would like to share with the friends this encouraging report on the circulation of our books in the Syracuse Public Library and the University of Syracuse. We should welcome similar detailed reports which show the great teaching value of placing books in libraries. In the Syracuse Public Library, most of the books have circulated actively from 1940 to 1943. Even The Bahá’í World volumes have been taken out with Volume 7 having a record of six withdrawals. The two copies of the Book of Assurance have been drawn out seven times; Spirit of the Age, seven times; Some Answered Questions, eighteen times; Modern Social Religion, twenty times; Splendour of God, twelve times. Remey; Bahá’í Movement and Universal Consciousness, six and eight times. The Bahá’í Revelation by Thornton Chase was out at the time of the report. Nineteen of the twenty-one books in this library have been drawn out.

The Syracuse University report was also most gratifying as the copy of the Scriptures had been taken out fourteen times and had been on reserve three times; Volume one of Promulgation of Universal Peace had been drawn out nine times; Spirit of the Age seven times; Some Answered Questions, four times and on reserve twice. Most of the Remey books had been drawn out several times up to 1942.

Circulation reports from other cities would be most welcome as a basis for comparison and to show public interest in the Bahá’í books in libraries.

Messages from Tehran and Adelaide

Two messages have been received full of interest for the American Bahá’ís. One is from the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Iran, the other from the NSA of Australia and New Zealand.

From Tehran we have the thrilling news that the Memorial to Keith Ransom-Kehler has been completed and that photographs are being mailed. The message states: "Monument to beloved Keith, first distinguished American Bahá’í martyr and eminent hand of the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh has been completed. We will mail photographs and report.

May
the exemplary services of beloved Keith continue to exert an abiding influence upon the humble services of the believers of Persia.”

The words of the Guardian, and a memorial notice by the NSA concerning Keith were published in Baha’i News of January, 1934, and the design for her Memorial at Isfahan made by the late Myron H. Potter was illustrated in March, 1935. Her passing was duly observed in The Baha’i World, Vol. V.

From Adelaide we have acknowledgement of the contribution of $500 made by the National Spiritual Assembly for the American friends toward the cost of a National Baha’i Headquarters for the NSA of Australia and New Zealand. “Mumificent donation for National Headquarters gratefully received. National Assembly and all the believers are profoundly moved and inspired by this manifestation of the true Baha’i spirit. We pray for great blessings for the loving American friends.”

New Assemblies

In addition to the four Assemblies reported in the November issue, the National Spiritual Assembly is gratified to list the following additions to the Assembly roll: Tacoma, Washington; Greenville, South Carolina; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and Alexandria, Virginia. The formation of Assemblies in South Carolina and South Dakota remove two more States from the virgin areas.

Baha’i Directory

Assemblies

Tacoma, Washington—Mrs. Lois A. Griffin, Secretary, 412 South 4th Street.
Greenville, South Carolina—Adline S. Lohse, Secretary, 3 Vannoy Street.
Sioux Falls, South Dakota—Frances B. Jones, Secretary, 105 West 21 Street.
Alexandria, Virginia—Mrs. Harold Bowman, 818 Chalfont Drive.
Ann Arbor, Michigan—change of Secretary—Mrs. William Parker, Secretary, 1601 Pontiac Street.
Cabin John, Maryland—change of Secretary—Herbert J. Patser, Secretary, Box 123.
Fargo, North Dakota—Mrs. Esther B. Morril, Secretary, 1240 Broadway.
Montclair, New Jersey—change of Secretary—Becky Noyes, Acting Secretary, 17 Carteret Street, Upper Montclair.

Committees

Radio Script Reviewing Committee: This new Committee has been appointed to pass upon radio scripts with a view to determining their Baha’i accuracy and suitability for a public presentation of the Faith.

Edmund Mieserl, Chairman, 411 So. Main Street, Columbus Grove, Ohio;
Elizabeth Cheney, Frank A. Baker.

Pamphlet Literature: Allen B. McDaniel added.

Contacts: Martha Heber, Mrs. Mary A. McCleen added.

Gigeyville School: Dr. Mildred Nichols, Chairman. Mrs. Sylvia Ions unable to serve as Chairman.

Louvelen School: Mrs. Clinton Widdowson and Roscoe C. Springston added.

New York Regional Teaching: Elizabeth Murray added. Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh unable to serve.

California, Nevada, Arizona Regional Teaching: Robert F. Willis added. Mrs. Helen M. Robinson has moved from the area.

American Memorial to ‘Abdu’l-Baha: Philip G. Sprague unable to serve.

In Memoriam

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life—Baha’u’llah.

Mrs. Mary B. Haskell, Chicago.
Mr. Peter Coyne, Chicago.
Mr. Carlton Keeler, Ocean Grove, N. J.
Miss Alice N. Parker, Boston.
Mrs. Helen Lillywhite, Laramie.
Mr. Irving Rohstock, New York.
Mrs. Shelley N. Parker, Chicago.
Mrs. Ilia Shettery, Wilmington, Calif.
Miss Alma Knobloch, Cabin John.

Enrollments and Transfers


Enrollments by transfer reported by local Assemblies:


Enrollment of isolated believers in October, nine; in November, 8.

Baha’i Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Sovereignty, January 19; Dominion, February 7; Loftiness, March 2.

Period of the Fast: nineteen days, beginning March 2.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: March 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

Teaching theme for January and February, World Unity.

“The Auspicious Year”

Message from Shoghi Effendi

The auspicious year destined to witness the Centenary of the Birth of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh is brilliantly opening. The last year of the first Bahá’í Century is more than half spent. The tempo of organized, concerted activities of the members of the worldwide Bahá’í community is correspondingly accelerating. Teaching campaigns, enterprises of institutional significance, publicity measures, publication projects, and celebration plans are rapidly multiplying. Inter-community competition is steadily mounting. The world-desolating conflict, now in its fifth year, is powerless to cloud the splendid prospect of the triumphant termination of the first, most shining century of the Bahá’í Era. Tihrán reports thirty-four Assemblies constituted, fifty-four groups reinforced, fifty-eight new centers established. Messages from Delhi indicate that Bahá’ís have established residence in over sixty localities in India and eighteen Assemblies are already functioning. To the National Bahá’í Headquarters previously founded in Tihrán, Wilmette and Baghdad, are now added similar centers in Cairo, Delhi and Sydney, officially registered in the names of their respective National Assemblies, and representing an addition to Bahá’í national endowments amounting to approximately eighteen thousand pounds. The Bahá’í international endowments have been further enriched by a recent acquisition on Mount Carmel in the vicinity of the Bab’s Shrine transferred to the name of the Palestine Branch of the American National Assembly. Twenty-five acres of land situated in the Jordan valley have just been dedicated to the Tomb of Bahá’u’lláh.

The recent acquisition of land adjacent to the site of the projected Tihrán Temple raises the holding to over three and a half million square meters. The Seven Year Plan, providing the chief impulse to the extra-
ordinary expansion of these magnificent activities, must, during the remaining five months, as befitting the Thanksgiving act for continued outpouring of God's unfailing grace, surge ahead to dazzling victory surpassing our highest expectations. The prosecution of the Plan, whose scope transcends every other enterprise launched by Bahá'í communities throughout the whole century, must, ere the hundred years run out, culminate in one last, supreme effort whose repercussions will resound throughout the Bahá'í world.

Mehdrok Rabbani

Received January 4, 1944

Temple Teaching

The number of visitors to the Temple for the first ten months of 1943 compares favorably with the years before there were so many transportation difficulties. The visitors seemed to be unusually receptive and a large number requested literature.

The following statistics might be of interest:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Visitors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>14,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>12,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>15,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>15,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>13,737</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total from the time guiding started, July 1, 1932, through October 31, 1943, 104,360

More visited in August than in any other month of 1943, namely, 2,918.

The visitors this year came from all the states and the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Alaska, seven provinces of Canada, and the countries of England, Australia, Bahamas, Wales, Cuba, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Austria, Monaco, India, Palestine, China, Honduras, Bolivia, Brazil, and Mexico. No doubt they came from many other countries as well, since only one-fourth sign the Visitors' Register from which this information was taken.

The Temple Guides Committee has many difficult problems to solve, one of which is the obtaining of enough guides to perform this prodigious task. Pioneering in Bahá'í work, the armed services, defense work, illness, removal from town, etc., have taken a toll of at least forty-two from the list of active and prospective guides. Appeals for volunteers in this work have not brought enough response. Due to the national publicity and radio broadcasting that will take place prior to the Centennial Celebration, there will surely be a large increase in visitors. We must have more guides.

Weekly classes to prepare guides will be started in the Temple on Sunday, January 9th, at 2 p.m., and in the Chicago Bahá'í Center, 116 S. Michigan Avenue, on Wednesday, January 5th, at 7:30 p.m. All who can possibly do so are urged to attend these classes.

Those who guide are thrilled and enthusiastic about the work. Some come from such great distances that the trip each way takes two or three hours, such as, the far south side of Chicago, Riverside, Waukegan, Franklin Park, and Milwaukee. Nine guides came from Milwaukee, two guiding every Sunday and holiday and the rest twice a month.

Our Temple is a beautiful building. It attracts throngs. We have invested at least $1,343,000 in it so far. We should make the most of our opportunity to use it in making the world cognizant of the Teachings of this Faith, God's remedy for its ills.

**Temple Guides Committee, Mary Haggard, Chairman**

### Bahá'í Service for the Blind

Through the devoted service of a member of Bahá'í Service for the Blind, 50 copies of the pamphlet, *Principles of the Bahá'í Faith*, in printed Braille are available to Assemblies or groups with blind believers or blind friends; also available to pioneers. This service is rendered by Mrs. Amedée Gibson of California, in the name of the Nat'l Spiritual Assembly; and in memory of Mrs. Constance Rodman and Mr. Albert Engelder, whose devoted services to the work for the blind—although they have passed to the life beyond—still inspire us.

Please address requests for the above to the chairman of Bahá'í Service for the Blind, Miss Ella C. Quant, 1089 Glenwood Boulevard, Schenectady, N. Y.

Following is a list of Books in Braille at the Reserve Library. These books are available for use of the blind—free of charge—loaned for a period to suit the individual need. Kindly address all requests for Reserve Library books to Mrs. Mayme Jackson, 9615 N Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio.

- **Advent of Divine Justice**
- **Atoms in Action**
- **Bahá'í Prayers and Meditations**
- **Bahá'í News**
- **Brief Reference to Bahá'í Faith** (Helen Keller)
- **Bus Ride (Short Story)**
- **Gertrude Schurgast**
- **Chinese Proverbs**
- **Divine Art of Living**
- **Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh**
- **Goal of New World Order**
- **Golden Age of the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh**
- **Hidden Words**
- **Homoculture**
- **House of Worship**
- **Laboratory of Life**
- **Moon-lit Cup**
- **Path to God**
- **Prayers and Meditations from Words of Wisdom**
- **Prayers and Meditations (Memorial to the blind)**
- **Prayers** (from World Order Magazine)
- **Principles of the Bahá'í Faith**
- **Reality of Man**
- **White Silk Dress** (short story) Maryah Gail

Bahá'í Service for the Blind, as a committee, has a two-fold objective, towards which the individual members are looking and working; that is, to enlarge the Reserve Library, thereby increasing its capacity to serve; also to establish a system of "Talking Books" for the blind who do not read Braille; that in the Centennial Year of the Glorious Manifestation of Bahá'u'lláh, he who is physically sightless may be enabled to say in spirit—"Although once I was blind, but now I see!"—Ella C. Quant, Chairman
CENTENARY AND CONVENTION PLANS

BAHÁ’Í NEWS

National Spiritual Assembly of the Báb’s of the United States and Canada — 536 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, Ill.

No. 168
March, 1944

Year 101
Bahá’í Era

Messages From
The Guardian

Since the transmission of my recent message conveying news of the magnificent progress achieved by Bábí communities, a substantial addition to the endowments dedicated to the shrines raises the holdings in the Jordan Valley to over five hundred acres. The extension of teaching enterprises East and West, the multiplication of Bábí endowments, national and international, the consolidation of administrative institutions, above all the superb evidences of incorruptible loyalty to ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and His Will, equally proclaim the unyielding determination of the world community to seal with triumph the first Bahá’í Century.

—SHOGHII RABBAH
Received January 16, 1944

The participation of Latin American believers in the Bahá’í Centennial Convention is vital to the future development of the Faith in the Americas. I urge individuals as well as the National Assembly to extend assistance, financial and otherwise, to enable as many representatives as possible to join the North American believers in the proceedings of a gathering of such momentous importance and historic significance in the evolution of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh in the western hemisphere.

—SHOGHII RABBAH
Received January 29, 1944

Delighted at notable successes achieved and splendid prospects ahead. Fervently praying for speedy formation of Assemblies in the four unsettled areas and full attendance of Latin American representatives.

—SHOGHII RABBAH
Received March 13, 1944

The first envelope containing locket with hair was returned after meeting with an accident. Though the accompanying letter was half burnt, the hair is intact. I rejoice at the providential escape and safe arrival. Inform friends.

—SHOGHII RABBAH
Received March 14, 1944

(This message refers to the shipment of the hair of the Báb for exhibit at the Centenary and preservation in the Archives. It was sent in June, 1943, and never received here, but now we have this news of its providential escape from loss or destruction and safe return to its sender, the Guardian, in Haifa.)

From a letter dated Haifa, January 14, written through his secretary, we quote this message from the Guardian:

“In this connection he would like you, in Bahá’í News, to call the attention of the friends to the importance of these endowments in the Jordan valley, by quoting Bahá’u’lláh’s own words as found on pages 116 and 117 in the ‘Gleanings,’ in which He very clearly states His approval of such dedicated lands, anticipates the importance they will acquire in those regions, and associates them with the words in the Old Testament: ‘Spread thy skirt, O Jerusalem!’"

The passage in Gleanings From the Writings of Bahá’u’lláh reads as follows:

“If a man be found willing to rear, in Our name, an edifice of pure gold or silver, or a house begemmed with stones of inestimable value, such a wish will no doubt be granted. He, verily, doeth what He willeth, and ordaineth that which He pleaseth. Leave, hath, moreover, been given to whosoever may desire to raise, throughout the length and breadth of this land, noble and imposing structures, and dedicate the rich and sacred territories adjoining the Jordan and its vicinity to the worship and service, of the one true God, magnified be His glory, that the prophecies recorded by the Pen of the Most High in the sacred Scriptures may be fulfilled, and that which God, the Lord of all worlds, hath purposed in this most exalted, this most holy, this mighty, and wondrous Revelation may be made manifest.

“We have, of old, uttered these words: Spread thy skirt, O Jerusalem! Ponder this in your hearts, O people of Bahá, and render thanks unto your Lord, the Exponent, the Most Manifest.”

Finally these excerpts from letter dated November 16, 1943, written through his secretary:

“Regarding the seven points submitted to the Guardian in connection with the new basis of the election of Convention delegates. He approves the action taken by your Assembly but wishes to stress the importance of reminding the believers that they should make every possible effort to attend the meeting for the election of the State or Province delegates, in order to stimulate a larger group consciousness which will greatly facilitate the process of the believers becoming acquainted with each other, and provide an intermediary stage—which will become increasingly valuable and necessary between the local organization, represented by the group or Assembly, and national collective action, represented by the activities of the Convention and the institution of the National Assembly.

“Regarding the District of Columbia: the Guardian feels it should be accorded its independent status of a State and should be treated on a footing of absolute equality with the other States and Provinces. Believers residing in that district should be accorded the same rights, in all matters of election and otherwise, as those who reside in the States and Provinces of North America.

“The Guardian’s directions regarding the formation of local Assemblies before April 21 applies to Central and South America as well as to the North American communities.

“Regarding the election of the local Assembly on April 21: He feels that it should not take place after sunset on that day, for otherwise it
would be, according to the Bahá’í Calendar, falling on April 22; if any changes should be made in the By-Laws, uniform action should be enforced by your Assembly.”

Letter from the National Spiritual Assembly

Beloved Co-workers and Friends:

There is urgent need of communicating information to all the believers concerning the Convention and the Centenary. This special number of Bahá’í News is being issued in order to convey the information to all the American believers as rapidly as possible. Another number of Bahá’í News, containing items of current interest, will follow in about ten days.

Election of Delegates

Beginning this year, the 171 Convention delegates will be elected by all the believers and not merely by those who are members of organized local communities. The delegates are assigned by proportionate representation to the States and Provinces of North America, and the elections will be held at some central point within each State or Province, under a new procedure which has been established with the Guardian’s approval.

1. The National Spiritual Assembly has appointed for each State and Province a Temporary Chairman to open the meeting. Those present at the election then proceed to the election of a permanent Chairman and Secretary, and the Chairman appoints two tellers.

2. Reading of passages from the Bahá’í literature related to elections and the nature of Bahá’í institutions, the following references being suggested: Bahá’í Administration, by Shoghi Effendi (third edition, 1936) —Prayer, on pages 20 and 21; last paragraph, page 21; third paragraph, page 36; third paragraph, page 45; second paragraph, page 52; all of pages 54, 55, 56 to the end of the letter, beginning with the first new paragraph on page 54.

3. The tellers certify the result of the election and the Chairman promptly transmits the tellers’ report and the ballots to the National Office.

4. In case of a tie vote the second ballot is to be cast by those present, and their votes are to be cast for one of the two or more persons who were tied.

5. The Secretary prepares and transmits a report of the proceedings of the meeting.

All effort is being made to have every State and Province electoral unit hold this first state-wide election on Sunday, April 9, at 11:00 A.M. A blank ballot, a letter of instruction and a list showing where each election is to be held as well as the number of delegates assigned to the various States and Provinces, will be sent to all the Bahá’ís as follows:

a. In bulk through the local Assemblies for distribution to the community members.

b. In bulk to group Correspondents for distribution to the group members.

c. Mailed direct to every listed Bahá’í who is neither a member of a community nor of a group.

The friends are exhorted to attend their respective election in person if possible, because these meetings inaugurate a new and important advance in the evolution of the Bahá’í administrative order. From now on, the distinction between voting and non-voting Bahá’ís is removed. Every believer, whether in a city with an Assembly or alone in a remote village, has one and the same right and responsibility to elect the delegates who constitute the annual Convention. There are no more “isolated” believers, for one is either identified as (for example) a “Chicago Bahá’í” or as a “North Dakota Bahá’í,” depending on whether he is listed as a member of a local community or member of a State or Provincial community.

In voting for the number of delegates assigned to your State or Province, bear in mind the fact that the name or names you write on your ballot must be resident or residents of your own State or Province, and must be adult (twenty-one years of age or more), duly listed Bahá’ís.

As the Guardian wrote in the letter quoted above: “He... wishes to stress the importance of reminding the believers that they should make every possible effort to attend the meeting for the election of the State or Province delegates, in order to stimulate a larger group consciousness which will greatly facilitate the process of the believers becoming acquainted with each other, and provide an intermediary stage—which will become increasingly valuable and necessary — between the local organization, represented by the group or Assembly, and national collective action, represented by the activities of the Convention and the institution of the National Assembly.”

The Temporary Chairmen have been appointed and notified. Where a suitable Bahá’í center or Bahá’í home is not available for the meeting, the Temporary Chairman has been authorized to rent a place.

The Convention

The 1944 Annual Convention will be held in Temple Foundation Hall, Wilmette, on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, May 19 to 25. There will be Convention business sessions each morning from 10:00 to 12:00 noon, and each afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00, except Sunday when the event will be a public meeting as scheduled in the program of the Centenary. The Centenary program will fill the evenings of the same days, May 19 to 25, as the Convention sessions.

Convention Agenda

Printed copies of the Agenda will be provided. Among the themes chosen for general consultation are:

The Guardian’s Survey of the First Bahá’í Century, the new book which he has entitled “God Passes By.”

Completion of the Seven Year Plan —Temple, North America Teaching and South America Teaching.


Convention photograph, 11:30 a.m., Sunday, May 21; Annual Election, 2:00 p.m., Monday, May 22.

Will the friends kindly note that the Convention sessions are open only to delegates and Bahá’í visitors. The Centenary meetings are open to the general public.

Bahá’í Centenary

All believers will be supplied with a copy of the printed Centenary program now in preparation. The dates and subjects are outlined here as follows:

Friday, May 19, 8:15 p.m. Subject: The Universal House of Worship.
Saturday, May 20, 8:00 p.m. Subject: A Bahá’í Meeting.
Sunday, May 21, 3:30 p.m. Subject: The Bahá’í World Faith.
BAHA'I NEWS

Monday, May 22, 8:00 p.m. Subject: Centenary of the Birth of the Bahá'í Faith.

Monday, May 22, 9:30 p.m. (In Auditorium of Temple, for believers). Subject: Dedication of the Bahá'í House of Worship. 10:00 p.m. Subject: Centenary of the Declaration of the Báb. Showing of Portrait of the Báb and of Hair of the Báb.

Tuesday, May 23, 8:15 p.m. Subject: North America, The Citadel of Universal Peace.

Wednesday, May 24, 8:15 p.m. Subject: The Meeting of the Americas.

Thursday, May 25, 6:30 p.m. Banquet in ballroom of Hotel Stevens, Chicago.

Annual Election of Local Spiritual Assembly

The date of the annual election of local Assemblies was fixed by the Guardian some years ago as the first day of Ridván, April 21. But as the Bahá'í day begins at sunset and not at midnight, the election date hereafter is to be regarded as the twenty-four hour period beginning at sunset, April 20, and ending at sunset, April 21.

In response to inquiries received concerning the best method to use when the result of the first ballot is a tie vote, and whether absent voters are to participate in a second ballot, the National Spiritual Assembly refers to the statement on page 48 of Bahá'í Procedure, and amplifies the procedure as follows:

In case of a tie vote in any Bahá'í election, another ballot is to be cast, restricted to the persons tied in the first vote. If necessary, successive ballots will be cast, all of which are confined to the persons tied. The election is to be completed in the one meeting duly called.

Thus the friends who vote by mail are unable to participate in a second or successive ballot. Each ballot after the first is confined to those present when the ballot is taken.

Annual Reports

National Committees have been requested to send in their reports by April 1 for publication before the Convention period.

Reservations

Two notices prepared by the Centenary Committee are published below, and deserve careful attention by all believers wishing to attend the Convention and Centenary sessions. The plans and arrangements made by the Centenary Committee are fully endorsed and thoroughly approved by the National Spiritual Assembly.

Needs of the Seven-Year Plan

At the March meeting of the NSA the National Teaching Committee reported the need of one settler in Boise, and two settlers in Louisville, to complete the requirements of the Seven Year Plan as far as North America is concerned — provided that all the present arrangements which the Committee has in hand are consummated, and no new and unexpected needs develop.

New Assemblies can be formed, and former ones reestablished, as late as May 22 to be reckoned as part of the Plan given us by the Guardian for the concluding years of the First Bahá'í Century. The National Assembly understands that this permission for formation of Assemblies on dates other than April 21 is for this year only.

It is also an important element in the teaching Plan that local Assemblies undertake vigorous public campaigns on the successive themes selected for the year. During March and April our theme is the Manifestation of God, preparing the way for the Centennial.

—National Spiritual Assembly

The Guardian's Book

Amid all his weighty responsibilities and burdens, Shoghi Effendi has found time to present the Bahá'ís with a new and most notable book, a survey of the history of the Faith throughout its first Century. The title he has chosen is "God Passes By."

The precious manuscript has been arriving chapter by chapter via air-mail, and each chapter when received is turned over to the Publishing Committee for the printer. As of the present time we are still to receive several chapters, so the publishing date can not be determined. The aim is to produce the volume before the Centenary and Convention dates if humanly possible under existing conditions affecting printing and binding.

To the individual Bahá'í this work brings new and deeper insight into the majesty and power of the Cause of God. Its distribution throughout the general public by all available means, including review copies to the press, will redound to the prestige of the Faith and answer many questions raised by inquirers as well as uniformed and unsympathetic critics.

Advance orders may be placed now subject to shipment when ready and subject to final determination of selling price.

A Centenary Book

The Publishing Committee has on the press a work entitled "The Bahá'í Centenary 1844-1944" compiled by the National Spiritual Assembly with the help of a number of the friends in order to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the Faith. Its contents include the following:

Foreword
Introduction
The Dawn of the Bahá'í Revelation
The Martyrdom of the Báb
Bab'u'lláh's Tribute to the Báb
The Báb and the Bahá'í Faith
America's Spiritual Destiny
History of the American Bahá'í Community
The Bahá'í Faith Comes to America
'Abdu'l-Bahá in America
Cities Visited by 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 1912
American Bahá'í Chronology
Formation of An Organic Religious Community
Bahá'í Headquarters
Bahá'í Properties
The Bahá'í House of Worship
History of Temple Construction
The Temple Superstructure
Exterior Ornamentation
Early Bahá'í Pilgrimages to 'Akká and Haifa
Persian Teachers Sent to America
The Development of Bahá'í Publications
Bahá'í Teaching in North America
Bahá'í Teachers Go to Europe, Asia and Africa
Bahá'í Teaching in Central and South America
Race Unity
The Bahá'í Faith Presented to Colleges
Teaching at the House of Worship
Bahá'í Schools

May we ask your immediate attention to the communication which will soon be sent to all those who have made room reservations. The Centenary Committee deeply appreciates the helpful and continued cooperation which you are accordimg it and feels confident that with your assistance, this very complex problem will be satisfactorily solved.
The American Bahá'í Community
Sacred Relics in National Bahá'í Archives
Bahá'í Literature
Appreciations
References to the Faith in Books and Magazines
Acknowledgements
Illustrations

The aim has been to show the degree of response which the American Bahá'ís have made to the Call of Bahá'u'lláh since 1894. Copies are expected before the Convention and advance orders may be placed subject to shipment when available.

New Publications

Communion With God, a small book of prayers for pocket or handbag. 24 pages, linen cover. Sold only in lots of ten copies for $1.00.

The Bahá'í Temple, a general teaching pamphlet of smaller size and less cost than the pamphlet issued in 1942 entitled "House of Worship of a World Faith." This booklet measures 8½ by 7½ inches, sixteen pages, five illustrations. Sold in lots of ten copies for $0.50.

Les Paroles Cachées, the Hidden Words in French. Paper cover. Per copy, $0.35.

Les Sept Vallées, the Seven Valleys, in French. Paper cover. Per copy, $0.35.

Parolado de Báb, the Words of the Báb addressed to the Letters of the Living, in Esperanto edition. Four-page leaflet. Thirty copies for $1.00.

Send orders to Bahá'í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Centenary Committee

Important Annoucement

Since early Fall, your Centenary Committee has been making a thorough survey of housing possibilities necessary to take care of the unprecedented number of Bahá'ís who have indicated their intention of attending the 1944 Convention and Centenary Celebration. The results of this survey show:

1. That because of an acute housing shortage, due to the new war industries, recently developed in these environs, the largest number we can hope to place in private homes in Wilmette or along the North Shore is about 300 persons.

2. That all of the Evanston Hotels, with their unusual number of permanent residents, cannot promise to take care of more than an additional 100.

3. That all of the outlying hotels, between Evanston and Chicago, are completely filled.

4. That the only Chicago Hotel that can guarantee sufficient space for the rest of our reservations is The Stevens, recently turned back by the Army to private ownership and now being completely renovated.

To date, some 900 reservations have been received, with others arriving by every post. From the above, it is obvious that we shall have to go to Chicago for most of our rooms and the Centenary Committee feels it most providential that the Stevens Hotel should have been released for civilian use, just at this time. We have made this the "official" hotel and are holding enough space to take care of everyone. The 300 to 350 places which we expect to have in private homes will be assigned to the older friends and to those who, for some physical reason, must be near as possible to the Temple.

Transportation

The current regulations permit of making reservation on trains one month in advance. We strongly urge those travelling by rail to secure their reservations both to and returning from, Chicago at the earliest possible moment. Do not leave your return accommodations until arriving in Chicago, unless you want to risk delays.

To those near enough to Wilmette to consider driving to the Centennial, we wish to recall that the period of change in the validity of gasoline coupons falls during the Convention, on May 21st. They could therefore use coupons 11 for their journey to Wilmette and 12 for their return home.

The "L" and North Shore Electric both have stations convenient to The Stevens and go directly out to Linden Avenue, Wilmette, in about 35 minutes. If feasible there will be some private motor-bus service established between The Stevens and the Temple.

Food

We are happy to report that a very satisfactory arrangement has been worked out whereby attractive wholesome food (hot meals, as well as good sandwiches, etc.) will be served on a cafeteria basis from 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in a large tent, which will be erected on our present parking-lot, adjacent to the Temple. This service is to be carried out by an excellent catering company which is equipped to take care of any number, so you can plan on having your luncheons and dinners in this convenient and congenial way.

Weather

Although we should have nice spring weather, during the Centennial period, the latter part of May is still unsettled and can be quite cool. We would therefore caution everyone to be provided with a warm top-coat. It would also be wise to be prepared in the event of rain.

Program

The session of the Convention will take place in Foundation Hall each morning and afternoon. In planning the different Public Meetings, the Centenary Committee, although building the programs around such phases of the Faith as its growth in North America, its development in Latin America, the building of the Temple, etc., has endeavored to lift the addresses above personalities and select themes that would cover the subjects emphasized by the Guardian and present the Cause in its broad and universal aspects. We regret that we cannot yet give full details as to the speakers, but the program of these Public Meetings, prepared by the Committee and approved by the National Spiritual Assembly, is as announced above.

The Banquet, which concludes this Program, will be held in Hotel Stevens, Chicago. Formal or informal dress optional.

Bahá'í Centenary Committee
Edna True, Chairman
418 Forest Avenue
Wilmette, Illinois
Messages From the Guardian

Dearly-beloved friends:

The one remaining and indeed the most challenging task confronting the American Bahá’í Community has at long last been brilliantly accomplished. The structural basis of the Administrative Order of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh has, through this superb victory, and on the very eve of the world-wide celebrations of the Centenary of His Faith, been firmly laid by the champion-builders of His World Order in every state of the Great Republic of the West and in every Province of the Dominion of Canada. In each of the Republics of Central and South America, moreover, the banner of His undefeatable Faith has been implanted by the members of that same community, while in no less than thirteen Republics of Latin America as well as in two Dependencies in the West Indies, Spiritual Assemblies have been established and are already functioning — a fact that has outstripped the goal originally fixed, for the valiant members of that Community in their inter-continental sphere of Bahá’í activity. The exterior ornamentation of the first Mashriqu’l-Adhkár of the West — the culmination of a forty year old enterprise repeatedly blessed and continually nurtured by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá has, furthermore, through a remarkable manifestation of the spirit of Bahá’í solidarity and self-sacrifice so powerfully animating the members of that stalwart community, been successfully completed, more than a year in advance of the time set for its termination.

The triple task undertaken with such courage, confidence, zeal and determination — a task which ever since the inception of the Seven Year Plan has challenged and galvanized into action the entire body of the American believers and for the efficient prosecution of which processes of a divinely appointed Administrative Order had, during no less than sixteen years, been steadily evolving — is now finally accomplished and crowned with total victory.

The greatest collective enterprise ever launched by the Western followers of Bahá’u’lláh and indeed ever undertaken by any Bahá’í community in the course of an entire century, has been gloriously consummated. A victory of undying fame has marked the culmination of the fifty year long labors of the American Bahá’í community in the service of Bahá’u’lláh and has shed imperishable lustre on the immortal records of His Faith during the first hundred years of its existence. The exploits that have marked the progress of this prodigious, this three-fold enterprise, covering a field stretching from Alaska in the North to the extremity of Chile in the South, affecting the destinies of so great a variety of peoples and nations, involving such a tremendous expenditure of treasure and effort, calling forth so remarkable a spirit of heroism and self-sacrifice, and undertaken notwithstanding the vicious assaults and incessant machinations of the breakers of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Covenant, and despite the perils, the trials and restrictions of a devastating war of unexampled severity, augur well for the successful prosecution, and indeed assure the ultimate victory, of the remaining stages of the Plan conceived, a quarter of a century ago, by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá for the followers of Bahá’u’lláh in the North American continent.

To the band of pioneers, whether settlers or itinerant teachers, who have forsaken their homes, who have scattered far and wide, who have willingly sacrificed their comfort, their health and even their lives for the prosecution of this Plan; to the several committees and their auxiliary agencies that have been entrusted with special and direct responsibility for its efficient and orderly development and who have discharged their high responsibilities with exemplary vigor, courage and fidelity; to the national representatives of the community itself, who have vigilantly and tirelessly supervised, directed and coordinated the unfolding processes of this vast undertaking ever since its inception; to all those who, though not in the forefront of battle, have through their financial assistance and through the instrumentality of their deputies, contributed to the expansion and consolidation of the Plan; to myself, as well as the entire Bahá’í world, owe a debt of gratitude that no one can measure or begin to describe. To the sacrifices they have made, to the courage they have so consistently shown, to the fidelity they have so remarkably displayed, to the resourcefulness, the discipline, the constancy and devotion they have so abundantly demonstrated future generations viewing the magnitude of their labors in their proper perspective, will no doubt pay adequate tribute — a tribute no less ardent and well-deserved than the recognition extended by the present-day builders of the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh to the Dawn-Breakers, whose shining deeds have signaled the birth of the Heroic Age of His Faith.

To the elected representatives of all the Bahá’í communities of the New World, assembled beneath the Dome of the Mother Temple of the West, on the occasion of the historic, first All-America Bahá’í Convention...
Message from Shoghi Effendi

I advise you to share the following facts with the believers at Convention celebrating the hundredth anniversary of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.

Bahá'ís have established residence in seventy-eight countries, fifty-six of which are sovereign states. Bahá'í literature has been translated and published in forty-one languages. Translations have been undertaken in twelve additional languages. Thirty-one races are represented in the Bahá'í world community. Five National Assemblies and sixty-one local Assemblies belonging to ten countries are incorporated and legally empowered to hold property. The Bahá'í international endowments held in the Holy Land are estimated at half a million pounds sterling. National Bahá'í endowments in the United States are estimated at one million, seven hundred thousand dollars.

The area of land in the Jordan Valley dedicated to the Bahá'í Shrines is over five hundred acres. The site purchased for future Bahá'í Temple of Persia comprises three and a half million square meters. The cost of the structure of the first Bahá'í Temple in the West has been one million, three hundred thousand dollars.

In every state and province of North America Bahá'í Assemblies are functioning. In thirteen hundred localities of the United States and Canada Bahá'í assemblies have been established in every republic of Latin America, fifteen of which posses Spiritual Assemblies. The Faith in the Western Hemisphere now stretches from Anchorage, Alaska, to Magellanes, Chile, the world's southernmost city. Sixty-two Centers have been established in India, twenty-seven with Spiritual Assemblies.

Among the historic sites purchased in Persia are the Tíhran home of Bahá'u'lláh, the Báb's shop in Búíshir, the burial place of Quddús, part of the village of Chíhríq, three gardens in Badí, the place where Táhirih was confined.

Bahá'í administrative headquarters have been founded in Tíhran, Delhi, Cairo, Baghdád, Wilmette and Sydney. Bahá'í endowments in the Holy Land and the United States have been exempted from taxes by the civil authorities. Civil recognition has been extended to Bahá'í Assemblies in five states of the United States to solemnize Bahá'í marriages.

I suggest you utilize the above information for publicity purposes wherever advisable.

(Signed) SHOGHI RABBANI
Received May 9, 1944

Message to the Convention

Hail with glad, grateful heart the historic Assembly of the elected representatives of the followers of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh throughout the Western Hemisphere participating in the first All-America Convention gathered in the vicinity of the first Bahá'í Center of the Western World beneath the dome of the first Masjídiq'í-Achqír of the West to commemorate alike the Anniversary of the founding of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh and the Birth of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, the Anniversary of its establishment in the Occident and to celebrate the completion of the exterior ornamentation of the most hallowed House of Worship in the entire Bahá'í world. I recall with profound emotion on this solemn, auspicious occasion the milestones in the progress of the community whose rise constitutes one of the noblest episodes in the history of the First Bahá'í Century. Called into being through the operation of the Will of the Center of Bahá'u'lláh's Covenant, energized at the hour of its birth by dynamic spirit communicated to it by the band of first returning pilgrims, purged in its infancy by fiery tests involving the defection of its acknowledged founder, nursed through the dispatch of unnumbered Tablets by the vigilant Master, as well as by the successive messengers designed to support its infant strength, launched upon its rapid career through series of institutional acts and missionary journeys signaling the first stirrings of its community life, infinitely enriched by priceless benefits conferred upon its members in the course of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's sojourn in their midst, invested with a unique mission through the revelation of the Tablets of the Divine Plan, firmly knit through processes proclaiming the emergence of the Divinely appointed Administrative Order, immortalized through the signal acts of its illustrious member who succeeded in winning the allegiance of royalty to its cause, consummating its record of achievements through total victory of the Seven Year Plan thereby sealing the triumph of the first stage in the Mission bestowed on 'Abdu'l-Bahá, this repeatedly blessed, much envied community deserves to be acclaimed the Torchbearer of the civilization, the foundations of which the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh is destined unassailably to establish in the course of the Second Bahá'í Century. I am moved to pay a well deserved tribute at this great turning point in the career of so privileged a community to the gallant band of its apostolic founders whose deeds heralded the dawn of the Day of the Covenant in the West, to its intrepid pioneers who labored to enlarge the bounds of the Faith in the five continents, to its indefatigable administrators whose hands reared the fabric of the Administrative Order, to its heroic martyrs who followed in the footsteps of the Dawn-Breakers of the heroic age, to its itinerant teachers who with written
and spoken word pleaded its cause and repulsed the attacks of its adversaries, to its munificent supporters whose liberality accelerated the expansion of its manifold activities, and last but not least to the mass of its stout-hearted, self-denying members whose strenuous, ceaseless, concerted efforts so decisively contributed to the consolidation and broadening of its foundations. I desire to direct a particular appeal to the Latin American representatives participating in the Centennial Convention to deliberate on measures to reinforce the ties binding them to their Sister Community, unitedly devise means for the inauguration of teaching campaigns in their respective Republics, the dissemination of Bahá’í literature, the multiplication of Bahá’í administrative centers as preliminary steps in the formation of Bahá’í National Assemblies, and lend impetus to the prosecution of any enterprise launched to carry still further the Plan conceived by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá for the American Bahá’í Community.

(signed) SHOGHI RABBANI
Received May 15, 1944.

Message from Shoghi Effendi
I am overjoyed by the auspicious opening of the Centennial Convention. The dearly-beloved American Bahá’í community was remembered during the historic night of the glorious Declaration at the Báb’s Holy Shrine. Announce to the friends the joyful tidings that the hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of the Mission of the martyred Herald of the Faith was signalized by historic decision: the multiplication of Bahá’ís administrative centers as preliminary steps in the formation of Bahá’í National Assemblies, lend impetus to the prosecution of any enterprise launched to carry still further the Plan conceived by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá for the American Bahá’í Community. The recently designed model of the dome has been unveiled in the presence of assembled believers. Praying for early removal of obstacles to the consummation of the stupendous Plan conceived by the Founder of the Faith and the hopes cherished by the Center of His Covenant.

(signed) SHOGHI RABBANI
Received May 25, 1944

Messages to Incoming Assembly
Praying fervently for newly-elected Assembly’s signal victories, abundant blessings in the opening year of the second Bahá’í century. Deepest love.

(signed) SHOGHI RABBANI
Received May 26, 1944

The magnificent victories achieved in the teaching field and the sphere of administrative activity by the American Bahá’í community crowned with glory the historic services rendered by the followers of Bahá’u’lláh throughout the West during the last fifty years of the first Bahá’í century. I rejoice in the brilliant celebrations befittingly consumming the record of splendid achievements. Immediate attention should be focussed in the course of the opening year of the Second Century on consolidation of the nobly-won victories through reinforcement of newly formed Assemblies, multiplication of groups and increase in number of Assemblies as well as corresponding effort through Latin America. Praying for continuous flow of Divine outpourings.

(signed) SHOGHI RABBANI
Received May 27, 1944

Messages From the Guardian
In connection with your Assembly’s two actions regarding the formulation and dissolution of Spiritual Assemblies: The Guardian approves of your first action, which he understands is only for this last year of the first Bahá’í Century, as, of course, in the future Assemblies will be formed only during the month of April. As to the second action, however, any Assembly which is dissolved must immediately report to the national secretary, who must always keep an up to date list of Assemblies. Any dissolved Assembly cannot be reconstituted until the time of election in April. This is the general principle which must be followed in the future. In this last year of the Century, however, naturally any Assembly that is dissolved may be reconstituted as soon as the number of believers reverts to nine again.

Regarding your question as to the changing of pronouns in Bahá’í prayers: The Guardian does not approve of such changes, either in the specific prayers or in any others. They should be read as printed without changing a single word.

Rejoice success vitally needed timely conference Latin American representatives. Greatly welcome decisions reached plans formulated. First year second Bahá’í century should witness establishment Spiritual Assembly every remaining Republic and be signalized by steady increase pioneers both Latin (and) North America; further multiplication groups; wider dissemination Bahá’i literature both Spanish (and) Portuguese; closer relationships consolidating communities; more effective contact these communities with masses population all races (and) classes. Ardently praying mighty victories every field as essential preliminary emergence independent National Spiritual Assemblies and indispensable prelude launching in other continents, soon after termination world conflict, second stage momentous world plan so intimately associated by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá with future destinies illustrious American Bahá’í community.

Received July 17, 1944
Letter from the National Spiritual Assembly

Retrospect and Prospect

Dear Friends:

Impressive events marking the close of the first Bahá’í Century have attested the greatness of the Divine Cause. Ideal friendships are created. News of the Faith has been disseminated widely. Many inquirers have been attracted by the genial, friendly spirit of gatherings. The bond of unity among members of the world-wide community of Bahá’ís has been strengthened. The two-fold task of the Seven Year Plan has been achieved. Confidence has been deepened through evident signs of selfless devotion. The praise of our noble Guardian has been generously given and the manifest Favor of God has been directed toward His servants.

The achievements which have crowned with glory the end of the first Bahá’í Century had their foundations laid by the Dawn-Breakers, whose heroism illumined the early days with deathless fame. The station of becoming their spiritual heirs has been conferred upon the American Bahá’í community. Ours is now among the rarest of opportunities. If we evaluate this high privilege, with fidelity to its demands of service, the second century’s end may be fraught with such victories as are beyond fancy. While those now living may not behold them with mortal eyes, yet their fame may penetrate the worlds on high.

Auspicious is the opening of the new century. During the period covered by the last session of the National body, July 8th to 12th, six of the Latin-American delegates whose arrival at the Centenary had been hindered, responded to a new invitation. These were Sr. Salvador Tormo of Argentina, Sra. Angela Ochoa Velasquez of Honduras, Sr. Roge Centurion Miranda of Paraguay, Sra. Isabel Tirado de Barreda of Peru, Dr. Manuel Bergès of San Domingo and Sra. Clara Luz Montalvo of San Salvador. Latin American pioneers present were Miss Gwenn Sholtis, Miss Margaret Lentz, Miss Elisabeth Cheney and Mrs. Gayle Woolson, and also Mr. Raymond I. Betts of Lima, Peru. Mrs. Woolson acted as interpreter and translator for these friends.

Scenes and observances of the Centenary were re-enacted for the instruction and entertainment of these friends and there were several conferences among themselves and with the National body, with a view to ways and means of deepening and spreading the Faith throughout those regions. The spirit of the Centenary gladdened each and all and the zeal of efficient service took hold.

But now for the present tasks to be undertaken in the same spirit of loving and loyal devotion. One point of concentration should be the stability of the National Fund which must meet increasing demands with the expansion of the Faith. It has been depleted by the unusual cost of recent great activities. The duty of every Assembly, community, group and isolated Bahá’í to aid is apparent. We can now express our gratitude to God by contributions as well as by prayer, labor, service and other forms of sacrifice. May the flame of unity inspire all in such lines of service as guidance and consultation may direct. Priority is given National activities in the domain of service by the wisdom of the Guardian.

The agenda of the Guardian concentrates our capacities primarily at this time upon teaching; building up the work in the pioneer areas, laying an unshakable foundation upon which an enduring structure can be built; preparing the way for Bahá’í Temples in every land.

Some years ago, as a community we discovered, by the aid of the Guardian, the capacity for recent victories. While we have divine assurance that no one is burdened beyond capacity, yet the powers may continue forever latent until quickened by the divine spirit. The body of the Teachings, clarified and applied by the directions from the Guardian form an agenda for both our collective and individual lives and services. Indications are that souls of great capacity will ere long join our ranks and swell the chorus of those who proclaim the Faith. Shall we not strive to the utmost to awaken them? The more we strive, the more strength is given. The more we sacrifice the more we grow. The more we teach, the more we know of divine mysteries and the illumination of souls. This is truly the time for intensified activities, viewing the world’s imminent chaos on the one hand and growing capacity on the other. All the universe is in motion. Intensified activity is the call. If our wish is to stir others we must keep in motion.

National Spiritual Assembly

Annual Election

The annual election created the National Spiritual Assembly with the following membership: George O. Latimer (Chairman), Allen B. McClellan (Vice Chairman), Horace Holley (Secretary), Louis G. Gregory (Recording Secretary), Roy C. Wilhelm (Treasurer), Dorothy Baker, Amelia E. Collins, Philip G. Sprague, Leroy Ios. The Assembly has appointed Siegfried Schopflocher the Treasurer of the Canadian Bahá’í Fund.

Committee List

Index Committee—a new Committee appointed March, 1944, with the function of completing the preparation of a general index to Bahá’í literature and a complete Bahá’í glossary. W. Kenneth Christian

Roberta Christian

$59 Lancaster Avenue,

Syracuse, 10, N.Y.

Other members to be appointed later.

Inter-America Committee

Relative to use of name, Inter-America Committee, by Assembly local Committees the National Spiritual Assembly wishes to inform the believers through Bahá’í News that the National Spiritual Assembly can recognize only one Inter-America Bahá’í Committee because of the international implications of the title, and therefore local assemblies making contacts and teaching the various racial elements in their local communities, will have to use a different designation for such committees.
Race Unity Committee

Highlights from the report of Mrs. Mary Stevison of Chicago bring us close to the western Indian friends. In May, immediately before the convention, Mrs. Stevison journeyed to Nebraska and gave the Message of Bahá'u'lláh to the Omaha and Winnebago tribes, visiting Sioux City, Nebraska and Macy.

Much of the work was among individuals. Many of the friends called upon Mrs. Stevison and received her in their homes. One family became so enthusiastic that on one of their calls, they remained until long after midnight, talking of the future world and of the future of their great race, in the light of the coming of Bahá'u'lláh. Eight Indian families showed special interest, and some of these friends not only entertained their Bahá'í guest at dinner, but invited other Indian friends to meet her from time to time. Thus a nucleus of interested Indian friends has been formed.

Mrs. Stevison reports that pictures of the Temple were especially appreciated, and in the case of three of the families, large framed pictures were hung in the homes. “Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era” and “Race and Man” were also given to these families.

Contacts were made in a variety of ways. For example, many Indians came to the Community Building to obtain garden seeds for their spring planting. These friends met Mrs. Stevison and received pamphlets from her, as well as post card pictures of the Temple and a few friendly words of explanation. This did much to open the doors.

Books and many pamphlets were distributed in community centers, missions, public schools and hospitals. In one school, post card pictures of the Temple and pamphlets on the principles of the Faith were distributed among the students. In another, talks were given before a number of classes and not only pamphlets were distributed, but adequate text books were placed in the library for general reading.

The friends who would be interested in following up Mrs. Stevison’s splendid Nebraska effort are requested to write to the Race Unity Committee for further information. Mrs. Stevison can supply a list of names of the Indian friends who responded to the Faith.

Approved Radio Scripts on File With National Bahá'í Radio Committee April 25, 1944

Following are 13½ Minute Scripts used first in California over station KYA:

- The First Hundred Years (also available in 5-minute script)
- Humanity’s Coming of Age
- World Crisis—World Birth
- The Oneness of Mankind
- Basis of a New Society
- World Economics
- Blueprints for World Peace
- Rebirth of Religion
- A New Age Is Born
- Bahá'u'lláh—World Educator
- Pattern of a Future Society
- Bahá'í Temple—Symbol of Tomorrow
- World Order of Bahá'u'lláh
- America's Place in World Order
- The Dynamic of Civilization
- Evolution of Religion

Miscellaneous Scripts

- Religious Unity—11 minutes
- Women Will Keep the Peace—10 minutes
- The Real Victory—Eternal Life—10 minutes
- The Question of Prejudice—11 minutes
- Peace and the Heart of Humanity—15 minutes
- Interview—World Reconstruction—13½ minutes
- Century of Scientific Unity—5 minutes
- America's New Adventure—13 minutes
- The Old Frame House—10 minutes
- The Temple of God for This New Age—12 minutes
- The Breaking Dawn (Semi-Bahá‘í) —15 minutes

Request for Convention Pictures

All photographers who obtained good pictures, one or more, at the recent Centennial Convention are requested to send prints or to loan the negatives to the National Archives Committee so that a more complete photographic record of the Centenary can be made. Kindly mail pictures or negatives to,

Edwin Mattoon, Chairman
105 Sixth St., Wilmette, Illinois
Bahá’í Schools

Programs from August 1, 1944

GEYSERVILLE
July 23—August 6, 1944

This summer the Geyserville School will enter its eighteenth year as a center for the training of Bahá’í teachers and workers throughout the West. Ours is a period of immeasurable opportunity for the Faith. It is our plan and hope that this session at Geyserville will contribute a full share in preparing the friends for the responsibilities to come.

The theme of this session will be “Inaugurating the Second Bahá’í Century”—in the spirit of the Guardian’s words: “The opening of the second century of the Bahá’í era must needs disclose greater vistas, usher in the initial stages in the establishment of its administrative institutions.”

MORNING CLASSES

I. “God Passes By”

Two weeks devoted to outline and study of the Guardian’s forthcoming book on the first century of the Bahá’í Faith, reviewing “the salient features of its birth and rise, as well as the initial stages in the establishment of its administrative institutions.”

II. “The Reality of Man” — First Week

A basic course on Bahá’u’lláh’s spiritual Teachings concerning the human spirit, man’s relation to God, his potentialities and conditions of progress.

III. “The Evolving World Order” — Second Week

A study of the Bahá’í Administrative Order in terms of process, as the dynamic source, nucleus, and pattern of that World Order “destined to embrace in the fullness of time the whole of mankind.”

AFTERNOON ROUND TABLE

IV. “Teachings—the Creative Bahá’í Life”

First Week — “Expanding the Faith”

Second Week — “Consolidating the Faith”

Informal discussion under the Big Tree of teaching as a way of life, and of its application to the vast opportunities unfolding through “the promulgation of the Divine Plan.”

FOUR EVENINGS

V. “The World Moves On to Its Destiny”

First Week — “The New Social Horizon”

Second Week—“The Growth of World Society”

A bird’s-eye view of Bahá’í humanitarian and social principles operating in the world today, through “the irresistible diffusion” of the Faith’s “world-shaking, world-energizing, world-redeeming spirit.”

Reservations and rates may be obtained through:

Gladys Linton, 136 Nova Drive, Piedmont, California

LOUHELEN

“Until the people of the world see a shining example set by us they will not embrace the Cause in masses, because they require to see the teaching demonstrated in a pattern of action.”

Subjects for all sessions will be based on facets of a Bahá’í Pattern of Action inspired by the Centenary. “The Guardian suggests that the school committee discuss, after attending the convention, what subjects would be of greatest help in facing the new projects, plans and needs of the Faith brought to light during the Convention.”

GENERAL SESSION

(August 4 to 13, inclusive)

SENIOR YOUTH SESSION

(August 16 to 23, inclusive)

RATES (including meals)

ADULTS—Dormitory rates $1.75 per day per person; double rooms $2.25 per day per person; single rooms $2.75 per day per person.

YOUTH—Rates for youth at youth sessions only, all dormitory, per youth, per day $1.65.

Please make your school and travel reservations early.

GREEN ACRE

MORNING CLASSES

MORNING THROUGH FRIDAY

General Subject: Basic Bahá’í Teachings

Aug. 7-11—The Unity of Religions

F. St. George Spendlove, F.R.S.A., F.R.G.S., Graduate of School of Archaeology, University of London, Specialist in Archaeology of the Far East, Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology, Toronto, Canada.

Aug. 14-18—Universal Peace

Speaker to be announced.

Aug. 21-25—International Justice

Heshmat Alá’í, Washington, D. C.

Aug. 28-Sept. 1—The Oneness of Mankind, Mrs. Robert Lee Moffett, Chicago, Illinois, author of “Do’a, the Call to Prayer.”

Teacher Training Courses

Aug 7-11—Bahá’í Consultation, Genevieve Coy, Ph.D., Psychologist at the Dalton School, New York City.


Aug. 26-Sept. 1—“God Passes By” by Shoghi Effendi. Speaker to be arranged.

EVENING MEETINGS


Tuesdays—Open.

Wednesdays—Special Lectures including three on music by H. R. Austin, with illustrations drawn from the keyboard literature; two by Mrs. Mary Coristene on Psychological Analysis — East and West, and Geopolitics for All of Us. (Other lectures and dates to be arranged.)

Thursdays—Transformation of Human Society—a series of lectures in charge of Harlan Ober.


Saturdays—Guest Speakers (to be arranged). Dancing.

Sundays—Special Concerts and Lectures (to be arranged).

SATURDAY MORNING CLASS

(August 26—throughout the summer)

Study of the Qur’án, in charge of Ali Kuli-Khan, N.D.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

Aug. 11-13—Amity Conference, in charge of Louis Gregory.

Aug. 20—‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Feast, in charge of the Eliot Local Assembly.

YOUTH PROGRAM

Classes for children under 16 years of age will be conducted throughout the summer, with art and religious instruction under the direction of Mrs. Mary McClennen, and nature study, folk dancing, etc., under the direction of Harry Ford.

SUNDAY MEETINGS—11:00 A. M.

Aug. 6—The Ecstasy of Prayer, Jessie Revell.


Aug. 20—The Spiritual Meaning of Spring, Mrs. Mary McClennen.

Sept. 3—The Mystery and Revelation of the Day of God, Harlan Ober.
For reservations, write Mrs. Margaret Newman, Green Acre, Eliot, Maine.

GREEN ACRE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Lorna’ Tasker, Chairman, 15 Ives St., Beverly, Mass.
Roushan Wilkinson, Secretary, Room 607, 140 Federal St., Boston 10, Mass.
Louis G. Gregory, Dr. Glenn A. Shook, Harlan Ober, Rachel Small, Mary McClennen, Helen Archambault, Margaret Newman.
Host and Hostess in Dormitory: Harry and Bahiyyih Ford.

Bahá’í Publications
The Publishing Committee regrets exceedingly the delay in bringing out the Guardian’s historic book, God Passes By, planned for the Centenary, also The Bahá’í Centenary, 1844-1944 which should have been ready for the May anniversary. The printers have been doing so much Government wartime printing that all other work suffers. We can only hope to have copies of both books in the early fall.

Bahá’í World Faith, Centennial edition bound in red leather stamped with dates in gold. This is an attractive remembrance of the Centenary, and we feel that every Assembly will be happy to have a copy in their library. Copies still available, price $2.00.

New Pamphlets
Bahá’í Teachings for a World Faith, a revised edition of Principles of the Bahá’í Faith, sold in lots of 100. $2.00.
The Spiritual Meaning of Adversity by Mani, known under title of Tests, Their Spiritual Value, sold in lots of 100. $2.00.
Oneness of Mankind by Hussein Rabbani, reprinted, sold in lots of 100. $2.00.
The Lesser and the Most Great Peace by George Orr Latimer, sold in lots of 100. $2.00.
Prophecy Fulfilled, by Elisabeth H. Cheney, sold in lots of 100. $2.00.

World Order Magazine
Copies of May and June issues at special price of ten copies for one dollar are still available. These issues contain many of the talks given at the Centenary meetings and are of paramount interest especially to send to interested friends.

The Spiritual Assembly and Community of the Bahá’ís of Lima, Peru, June, 1944.

Excerpts from an Inter-America Report Received Prior to the Convention
Latin-America and the Caribbean Islands are indeed astir with new teaching enterprises, and with preparations for the celebration of the first Bahá’í Centennial. Assemblies, or Groups, in each country are arranging local festivities in tribute to this historic occasion. Word of the representative elected to attend the Convention has been received from nearly all countries. Mail wings its way southward providing detailed instructions from the National Spiritual Assembly, the Centenary and Inter-America Committees, for the privileged journey to the Temple in the heart of the North American Continent.

SOUTH AMERICA
Dorothy Baker’s return from a two months’ visit in Colombia and Venezuela brings us her radiant account of the blessings Bahá’u’lláh has bestowed upon these countries.
Under the guidance of Mr. Gerrard Sluter, and with the assistance of Winifred Louise Baker, new souls were confirmed and the establishment of the Spiritual Assembly of Bogota, Colombia, was recorded. Shortly after this memorable occasion Mrs. Baker bade farewell to the two valiant pioneers and the beloved members of Colombia’s first Assembly. En route to Venezuela she made a brief stop in Barranquilla to see the first believer of Colombia, young Sr. Carlos Nieto. Wistfully he expressed his longing for the day when other believers would join him in service to the Faith in Barranquilla. Through the help of Sr. Nieto several Bahá’í books were accepted by the Library for display and circulation.

VENUEZUELA
“Venezuela, land of budding agriculture and modern education!” Eight enrollment cards, and precious new friendships, are the treasures brought back from Venezuela by Dorothy Baker. Her loving words share with us the awakening of this country in the dawn of its spiritual destiny.
“The extreme cordiality of the people forbids the ‘foreign’ feeling in Caracas. What a happy task it was to find, one by one, the friends of Gwennie Sholtis, former pioneer, and remind them of the great Cause, which had been the object of her love and devotion while among them. They had not forgotten, and some of them were glad to come to the little meetings at the Gran American. Delightful contacts of Mr. and Mrs. Emeric Sala were later added, and new friends found their way to the little gatherings. Through the courtesy of Sra. Trina Curlaender, editor of the magazine ‘Pro-America,’ and president of the National Club for the Union of American Women, a world of friendships opened up. The meetings grew to about forty in attendance.
"At the close of a period of five weeks, eight historic souls accepted the joy and responsibility of the World Order under the Guardian, and in addition, one youth, and one adult who lacked permanent residency. Sra. Courlaender herself, became one of the group that organized on that memorable night. All were present when Dr. David Escalante was elected the first Secretary, and all assisted in laying the first plans for feasts and regular classes."

The Costa Rican Bahá’ís rejoice that Dr. Escalante is giving his able assistance to the establishment of the Faith in Venezuela, for it was in San José that Dr. Escalante first heard and accepted the call of Bahá’u’lláh.

PERU

The spiritual flowering of Peru is precious testimony to the many months of Eve Nicklin’s devoted services in Lima. With patient care she has built strong foundations of friendship and deep respect for herself, and the Faith she loves and teaches. Her painstaking preparations for a Bahá’í Center in Lima have taken form in a bright and charming apartment, centrally located, and admirably suited in size and arrangement for the Bahá’í gatherings she had prayed and worked for.

A new acceleration of interest in the Faith has become increasingly apparent in recent months. Flora Hottes’ visit provided the opportunity for many pleasant meetings in Eve’s apartment. Acquaintances new and old came to hear with fresh eagerness of the Message of peace and progress enshrined in the Revelation. Flora also found a most receptive heart in kindly Sra. de Barreda, owner of the pension in which Eve had engaged a room for her.

Arriving a few days after Flora’s return to La Paz, Virginia joyfully went to stay at this same pension. Soon buoyant letters from Eve and Virginia brought us the glorious news that Sra. de Barreda had accepted the Faith. Virginia gaily comments—"At the Feast in Eve’s home the first believer to sign in Peru enrolled as a member of Bahá’u’lláh’s Cause!"

Other activities on a breath-taking scale were also being developed by these two glorious pioneers. Writes Eve, "These are busy times! I have taken a job teaching in the first Summer School ever held here in Peru, for Peruvian teachers of English — one hundred teachers from all over Peru. Virginia could fit in perfectly as a guest speaker, having done Library work at the Paramount Studios. She brought a "New Day" aspect to the subject and made it easy for me to ask these people into my home. We have had startling results, and now interested friends have asked us into their homes, too, to tell the Message to their families and friends. Everything seems to be awakening all at once here in Peru."

Virginia adds zestful words of the response of these Peruvian teachers —"They are mostly young, intelligent, alert. Eve invited them all to tea, when we could discuss further these ideas of world unity, and world culture. They all wanted to come, so we are booked solid for the next week or so!" Exciting glories are anticipated for Peru before the close of the Century and humble prayers blend with delighted hopes that several of these new friends may soon become confirmed believers.

Correction of Errors in Annual Report 1943-1944

Page 48

The name of Nate Goldstein was omitted from the membership list of the Contacts Committee.

Page 54

Under "Reviewing" the name of the author of CHRISTIANS AWAKE should be "Peggy True."
CENTENARY AND CONVENTION ISSUE

No. 170
September, 1944

Year 101
Bahá’í Era

BAHÁ’Í NEWS

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada — 536 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, Ill.

Bahá’í House of Worship, Illuminated for the Centenary
THE HISTORIC
THIRTY-SIXTH CONVENTION

The thirty-sixth Annual Convention, covering the week of May 19 to 25, 1944, was indeed unique in both the number and greatness of the significances of the Faith included within its span. All Bahá’í Conventions have inestimable value. They provide ways and means for wide consultation and more closely relate to each other the various activities and institutions of the Cause. They engage eager interest with news of progress. They pool spiritual values and increase harmony. They enable friends scattered over wide areas to know each other. They concentrate minds, hearts, means and labors over ever widening fields of service marked out by the Guardian. They delight the eye, brighten the mind and gladden the heart by the inspiring beauty of the Temple of God and the shining forth of the reality of great souls. They inculcate veneration for the Light and veneration for the Faith and furnish means and ways and means for the believers at Convention to share the following facts with each other:

The friends upon arrival found the spirit of welcome in the very atmosphere. Trains were met. Bulletins of information were distributed, wholesome advice was given for the Bahá’ís so to conduct themselves as to be a means of attraction to strangers, especially those who had opened their homes for entertainment. The respect which people in near-by cities have for the Bahá’ís is a pleasing sign of attraction and growth. Nothing appeared to be unthought of among the local members of the Centenary Committee in their arduous and devoted efforts to make everyone comfortable and happy.

The Convention opened with readings and prayers, an inspiring feature of the sessions throughout. One prayer service was conducted by children.

George O. Latimer, as Chairman of the National Spiritual Assembly, voiced genial and loving welcome and felicitations upon the triumph of the Seven Year Plan. He reviewed the successive steps, praising the foundation laid by the Master's Charter of the Divine Plan and the wonderful initiative and guidance of the Guardian.

Edna M. True, Chairman of the Centenary Committee, announced the general program and expressed the conviction, to which eager hearts responded, “We are the most fortunate people in the world!” She also told of the Bahá’í Centenary Registration Book. This was a very large, artistically designed and beautiful volume, specially prepared for this occasion and a gift from Charles Mason Remey, one of the apostles of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. Over sixteen hundred friends registered during the week.

“By the righteousness of Mine own Self! Great, immeasurably great is this Cause! Mighty, inconceivably mighty is this Day! Blessed indeed is the man that hath forsaken all things and fastened his eyes upon Him whose Face hath shed illumination upon all who are in the heavens and all who are on the earth.”

(Gleanings P. 245.)

After roll call, the temporary officers of the Convention, George O. Latimer, Chairman, and Horace Holley, Secretary, were made permanent.

Messages from Haifa

The following Convention messages from the Guardian were read, with printed copies circulated among the delegates and friends: “I advise you to share the following facts with the believers at Convention celebrating the hundredth anniversary of the Faith of Bahá’ulláh.

“Bahá’ís have established residence in seventy-eight countries, fifty-six of which are sovereign states. Bahá’í literature has been translated and published in forty-one languages. Translations have been undertaken in twelve additional languages. Thirty-one races are represented in the Bahá’í world community. Five National Assemblies belonging to ten countries are incorporated and legally empowered to hold property. The Bahá’í international endowments held in the Holy Land are estimated
at a half million pounds sterling. National Baha'i endowments in the United States are estimated at one million, seven hundred thousand dollars.

"The area of land in the Jordan Valley dedicated to the Baha'i Shrines is over five hundred acres. The site purchased for future Baha'i Temple of Persia comprises three and a half million square meters. The cost of the structure of the first Baha'i Temple in the West has been one million, three hundred thousand dollars.

"In every state and province of North America Baha'i Assemblies are functioning. In thirteen hundred localities of the United States and Canada Baha'i's reside. Baha'i Centers have been established in every republic of Latin America, fifteen of which possess Spiritual Assemblies. The Faith in the Western Hemisphere now stretches from Anchorage, Alaska, to Magellanes, the world's southernmost city. Sixty-two Centers have been established in India, twenty-seven with Spiritual Assemblies.

"Among the historic sites pur- in Persia are the Tihran home of Baha'u'llah, the Bab's shop in Bushir, the burial place of Quddus, part of the village of Chihriq, three gardens in Badaqht, and the place where Tahirih was confined.

"Baha'i administrative headquarters have been founded in Tihran, Delhi, Cairo, Baghdad, Wilmette and Sydney. Baha'i endowments in the Holy Land and the United States have been exempted from taxes by the civil authorities. Civil recognition has been extended to Baha'i Assemblies in five states of the United States to solemnize Baha'i marriages.

"I suggest you utilize the above information for publicity purposes wherever advisable."

(Signed) SHOGHII RABBAI Received May 15, 1944.

On the last day of the Convention came this message from the Guardian, received by the National Secretary:

"I am overjoyed by the auspicious opening of the Centennial Convention. The dearly-beloved American Baha'i community was remembered during the historic night of the glorious Declaration at the Bab's Holy Shrine. Announce to the friends the joyful tidings that the hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of the Mission of the martyred Herald of the Faith was signalized by historic decision to complete the structure of His sepulcher erected by 'Abdu'l-Bahá on the site chosen by Baha'u'llah. The recently designed model of the dome has been unveiled in the presence of assembled believers.

Praying for early removal of obstacles to the consummation of the stupendous Plan conceived by the Founder of the Faith and the hopes cherished by the Center of His Covenant."

(Signed) SHOGHII RABBAI Received May 25, 1944.

Convention Message to the Guardian

"Baha'ís of all the Americas represented by largest number of delegates in person from United States, Canada, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto
Session of Thirty-sixth Annual Bahá'í Convention, May 19 to 25, 1944

Rico, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, gathered in this glorious centennial convention, humbly send heartfelt appreciation for your epoch-making message. "Express loving gratitude for continuous guidance making us humble instruments in completing Seven Year Plan culminating in this unique assemblage whose celebration is being broadcast throughout North America and whose historic and momentous events will be disseminated throughout this hemisphere. "Beg for further confirmation to become worthy Torchbearers of new civilization, the foundations of which are destined to be established in the Second Bahá'í Century. "Plans already being formulated by Latin American delegates for further cementing bonds between two Americas, for strengthening the structural basis of the administrative order, and for extending Bahá'í teaching activities by all available means in their respective countries."

Sent May 20, 1944.

The report of the National Secretary told, among various items, the remarkable story of the Hair of the Báb in its journey to America as related by W. Sutherland Maxwell in a letter. This sacred relic was shipped upon an airplane which enroute went down in flames. Later the envelope, partially burned, but with the hair within intact, was returned to Haifa, where the postal authorities identified its owner by the serial registration number, returning it to the sender, with both the locket and envelope. It was joyfully received. Later it was again posted to America, arriving safe, and is now in the Temple Archives.

A review of the Guardian's latest book, "God Passes By," was also given, and the story of its arrival in triplicate copies and installments over a considerable period. As soon as enough copies arrived to make a connected whole it was turned over to the printer. The laborious task of typing the manuscript was done by the Guardian himself, despite the tremendous pressure of other calls upon his time. By the wish of the Guardian, the introduction is written by Dr. George Townshend and signed by him in his capacity and identity as a member of the Church of England. The book is divided into four periods covering in turn the ministries of the Báb, Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'll-Bahá and the Guardianship. It is both a retrospect and prospect with fundamental consideration of present and future values. The author has reviewed every movement from the Declaration of the Báb to the present, recreating and restating it. The spirit of the Guardian brings the incidents vividly to us and every movement is significant. There is shown the recurrence of acceptance and denial, the people of truth and those of error. The episodes bring to mind what the Holy Ones of the past experienced. Also it clarifies the vision and makes resolute the heart for the task that is now before us. Passages were quoted. If we wonder why we have not been given the Báb's writings, perhaps it is because the Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh includes the Báb's and all other previous revelations.

The Properties Representative set forth, briefly, in connection with Temple ornamentation, the long, devoted gift of service which Allen B. McDaniel, Supervising Engineer, made to the Temple over a long period of years; so fruitful and so well remembered, the renovation of Foundation Hall; the acquisition of two lots which separated the Wilhelmin property from the Grove of 'Abdu'll-Bahá at West Englewood, due to the efforts of William de Forge; and the large expansion of the Bahá'í properties which had their beginning with two lots, costing $2,000.00, bought by Bahá'í Temple Unity in 1909, were mentioned as matters indicating unmistakable growth.
North America Teaching

Leroy Ioas and Charlotte M. Linfoot, Chairman and Secretary of the National Teaching Committee, that virile arm of service, set forth in picturesque and eloquent form the far-flung activities of the Seven Year Plan, resulting in victory. How the Guardian inspires us to live in the flow of Baha'i history; how heavenly armies subdue the denisons of earth with the brightness of divine love; how barren wastes were first visited by itinerant teachers, attracting souls who afterwards became contacts for pioneer settlers; how effective are labors that follow God's own plan, bounteously of the collective capacity of the friends and how effective in action; and no matter how great the success now apparent, there must be no suspension of effort to consolidate the work and to build new centers. The entire plan was made vivid by charts, by mention of the names of itinerant workers, some still working, others promoted to the realms above, and by the presentation of these workers and settlers — as many as were present — to the Convention, which showed signs of great admiration for the extraordinary sacrifices mentioned. Leaving home, friends, business, comforts and congenial surroundings to augment the hosts of God in other cities, set in motion influences that are powerful. The inspiration of the Dawn-Breakers and present concentration upon thirteen hundred new cities is now the absorbing task.

Cynthia Powell told an interesting story of how Wilmington, Delaware, which at the eleventh hour lost its Assembly status, retrieved it by inviting inquirers, long with them, to join, which they readily did. Teachers more and more are promised.

There lay concealed within the Holy Veil and prepared for the service of God's chosen ones, who shall be manifested unto men; who shall aid His Cause; who shall be afraid of no one, though the entire human race rise up and war against them. These are the ones who, before the gaze of the dwellers on earth and the denizens of heaven, shall arise and, shouting aloud, acclaim the name of the Almighty, and summon the children of men to the path of God, the All-Glorious, the All-Praised. Walk thou in their way, and let no one dismay thee. Be of them whom the tumult of the world, however much it may agitate them in the path of their Creator, can never sadden, whose purpose the blame of the blamer will never defeat. Gleanings, P. 280.

Inter-America and the Far South

The Inter-America Committee reported to the Convention through its Chairman, Sr. Octavio Illescas, and its Secretary, Mrs. Stewart W. French, the former joyously greeting and the latter relating and beaming, a spiritual victory long sought, full of trials, but now gloriously won. With the aid of a large map, there was a thrilling recital of an epic which moved to laughter and tears, with all hailing the Divine Fire a blaze over the Western Hemisphere and affecting the remotest parts. Special acknowledgments were made to Edna M. True for her invaluable aid and advice regarding transportation and the settlement of pioneers. A detailed account of these itineraries and settlements appears in the Annual Report. The presentation of this Committee was at once followed by:

The Latin-American Session

As a graceful courtesy extended the Latin-American honorary delegates, of whom there were thirteen present, they were invited to elect one of their number to preside as Co-Chairman of the Convention. This selection was Dr. Edelberto Torres of Guatemala. Whereupon they held a Latin-American session before the Convention, conducted in Spanish but translated into English. This proved to be one of the most interesting and engaging features of the week. In reply to an expression of thanks for their presence, Dr. Torres replied: "We thank you for your expression of thanks. But we would remind you that our appearance here is due to your munificence. Therefore we can prove our gratitude only by expressing our conviction that the coming of the Cause of Hispaniola-America is comparable to no event in history or in time; but only is it to be compared to that cosmic event which occurs when the returning sun touches a new sign of the zodiac." (Expressions of great approval)

Brazil sent greetings through its delegate, Dr. Fernando Nova, who paid feeling tribute to itinerant and pioneer teachers from the United States who had come to them over the years.

Alfred Osborne of Panama was eloquent in a similar vein, eulogizing the many teachers and asking prayers and encouragement for the strategically located zone and country in which conflicting stocks meet. He especially expressed the hope for a Baha'i school.

Blanca Victoria Mejia, delegate from Nicaragua, reported thirty-two Bahai's sending their greetings. She was fulsome in praise of the itinerant teachers, etc.

Josephone Rodriguez brought loving greetings from Colombia and reported twenty-five Bahai's and twenty-three students.

Juanita Velasquez, delegate from El Salvador, reported on gatherings of which there were many, and the present and future prospects of her country. She also reported on the work of her brother, a doctor of medicine, in the Panama Canal Zone.

A considerable time was given by the Convention to the work of the Baha'i Teaching Committee of Latin America. carlos Vergara, Mexico City, was joyful over a presence and atmosphere where religion is the cause of unity, science and religion agree, prejudices are removed and the speech of love is uttered. Heroic deeds of the past, among his countrymen, will be excelled in this Day when the Light of Reality is penetrating all hearts.

Raul Contreras of Costa Rica, reported the growth of the Cause during four years, since two pioneer settlers came to them. There are now two Spiritual Assemblies. He brought a message from grateful hearts and was grateful to be its bearer. A prayer in Portuguese closed this session, impressive by the fine bearing of its delegates, their sincerity, grasp of spiritual values, joyousness and zeal in spreading the Message. The Cause is winning people of capacity.

A considerable time was given to them in consultation over Latin-American problems which vary in the different countries. There was also a prayer for the late May Maxwell who was reported as the Mother of teaching service among the Latins, from her work in Paris and Canada, crowned by her martyrdom in South America.
A committee consisting of Mrs. Ella G. Cooper, Rowland Estall, Hon- or Kempton, Rafi Mottahedeh, Alfred Osborne and Ali Kuli Khan, appointed to send on behalf of the Convention, a message to the Guardian, reported the following, which was sent:

"Fifteen hundred Bahá'ís, thronging auditorium of consecrated House of Worship, exalted to heaven of reverence at privilege of beholding the likeness of His Holiness the Báb and approaching the relic of His Sacred Person, gratefully testify we owe to you our sublime opportunity of participating in glorious consummation First Bahá'í Century, achieved by unity created through Guardianship, the Master's final blessing to the Bahá'í world."

The Election

Election of the National Spiritual Assembly, set by the agenda for the middle of the convention, proceeded, following the instructions of readings and prayers from Bahá'í Administration. Those reported by the tellers, who did their work quite expeditiously, were later reported organized as follows:

George O. Latimer, Chairman
Allen B. McDaniel, Vice Chairman
Horace Holley, Secretary
Louis G. Gregory, Recording Secretary
Roy C. Wilhelm, Treasurer
Dorothy Baker
Amelia E. Collins
Philip G. Sprague
Leroy Iloa

The delegates from Chili and Ecuador, delayed in arrival, were introduced.

The chairman stated that one of the oldest churches in the United States, First Church of Salem, Massachusetts, 1629, recently included in its schedule a sermon by its pastor which bore the title: "A Venture in True Catholicity," with the explanation "This sermon will be a tribute to our friends, the members of the Bahá'í Faith, which celebrates its Centenary May 23." Salem is to be felicitated upon showing such wonderful advancement during the centuries.

The Meeting of Two Signs

Variable weather followed the week. At one time rain, poetically called "the angel of the sea" and a sign of bounty, descended in abundance. On another occasion a beautiful rainbow followed its wake. The legend of the rainbow is that one who reaches its end will discover boundless treasure. But as one advances the rainbow recedes, making this attainment impossible. But to one moving lakeward along Linden Avenue, at the rainbow's end appeared the Temple of God! Following the unvarying law of nature, the rainbow receded as one advanced, but in this case it left its precious treasure behind!

Yes, there stood the Temple of God, surpassing in wonder, sublimity and beauty all other structures; a solace to the eyes and illumination to hearts; a sanctuary for meditation and prayer; a sign of the sacrifices of devotees in many lands; an object lesson to seekers after truth, impressing its lesson by day, floodlighted by night as illustrative of its continuity of service, filled to overflowing with the temples of souls who reflect the varied beauty of the new creation; a channel for the flow of mysterious powers which transform the earth with the new creation, and like the welcoming Hand of Providence to all who seek release from the deepening shadows of earth. All hail its dedication.

Was the meeting of these two heavenly signs, the rainbow symbolizing promise and hope and the Temple expressing assurance and fulfillment, but an accident? May we not reflect that both these wondrous phenomena are divine creations? Perhaps their meeting was but another of the wondrous signs of Divine Favor.

The weather was favorable to the battery of cameras and Kodaks which took many pictures of the assembled friends and those seen all turned out well, faces showing happiness, contentment and peace.

Assembly Development

This important phase of Bahá'í administration brought an interesting discussion to which members of the Committee and a number of delegates made contributions. This work has a growing interest and value with the rapid expansion of the Faith. The Chairman of this Committee, Dorothy Baker, brought out that Assemblies must consider their relationships to each other, to the
National, to the Guardian, to its own community and to the various committees appointed by the National Assembly and by themselves. As miniature Houses of Justice, they should uphold the right of the individual member of the Assembly and community to free expression. The local Assembly gives impetus and intelligent direction. Each member should realize his responsibility to the whole. Be warned against reflecting local and sectional jealousies and try to think in terms of world values and economies. Other contributions were the impressive reading from Page 133 of “Bahá’í Administration”; the duty of sustained effort in teaching; striving for a unity, not of inaction or indifference, but one of principle and activity. Differences of detail may not be harmful. As Bahá’ís are chosen instruments of God they cannot risk themselves of each other. To do so will only be postponing a test which later must be met. As far as possible, put everybody to work. Attract new people with advanced ideas. Keep out of ruts.

Youth

Robert L. Gulick, Jr., reported the Youth Banquet to the Convention. Those attending were from thirty-eight states, five provinces, Persia and a number of Latin American countries. A Nipponese youth was also among them. Eloquent pleas were made for their encouragement. Out of a bevy of Persian youth recently come to this country for education, five attended the Convention. They were introduced by Ali Kuli Khan as scions of some of the noblest families, some of their ancestors having been martyrs in the Faith. They were most cordially received and Hushang Javid, their spokesman said: “Alláh-u-Abhá! It gives us great happiness to be here among our sisters and brothers of all this hemisphere. When we left Tehran we were asked to be bearers of loving greeting from the Bahá’ís of our home city, and felicitations on the completion of the Seven Year Plan and the historic Temple. You have worked long and hard for this and we hope from now on to join hands with the Bahá’ís the world over in completion of the next step in the progress of the Cause of God.”

Radio

Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh spoke for the Radio Committee, perhaps referred to in prophecies as “the angel pouring his spirit upon the air.” This work is proving a very effective way both of advertising the Cause and attracting attendance at meetings in various cities. Advice against the controversy was given and a wise and dignified approach recommended. Also the advice of the Guardian to use the word “Bahá’í” as often as possible so that the public will get used to it and know that the Faith exists.

Do not follow the hours and times used by the churches, a custom now growing very unpopular. Many stations have cut them off entirely. Impress with something new and different. It is encouraging to know that two radio stations have recently asked for Bahá’í scripts. New York stations are becoming increasingly cooperative. It is estimated that millions of people have listened to the Centenary broadcasts. About seventy-five broadcasts have been reported to-date in forty-four states. All scripts should be sent for approval to the National Radio Committee. Illustrative charts showed the vast ramifications of this service, the most universal way of presenting the Teachings. There were two broadcasts during the Convention week, one of which, on the oneness of humanity, was from the Temple and the other from the Hotel Stevens at the final banquet, when several very interesting speakers joined in.

Contacts

Marguerite True reported for this committee, which contacts people who are good prospects, by letter and pamphlet literature. Names are suggested to the Committee by its members, the National Spiritual Assembly, College Speakers’ Bureau, the National Teaching Committee, local Assemblies and individuals. A variety of prominent people are thus accosted. People in the armed forces, both men and women, are thus included. Many show a growing interest and express thanks for literature. Dr. Lenore Morris told an interesting story about a contact with the daughter of the late President Wilson who was much interested in a Tablet pertaining to her father.

China

Hilda Yen, aviatrix and lecturer, a distinguished Chinese lady, sought opportunity to join the Faith during the Convention, and in view of her constant travels was given the status of isolated believer. She was by vote invited to address the Convention. She said in part: “Fellow Bahá’ís, this is more than a pleasure. It is a miracle that I am participating with you in discussing such important matters. I contacted two denominations and a parliament of religions before I met Julia Goldman, Bahá’í, who sowed this seed in my heart. While convalescent from a flying crash, my life was given me for service to God. Julia took me under her wing. I saw God vaguely; then more clearly, through the Bahá’í Faith. Then came the battle of Hongkong where all shared in a common danger and hunger—forced to live the oneness of mankind. At length I secured a priority to fly to America and how do I rejoice to be in this free country! Convention with American Bahá’ís! I have found this country the best to execute the message of peace. I have been blessed in meeting other Bahá’ís. I have been deeply impressed by the love and affection among Bahá’ís. China is well prepared by its sages for the Bahá’í Faith. My country has had seven years of suffering. At times we have been so starved as to be forced to eat human flesh. We are more than ready for the most great peace. We struggle to end all tyranny and oppression.” She concluded by reading some wonderful words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá about the Chinese people, their spiritual capacity, their freedom from hypocrisy; also expressed the hope that great souls would rise to convey to them the Great Message. “God speed your work; fellow American Bahá’ís.”

The Convention listened with deepest interest to our Chinese sister whom perhaps God has raised up to enlighten and save a great harvest of souls.

Out of two hundred peace plans read, she found the Bahá’í Plan the best. She is eager to teach and obtained counsel as to a wise procedure. She also exchanged messages with the Guardian during the Convention period.

Schools

The printed program of Green Acre, outlining an eight weeks’ session beginning July 10, and extending to September 3, was circulated, with invitations to all who can attend.
Louhelen announced its tentative program with its special appeal to youth. Geyserville plans to put special emphasis upon the study of the Guardian’s latest book, “God Passes By.”

The International School will serve those who wish to enroll for foreign teaching service. It has a well prepared program of teaching and entertainment for ten days in June.

Education will be a part of the Canadian Conference, with Dr. Edris Rice-Wray and Harry Ford as teachers. It is to he held at Rice Lake, Ontario.

The Child Education Committee announced a new book now available on this very important subject.

The Braille Committee gave an interesting account of progress in teaching those physically sightless.

Several young Bahá’ís appeared in uniform, and one of them, T. Lane Skelton of Louisiana, made an earnest plea for teachings to the armed forces.

**Publicity**

Clarence Niss, for this Committee, mentioned reams for the press; news in rotogravure sections from glossy prints; also many clippings sent the Guardian. Articles have also appeared in the National Geographic Magazine. No statistics are yet available as to the actual number of Bahá’ís in the world. More local work to supplement the National publicity was urged. The “Pattern for Future Society” and similar publications are suggested as most appealing for publicity releases.

**Race Unity**

The past year has recorded the most progress in race unity since this movement began. It has been growing very perceptibly in the outer world since the great war began, which the Guardian states “is at once a visitation from God and a cleansing process for all mankind. Its fires punish the perversity of the human race, and weld its component parts into one organic, indissoluble, world-embracing community.” This affects all human relations as the outward world unconsciously obeys the mandate of God. It is amazing to note what great changes have come in a brief time.

In the Cause itself, where there is conscious knowledge through the attraction of hearts, this has been the banner year. Fifty-seven centers sent reports of race unity meetings in response to the appeal of the National Spiritual Assembly. Work was reported in the colleges among the American Indians, in the minority press, and in contacts with the Eskimos both in Alaska and Seattle. In the latter, a young Eskimo has recently received a letter from Shoghi Effendi.

Miss Janet Whitenack gave an interesting report of contact with the Eskimos in Alaska. The work of the Chairman, George Washington, Elsie Austin and others in colleges of both races, has been especially outstanding. Of the highest value has been the preparation of the book, “Race and Man,” which is a treasury of scientific and spiritual values, compiled by the research, devotion and spiritual insight of Maye H. r v y Gift and Alice Simmons Cox. Its perusal shatters idol worship and its circulation is making many friends for the Cause.

Perhaps more time might have been spent upon a theme so inseparably connected with the nation’s destiny. But in reflection, the Convention itself was the greatest demonstration of race unity that history records, with so many traditionally discordant elements melted into oneness by the attracting power of the love of God. It was also the sign of the unity of religions and none the less, an index of world unity.

**Inspiring Messages From Ajar**

One of the brightest features of the Convention is the spirit of unity which connects those by distance sunned far. The National Secretary sent the following message to the National Spiritual Assemblies of Persia, ‘Irán, Egypt, Britain, India, and Australia: “American Bahá’ís send joyous felicitations century celebration (of the) Báb (and) birth (of) ‘Abdu’l-Bahá (and) dedication (of) the House of Worship. Fervently striving (to) assist universal expansion (of) Divine Faith (of) Bahá’u’lláh second century.”

A similar message was sent all Latin American Bahá’í centers, expressing the hope of realizing All-American Bahá’í unity.

Responses came from the National Spiritual Assemblies of Australia and New Zealand, Great Britain, Egypt-Sudan, ‘Irán and India. The longest of these replies was from ‘Irán, occupying three pages and in eloquent terms stating admiration for the glorious achievements of the American Bahá’ís with fervent hopes that their (the Americans’) would be the means of spreading the Great Message throughout the earth.

The message from Great Britain stated that the British Bahá’ís were the only ones in Europe openly celebrating these joyous days.

Costa Rica, San Salvador, Guatemala, Peru, Brazil, Chile, British Columbia, Seattle, Santa Rosa, California; Boise, Idaho; Honolulu, T. H.; Anchorage, Alaska; Carmel, California; San Francisco, California; Miami, Florida, joined the chorus.

The message from Africa, to wit, Cairo, Egypt, which wonderfully conveys the spirit and even in part the letter of all these happy messages, follows: ‘In this blessed Century, terminating the century of Bahá’u’lláh, believers of Egypt-Sudan send warmest congratulatory greetings. Verily, first Bahá’í century records far-reaching activities in spreading (the) Faith of Bahá’u’lláh (and) birth (of) ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, indeed (the) world (and) heart (it) will remain (the) guidance to future generations.”

From the Board of Trade, Chicago, came a cordial invitation to delegates and friends to see Chicago from its observation tower.

**Convention Closing**

The Convention toward its closing seemed to resolve itself into a great appreciation league as joyousness beamed from the faces of friends and tongues waxed eloquent in expressions of heartfelt gratitude to God and His loved ones who had been so unspiring of themselves in efforts to serve. Praise and thanksgiving were like a mighty chorus. For a full week were we not uplifted to the heaven of God’s given happiness, the only joy that is real, with little or no sense of weariness to our bodies? Then it was necessary to be let down again to earth with its stern exactions and duties and a greater responsibility to share divine treasures with others. The Bahá’í World community is like
an oasis, capable of spreading its verdure and beauty to the vast desert of human hearts. The plan for this week was perfect due to the inspiration and directions from Haifa. Their brilliant execution by all who cooperated, may in some details have been different. But who, except one knowing all, can say better? The success of any Bahá’í is the joy of every Bahá’í, while the failure of one (perish the thought of failure!) can be but a cause of grief to all.

The Convention closed with the prayer written by the Guardian many years ago and by his request to be said for him:

“O God! I pray that from now on, Thou, the Beloved, may bestow upon Shoghi Effendi, all the strength and vigor that will enable him to pursue, over a long and unbroken period of strenuous labor, the supreme task of achieving in collaboration with the friends in every land, the speedy triumph of the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh."

The Convention resolutions will appear in Bahá’í News, supplemented with the actions of the National body. The public addresses will be published and the public meetings covered by a far abler pen. In bringing this sketchy narrative to a close, we are humbly apologetic for its sheer inadequacy—at best a feeble and flickering reflection only, of the great Light of Unity whose vibrations made hearts rejoice. All who spoke did so wisely, as each expression was related to some ideal or activity of the Faith. There are, however, degrees in wisdom; yet for loyalty, to all be praise. No less to the majority of the delegates, numbered amongst whom were not wanting many with rare gifts and graces, both of speech and action, who yet chose silence save expressions by vote. Some arose early to pray. Two at least spent the entire night of the Báb’s memorial in prayer. A tribute must go also to the still greater number of loyal friends who followed with eager interest all that passed. A thought too for those held by enforced absence and who at a distance observed in reverence the wonders of the week. And last but not least, homage to that ethereal host of invisible heroes, the Dawn-Breakers of the East and the Trail-Blazers of the West, whose deeds and traces laid an imperishable foundation for this monumental triumph. The Manifestation says: “Your names are more famous in the supreme Kingdom than are well-known to your own selves.”

In His Tablet to Ra’is, Minister to the Sultan, Bahá’u’lláh also says: “The beloved of God are those in whom the Word of God taketh effect and who tasteth the sweetness of commemoration, and upon whom the fragrance of unity hath taken hold in such wise that they separate themselves from whoever is upon the earth and advance to the Face with brilliant countenances; and though they have committed that which God never permitted, yet God pardoned them as a favor on His part. Verily He is the Pardoner, the Merciful. The attraction of the Most Powerful hath overpowered them in such wise that it seized from their hands the reins of option, until they ascended into the station of presence and disclosure before God, the Precious, the Wise.”

LOUIS G. CHERRY
Convention Reporter

Community of the Greatest Name

Three meetings were planned on the Centenary program for the Community of the Greatest Name. The first bore the above caption and its idea was to bring the intimate matters of the Faith close to the hearts of the friends.

Roy C. Wilhelm was chairman and in his happy vein introduced this historic occasion. Readings were the Will and Testament of Bahá’u’lláh, the Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and writings of the Guardian. Those who read were Mrs. Ella G. Cooper, Mrs. Emogene Hoagg, Alfred Osborne, Siegfried Schopflocher, Eli Powlas, Ali Kuli Khan, N. D., and Esteban C. Leyton.

An inspiring address was made by Mme. Laura Dreysus-Barney, one of the very early Bahá’ís, who spent two years, 1902 to 1904, in ‘Akka at the time that ‘Abdu’l-Bahá was still a prisoner under the despotic Turkish government and received from Him, and translated into English, the Teachings in the volume called “Some Answered Questions.” She expressed pleasure over the signs of progress.

Edwin W. Mattoon, Chairman of the National Archives Committee, made and described exhibits of photographs of the Wills and Testaments of Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá with Tablets and records from the Archives, beautifully displayed and very attractive. The moving picture film of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and another of Holy places in Palestine were presented by Albert Windust, whose historical address, dealing with the evolution of the Faith from the time it first reached America, was one of most absorbing interest and great value. It is hoped that this address will be published for general circulation. It was given by one of very, very few people who could have given such information. It dealt with Chicago, Kenosha, Wisconsin, in the very early days, and later New York and Washington, D. C., which the Cause reached; paid a tribute to the early Bahá’ís who won imperishable renown for their sacrificial work of translating the Tablets, teaching, publication of literature, etc., and who bore bravely the tests and were victorious through the mighty confirmations of pioneer days.

Edna M. True in fitting words paid a tribute to those who were believers prior to 1912 and presented all who were present with a Centenary souvenir containing a photograph of the Master and a picture of the Temple.

This meeting was extended to the Sunday evening following, when a number of the relics in the National Archives were shown. These included a piece of tile from the pillar on which the Báb was suspended in Tabriz at the time of His martyrdom; the Locks of Hair of Bahá’u’lláh presented to the American believers by Shoghi Effendi, a coat of Bahá’u’lláh and a piece of wood from the frame of the window of His room in the prison of ‘Akka, and an ‘abá and ferr of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s, rosary and a scarf used by the Greatest Holy Leaf.

The framed Tablets of the Divine Plan and the illuminated Tablet to the House of Justice in Chicago were hanging on the walls of the Foundation Hall during this meeting.

The film of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in New York and the color films of the Shrines and gardens at Bahji and on Mount Carmel were shown again for the benefit of many who had been unable to see them on the previous evening.
Mrs. Amelia Collins, who was entrusted with bringing the Locks of Hair of Bahá'u'lláh from the Holy Land to Wilmette, spoke upon the significance of this gift.

Mr. Charles Mason Remey presented a silver reliquary to the Archives, containing hair and some particles of dried blood of Bahá'u'lláh.

Temple Dedication

This meeting was held on the main floor of the Temple on Monday, May 22, at 9:40 P.M. It consisted entirely of prayers and readings from words of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá. This program follows:

"All praise, O my God, be to Thee ..."-Bahá'u'lláh.

Reading: Anthony Seto

"O concourse of creation! O people! Construct edifices ... in every city ... in the Name of the Lord of Religion ..."-Bahá'u'lláh.

"The century is great and the age belongeth to His Majesty, the Merciful ..."-'Abdu'l-Bahá.

Reading: Edward Lindstrom

"O friends of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and His co-sharers and partners ..."-'Abdu'l-Bahá.

Reading: Harlan F. Ober

"It is the power of God, the Divine Favor of Bahá'u'lláh which has drawn you together ..."-Bahá'u'lláh.

Reading: Paul E. Haney

"Many a chilled heart, O my God, hath been set ablaze ..."-Bahá'u'lláh.

Reading: Charlotte Linfoot.

Commemoration of the Declaration of the Bab

This most holy service, the most impressive of the whole Convention period, was set for two hours and eleven minutes after sunset, May 22, 1944, exactly a century after the Bab's Declaration. The program follows:

"Say: God sufficeth all things above all things ..."-The Bab.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handiwork ..."-Psalm of David.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven ..."-Jesus.

Reading: Olivia Kelsey.

"God is the Light of the heavens and of the earth ..."-Muhammad.

Reading: Louis G. Gregory

"This night, this very hour will, in the days to come ..."-The Bab.

"I am the Mystic Fane which the Hand of Omnipotence hath reared ..."-The Bab.

"I am the Primal Point from which have been generated all created things ..."-The Bab.

Reading: Albert R. Windsust.

"This is ... the anniversary of the Message and Declaration of His Holiness the Bab ..."-'Abdu'l-Bahá.

Reading: Honor Kempston.

"Praise be to Thee, O my God, that Thou hast revealed Thy favors and Thy bounties ..."-Bahá'u'lláh.

Reading: Mary A. McClennen.

This night, this very hour, will, in the days to come, be celebrated as one of the greatest and most significant of all festivals. Render thanks to God for having graciously assisted you to attain your heart's desire, and for having quaffed from the sealed wine of His utterance.

-The Bab

Louis G. Ganzert

Flood-Lighting

The Temple

The Bahá'í House of Worship in Wilmette, Illinois, has frequently been referred to as the Temple of Light. This descriptive appellation may have been inspired by the lacy stone ornamental surfaces which reflect the sun rays in an ever changing pattern, or the effect of the light within the structure, which is unique because the perforations in the outer envelope of stone permit the infiltration of the sunlight.

The unique beauty of the structure itself, standing above its surroundings, the inspiring sweep of lines that delineate its majestic form, the general theme of its graceful forms, the ever changing play of light and shadow creates a form poem of singular charm and impressive beauty.

As the sunlight moves over its surfaces from dawn to sunset, and as it stands silhouetted against the ever changing sky and the cloud pattern, it inspires ever new feelings of wonderment and awe. Not, however, until at the time of the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the Faith, when the trustees undertook to make the first experiment with artificial lighting of the exterior of the building, was the truly exquisite ethereal character of the whole structure revealed. The lighting installations were only temporary and therefore in no sense perfect. The equipment used was only roughly adapted to the purpose, yet the effect was simply astounding. A feeling of unreality, of a building that was not of the earth, but which seemed to be a vision, overpowered every one. It arrested the step of every person, no one could walk past without stopping again and again to gaze at it. The entire form glowed as though made of luminous material and there was a feeling of vibration that seemed to make it alive.

The very fact that this effect could be obtained by equipment so inadequate gives promise of a future development that may in itself become most significant. In this experiment it was found impossible to actually illuminate the dome of the structure. This was due partly to the nature of the equipment found available in this war period and to the curve of the surfaces of the dome. There is every reason to believe that this will not prove to be an insolvable problem and one may be assured that in the not too far distant future the fully illuminated House of Worship will stand in the night as well as in the day time, a powerful beacon to guide mankind toward the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.

Carl Scheffler
May 19

We went out early to the Temple, to register and then pray upstairs under the Dome. The Baha’is in the Temple area were handling the Convention crowds with the greatest of ease—an ease which meant that months of planning lay behind the Centenary week. The first thing we did was fill out printed cards with our names, our home addresses, our addresses during Convention.

The cards of Centenary Committee members sported long red badges with gold lettering, and those of delegates long blue badges. (It was a pleasure always to know whom you were addressing—an old friend, or a pioneer you had often read about but never visualized, or a cherished fellow committee member you had met only by mail. As one who has lived in forced hypocrisy all through life, because of an inability to remember names, I found the Convention a great relief in this respect.)

When we had registered, a friend and I climbed upstairs under the Dome. It was like walking up into the next life. Whatever may be going on downstairs in Foundation Hall, or out along the highways, or in Chicago, or the world, it is always the same up under the Dome. The interior of the Dome section is not finished. I felt suddenly glad to live in a time when it is not finished; to see it this way—perhaps to work with others around the planet and arch of the glass. Bird shadows flickered. The interior of the Dome section was like walking up into a city where churches were nonexistent. When people ask me where is Wilmette? I tell them: if you want to locate Wilmette, just locate the Baha’i Temple. There’s where Wilmette is....

Mr. Kinne added: You good people are welcome. Please feel welcome. And if you violate any little regulations or ordinances, please see Mr. Wolff (The Village Manager) or myself (laughter) and we’ll pardon you.

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Mr. Kinne added: You good people are welcome. Please feel welcome. And if you violate any little regulations or ordinances, please see Mr. Wolff (The Village Manager) or myself (laughter) and we’ll pardon you.
because we know you wouldn't do anything but what you'd think would be all right.

The President was much applauded and naturally we all resolved to live on our best behavior, at least during Convention week in Wilmette.

Robert Gulick was good enough to give me the notes he made of this session, as follows: The familiar melodies and harmonies of the Cesar Franck Symphony in D minor recalled the words of Bahá'u'lláh that music is a ladder which the soul may ascend to heaven. The theme of the evening was "The Universal House of Worship." "Achieved is the Glorious Work" from Haydn's "Creation" served as a fitting prelude to this time of jubilee.

Foundation Hall was occupied largely by guests and older Bahá'ís while the rest ascended the stairs to the first floor. It was an impressive sight to view the world at twilight from this sacred spot. Each door and window opened on tree tops painted in the pale green of spring. The Temple impressed itself on the souls present as a sanctuary from the turmoil of a troubled world walking in darkness because it has lost touch with God, and as the best promise of a united world. God's Holy Ark, gracing the shore of Lake Michigan, resting on a firm foundation that no tempest can shake, immune to the whisperings of the followers of the false gods of racialism and nationalism.

Harry C. Kinne, President of the Wilmette Village Board, acclaimed the greatness of the Temple and mentioned the esteem in which the Bahá'ís are held locally. Later the chairman remarked on the significance of the change from the time when the Temple was called "that thing" until the present when, in the phraseology of the Village Board, it has become "our Temple".

Mrs. Corinne True, who during the uphill struggles of the early years never allowed despondency to interfere with her resolve to expedite work on the House of Worship, gave an address based on the words of the Master, "The most important matter is to found a Temple."

The flood lights enhance the beauty of the ornamentation. When the lights come on in the Dome, the interior changes to a fascinating trichrome pattern of glass and steel. Surely this Temple of Light, this lacy shelter covering the heart of the continent, will have an increasingly ennobling effect on American civilization. "The real Temple is the Word of God." This holy House of Worship is the point of radiation of the unifying light of God's Word. The Gothic tracery with its stars and crosses and symbols of many faiths, glistening in almost incandescent...
splendor, bears luminous testimony that "This is the changeless Faith of God, eternal in the past, eternal in the future."

The drama of the Temple, described by one of its leading actors, seemed too great for any human being to unfold: the humble, unheralded efforts of a numerically insignificant group to erect a truly universal house of prayer. Profound emotion underlined the words of the speaker, Mrs. True, who was from the beginning in the vanguard of the struggle to establish a sanctified place where sincere souls of all races, classes, and creeds might worship in complete freedom the one God.

The guest speaker, Earl Reed, explained some of the technical features of the building, indicating that new methods and materials had to be discovered in order to carry out the ideas of the inspired architect. As an example of attention to detail, he mentioned the excellence of concrete casting to be noted in the steps which are placed a half inch apart for drainage purposes and to allow for expansion. We heard of the humble shopkeeper of India who gave his sleeping-mat for the Temple fund, a Bahá’í successor of that widow who sacrificed her mite for the spread of Christianity.

In this structure, functionalism supplements the organic unification of past architectural styles. The sky has disappeared from view and the stone lace has become snowy-white and fairy-like. The intertwined forms portray cosmic unity. Those unfamiliar with the world’s religious history are startled to find the Cross, the Star of David, and the Swastika in harmonious association.

The fine, shining wires of the sound amplifying system looked like harp strings waiting to hum with the music of the spheres.

I would like to add here that we experienced the greatest cordiality from the citizens of Wilmette, the surrounding area and even into Chicago. They were friendly to us simply because we were Bahá’ís. Many homes were opened to Convention visitors, stores displayed Bahá’í books and Centenary placards and worked long hours taking care of the crowds. The press was generous.

May 20

Today I noticed that the Greatest Name, framed in black, had been suspended against the drapes behind the speakers’ platform. The flowers had been changed, and this happened all through the sessions; today there were two great bowls of them on the main table: yellow daisies, purple lilacs, pink and orange snapdragons. The atmosphere of ease, of something preordained and running almost by magic, continued today and throughout the entire Convention. So far as I could discover, no serious mishaps or hardships were experienced by any of those who attended. That one week will always be something set apart in memory; it will be a time when for once life was out of our hands and ran smoothly.

This evening the prize seats—the section immediately facing the center table—were roped off. Gradually they filled with Bahá’ís who had been in the Faith prior to 1912. (I noticed, however, that some of the younger ones who were Bahá’ís at that early date felt the urge to sit elsewhere). We knew these early believers were to receive a special surprise and that a moving picture would be made of them. This session was primarily for Bahá’ís, and Foundation Hall was jammed; it was a case of Standing Room Only, with the
Baha'i ushers polite but firm. At 8:00 o'clock there was already an overflow of some hundred and twenty-five persons up under the Dome, who could hear, but unfortunately not see, the proceedings. I might say in passing that the Convention sessions started promptly, and the traditional American Baha'i practice of arriving late had to be abandoned throughout.

This was the session which the Committee members referred to among themselves as "Old Home Evening". There was something special about those people in the front section; those heads grown white in the Faith. Those who, however, the current generation, pushing on this second century to the rims of the planet, may overshadow them—reared the Faith in America; visited the Master in His prison; gathered to serve Him when He came to the West; built this Dome above us.

Like all Baha'i audiences, this one was in constant motion, and far from silent. The recorded musical program—selections from Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, followed by Richard Crooks singing "The Holy City"—was coming over beautifully.

Mr. Roy Wilhelm was in the chair this evening and his first words were the Master's: "Are you happy? You must be so happy that your faces will shine."

Mr. George Latimer welcomed everyone on behalf of the Convention. He said: This is truly a gathering of the Community of the Most Great Name, and I am sure that the reinforcing spirit of our beloved Master is here with us tonight.

Miss Edna True, chairman of the Centenary Committee, spoke to us on the changes that have taken place since the Faith first came to this hemisphere. She said: In the beginning only those souls with the keenest perception could discern the very slight glimmerings of the dawn of the sun of Baha'u'llah. They, a mere handful of consecrated souls, initiated most of those things which we count today as our greatest Baha'i blessings. Many here can remember when Mary Lesch literally carried the Publishing Society around in her ample handbag. . . . Miss True then announced that a Centennial remembrance would be presented to every Baha'i who had been in the Faith before 1912. Quietly, girl ushers began to distribute the large brown paper envelopes, and everyone not in the roped-off section craned to see what they were—two handsomely mounted photographs, the one on the right a camera portrait of 'Abdu'l-Baha, that on the left a study of the Temple, the two set in a gray folder bearing the inscription: "Baha'i Centenary, 1944-1945." in blue.

Mr. Williams was in the chair, drew laughter, especially from the reserved section, with his reference to a newly-fledged preacher who had delivered a sermon on "the old ancient relics of antiquity". He went on to describe the progress of the Faith around the world, and paid a tribute to the historic services of M. and Mme. Hippolyte Dreyfus-Barney: Hippolyte has now crossed the big river... 'Abdu'l-Baha said, could we have even a glimpse of even the next step we could scarcely be kept in this world... I now present you all to Laura Dreyfus-Barney.

Mme. Barney spoke with her usual concentrated calm. Completely bilingual, she has a slight trace of French accent. She said: Two months ago I was hesitating whether or not to attend the Convention. I felt this to be a moment of rejoicing, and I so attuned to the war-torn world, because I have been so much in Europe and the Far East, that I would bring a note of sadness which should not appear here. But Shoghi Effendi wrote me that he wished me to come to this Centenary gathering. So here I am, in full appreciation of what has been done. I felt I should pay tribute here to the strength that is growing from the Americas. Though not an accredited delegate, I feel I can speak for France and Switzerland and the other countries, and greet you, and say they are expecting much from this part of the world.

We don't know what has happened to many of our friends—Lydia Zamdenhof and many others—or how much Baha'i literature remains in Europe—but we do know we can prepare to serve them. The second century opens up a vast field—the field that has been tramped in all directions by this war.

Of the book Some Answered Questions, Mme. Barney told us: Some Answered Questions, I feel, is everybody's book. When I saw the Master—a prisoner in 'Akkâ, cut away from much of the world—and saw how He dictated to His scribes, I asked Him whether it would be feasible to have some talks written down when He honored us by coming to take a meal with us, or sometimes in the early morning when we were having tea... We never knew when we were going to have these talks. It was after a heavy day of visiting the poor or attending to some very difficult and complicated business that He would come, and sit, and rest; and it was the thought of you all, and the thought that perhaps it would save Him the cost of many Tablets, that gave me the courage to ask, when I wanted to remain silent.

The people that wrote it down were the sons-in-law or the secretaries, Munir or Nur-i-Din. It would be written very rapidly and copied out. Again, I had to watch for opportunity when He wasn't too tired or going away for something else—for when He was rested, away He went; and then He would complete them—sometimes three lines—sometimes one word. And when they were as He wished them to be, He would put on His seal—Ayn-Ayn—so that Some Answered Questions is the same as a Tablet.

They say women are marvelous smugglers; to get the book out of 'Akkâ, I asked the secretaries to copy the set twice; they did; I smuggled it out and brought it to Paris. Hippolyte Dreyfus was so very helpful; it was in translating Some Answered Questions that we came to understand how well we worked together. . . . Whenever I went back to 'Akkâ I would ask a little more, add a new subject. The Master had that wonderful patience in trying to get a few words over; He would use the Persian words that we understood, over and over. A Persian scholar helped with the English translation. Hippolyte Dreyfus did the French.

I never felt quite at ease while the original manuscript remained in Paris, but I didn't do much about it because my logic didn't tell me which way I was to go. Then a Persian woman was returning to see her family in the East; I said: Will you take these to Shoghi Effendi? I included, with the manuscript, all my Tablets and Mrs. Tewkesbury Jackson's too, so that all these documents are in Shoghi Effendi's hands. I wonder if it isn't that deeper sense of Guardianship that makes us turn
to him when we don’t know quite what to do.

In Paris the Master liked to walk in the gardens of the Trocadéro. When in 1917 there was a magnificent exhibition there—with all the flags of the world floating in the wind—I couldn’t help seeing Him as He had walked there years before.

He wanted us to go to Persia. We went—a little group. I was most anxious to visit Māh-Kū, that slab of rock; it seemed absolutely cut away from the rest of the world.

We are faced with a magnificent future. We, the American hemisphere, are preparing ourselves to aid this rest of the world—that we will find ill-poverty-stricken—but hopeful.

Mrs. Ella Goodall Cooper now came to the platform. She said: Dear friends, this is almost too much happiness—to come here and find an old-fashioned meeting. The old-timers knew what Mrs. Cooper meant; for once, instead of the dust and heat of labor, of nonstop effort to establish the Faith, of distance stretching thousands of miles between friends, the Bahá’ís could pause and be together in the old-time way.

Everything was very easy and natural, as if we were already together in the world to come. I looked across the many-colored audience, and saw all the strains: Negro-American Indian—Semitic—Persian—Far Eastern—Nordic—all tossed together, and beyond them, across the Hall, the Master’s portrait, cameo-white.

Mrs. Emogene Hoagg, California’s first Bahá’í, now read from ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s words on the power of the Covenant; Emogene Hoagg, not at all bowed down by her years of endless services—among the most notable being her typing of the Dawn Breakers at the Guardian’s direction. All-Kuli Khan, sent here by the Master in 1901 as the interpreter to Mirzá Abu’l-Fadl, read next; Mr. Siegfried Schopflocher, the distinguishéd Canadian Bahá’í, Mr. Alfred Osborne, Panama’s envoy to the Convention, Mr. Eli Powlas, the much applauded young American Indian, and Cuba’s popular delegate, Sr. Eugenio Gines, were the other readers tonight.

Mr. Edwin Mattoon spoke briefly of the precious Tablets and relics belonging to the National Archives and now on exhibit in Foundation Hall. Then the lights were dimmed, and all at once in the darkness, very close at hand, we heard the voice of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. As we listened to the recording, the moving picture film of the Master was projected on a screen run up by technicians in front of the speakers’ platform, and Mr. Albert Windust guided us through the scenes with a few words of explanation.

The “Old Home” session ended with a showing of the new films sent by the Guardian especially for this event: technicolor views of Bahá’í holy places in Palestine, so lovely that one showing was not enough and they were presented again the next evening.

May 21

Arriving at the Sunday afternoon meeting I found that as usual, seating priorities had been accorded to non-Bahá’ís—this being standard Bahá’í practice—and the Bahá’ís were being requested to go upstairs and take seats under the Dome. The great Hall was already jammed. The ushers, members of many different races, were doing an efficient job of being firm with their fellow-believers, who are rapidly learning that it’s no use trying to sneak past them.

Glancing over the audience, I thought it was the sort of gathering that would please ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, because so many varieties of the human race were represented. The atmosphere was extraordinarily happy and the Bach recordings were coming over well. I was there only on sufferance, having used the plea that I had to take notes on the meeting.

Then the speakers mounted the platform: Mr. Kenneth Christian, and Mrs. Charles Bishop. Mr. Philip Sprague was in the chair. Welcoming the audience, he told them: This is a particularly happy time for those of us who call ourselves Bahá’ís, because we are celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of our Faith and the completion of what the Guardian of our Faith called the Seven Year Plan—a goal which had to be reached by the close of the first century.

You will be able to read elsewhere the things that they said from the platform today. Mr. Christian showed how, at a time when the world was concerned with local problems, local needs, local aspirations, Bahá’u’lláh, an Exile and Prisoner, raised the banner of world unity and world justice, restated the spiritual obligations of man to God, inseparably joined the spiritual and the practical aspects of life. “God moves in human history. His hand is above all things. A new order founded on the oneness of humanity is taking shape under the guidance and protection of God.” Mr. Christian closed with ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s words, twice repeated: “Behold the portals which Bahá’u’lláh hath opened unto you!”

Mrs. Bishop told the audience that if they were convinced all knowledge belongs to the past, and that God is unable to speak today, then it would be impossible for them to understand what Bahá’ís mean by the oneness of religions. She said that Bahá’u’lláh had been received among all peoples with that devotion accorded only a Prophet of God. She told of the Tree of Revelation, sprung out of Abraham’s posterity and including both Jesus and Muhammad; and of “God’s two languages”, the Semitic group and the Aryan; and of how these elements were joined today in the respective manifestations of the Báb and Bahá’u’lláh.

Mrs. Bishop went on to speak of the swans she had seen in the most around an English cathedral; whenever a bell was rung, the swans would flock together to be fed. In the same way, she said, the masses react to the repetition of certain words, certain stimuli. This has happened in religion as well as elsewhere: through constant repetition of certain words a mass action is brought about; such words inflame but do not enlighten; it is the words of the Prophet that enlighten.

The audience listened with complete attention and at the close there was prolonged applause.

This evening a meeting was held in Foundation Hall for the Bahá’ís, at which time Mr. Remey presented the relics already referred to, and Mrs. Amelia Collins told of the Guardian’s gift to the American Archives—the Locks of Bahá’u’lláh’s Hair—reading from the words of Bahá’u’lláh as transcribed around the Locks. Members of the Archives Committee described relics of the Báb, Bahá’u’lláh, the Master and Bahiyyih Khánum, these sacred objects being on view in three display cases.
May 22

Last night when we came out of the Tent after the Youth Banquet, we stepped into mist. The Temple seemed to be floating away, the lights from it streaming away in the wind and mist. Street lamps blurring, wet branches shifting and glimmering, and the Temple floating through above us in the mist.

The Baha’i House of Worship does not look like the pictures taken of it, or like the models—that have been widely exhibited. They are heavy and static, while the Temple itself is fragile and light; it almost drifts; it seems only to have settled, the way a butterfly will settle. It symbolizes a religion utterly unlike anything humanity had in the past. For centuries, the West has worshipped in vault-like places, crowded with statues and pictures; and while the mosques, in my view, have been less obstructive to the searching mind, because they run with fountains and sunlight and are empty of images—still they are exclusive, and shut the non-believer out.

Now here is the Temple, welcoming you with its nine portals, no matter who you are, atheist or faithful, sinner or saint; no matter which way you turn. You cannot help entering—there is no wall to keep you away.

The National Assembly conceived the plan of having the Temple floodlighted throughout the Centennial. They were fortunate in discovering, in these days of shortage, a man who had bought equipment used for this purpose at the Chicago World’s Fair in 1933. The problem of lighting the Dome proved hard to solve but in the end the very difficulties resulted in new light effects. I had expected long Klieg lights on the order of a Hollywood opening; instead, there was a white glowing, an unfolding of radiance, a great white-rose, white-petalled light against the soft darkness.

You cannot write about the Temple in static adjectives, or still verbs; you have to use adjectives that suggest color and motion, verbs preferably in the active participle; because the Temple always swings and moves, and that is why the models and photographs do not resemble it.

This was the night when we entered the second century of our Faith.

A public evening meeting was held first, and followed at 9:40 by the great Baha’i gathering up under the Dome, when we dedicated the Mashriqu’l-Adhkara and commemorated the Declaration of the Bab.

Mr. George Latimer, chairman of the public meeting, first introduced Mrs. Dorothy Baker, who spoke on “Religion returns to Mankind.” She told of the Prophets, who restore man’s contact with God that is the supreme passion of humanity; of the Prophet, who is a Man alone against the world. She emphasized the stream of progressive revelation, speaking of Judaism, Christianity, Islam and the other Faiths, and ended: The words of the Bab are dedicated to all who are gathered in this commemorative place: “Enter therein in peace, secure.”

Dr. Harry Allen Overstreet, guest speaker of the evening, then addressed us on “Getting Ready for World Peace.” He told us: “You celebrate a great event—the founding of a new kind of Faith... The urge to peace is upon us all... the difficulty lies in the curious confusion of our minds—we also want other things. We’ve got to get our minds ready for peace... No peace can come save out of the utter unity of the world... The world civil war is being waged between two kinds of ideas; between those who want special privileges and those who want privileges for everyone... The new world will be one of cultural generosity... we shall pass from cultural monism which is our occidental provincialism, to cultural pluralism....

Mr. Horace Holley then spoke on “The World in Transformation.” This address, like the rest, will be available in print, and my notes will do it no more justice than they have the others. Among the things Mr. Holley told us were: For hundreds of thousands of years, man’s daily routine required only a little thought; man worked in nature and nature gave man his daily bread. Then came the great erupting force of scientific thought; by the impact of science and technological industries the simplicity of life was completely transformed. This change involves every human being... We have seen—the rise of education as a duty of the state. We have seen great dynasties and civilizations destroyed. We have seen submerged peoples arise and clamor for their rights... Our economic structure has been imperiled until a sense of worry and foreboding has descended upon the average family... It is too late to retire into some beautiful dream... The past has been destroyed, the present is in turmoil, the future is hidden behind a cloud. Description of a problem, if it leaves the problem, is a luxury we cannot afford. If you are sick, you don’t want a doctor to describe the description of the sickness; you want a diagnosis, but only to produce healing. (The speaker quoted here from the words of Baha’u’llah: “The All-Knowing Physician hath His finger on the pulse of mankind. . . .”) The abyss into which we have fallen spiritually is individualism. People do not unite in their personalities, but they unite when they agree on certain fundamental truths... Religion is the society-building power—the release of a spirit which enters into the constitute of human beings and evokes from them their latent and undeveloped powers. When these powers are evoked from human beings, they possess the basis of a civilization. Civilization perishes by the misuse of the human powers. We cannot of ourselves return into the spiritual light... Those who accept the Baha’ accept all the Manifestations of God. Entering into the common experience of sharing one God is the basis of all civilizations... The Bab created the foundation of a world consciousness. The great proof of a religion is its power to create a community... Peace is not a human theory; peace is not even a desperate human need; peace is a divine command... The victory has already been won.

After the public meeting, we walked up the white path in the darkness, up the steps and through one of the nine great portals. The vast space beneath the Dome was packed with Baha’is. I wished the Guardian could have been here to see them; to see all these souls across the earth, who have grown out of the words that the Bab spoke in Shiraz a hundred years ago tonight.

We had been carefully instructed in what we were to do: if downstairs, we were to hurry upstairs and join the others under the Dome; we were to make no sound while the readings were going on, for they were to be recorded. And no children under twelve were to be present. (It was wonderful to see how quickly the tiniest youngsters became twelve.)
Then a great silence and a voice came out of it: Anthony Seto reading “All praise, O my God, be to Thee...” The program of dedication had begun. I looked behind me and saw faces pressed against the glass—people on the steps outside, peering in and wondering. I can’t explain how happy the people inside were; I had never felt an audience like this.

A voice, reading: “O friends of Abdu’l-Baha...” Paul Haney, reading “It is the power of God... which has drawn you together.” Charlotte Linfoot, reading “Many a chilled heart, O my God, hath been set ablaze...”

We heard a Psalm of David, and the Beatitudes, read for us by Olivia Kelsey; and the John Charles Thomas recording of the Lord’s Prayer. Now Louis Gregory was repeating from the Qur’an: “God is the light of the heavens and of the earth...” The colors around us were dove colors—light grays and dull grays and tans. The segment of the Dome that I could see was a spiderweb of gray geometric filaments and black panes. Mr. Gregory closed with: “And unto God the final return.”

This must have been the moment when we passed into the second century of the Bahá’í era, for a new voice, Albert Windust’s, began: “This night, this very hour will, in the days to come, be celebrated as one of the greatest and most significant of all festivals...” And then the voice of Honor Kempton: “This is the anniversary of the Message and Declaration of His Holiness the Báb.” Light ran along the sound wires that had been strung across under the Dome.

Mary McClennen was reading “I yield Thee such thanks...” A little Negro boy-friend of mine slipped by in a red leather jacket; his name is Noel Grant, he can recite long passages from the Guardian’s writings by heart, and he has frequently confided to me that he is five. On this evening of evenings, he was making no tiniest sound.

Very gradually, through the strains of “Parrishal”, the people were rising and forming lines to look at the holy relics of the Báb.

Then all of a sudden, standing above the heads of the people, I saw a lighted niche, arched like a mihrab in a mosque. I did not know that a curtain had been suddenly drawn aside. I saw only that there was an arch of golden light where there had been shadows before, and that in its center was the Portrait, sharply defined in its frame.

The lines formed slowly; after each one had looked at the Face of the Báb, he left by a portal of the Temple; I could see the shadows of the people moving on the great Temple windows as they went. At last we reached the palms that stood on our side of the lighted alcove; its inner surfaces were covered with a hand-embroidered Persian weave—a pale gold cloth with green- and crimson velvet flowers across it. I looked ahead, past Sabet, in order to see the Portrait longer, because there could be only a glimpse. There would be no time to watch for details. I only knew that I was to look upon His Face, as the people in Persian streets had crowded and pushed against their fellows to look upon it long ago... A man stood on either side of the Portrait, at a little distance, keeping watch.

And then I was looking into the Face of the Báb. He seemed weary and hard-pressed somehow, a Youth made too old for His years by suffering. It was an expression I have seen now and then, on the faces of His toiling followers. He seemed to permit me to look at Him and I loved Him at once and kissed the green velvet sSil under the Portrait, and passed by without wanting to, having spent my allotted time in looking at His Face, and thus missing the smaller frame above the Portrait, which I now know held the Lock of His Hair.

People were talking unobtrusively as they streamed away in the darkness. Over the dark bridge, on the Canal, I stopped and looked back. Dark shapes went quietly by. There was the lit Temple, rising above us. And I felt, thinking of the Portrait of the Báb being there—in this, His setting—as if He had come home somehow. And I felt relieved, as if at last the peoples of the western hemisphere could hear Him say, as the first believer heard Him, long ago in Shiráz: “Enter therein in peace, secure.”

May 23

The velvet weave, used as a background for the Portrait of the Báb, was made in the 16th century by order of Sháh ‘Abbás of Persia. He gave it as a gift to the Sultan of Turkey. Later, the Austrians captured it, and it eventually came into the possession of the King of Saxony, where it remained two hundred years. The weave, from the Rafi Mottahedeh collection, is one of a pair; its mate belongs to the Metropolitan Museum in New York.

This afternoon we were allowed to view the Portrait once more, this time in Foundation Hall, where it stood against a strip of soft green velvet (something the color of a Siyyid’s belt faded by the Persian sun), itself laid across the rugs covering the central table; to either side of the Portrait was a vase of white lilacs, and beside each of these, a smaller one of white roses; a loose sprig of lilac lay casually before it, as I have seen flowers lie on the Shrine thresholds in Haifa.

The Portrait is set in a narrow, oval of gold-lone; the light green mat has delicate gold rays radiating from the center. This time I looked above the Portrait and saw the smaller frame, illuminated blue-and-gold mat, and central glass-covered section in which lies the delicate, shining Lock of hair. I learned from Mr. Mattoon that the illuminated designs surrounding the Portrait and Lock, as well as the specifications for carving the two frames, were prepared in Haifa by Mr. Sutherland Maxwell.

And I thought that the Báb must have seen us today, when He was there alone in the prison, awaiting His death, with His face swollen by the shock of the farrásh... He looked at each one of us as we passed. One of the young Persian students had given me this poem of His, which He seemed to be saying: You, the free birds of the garden, Know the delights of the cypress and rose—

For I have a trust with the Fowl And the pangs of the snare await Me.

I do not remember very much about what happened this evening. It was dedicated to “North America, Citadel of Universal Peace.” I sat on the platform beside Mr. Rowland Estall of Canada, and could see bits of the audience between the ferns on one hand and the speakers’ reading stand on the other.

Mr. Leroy Ioa, as chairman, opened the session, and Mr. Windust described the progress of the Faith in America up to 1912. Then my turn came, and in spite of the difficulty it was a bounty to speak His Name in this Temple He Himself had
founded, and to recall some of the things that took place during His days in the western world.

Marion Holley described the growth of the American Bahá’í community up to 1944, and Rowland Estall closed with his address, now published in World Order Magazine: "America and the Most Great Peace." May 24

Mrs. Stuart French was chairman of the Inter-America program, dedicated to the meeting of the Americas, and the recorded musical program featured South American festival music and the compositions of Heitor Villa-Lobos.

Three of the talks which were given this evening have since been published, but the composite flavor of the evening, the fusion of the Americas which we all felt tonight, are delicate matters which will not go easily into print.

Sr. Octavio Illiescas of Peru told us: "The religious heritage, the known fervor and devotion of the masses, in the Latin American nations will be the fertile soil on which the seeds of the Bahá’í Faith, a religion of action, a religion in which service to humanity is worship of God—will grow and bear rich fruits."

The guest speaker, Mr. Philip Leonard Green, pleased us with this opening: "My first contact with the ideals promulgated by this world-wide community of devoted men and women came almost two decades ago through the late Mary Hanford Ford, who presented me with a booklet entitled 'The World of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.' Expecting to find in it little more than an interesting explanation of Oriental mysticism, I was overcome with surprise to read not only the exposition of a philosophy which exalted international cooperation to the status of a religion but which even made prophecies with regard to inter-American developments, which have since become largely transformed into reality. They came from the lips of a Persian mystic who could have had no special interest in singling out the Pan-American movement for preferential mention. He made them in 1912, during a period when relations among the American republics were rapidly deteriorating. The interview during which these prophecies were promulgated was reported in these words: 'So he said there would be in the end a United States of the World, as compact as the present United States of America.' When asked if this change would appear suddenly, he said, no, that it would arise first in the western continent. The bond between North and South America would be greatly strengthened, he declared, and later, the entire two continents including Mexico and Canada, would grow so harmonious that they would act upon all important questions like one country.

These words. . . point out in crystal-clear terms to Americans of the South, Center and North, the cosmic mission which has been reserved for them if they can but grasp its meaning and meet its requirements."

Students of Inter-American relationships should not fail to study Mr. Green’s talk, published in the June issue of World Order.

Mrs. French called on Mrs. Edward Roscoe Mathews—who spoke on the "Spirit of Inter-American Fellowship." Mrs. Mathews visited Central and South America in the interests of the Faith as early as 1934. At that time there were no Bahá’ís in Latin America. Today, only ten years later, Bahá’í centers have been established in every Latin American republic.

Mrs. Mathews told us of her experiences in the countries to the South, and with the new friendship springing up across the Americas, where before, "love for a long time had lain like pressed flowers in our prayer books." May 25

The average person hates banquets, and I believe, rightly so. However, this one, celebrating the coming of the Faith to Chicago in 1894, was different. This was not the sort of banquet where you are imprisoned at a long table, with a plate of cold food in front of you which is never the correct moment to eat—and for no reasonable motive. This banquet was plausible and it made history.

I came in late and found the enormous hall jammed with people; they were distributed at round tables, each seating ten. The banquet photograph had already been made. In the distance, under seven great United States flags and against a background of shimmering silver drapes, stretched the speakers’ table.

The Hotel Stevens had said they would take as many of our delegates and visitors as we sent them and that race was not an issue.

Dr. Raymond Piper’s address on "The Religious Foundations of World Unity" will be available in print, but not the spirit with which he gave it. As one who attended four colleges, in which every professor was either atheist or watered-down agnostic, I could hardly believe I was hearing a public advocacy of religious faith from the head of a Philosophy Department. This address would make me a Bahá’í, I thought to myself, were I not one already; because, whatever the proponents of intellect versus heart, or of heart versus intellect, may say, it is certain that the combination is unbeatable.

Everybody was happy. The Banquet seemed of importance to Chicago, to the Americas, to humanity; and we each took on a momentary significance, reflected from it.

Miss Elsie Austin, the noted Negro attorney, was the featured woman speaker. Miss Austin spoke on "The Social Basis of World Unity". She said to us: "There is no more realistic force in the world today than the Bahá’í Faith . . . There is a great difference between folk who have the means for unity, and folk who have the heart for unity . . . . Legislation and pressures alone have never been able to get at the inward fears, the jealousies and animosities of man . . . . The unity of mankind, in the Bahá’í Faith, is not only a spiritual principle—it is also the basis of a new social pattern . . . ."

Miss Austin’s talk received tremendous applause. Then suddenly radio people appeared with their sound equipment, and we understood from their haste that the timing was very close; we were requested to be silent; the experts went through their usual unintelligible pantomime; then we were on the air, and the announcer was saying: "Ballroom of the Stevens Hotel . . . Bahá’í House of Worship, acclaimed the world’s most beautiful building . . . delegates from all over the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Central and South America . . . ."

The Bahá’í opera star, Mr. Walter Olitzki, baritone of the Metropolitan Opera Co., sang "Where'er You Walk", after which Mr. Osborne of Panama, who is a University of Chicago graduate and supervisor of
The Youth had announced that twenty-one would be the top age limit for those attending, but raised this to thirty when it was discovered that even some members of the Banquet Committee were above twenty-one. We found the tent spacious and well-lighted, we had gold chairs to sit on and our long tables were decorated with red geraniums in pots, purple lilacs, yellow candles.

There were prayers, Johnnie Eisenauer reading in Spanish and then in English, and Pari Zia Walsh repeating the one for “unity in the love of God” through the world.” Johnnie called the seemingly endless roll by countries, states, territories and provinces; this was punctuated with applause, laughter, and also whistles when occasion demanded.

It developed that nine Latin-American countries, six provinces of Canada, and thirty-two North American states were represented, in addition to which eight young men were present from Persia.

As Master of Ceremonies, Johnnie began to address the crowd bilingually, in Spanish and English. He said: “We all, I know, are grateful to Baha’u’llah for having united us under the banner of His world Faith. We are going to show our gratefulness even more than we have in the past, by spreading His teachings far and wide...and by our actions and deeds. ...(He then emphasized the Guardian’s instruction to the Youth; to become thoroughly steeped in the Teachings, in order to be ready for the tasks ahead). We’re used to saying: I don’t have time; but let’s remember the purpose for which we were created: to know and love God; and that the Intermediate in this day is Baha’u’llah; and that our very first duty is to have a knowledge of His Cause, and to render Him instant, exact, and complete obedience. Do you agree with me?”

(Loud applause)

Various people were then called on to describe youth activities at the summer schools; Paul Pettit, chairman of the National Youth Committee, aroused special interest with his account of work being done at Louhelen Ranch, including the Dorothy Graf School (a kindergarten project at Louhelen), the Winter Session, and the Louhelen Choir. Paul emphasized the Guardian’s instructions to the National Youth Committee—that they study the Teachings, in order to be able to “heal the sick souls and confused minds” of humanity.

Johnnie asked who in the audience planned to attend a summer school this year and practically everyone rose.

Other youth then reported on their pioneering activities — for many, I
found, are already seasoned pioneers. Regina, Little Rock, Alberta, Reno (this last reported by the young Japanese secretary of the Renen Assembly, Robert Imagine) Laramie, Greensboro. I was especially moved by this last, since the pioneers there are young Negro girls who gave up a relatively uncomplicated life out West to settle in this southern area. They spoke modestly of what is an outstanding achievement: their establishment of a Local Spiritual Assembly. Eva told how, although she herself had interrupted her college career to go pioneering, she found no difficulty in addressing college audiences because of her study of the Teachings. She closed with: "If you want adventure and a lot of fun and everything that youth desire, you have that opportunity in pioneering. There is no greater teaching opportunity than in the South. Come and help us out."

The young girl from Venezuela, who first heard of the Faith four months ago through Dorothy Baker, said: "I decided to become a Bahá'í because I realized that a religion which can make such wonderful people as you are must be a good religion." Johnnie told the audience: "She has my help without even asking for it."

The youngest woman pioneer to Latin America, "Winnie Lou" Baker of Colombia, spoke of the community in Bogotá; she said a knowledge of Spanish was vital for pioneers there; that secretarial knowledge for women and engineering for men were desirable. She told also of the many translations of Bahá'í literature which are beginning to appear in Spanish.

The wind was blowing a gale under the tent flaps. We had been sitting there a long time—the Banquet developed eventually into a four-hour session. I complained to Robert Gulick, my neighbor, of a pain in my back. He replied that the discomforts would teach us older ones not to come to Youth meetings.

Sr. Eugenio Gines told of the work in Cuba and praised Miss Josephine Kruza and the other pioneers there. Dr. Fernando Nova of Bahia paid a tribute to Miss Leonara Holsapple; he was called back to the platform, and asked to say a few words in Portuguese, and also something on Brazil. In the end he said, "I want to thank you for the long time you have spent with myself."

Miss Jeanne Bolles spoke of Bahá'í youth she had met in various Latin American countries, including Uruguay, where Mr. Wilfrid Barton is the pioneer, and shared with us excerpts from the letters of Rúhíyyih Khánum, wife of the Guardian.

Robert Gulick was called on and began: "Saludos amigos y amigas; salamun alaykum; fellow-youth of all ages.—" He spoke on the importance of youth activities and won applause with: "Very often the youth know a whole lot more than most of their elders are willing to concede. . .

I admire your enthusiasm; I like the way you demonstrate the Bahá'í principles, such as this very meeting which demonstrates the oneness of the world of humanity... You have the most important place in the Faith of God today."

Joel Marangella presented greetings from the Bahá'í youth in Puerto Rico, his sister and brother-in-law, Ayned and Lucien McComb, and told of his life in the Army, where he has served three years. Clement Perry, also in the Service, agreed with Joel that separation from fellow-believers is one of the great difficulties of Army life. Other service men, Ansel Shurgast, Willis Sprattling and John Shurcliff told briefly of their experiences.

A letter to the Guardian, to be signed by all the youth, rejoicing with him on this occasion and acknowledging their responsibility to the Faith, was now read by Jessie Perry. The session closed with Rūhulloh Zargarzūrah chanting in Persian one of the Master's Tablets to the Youth: "O youth of 'Abdu'l-Bahá: How long will ye be still! How long will ye be mute?" Then they all joined in singing the "Benediction."
Sharing joy sacred birthday and momentous declaration of new era with you and Bolivian friends.

Bolivian Bahá'ís
La Paz, Bolivia
May 22, 1944

Joyous greetings Bahá'ís today with you in spirit.

Carol R. Wood
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
May 23, 1944

Bahá'í appreciation and greetings. Pray guidance deliberations. We celebrate with you, four vital incidents realization unity.

Marie Browne
Kingston, Jamaica, B.W.I.
May 23, 1944

Primer centenario glorioso fe Bahá'í saludamos a hermanos congregados rogando prosperidad logro unidad Bahá'í.

Asamblea Bahá'í Salvadorena.
San Salvador, El Salvador
May 23, 1944

Agradecemos profundamente vuestro saludo.

Gerardo Vega, secretario.
San José, Costa Rica
May 19, 1944

Guatemala Bahá'ís return thanks your message. Heartly greetings their brethren house of worship centenary celebration, praying unity all Americas. Bahá'ulláh's blessings.

Eugenio Aragon, Secretary
Guatemala City, Guatemala
May 20, 1944

Loving centenary greetings.

Spiritual Assembly Bahá'ís
Lima, Peru
May 21, 1944

Fervent loving felicitations to all gathered sacred occasion of fulfillment which promises realization Bahá'í unity Americas.

Marcia Steward
Punta Arenas
Magallanes, Chile
May 19, 1944

In this blessed centenary terminating century of Bahá'ulláh, believers Egypt, Sudan send warmest congratulatory greetings. Verily, first century records far-reaching activities in spreading faith of Bahá'ulláh world over, enhancing its prestige. Your standard activities, sacrifices for its consolidation and institutions crowned by completion of glorious temple, render America, once blessed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, indeed world hope, and will remain guidance to future generations.

Mohamed Said
Bahá'í Bureau Abbaßías
Cairo, Egypt
May 19, 1944

A Group of Bahá'í Students from Persia Who Have Come to America to Continue Their Studies.
Special Session Held for Latin-American Representatives From July 9 to 15, 1944

The Latin American delegates who could not get their transportation matters arranged in time to get here for the Centenary Convention were extended an invitation by the National Spiritual Assembly to attend a special centenary session held for them from July 9th to the 16th, 1944. It was an echo of the convention which vibrated that same intense spirit of unity, love and brotherhood expressed amongst all the friends, and that same profound reverence and awe felt upon seeing the majesty and beauty of the Temple and the portrait of the Báb. Through the careful and excellent planning of the Centenary Committee and the kindness and hospitality of the friends in the Temple area, this special session was a great success.

The honored guests were:
- Sr. Salvador Tormo, Argentina
- Sra. Clara Luz Montalvo, El Salvador
- Sr. Eduardo Gonzalez Lopez, Ecuador
- Sr. Esteban Canales Leyton, Chile
- Sra. Isabel Tirado de Barreda, Peru
- Dr. Manuel D. Bergós Ch., Dominican Republic
- Sra. Angela Ochoa Velasquez, Honduras
- Sr. Roque Centurion Miranda, Paraguay
- Sr. Raymond I. Beits, Peru
- Dr. Fernando Nova, Brazil

The Sunday July 9th session was opened with musical selections at 12:45 p.m. in Foundation Hall in the Temple, after which there were the readings of prayers and writings in commemoration of the Martyrdom of the Báb. Then followed the showing of the portrait of the Báb, this also in Foundation Hall. After the friends were seated, the recording of the readings of the Centenary Commemoration meeting was played.

At 3:30 p.m. the public meeting was held in Foundation Hall. The speaker was Mrs. Dorothy Baker, on the subject "A Message for the Americas". Mr. Philip Sprague acted as chairman.

Immediately after the public meeting, the delegates met with the National Spiritual Assembly at the Hazíratul-Quds.

At 6 p.m. there was a buffet supper and reception in the Temple, with invitation to the Bahá’í friends in the Temple area. At 7:45 an evening program was held in Foundation Hall. Mr. Allen B. McDaniel acted as chairman. The Latin American representatives were extended a formal greeting and presented with the Centenary souvenir pictures of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and of the Temple. The speakers were Mrs. Corinne True, subject: "History of the Temple"; Mr. Carl Scheffler, subject: "History of the North American Community"; Mrs. Margery McCormick, subject: "The Second Bahá’í Century". Following this was the playing of the record of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s voice, the showing of the film of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in America in 1912, and the colored films of the Holy Shrines and the gardens of Mt. Carmel. Explanatory comments about the Holy Shrines and the gardens were made by Miss Jeanne Bolles while the film was being shown. All addresses of the evening were translated into Spanish. After the evening meeting, the Latin American representatives and pioneers were again permitted to see the portrait of the Báb and a display of the sacred documents in the archives room.

Monday, July 10, 1944—Pictures of the delegates were taken with the National Spiritual Assembly. In the afternoon, a meeting of the delegates with Miss Edna True, Miss Gwenn Shelits and Mrs. Gayle Woolson was held to review the votes made by the Latin American teaching work, based on the consultation had by the Latin American delegates
and the National Spiritual Assembly at convention. This meeting was held in preparation for the meeting to be held with the National Spiritual Assembly the following day so as to avoid repetition and to give these delegates an idea of what was already taken up with the National Spiritual Assembly by the delegates who attended the convention.

At 6 p.m., the delegates were guests of the Wilmette Community at a picnic supper held on the beach. After the supper the friends gathered together on the Lake Michigan beach sands and the Latin American friends gave informal talks about their countries and their joy and gratitude felt upon being here.

Tuesday, July 11 — Consultation and luncheon with the National Spiritual Assembly at the Haipratul-Quds.

Dinner guests of the Chicago Spiritual Assembly, then attended evening meeting at the Chicago Center with the Community. The delegates were each invited to speak.

Wednesday, July 12 — Consultation was continued with the National Spiritual Assembly in the afternoon.

In the evening, the Nineteen Day Feast was attended with the Wilmette Community in the Temple. Some Persian friends who had recently arrived to the United States also attended. These friends, had celebrated the Centenary Commemoration in India, and Dr. F. Asgharzadeh who had brought with him nine Centenary badges used at the Convention at India, gave one to each of the nine Latin American representatives present. He also told of his recent visit with the Guardian.

Thursday, July 13 — Trip to Milwaukee as guests of the Milwaukee, Wauwatosa, Whitefish Bay and Shorewood Communities. The friends were met by Mrs. Devah Ingold, Mr. Clarence Niss and son, Hamilton, at the station and taken on a sight-seeing tour on their way to the lake home of Mr. and Mrs. Niss where the friends spent a large part of the day. Later in the afternoon, all went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hautz, after which the supper given at the Milwaukee Center, in collaboration of the four neighbor communities, was attended. After the supper, the Nineteen Day Feast program was held, then the Latin American friends were asked to speak. About one hundred persons were present.

Friday, July 14 — This day was spent in taking care of transportation matters and getting passports ready for the return trip of the delegates. In spite of the many transportation obstacles, the efficient handling of these problems by Edna True resulted in excellent arrangements to get the delegates comfortably on their way to their respective countries without any delay, even to the expressed amazement of the Pan American Airways Office. The kind and helpful assistance of Mr. Mattoon was indispensable.

In the evening the delegates were dinner guests of the Evanston Community and then an informal meeting was held at the home of Miss Virginia Russell. Mr. Carl Scheffler was requested to speak to the friends about the early days of the establishment of the Cause in North America.

Saturday, July 15 — Latin American friends and pioneers with the Persian friends were luncheon guests of Miss Jeanne Bolles. In the afternoon, the Pan American Union meeting was attended. The important contact made at this meeting was their Washington representative who asked for a report of the Bahá’í activities in Latin America and of the Centenary Convention. His comment was that he did not know that the Bahá’í Faith was carrying on its activities on such a large scale.

At 6 p.m. the friends were dinner guests of Mrs. Enos Barton.

Sunday, July 16, Latin American, North American and Persian friends were luncheon guests of Dr. Edris Rice-Wray.

The Public meeting at the Temple was attended in the afternoon. After the meeting the friends were shown the Sacred Relics in the archives room.

Dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hassan who gave a Persian dinner for Latin American, North American and Persian Bahá’ís. Afterwards, the moving pictures taken at the Convention were shown. This beautiful oriental dinner and the seeing of the Centenary Convention films, and the union of the three Americas and Persia represented by the attending friends was a befitting close of this historic occasion.

The Latin American delegates were deeply touched and expressed their profound gratitude and appreciation for the kindness, hospitality and generosity demonstrated by the North American friends. They felt that this experience has brought about a greater spirit of unity cementing the three Americas and that their carrying back this new fire and wider vision will exert great influence in their countries.

Mrs. Gayle Woolson served as interpreter and hostess representing the National Spiritual Assembly for this session.

Gayle Woolson
I rejoice in the success of the vitally needed, timely conference with Latin American representatives; greatly welcome the decisions reached and the plans formulated. The first year of the second Bahá'í century should witness the establishment of a Spiritual Assembly in every remaining Republic and be signalized by a steady increase in the number of pioneers for both Latin and North America; by a further multiplication of groups, a wider dissemination of Bahá'í literature in both Spanish and Portuguese, closer relationships consolidating the communities and more effective contact by these communities with the masses of the population and all classes and races. I am ardently praying for mighty victories in every field as essential preliminary to the emergence of independent National Spiritual Assemblies and as indispensable prelude to launching in other continents, soon after the termination of the world conflict, the second stage of the momentous World Plan so intimately associated by 'Abdu'l-Bahá with the future destinies of the illustrious American Bahá'í Community.

(signed) SNOOHI RABBANI
July 17, 1944

The splendid and unique success that has attended the Centenary celebrations so admirably conducted by the American Bahá'í community, has befittingly crowned not only the fifty year record of services rendered by its valiant members, but the labors associated with the entire body of their fellow-workers in East and West in the course of an entire century. The consummation of the Seven Year Plan, immortalizing the fame of this richly blessed community, set the seal of complete spiritual triumph on these historic celebrations. A memorable chapter in the history of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh in the West has been closed. A new chapter is now opening, a chapter which ere its termination, must eclipse the most shining victories won so heroically by those who have so fearlessly launched the first stage of the Great Plan conceived by 'Abdu'l-Bahá for the American believers. The prizes won so painstakingly in both the North and South American continents must be preserved at all costs. A mighty impetus should, at however great a sacrifice, be lent to the multiplication of Bahá'í centers in Latin America, to the expansion of Bahá'í literature, to the translation of the Bahá'í sacred writings, to the proclamation of the verities of the Faith to the masses, to the strengthening of the bonds binding the newly-fledged communities to each other, and to the deepening of the spiritual life of their members.

The task so marvelously initiated in the Latin Republics must be further consolidated ere the prosecutors of the World Plan bequeathed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá can embark on further stages, of still greater significance, in their world teaching mission. The cessation of hostilities will open before them fields of service of tremendous fertility and undreamed-of magnitude. The advantages and opportunities these fields will offer them cannot be exploited unless and until the work to which they have already set their hand in the Western Hemisphere is sufficiently advanced and consolidated. Time is pressing. The new tasks are already beginning to loom on the horizon. The work that still remains to be accomplished ere the next stage is ushered in is still considerable and exacting. I feel confident that the American Bahá'í community will, as it has in the past, rise to the occasion and discharge its high duties as befits the unique position it occupies.

(Signed) SNOOHI
August 18, 1944

The following excerpts from the same letter were written by the Guardian through his Secretary.

As you know, from his various cabled messages, he has been greatly rejoiced over the complete triumph of the arduous Seven Year Plan undertaken by the American believers during a difficult period in world events and carried forward to a glorious conclusion in the very teeth of the tempest of war which has been raging for almost five of the seven years of their heroic endeavor. To complete such a Plan during times of peace and security would in itself have been a great achievement; but to have succeeded during the darkest days of humanity's abasement and trial, is truly little short of miraculous and must forever attest the calibre of the faith and loyalty which fills the hearts of the members of the blessed American Bahá'í community.

His hope and belief is that they will not rest on their oars, but will, their appetites whetted by their successes, carry on their great and noble tasks allotted to them by the Center of the Covenant Himself.

The work that lies ahead of them in the immediate future is clearly defined: The great advantages won for the Faith in the eyes of the public by the remarkable success of the Centenary in Wilmette; the large attendance of believers, the presence of gifted and devoted Central and South American representatives of newly established outposts of the Faith, should be followed up by teaching campaigns, wide publicity...
and as many radio broadcasts as can be secured. A contact with the masses has, for the first time, to all intents and purposes, since 'Abdu'l-Bahá's visit, been made, and should be vigorously maintained. Inside the Bahá’í Fold every effort must be exerted to safeguard the newly established Assemblies and prevent them from falling back into group status again. In Latin America the Assemblies must not only be maintained but new ones established in the Republics which have not yet a Bahá’í administrative nucleus. Literature in Spanish and Portuguese should be made available as speedily as possible and disseminated far and wide. Latin American and native Bahá’ís should, whenever qualified, be urged and assisted to pioneer, to travel and to teach in Central and South America, thereby encouraging them to gradually shoulder their own responsibilities.

With such a triumph behind you the Guardian feels confident you will face these many tasks that lie ahead with joy and his prayers will constantly be offered on your behalf and for your inspiration and guidance.

The final message received by the National Spiritual Assembly is the Guardian’s reply to word sent him from the September meeting that the National Assembly is determined to arise in unity with the National Committees and the local Assemblies to preserve the prizes already won and prepare to discharge the greater responsibilities and tasks which lie ahead:

Profoundly gratified, I greatly welcome the noble determination of Committees and Assemblies unidely to arise to preserve the prizes dearly won and prepare themselves belligerently to discharge the mightier, more glorious task ahead in the opening years of the second century.

(signed) SHOGHI RABBANI
September 24, 1944

Letters from the Guardian to Individuals

The following excerpts from letters written by the Guardian through his Secretary to individual Bahá’ís are published with his consent:

He feels that, although your desire to partake actively of the dangers and miseries afflicting so many millions of people today, is natural, and a noble impulse, there can be no comparison between the value of Bahá’í work and any other form of service to humanity.

If the Bahá’ís could evaluate their work properly they would see that, whereas other forms of relief work are superficial in character, alleviating the sufferings and ills of men for a short time at best, the work they are doing is to lay the foundation of a new spiritual Order in the world founded on the Word of God, operating according to the laws He has laid down for this age. No one else can do this work except those who have fully realized the meaning of the Message of Bahá’u’lláh, whereas almost any courageous, sincere person can engage in relief work, etc.

The believers are building a refuge for mankind. This is their supreme, sacred task and they should devote every moment they can to this task.

—To Dagmar Dole, March 25, 1943.

Regarding the four and twenty elders: The Master, in a Tablet, stated that they were the Báb, the eighteen Letters of the Living, and five others who would be known in the future. So far we do not know who these five others are. —To Mrs. George R. True, July 22, 1943.

If the believers could properly evaluate the work they are doing they would be astonished at its importance, but they are in the position of not being able to see the forest for the trees; they are too close to it to realize its true import.

—To Mrs. Alice Dudley, May 3, 1942. The Hosts of His Testament refers to those who are firm in the Will and Testament of Bahá’u’lláh and who defend and uphold it. —To Mrs. Alice Dudley, April 18, 1941, in answer to question about the meaning of this term used in the Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

The word “cordon” so often mentioned in the Teachings means both the Faith itself and also the power of the Faith which sustains those who cling to it. —To Mrs. Alice Dudley, April 18, 1941.

Ultimately all the battle of life is within the individual. No amount of organization can solve the inner problems or produce or prevent, as the case may be, victory or failure at a crucial moment. In such times as these particularly, individuals are torn by great forces at large in the world, and we see some weak ones strong, and strong ones fail—we can only try, through loving advice, as your Committee has done, to bring about the act on the part of the believer which will be for the highest good of the Cause. Because obviously everything bad for the Cause cannot be the highest good of the individual Bahá’í. —To Letroy Joas, December 17, 1943.

Now is not the time for the friends to seek to establish a Bahá’í village; they have definite tasks confronting them of the utmost importance and urgency, and on these they should concentrate their attention. Nor does the Guardian feel that it is necessary for the friends to buy land at this time. In the future, when they have accomplished the goals set out for them by the beloved Master Himself, they will be able to develop more community projects, but now such enterprises would merely dissipate their strength which should all be directed into the teaching work.

—To Mrs. Ethel Murray, March 26, 1942.

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Baha'i News

Baha'i News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Bahá’í community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924.

On April 10, 1925, the Guardian wrote: “The News Letter which you have lately initiated fulfills a very vital function. . . . I would urge you to enlarge its scope . . . that in time it may devote a special section to every phase of your activities, administrative, devotional, humanitarian, financial, educational and otherwise.

“it should become a great factor in promoting understanding, providing information on Bahá’í activity, both local and foreign, stimulating interest in combating evil influences, and in upholding and safeguarding the institutions of the Cause.”

The contents include: material supplied by the National Spiritual Assembly, such as the Guardian’s messages, the Assembly’s letters and its general statements and reports; Committee plans which have been approved and authorized; Committee news reports of activities; annual reports from local Assemblies; news items from local Assemblies; activities in regional areas as reported by or through the National Teaching Committee; activities in Central and South America as reported by the Inter-American Committee; news from other lands gathered from the bulletins of the various National Assemblies: a record of new enrollments and transfers; a record of deaths; photographs of general Bahá’í interest.

Baha'i News is edited by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’is News Committee: Horace Holley, Secretary, Carreeta Busey, Mable H. Paine. Address: Baha’i News Committee, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill.
Prayers to Be Read as Revealed

Regarding your question as to the changing of pronouns in Bahá'í prayers: The Guardian does not approve of such changes, either in the specific prayers or in any others. They should be read as printed without changing a single word.—Shoghi Effendi, through his Secretary, to the National Spiritual Assembly April 13, 1944.

(This excerpt was written in reply to question frequently asked by believers, whether it is permissible to change a prayer in order to suit the immediate situation. For example, to say "we" instead of "I," or "he" instead of "she" etc.)

On Dissolution and Formation of Local Assemblies

In connection with your Assembly's two actions regarding the formation and dissolution of Spiritual Assemblies: The Guardian approves of your first action, which he understands is only for this last year of the first Bahá'í Century, as, of course, in the future Assemblies will be formed only during the month of April. As to the second action, however, any Assembly which is dissolved must immediately report to the national secretary, who must always keep an up to date list of Assemblies. Any dissolved Assembly cannot be reconstituted until the time of election in April. This is the general principle which must be followed in the future. In this last year of the Century, however, any Assembly that is dissolved may be reconstituted as soon as the number of believers reverts to nine again.—Shoghi Effendi, through his Secretary, to the National Spiritual Assembly April 13, 1944.

(Written in reply to question of procedure raised by the NSA in connection with the special condition existing prior to the Centenary date due to the Guardian's temporary waiving of the regulation that Assemblies can only be elected or constituted on April 21.)

A New Bahá'í Era Begins

Beloved Friends:

In the messages which have come to us from the Guardian since the Convention and Centenary, we respond deeply and joyously to two different but blended and inter-related themes. Shoghi Effendi has expressed his satisfaction and gratitude for the successful completion of all three aspects of the Seven Year Plan, and for the achievement of so great a Centenary celebration. At the same time he quickens us to awareness and capacity for the greater tasks which lie before the American Bahá'í Community in terms of the mission entrusted to us by 'Abdu'l-Bahá to spread the Faith of Bahá'ulláh to the ends of the earth.

The first year of the second Bahá'í century is the opening of a new era for the Bahá'ís of North America, associated now so closely with their coworkers of Central and South America and the isles of the Caribbean sea. We have entered a higher class of the spiritual university, we have been given a greater rank, we live in a world community and not merely in that of our city, our state or our nation.

Let us read and ponder these particular messages, for they not only guide our steps of progress but release the power we require to become so mature, so tireless, so effective in the prosecution of our Bahá'í affairs. We are to safeguard and maintain all the Assemblies established in the new states and provinces; we are to multiply the number of Assemblies and the number of groups; we are to bring the Faith to the attention of the masses, not merely to a few individuals; we are to become better acquainted with the other Bahá'ís of our state or
province; we are to form Assemblies in seven more Latin American republics—and accomplish this during the present year, as necessary foundation for the international teaching which both North and South American believers are to undertake as the tides of war recede and the major problem of world order confronts a devastated mankind.

This year the National Spiritual Assembly wishes to draw close to each individual believer and each administrative body, as parts of one and the same spiritual entity and social organism charged with a holy and unique mission by the Manifestation who came to save humanity and give it the means of law, order, unity, peace and knowledge of God. No part of the Bahá’í body can be effective or joyous except by unified and cooperative relationships with all other parts. Each believer must attain his own degree of consecration to realize his contribution to the general unity, and the administrative order, which is the form which the general spiritual unity is to take in the social world, must in each of its vital institutions attain and preserve a true vision of order and activity as a whole. The function entrusted to each Assembly, national or local, is to be understood and discharged conscientiously, and each Committee, national or regional, has its appointed field of action wherein it carries responsibility for the entire Bahá’í community. Whatever is accomplished, by heroic individuals or by devoted and efficient Committees or by unified and experienced Assemblies, we draw our capacity and inspiration from one and the same common store. The Holy Spirit surrounds us all alike. We have no private hoards or special privileges of spiritual wealth. The Spirit flows through the individual and through the organ and institution without stint or discrimination in the measure of the individual’s capacity and sacrifice and in the measure of the institution’s unity and devotion for the fulfillment of its particular task.

In its luminous depths, the work of the Spirit is a mystery which each Bahá’í learns for himself. The Guardian is its perfect universal expression for the worldwide community at this time. Under his general guidance the national and local work requires faith, knowledge and courageous energy on the part of all the Bahá’ís concerned. Our work will not be done for us but through us and with us by the higher Power.

There are certain elements which can and will contribute to the collective capacity of the American Bahá’í community this year. First, a sharing in the spirit of intimate comradeship of all the national plans and activities through regular communications in Bahá’í News. Second the employment of the National Fund for appropriations distributed as fairly as possible over all the work. Third, every possible assistance in meeting the need for state and province development as the basis for the election of Convention delegates each year. Fourth, enlargement of Bahá’í News as may be required by the Bahá’í News Committee for reporting the activities made known by National Committees and local Assemblies. Fifth, provision of large editions of teaching literature so that the friends may distribute pamphlets at low cost.

National Fund

First let us share some very important facts about the National Fund.

Certified Public Accountants have gone over our financial records for the period April 1, 1938 to February 29, 1944, and found them in order. This brings the certification of the accounts up to the end of the last Bahá’í fiscal year.

From the report of the Centenary Committee we cite the following figures of special expense incurred in this great undertaking.

1. Improvements to Temple interior and grounds ............ $2,908.75
2. Centenary expense .......... 7,454.81
3. Latin American representatives, travel and living expense (in May and also July) .......... $12,506.58

One additional item is the amount provided to Canadian delegates in American currency to make it possible for them to attend the Convention and Centenary — $325.00. This amount was donated to the Canadian Bahá’í Fund by the delegates in Canadian currency, so that this transaction represents a transfer of funds rather than an appropriation or expense.

The Annual Budget for the current year was reported in a circular letter issued early in June. Its items include:

- Administration, $15,000.00;
- North America Teaching, $30,000.00;
- South America Teaching, $15,000.00;
- Temple Maintenance and Operation, $10,000.00;
- Purchase of Temple Land, $10,000.00;
- Properties Maintenance other than Temple, $10,000.00;
- Annual Convention, Public Program and State Elections, $5,000.00;
- Service Committees, Operating Expenses and Activities, $15,000.00;
- Assembly Development Committee, $5,000.00;
- Contingent for Literature, $5,000.00;
- Reserve, $5,000.00 — Total, $125,000.00.

This total is less than that of the budgets adopted in recent years for the achievement of the Seven Year Plan. Nevertheless it calls for intense and constant devotion, and for hearty cooperation on the part of the local Assemblies, that each community may donate to the National Fund every month.

Assembly Roll

Up to the September meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly, reports had been received of four local Assemblies reduced to group status since April 21, the date of the annual elections: Jersey City, Newark, Huntington Park and St. Lambert. Deaths and departures from the city brought the number of believers below the minimum required to sustain the institution.

This report is evidence of the fact that zealous teaching, ardor in study, and unity in spirit is required to maintain as well as establish a Bahá’í community. To preserve what we have we must strive for more.

All-America Unity

One new and distinctive step which has been taken this year is the appointment of Committees in Latin America with general functions which could not be carried out by any one local Assembly’s authority or resources. We report here as important current news an excerpt from circular letter recently sent to all the Bahá’í centers in Central and South America:

Many momentous decisions were made possible by this new and unprecedented union of minds and hearts from all parts of the Americas. But before we share with you the various actions taken after mutual consultation, we wish to record the names of all the Bahá’ís who came as representatives of their fellow-believers at home, either at the time of the Centenary in May or the meetings held during July:

- Sr. Salvador Torno, Argentina
- Dr. Fernando Nova, Brazil
- Sr. Estaban Canales, Chile
- Sr. Eduardo Gonzalez Lopez, Cuba
- Sra. Josepha Bibow, Colombia
- Sr. Raul Contreras, Costa Rica
- Sr. Eugenio Gines, Cuba
- Sra. Eduardo Gonzalez Lopez, Ecuador
- Sra. Angela Ochoa Vazquez, Honduras
- Mr. William Mitchell, Jamaica
The Bahá’ís who had planned to come from Bolivia, Haiti, Uruguay and Venezuela were unfortunately prevented on account of travel difficulties. Visitors from Latin America, including pioneer teachers, included: Miss Elisabeth Cheney, Mrs. Gayle Woolson, Mrs. Louise Caswell, Mrs. Cora Oliver, Miss Gwenne D. Sholtis, Miss Margaret Lentz, Miss Josephine Kruka, Miss Winifred Louise Baker, Miss Jean Silver, Srta. Ofelia Montalvo, Mr. Raymond I. Betts and Mrs. Frances Stewart, all of whom contributed to the spirit of these Inter-America Bahá’í gatherings.

The plans adopted at the conference in May, supplemented by further actions taken in July, are summarized as follows:

To appoint a committee on Spanish translation of Bahá’í literature with function of translating Bahá’í literature into Spanish, review translations submitted to the Committee, recommend the order in which books are to be sent to the press, this Committee to submit its recommendations to the National Spiritual Assembly for final approval. The Committee is to be established with the following membership: Emilio Barros, Chairman, Lillian McRae and Salvador Tormo.

To establish a Committee on Portuguese translations of Bahá’í literature with function of translating Bahá’í literature into Portuguese, review translations submitted to the Committee, recommend the order in which books and pamphlets are sent to press. This Committee is to submit its recommendations to the National Assembly for final approval. The Committee is to be established with the following membership: Leonora Armstrong, Chairman, Mrs. Roy Worley, Dr. Fernando Nova and Mrs. Roscoe Wood.

To establish a secondary center for distribution of Bahá’í literature, with the authority to print leaflets and pamphlets, and receive and reship books published in Buenos Aires or North America.

To establish a committee with these functions, consisting of Alfred Osborne, Chairman, Louise Caswell, Cora Oliver, Julia Regal.

To provide all the Latin American Bahá’í centers with copies of documentary material which indicate the recognition of the Bahá’í religion by the American Federal Government, including photostatic copies of the certificates issued by the State and Treasury Departments which certify the Declaration of Trust, and copy of the latest report on the Bahá’í Faith of the religious census, and photostats of the trademark issued on the Greatest Name, the word “Bahá’í” and World Order Magazine.

To deposit with the American Consulates in all cities of Latin America where Bahá’í centers exist, and where they are established in future, a set of the documentary material listed in the foregoing paragraph, and including a copy of the summary in English issued by the National Spiritual Assembly.

To appoint an editorial committee with the function of producing a monthly bulletin in Spanish to be issued in mimeographed form to circulate items of Bahá’í news of particular interest to Latin America, teaching plans, notices of new publications and other Bahá’í material, to be prepared by contributing editors selected by each of the various centers, and also carrying such material as may be provided by the Inter-America Committee and the National Spiritual Assembly. The bulletin to be started by budgets voted from the Latin American fund of the National Spiritual Assembly.

To appoint this committee with the following members: Alfred Osborne, Editor, Prof. Edelberto Torres, Assistant Editor.

To appoint an editing committee of a Portuguese section to be added to copies of the bulletin received in Brazil and distributed to the Brazilian believers.

To appoint the above committee to consist of Dr. Fernando Nova, Chairman, Mrs. Leonora Armstrong, Mrs. Roy Worley.

To request the committee to submit a sample of the bulletin with an estimate of cost on an edition sufficient to include all the Latin American believers, and to run it with four pages, front and back, of standard form.

To authorize the Treasurer to provide a budget up to $250.00 for the first year for this expense.

**The Spirit of Victory**

The world will pass through its greatest changes and transformations in the years that lie immediately ahead. Great and powerful organizations will attempt to exploit troubles and uncertainties and confusions for the seizure of power and control of human life for ends other than those revealed by Baha’u’llah. Our conviction of spiritual victory for His Cause will be tested as never before.
Those who wish to review this sub-
and united


encourage a schedule of constructive
activity which prepares Bahá'í youth
for full administrative responsibility
and teaching experience.)

The National Youth Committee is
being requested to plan in the course
of this year a general rally meeting
to be held at the Bahá'í House of
Worship during one of the posted
sessions of the National Spiritual
Assembly in order to combine such a
rally with a brief consultation with
the National body.

It was voted to publish in Bahá'í
News, and to submit to the Guardian,
the following general resolution
adopted by the Convention:

Voted, that we, the delegates as-
sembled under the dome of the
Bahá'í House of Worship in this first
All-America Convention, represent-
ing the Bahá'ís of North, Central
and South America, conscious that
the destiny of America as envisioned
by the Fathers of the Bahá'í Faith
is to 'lay the corner-stone of a uni-
versal and enduring peace; proclaim
the solidarity, the unity, and matur-
ity of mankind;'_ usher in the future
world commonwealth; and 'lead all
nations spiritually,'_ do solemnly
and gratefully acclaim the trium-
phant consummation of the spiritual
tasks of the First Century of the
Bahá'í Faith.

With profound emotion we record
the successful conclusion on March
28, 1944, of a Plan launched in 1937
which was the first step in the
"world mission entrusted ... to the
American Bahá'í Community." This
step signalled the erection of the
framework of the Bahá'í Administra-
tive Order in every State of the
United States, every Province of
Canada, Hawaii, District of Colum-
bia, and Alaska; and the establish-
ment of the Faith in every Republic
of Central and South America.

As we stand upon the threshold
of this Second Century, we feel it
incumbent to call upon the collective
devotion and united will of the
Bahá'í communities of all the Amer-
icas, for the immediate and ener-
getic prosecution of the next stages
in the enfolding of this mission.
To this end we propose the adoption
of the following program of action:

1) The rapid development in North
America of a Bahá'í community fully
qualified to prosecute its world mis-
sion, and to discharge all the re-
 sponsibilities with which this com-
munity has been vested.

2) The complete establishment at
the earliest possible date of the
structural basis of the Bahá'í Ad-
m inistrative Order in every Repub-
lic of Central and South America,
and the multiplication of Bahá'í com-
 munities throughout Latin America.

3) Preparation, through translation
and publication of literature, and the
training of teachers and pioneers,
for bringing to the aid of our fellow
Bahá'ís in Europe, Asia and Africa,
such material and spiritual assistance
as they may require when the
termination of the war shall permit
the resumption of full teaching ac-
vitivity.

We recommend to the National
Spiritual Assembly that these pro-
posals for inaugurating the tasks of
the Second Bahá'í Century be sub-
mitted to the Guardian of the Faith
for his advice and counsel, and that
a Plan be then devised and promul-
gated for our guidance in the re-
doubled efforts which we are eagerly
resolved to undertake.

The N.S.A. has voted to record
that it was deeply moved by the
determination of the friends at the
Convention to immediately carry on
actively all branches of our National
and International teaching work:
that actions have been taken to set
in motion the accomplishment of the
tasks which the Guardian indicates
are immediately before us, and the
Assembly will further appreciate any
advices which the Guardian wishes
to give intensifying that work as
well as making practicable any of
the suggestions contained in the Con-
vention resolution.

In connection with the vote of the
deleaga recommendations regarding that the Assembly set up a special Fund to
found a Bahá'í school in Panama,
it was voted to record in Bahá'í
News that the Assembly discussed
this subject with the Latin American
delegates after the Convention and
it was their view that this step
should be held in abeyance for fu-
ture consideration.

After discussion of resolutions con-
cerning believers in the armed
forces, it was voted to print two
hundred extra copies of a Bahá'í
Directory going out as insert with
the next issue of Bahá'í News, and
with these extra copies provide a
list of names and addresses of Secre-
taries of Assemblies of New Zealand,
Australia, England and France.
These copies to be made available
to Bahá'ís in the armed forces. This
has been done, and the complete
Directory is sent out on request.

It was voted to refer to the Recom-

NEWS

CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions adopted by the 1944
Convention in the form of rec-
ommendations submitted to the
National Spiritual Assembly are pub-
lised for the information of the
American Bahá'í Community, to-
gether with the record of actions
taken by the N.S.A. thereon.

As recommended, the Assembly
has voted to provide a qualified steno-
grapher for the next Convention to
take down resolutions and special
matters.

In connection with resolution con-
cerning youth it was voted to record
continuance of the policy of the Na-
tional Spiritual Assembly established
previously to make use of Bahá'í
young people on Committee work
wherever possible. The Assembly
also urges that Bahá'í youth them-
selves make every effort to develop
the opportunities to teach among
non-Bahá'ís, and every assistance
and facility will be provided to
achieve this goal. (Note: The purpose
of a National Youth Committee is to
On Publication of the Guardian’s Letters

For a number of years, the National Spiritual Assembly has only published in Bahá’í News such excerpts from the Guardian’s letters to individuals, committees or local Assemblies as the Assembly itself had brought to the Guardian’s attention and obtained his consent to publish. This procedure, which rests upon the Guardian’s own direction to the N.S.A., means publication not only in Bahá’í News but in any official Bahá’í communication such as Assembly bulletins, National Committee circular letters or Regional bulletins and circular letters. The believers are requested to submit to the N.S.A. whatever letter they have from Haifa which they feel should be published.

Our Teaching Program

“Immediate attention should be focused in the course of the opening year of the Second Century on consolidation of the nobly-won victories through reinforcement of newly-formed Assemblies, multiplication of groups and increase in number of Assemblies...”

—SHOGHI EFFENDI

Through this message we can find the outlines of our teaching program taking shape.

1) The reinforcement of new Assemblies means more settlers and more teaching assistance, as well as the intensification of local effort. There is still very great need for volunteers in both capacities, since several of the new Assemblies have lost personnel and are in a precarious position, while all will benefit by the stimulation of circuit and travelling teachers.

2) The multiplication of groups is a logical development from the remarkable fact that believers already reside in 1300 localities in North America. It is these believers and groups who today have the true opportunity for pioneering. It is to them the Guardian looks, for they are the growing-points of dynamic expansion.

3) The increase in number of Assemblies has inexhaustible possibilities which lie close at hand. At the present time, Regional Committees are surveying their areas for groups which have nearly the required number. Although we do not yet have their count, we know that the total is amazingly large, and promises that we shall far outstrip the work of the last seven years which doubled the number of Assemblies.

Clearly, the three-fold program which the Guardian describes is a call to each one of us and can embrace the efforts of all. Settlers, teachers, isolated believers, groups, local and regional teaching committees—all are summoned to take up this new phase in collective teaching, to found on this continent the mighty reservoir of Bahá’u’lláh’s legions.

What can be achieved through devotion and effort has been richly demonstrated by the pioneers of the Seven Year Plan. Today, we are all pioneers in a new and all-embracing task. We have the opportunity to apply well-tested methods, and to advance with confidence in the confirmation of God, which has supported us in the past and will assuredly sustain every sincere believer.

Here, in the exhilarating phrases of the Divine Plan, may our vision be renewed and reinforced: “Now strive ye that the Collective Center of the sacred religions—for the inscription of which all the Prophets were manifested and which is no other than the spirit of the Divine Teachings—be spread in all parts of America... This is the most great work! Should you become confirmed therein, this world will become another world, the surface of the earth will become the delectable Paradise, and eternal institutions be founded.”

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE
Special Financial Report of Publishing Committee

A brief summary of report submitted by the Publishing Committee on September 4 will give the believers a very clear picture of the size of our publishing operations through the final year of the first Bahá’í Century and well into the opening of the second Century.

On November 5, 1943, the Committee submitted to the National Spiritual Assembly a complete list of books, pamphlets, outlines, etc., either being printed at that time or earmarked for reprinting a year or so from that date. The purpose of this special survey was to develop a plan for keeping all the necessary Bahá’í titles in print during the period of the war, when publishing operations have become difficult and uncertain.

The total amount involved in that list was $37,000—the cost of keeping the needed titles in stock for two or more years. At that time the Committee was obliged to point out that it could not commit itself to that amount of expense at any one time but could meet a large part of it over a period of time.

Since then, and up to September 4, the Publishing Committee has manufactured books and pamphlets to the amount of $14,827.65, and has in process of completion work of the amount of $8,801.00—a total of $23,628.65. Against this cost, the Committee has paid printing bills to a total of $8,912.86, leaving a balance payable now or in the near future of $13,515.79. Through the beautiful generosity of one Bahá’í family a special donation has been made to pay the cost of the Guardian’s book, God Passes By, and therefore the Committee has cash on hand to defray this cost which is more than $3,000.00, thus reducing the outstanding amounts to something a little more than $10,000.00.

The Committee is making every effort to meet all these printing costs from current income, so that the National Bahá’í Fund will not have to be drawn upon for a special appropriation. In this connection the Committee wishes to emphasize the fact that the retail price of books cannot be set as low as many purchasers would prefer, for without a margin of profit the Committee would be unable to finance any new books or meet any emergency conditions, but could only manage to keep existing stock in print, unless the National Assembly each year adds a publishing appropriation to its annual budget. In purchasing a Bahá’í book, the believer is not merely acquiring one volume but also contributing to the development of the Bahá’í publishing facilities and making this branch of Bahá’í activity independent of the National Fund.

New Publications

God Passes By, by Shoghi Effendi. The Guardian’s survey of the first Bahá’í Century is now in the bindery and a supply of books by November 15 is hoped for. This work has 436 pages and is bound in dark red fabricoid. Price $2.50

The Bahá’í Centenary, compiled by the National Spiritual Assembly. Prepared as part of the Centenary celebration, this book contains excerpts concerning the Báb, words of Bahá’u’lláh, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and the Guardian concerning America, and articles by believers outlining aspects of American Bahá’í history and achievement. 288 pages, bound in blue fabricoid. Now in the bindery. Publication date not determined. Price $2.00

The Báb’s Address to Letters of the Living, pamphlet reproducing hand-lettered text taken from pp. 92-94 of The Dawn-Breakers. Price 10c

The Divine Art of Living, compiled by Mabel Hyde Paine. This beautiful title is now restored to our literature in an attractive, and small and convenient volume of excerpts from the Bahá’í Writings, 132 pages, bound in fabricoid, Price $1.25

A World Survey of the Bahá’í Faith 1844-1944, compiled by the Guardian of the Faith. This is a 20-page pamphlet containing Shoghi Effendi’s own selection of facts and data showing the growth of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh in its first century. The National Spiritual Assembly wishes this featured in our teaching work, and the believers will find it of unique value for conveying a clear impression of the scope of this world-wide Cause. 50 copies for $1.50

The World Faith of Bahá’u’lláh; A Summary of Its Aims, Teachings, History and Administrative Order, by the National Spiritual Assembly. A reprint, in more convenient size, of the four-page, 8½ by 11-inch summary issued in August, 1943. The present edition is a pamphlet of eight pages and measures 5 by 7 inches. 100 copies for $1.00

Headlines Tomorrow, by Marzieh Gail. This interesting brief statement, which has been found so useful in teaching contacts, has been reprinted as a four page leaflet. 100 copies for $1.50

A Bahá’í Child’s ABC, text by Roberta Christian, illustrations by Rochelle Boonshaft. Following the classic style of the traditional first book for children, this work illustrates the letters of the alphabet with a running text associating each letter with a Bahá’í Figure or truth. Bound in red paper, title in gold. Price 75c

World Order Magazine—a special Centenary issue, May and June, 1944. Copies of these two numbers may be obtained at the special rate of ten for $1.00. Centenary talks have been made available in later issues of the magazine.

Complete price list of Bahá’í books sent on request. Address Bahá’í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Public Teaching Bulletin

The leaflet entitled A World Faith, each issue consisting of excerpts from the Bahá’í writings, is published by the National Spiritual Assembly and copies are obtained by sending cash with order to the Treasurer. Three new bulletins are now out, number 5, 6 and 7 respectively. Each issue is sold at the rate of 50 copies for 50c, 100 for $1.00 and so on.

Letters from Subscribers

The business office of World Order reports that numerous letters from the magazine’s subscribers continue to reflect its growing appeal to Bahá’ís and potential believers alike. Its recognition as an inspiring teaching medium is frequently referred to in letters that accompany gift subscriptions; references, similar in meaning to the following excerpt from a subscriber’s communication:
"I believe, for those interested in the Faith, a gift subscription will be a constant teaching medium and a source of inspiration. Sometimes these friends cannot get to meetings and the magazine will maintain their touch with the Faith."

Another inspiring letter that accompanied an order for five new subscriptions contained the following message: "We are proud to tell you that every Baha'i family here now subscribes to World Order. That means nine copies come to our city each month and we have only fourteen Bahais here."

Incidentally, we understand that whilst single copies of the April and July 1944 issues of World Order are no longer available, it is still possible to secure copies of the May and June issues, containing: Selections from the Writings of the Báb, Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the Guardian, related to the Mission of the Báb; also: Passages from the talks at the Centenary Convention, in quantities of 10 or more at the special price of .10c per copy by addressing orders to World Order, 110 Linden Ave., Wilmette, Ill.

Lecture Slides

Through the Temple Librarian and Sales Committee 25 sets of Temple slides are now available for purchase. Each set includes 15 Kodachrome views of the Temple and details of its ornamentation, and 35 black and white views showing progress in construction and sections of the outer finish. The color views are mounted in 2 x 2 inch paper mounts ready for projection, while the black and white views are in the form of a positive film strip. Titles of each of the 50 views and directions for mounting the separate black and white views in S.V.E. Ready-Mounts, obtainable at any Kodak store, are supplied with each order. The cost of the slides is $5.00 per set of 50, plus 25c for postage and insurance.

Photostats

Positive photostats or facsimile copies in black and white of the Will and Testament of Bahá'u'lláh and of the Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, photostats of the first or 1916 (framed) series of the Divine Plan Tablets, and of the historic Tablet of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to the House of Justice in Chicago are also available through the Temple Librarian and Sales Committee. The cost of these photostats is as follows:

- Will and Testament of Bahá'u'lláh (3 pages) ............... $.75
- Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Bahá (10 pages) .... 1.75
- Divine Plan Tablets to North-eastern, Southern, Central, Western States, and Canada, each ........................... .35
- Divine Plan Tablets to the United States and Canada: .50
- Tablet to the House of Justice ............................ .50
- First Tablet (2 pages in length) ......................... .70
- Second and third Tablets (4 pages in length), each 1.40
- Orders enclosing check to cover cost and mailing should be sent to Mr. Harry E. Walrath, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, Ill.

Ornamentation of Baha'i Temple

Final Report of Supervising Engineer

To the Temple Trustees for the Benefit of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'ís of the United States and Canada

Dear Friends:

About one year after the completion of the superstructure of the Temple, on June 6, 1932, the first contract for the ornamentation was awarded to John J. Earley of Washington, D.C. This contract involved the making and placing of the material comprising the dome ornamentation including the great ribs. As the work proceeded, it was found necessary to continue these ribs beyond the base of the dome to the foot of the clerestory.

The preliminary work under the first contract included studies of plant, technique, and methods for the execution of the work. While new and more difficult problems arose as the various subsequent contracts were prosecuted, the general principle of technique and method, early established and developed, were generally used throughout the entire project. For example, to allow for expansion and contraction of the reinforced concrete material and to eliminate cracking as far as practicable, the ornamentation was made in sections and placed with suitable spaces between adjacent sections. Each section was designed and prepared as a concrete cast reinforced with a steel frame to provide sufficient strength for handling at the plant and at the building and for resisting wind and other pressures as a part of the structure.

Practically the same groups of workmen carried out the various steps of the preparation of the models and molds and the pouring and curing of the casts at the Studio, and the erection of the casts and pouring of the piers, arches and other broad flat members on the building.

Outstanding among the problems that were solved in the handling of the work was the support and fastening of the dome ornamentation. A structural steel furring system was devised and built on the outer steel dome framework and to this system the 367 casts that comprise the dome ornamentation were securely supported and fastened.

One of the principal reasons for doing the dome ornamentation first was the early belief that this portion of the project would be the most difficult. As the work progressed into its later stages, however, unforeseen conditions and difficulties were encountered. These problems reached their highest complexity in the first or main story, especially in the placing and setting of the great spandrel sections and of the L-shaped cornice pieces. In this portion of the work, the cost of setting the casts was from two to three times the cost of making the sections; the reverse of the experience in the ornamentation of the dome, clerestory and gallery story. This unforeseen situation accounts partly for the over-run in cost over the original estimate of the main story contract.

The unique method of building the Temple; erecting an enclosed framework superstructure and subsequently clothing it with an outer covering to furnish the architectural design, especially for a structure of this unusual type and intricate nature, was predicated on the use of a plastic material for the making of many casts from one model and mold, and the accurate application of these concrete sections to the superstructure. Realizing these requirements, the sub-contractors under the contractor, the George A. Fuller Company, in the fabrication and erection of the framework and in the pouring of the concrete of the superstructure, made every effort to build a structure true to the dimen-
sions of the architect's design. In the application of the ornamentation on the dome, clerestory, gallery story and in the setting of the 917 step sections, the superstructure was found to be remarkably true to form and dimension. In the main story, however, a distortion of a maximum of about six inches was found at the cornice and involved cutting out of the concrete at the top of several faces and the filling in with additional concrete as backing on other faces. This condition accounted for an additional expense for labor and material of about $10,000.00.

The accompanying table gives a brief résumé of the various steps in the handling of the exterior ornamentation, and the expenditures made under the series of contracts with John J. Earley under which this work was done.

The first two contracts, which involved the ornamentation of the dome, ribs and clerestory or drum beneath the dome, extended over a period of nearly three years. The preliminary work, involving the preparation of plans, the remodeling of the plant at Roslyn, Virginia, the building of the full-size wooden replica of one-ninth of the outer dome framework and other similar work were done during the summer and fall of 1932. Construction at the Temple was initiated with the erection of the furring system on the outer dome framework and continued through January, 1934, when the last sections of the great ribs were swung into place along the top of the dome. The erection of the dome and rib sections—involved the handling of pieces weighing up to three tons—was handled efficiently and without mishap by the Friedstad Company, the same contractors that erected the structural steel dome in the fall of 1930. In January, 1934, upon completion of the dome and ribs, a second contract was entered into with the Earley Studio for the ornamentation of the clerestory. This project was completed a little over a year later in January, 1935.

The over-run of some $30,800 in the cost of these first two contracts was due largely to the furring system and to the erection of castings; two items which had not been adequately allowed for in the original estimate.

A two-year period of construction inactivity elapsed from the summer of 1935 to the fall of 1937, during which time a special Technical Com-

Baha'i News

mittee of Baha'is and non-Baha'is reviewed the work done under the first two contracts, with special reference to placing future contracts on a competitive and lump-sum basis. The unanimous report of this committee made to the Temple Trustees at Green Acre in August, 1937, recommended that the ornamentation be continued with the Earley Studio on the basis of the experience gained in the development of methods, technique, materials, etc. under the first two contracts.

Re-estimating the second or gallery story ornamentation at $125,000.00, the Earley Studio was awarded a cost-plus contract for this work in October, 1937. The faces were finished in November, 1938, and the nine pylons about eight months later. The cost of this work exceeded the estimate only by about $2,800.00.

Meanwhile, to expedite the Temple construction and under the impetus of generous contributions, the Earley Studio was authorized by the Temple Trustees to proceed with the preparation of the models and molds for the main story ornamentation. During the late winter and spring of 1939, the work under these two contracts was carried on in the Studio. With a saving of about $10,000 effected in the making of the molds, the contractor was given permission to proceed with casting of the lowest section of the nine main story pylons. This work was continued and the pylons were completed in September, 1940.

The casting and erection of the main story grilles, pilasters, columns, arches, spandrels, cornice and other minor parts, was handled under two principal contracts; first one involving the ornamentation of three faces and second, the work required for the remaining six faces. These two contracts overlapped as to time and construction involved. As the pouring of the concrete and the placing of the casts proceeded from the bases of the faces, the difficulties inherent in the handling of the great arch and spandrel sections and in the setting of the cornice pieces became a major factor in running up the cost of the work above the original estimate.

Other unforeseen and unallowed-for factors in the final cost of the main story ornamentation were the wage overtime ornamentation were the wage overtime, increased costs of materials, higher freight rates and social security and liability insurance. As will be noted in the table, the over-run in construction cost on the main story was about $57,500, or 38 per cent above the original estimate of $150,000.

With Europe becoming engulfed in war and realizing the need for haste in the prosecution of the Temple construction, the Temple Trustees wisely arranged with the contractor for the purchase of reinforcing steel, cement and stone necessary for the building of the 18 circular steps at the base of the Temple. The cement and stone were contracted for and the steel purchased in the summer of 1941.

The original plans of the architect contemplated pouring the concrete steps on the ramp of the foundation structure built in 1922. In 1939, the Earley Studio prepared sketches and made a preliminary estimate of $30,000 for building the steps in sections suspended from the main floor platforms. Later studies and the experience of the Federal government on monumental buildings in Washington developed a final design comprising 917 step sections supported on carriages built over the girders that support the sloping deck. In May, 1941, the Earley Studio was authorized to proceed with the steps, and the plans, forms, and other preliminary work, involving an expenditure of some $3,000, were done at the Studio. In April, 1942, the preparation of the reinforcement units for the step sections was begun at the Earley plant, and the construction of the carriages started at the Temple about the middle of May. The setting of the step sections was begun in July and was somewhat retarded by lack of sufficient reinforcement units to cast and set all of the 17 sections in one flight at one setup of the hoist. These reinforcement units should have been prepared in the winter of 1940 and the spring of 1941 as directed by the Supervising Engineer, but at this period the

Baha'i Center of Minneapolis
Earley Studio was running seven days a week on war contracts for the War and Navy Departments and the reinforcing shop was not available.

The final cost of $50,817.84 for the work involved in the steps contract, while it exceeds the original estimate of $30,000 (made on the basis of a different, much simpler design), is a reasonable cost under conditions at that time, for the work done, involving about 10,000 lneal feet of circular steps, 1000 square feet of main floor platforms and the faces of the plinths of the nine pylons.

In the early winter of 1940-41, Mr. Earley became ill and was unable to be at the Studio and attend to his business. During the past sixteen months his associate, Mr. B. G. Taylor, has carried the burden of the business under the heavy pressure of wartime conditions. On April 1, 1943, Mr. Taylor collapsed at the Studio and is still (April 22) in the hospital in a serious condition. It will be several months before Mr. Taylor will be able to attend to his duties at the Studio again. Fortunately the exterior ornamentation of the Temple is practically completed. At a conference with Mr. E. Roger Boyle early last January, Mr. Taylor promised Mr. Boyle and your engineer that he would arrange to go to the Temple on order from the Temple Trustees to acid wash the exterior ornamentation of the Temple, equipment and materials, which were purchased by the contractor and paid for out of the Temple funds, were on hand in an estimated value of six or seven hundred dollars.

In conclusion, as supervising engineer, the writer wishes to express gratitude for the priceless opportunity of being intimately and actively associated for nearly a quarter of a century with the building of the Temple—one of the most unique and remarkable structures of all time. Looking back over this experience, one glimpses great progress in the science of building construction, new techniques, methods and materials and their utilization in a structure for which there were no precedents. Perhaps it may be surmised that this epoch-making achievement is part of a Divine Plan. Certainly, the workers that were raised up to do this great task were guided, supported and sustained until their work was done.

Respectfully submitted,

ALLEN B. McDaniel
Supervising Engineer

April 22, 1943

Bahá'í Public Relations

The Committee on Bahá'í Public Relations has been making a survey of its field, and among the constructive activities the members wish to perform this year is the occasional reporting in Bahá'í News of some of those interesting and significant expressions of the influence of the Faith which come to our attention from time to time. The Committee does not intend to duplicate the reports of other Bahá'í bodies which, like the Radio Committee and the Bahá'í News Service Committee, initiate many important public contacts.
for the Faith, but rather to deal with the unexpected and incidental events concerning the Faith not directly caused by the believers themselves. In addition to the presentation of such matters as news, the Committee is of course concerned also with the handling of attacks and misrepresentations of the Faith appearing in responsible periodicals or emanating from responsible platforms, as well as the presentation of accurate statements about the Faith to encyclopedias, year books and other organs of a factual type.

Last June a request was received from the publishers of the World Book Encyclopedia for revision of its statement about the Cause written many years ago. The material was corrected, amplified and brought up to date, and it is hoped that the next edition will use this corrected statement.

In August we interested a member of the faculty of a College in Chicago in adding the Bahá'í House of Worship to his lecture on the marvels of architecture delivered before public audiences in many cities.

The Travel Bureau of Chicago Motor Club from time to time requests a supply of Temple booklets as it distributes copies to members wishing to know about local points of interest.

Marshall Field and Co., Chicago department store, issues a pamphlet entitled "Home Town Tour," which advises the reader to visit the Bahá'í Temple.

Universal Atlas Cement Co. of New York some time ago took pictures of the Temple and submitted them to Architectural Record, which published a statement on the Temple in its September number. The Concrete Manufacturer, a section of Pit & Quarry magazine, carried in its September number an article on the work of John J. Earley, including illustration of the House of Worship. Apparently the Atlas Cement Co. likewise supplied this material to the publication.

The Portland Cement Association of Chicago has prepared an excellent illustrated article on the Temple for its magazine Architectural Concrete, to appear in an early issue.

Redbook Magazine in 1939 carried an article by Hendrik Willem Van Loon, the historian, entitled "Somewhere a Man Is Sitting," which graphically depicts the need of a man of superhuman power who can reconcile men's spiritual and physical needs and thereby save the modern world from the fate of Babylon or Nineveh or Thebes. This clear and enlightened point of view can best be contacted through presentation of a copy of the Guardian's book, God Passes By, and this will be done.

Good-Will Magazine of Cleveland has requested a photograph of the Temple for use as front cover illustration.

During the fall and winter of 1943-1944, many local newspapers published an advertisement to promote the sale of government bonds in which a picture of the Temple was used to illustrate the theme of religious freedom, one of the issues of the war.

The front cover of Wilmette Life and Winnetka Talk for September 21 reproduced the new aerial picture of the House of Worship on their front cover. The same issue of Wilmette Life ran a photograph of a mural painting in a non-Bahá'í home of the village which illustrates Wilmette harbor and the House of Worship.

In the dining room of Hotel Orrington, Evanston, one end of the room has been recently decorated with a mural of Wilmette harbor and the Temple—a beautiful and impressive view which is attracting much favorable comment.

A good friend of the Cause, Mr. Howard S. Ross of Montreal, conducts a department entitled "The Forum" in The Suburban News, a weekly paper published in that city. His column on September 28 contained a very interesting reference to the Centenary celebration.

The Chicago Daily Tribune of August 19 ran a half-page photograph of the view from the top of the Tribune tower looking north, and the principal structures visible, including the Bahá'í Temple, are marked by name.

In addition to the Bahá'í reports sent to the appropriate national Committees, the Committee on Bahá'í Public Relations would request word of any unusual reference to the Cause, favorable or unfavorable, emanating from non-Bahá'í sources, which might be mentioned in future statements prepared by this Committee.

### Temple Guiding May-August, 1944

Considering the transportation difficulties, it is remarkable that during the first eight months of this year the number of visitors to the Temple, namely, 11,230, was greater than during a similar period of any previous year with the exception of 1936 when the number was 11,207. This period in 1944 exceeded by 1,807 the number taken through the Temple in the same period in 1942, and by 172 in 1943.

During May, visitors numbered 1,414. They came from forty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Panama, Alaska, the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Nova Scotia, Quebec and Edmonton, and the countries of Chile, Ecuador, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica and Jamaica.

During June, visitors numbered 1,907. They came from forty states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Panama, the Canadian provinces of Ontario, British Columbia, Manitoba, and the countries of Argentine, Brazil, Uruguay, England and Poland.

During July, visitors numbered 2,920, the largest number ever taken through the Temple in July. They came from 44 states, the District of Columbia, the Canadian provinces of Ontario (eight groups) and New Brunswick, and the countries of Bolivia, Peru, Honduras, Dominican Republic, San Salvador, Mexico, Poland, Turkey, France, Switzerland, Persia and China.

During August, visitors numbered 2,654. They came from forty states, the District of Columbia, the Canadian provinces of Ontario, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec and British Columbia, and the countries of Brazil, Colombia, Denmark, England, Australia, China and Persia.

Guides numbering fifty and hosts and hostesses numbering twelve, come from twelve towns, the most distant of which is Milwaukee. About half of these guides guide once a week or more; the other half only occasionally. Nine guides come from Milwaukee, one from Racine and four from Kenosha, the most distant towns, have guided regularly from one to eight times a month.

The Temple is open to visitors every Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. throughout the year but it will be closed weekdays in October, after cold weather begins.
One great problem the Guides Committee has each year is to find enough guides to take care of the visitors. This is especially true in July and August. These are the months when visitors come in greatest numbers, and is when we have the fewest guides, for then is when most of the guides take their vacations or visit summer schools. Consequently, the need is for more guides, especially during July and August.

Visitors are increasingly receptive each year. During the first eight months of this year they made many requests for literature, purchasing from the guides literature amounting to more than $70. Other evidence of the value of guide work is the number who joined study classes. This is one of the most important phases of teaching in the Cause, and one of the finest kind of "pioneering," as people come from all over the world and ask us to tell them about the Cause.

**TEMPLE GUIDES COMMITTEE**

**Thirty-Second Annual Commemoration of 'Abdu’l-Bahá**

The Committee on American Memorial to 'Abdu’l-Bahá conducted the following program at Evergreen Cabin, West Englewood, N. J., on June 24, 1944—the thirty-second annual gathering held to commemorate the Unity Feast given by the Master in 1912.

**MUSIC**

2:30 to 3:00 P.M.

Gertrude Simonton . . . . . . . .. Contralto
Harriet Morgan Kelsey . . . . . .. Soprano
Lyla Gaudreaux Roberts . . . . .. Accompanist

3:00 to 4:00 P.M.

Opening Prayer . . . . . . . . . . . Carol Kelsey

**Centenary Radio Activities April 1 - June 1, 1944**

These two months marked the greatest progress that the Faith has ever made in this particular method of teaching. It was a triumph for the entire community of the Most Great Name. Eighty-four broadcasts describing the Centennial and its purpose were given from May 12 to May 28. These broadcasts covered Forty-five States and Eight Provinces of Canada; Alaska; Hawaii and Cuba. No report has been received from Puerto Rico, although scripts were sent. We also had requests from Mexico City and Bogota, Columbia, and no doubt these were used also.

On April 28 the first Bahá’í short-wave broadcast ever given was beamed from New York to all of Latin-America through the assisance of the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American affairs.

The following statistics may be of interest to the friends:

Eleven weekly series of broadcasts were given during the year as follows:

1. A broadcast direct from the American Tour.
2. A broadcast over WCFL.
3. The regular Tuesday night broadcast over WCFL, on which Walter Olitzki sang, Walter Olitzki is a Bahá’í and a member of the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York.
4. A broadcast direct from the Banquet held at the Stevens Hotel; with a talk given by Alfred Osborne, delegate from Panama, and shorts talks by the following:

- Sr. Edorado Gonzalez Lopez
- Delegate from Ecuador
- Miss Elsie Austin
- Delegate from District of Columbia
- Dr. Fernando Nova
- Delegate from Brazil
- Mr. Firuz Kasemzade
- Guest from Teheran, Persia (now a student at Leland Stanford.
- Miss Hilda Yen
- Guest from Chungking, China

The guest speaker of the Latin-American evening, Mr. Philip Leonard Green, has offered to make his talk into a recording, with a Bahá’í introduction and conclusion, which he will arrange to have broadcast to Latin America.

It is also noteworthy to report that for the first time a network approached us to submit a script for a nation-wide prayer service to be used on Invasion Day. At the time we were asked to submit this script, the plan was that the day of the invasion was to be a day of prayer and the network was to pick up these prayer programs from various churches throughout the country. It was their purpose to read prayer services submitted by religious organizations. Our scripts were submitted, containing not only prayers for the whole world but hopeful words of promise from Shoghi Effendi revealing the glorious future that should follow this great calamity. We feel that our selections were unique among those offered.

The enthusiastic response of all
the Bahá'ís to this first nation-wide radio campaign was responsible for its great success. It remained for the Radio Committee alone to have the thrill of receiving telegrams and letters, pouring in from Assemblies all over the country and Canada, advising us of their Centennial broadcast plans. This Committee feels that the large amount of work involved in handling this campaign was amply repaid by the results. We do not feel that any nation-wide hook-up comparable in scope could have been purchased for even ten thousand dollars. It is interesting to note that many of the broadcasts were carried by local outlets of the three largest radio chains in the country. The friends may also be interested in knowing that the report of the Centennial was sent out over Trans-Radio Press to be used by newscasters and commentators on the air. Just how much of this material was used and to what extent we have no figures available at the present time. We do know that it was used on WOR, New York, one of the most powerful stations in the country, with a large listening audience.

It is significant that all of this tremendous activity should have taken place in the hundredth year of the Bahá'í Faith and truly ushered us into the Second Century before all of North America. This radio work is a new landmark in public relations. Many of the Assemblies are so encouraged by the response to their Centennial broadcasts that they are planning future radio work. This is the most powerful and cheapest teaching medium now open to us for the Bahá'í Faith and the principles for which it stands. It must, of course, be backed by the efforts of the friends to make Bahá'ís of those interested. It does plow the soil and make it ready for their efforts.

The National Radio Committee would like to express its appreciation to all of the friends for their prompt and efficient cooperation in the conduct of this nation-wide radio campaign.

Radio Committee

Inter-America News

BOLIVIA

The members of the La Paz group have joyfully welcomed another new member! Flora Hottes expresses their gratitude that this distinguished young woman, Sra. Maria Lijeron has arisen to serve the Cause in Bolivia. "We are very happy and proud of her," proclaims Flora. "She is our fifth member in La Paz, and is a brilliant young lawyer of this city. She understands and loves the Cause deeply. Sra. Lijeron has a radio program for women and children. John Stearns' radio booklet was given to her to look over, and already she has used some quotations from Bahá'u'lláh on her programs." Miss Hottes adds that two other members who accepted the Faith in La Paz are now living in other cities of Bolivia, and a third, the young Peruvian artist, has now returned to her home in Lima.

Many pages of delightful and historic detail record Virginia Orbins's brief but fruitful tour through Cochabamba, Sucre and Potosí. Glorious opportunities were given her to meet many people of distinction in the fields of industry, of education and the arts.

"In Potosí," Virginia tells us, "I had the privilege of staying at the Rancho Hochschild, where some of the officials of the great Hochschild Mining Company live. Quick and deep friendships are made in these lands and four men whom I met here were greatly moved by the Faith."

The gracious courtesy of Don Raúl Jaimés Freyre, distinguished man of letters of Bolivia, and the Director of the Museum in Sucre, made it possible for Virginia to meet many of the artists and scientists who are now residents of this colorful mountain city. Like Don Raúl Freyre, Virginia founded the Director of the School of Fine Arts, Juan Rimsa, noted Lithuanian painter, to be a spiritually mature soul, "wonderfully prepared" for a profound interest in the Message she had brought. A lecture, arranged at the Museum for Virginia, was attended by a stimulating audience of twelve persons of outstanding accomplishments in their varied fields of endeavor. Leaving these newly-illumined friends was a hard task, but with parting gifts of the Bahá'í Writings and hopes of a later return, Virginia left Sucre to fulfill her next assignment in Peru.

CHILE

Another area ardently desired by the Guardian for the establishment of the Faith is the city of Punta Arenas, Magallanes, in the southern tip of Chile. From the first seeds of the Faith, planted by Marcia Steward (Atwater) in this distant section of the Southern Hemisphere, the teaching work continues to expand and to consolidate.

Generous assistance from press and radio has helped to acquaint both residents and visitors in Magallanes with the name and principles of the Cause. Later, informal gatherings and individual interviews were held with interested friends, and a series of lectures was arranged. A study group has now been formed, and with the coming of the Chilean winter, it is believed the present study group will quickly increase in membership.

Marcia writes—"...the whole town is permeated with at least the name of our Prophet; the Fact of His Revelation; the fact of the existence of the Bahá'í Faith, and the fact that there are classes! The Cause has been established as dignified, intelligent and non-proselyting."

There has been a most gratifying demand for books. Marcia found it necessary to translate into Spanish long passages, even whole chapters, from the texts of her English books, until the supply of pamphlets and books in Spanish was received from Buenos Aires.

Many visitors from Santiago have heard of the Faith through her lectures and are eager to follow up this Message of a Divinely-conceived world civilization of unity and peace. Marcia continues to carry on teaching work in Santiago, through regular correspondence, at the request of the Spiritual Assembly. Thus the spiritual bonds of her pioneer service are being forged in two areas of the country, despite the many intervening miles.

PANAMA

Sr. Gerardo Vega, of Costa Rica, first Latin-American pioneer teacher, has carried out an intensive teaching campaign, with the enthusiastic support of the Panama Bahá'ís, during the months of his service in this post.

Panama — geographically significant in its linking unity of great continents and great oceans—shelters residents widely diversified in human capacities and spiritual qualities. With zeal and warm understanding Sr. Vega has extended the scope of the teaching work and opened new avenues of attraction for the Faith. "I am very optimistic for the future of the Cause in this locality," Sr. Vega tells us, "even though there are many obstacles it is also true that the splendor of
the light shines more brilliantly wherever the darkness is great."

Of bright promise toward the achievement of Panama's great destiny was the recent celebration of Brotherhood Week. For the first time Panama participated in this international observance of fellowship among all peoples. Mr. Alfred Osborne, Secretary of the Panama Baha'i group, served as a member of the Committee of Arrangements for this eventful week. Julie Regal joyfully writes us that he was Chairman, and one of the four speakers, of a highly successful meeting held in the USO Center and broadcast over the Army radio.

International Baha'i Youth Day, Julie adds, was celebrated by a festive gathering in Cora Oliver's apartment. A delightful program of music and brief talks honored this occasion for the young friends and acquaintances who shared in the evening's hospitality.

CENTRAL AMERICA

Only briefly can we dip into the precious packets of mail from our neighbors in Central America. The Spiritual Assembly of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, joyfully sends the enrollment cards of four new members for their community. With grateful hearts we record each new evidence of growth and rejoice to find, from many lands, the mounting response of Youth to acceptance of Baha'u'llah's call.

GUATEMALA

Mrs. Florence Keemer's energetic experiment to expand the teaching field with both speed and range, is receiving stimulating confirmations. Widespread interest in the Faith has developed through her offer, by radio and press, to teach English, gratis, to all who wished to learn the language. A deluge of replies rewarded this ingenuity, and presently the courtesy of the school authorities made it possible to use the facilities of the classrooms after the close of the regular sessions.

"I teach over a hundred people every day, without books!" ponders Mrs. Keemer in swift notes. "So you will realize how carefully the lessons must be prepared. I give a new alphabet each day—the ethical one, for example, has all our principles in it. Last night was art and tonight will be technical. Then we talk and recite poetry, both Spanish and English, have grammar and spelling too, and end up singing familiar old songs together. About half of the students are teachers, and the other educators who look in on us occasionally seem to enjoy it as well. There are few methods by which one can reach the real thinking people as quickly and deeply as by teaching something they want."

The acceptance of the Faith by a respected and substantial member of the community, a man who has studied the Teachings with great earnestness, has brought happiness to the Bahá'ís of Guatemala City. The formation of a thriving children's class, new interest aroused among the older youth, and increasing opportunities to offer the Message of the Faith in the homes of newly-awakened friends, are highlights of progress in Guatemala.

HAVANA

Exhilarating word of new goals achieved comes from Havana, Cuba. Long-cherished hopes for the expansion of the teaching work through radio have become historic realities. Our pioneers, Miss Silver and Miss Krutka, tell us that regular broadcasts of half-hour programs are given twice weekly. Daily announcements of the Bahá'í meetings are also made, and include an invitation to the listeners to attend the study classes and lectures.

In recognition of the historic import of the first radio broadcast, the Havana friends provided a visual record of the occasion. Charming Carmelo Perez was photographed as this first Bahá'í program went on the air. "The Words of Baha'u'llah," these friends comment, "have now echoed throughout Havana and the nearby provinces."

LOCAL ARCHIVES PROCEDURE

The following outline of recommendations on procedure in the collection and preservation of material for local Bahá'í Archives is submitted to local Spiritual Assemblies and groups with the purpose of aiding them in the efficient performance of this significant function.

1. Appoint an archivist or an Archives Committee consisting of members who are interested in the collection and orderly arrangement of local Assembly records.

2. The collection of archives material should begin as soon as there is one or more Bahá'ís in a locality.
   a. An account should be written of the introduction of the Cause in the locality.
   b. A list of believers and of visiting Bahá'ís should be kept.
   c. Be sure that all material is dated and that a careful record is kept of sources of material, such as newspaper clippings.

BAHA'I NEWS
3. The following materials should be collected for the archives:
   
a. Bahá’í treasures or relics, with the name of the donor and a written statement from him as to their authenticity. (See Bahá’í Procedure, page 19.)

b. Original Tablets of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá to individuals, groups, or to the Assembly. (Keep a negative photostat with a copy of the translation in the local archives, and forward the original Tablet and translation to the National Archives.)

c. The Guardian’s letters to individuals, groups or the Assembly. (Keep a negative photostat in the local archives, and forward original to the National Archives.)

d. Legal documents including copies of marriage license records and such other legal records as the local Assembly may not decide to retain in its own custody.

e. Photographs of individuals and of Bahá’í gatherings, with names and other records of interest. If ‘Abdu’l-Bahá visited the local community, the Archives should contain photographs of homes and public places visited by Him.

f. Bahá’í correspondence which may be of interest to future historians of the Cause.

g. Newspaper and magazine clippings:
   (1) Announcements of Bahá’í meetings and events.
   (2) Publicity about visiting Bahá’ís. (Note: This record may be kept by the Publicity Committee, but eventually should become a part of the local archives.)

h. Copies of programs.
   (1) Public meetings.
   (2) Bahá’í anniversaries.

i. Copies of annual reports of committees, unless the Assembly preserves these with its minutes.

j. Records of Bahá’í vital statistics.
   (1) Marriages and births.
   (2) Deaths and cemetery statistics.

4. Make a card index inventory of all material in the Archives.

5. Make a folder for each subject or individual about which there is material in the Archives. It is common archives practice to file material under each subject chronologically, and to keep individual collections donated to the archives intact.

6. If possible, arrange an exhibit from time to time. This will encourage the friends to contribute material, will show the work that the Archives Committee is accomplishing, and acquaint new friends with the history of the local community.

7. If possible, maintain complete files of Bahá’í books and pamphlets. Some of the titles in local Bahá’í libraries are certain to be lost, and early editions of Bahá’í literature will no longer be available.

8. Keep local Bahá’í historical record up-to-date. Such records should be supplemented at least once every two years. A number of local communities, such as Washington, Philadelphia, and New York, have compiled excellent local histories.

To date only twenty Assemblies have sent copies of their local histories to the National Bahá’í Archives. The Committee would appreciate receiving a copy from each Assembly and group.

—NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND HISTORY COMMITTEE

References to the Cause

Will the friends be on the lookout for new references to the Bahá’í Faith in non-Bahá’í books and periodicals and send the same to Bertha H. Krikpatrick, Olivet, Mich.? These are for Bahá’í World, volume X. Please give name of publication, author, publisher and date of publication and page on which reference occurs. Publicity in newspapers is not included. If the article is by a Bahá’í, please so state.

—EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

The Bahá’í World, Vol. X.

Bahá’í News Service

The work of the Bahá’í News Service will be greatly facilitated if you will send two copies of all publicity to the secretary, Virginia A. Russell, 2622 Prairie Avenue, Evanston, Illinois at regular intervals. All publicity regarding the Centennial Celebration should have been turned over to the Bahá’í News Service by this time.

Supplementary Report
National Spiritual Assembly
1943-1944

The spiritual life of the American Bahá’ís has been greatly enriched by the Guardian’s gift of the lock of hair and the portrait of His Holiness the Báb, “to hope forward.” Shoghi Effendi wrote on April 14, 1943, “in time for the solemn thanksgiving service to be held in the auditorium of the Temple on the evening of May 22, at the hour of His epoch-making Declaration, a sacred portrait of the Báb, the only copy ever sent out from the Holy Land, to be unveiled at the dedication ceremony and to repose for all time, together with Bahá’u’lláh’s blessed hair within the dome of the Holy Edifice within the heart of the North American continent."

In a previous letter dated March 26, 1943, the Guardian outlined the details of the Centenary celebration, and included these words: “In honor of this unique occasion the Guardian hopes to send a copy of the portrait of the Báb and some of His relics to be displayed for the first time to the assembled believers in the auditorium of the Temple on that memorable evening, after which they should be placed in a safe spot within the Temple together with the hair of Bahá’u’lláh previously presented to the American believers. Under no circumstances should the portrait of the Báb be left exposed or hung on the wall of the Temple, nor should any copy of it be made. Only on very rare occasions should it be displayed, and wherever shown should be in no other place except the Foundation Hall of the Temple. Its display in the auditorium is permitted only for this occasion. No such portrait is to be found anywhere in the Bahá’í world—with the exception of Haifa—not is the Guardian contemplating sending any copy at present to any other Bahá’í community. This indicates the importance he attaches to the Temple in America, which he feels is a befitting edifice to enshrine it. The utmost vigilance should be exercised that no copy be made of it in the future, or any attempts be made to reproduce it in any way.”

On June 24, 1943, the Guardian mailed from Haifa through Mr. Maxwell an envelop containing a locket with hair of the Báb. This was not received. On March 14, 1944 a message came which explained the reason. “The first envelop containing
locket with hair was returned after meeting with an accident. Though the accompanying letter was half-burnt, the hair is intact. I rejoice at the providential escape and safe arrival. Inform friends."

The locket and hair, however, was mailed again on February 11, 1944, and this time safely received. The details of the providential recovery of this precious relic have been given us by Mr. William Sutherland Maxwell in a letter dated March 14 last.

"The thrill of finally receiving the precious Hair relic is not to be compared with what was experienced here. On June 24, 1943 I mailed you a registered letter and it contained the Hair of the Báb inside a small locket. After waiting a long time to hear from you about its arrival, it was decided to have the Post Office registration department trace the matter and report. A lengthy printed document was filled in by me and it was forwarded to Jerusalem by the Postal authorities. Later I received a letter from the Postmaster General enclosing my last letter to you. The envelop was badly burnt, parts of the address being missing out the registration number was intact (enough information remained to enable the Postal authorities to notify me of its reception—but apparently the regulations require the sender to take the initiative).

"With care the letter was opened and safely enounced therein was the little silver locket (which is modern) containing the Hair of the Báb.

"You can imagine the joy and satisfaction experienced by Shoghi Effendi, Ruhiyyih Khanum and by me, in recovering this precious relic.

"Now the locket and its contents are arrived in Illinois, and in the Temple Archives one of the most precious and rare Bahá'í relics is safely enounced in its appropriate setting.

"It appears that the airplane was caught down in flames and we have a detailed account of the happening. About the fate of the pilot to whose skill and bravery we owe the deepest gratitude.

"The second voyage of the Hair of the Báb was uneventful from the viewpoint of transportation and your able about its arrival brought peace and happiness."

As the Bahá'í delegates and guests will observe when the portrait and air are exhibited at the appropriate moment, Mr. Maxell has designed most a beautiful frame for the portrait and setting for the hair, and his designs have been executed by craftsmen of Chicago under the direction of a special Committee appointed by the National Spiritual Assembly.

"Another blessing intended for us by the Guardian is his book entitled 'God Passes By,' a survey of the first Bahá'í Century. It is a matter of keen regret that printed copies are not yet available though the manuscript has been turned over to the printer in the form of successive chapters since January, the final installment having been turned over on April 8. The Foreword and the first two chapters, however, with the Guardian's kind consent, have been published separately in World Order Magazine for March, April and May of this Centenary year.

"From the Table of Contents we learn a great deal about the structure of this unique work. It opens with the Guardian's Foreword which summarizes the events of the first Bahá'í Century, explains the significance of the Faith, and defines the purpose and scope of his book. This is followed by an Introduction written by Dr. George Townshend and signed by him with his title and rank in the Church of England.

"Chapters one to five present the Mission of the Báb and cover the first period of Bahá'í history, 1844 to 1853.

"Chapters six to thirteen summarize the Ministry of Bahá'u'lláh, the second historical period extending from 1853 to 1892.

"The third period represents the Ministry of 'Abdu'l-Bahá', and chapters fourteen to twenty-one outline its principal events and meanings from 1892 to 1921.

"Chapters twenty-two to twenty-five explain the Rise and Development of the Administrative Order, the fourth period, from 1922 to 1944, and the work concludes with a chapter entitled Retrospect and Prospect.

"What Shoghi Effendi has given us in this volume is a new dimension of spiritual truth—an authentic history of a revealed religion through its first hundred years of action upon human existence. In no previous cycle has this been accomplished: a presentation of the Figure of the Manifestation and of His disciples and His Exemplar and Interpreter created by one so spiritually endowed that he can turn back to the Person and the sacred Events and give them actual reproduction at a later time.

"By virtue of the Guardian's power to experience the history of the Faith as a living and vital present force and not merely a past event, the days of the Báb and the days of Bahá'u'lláh live for us again. We can in this book behold once more the episode of the Declaration of the Báb, His imprisonment and His execution, the sufferings inflicted upon Bahá'u'lláh, His exile from land to land and eventual incarceration in 'Akka; and the moving record of the Master's services by which the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh was firmly planted in East and West. A clear light is thrown upon all the significant episodes and events—the revelation of Bahá'u'lláh's principal works and an analysis of His essential teachings; the rise and fall of the great betrayers and deniers of God's Cause; and the forces which transferred the power of action in the Bahá'í community from Persia to America.

"The Guardian's unique function as Interpreter of the Bahá'í Sacred Writings has here been realized as capacity to interpret not only the Word but its effect upon persons in one time and place. Thanks to this book the Bahá'ís have the infinite privilege of living within a fully unified world—the world of spirit and the world of humanity acted upon by divine forces for a divinely ordained end.

"In recent weeks the National Spiritual Assembly has received many letters on the subject of the new method of election of Convention delegates. It will clarify many questions if we explain that before adopting any definite method for the holding of state and provincial elections—elections in new administrative areas possessing no administrative bodies capable of action for the state or province as a whole—we submitted a number of points to the Guardian.

"On July 7, 1943, the Assembly wrote Shoghi Effendi as follows on this subject:

"'After consideration of the new State and Provincial basis of the election of Convention delegates, the Assembly voted to approve seven points for submission to you for your approval and whatever further information you wish to provide. These points are:

1. The National Spiritual Assembly is responsible for these elections.

2. Local Assemblies are not to
be employed as a basis for the State or Provincial organization.

"3. The National Spiritual Assembly should appoint the presiding officer and call the election, designating the time and place; the believers present then elect their Chairman and Secretary, and the Chairman appoints the tellers. A certified report of the election is sent to the National Spiritual Assembly. Absent voters are to vote by mail. It is suggested that this election meeting be combined with a public teaching meeting if possible.

"4. Ballots and voting list to be prepared by the National Spiritual Assembly.

"5. The N.S.A. pays the cost of a meeting place; the local Bahá’í center to be used where possible.

"6. The Assembly understands that under the system of proportionate representation, a State or Province having less than nine believers will be entitled to representation by a delegate. That is, unless otherwise directed, the Assembly will include in the voting arrangements any State or Province which may have no local Assembly at the time the election is called."

The Guardian’s reply, dated November 16, 1943, approved these points as follows:

"Regarding the seven points submitted to the Guardian in connection with the new basis of the election of Convention delegates. He approves the action taken by your Assembly but wishes to stress the importance of acquainting the believers that they should make every possible effort to attend the meeting for the election of the State or Province delegates, in order to stimulate a larger group consciousness which will greatly facilitate the process of the believers becoming acquainted with each other, and provide an intermediary stage—which will become increasingly valuable and necessary—between the local organization, represented by the group or Assembly, and national collective action, represented by the activities of the Convention and the institution of the National Assembly."

The calling of the elections, therefore, and the simple procedure laid down in the call, represented an action of the National Spiritual Assembly in the fulfillment of a responsibility which could not be delegated to any existing administrative body nor carried out in consultation with the body of the believers resident in each State or Province. Whether, once the believers have assembled in these units and elected officers for the election meeting, they themselves were qualified to create a continuous administrative body for that new, intermediary stage, was a question which can only be answered by the Guardian. The appointment of temporary chairman was, for the first election at least, a necessary action since the believers themselves possess no administrative agency between the Assemblies or groups and the Convention and the N.S.A.

As result of the Guardian’s change of the electoral unit from city to state, we are this year attending a Bahá’í Convention, which for the first time is composed of delegates representing the entire American Bahá’í Community. Every believer is henceforth a voting member of the Bahá’í community. But the Guardian has not only extended the electorate from local communities to state and provincial communities—he has stabilized the principle of proportionate representation. For while the number of delegates remains the same from year to year, the number of local communities has increased rapidly during the Seven Year Plan, and in future there will be thousands of Spiritual Assemblies. The number of States and Provinces, however, is presumably constant, and hence the number of delegates can be fairly apportioned to the number of believers within these larger political units, whereas to continue electing delegates from towns and cities would make the application of the principle of proportionate representation impossible in a brief time.

It is likewise the first Convention having representatives from the Bahá’í communities of Central and South America and the islands of the Caribbean area—an All-America Convention in session during the Centenary period.

The Guardian’s messages to the Convention have been reproduced, and copies will be distributed to all the delegates and Bahá’í guests. "Hail with glad, grateful heart the historic assembly of the elected representatives of the followers of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh throughout the Western Hemisphere participating in the first All-America Convention gathered in the vicinity of the first Bahá’í Center of the Western World beneath the dome of the first Mashriqu’l-Adhkar to commemorate alike the Anniversary of the founding of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh and the Birth of ‘Abdu’ll-Bahá, the Anniversary of its establishment in the Occident and to celebrate the completion of the exterior ornamentation of the most hallowed House of Worship in the entire Bahá’í World" his message begins.

Copies of the Centenary program are also available for all the friends. The Centenary Committee has prepared a series of meetings which with dignity and spiritual force can express our joyous devotion and consecration to His Holiness the Báb, whose Declaration one hundred years ago was the First Point of the appearance of the Will of God for the new and universal Cycle of Bahá’u’lláh.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY
By Horace Holley, Secretary
536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette
May 19, 1944

Manager for Green Acre

The Green Acre Trustees wish to request applications from Bahá’ís for the position of manager of the School dormitory and dining room on the basis of training and experience. The trustees will consider carefully all such applications, which should include details concerning the applicant’s qualifications. Address: Secretary, Green Acre Trustees, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill. Appointment of manager for the 1945 summer season is to be made as soon as possible.

Race Unity at Green Acre

The annual Race Unity conference at Green Acre, August 11 to 13, 1944, had its usual exhilaration, diffusion of knowledge and confirmation. Dr. Genevieve Coy, chairman, made unity the subject of her address. This she said to be a basic human desire. Rarely is one happy at thought of being left out. The ambition to exert power on the one hand and fear of it on the other may bring conflict. Such is true of various aspects of power, such as economic, political, military or social. Thoughts influence feelings, and those of fear, hatred and anger cause division. A loving and wise attitude toward minority groups is to see no differences. Do not adversely generalize about a minority because of the conduct of a few members of it.
Dr. Sarah Martin Eason of Washington, D.C., spoke on the Oneness of Humanity. The thoughtful are becoming more aware of this as the negligibility of racial differences as a sign of ability appears. Men are now looking the world over for sincerity and love to be the foundation stones of a workable religion. Cultural varieties are a benefit. Blended ideals of culture play a vital part in human progress. Fraternity based upon love should be the objective. Human solidarity, promulgated by 'Abdu'l-Bahá is hailed as a blessing.

At the next session Mrs. Terah Smith of Atlanta, Georgia, told of progress in race relations in the vast section of the South. The Interracial Commission, organized after the former world war to help returned soldiers, has now been enlarged into the Southern Regional Council, going farther than the former organization in that it contemplates unity on a spiritual basis. It recognizes not only a sectional and national but a world need. New publications such as “The South Today,” “Common Ground,” and the addresses of Pearl Buck are much in demand and are shaping thought. These are signs of advancement to the goal set by 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Who said that in this century all the potentialities latent in man will be revealed.

Matthew W. Bulloch of Boston described in graphic terms the poignant disappointment of those like himself, who went abroad during the former world war, inspired by the hope that so great an upheaval would bring justice and peace to mankind. The promised relief appeared neither in religious nor secular circles; rather, class tyranny was strengthened and prejudices were increased. On every hand was heard the lament that religion had failed. He shared with us his experience as a seeker after truth in the Bahá’í Faith and his great joy in the discovery that in this day God has given us a plan; moreover, that all is going according to the Divine Plan!

Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh, chairman at the Sunday morning session, observed that bars of iron too strong to be broken, can yet be melted by fire. It does not help difficult conditions to complain. It is better to work. The Bahá’í plans work not for one day but for every day. The seals of the Holy Books are now open and wonders of life and light are coming to view. Christ never said, “Suffer the white people to come unto me,” but made welcome all colors. All the Prophets bring universal gifts. Man has in many ways failed; but progress and wisdom may come through past failures. The brotherhood of mankind is now the great objective. The dynamic for this is found in the Bahá’í Teachings. They will gain acceptance. The white race, considering world interests and values, is now but a minority group.

Louis G. Gregory spoke on Lights and Shadows on the Inner and Outer Plane. Both, whether objective or subjective, can be observed in individuals, groups and mankind in the aggregate. The value of light is obvious, whether solar, optical, scientific or spiritual. Lights that outwardly appear have their correspondences upon the inner plane and all such phases of the same reality have a direct bearing upon human progress and happiness. Both the earth and Heavens are rich in wonderful treasures, but none can discover them without light. The word Bahá means Light. “The nearer you are to the Light, the farther removed from the darkness,” says 'Abdu'l-Bahá. “O Son of the Wondrous Vision!” expresses the gift of Bahá'u'lláh to His faithful and loyal followers, indicating their capacity under guidance to aid mankind. All are but parts of one great Whole. The mingling of races increases fertility, cleverness and beauty.

Harlan F. Ober, chairman at the forum, stated that the problem in America is between whites, Negroes, Jews, Indians and with the various peoples of the South and Central American countries. While the Bahá'ís have held amity conferences in many cities over a wide area, outsiders have viewed such efforts as remote and academic theories about matters which could not be controlled. Now such matters have become realistic to all and demand solution. Humanity’s problems are interrelated. Those pertaining to race, education, industry and religion cannot be separated. A great opportunity is that of America, a new nation, to carry out to a greater extent than others, the oneness of mankind.

Miss Lydia J. Martin hailed with delight the new order envisioned by Bahá'u'lláh and saw traces of its progress indicated by old age pensions, slums removed and a kindliness and neighborliness transcending racial lines. Such signs point to a great awakening. The call of the universal shepherd must be universally proclaimed so as to overcome the barbarous practices which keep men apart.

Ali Kuli-Khan, N. D. told interesting stories about noted men of color that he had met, among them Robert Turner, the first American Negro to become a Bahá’í. The speaker strongly advocated justice for all mankind. No earthly power can resist the might of God. It is He Who commands unity and points the way. As the temple of Solomon was built from materials brought from many lands, so must the present day edifice of divine civilization cultivate the talents of all races and nations to bring world happiness and peace.

Other contributors to the forum consultations were Mrs. Joy Earl, who told a beautiful symbolic story; Dr. E. Ellis Durrant, distinguished churchman, who acknowledged the oneness of the spirit of the Christ and Bahá'u'lláh; Frank Ashton, who read a Tablet of the Master, showing how thought of war may be overcome by a greater thought of peace; and George D. Miller, who observed that we abandon our skins when we start for Heaven; therefore justice must be here established upon a more durable basis. The chairman exhorted all to dwell together in love and unity.

The musical part of the program was rich and varied, consisting of Negro spirituals and other strains. Among the contributors were Mesdames Evelyn Loveday and Joy Earl, Misses Ida B. Noyes, Lydia J. Martin, and Elsie Norton. The harmony and beauty of all the conference were causes of happiness to the friends and an attraction to inquirers.

**RACE UNITY COMMITTEE**

**Bahá’í Directory**

The following changes are reported:

1. **Local Assemblies:**
   - Montreal — Mrs. Priscilla Waugh, Secretary, 11406 Laval Road, Cartierville, Montreal 8, Quebec, Canada.
   - Syracuse — Mrs. Lena Bevan, Corresponding Secretary, 3566 Genesee Street, Syracuse, N.Y.
   - Greenville — Mrs. Luva Dabrowski, Acting Secretary, 19 W. Earl Street, Greenville, South Carolina.
   - Salt Lake City — Mrs. Eleanor Beckman, 347 East Broadway, Salt Lake City, Utah.
Alexandria—Mrs. Paul E. Haney, Secretary, 3234 Gunston Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Boston—the Bahá’í Center is at 25 Huntington Avenue, not 26, as incorrectly reported in the Directory.

Milwaukee—Mrs. Claire Frick, Corresponding Secretary, 4704 W. Lloyd Street, Milwaukee, Wis.

2. National and Regional Committees: Child Education Committee—New address for Chairman, Janet Lindstrom, 4383 Asbury Street, Evanston, Ill.

Inter-America Committee—Edwin W. Mattoon added.

College Speakers Bureau—new address for Chairman, Wm. Kenneth Christian, 700 East 5th Street, Greenville, N.C.

The believers are requested to report any changes in the Directory as soon as possible.

Assembly Address

Local Assemblies are requested to register the address of their center or meeting place with any agency in the city which, like the Chamber of Commerce, the USO, etc., maintains a directory of public meetings or of religious organizations. Assemblies which have no public center may register the Bahá’í Assembly in care of a designated officer or member. A Bahá’í telephone address is very important.

In Memoriam

I testify, O my Lord, that Thou hast enjoined upon men to honor their guest, and he that has ascended unto Thee hath verily reached Thee and attained Thy Presence. Deal with him then according to Thy grace and bounty!

—Abdu’l-Bahá

Mrs. Renee Fooks, Montclair, New Jersey.

Mrs. C. Lawrence, Los Angeles.

Mr. William F. Lucas, Los Angeles.

Miss Henrietta C. Cosh, New Rochelle, New York.

Mrs. Kate Muzzy, Binghamton, New York.

Mr. Joseph Scanes, Toledo.

Dr. Luther R. Johnson, Akron.

Mrs. Gertrude E. Zollinger, Toledo.

Mrs. Daisy Ashenfelter, Toledo.

Mrs. Ella Federcell, Maui, T. I.

Miss Elizabeth Slappy, St. Augustine.

Mr. Edward Bass, Spokane.

Mrs. Gertrude H. Weeks, Portland, Maine.

Mrs. Helen Liebors, New York.

Mrs. Jennie Russell, Chicago.

Mr. Henry J. Schenker, Newark.

Mrs. Maye Worthington, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Miss Sarah A. Bloeker, St. Augustine.

Mrs. Clementina Goodrich, Milwaukee.

Miss Anna Kroglass, Augusta.

Miss Helen Grand, Toronto.

Mrs. Lillian Bauer, Brooklyn.

Mrs. Mary Frazer, Nuncia, Michigan.

Mrs. Nettie Tobin, Chicago.

Mr. J. L. Gibson, Pacific Palisades, California.

Mrs. Robert Fairlee, Vancouver.

Mr. Gustave Bagge, Cleveland.

Mr. Raymond B. Gillespie, Chicago.

Mrs. Nell B. Moister, San Antonio.

Mrs. Alice Broadhurst, Maui, T. I.

Miss Cora A. Watson, Cincinnati.

Mr. Albert Ammon, Haworth, New Jersey.

Mrs. Annie Linfoot, Piedmont, California.

Mr. William F. Kyle, Los Angeles.

Mr. Alexander Mapp, Avon, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Robert Sully, Buffalo.

Mrs. Gertrude Muffler, Serena, Illinois.

Mr. B. M. Nance, San Bernardino, California.

Mrs. Judson M. Saunders, New Haven.

Mrs. Belle Ware, Kirkland, Washington.

Mrs. Frank J. Phelps, Catsonsville, Maryland.

Mr. Arthur L. Held, Berkeley, Michigan.

Mrs. Anne B. Walker, Salem, Massachusetts.

Sr. Elia Calderon, San Jose, Costa Rica.

Mr. Aaron Blau, Philadelphia.

Mrs. Agnes Bledget Rowe, Spokane.

Mrs. Mary McKeen, Brooklyn.

Mrs. Ruth Bruntz, Pasadena.

Mr. Frederick A. Clapp, Los Angeles.

Mr. B. W. Schneider, Richmond Highlands, Washington.

Mrs. Rose N. Steinmecke, St. Louis County, Missouri.

Mrs. Alma Raymond, Toledo.

Mr. Charles E. Wilkes, Urbana, Ohio.

Mr. Edgar H. Libby, Los Angeles.

Mr. Charles M. Mortensen, Chicago.

Mrs. Lucy B. Swindler, R. D. Magnolia.

Mr. John Aducat, R. D. Marlton, New Jersey.

Miss Myra V. Farmer, St. Augustine.

Miss Hazel L. Tait, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Mr. Edgar H. Libby, Los Angeles.

Mrs. Lucile Tuck, Los Angeles.

Mrs. Nettie Tobin, Chicago.

Mrs. Lillian Bauer, Brooklyn.

Mrs. Robert Sully, Buffalo.

Mrs. Elizabeth Slappy, St. Augustine.

Mr. Henry J. Schenker, Newark.

Mr. Joseph Scanes, Toledo.

Dr. Luther R. Johnson, Akron.

Mrs. Gertrude E. Zollinger, Toledo.

Mrs. Daisy Ashenfelter, Toledo.

Mrs. Ella Federcell, Maui, T. I.

Miss Elizabeth Slappy, St. Augustine.

Mr. Edward Bass, Spokane.

Mrs. Gertrude H. Weeks, Portland, Maine.

Mrs. Helen Liebors, New York.

Mrs. Jennie Russell, Chicago.

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Mrs. Maye Worthington, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

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Mrs. Clementina Goodrich, Milwaukee.

Miss Anna Kroglass, Augusta.

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Mrs. Alma Raymond, Toledo.

Mr. Charles E. Wilkes, Urbana, Ohio.

Mr. Edgar H. Libby, Los Angeles.

Mr. Charles M. Mortensen, Chicago.

Mrs. Lucy B. Swindler, R. D. Magnolia.

Mr. John Aducat, R. D. Marlton, New Jersey.

Jacksonville, one and one transfer.

Miami, one and two transfers.

St. Augustine, one.

Atlanta, one.

Honolulu, two youth.

Chicago, eighteen and five transfers and three youth.

Evans ton, one.

Springfield, III., one.

Regina, four and two transfers.

Burlington, one.

Wilmette, one and two transfers.

Fort Wayne, one.

Indianapolis, one transfer.

South Bend, two.

Topeka, one transfer and one youth.

Loulaville, two transfers.

Elgin, one.

Baltimore, three and one transfer and one youth.

Bethesda-Chevy Chase, one and one youth.

Boston, one.

Brookline, one.

Springfield, Mass., one and one transfer.

Worcester, one.

Detroit, one.

Flint, six and one youth.

Grand Rapids, three.

Muskogee, one.

Minneapolis, two.

Jackson, Miss., five.

Kansas City, Mo., three.

St. Louis, two.

Helena, two youth.

Omaha, one.

Reno, three.

East Orange, two.

Albuquerque, two and one youth.

Buffalo, one transfer.

Geneva, two youth.

New York, eighteen and nine transfers and two youth.

Syracuse, three transfers.

Greensboro, one and two transfers.

Fargo, two.

Cincinnati, one.

Cleveland, one.

Columbus, one and one transfer.

Dayton, two.

East Cleveland, two.

Lima, four.

Toledo, one.

Portland, Ore., three and two transfers.

Philadelphia, one and one transfer.

West Chester, Pa., one.

San Juan, P. R., one.

Providence, one.

Sioux Falls, four and three transfers and two youth.

Houston, eight.

Salt Lake City, two transfers.

Brattleboro, one.

Richmond Highlands, three.

Seattle, two and one transfer.

Spokane, one.

Tucson, one.

Kenosha, one.

Madison, one.

Milwaukee, two and three transfers.

Racine, one and one transfer.

Shorewood, two.

Wauwaloosa, one.

Laramie, one.

2. Reported by Regional Teaching Committees

In July, ten and four youth; in August, nine and two youth; in September, nine and two youth.

Enrollments and Transfers

1. Reported by Local Assemblies

Birmingham, one.

East Phoenix Rural, two.

Phoenix, two.

Little Rock, two and two transfers.

Alhambra, two transfers.

Berkeley, two.

Beverly Hills, three and one transfer.

Burbank, two.

Glendale, one transfer.

Los Angeles, seven and seven transfers.

Oakland, one and one transfer.

Pasadena, two and one transfer.

Sacramento, two and four transfers.

San Diego, one.

San Francisco, ten and one youth.

Edmonton, one and two transfers and one youth.

Vancouver, two.

Winnipeg, one.

Halifax, one and one transfer.

Toronto, two and one transfer.

Montreal, two.

Regina, two.

Denver, one transfer and one youth.

Washington, D.C., six and seven transfers and one youth.

2. Reported by Regional Teaching Committees

In July, ten and four youth; in August, nine and two youth; in September, nine and two youth.
Messages from the Guardian

Moneeb Shaheed, grandson of both 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the King of Martyrs, married according to the Moslem rites the daughter of a political exile who is nephew of the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem. This treacherous act of alliance with enemies of the Faith merits condemnation of entire Bahá’í world.

Received November 7, 1944

Share grief at passing of devoted, faithful pioneer (John Starnes). His services have been unforgettable and highly meritorious. Advise the construction of a Memorial. Assure friends in Lima (Peru) my deepest, loving sympathy.

—SHOICHI RABANI

Comfported, strengthened by assurance of sympathy and loyalty of American believers in the deplorable, delicate situation created by dishonorable alliances made by members of my family, first with Covenant-breakers and now with external enemies of the Faith.

The marvelously rapid, rapid, sound evolution of the institutions of the Faith in five continents, particularly in the Western Hemisphere, constitutes best monitor, most effective counteraction to the detrimental influence of those whose acts proclaim their severance from the Holy Tree and their forfeiture of their sacred birthright.

The occasion demands that you direct special attention to passages in "God Passes By" indicating the gravity of the past crises precipitated since the inception of the Faith by kinsmen both of the Manifestation and the Center of His Covenant, demonstrating the pitiful futility of their nefarious activities and the sad fate overtaking defectors and betrayers.

The present hour calls for unremitting vigilance, continued heroism, redoubled efforts, renewed dedication by rank and file of the community enjoying preponderating share alike in the erection, the defense, and the consolidation of the worldwide Administrative Order of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh since the passing of the Center of His Covenant.

I urge the entire Bahá’í community of the Western Hemisphere to focus its attention during the remaining months of the opening year of the second century on the formation of local Assemblies in the remaining Republics of Nicaragua, Panama, Venezuela, Bolivia and San Domingo, guard against dissolution of Assemblies already painstakingly established throughout the Americas, exert effort on further multiplication of groups, wider dissemination of literature, greater use of radio, closer contact with masses, more audacious proclamation of the Faith, more effective coordination of local and national activities aiming at fuller demonstration of the rights and claims of the Faith to be regarded as sole refuge of humanity in its hour of bitterest agony.

The American believers' meritorious activities, individual, local, inter-state, intercontinental, will be the object of my special prayers during the approaching Anniversary of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Ascension.

—SHOICHI RABANI

Received November 19, 1944

The American believers' meritorious activities, individual, local, inter-state, intercontinental, will be the object of my special prayers during the approaching Anniversary of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Ascension.

—SHOICHI RABANI

Received November 21, 1944

The Spirit Is Progressive

Beloved Friends:

The National Spiritual Assembly met during four and one-half days in November to meet the exigencies of an agenda summarized in fourteen typewritten pages. The Minutes recording the actions taken fill forty-nine pages, a copy of which is supplied to the Guardian and to each Assembly member. In addition, the Minutes of Trustee meetings are recorded in six or seven pages. One hundred and ninety-eight separate votes were adopted, one of these—appointing the sixty-three State and Province Convention Committees—based upon consultation and discussion throughout one entire day.

The messages from the Guardian which were given first consideration at the meeting are published elsewhere in the previous and present numbers of Bahá’í News. Their vital import is evident to every Bahá’í.

'Abdu'l-Bahá bequeathed to His friends the sublime truth that the Spirit is progressive; it is the power of action and continuous achievement on this plane. Unlike religions of creed, ceremonial and formal worship, the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh undergoes irresistible advance. Even when outwardly quiet, even when assailed by the greatest of worldly powers, the Bahá’í Faith is registering progress and manifesting capacity to attain its goal. As we are a Bahá’í community, nourished by the Spirit, let us show forth the characteristics of our faith in activity, union, enthusiasm, and reverence for the guidance we receive from the Guardian.

Treasurer's Report

This will summarize the treasurer's report for November, carrying forward some of the essential items from the beginning of the fiscal year, March 1, 1944.

The annual budget was fixed at $135,000.00. By November 30, $75,024.85 had been donated by the believers. There remains $59,975.15 to be contributed by February 28. One hundred local Assemblies sent donations in November, while thirty-two seemed unable to meet the collective obligation to sustain the Fund. Of the groups, forty-nine contributed. The total received in November was $5,774.61, the total spent was
$6,255.51. Among the items of expense were: Administration, $1,269.67; Temple maintenance, $749.23; Temple repair (resurfacing decks), $940.00; Green Acre maintenance, $148.43; National and Regional Teaching, $1,328.00; Inter-America Teaching, $1,100.60. The amount given to other National Committee was $141.50, and $370.00 was sent to the International Bahá’í Fund through the Guardian.

The Canadian Bahá’í Fund receives and dispenses the contributions of the Bahá’ís of Canada which cannot be sent across the border under war regulations. We have statements for September and October. The contributions were: $350 and $519 respectively, while expenditures for the two months combined amounted to $668.50. Most of the expense is for budgets assigned to settlers and pioneers.

**National Activities**

Many important recommendations made by National Committees for carrying out plans in the field of radio, press publicity, etc., have had to be deferred for lack of funds. As the work develops, more of the Committees arrive at the point where they need immediate and full-time clerical help, which calls for a yearly operating budget. Each step of progress in our collective power to act must be conditioned upon material resources. Every believer wants above all to see evidences of large and powerful public Bahá’í enterprises, just as he wants to see activity in his own community. But a nationwide campaign cannot be developed out of one hundred and thirty or more local campaigns, each planned separately and all calling for most of the available local donations. What the National Spiritual Assembly is striving to bring about is a powerful nationwide campaign which will of its own momentum and influence create the most favorable conditions, and effective instruments, for any number of local teaching and publicity plans. This intention can be realized as soon as the National Fund is given the first and paramount consideration by Assemblies and believers. Just as the construction of the Temple has vitalized the life of every local community, near to or far from the Edifice itself, so will a truly comprehensive radio and publicity campaign return to every local community a result infinitely greater than the amount of its own contribution to the National Fund. The time is at hand when these facts call for understanding, resolve, sacrifice and action.

A good beginning, nevertheless, was made at the November meeting. The National Assembly adopted a number of measures aimed at a coordination of the National and local activity for the promotion of the Bahá’í Peace Program. In outline, this campaign provides for:

1. The printing of 15,000 each of four Peace Broadsides containing excerpts from the Bahá’í Writings, numbered consecutively 1, 2, 3 and 4 but without date, so that their distribution can achieve an accumulative effect. Of these, 5,000 sets will be mailed monthly for four months by the Public Relations Committee to a list being compiled from federal and state officials, peace societies, educators, news commentators, etc. The cooperation of local Assemblies and individual believers is earnestly solicited in the development of this list. Please send suggested names and addresses to the National Office as soon as possible. The remaining 10,000 sets of four Peace Broadsides are offered for sale by the Publishing Committee, as per separate notice in this issue of Bahá’í News.

2. The Radio Committee has been requested to develop material for a broadcast on the Bahá’í Peace Program and make effort to have one station used in each State and Province. The Bahá’í News Service Committee has been requested to develop a news release on the same subject.

3. Local Assemblies are requested to conduct at least one public meeting or general conference on this subject of the Bahá’í Peace Program before April 21. The date is left to the discretion of each Assembly. Among the references easily available are: “Peace A Divine Creation,” “Bahá’í Peace Program,” “Goal of a New World Order,” “Unfoldment of World Civilization,” “Pattern for Future Society,” “Bahá’í Teachings on Universal Peace,” and “The Lesser and the Most Great Peace,” all listed in the Bahá’í catalog.

4. The Study Outline Committee has been requested to prepare an outline for community and group study of the subject, which has such overwhelming importance at this time. Finally, the Publishing Committee has been requested to reissue “The Foundations of World Unity,” out of print for some time.

All of us have a part in this great effort to make the Bahá’í Peace Program a living issue in the hearts and minds of the masses of people, whose future depends on the realization of Bahá’u’lláh’s world order, as well as upon the men and women of eminence and authority who for the most part will make the decisions on matters of public policy in relation to world affairs during the period of the “Lesser Peace.” Let each of us, moreover, make these Teachings on Peace a firm, clear aspect of our very souls, that we may be steadfast witnesses among the people at this crucial time.

**Sacred Foundation of World Bahá’í Community**

On receiving the Guardian’s message concerning Moneeb Shheed, the National Spiritual Assembly informed Shoghi Effendi that it unreservedly shared his condemnation.
of the treacherous act, and that the onslaught of deniers and enemies against the Guardianship, sacred foundation of world Bahá'í community, strengthens the devotion and resolution of the American Bahá'ís.

This pledge and affirmation unites the community of Bahá'ís around their divinely appointed Center in Haifa. It presents an unassailable front to any and all who become Covenant-breakers either in the Holy Land or our own country. It means that we thoroughly understand the fundamental issues involved and enter into no argument or discussion with those who would confuse and betray our faith. We have the highest confirmation possible in this world, the assurance of Bahá'u'lláh Himself, and its perfect explanation and unfailing application by the Master and by the Guardian, that the Faith is impregnable to attack either from without or within; but the mysterious movement of Providence calls for sacrifice as well as knowledge and assurance on the part of the believers. The subject is presented in a separate statement. By activity and achievement we can demonstrate the futility of those seeking to undermine the Bahá'í community.

-NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

The Manifestation of God divides as well as unites. Both functions are inseparable since there can never be union between those who turn toward the divine Center and those who turn away. It is in the Holy Family that history attests the operation of this dual principle in the supreme degree, where light and dark are most intense.

The new case of disloyalty to the Faith reported by the Guardian's message from Haifa pertains to another member of the Holy Household who has allied himself by marriage, under an abrogated Islamic law, to violent and implacable foes of the Faith. This event can but steel the determination of the loyal friends throughout the Bahá'í world to condemn such an attitude, expressed in this or similar actions, whenever or wherever they arise. No one, however eloquent his pre­ tense and claim of faithfulness, can sustain such a claim by an act which directly contradicts it. The present case joins in the most intimate of human relations a descendant of Bahá'u'lláh with dark forces which seek to cut down the very Tree of Paradise. The Master, in His Will and Testament, declared that the decayed branches on the tree would be replaced, foretelling the disaffections that would occur in the Family of the Manifestation after His own ascension.

That wondrous Tree of Manifestation bears every manner of fruit, no other than the loftiest attributes giving life to the world. Here are concentrated all the divine energies and productive strength. In striking contrast is the evil tree which bears but bitter fruit, nourishing every evil that influences mankind.

From the Gospels we have the story of how the disciples, doubtless led by Judas, inquired of Jesus who should be the greatest. Among the answers recorded is that He said in part: "Woe unto the world because of offenses! It must needs be that offenses come; but woe to that man by whom they come." "Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than with two feet or two hands to be cast into everlasting fire."

Was He not thus warning His loyal servants against the machinations of Judas, the traitor?

Obviously the same conditions arise in every cycle. What has happened in this Supreme Cycle is well illustrated in the Guardian's monumental book, "God Passes By." To the faithful, to be warned is to act. Partaking in so bounteous a measure of divine favors carries with it the solemn obligation to guard the Faith from impious assaults, repudiate and also shun those who make themselves the enemies of God. The true believers can never include those who in any manner give aid and comfort to, and ally themselves with, the breakers of His Covenant; for the Covenant is our only assurance of the oneness of mankind.

Now that we may have the information necessary to protect our own communities from the efforts of the New History Society to assail the Guardianship and denounce the Administrative Order, let us make note of statements made by the Guardian concerning Ahmad Sohrab in recent years and previously published in Bahá'í News. These statements suffice. Discussion and argument are closed.

"The material sent to him regarding the legal action taken against the New History Society, as well as copies of their monthly publication, have been received and the Guardian feels that Ahmad Sohrab is increasingly revealing his latent opposition to the spirit as well as to the letter of the Master's Will and Testament. His references to excommunication flatly contradict the Master's own actions and attitude, of which he is personally fully aware, and are irreconcilable with some of the most emphatic and unmistakable injunctions of 'Abdu'l-Bahá in His Will and Testament. His increasingly bold criticisms of the action taken by the Guardian amounts to a repudiation of the authority of the Guardianship, and is thus an open and flagrant violation of the Will establishing that authority. In fact the more he writes and the more he gives vent to his true feelings, and discloses his real attitude to what 'Abdu'l-Bahá has regarded as absolutely essential to the unity, the integrity and protection of the Faith, the more will he clearly demonstrate his disloyalty to the Master whom he professes to uphold and defend. He is no doubt the most subtle, resourceful and indefatigable enemy the Faith has had in America, and the retribution he will in the end suffer will be correspondingly grievous and devastating. Every effort should be made by your Assembly to protect the new believers from the poison which he is trying to instill into their minds and souls, and to reinforce their confidence in his ultimate downfall and complete obliteration."—(Through his secretary, May 25, 1941.)

"Obscure in his origin, ambitious of leadership, and plagued by the lesson of such as have erred before him, odious in the hopes he nurses, contemptible in the methods he pursues, shameless in his deliberate distortions of truths he has long since ceased to believe in, ludicrous in his present isolation and helplessness,
wounded and exasperated by the downfall which his own folly has precipitated, he, the latest protagonist of a spurious cause, cannot but in the end be subjected, as remorselessly as his infamous predecessors, to the fate which they invariably have suffered.

"Generated by the propelling and purifying forces of a mysterious Faith, born of delusion or malice, winning a fleeting notoriety derived from the precarious advantages of wealth, fame or fortune, these movements sponsored by deluded, self-seeking adventurers find themselves, sooner or later, enmeshed in the machinations of their authors, are buried in shame, and sink eventually into complete oblivion.

"The schism which their foolish leaders had contrived so sedulously to produce within the Faith, will soon, to their utter amazement, come to be regarded as a process of purification, a cleansing agency, which, far from decimating the ranks of its followers, reinfuses its indestructible unity, and proclaims anew to a world, skeptical or indifferent, the cohesive strength of the institutions of that Faith, the incorruptibility of its purposes and principles, and the recuperative powers inherent in its community life."—(August 12, 1941)

State Conventions
Preliminary Notice

The election of delegates to the 1945 Convention by the Bahá'ís of the States and Provinces of the United States and Canada will be held on the uniform date of February 25, 1945. The National Spiritual Assembly has appointed a State Convention Committee of three persons for each electoral unit, to determine the place of the meeting in each State or Province, to determine the most convenient hour of the day designated by the National Spiritual Assembly, to report these decisions to the N. S. A. to be included in the general call of the State Conventions, and to open the meeting on February 25 with reading of the State Convention Call and arrange for the election of permanent Officers. If any member of the State Convention Committees cannot serve, the remaining members or member are authorized to fulfil the functions of the Committee.

As the State Convention Call is to go out by January 5, 1945, it is evident that the reports of all State Committees must be sent to the National Office at the earliest possible date, and they have been requested to report before December 20.

Since, moreover, the number of delegates assigned to each State and Province depends on the number of resident Bahá'ís, the National Assembly has requested each local Assembly to report its membership list by December 15.

In the case of two States—California and New York—two electoral units have been determined for each State, in view of the widespread distribution of Bahá'ís and the difficulty of convening them in any one place during this period of uncertain accommodations for travel. The Bahá'ís of California are requested to note that the boundary separating the Northern and Southern California electoral units follows the north boundary of the following counties: San Luis Obispo, Kern, and San Bernardino; while the New York Bahá'ís will note that the Southern New York electoral unit comprises the Metropolitan area of the City of New York, Long Island, and the counties of Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Putnam, Duchess, and Ulster. The remainder of the State comprises the Northern New York electoral unit. In these States, the assignment of delegates will be made to each electoral area proportionately to the number of resident Bahá'ís therein. The voter will vote for delegates resident in his particular electoral unit and will not be free to name as delegate a Bahá'í living in the other electoral unit of the State.

Finally, the National Spiritual Assembly emphasizes the fact that these State and Province elections are annual meetings and not, through the Officers they elect at the meeting, permanent secondary administrative bodies. In other words, they are like the annual Convention in that their function is fulfilled at the meeting and does not continue throughout the year. This matter was clarified for us by the Guardian, in response to a question sent to him by the N. S. A. after studying the reports and recommendations received from the Officers of the State Conventions held last April. No administrative authority exists within the various States and Provinces at this time to represent all the resident Bahá'ís in holding other State-wide gatherings or carrying out teaching plans coordinating all the Bahá'í facilities within the State or Province.

Sixty-three electoral areas will participate in the election of delegates this year.

The Source and Nature of Rebellion Within the Cause

As Shoghi Effendi advises us in his message of November 21, he has presented the salient facts and the significant truths concerning rebellion in his book "God Passes By," and it is incumbent on us to study these passages with special care.

The references which seem most relevant for consideration whether in group discussion or individual reflection are the following: pages 112-114: page 133 ("Tell him—"); pages 163-164, from "More odious than" to "bring it to a head"; pages 164-165, the par. beginning "A constant witness"; page 170, from "The Most Great Idol" to "its divine power"; page 233, final par.; pages 246-249, from "This crisis" to "all come to pass"; pages 263-264, from "Emitted by" to "the second letter"; pages 319-320; pages 355-356, from "In the Holy Land" to "sealed their doom."

The volume as a whole gives us the complete answer to the enemies and external resisters of the Faith, for it presents the illumined vision of the Dispensation which the opponent and betrayer wishes to destroy. The passages indicated, however, will enable us to focus attention on the theme at this time.

Knowing that resistance and disobedience to the Revelation is nothing else than rebellion against the Manifestation, we need not allow ourselves to be engulfed by the false arguments and distorted, unfounded claims, pretenses or challenges of those who wage the same battle but at a greater distance from the Center of the Faith. It is merely necessary to realize that while Mirzá Yahýá or Mirzá Muhammad-'Alí expressed their rebellion in attempts to suppress and even assassinate Bahá'u'lláh or 'Abdu'l-Bahá, the words and deeds of Covenant-breakers who would misinterpret the Master's Testament, who would foment suspicion of the Guardian, who would undermine the Administrative Order—such words and deeds, while apparently and superficially non-violent and rational in method, actually exemplify the same attitude though in a feebler expression. The motives are the same; the result, if they were successful, would be the same. That is why the lesser rebel, like the greater, destroys his own position in the Bahá'í community.

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World Unity banquet held by the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Milwaukee, February 19, 1944.

The Divine Plan
Realm of the Spiritual Hero

What for convenience and concentration of energy was termed a Seven Year Plan must be regarded as only one stage in the evolution of the Bahá'í community. There were pioneers, settlers and teaching efforts prior to 1937, and the work of teaching will go forward until Europe, Africa, Asia and the Islands of the sea are brought inside the Unity fulfilling the oneness of mankind.

At whatever stage we enter this vitalizing process, however, we contribute toward its consummation, the Divine Plan may be viewed as a spiritually created realm graciously opened to the Heroes and Heroines of the spiritual life in this Day. It is a realm which the Master Himself exemplified and over which He holds sway. To enter this realm and remain there in any capacity is the sign of utmost achievement in this world. The gates swing wide for all humanity, but so far only a handful has heard and heeded the glorious Call.

Few that have entered from our ranks would conceive of themselves as heroic. Of these few the majority no doubt have been conscious of unworthiness and even of fear. Outwardly they were no uniform carrying the insignia of rank, title and authority. Yet they could not remain in the realm of the Divine Plan without attaining true heroism, for the craven spirit and the selfish materialist are not permitted to abide.

Now again, as in 1937, the needs of the Cause, speaking through the words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and calling to us through the messages of the Guardian, require the services of a host of believers to go forth as settlers and pioneers into new cities and unto far lands. The realm of heroism awaits. It can bestow divine gifts, of youth, of strength, of knowledge, of love. The people, as Bahá'-u'lláh cried out, are as dead bodies seeking souls.

Above the clamor of the world's struggle may the spiritual Call be heard by a host of blessed believers, by whose heroism the whole Bahá'í community shall fulfill its sacred mission. Those who are ready to respond may signalize their intention by addressing either the National Teaching Committee or the Inter-America Committee, both of which have posts that must be filled.

—National Spiritual Assembly

Wilmington Assembly Conducts Legal Marriage Service

The Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Wilmington, Delaware, has received civil authority to conduct a legal marriage, even though the Assembly is not incorporated. This
authority has been granted under statutes which apparently are not duplicated in other states.

Review Notices

The Publishing Committee requests the friends to send clippings of any press review of Bahá’í books which they might note in their local paper. The Committee wishes to maintain as complete a record of press reviews as possible.

Teaching Literature for Small Communities

The National Spiritual Assembly has authorized the Publishing Committee to provide up to $3.00 of teaching pamphlets without cost to Assemblies in cities having less than twenty-five Bahá’ís. Such Assemblies may apply directly to the Publishing Committee and should list the pamphlets wanted. Books are not available under this arrangement.

Inter-America News

"First year second Bahá’í century should witness (1) establishment Spiritual Assembly in every remaining Republic, and be signalized (by) (2) steady increase pioneers both Latin (and) North America; (3) further multiplication groups, and (4) wider dissemination Bahá’í literature both Spanish (and) Portuguese." The above quotation from the Guardian’s message to the National Spiritual Assembly dated July 18, 1944, clearly defines the goals of the Latin American teaching work. With these in mind the Inter-America Committee is bending every effort to send additional pioneers to assist those already serving so valiantly in the field, and to assist the two new committees (Reviewing and Publishing Committee in Buenos Aires and the Bulletin Committee in Panama), which resulted from the consultations with the Latin American representatives during the Centenary and in early July.

The "remaining Republics" in which the Guardian wishes Spiritual Assemblies established by April 21, 1945, are Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Panama, Nicaragua, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

New Pioneer Projects

On November 11 Dr. Malcolm M. King left New Orleans for Nicaragua, and has already written a most heartening report of the begin-

ning of his work there. He is being greatly assisted by Srta. Blanca V. Mejia, who represented Nicaragua at the Centenary. Through her, Dr. King has met many people of influence and intellectual capacity.

Virginia Orbison is now in Quito, Ecuador, on a temporary mission, and will soon be joined by Haig Kavorkian who is coming from Buenos Aires to be the resident teacher.

The latest pioneer to depart was Elizabeth Cheney, who left Miami on November 29 for visits to Venezuela, Colombia, Buenos Aires, and Uruguay on her way to Asuncion, Paraguay.

Recent Events

Guatemala: After a most successful teaching visit to Guatemala City, Mrs. Florence Keemer has returned to the United States, but before leaving she had the great joy and satisfaction of sending in three membership cards.

San Salvador: Clarence Iverson was called home to Phoenix because of the illness of his mother, who passed away on October 20. This was his first return home since he started pioneering in Central America five years ago. On November 16 he returned again to his post in El Salvador, and writes from there of the great addition to their group through the coming of Dr. Edelberto Torres, formerly of Guatemala City.

Peru: A beautiful letter from Eve Nicklin reported the death of John Stearns in Lima on November 7. Pioneering first in Ecuador, and later in Peru, John made a truly important and valuable contribution to the establishment of the Cause in South America. A message from the Guardian says: "Share your grief in the passing of this devoted, faithful pioneer, whose service is unforgettable and highly meritorious. Ask friends in Lima of deeper, loving sympathy. Advise construction of a memorial."

The reports of the progress of the teaching work in Lima are most heartening. Two new membership cards bring the number of the community there to fifteen. Already, extension teaching has been undertaken, and through the efforts of Sr. Alfredo de Barreda, there is a wonderful group studying in Callao. Eve Nicklin is achieving unusual results with a delightful group of young people who are studying with great interest, although none are as yet signed believers.

Bolivia: After a return visit to La Paz, Virginia Orbison writes, "Bolivia is really going ahead, and this makes me very happy for the sake of the very valiant Flora." Four new membership cards have been forwarded, which increases the number of Bahá’ís in La Paz to nine. Through the excellent teaching efforts of Virginia Orbison and Flora Hottes at Sucre, Bolivia, there are hopes of a group or even an Assembly being formed in this city before April 21.

Chile: From Marcia Steward, recently returned to Santiago, comes a glowing report of Bahá’í activities there. Marcia plans to return to Magallanes sometime in late January to continue the effective teaching work which she has initiated there, and which gives every promise of resulting in the early formation of a Bahá’í group in the southern most tip of this Hemisphere. Marcia also writes of the valuable assistance which Artemus Lamb, who is in Chile on business, has given to her teaching efforts.

Puerto Rico: Margaret Lentz became a settler and pioneer teacher in San Juan early this fall.

Jamaica: William Mitchell, who was a Centenary representative, reports a Bahá’í community of fourteen members at Kingston. Dr. King pioneered there for two years.

Centenary Souvenir

The friends are informed that copies of the Centenary Souvenir are still available. For those who did not attend the celebrations it is explained that a special Souvenir was produced consisting of a photograph of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and a photograph of the House of Worship mounted in a folder measuring 8½ by 11 inches. A copy was presented to all Bahá’ís present at the Centenary who had been believers prior to the Master’s visit in 1912. The picture of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá is a view hitherto not available.

Local Assemblies might well consider presenting a Souvenir to the older members of the community who would have qualified for the public presentation had they been able to come to Wilmette last May. The Souvenir, moreover, is a beautiful Bahá’í possession for any believer to have for himself.

The cost, postpaid, is $1.00 each. Send orders to Temple Librarian and Sales Committee, through H.E.
Centenary Edition

A special edition of Baha'i World Faith, bound in red leather, was produced by the Publishing Committee and first displayed at the book table during Convention and Centenary week. For this edition the last available supply of real leather was used, and only 500 books could be made. In this binding the believers have a permanent as well as beautiful volume of the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Price per copy, postpaid, $5.00. It is suggested that local Librarians have one copy on display.

Order through Baha'i Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Centenary Memorial Book

The Publishing Committee has already published in Bahá'í News a notice of the volume compiled by the National Spiritual Assembly as a memorial of the Centenary and record of fifty years of Bahá'í activity in North America. This work offers both new and old believers a uniform view of our own Bahá'í history, a compilation of words of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá concerning America, excerpts from the Guardian's letters on the same subject, representative photographs, statistical data, and above all, excerpts from Nabil's history of the Temple most strikingly exemplifies today. The article itself is extremely well done, and the special feature is a reproduction of a photograph of the Temple filling page one, in size about 9 by 11 inches. Sold only in lots of ten copies for $1.00.

Architectural Concrete Magazine-reprint of illustrated four-page article on the House of Worship prepared by the staff of Portland Cement Association of Chicago for publication in the trade paper most directly concerned with the type of construction which the Temple most strikingly exemplifies today. The article itself is extremely well done, and the special feature is a reproduction of a photograph of the Temple filling page one, in size about 9 by 11 inches. Sold only in lots of ten copies for $1.00.

Peace Broadsides, four sheets, letterhead size, numbered consecutively 1 to 4, each containing brief excerpts from the Bahá'í Writings on Peace and prepared for mailing or giving out in consecutive order so as to produce accumulative effect. The broadsides are part of the current nationwide campaign on the Bahá'í Peace Program in which all believers can take part. Sold only in lots of 100 sets of the four (four hundred sheets) for $2.00.

Deepening the Spiritual Life, study outline by Horace Holley, second edition. References needed: "Gleanings," for all but three passages, which can be found in "Promulgation," "Bahá'í World Faith," or either "Wisdom of 'Abdu'l-Bahá or "Baha'i Scriptures." The purpose of this outline is to afford a group approach to Teachings which intensify the believer's awareness of the spiritual life. Sold in lots of five copies for $0.25.

Temple Guiding

The number of visitors to the Temple for the first ten months of this year totaled 18,477, an increase of 1,992 over 1943 for the same period.

During September visitors numbered 2,456. They came from 43 states, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Puerto Rico, the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia, and the countries of Chile, Colombia, Australia, New Zealand, Persia, China, Denmark, Brazil, Peru, Scotland, England, Germany, Bulgaria and France.

During October visitors numbered 2711. They came from 37 states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and the countries of England, Australiala, Colombia, Chile and Peru.

Since this is the first time weekday guiding has continued through the month of October it is interesting to note that 902 visitors were taken through the Temple on weekdays alone. The number of visitors in October this year as compared to October 1943 shows an increase of 1,464. These figures would seem to prove that it was well worth while to
keep the Temple open during the week through October. Several guides served three and four times in a week in order to make this experiment.

Three specially conducted tours were arranged during September and October—

Chicago Evangelical Institute of Chicago, 30
Prairie Club of Chicago, 28
Women's Auxiliary of the Chicago Medical Society, 12

A new Temple Guides Study Class was formed in October composed of fifteen youth living in Chicago and suburbs. This class is conducted by Dr. Edris Rice-Wray at the Bahá'í House of Worship every Sunday between 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. The youth are intensely interested and Dr. Rice-Wray assures us that we may expect some fine results from this class by Spring.

A similar Temple Guides Study Class will begin within the next few weeks for adults in the Temple area.

The rearrangement of the Reception Room, separating the visitor's register from the book sales by providing separate tables for each activity, we feel has relieved the congestion considerably in that room and at the same time has resulted in an increased sale of literature.

TEMPLE GUIDES COMMITTEE
By: Helen Roach, Chairman

Library Committee

The National Library Committee would like to share our plans for the coming year with the friends. The following books may now be secured from our committee for presentation to public, college and university libraries: Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, Some Answered Questions, Bahá'í World Faith, The Promised Day Is Come (bound), The Advent of Divine Justice (fabrikoid), The Bahá'í Peace Program (fabrikoid) and Bahá'í World, Volume 8. The current volume of Bahá'í World can only be supplied to important libraries and the local Assemblies are requested to try to donate this book to their main public libraries. Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, and Bahá'í World Faith are the recommended books to offer as a first donation to new libraries. One or two other titles may be offered when teaching activities warrant additional literature to be placed in a local library. The important thing to remember is that each request to the national library committee must be accompanied by a note of acceptance of Bahá'í literature from the librarian.

Summary of library plans for the coming year:

1. Public Libraries: In addition to our routine presentations made through requests from the friends, we plan to continue our attempts to place at least an Esslemont book in each public library system in cities of 10,000 population and upward. All of these libraries were contacted during the past year. The response was not up to expectations but many new librarians became acquainted with the term "Bahá'í Faith" through our attractive form letter and a number asked for books.

2. College and University Libraries: We plan to carry on with the systematic coverage of the remaining colleges and universities in our survey. We did have far better response from these colleges and many received books.

3. Peace Libraries: Libraries housing peace collections and post-war planning data have been well covered by the library committee. There are 144 War Information Centers in colleges and we do have books in 100 of these colleges and have already contacted the remaining Centers. We wrote to the above 100 college librarians to bring to their attention the Bahá'í books on their shelves with reference to their peace collections.

4. Service Libraries: Many of these libraries now are in camps which are in the process of reconversion. Books have been placed in many important camps and the library committee will gladly fill any request for literature for new service libraries. We recommend that Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era be offered to these libraries. Other books should be offered only when there is sufficient interest in the teachings through teaching activities or for their regions to assist them in this vital work.

The general public is becoming conscious of the necessity for the fulfillment of Bahá'u'lláh's principle for the establishment of a universal auxiliary language to facilitate international communication. Every day brings to this Committee requests for information and news of increased activities. We therefore offer the suggestion that Bahá'í public programs this year include one talk on an international auxiliary language. Such a talk will fill an important need. We will be glad to help you all in this work.

Encouraging and interesting news has just been received that Esperanto magazines in South America are publishing translations of Bahá'í writings. The "Pernambuco Esperantisto" in Brazil carried an article recently entitled "La Filozofo de 'Abdu'l-Bahá," translated by Lidia Zamenhof, and copied from the Bahá'í World. Another issue printed an article written by Horace Holley, and translated by Leonora Holsapple Armstrong. This same magazine had a news item in Portuguese about

Correction of Error

An illustration which appeared in the November issue is run again in December in order to connect it with the correct description — Birmingham, Alabama. For some reason the caption supplied with the Birmingham Assembly picture was replaced by a caption referring to an illustration intended for another picture.

International Auxiliary Language

In this second century of the Bahá'í Era, as the work of the Cause grows and expands, the services of the International Auxiliary Language Committee are becoming increasingly important. The members of this Committee are appealing to all the believers in the United States and Canada to help us in this vital work.

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the translation into Esperanto of "The Dawn-Breakers," and they mentioned the review of the manuscript by the American Esperanto Academy.

We hope that the friends will report to this Committee any of their activities along the line of universal language.

ROAN U. ORLOFF, Chairman

**Study Outline Committee**

The Study Outline Committee would like to be of the greatest help to the believers in aiding them to carry out the Guardian's statement that "they must study for themselves, conscientiously and painstakingly, the literature of their Faith." To do this most effectively, we urge the friends to write to the Committee if they have a need for study help which they cannot fill. We would also like to hear from those who have had success in group study, through the use of outlines, or through other means of stimulating the acquisition of that familiarity with the teachings which is our duty and privilege. We would like to hear from Assemblies, groups, or individuals, telling what you have used, and what you need. By sharing our experiences we can work most effectively.

Ida L. Noyes, Chairman

43 Davis St., Binghamton, N. Y.

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**Bahá’í Radio Broadcasts**

**During Centennial Week May 19-25, 1944**

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**Bahá’í News**

**Centenary News**

The Centenary celebration at Wilmette was made more impressive by the realization of the believers assembled there that the joy of the occasion was shared by individuals and groups of people over a large portion of the globe. Greetings to the convention from distant believers, delivered orally or sent by mail, and the accounts of other celebrations, which have begun to come in, add to the sense of unity in the Cause which was so deeply felt last May.

**Latin America**

Sra. Blanca Victoria Mejia, delegate from Nicaragua, said: “I come from a land that is small in size but great in aspirations and I bring you a message of brotherhood that she sends you by means of the most humble of her daughters. Don’t look at her representative for more than the light that radiates from her soul that is full of love and enthusiasm toward a Cause so high and noble as are the Sacred Teachings of Bahá’u’lláh. For a long time I have dreamed of knowing you personally, as we profess the same ideas, and therefore I have enjoyed contemplating your souls reflected in your faces, and thus what I don’t understand because of language, I will read in your glances that are the most eloquent expression of the spirit. There is with you a small part of Nicaragua who in this House of Worship ask with you for Peace, Love, and Brotherhood among men.”

Virginia Orbison, traveling teacher in South America, wrote beautifully of that web of love spreading over the two continents of the western hemisphere, "chwaking them into forming the complete integration of all races, nations, classes and creeds." "Evidence of such diffusion," she continues, "is this passage by a most distinguished South American writer and educator, who writes from the strange heights of Bolivia: The Bahá’í books which you left after your four-day stay in this city of Sucre I have read with great attention, and I hope with benefit. They are a good tonic for the spirit. They, and your words, will be seeds fallen on good ground, and the time is not far away when they will bear fruit. . . . The Bahá’í Temple in Chicago must be a marvel, peerless in all the world. . . . If the opportunity does not present itself to attend the Centenary of the Bahá’í Faith, this group of four which you left, will unite here on May 23 to
celebrate this event. Felicitations for the success of your task of promulgating this noble, generous and humane religion.'

(Signed) Raul Jaimes Freyre."

Eve Nicklin wrote: "May the love and unity that is felt here in our little group in Lima, Peru, reach across time and space and unite with that love and unity that must truly be manifest where you are—there in our beloved House of Worship."

And Isabel Tirado de Barreda, first believer in Peru, and delegate to the Convention says: "With all my heart do I enter into belief in the Bahá'í Faith, convinced that it is the most ample and perfect of all the religions, because it leads to the path which must be followed in order to attain the Grace of God; this through the beautiful Bahá'í prayers. Thus, as a drop of water gradually wears away the stone, so must the Bahá'í Faith engrave the heart of humanity so that it may be enabled to attain God's Grace of which it is so much in need."

The delegate from Brazil, Dr. Fernando Nova, who is a native of Bahia, brought greetings from the friends of that community, "and their messages of love and hope, longing for the day when they will be able to come and worship at this sacred spot." "We are still only a small group," he said, "twelve declared believers all told, but we feel that from now on a strong impulse will lead us ahead. So far all our achievements have been brought about through prayer; prayer has provoked deep feeling amongst us and has urged us on when the going was difficult. My coming to the States alone proved to me the power of Bahá'u'lláh's will; insurmountable difficulties faced us and there seemed no possibility of overcoming them and then suddenly the way was cleared and gradually the pattern was formed and everything fitted as perfectly as a chain, each link joining its counterpart for my coming to receive this wonderful message from you all, which in turn I will take back to the dear friends in Bahia."

From Trujillo, Santo Domingo, Gwenn Sholls wrote of the Centenary celebration in that city. It was a joyous fiesta at which were present guests from many countries. Puerto Ricans, one Hungarian, six Dominicans, a young lady from Spain, four Norteamericanos. The eldest guest was a Dominican gentleman of seventy-three, the youngest a child of three and a half. "We

Mississippi Jackson Greenwood WGRM May 23
Michigan Ann Arbor Flint WQX May 23
Kansas Flint WQX May 28 or 29
Missouri Kansas City KMBC May 23
Montana Helena KFPA May 23
Nebraska Butte KGIR May 23
New Mexico Albuquerque KOH May 19
New York Syracuse New York May 19
Ohio Cleveland WJW May 23
Oklahoma Oklahoma May 23
Oregon Portland WQXR May 23
Pennsylvania Philadelphia WFIL May 17
Ohio Cincinnati Columbus May 16
North Carolina Greensboro WBIG May 14
North Dakota Fargo KVOX (Moorehead, Minn.) May 14
Oklahoma Oklahoma May 14
Oregon Oregon May 14
Pennsylvania Philadelphia WFIL May 17
Washington Tacoma Seattle May 22
Washington Washington May 22
W. Virginia Charleston WVQX May 22
Wisconsin Racine WRJN May 16

PROVINCES—Canada

Quebec Montreal (viciinty) CFCF May 21
Prince Edw. Isl. Charlottetown CFCY May 21
British Columbia Vancouver May 26
Alberta Edmonton CFRN May 26
Ontario Toronto May 26
New Brunswick Moncton CKCW May 23
Saskatchewan Regina CKRM May 22
Manitoba Winnipeg CKRC May 25
Alaska Anchorage KFQD May 23
Hawaii Honolulu KGU May 22
Mexico Mexico City May 23

*Note—Details as to Call letters, date and time, not yet received from some of the Assemblies. Where date of broadcast does not come within the time of Centennial, it means they could not secure time within those dates.

opened the fiesta with a prayer for all nations, in Spanish; then the Báb's address to the eighteen Letters of the Living was read. An inspiring and stimulating discussion took place about that event. One of the Hindus
The United States and Canada

There were local celebrations throughout North America, of which some accounts have been received. One of the most interesting of these was held in conjunction with a Negro church in Montreal. Ruhiyyih Khánum was hostess in absentia, having made the celebration possible through her generosity. On June 15 about 50 Bahá'ís and 170 members of the congregation met at the Union United Church for a program which opened with an introductory speech by the pastor, Rev. Charles Este. There followed Bahá'í prayers, music, an account of the history of the Bahá'í Faith by Miss Joy Teller, an explanation of its principles by Mrs. Rosemary Sala, and the readings of a very beautiful letter from Ruhiyyih Khánum. Afterwards refreshments were served by a caterer. "The celebration was permeated by a true Bahá'í spirit. There was a complete feeling of unity as the members of the congregation and the Bahá'ís mingled.

The New York Community presented, on April 28, an Inter-America Centennial program. The music was Latin-American and two addresses were given: Dr. Luis Mena-Solorzano, former Consul General from Nicaragua spoke on "The Destiny of the Americas," and Mr. Philip Sprague told of "The New World Order of Bahá'u'lláh."

In Geneva, New York, the celebration took the form of a recital, April 21. In the first half of the program, poetic readings by Reginald King alternated with music; in the last half, texts were from "The Dawn-Breakers."

The Bahá'ís of Southern California held a meeting at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, Sunday afternoon, May 21, at which Dr. Edward Wilber spoke on "The Greatest Day in History."

The Spiritual Assemblies of Seattle and Richmond Highlands united to give a program in Seattle on the evening of May 22. Bahá'í addresses were given by Mr. C. G. Nordquist, Mrs. Juliet Cole, and Mrs. Hazel Stauter. A radio broadcast had been given on the afternoon of that day.

A centennial broadcast was also given in Vancouver, where, on May 23, the Bahá'ís gave a banquet attended by nearly forty people. This was followed by a public meeting at which Mrs. B. Liddell and Miss Mae McKenna were the speakers.

Haifa

While we were rejoicing in the beginning of a new century of Bahá'í endeavor, at Wilmette and throughout the western hemisphere, our hearts turned also to the center of the Bahá'í world and to the Guardian. We have been eager to know how the Báb's mission was commemorated at His sacred tomb by Shoghi Effendi, the unifying point of the Faith He inaugurated. Our first news comes by way of clippings from "The Palestine Post" of May 23. The article, which was written the 22, is entitled "Candle-light on Mount Carmel." It runs as follows: "Some 200 Bahá'ís from Palestine, Trans-Jordan, Syria, the Lebanon and Egypt gathered here today for the beginning of the three-day Bahá'í centenary celebrations which will start shortly before 10 o'clock tonight.

"This evening electric lights and hundreds of candles illuminated the shrine off Mountain Road on the shrine of Mount Carmel until black-out time. Inside the shrine, huge floral decorations of roses and lilacs covered the Persian carpets over the tombs of the Báb and of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, where the gathering will take place tonight.

"Led by Shoghi Effendi (the grandson of 'Abdu'l-Bahá) who is the 'Guardian of the Cause,' the Bahá'ís will assemble at the tomb of the Báb at the exact hour tonight when the Báb declared his mission 100 years ago. There will be readings and chantings of Bahá'í prayers and teachings followed by the reading of a centenary review at the Oriental Pilgrims House where Shoghi Effendi will also address the gathering.

"Tonight celebrations are expected to continue until 2 or 3 o'clock tomorrow morning and will be continued in the afternoon with a solemn unveiling of the model showing the entire shrine which will be completed as soon as conditions will permit the carrying out of the elaborate construction.

"Tomorrow night, a film of 'Abdu'l-Bahá... taken in America, will be shown at the Pilgrims House and there will also be slides showing the completed Bahá'í House of Worship at Wilmette, Illinois."

(Continued on page 20)

Centenary Committee 1943-1944

Edna True, Chairman; Mrs. Margery McCormick, Horace Holley, Mrs. Sarah Walrath, Carl Scheffler, Albert Windust, Mrs. Nancy Bowditch, Philip G. Sprague, Allen G. McDaniel, Charles Mason Remey, Mrs. Louie Mathews, Leroy Joas, Max Croonen, Mrs. Sarah Kenny, Mrs. Lorel Schopfhecher, Rowland Estall, Louis G. Gregory.

The first meeting of the Committee on Bahá'í Centenary was called by the Chairman for September 15th, 1943, at 418 Forest Avenue, Wilmette. The seven members present were: Louie Mathews, Albert Windust, Louis Gregory, Carl Scheffler, Horace Holley, Allen McDaniel and Edna True.

It was a very humble, almost frightened group who thus met, for the first time, to initiate plans and arrangements for the historic Centenary of the Báb, the importance of which occasion, they were deeply aware of. Earnestly and prayerfully, they studied minutely the specifications and standards for these celebrations which the Guardian had sent to the N. S. A. and which had been published in the July News Letter. It was with a feeling of even this first consultation, to see the Centenary plans begin to take form so that the Committee were..."
able to submit to the N.S.A., at their session which followed immediately, concrete recommendations which included the following:

1. That the length of the Centenary Period should be one week from May 19th, so that the Commemoration of the Declaration of the Báb on May 22nd, would fall midway.

2. That the time of this Commemoration Service should be so planned that its climax would come at exactly two hours and eleven minutes after sunset.

3. That the Public Meeting, to be held on this same evening, should include, on its program, two Bahá'í and two non-Bahá'í speakers. (Because of our limited time, this was afterwards changed to include only one non-Bahá'í speaker.)

4. That the subjects for the other public meetings should be carefully planned so as to include all of the special features, mentioned by the Guardian.

5. That a public Banquet should be held, at a befitting place in Chicago, on May 24th. This was later changed to May 25th.

6. That in order to achieve the greatest possible harmony in the pattern of the Celebrations as a whole, and to avoid duplication of effort and possible confusion, all of the arrangements for the Centenary be centralized in one over-all Committee which would function, in turn through its special sub-committees.

On September 28th, the N. S. A. reported back its actions on the various recommendations presented and appointed as an Executive (working) Committee the following members of the Committee on Bahá'í Centenary: Allen McDaniel, Horace Holley, Louis Gregory, Albert Windust, Margery McCormick, Sarah Walrath, Carl Scheffler, and Edna True. In this Committee were centralized the plans and arrangements for the full Centenary Period, with the exception of the Dedication of the Temple and the Commemoration of The Declaration of the Báb, in the Temple Auditorium, May 22nd. The other members of the Committee on Bahá'í Centenary were informed of this action, by the Chairman, under date of September 28th, at which time they were urged to continue in an advisory capacity.

The Executive Committee of the Committee on Bahá'í Centenary met throughout the winter and spring on the following dates: December 2, January 9, January 23, February 20, February 29, March 12, April 3, April 17, April 29, and May 10. A full report of progress and all recommendations needing final approval, were presented to the N. S. A. at each of their sessions. As these were always submitted in writing, they are not included, in detail, in this report.

The various Sub-Committees appointed by the Executive Committee and approved by the N. S. A. functioned continuously through-out the winter and spring. These were as follows:

1. HOUSING
2. FOOD
   Harriet Hilpert, Chairman, Gertrude Henning, Florence Gibson, Wyatt Cooper.
3. CENTENARY NOTICES
   (News Letter, etc): Horace Holley.
4. TEMPLE PREPARATIONS
   Carl Scheffler, Chairman, Robert Hammond, Carl Hansen, Edna True.
5. MUSIC
   Albert Windust, Chairman, Nellie French, Katherine True, Margery McCormick, Janet Lindstrom, Arna Perron, May Scheffler.
6. PROGRAMS
   (Speakers and subjects, for other meetings than those on the 22nd.)
   The committee as a whole.
7. DECORATIONS
   Carl Scheffler, Chairman, Louise Mathews, Doris Holley, Janet Lindstrom, Arna Perron, Gertrude Struven.
8. FIRST AID
   Dr. Katherine True, Chairman, Dr. Edris Rice-Wray, Helena O'Grady, Carl Hansen.
9. SPECIAL INVITATION COMMITTEE
   Sarah Walrath, Margery McCormick, May Scheffler.
10. USHERS COMMITTEE
    Ernest Van Meer, Chairman.

On February 29, the suggested plans and arrangements worked out by the above-mentioned Sub-Committees were gone over and approved by the Executive Committee, and presented to the National Spiritual Assembly. These arrangements were as follows:

1. HOUSING: That the Stevens Hotel in Chicago should be made the official hotel for the housing of the visiting Bahá'ís, and that the public Banquet, Thursday evening, May 25th, should be held in its Ball Room. The Housing Committee were to continue placing as many as possible in Evanston hotels and in private homes along the North Shore.
2. MUSIC: That all of the music in Foundation Hall and the Temple Auditorium should be from records, because of the difficult acoustical problems. In order to clarify the Guardian's wishes in this connection a cable was sent to him and a reply received, approving the recorded music. Each public meeting was to be preceded by a half-hour of selections from symphonies, choruses and solos.
3. DECORATIONS AND SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION: That Foundation Hall, the hallways, reception room, washrooms, and stairways, should be painted. That an adequate check-room should be constructed and that a book-stall should be arranged, in an over-flow reception room to be developed in the open space behind the Temple model. Extra telephones were to be installed, and the Centenary Office temporarily established in the small check-room near the front entrance. A First Aid and Emergency Room should be set up in the room adjacent to the kitchen. New hangings were to be placed behind the rostrum in Foundation Hall, and on the walls of the permanent reception room. New rugs were to be purchased, and furniture re-upholstered, for the permanent reception room. A special niche, designed by Gertrude Struven, was to be built and erected in the Temple Auditorium, for the displaying of the portrait of the Báb.
4. FOOD: That a tent be erected on the Parking Area, in which Lunches and Dinners would be served throughout the Centennial Period by a catering company.
5. PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM: That a Public Address System should be installed by Mr. John Sesterhenn, and arrangements made for the recording of the Commemoration Program.
6. IDENTIFICATION BADGES: That Identification Badges and Registration Facilities should be prepared for the proper identification of the Bahá'í Membership.
7. PROGRAMS: That the Programs in their entirety should cover the subjects emphasized by the Guardian, which were as follows: Significance of the Faith. Its Universality. Its World-Wide Influence. Its Indestructible Unity. Its Moving History. Its World Order.
Its First House of Worship in the Western World.

Its Attitude Towards Other Faiths.

In planning the different Public Meetings for the Centenary Period, the Centenary Committee, although building the programs around such phases of the Faith as its growth in North America, its development in Latin America, the Building of the Temple, etc., has endeavored to lift the addresses above personalities and to select themes that would cover the subjects emphasized by the Guardian, and present the Cause in its broad and universal aspects.

In outline, the Public Meetings were as follows:

Friday, May 19th, (Evening)
"THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF WORSHIP."
Chairman: Allen McDaniel
Greetings: Harry C. Kinne
Speakers: Mrs. True, Earl H. Reed, Carl Schaffner.

Saturday, May 20th, (Evening)
"COMMEMORATION OF THE CENTENNIAL OF THE BÁB.
"THE MEETING OF THE GREATEST NAME"
Chairman: Roy C. Wilhelm
The first part of the meeting to consist of references to important historical developments in the Cause associated with believers still living.

Presentation of Centennial Souvenirs. The second part to consist of the showing of motion picture film of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and of the Garden; the playing of the voice record of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the showing of important documentary Archival material.

Sunday Afternoon, May 21st,
"THE BÁBÁ'I WORLD FAITH"
Chairman: Philip Sprague
Speakers: Helen Bishop, Wm. Kenneth Christian

Monday, May 22nd, Public Meeting at 8 o'clock,
"CENTENARY OF BÁBÁ'I FAITH."
Chairman: George Latimer
Speakers: Dorothy Baker, Harry A. Overstreet, Horace Holley.

Tuesday Evening, May 23rd,
"NORTH AMERICA, THE CITADEL OF UNIVERSAL PEACE."
Chairman: Leroy Ioss
Speakers: Albert Windust, Marizhe Gall, Marion Holley, Rowland Estall.

Wednesday Evening, May 24th,
"THE MEETING OF THE AMERICANS."
Chairman: Mrs. Stuart W. French
Speakers: Octavio Illescas, Philip Leonard Green, Mrs. E. R. Mathews.

Thursday Evening, May 25th, At 6:30 p.m. Banquet in the Ball Room of the Stevens Hotel.
Chairman: Albert Windust
Speakers: Dr. R. F. Piper, Elsie Austin.

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Fargo, N. D., newly constituted 1943-1944.

Under date of March 9, the N.S.A. reported its actions taken on the foregoing suggestions, approving all of the plans and budgets and requesting the Committee, in addition, to issue the invitations to the special list of guests; and to take up with the Village authorities the question of parking facilities, special traffic regulations etc. The Committee was further authorized to prepare a Centenary Souvenir, consisting of the photograph of the Master and of the Temple, set in a double panelled folder, copies of which were to be presented to all those who were believers in, and prior to, 1914.

The last meetings of the Centenary Committee, April 29 and May 10, were devoted to such final details as official photographs, the making of a pictorial (moving picture) record of the Centenary; floral decorations, planning of an additional, informal meeting in the Temple, Sunday evening, for the special purpose of showing more of the Archive material and Relics; lighting of the tent and of the Auditorium of the Temple; placing of a temporary path to the Auditorium doorways; Banquet menu and music; registering of the visiting Bahá'ís in the official Registration Book prepared and donated by Mason Remey.

The Committee on Bahá'í Centenary wishes to record in this report the invaluable assistance which it received from the following individuals:

Mountfort Mills, Paul Haney and Philip Sprague, in connection with securing the non-Bahá'ís Speakers.

Edwin Mattoon, in regard to the acoustical problems in the Temple Auditorium and in the securing of a satisfactory Public Address Company. Mr. Mattoon rendered a much appreciated service, also, in connection with the taking of the official moving pictures and with the displaying of the Archive material and Relics.

Gertrude Struven, in connection with the displaying of the Portrait of the Báb. The painstaking care which she gave to every detail of this was evident to all who had the sacred privilege of viewing the Portrait on May 22nd.

Mildred and Raffi Mottahedeh, for their generous loan of the priceless fabrics, used in the displaying of the Báb's Portrait.

Mason Remey for the exquisite and befitting Centennial Register which he personally prepared and donated.

The Walther's and their friends who so laboriously put the silken cords in the hundreds of Centenary Souvenirs, when the printer found he could not do this, at the last minute.

Bahiyih Ford and Arna Perron, for their efficient and untiring services in the Centenary Office, throughout the Centenary period.

All of the many Bahá'ís in the Temple area who served so faithfully in the registering, as ushers and many other capacities.

Without the magnificent team-work of everyone, the gigantic task of carrying out this week-long Centennial Program could not have been achieved.

In connection with the entertainment of the Latin American Friends, we wish to mention especially the deeply appreciated assistance of John Eichenauer, Jr., Winnie Lou Baker and Gayle Woolson.

Committee on Bahá'í Centenary
By: Edna M. True, Chairman

Membership Records Of The American Bahá'í Community

The National Spiritual Assembly feels it desirable and necessary to explain to the believers how the complete membership roll of the American Bahá'í community is maintained at the National Office.

1. We have the membership lists submitted annually by the local Spiritual Assemblies, and these names and addresses are kept up to date by noting new enrollments, deaths, transfers to and from the city, retirements from the Cause, etc. Each local Assembly is expected to report the name and address of each new believer who enters the community either by confirmation or by transfer; the name and new address of each believer who establishes residence elsewhere, passes on or other-
wise is taken from the local roll. It is impossible for the National Spiritual Assembly to have knowledge of all these changes except through immediate and official report. In checking the Convention and Centenary registrations we noted hundreds of changes of address in the city, and many changes of residence to other cities, not previously reported by the Assembly or Assemblies concerned.

2. Groups and isolated Bahá'ís. These are also maintained in the complete national roll in the form of the enrollment card signed by new believers under the supervision of the Regional Teaching Committee or in the form of transfer cards signed by those who come from cities which have an Assembly. This part of the national Bahá'í roll is entirely dependent upon the Regional Teaching Committees, who are expected to report all the necessary data from time to time. The amount of clerical work involved in the maintenance of the national records is exceedingly great. In many cases, information concerning changes of address, changes of status, etc., only comes to the National Office in the form of undelivered mail returned by the Post Office.

3. In addition to data covering all changes affecting individual believers, the National Office must have immediate reports of changes in the address of local Assembly Secretaries, group correspondents and the Secretaries of National Committees. In this connection, the friends are urged to set up some form of permanent address for each local Assembly, in the form of a P. O. box where the Assembly has no headquarters, so that change of address of the Secretary will not affect our mailings. Moreover, the believers are requested as a courtesy to place the address of the writer as well as the date of the letter on each communication sent to the National Office, whether by individual Bahá'í Committee or Assembly. This will greatly facilitate accuracy in our own communications and save much time on the part of the staff.

4. Among the younger Assemblies there exists some misunderstanding of the simple procedures involved in enrollments, transfers, credentials, etc., and the following explanations will clarify the matter.

**Enrollment By Assembly.** The applicant makes oral declaration of faith to the Spiritual Assembly, covering the qualifications of faith (Procedure, p. 3). Enrollment follows by vote taken after the applicant leaves the meeting. The enrollment is entered in the Minutes of the meeting, and notice is sent to the National Office.

**Enrollment By Written Application.** Outside the Assembly areas, new believers sign the application card provided to the Regional Committees. These are countersigned by the Committee representative, and filed in the National Office.

**Youth Registration.** The local Assembly receives the oral declaration of the youth between fifteen and twenty-one years of age that he records his intention to become a member of the Bahá'í community on reaching the age of twenty-one years, and meanwhile desires to be registered as a Bahá'í youth. Outside the Assembly areas, Youth Registration cards are provided to the Regional Teaching Committees, and are countersigned before filing in the National Office.

**Credentials.** All travelers claiming to be Bahá'ís must have proper credentials, in writing, from their local Assembly. Traveling Bahá'ís not members of a local community, but recorded as isolated believers, can obtain a letter from the N. S. A. (Procedure, p. 21). The National Spiritual Assembly feels that Oriental believers visiting America should transmit their credentials to the Secretary of the National Assembly, so that proper credentials may be issued by the National Assembly for their use while in America. If, therefore, a Bahá'í from the Orient should hereafter present his credentials to any local Assembly, that Assembly is requested to see that the credentials are transmitted. (Procedure, p. 21) All American Bahá'ís...who travel outside the United States and Canada, should have credentials from the National Assembly. (p. 53).

**Transfers.** When a believer moves from a city which has a Spiritual Assembly to another city which also has an Assembly, his local Assembly of the city he is leaving should give him a letter addressed to the Spiritual Assembly of the city where he is establishing his residence, certifying that he has been a voting member of that community. This letter enables the Spiritual Assembly in the city of his new residence to enroll him as a voting member without questioning his Bahá'í status. (Procedure, p. 51) When a believer moves from a city which has a Spiritual Assembly to a city which has no Assembly, his Assembly should report this fact to the National Assembly, and give the believer's new permanent address. The National Assembly then requests the Regional Teaching Committee of the area to provide the believer with a transfer card to fill out and return to the National Office. (Procedure, p. 51) Any believer moving into a city which has a Spiritual Assembly (i.e., any isolated believer), should apply to the National Assembly for a letter certifying that he has been enrolled as an isolated believer, and this letter when presented to the local Assembly will enable the Assembly to enroll the believer as voting member of the community without questioning his Bahá'í status. (Procedure, p. 52) The date of transfers is the date of change of residence, for a believer must reside within the civil area to be a member of the local community, and therefore to move away requires transfer as of that date, even though the matter is not recorded until later. A believer who moves out of a community cannot postpone change of status for an indefinite period.

5. **Report of Change of Address.** A suggested form is given here for believers to use in reporting change of address. This is in addition to

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REPORT OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mr. (Mrs.)</strong> Name: Miss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Address: (Street) (City) (Sta. or Prov.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Address: (Street) (City) (Sta. or Prov.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Were you formerly a member of: Community □ Group □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is your residence in area of: Community □ Group □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Were you an isolated individual? ____________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you now an isolated individual? ____________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have changed your address, please fill in the above form and mail at once to: National Bahá'í Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
and not a substitute for, whatever report of the change is made by a local Assembly or Regional Teaching Committee.

Procedure for Conduct of a Local Spiritual Assembly

Action has been taken by the National Spiritual Assembly to clarify the order of business for the consultation period of the Nineteen-Day Feast. The representative of the local Assembly who is to preside is the Chairman, or in his absence the Vice-Chairman, as this session with the community is a joint session of the Assembly and the local Baha’i’s. Thus the same regulation applies as at meetings of the Assembly itself.

Baha’i Youth

Baha’i youth are defined as those young people between fifteen and twenty-one years who have, whether by oral testimony or signing the special youth enrollment card, asserted their intention of applying for membership in the Baha’i community on attaining the required age.

Attendance of Baha’i youth at the Nineteen-Day Feast, while a permission rather than an obligation, nevertheless implies participation in consultation, but without a vote.

The appointment of local Youth Committees provides for the collective activities of those who are under twenty-one years of age. Local Assemblies, in appointing Youth Committees, may include members of less than twenty-one years. In appointing its other Committees, the local Assembly is to choose the membership from the voting list.

The School Committees have been advised that they are authorized to appoint Youth Committees to plan and supervise Youth sessions and Youth programs under the School Committee’s direction.

Regarding the age of fifteen fixed by Baha’u’llah: this relates only to purely spiritual functions and obligations and is not related to the degree of administrative capacity and fitness which is a totally different thing, and is, for the present, fixed at twenty-one.” —Shoghi Effendi

The Guardian’s Photograph

The believers are reminded that many years ago Shoghi Effendi directed us not to circulate or reproduce any photograph of himself. It has been out of respect for this injunction that the National Spiritual Assembly has never included a picture of Shoghi Effendi among those which can be purchased from the Temple Librarian and Sales Committee, the National Committee to which has been assigned the function of selling Baha’i photographs, ringboxes, slides and display material.

Review of Radio Scripts

Those believers who submit radio scripts to the Radio Script Reviewing Committee are requested to send duplicate copies of each script. If and when approved, one copy is to be returned to the author and the other filed in the National Office.

Baha’i News

National Radio Committee, Local Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees

To clarify the question of procedure in connection with plans for radio broadcasts, the National Assembly has recorded three simple directions, as follows:

1. The National Radio Committee is authorized to submit plans involving the use of any radio station in North America, and when approved by the National Assembly the Committee can make contracts directly with the station.

2. Local Assemblies are free to make use of radio facilities existing in their community, preferably taking advantage of advice and assistance from the National Radio Committee and making use of approved radio scripts.

3. Regional Teaching Committees are free to recommend, through the National Teaching Committee, plans for use of radio facilities in the area but not located in any city having a Spiritual Assembly. In carrying out plans which have been approved, the Regional Teaching Committee is to use approved scripts.

Membership of State Convention Committees

Alabama: Mrs. Nancy Howard, Chairman, 1315 S. 20th St., Birmingham; John Inglis, Secretary; Robert D. Davis.

Arizona: Oscar Engelder, Chairman, Rt. 2, Box 304, Phoenix; Clinton Bugbee, Secretary; Zarah Schoeny.

Arkansas: Verney Thompson, Chairman, 2205 E. 2nd St., No. Little Rock; Pauline Hans, Secretary; Homer Holmes.

California: Northern California: Ali Yardi, Chairman, 2910 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley; Valera Allen, Secretary; Arthur Dahl. Southern California: Clyde Longyear, Chairman, 665 Schumacher Dr., Los Angeles 36: Joy Allen, Secretary; Wilhelm Madsen.

Colorado: Mildred Clark, Chairman, 821 Marion St., Denver 3, Colo.; Gladys Roberts, Secretary; Wanda LaFarge.

Connecticut: James Isaacs, Chairman, 559 Whalley Ave., New Haven; Annie W. Baumer, Secretary; Ruth Ziebell.

Delaware: Ed. Olson, Chairman, 613 Orange St., Wilmington; Doris Lohse, Secretary; Dorothy Champ.

Florida: Romette Davison, Chairman, 311 N. W. 39th St., Miami; Lucile Baffin, Secretary; Katherine Vernon.

Georgia: Terah Smith, Chairman, 572 Page Ave., N. E. Atlanta; Birdie Cunningham, Secretary; Essie Robertson.

Idaho: Sally Sanor, Chairman, P. O. Box 2876, Boise; Oma Ault, Secretary; Ethel Thompson.

Illinois: Monroe Ioads, Chairman, 8502 Parkview Ave., Hollywood; Sarah Walsh, Secretary; Anna Kurz.

Indiana: Arthur Patterson, Chairman, 2725 Station St., Indianapolis; Pauline Roth, Secretary; Lydia Schott.

Iowa: C. C. Ted Little, Chairman, 458 36th St., N. E., Cedar Rapids; Edna Atkins, Secretary; Mrs. Raymond Ashlock.

Kansas: Janet Ward, Chairman, 159 Beechwood Dr., Wichita 15; Paul Brown, Secretary; Edna Sevilles.

Kentucky: V. E. Oldson, Chairman, 645 So. 40th St., Louisville; Mrs. Cecil Dennis, Secretary; G. A. Bossung.

Louisiana: Anna Smith, Chairman, 517 Hancock St., Covington; Esther K. Little, Secretary; T. Lane Skelton.

Maine: Robert Steuven, Chairman, R. F. D., No. Lovell; Myriah Heber, Secretary; Louise Thompson.

Our 1944 Budget of $135,000 is $15,000 less than the budget for recent years. Apportioned to 4,500 believers, the share of each would be $2.50 per month or $30.00 for the year.

Dear valued co-workers:

As the activities of the American Baha’i community expand, and its worldwide prestige correspondingly increases, the institution of the National Fund, the bedrock on which all other institutions must necessarily rest and be established, acquires added importance, and should be increasingly supported by the entire body of the believers, both in their individual capacities, and through their collective efforts, whether organized as groups or as local Assemblies. The supply of funds, in support of the National Treasuries, at the present time, the life-blood of these nascent institutions which you are laboring to erect. Its importance cannot, surely, be over-estimated. Untold blessings shall no doubt crown every effort directed toward that end.

—Shoghi Effendi
Maryland: Albert E. Dorrida, Chairman, 3315 Woodland Ave., Baltimore 15; Annamarie Honnold, Secretary; Mrs. F. W. Ripley.

Massachusetts: Harlan Ober, Chairman, 53 Conant St., Beverly; Alice Bacon, Secretary; Matthew Bullock.

Michigan: Edwin Eardley, Chairman, 2810 Woodstock Dr., Detroit 3; Etta Catlin, Secretary; L. W. Eggleston.

Minnesota: Helen Preece, Chairman, 1218 Nicollet St., Minneapolis; Katherine Whitmore, Secretary; Marie Tetu.

Mississippi: Helen Ring, Chairman, 124 N. Prentiss St., Jackson; Dorothy Campbell, Secretary; Helen Verger.

Missouri: Claude Winans, Chairman, 421 N. Spring St., Independence; Velma Sherrill, Secretary; Madelon Becktel.

Montana: J. K. Saunders, Chairman, 1203 9th St., Helena; Chas. M. Bryan, Secretary; Joan Palmer.

Nebraska: Eunice Baker, Chairman, 5001 S. Omaha; Alma South, Secretary, Doreene Holliday.

Nevada: Gladys Bodmer, Chairman, 521 W. 4th St., Reno; Florence Mayberry, Secretary; Ethel Edel.

New Hampshire: Frances Ashton, Chairman, 56 Austin St., Portsmouth; Mary Alice Marlowe, Secretary; Malcolm Clay.

New Jersey: Amy Raubitshek, Chairman, 119 Bromley Ave. W. Englewood; Ethel Crane, Secretary; Paul Wright.

New Mexico: Thos. W. Ewing, Chairman, 415 S. Amherst St., Albuquerque; E. Lenore Morris, Secretary; Richard Walters.

New York: Southern New York (Metropolitan New York, Long Island and north to Poughkeepsie); Rinaldo Quigley, Chairman, 131 E. 29th St.; Florence Steinhauser, Secretary; A. I. a. H. K. Kalantar.

Northern New York: P. R. Meinhard, Chairman, 353 Wilmot Rd., Rochester 10; Bahiythi Ford, Secretary; Betty Richard.

North Carolina: John Goodwin, Chairman, 402 Ridgeway Dr., Greensboro; Adrienne Ellis, Secretary; Louise Sawyer.

North Dakota: George E. Angell, Chairman, 1105 5th Ave., So., Fargo; Mrs. H. H. Casmann, Secretary; Ettie Grasse.

Ohio: Lothar Schurgast, Chairman, 2997 Mapleleaf, Cincinnati 13; Florence Reeb, Secretary; Clarence Ulrich.

Oklahoma: Lena Itner, Chairman, 117 S. 44th St., Oklahoma City; Albert Enzinger, Secretary; Alfred Starr.

Oregon: John M. Clifford, Chairman, 336 N. 16th St., Corvallis; Rachel Porter, Secretary; Fred S. Young.

Pennsylvania: Ida Huff, Chairman, 100 W. Phil-Ellea St., Philadelphia; Helen Reynolds; Bess Brown.

Rhode Island: Wm. Toward, Chairman, 160 Broad St., Providence 3; Elizabeth Murray, Secretary; Wm. Doull.

South Carolina: Rachel Mothersill, Chairman, 507 E. North St., Greenville; Gertrude Gewertz, Secretary; W. T. Bidwell.

South Dakota: Lorol Jackson, Chairman, 223 S. Wuts St., Sioux Falls; Elsa Steinmetz, Secretary; Frances Jones.

Tennessee: Ada M. Crocher, Chairman, 2510 Meharry Blvd., Nashville 8; Nellie Roche, Secretary; Edna Williams.

Texas: Inez Butfield, Chairman, 3409 Mt. Vernon St., Houston 6; Doris Corbin, Secretary; J. R. Reynolds.

Utah: Mollie Young, Chairman; Margaret Naimith, Secretary; Florence Lillard.

Vermont: Gladys Anderson, Chairman, 114 Main St., Apt. 35, Brattleboro; Benjamin Weedon, Secretary; Oscar Stone.

Virginia: Mrs. J. E. Rice, Chairman, 5925 14th St. Nw., Arlington; Paul Haney, Secretary; Margaret McDaniel.

Washington: Mark Tobey, Chairman, 1014 University Way, Seattle 5; Clara Rainboth, Secretary; E. G. Washington.

West Virginia: Harly L. Scott, Chairman, 811 Walnut Rd., Apt. A, South Hills, Charleston; Mildred Etiner, Secretary; Hilbert Dahl.

Wisconsin: A. F. Matthiesen, Chairman, R. F. D. 1, Box 240, Britol; Claire Fridley, Secretary; James Lewis.

Wyoming: Eunice Shurchliffe, Chairman, 720 Custer St., Laramie; Claire Gillespie, Secretary; Sovig Corbit.

District of Columbia: Rex Parmele, Chairman, 1400 R. F. D. 1, N. W., Lydia Martin, Secretary; Maud C. Taylor.

Alaska: Janet Whitenack, Chairman, Box 2334 Anchorage; Betty Becker, Secretary; Verne Stout.

Florida: Marcelino Castro, Chairman, 4000 5th St., N. W., Lulu Cox, Secretary; Katherine Saubers.

Hawaii: J. D. Marques, Chairman, 2312 Lilloa Rive, Honolulu, T. H.; Henriette From, Secretary; Katherine Baldwin.

Puerto Rico: Marcelino Castro, Chairman, Box 2130, San Juan; Ayed McComb, Secretary; Margaret Lentz.

Canada: Alberta: Milwin Adams Davis, Chairman, 11055 90th St., Edmonton; Anita Joas, Secretary; Doris Skinner.

British Columbia: Robert Fairlay, Chairman, 1404 Pendrell St., Vancouver; Katherine Stacrop, Secretary; Austin F. L. Collin.

Manitoba: Elizabeth Brooks, Chairman, 40 Arlington St., Winnipeg; Jean Johnston, Secretary; Rowland Estall.

New Brunswick: Mierle McEwen, Chairman, 221 3rd Ave., Moncton; Agnes King, Secretary; Edna Colpitta.

Nova Scotia: Beulah Proctor, Chairman, P. O. Box 833, Halifax; Annie Romer, Secretary; Fred Wade.

Ontario: John Robards, Chairman, 4 Millbank Ave., Forest Hills Village, Toronto; Laura Key, Secretary; F. St. George Spendlove.

Prince Edward Island: Willard McKay, Chairman, 278 Richmond St., Charlottetown; Helen Gidden, Secretary; Grace Geary.

Quebec: Siegfried Schopflicher, Chairman, 1102 University St., Montreal; Rosemary Sala, Secretary; Ernest Harrison.

Saskatchewan: Florence Himes Cox, Chairman, Hotel Drake, Regina; Lulu Burr, Secretary; Laurette Voelz.

Groups and the Observance of the Nineteen-Day Feast

The National Spiritual Assembly recognizes in the growth of the Cause the need of keeping open at all times the door of fellowship and inter-association. Attendance at area teaching conferences, public meetings, and social and spiritual gatherings of all kinds can add to the solidarity and fusion of spirit upon which must depend the natural evolution of the community of Bahá'íhláh.

The Nineteen-Day Feast, however, has a more specific function, offering as it does not only the spiritual refreshment of sharing in the reading of the divine Utterances but also the opportunity for consultation in the groups as well as in the established communities.

The National Assembly hopes, therefore, that as rapidly as possible the groups will constitute themselves members of Nineteen-Day Feast consultation, and will joyfully avail themselves of the attendant bounties and privileges. While the single, isolated believer is not in this category, a group of two or more believers in one civil community may elect a Secretary, hold Feasts and Anniversaries, contribute as a unit to the National Fund, and work toward the glorious fruition of forming one more Assembly in the World Community of Bahá'íhláh. Such concentration of spirit and action may well mark a turning point in the spread of the Teachings and the deepening of Bahá'I life.

Summary of Group Memberships

As of November first, the local groups of the United States and Canada were listed as follows:—

Total number of groups representing two or more Bahá'ís, 204.

These groups are distributed in the various States and Provinces as follows:—

Alabama, one group of seven believers.

Arizona, five groups, none over three.

Arkansas, one of four.

California, twenty-eight groups, one of eight, two of seven, one of six and four of five.

Canada, nine groups, one of eleven, three of eight.

Cana, one of two believers.

Connecticut, six groups, one of ten.

Florida, three groups, one of five.

Georgia, one of twelve.

Illinois, fifteen groups, one of ten, two of seven.

Indiana, one of two believers.

Iowa, two groups, one of six.

Kansas, four groups, one of three.
In conformity with the provision that the By-Laws may be amended by majority vote after due notice in writing, the National Spiritual Assembly at its meeting of November, 1944, with the approval of the Guardian as to the textual alterations proposed, proceeded to adopt unanimously the amendments here published for the information and instruction of the entire Bahá’í community.

In presenting the new By-Laws which are now substituted for Articles II and VIII, the Assembly points out a few considerations which may be helpful to some of the newer Bahá’ís.

In the first place, the constitution and by-laws of a National Spiritual Assembly are as far as possible uniform and identical with those of every other National Assembly, thus laying the administrative basis of the Bahá’í electoral bodies which later are to elect the members of the Universal House of Justice, and giving every Bahá’í community in the entire world the same organic law. Thus, the American National Assembly does not of its own will initiate amendments, since to do so by independent action would create differences between the various national constitutions, but takes such action only when the Guardian himself has sent directions which require amendments, as in the present case.

Considering now the meaning of the new Articles II and VIII, it will be noted that the American Bahá’í community has been redefined so as to include all declared and recognized believers, whereas previously the constitution named only the voting members of the local communities, leaving out the groups and isolated believers. Second, the new Articles set up the simplest possible legal basis for the election of delegates by Bahá’ís of the various States and Provinces, avoiding details subject to change, which are preferably covered in our secondary procedure. Finally, it will be noted that the definition of the Annual Convention has also been changed. It is now defined as a joint meeting of the Bahá’ís and of the National Spiritual Assembly, and not as the annual meeting of the National Assembly alone. Finally, the Guardian’s direction that members of the National Assembly who are not delegates may participate in the consultation has been incorporated in the new By-Laws, the text of which was submitted to Shoghi Effendi and approved by him before the amendments were duly voted.

Article II. The Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada, for whose benefit this Trust is maintained, shall consist of all persons resident in the several States, Provinces, Territories or Federal Districts of the United States and Canada who are accepted by the National Spiritual Assembly as fulfilling the requirements of membership in the Bahá’í Community under the following qualifications set forth by the Guardian of the Faith:

(a) Full recognition of the stations of the Báb as Forerunner, of Bahá’u’lláh as Author and of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá as True Exemplar of the Bahá’í religion, unreserved acceptance of, and submission to whatsoever has been revealed by their Pen; loyal and steadfast adherence to every clause of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s sacred Will; and close association with the spirit as well as the form of Bahá’í Administration throughout the world.

(b) Atainment of the age of 21 years.

(c) Declaration of faith to, and enrollment by, the local Spiritual Assembly if resident in the area of jurisdiction of any local Assembly recognized by the National Spiritual Assembly.

(d) Declaration of faith to the National Spiritual Assembly on the membership form provided for those residing outside any such area of local Bahá’í jurisdiction.

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(d) Declaration of faith to the National Spiritual Assembly on the membership form provided for those residing outside any such area of local Bahá’í jurisdiction.

Article VIII. The members of the National Spiritual Assembly shall be elected at an annual meeting to be known as the National Convention of the Bahá’ís of the United States and
Canada. This Convention shall be held at a time and place to be fixed by the National Assembly. The National Convention shall be composed jointly of representatives chosen by the Baha'is of each State, Province, Territory or Federal District under the principle of proportionate representation, and the members of the National Spiritual Assembly.

Notice of the annual meeting shall be given by the National Assembly sixty days in advance in the Convention Call which sets forth the number of delegates assigned to the various electoral units in proportion to the number of Baha'is resident in each such unit, to a total number of one hundred seventy-five delegates for the Baha'is of the United States and Canada.

Section 1. All delegates to the Convention shall be elected by plurality vote. Baha'is who for illness or other unavoidable reasons are unable to be present at the election in person shall have the right to transmit their ballots to the meeting by mail. The meeting held in each State, Province, Territory or Federal District for the election of delegates shall be called by the National Spiritual Assembly and conducted by the Baha'is present under whatever procedure may be uniformly laid down by said body. Immediately after the meeting a certified report of the election containing the name and address of each delegate shall be transmitted to the National Spiritual Assembly.

Section 2. All delegates to be seated at the Convention must be recognized Baha'is and residents of the State or Province represented by them.

Section 3. The rights and privileges of a delegate may not be assigned nor may they be exercised by proxy.

Section 4. The recognition and seating of delegates to the National Convention shall be vested in the National Spiritual Assembly.

Section 5. Delegates unable to present in person at the Convention shall have the right to transmit their ballots for election of the members of the National Assembly under whatever procedure is adopted by the National body.

Section 6. If in any year the National Spiritual Assembly shall consider that it is impracticable or unwise to assemble together the delegates to the National Convention, the said Assembly shall provide ways and means by which the annual election and other essential business of the Convention may be conducted by mail.

Section 7. The presiding officer of the National Spiritual Assembly present at the Convention shall call together the delegates, who after roll call shall proceed to the permanent organization of the meeting, electing by ballot a chairman, a secretary and such other officers as are necessary for the proper conduct of the business of the Convention.

Section 8. The principal business of the annual meeting shall be consultation on Baha'i activities, plans and policies, and the election of the nine members of the National Spiritual Assembly. Members of the National Assembly, whether or not elected delegates, may take a part in the consultation and discussion but only delegates may participate in the election of Convention officers or in the annual election of the members of the national body. All action by the delegates, other than the organization of the Convention, the transmission of messages to the Guardian and the election of the National Assembly, shall constitute advice and recommendation for consideration by the said Assembly, final decision on all matters concerning the affairs of the Baha'i Faith in the United States and Canada being vested solely in that body.

Section 9. The general order of business to be taken up at the Annual Convention shall be prepared by the National Spiritual Assembly in the form of an agenda, but any matter pertaining to the Baha'i Faith introduced by any of the delegates may upon motion and vote be taken up as part of the Convention deliberations.

Section 10. The election of the members of the National Spiritual Assembly may be by plurality vote of the delegates recognized by the outgoing National Spiritual Assembly, i.e., the members elected shall be the nine persons receiving the greatest number of votes on the first ballot cast by delegates present at the Convention and delegates whose ballot has been transmitted to the Secretary of the National Spiritual Assembly by mail. In case by reason of a tie vote or votes the full membership is not determined on the first ballot, then one or more additional ballots shall be taken on the persons tied until all nine members are elected.

Section 11. All official business transacted at the National Convention shall be recorded and preserved in the records of the National Assembly.

Section 12. Vacancies in the membership of the National Spiritual Assembly shall be filled by a plurality vote of the delegates composing the Convention which elected the Assembly, the ballot to be taken by correspondence or in any other manner decided upon by the National Spiritual Assembly.

Amendment of By-Laws Of the Local Spiritual Assembly

The amendments required to make the local By-Laws conform to the new method of electing delegates are hereby adopted, as the local Assembly is no longer concerned with the holding of the State and Province meetings, or with the conduct of the Annual Convention. All that is necessary is to delete in the present Article III, in the list of functions and duties of the local Assembly, the statement that the Assembly calls the annual meeting for the election of delegates.

The National Spiritual Assembly has duly acted to amend the standard form of local By-Laws.

Annex II. Amended to read as follows: It shall call the meetings of the community, including the Baha'i Anniversaries and Feasts, the Meetings of consultation, and the annual meeting at which the members of the Assembly are elected.

Article XIII. Deleted.

Article XIV. Renumbered as Article XIII.

Article XV. Renumbered as Article XIV.

Unincorporated Assemblies are not required to take any action except to see that their reference copy of the local By-Laws is corrected as above. The incorporated Assemblies are directed to act as soon as possible in the amendment of their By-Laws in conformity with the changes made by the National Assembly. A notice will be sent these Assemblies explaining the steps to be taken in amending their By-Laws.

Centenary Publicity

Horace Holley, Chairman; Edna True, William Hening

In March, 1944, the National Spiritual Assembly appointed a special committee for preparation and release of publicity material concerning the Centenary and Convention. Its membership included a repre-
representative of the Centenary Committee, Bahá’í News Service, and the National Spiritual Assembly.

At the time of this appointment, the Committee expected to launch a nationwide campaign of Bahá’í publicity based upon the following material:


The book compiled by the National Spiritual Assembly entitled “Bahá’í Centenary.”

Copies of the printed Centenary program.

It became evident that neither of the books would be available in time for use in connection with Centenary or Convention publicity. Moreover, due to unavoidable conditions, the printed program was not received until about ten days before the opening of the Convention and Centenary sessions.

However, a most favorable condition not anticipated by the Committee was the action of the Temple Trustees, under a special appropriation made by the National Spiritual Assembly, in having the House of Worship floodlighted during the month of May. This effect, as all visitors vividly recall, was extraordinarily impressive, and steps were immediately taken to have the Temple photographed at night when thus illuminated.

The Committee likewise requested the Centenary speakers and chairmen to provide personal photographs and advance excerpts from their public talks.

Before the end of April, the Committee had sent out to the National Press Bureaus, the local Assemblies, National Bahá’í Committees and Regional Secretaries a four-page article on Bahá’í Centenary Celebrations, authorized Mrs. Nina Matthisen of the Radio Committee to contract for radio spot announcements before and during the Centenary meetings, arranged with the publisher of “Wilmette Life” and other North Shore papers to use the floodlight picture, when ready, on their front covers, and planned for special distribution of Centenary programs through local Assemblies of the Temple area.

On May 9 the Committee sent out the floodlight photograph with a brief story to National Press Bureaus, National Weeklies, and to local Assemblies in the larger cities of North America.

Shortly afterward, a five-page article entitled “Bahá’ís of North and South America To Celebrate Birth of World Era” and giving an outline of the complete Centenary program, was distributed to Assemblies, press bureaus and newspapers. Meanwhile, the editor of Wilmette Life was given several stories and also photographs of the speakers to feature in connection with the front cover illustration. One thousand reprints of the cover and these various stories were obtained in time to distribute to Convention and Centenary guests, but this quantity proved insufficient to meet the demand.

After the Convention opened, a press desk was maintained with a supply of photographs, releases and other material for use by believers with press contacts as well as by press representatives who called. A special feature consisted of reprints of the Guardian’s message in which he summarized the range and scope of the Bahá’í world community at the termination of the first century of the Faith.

In response to a wire received from a Bahá’í of New York, several hundred words concerning the banquet held in Hotel Stevens were wired to four papers in that city. Daily releases during the Convention were given to the Chicago press. The Associated Press, Chicago Tribune, and Acme Photo Service sent camera men for feature pictures before or during the Convention and Centenary week. The Committee had no clipping service and hence cannot report on the extent to which the local Assemblies could use the material sent, or the amount of coverage made by the National Press Bureaus. We hope that a complete set of clippings can eventually be compiled, for the permanent records of the National Spiritual Assembly.

In Memoriam

Death proveth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bane of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.—BAHÁ’ULLÁH

Frank Le Boeuff, Harvey, Illinois
Joseph Johns, Chicago
Mrs. Jennie Bonds, Chicago
Miss Julia Frances MacBrien, Toronto
Mr. Margaret H. Atwater, Miami
Mrs. Emma Ewing, Evanston
Mrs. Theresa S. Hill, Chicago
Mr. Edward Schwartz, Chicago
Mrs. Flore Bohmman Ernst, Chicago
Mrs. Lloyd Tew, Burlingame, Kansas

Mr. John Stearns, Lima, Peru
Mrs. Marion Phelps, Catonsville, Maryland
Mr. Vasa Preston, Rockford, Ill.
Mrs. Philip King Brown, San Francisco.

Directory

The following changes are reported:

1. Local Assemblies. Albuquerque—new Secretary, Mrs. Evelyn Watters, Corresponding Secretary, P. O. Box 1206, Albuquerque, N. M.

Baltimore—Mrs. Martha C. Dorrida, Secretary, P. O. Box 855, Baltimore, Md.

Vancouver—Robert H. Fairley, Secretary, 204-413 Granville St., Vancouver, B. C.

Rochester. Assembly dissolved.

Shorewood. Assembly dissolved.

2. National and Regional Teaching Committees: College Speakers Bureau—Mrs. Roberta Christian appointed Secretary, Rowland Estall added.

Louhelen School Committee—Dr. Alice Kidder added. Phyllis Hall unable to serve as Corresponding Secretary. Mrs. Helen Eggleston, Secretary, will maintain the correspondence. Richard Suhn unable to serve.

Youth Committee—reconstituted. Ralph Halverson, Jr., Chairman, Cynthia Hastings, Secretary, Robert Imagne, Charles Jaos, De Witt Hayward, Jr., Paria Zia-Walrath.

Reviewing Committee—Mrs. Marguerite Firoozi appointed Chairman, Elizabeth Brooks and Elizabeth Rhodes added. Mrs. Marion Mills and Mrs. Mary Collison unavailable to serve.

Committee on Elementary Education—a new Committee having the function of bringing the Bahá’í teachings, truths and attitude to those concerned with elementary education. Carl Scheffer, Chairman, Alfreed E. Osborne, Harry E. Ford, Genevieve L. Coy, Stanwood Cobb.

Regional Teaching Committees—New England: Mrs. Alice Bacon, Secretary, Mrs. Freda Gould added.

Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska: Mrs. May Brown appointed Chairman.

New York: Mrs. Florence Steinhauer appointed Secretary, Vera Moorehead added. Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh and Mrs. Harriet Pettibone unable to serve. Utah, Montana and Idaho: Mrs. Ethel Thompson added.

New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania: Stuart Sims appointed Chairman.
December, 1944

Enrollments and Transfers

1. Reported by Local Assemblies
   Long Beach, three and three transfers.
   Tacoma, one and one transfer.
   Beverly Hills, one transfer.
   Chicago, three and one transfer.
   Reno, one.
   Bethesda-Chevy Chase, one transfer.
   St. Louis, two.
   Burlington, one youth.
   Kansas City, two.
   Boston, two.
   Regina, one.
   Louisville, three and three transfers.
   New York, one and five transfers.
   Los Angeles, one and eight transfers.
   Evanston, two transfers.
   Berkeley, one transfer.
   Washington, D. C., four.
   Wilmette, two transfers.
   Baltimore, one transfer.
   Maywood, one transfer.
   Edmonton, two.
   Topeka, one.
   Nashville, one.
   Detroit, two.
   Ann Arbor, two transfers.
   Atlanta, three transfers.
   Anchorage, one.
   Winnipeg, one.
   Charlottetown, one transfer.
   Beverly, one.
   Reno, one transfer.
   Springfield, Mass., two transfers.
   Milwaukee, three transfers.
   Kenosha, one transfer.
   East Orange, one.
   Springfield, III., one.

2. Reported by Regional Teaching Committees
   In October, thirteen. In November, seven and three youth.

(Continued from page 11)

Persia

In the land where occurred the event which we were all celebrating, the festivities lasted nine days. By way of Great Britain we get the following account: "All the members of the local National Spiritual Assembly and of the local Assemblies in that country went to Shiráz and attended the Centenary commemoration meeting in the House of the Báb. The Guardian sent a silk carpet to the House as a Centenary gift.

"We hear from Thiráz that they held very many Centenary meetings there. Since conditions do not allow them to gather together in very large numbers, they held meetings in a lot of places at a time. There were about 60 meetings a night for nine nights, each being attended by anything between 120 and 300 people. At first the Press took no notice of the Centenary until the "Iran Daily News" published a telegram about the celebrations in London. This created a big sensation and then the other papers began to take notice. They tended mainly to criti-

(cise but it proved to be a very good advertisement for the Faith in Persia."

India

We have no news as yet of the actual celebrations in India, but the Centenary number of the "Bábí News Letter" of that country is largely devoted to an account of the Six-Year Plan inaugurated there in 1938. During the first three years little progress was made, but in 1941 a stirring cable from the Guardian, accompanied by a gift of £200 accelerated the teaching activities to such an extent that the National Spiritual Assembly could report, at the end of the first century: "Such loving and inspiring messages came at every step on our way forward until we succeeded in forming 23 new Spiritual Assemblies in the short space of three years. We started with five Spiritual Assemblies in the whole of India and ended the Six-Year Plan with a total of 28 Assemblies, out of which 15 are registered with the Government while the remaining will soon complete their registration. The impetus given by the Six-year Plan to our teaching effort has, however, gathered strength and the believers have tasted the delights of victory. They will not rest now on their oars and continue to steer on and on until they have established a Spiritual Assembly in every inhabited locality of the vast Indian sub-continent."

England

The celebration in London was noticed by "The Palestine Post" as well as "The Tehran Daily News." We have the full story, however, in the "Bábí Journal" of the British Isles: "The celebrations began in the afternoon of Saturday, May 20th, with the opening of the Centenary Exhibition by Sir Ronald Storrs, K.C.M.G., a good friend of the Cause. This opening ceremony was indeed very well attended, and it was reported in three of the national newspapers. The Exhibition, which was held at Alliance Hall, Westminster, lasted for a week, until the noon of the following Saturday, and was open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. There were many visitors, who took away our literature with them and purchased books.

"The most thrilling occasion of the whole week was the meeting at the Centre on the evening of May 22nd. There was a large gathering of the friends, and the meeting, which was timed to coincide with the very hour of the Báb's Declaration, at two hours and eleven minutes after sunset, left a deep impression on all present. It was a memorable event, and a time for rededication of our lives to the service of the Cause. Afterwards we all joined in a feast, which was made possible by the combined efforts of the community.

"On the evening of Tuesday, May 23rd, a public meeting was held at Denison House, Victoria. The attendance was large. Mrs. Basil Hall was in the chair. The Bábí speakers were Mr. W. Tudor Pole, Mr. H. M. Balyuzi, Mr. David Hofman and Mr. Norman Smith of the New York community (who is here with the United States Forces). In addition several well-known people paid their tribute to the Cause. They were Mr. Shaw Desmond (author), Sir William Hornell (late Vice-Chancellor of Hong Kong University), Dr. Harold Moody (President of the League of Coloured Peoples), Mr. Hannen Swaffer (publicist), and the Rev. Walter Wynn (Free Church minister)."

"On the remaining evenings of the week different functions were held at the Alliance Hall. On Wednesday evening (May 24th), Mr. St. Barbe Baker gave a talk on "The Rebirth of Palestine," illustrated with lantern slides. On the following evening Mr. Bernard Leach spoke on "Beauty and Truth." Both of these meetings, as well as the two following, were well attended.

"On Friday, May 26th, we had a programme of readings from the Scriptures, interspersed with musical items. This programme, entitled "The Song of Heaven," was presented by Mr. David Hofman. On Saturday evening, the last of the Centenary week, we had a review of Bábí history in dramatised form, presented by Mr. H. M. Balyuzi."

"This is just a bare account of the Centenary Week, which also included the Annual Convention. But there was much more than just these functions. There was a spirit of joy and gratitude and devotion, which words cannot describe."


(To be continued)
"God Passes By"

"This Revelation," Mulla Husayn has further testified, "so suddenly and impetuously thrust upon me, came as a thunderbolt which, for a time, seemed to have numbed my faculties. I was blinded by its dazzling splendor and overwhelmed by its crushing force. Excitement, joy, awe, and wonder stirred the depths of my soul. Predominant among these emotions was a sense of gladness and strength which seemed to have transfigured me...I felt possessed of such courage and power that were the world, all its peoples and its potencies, to rise against me, I should, alone and undaunted, withstand their onslaught."

A claim to be no less than the mouthpiece of God Himself, promised by the Prophets of bygone ages; the assertion that He was, at the same time, the Herald of One immeasurably greater than Himself; the summons which He trumpeted forth to the kings and princes of the earth...these constitute the dominant features of that initial contact that marked the birth, and fixed the date, of the inception of the most glorious era in the spiritual life of mankind.

With this historic Declaration the dawn of an Age that signalsizes the consummation of all ages had broken. The first impulse of a momentous Revelation had been communicated to the one "but for whom," according to the testimony of the Kitâb-i-Iqân, "God would not have established upon the seat of His mercy, nor ascended the throne of eternal glory." Not until forty days had elapsed, however, did the enrollment of the seventeen remaining Letters of the Living commence. Gradually, spontaneously, some in sleep, others while awake, some through fasting and prayer, others through dreams and visions, they discovered the object of their quest, and were enlisted under the banner of the new-born Faith. (Pages 6 and 7)

Messages From the Guardian

Dear and Valued Co-Workers:

1944, a year memorable for the sharp contrast between the rising tide of spiritual victories culminating in the Centenary celebrations of a world-embracing Faith and the swiftly ebbing fortunes of a war-ravaged, disilllusioned and bankrupt society, is drawing to a close. In every continent of the globe; in the Holy Land, the Heart and Center of our Faith and Pivot of its institutions; in the land of its birth; in the adjoining territory of 'Iraq; throughout the Western Hemisphere; in the British Isles, so severely subjected to the violence of a world tempest; throughout the length and breadth of India; in far-off Australasia and in the Nile Valley—all with the sole exception of the distant Republics of the West subjected in varying degrees to the imminent danger of becoming the theatre of war—the communities laboring for the promotion of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh have, throughout five tumultuous years, been providentially spared to hold aloft its banner, to preserve its integrity, to maintain the continuity of its institutions, to enrich its annals, to consolidate its structure, to further disseminate its literature and to befittingly celebrate its centenary. Preponderant indeed has been the share of that privileged community, which has been invested by the Head of the Center of the Covenant with a world-wide mission, in the prosecution of a task which, ever since the onset of this world upheaval and despite its mounting horrors, the builders of the Administrative Order of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh have so unflagingly pursued. Neither the participation of the Great Republic of the West in this fierce contest, nor the sorrows, burdens and restrictions which such direct association with the agonies of a travelling age has entailed have thus far been capable of dimming the splendor of the exploits that have immortalized the record of the services of this community since the ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Indeed, coincident with the period of America's direct participation in this world struggle and in direct proportion to the turmoil and the tribulations which such a participation has engendered, the members of this community have evinced a heroism and proved themselves capable of a concerted effort that have eclipsed the notable achievements that have heralded the establishment of the Administrative Order of the Faith as well as the first stage in the development of the Seven Year Plan.

What the year 1945, on whose threshold we now stand, has in store for the members of this determined, this valiant, this watchful, this exemplary community only the future can reveal. That the trials and afflictions suffered by their country and the people must wax as this world upheaval moves towards a climax no one can any longer doubt. The challenge that will face this stalwart community will no doubt be severe. To allow the prizes so nobly won, over so vast a field, at so great a cost, at so critical an hour, to fall into jeopardy would be unworthy of a career so auspiciously initiated, so completely dedicated to the Cause of God, so rich in promise and so brilliant in almost every phase of its evolution. Every local Assembly, the ordained pivot of a divinely-ordained System, which has been established in the States and Provinces of the North American continent, as well as in the Republics of Latin America, must, through a supreme effort on the part of pioneers, visiting teachers and Regional Committees, be steadfastly maintained. Simultaneously a no less determined effort should be exerted to enable the admittedly large number of groups scattered throughout the Americas to attain Assembly status. No less urgent is the obligation to proclaim the verities enshrined in the Faith
of Bahá'u'lláh by every means which individuals, Assemblies and committees can devise, through the press and radio, through an unprecedented dissemination of literature, through its systematic translation into Spanish and Portuguese and above all through active association with leaders of public thought as well as direct contact with the masses of the people. Through such means as these, and through such means only can the members of the American Bahá'í Community, who have so audaciously and successfully launched the first stage of the Divine Plan, be enabled to pave the way and usher in, soon after the cessation of hostilities, the succeeding stage in the evolution of the Power in function. My prayers and loving thoughts surround them continually in their devoted labors.

Sincerely,
Haifa, December 24, 1944

In your letter of Sept. 20th you enclosed a copy of your amendments of the By-Laws of the N.S.A.: he fully approved of these changes rendered necessary by the States and Provinces themselves now being regarded as electoral units in the election of delegates to the annual Convention.

In that same letter you ask for his suggestions concerning possible plans for teaching in Europe, or helping the Bahá'ís there with literature, etc. Obviously, there will be a tremendous need for Bahá'í literature in these war-torn countries and for spiritual enlightenment and help. But as the whole situation is still in the throes of violent changes, and we cannot as yet foresee how soon or where assistance may be given, he feels that there should at present be no diversion into new channels of the energies of the American believers now concentrated on the tasks they already have in hand. Literature in German, French, and any other European languages that can be conveniently undertaken, should be translated and held in readiness for use whenever the time for action comes.

He has been very sorry to notice in various reports received from you that some of the new Assemblies, established at such cost of sacrifice on the part of those who arose as pioneers and overcame every obstacle in their path and those who generously contributed of their meager resources, have lacked a supply of funds for this purpose, are falling below Assembly status. He realizes that your body and the National Teaching Committee and Regional Teaching Committees are well aware of this situation. But he wishes to personally add a word of appeal to the friends not to permit their hard-won prizes to now slip from their grasp through any relaxation of their vigilance and efforts. The believers, now more sure of their own powers and of the Divine help that has so unflaggingly reached them than at any previous period in their fifty-year history, must continue to put forth a mature, dedicated and sustained effort so that these new Assemblies—whether in North or South America—may be preserved and reinforced and, where necessary, re-instated. Groups, though of secondary importance, should likewise be enlarged and built up to Assembly status so that the truly remarkable victory achieved by the American and Canadian Bahá'ís may not shrink in dimension as the months go by, but rather flower into still greater victories in the days to come.

He also wishes to call your Assembly's attention to the great importance of Magallanes as a center, and of the necessity of extending it every assistance, so that this Bahá'í year an Assembly may be firmly established there. It, together with that of Alaska, may be likened to the extremity of the Bahá'í arms stretched out and waiting to embrace the whole world in the order of peace and love which Bahá'u'lláh has established for the children of men in this day.

In closing the beloved Guardian wishes me to assure you and your fellow-members of his most loving prayers on your behalf and for the success of the many tasks of importance which you are, in collaboration with the masses of the believers, seeking to carry to a successful conclusion.

With warm Bahá'í greetings,

R. Rabbani
Haifa, December 24, 1944

Shoghi Effendi very much appreciates the desire of the American believers to participate in the erection of the completed shrine of the Bab. The preliminary plans are now being made, and he leaves it to the friends to contribute towards this sacred enterprise in whatever manner and to whatever degree they wish to.

Also, regarding your letter of Aug. 7th: you ask his advice concerning a school session at Englewood, N.J. He feels that the four Bahá'í schools at present in existence, namely Louellen, Green Acre, Geyserville School and Tomority Ranch, are sufficient for the time being. There is, naturally, no objection to holding meetings and conferences in Englewood.

With loving greetings and the ardent hope that this new year will bring the believers over there many new victories,

Yours ever,
R. Rabbani

Haifa, January 1, 1945

Gift of Land on Mt. Carmel

The Guardian has sent the National Spiritual Assembly the Certificate of Registration of a tract of land on Mt. Carmel adjacent to the Tombs of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Family there. It is registered in the name of The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.
ada: Palestine Branch. The covering letter states that the piece of land was recently given to the Cause by Mirza Enayatullah Estahani of Haifa. "Some of the members of the N. S. A. will remember Mirza Enayatullah who about forty years ago was in America and has ever since remained firm and disassociated himself entirely from his half-brother, Dr. Fair and his sister, Mrs. Sprague." (From letter dated October 22, 1944)

Letters from the Guardian to Individuals

With the Guardian's consent the National Spiritual Assembly publishes the following excerpts from letters addressed to individual Bahá'ís.

"Regarding your question about vaccination: these are technical matters which have not been specifically mentioned in the teachings, and consequently the Guardian cannot make any statement about them. No doubt medical science will progress tremendously as time goes by, and the treatment of disease becomes more perfect. "It is advisable to use both the Bahá'í dates, according to the Bahá'í Calendar, and the usual Gregorian dates as well. The friends at present are free to do as they please. "The Guardian hopes that along with whatever other studies you take up, you will continually study the teachings and endeavor to acquire a profound knowledge of them. The importance of young Bahá'ís becoming thoroughly steeped in every branch of the teachings can not be over-emphasized, as they have great teaching tasks ahead of them to accomplish." (From letter to John C. Eichenauer, Jr., December 24, 1943)

"Regarding your questions concerning the advisability of changing the basis of the National Assembly's election and confining it to the body of delegates or of limiting the term of office: He feels that as any such changes are of a radical nature and should therefore apply to the N. S. A.'s of other countries, they are inadvisable and premature, both for this reason and because of their very nature. "What is needed is to get the administration in its present form to run more efficiently and at the same time to build up a higher sense of responsibility among the body of the believers. They should be encouraged to think more, not only about the qualifications of their elected bodies, but also about such things as you mention, the law of averages, the age and indisposition of some of the members, etc.

"When we look back and see what the Administration has accomplished in twenty odd years, indeed what it has done in the last seven years, we see what strides forward have been made. Far greater tasks lie ahead, but the Guardian does not feel that the way to meet them is to change the present system but rather to perfect it by educating the believers and training them, holding more conferences, publishing more news for Bahá'ís, getting more people active."

(From letter to Mrs. Annie Romer, July 7, 1944)

National Spiritual Assembly

Beloved Friends:

In the intensity of spirit produced by the Guardian's message to us this month, let us take up constructively some of the important matters arising in our current work.

Bahá'í Community

The preparation of the annual membership roll required for the State and Province Conventions enables us to examine the American Bahá'í community from a statistical point of view.

Baha'i Calendar

Briefly, as of December 15, 1944, the National Spiritual Assembly found that there are 4,920 adult Bahá'ís in the United States and Canada. Of these 3,261 live in local communities; 786 live in groups; and 873 are the only believers in their respective cities or towns. The result of this latest check shows an excellent growth in the past year.

National Fund

From the Treasurer's report for December we quote the following items:

- Total receipts, March 1, 1944 to December 31, 1944, $81,763.97; needed by February 28 to complete the current annual budget, $53,228.03; receipts for the month of December, $6,750.12 (the average monthly total in support of the budget would be $11,250.00); 97 Administrations sent contributions, leaving 38 which failed to lend their support to the national activities; December expenditures,
$7,299.40 (Administration, $2,744.39; Inter-America teaching, $1,144.00; National and Regional Teaching, $740.00; Temple Maintenance, $667.00; Green Acre Maintenance, $1,536.60); Cash on hand, December 31, $3,124.05.

Items from the Canadian Bahá'í Fund for November and December: November receipts, $200.25; December, $213.30; November expenditures (teaching budgets) $425.00; December expense, also for teaching, $300.00. (This means that the total National and Regional Teaching expense in December was $1,040.00 as part is paid each month in Canada).

*Inter-America*

The detailed news of Inter-America teaching work is presented by the Inter-America in its regular section of Bahá'í News, but we summarize the following items of particular interest:

Recent pioneers who have left for the field—Dr. Malcolm King, Nicaragua; Miss Elisabeth Cheney, Asuncion, with visits en route to Venezuela, Colombia, Buenos Aires, and Montevideo. A number of pioneers are poised in flight, awaiting passports—Miss Louise Baker, Miss Jean Silver, Mrs. Gayle Woolson, Miss Eleven Marsella, Mrs. Helen Roach, Miss Ophelia Montalvo, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reed Bishop, Miss Jessie Revell, Miss Ethel Revell, Hascel Cornbleth. The monthly budget for Inter-America pioneers, not including travel expense, is $953.00. A special appropriation of $1,000.00 has been made toward cost of printing Spanish editions of the Bahá'í literature in Buenos Aires.

*Teaching Budgets*

The National and Regional Teaching budgets expended from November to January amounted to $1,710.00, while $1,650.00 has been authorized until March. One new pioneer has arisen to volunteer services in response to the appeals sent forth by the Teaching Committee and the National Spiritual Assembly since November.

*Publishing Cost*

The friends have been informed through Bahá'í News of the printing schedule maintained by the Publishing Committee during the past year, leading to expense which the Committee has been unable to finance entirely from current income. In order to meet these bills, the National Spiritual Assembly is advancing the amount of $2,000.00 per month to the Publishing Committee for six months, a total of $12,000, all of which the Committee will repay as soon as possible. We are delighted to inform the friends that special do-

nations have been made equal to the entire cost of printing The Bahá'í World, Vol. IX, now on the press.

*National Campaign*

The National Assembly has given special thought to the coordination and expansion of our collective capacity for carrying the Message to a larger portion of the public and with increased force. The Assembly has accepted the principle of responsibility for planning and initiating the Bahá'í activity in the form of a unified national campaign, embracing all our important facilities such as meetings, circuits, displays, publicity, radio and advertising, and affording larger opportunities for service to National Committees, local Assemblies and the individual Bahá'í. The idea is for the National Spiritual Assembly to arise above its constant mass of detail and adopt a new and larger vision of the possibility of releasing the latent powers of the entire Bahá'í community, so that in future the year's work can be planned as a whole, the objectives defined, the methods chosen, the agencies prepared and the budget requirements fixed in terms of the larger undertaking. The matter is entering the stage of action when announcements can soon be made to the believers.

*Centenary Book*

A number of letters have been received by the National Spiritual Assembly pointing out errors or omissions in the Centenary book. These are most welcome, and all corrections will be reported from time to time to enable the friends to note these in their copy of the book.

Six cities visited by 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 1912 were omitted in the list on page 90, the reason being that this list was taken from 'Bahá'í Year Book" Vol. I, based on the records of talks and public addresses given in the two volumes of "Promulgation of Universal Peace": Worcester, Mass., Milford, N. J., Omaha, Lincoln, Neb., Glenwood Springs, N. Y., Berkeley, Calif.

The list of believers who made early pilgrimages omitted the name of Mrs. Sarah Herron (pages 141-143). Mrs. Kathryn Frankland's name should be removed from this list.

The article by Thornton Chase on pages 356 and 157 was written in 1904 and not 1914, as stated in the footnote.
In the list of teachers given on pages 166 and 167, the name of Mrs. Fred Woodward should be changed to Mr. Fred Woodward.

The page of “Acknowledgments” should include Wm. Kenneth Christian as author of “Growth of the Literature,” page 145.

Government Regulations

The question whether Regional Teaching Committee members can receive extra gasoline rations for performance of religious work has again been taken up with the OPA in Washington, and the decision is that there is no change in their regulations which withhold supplementary gasoline for the administrative or the personal missionary type of religious work. Only Chairmen and Secretaries of Local Assemblies, as reported some two years ago, are eligible, and their use of the extra gas is restricted to local transportation.

Another question recently presented again to a government bureau is whether identification tags can be issued to Bahá’ís in the armed forces bearing the letter “B” for “Bahá’í.” The War Department informed our representative that it adheres to its policy of indicating only three categories of gasoline for the administrative, religious work. Only Chairmen and Secretaries of Local Assemblies, as reported some two years ago, are eligible, and their use of the extra gas is restricted to local transportation.

Assembly Development

The purpose of this series of statements is to recreate in our hearts and minds the spiritual conception of the Bahá’í community; its significance, its importance, and its attainments.

Our beloved Guardian in a letter dated March 5, 1922, early emphasized the vital and sacred status of the Local Spiritual Assemblies in these words:

“A perusal of some of the words of Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá on the duties and functions of the Spiritual Assemblies in every land (later to be designated as the local Houses of Justice) emphatically reveals the sacredness of their nature, the wide scope of their activity, and the grave responsibility which rests upon them.”

Unless and until each Local Spiritual Assembly acquires the spiritual status of a united, harmonious body, functioning solely, selflessly, and devotedly for the spread of the Faith and the upbuilding of its Bahá’í community, growth and progress of our Faith will not prevail in that community. Personal jealousies, bickerings and dissension are poison in the body of the community and unless eliminated will result in division, disintegration and probable dissolution of the community. Each believer constitutes a unit of the community.

“In order to assist new and inexperienced Assemblies, the Assembly Development Committee has been given a special section of Bahá’í News for the presentation of relevant material.

National Committees

and it becomes his or her spiritual responsibility to labor, selflessly, humbly and ceaselessly as a member of the Local Spiritual Assembly, of a committee or of a group to bring about complete unity, harmony and progress.

Let each and every one read, and re-read, until they become an unconscious part of our very lives, the words of Bahá’u’lláh, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and Shoghi Effendi, and the instructions of the National Spiritual Assembly concerning the Local Spiritual Assembly and the Bahá’í community, set forth in “Bahá’í Procedure,” Section Two. Then let us strive day by day, to truly function in full obedience to these basic spiritual principles and commands given to us for our guidance by the Founder, by the Exemplar, and by the Guardian of our Faith.

Newly formed Local Spiritual Assemblies should realize that they have two principal functions:

First—the development of a Bahá’í community through the complete observance of the principles and practice of Bahá’í administration as set forth in Bahá’í Procedure;

Second—the spread of the Faith by teaching through individual effort, fire-side groups and public meetings.

The development of a Bahá’í Community is effected by the united and harmonious functioning of the Local Spiritual Assembly in regular weekly and occasional special meetings. Each and every member of the Assembly must become familiar with

Directory

The following changes made since the last issue of Bahá’í News are reported:

1. Local Assemblies

Halifax, N. S., Canada—Mrs. Edward Bellefeur, Secretary (formerly Miss Muriel Hutchings), 603 Gottingen Street.

Moncton, N. B., Canada—Miss Irmgard M. Mathews, 52 Enterprise Street, Dayton, Ohio—Miss Hazel Voelz, Secretary, 351 Kenilworth Avenue.

Brattleboro, Vermont—Mrs. Eleanor Stone, Secretary, 2 Bennyvale Road.

2. National and Regional Teaching Committees

Radio—reconstituted with the following membership: William Sears, Chairman; Emerie Sala, Secretary, 425 Maynor Street, Montreal, Quebec; Mildred Mottahedeh, Mrs. Florence Morton, Mrs. Alice Bacon, Mrs. Nina Matthiesen, Wendell E. Bacon, Reginald Bacon.

Reviewing—John W. Hart added.

Temple Guides—Mrs. John McHenry added. Laurence LaRoeque has moved from the area and is unable to serve.

Regional Teaching Committees—New England, Ruth Ziebell unable to serve. North and South Dakota and Minnesota—Mrs. Helen Frink added. Mrs. Catherine Whitmore has moved from the area and is unable to serve. California, Nevada and Arizona—Dr. Clyde Laggan added.

Latin-American Session, Centenary Convention, May 19-24, 1944, Temple Foundation Hall. Dr. Edelberto Torres of Guatemala, Co-Chairman; Carlos Vergara of Mexico speaking; Mrs. Gail Woolson, translating.
the purpose and significance of the institution of the Local Spiritual Assembly and the basis of the Bahá’í community as set forth by Bahá’u’lláh, ’Abdu’l-Bahá and Shoghi Effendi. (See Bahá’í Procedure, Part Two, pages 29 to 33).

The conduct of the meetings of the Local Spiritual Assembly is based on the spiritual principles of justice, love, purity of motive, radiance of spirit, humility, and servitude. The members must realize at all times the dignity, power and importance of the Assembly, which will evolve into the local House of Justice in the future. (See Bahá’í Procedure, Part Two, pages 34 to 36.)

Promptness, orderliness and efficiency should mark the conduct of the affairs of the Bahá’í community and especially of the meetings of the Local Spiritual Assembly. The calling of the meetings, the order of business and the conduct of business follow the procedure outlined in the “Procedure for the Conduct of a Local Spiritual Assembly.” In the Bahá’í Assembly, while the Chairman generally acts as the presiding officer, he or she must consult and vote, with equal voice and responsibility, with the other eight members. In all Assembly actions, as well as activities, wholehearted consultation and cooperation are required. (See Bahá’í Procedure, Part Two, pages 37 to 39).

The Nineteen Day Feast is the foundation of the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh, it is the period of consultation for the members of the community, and for the Local Spiritual Assembly with the community. Of such great importance is this meeting that only illness or absence from the community are excuses for non-attendance. The Feast is conducted in three parts; first, the reading of prayers and extracts from the holy utterance; second, a period of consultation of the members of the community with the Local Spiritual Assembly; and third, the material feast and social gathering of all the believers. A regular order of procedure for the conduct of the period of consultation has been provided by the National Spiritual Assembly. (See Bahá’í Procedure, Part Two, Pages 39 to 43). The Local Spiritual Assembly will provide for the community observance of the Bahá’í anniversaries, festivals, and days of feasting. (See Bahá’í Procedure, Part Two, page 44.)

Assembly Development Committee

February, 1945

Public Meeting, Bahá’í Centenary, Temple Foundation Hall, May 23, 1944. Subject: “North America, Citadel of Universal Peace.” Chairman, Leroy Isao; Speaker, Albert R. Windust, Mrs. Harold Gail, Rowland Estall.

Inter-America News

In the Guardian’s letter published in December Bahá’í News he urges “...the entire Bahá’í community of the Western Hemisphere to focus its attention during the remaining months of the opening year of the second century on the formation of local Assemblies in the remaining Republics of Nicaragua, Panama, Venezuela, Bolivia and San Domingo ...”

No less than ten North American pioneers are ready and waiting to depart for those Latin American countries where the need for teachers seems to be greatest. Up to the present, however, their departure has either been long delayed or prevented due to lack of favorable response to passport applications. Intensive efforts are being made to find ways of obtaining permission for the departure of these pioneers. We trust that the entire Bahá’í community will pray that this difficulty shall be removed.

This difficulty, which both the former and the present Inter-America Committees have experienced, no doubt offers increasing evidence, however, as was indicated by the Guardian himself in a published letter of last September 24th, that “...native (Latin American) Bahá’ís should, whenever qualified, be urged and assisted to pioneer, to travel and to teach in Central and South America...” The work of native pioneering has already been nobly initiated by two of the South American friends. Sr. Esteban Canales of Santiago, Chile, is teaching in Punta Arenas at the extreme southern tip of the Continent, and Sr. Haig Kavorkian of Buenos Aires is now on his way to assist in the establishment of an Assembly either at Quito or Guayaquil in Ecuador. There are at least five resident believers in each of these cities at present.

Of the five “remaining Republics” mentioned above, the Committee rejoices in being able to share the glorious news that both Bolivia and Venezuela now have sufficient believers residing within a given city to elect their first Spiritual Assemblies on April 21. The membership of the La Paz group has reached the number nine, and in Caracas there are fourteen adult believers and three youths.

While the latest report from Panama indicates the presence of a group of fifteen believers, the problem there is one of residence. The Guardian’s wish is that an Assembly be established in the Republic of Panama or Panama City, rather than the Canal Zone which is United States territory. It seems that the opportunity is open here to achieve the blessings of a pioneer by moving across the street, so to speak. We are confident that by this means and by the addition of new believers a Spiritual Assembly will be born April 21 in Panama City.
Present membership records for Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic show only three Bahá'ís in each of the cities of Managua and Ciudad Trujillo. We have been able to send just one pioneer to these countries. In December Dr. Malcolm King left New Orleans for Nicaragua on a British passport. We have faith in miracles—that when our Guardian calls for a certain accomplishment, such an accomplishment is possible. From what direction shall we look for settlers and pioneers to proceed to these Republics? From Central America?

Word has been received that the Bulletin Committee in Panama expected to issue its first Spanish Bahá'í Bulletin in January, 1945. The cooperation of each community and group in Central and South America and the West Indies in sending local news of the Cause each month will be of great assistance to the Committee. The Inter-America Committee would greatly appreciate receiving a copy of these local news reports, so that they can be drawn upon in our summaries for Bahá'í News. We hope to include news of all the countries in successive issues and not to emphasize three or four countries from which we hear frequently, chiefly through the pioneers. Two members of our Committee are able to translate Spanish communications very readily.

A few of the Bahá'í communities in Latin America are beginning to issue local bulletins or news letters, and several of these communities are carrying on extension teaching in nearby cities. A splendid example of a local bulletin is one which is printed monthly by the Bahá'ís of Tegucigalpa under the title, Nueva Era.

From numerous centers comes the call for Bahá'í literature in Spanish, for more translations. The plea for assistance to the Publishing Committee in Buenos Aires is being answered in the person of Elizabeth Cheney, who arrives there on January 25th. Reading the list of Spanish publications to be brought out as soon as possible are The Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh, a new book of Bahá'í Prayers, and a pamphlet, El Alba de la Nueva Era, containing an excellent compilation made by Gerard Sluter of Bogotá. We understand that translations of several other titles have been received and reviewed. Assembly growth and development is dependent upon the availability of literature in the languages of Latin America. May God speed this work!

—INTER-AMERICA COMMITTEE

**Temple Visitors**

**November-December, 1944**

The number of visitors to the Temple for the twelve month period ending December 31, 1944 totaled 17,549, an increase of 2,200 over 1943 for the same period.

During November visitors numbered 717. They came from 25 states, the District of Columbia, the Canadian provinces of Ontario, Saskatchewan, and the countries of Turkey, Russia, Egypt, Ireland, Belgium, Australia, Paraguay, Argentine and Jamaica.

During December visitors numbered 431. They came from 20 states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii and the Canadian province of Ontario.

It is interesting to note that in spite of transportation difficulties and the unusually cold and disagreeable weather there was an increase of 216 in the number of visitors during November and 113 during December this year as compared with 1943.

The following statistics might be of interest:

Total visitors for the twelve month period ending December 31:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Visitors</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>17,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>15,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>13,682</td>
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<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>16,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>16,822</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total visitors from July 1, 1942 through December, 1944—181,428.

The following specially conducted tours were arranged during November and December:

- Hi "Y" Group of Chicago 28
- Moody Bible Institute 46
- Chicago Parks Outing Club 20
- Turkish Delegation to the International Civil Aviation Conference 8

A class for prospective guides will be conducted in the Temple each Sunday beginning January 21, 1945, from 1:30 to 3:00 o'clock. We are striving for a large enrollment on that date.

**TEMPLE GUIDES COMMITTEE**

**By: Helen Roach, Chairman**

**Publishing Announcement**

*Selected Writings*—Three pamphlets, one containing selections from Bahá'u'lláh, one from 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and one from the Guardian, forty-four pages each, paper covers. This set of small and convenient pamphlets offers every Bahá'í a representative compilation of Bahá'í literature, which may be described as the basic teachings. For personal study, for informal group and fireside group reading and discussion, the Selected Writings are ideal. Because 75,000 pamphlets were sent to press at one time, this set is available at the extraordinary low cost of 25c for all three pamphlets. (Individual copies not sold separately). The Publishing Committee has set the goal of
Local Communities

have not only been teaching; they have been studying also on subjects commonly introduced by non-Bahá'ís. Discussions following consultation at the 19 Day Feasts included "Baptism," "Trinity," and "The Second Coming."

The Assembly is to be congratulated on having made a regular contribution each month to the National Bahá'í Fund.

The Bahá'ís of Atlanta, Georgia, have been very active and have made some interesting contacts. Not only have they brought outside speakers regularly to Atlanta (Virginia Cameron Foster, John Inglis, Jean Bolles, Nellie Roche, Alta Krueger, Stanwood Cobb, Marion Little, and Homer Dyer), but they have sent out speakers from their own community. Margaret Ruhe, as representative of the Bahá'í College Speakers Bureau, appeared at seven southern colleges in three southern states, and Terah Smith talked at Berry College and Darlington School for Boys, both in Rome, Georgia.

At one public meeting at the Henry Grady Hotel in Atlanta, when Dr. David Ruhe acted as chairman and Mrs. Ruhe and Mrs. Smith talked on progressive revelation and the
working principles of the Bahá'í Faith, Dr. Garber, professor of Religious Education at Agnes Scott College, accompanied by his wife, brought fifteen girls from the college to hear them. It may be added that whenever a public meeting was held for the whites, a corresponding one was held for the Negroes.

Mrs. Marion Little was able to make a number of interesting contacts in Atlanta, among them the superintendent of the public schools, Mr. Skidmore at the High Museum of Art; and Miss Sumner, connected with the Atlanta Constitution. The Editor of that paper sent a reporter to interview the Atlanta Bahá'ís and published an interesting and comprehensive article entitled, "A True World's Peace by 1963."

The report from Berkeley, California, is full of interesting projects, not the least interesting of which is a public speaking class for both Bahá'ís and non-Bahá'ís. Bahá'í material was used in all five meetings, and the results are summed up as follows: "Enthusiasm for Bahá'í Faith; appreciation of Bahá'í literature; many Bahá'í books read and circulated; general improvement in understanding and ability in reading writings of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and Shoghi Effendi. Average attendance sustained at eighteen, about half Bahá'ís and half non-Bahá'ís. The most successful teaching medium we have used, with several close to membership." The instructor, who teaches dramatics in two colleges and does private studio and recital work, "gave her services in a true Bahá'í spirit with sympathetic understanding of the purpose of the class."

Four kinds of fireside meetings were carried on in Berkeley: youth firesides; guest feasts (Ridván, the Declaration of the Báb, the Birth of the Báb, and the Naw-Rúz); radio group; and social events for members of the National Spiritual Assembly when they visited Berkeley.

Berkeley cooperated with San Francisco in the symposium meetings recommended by the National Assembly, and were able to increase the attendance at those meetings considerably by excellent publicity methods. For instance, for the first symposium, 550 programs, invitations, and radio announcements were distributed and mailed in Berkeley; 27 posters of the program were put up in Y.M.C.A.'s, libraries, hotels, clubs, shops, International House, student living groups, etc.; a display poster was placed in the lobby of the public library; these announcements were followed up by telephone calls and announcements before clubs and by transportation in automobiles. As a result, nearly 100 attended through the efforts of the Berkeley Bahá'ís.

The consequences of this first symposium were thrilling: "Influential people attended the lectures and expressed special interest: the former mayor of Berkeley, the president of the world affairs section of the College Women's Club, and several teachers and writers. A well-known Berkeley author wrote, 'Thank you, and with all good wishes for the success of this tremendous enterprise (for the happiness of our whole planet).'

A high school teacher took 'Pattern for Future Society' to her class, wrote the whole text on the board, and had her students copy it in their notebooks.

"Official recognition of the Berkeley Bahá'í community came with the request from the City Council Committee for Post-War Planning for the Berkeley Bahá'í Assembly's plans for a better city after this war. The Assembly respectfully submitted the Bahá'í plan, with suggested applications to local conditions.

"A leader of the Committee on Better Race Relations in Berkeley attended the Symposium, recognized the spiritual power back of the race unity achievements of the Bahá'ís and became so enthusiastic that she gave a tea at the College Women's Club for the members of her group and of the Berkeley Bahá'í community to hear Marion Holley. The Berkeley Bahá'ís now find on every side this new awareness and appreciation. A student on the campus turned to another student, not knowing he was a Bahá'í, and said, 'Who are these Bahá'ís?—never heard of them before and now all of a sudden I hear of them every place!'

The very young Assembly at Boise, Idaho, has been very active since its organization, April 21, 1943. It has held weekly study classes as well as informal gatherings for the public and it has made wide use of the radio, giving weekly programs at 8:45 on Thursday evenings during part of the time. During the whole year, twelve 15-minute radio talks were given. Mrs. Valeria Thornton was the guest speaker in Boise dur-
ing the September and October campaign on Racial Unity, when addresses were given at Rotary, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Everywoman's Club, and the Negro Baptist Church. There was also a symposium in which non-Bahá'ís participated. A similar program of events was carried out for each of the great themes in the nation-wide campaigns of the year, with Dr. Stephen Tourney of Salt Lake City and Virginia Camelon Foster as guest speakers. The Assembly has also worked to develop "a strong community well grounded in administrative procedure." All activities of the community have been carried on through the contributions of the friends and a substantial check has been sent to the National Treasury each month.

The teaching campaign in Brattleboro, Vermont, was carried on by means of a succession of public speakers: Carl Krug, Harlan Ober, Dr. Elizabeth Kidder Ober, St. George Spendlove, Horace Holley, Ali-Kuli Khan, Rachel Small, Reginald King, Jean Bolles, and Louis Gregory. Ruth Moffett spent two weeks there giving lectures and conducting classes. Curtis Kelsey spoke at two fireside meetings. Seven radio broadcasts were given over a nearby station. And one of the friends induced the Brattleboro Free Library to order several books on the Faith.

The Edmonton Assembly, in Alberta, Canada, another small, new Assembly, sent in an excellent report, not least the interesting feature of which was a very clear financial statement, which included a separate report from the book committee. This Assembly was able to send more than half of its contributions to the National Fund, at the same time carrying on a very active campaign at home.

Of the public meetings held in Edmonton, that on Racial Unity was particularly interesting. It was held at the home of Mrs. Richard Jenkin, standing speakers, a Jewish lawyer since the audience included certain and a Ukrainian woman, supplementing Christian, Ukrainian, and other races and faiths, including Jewish, Syrian Muhammadans, Christian, Ukrainian, and Bahá'í. Two outstanding speakers, a Jewish lawyer and a Ukrainian woman, supplemented the Bahá'í speaker, Mrs. Davies. It was a most successful meeting, since the audience included certain persons active in unifying movements, such as the Chairman of the Council for Canadian Unity and the leaders of the Moslem group in Edmonton. Much contact work was done for this meeting, upon which work the success of the meeting in large part depended. The most outstanding success of this endeavor was the contact made with the Moslems of Edmonton, which city is the site of the only Muhammadan mosque in Canada."

The Halifax community which had been much reduced in size because a number of its new members had moved away, carried on an intensive program in 1943-1944, which consisted of several series of public lectures followed by study classes. Mrs. Virginia Camelon Foster came first and gave several well-advertised lectures at the Lord Nelson Hotel. After her departure study classes were held at the Halifax School for the Blind. Then Mrs. Foster returned and started a series of lectures at the school under the basic heading, "The Relation of Christ to the Modern Age." The publicity for these talks did much to dissipate the prejudice against the Faith in Halifax. It was then decided by the Assembly that the best way to keep up interest was to bring a procession of speakers to Halifax. Mrs. Emerick Sula was brought from Montreal. She was followed by Anthony Seto, Harlan Ober, and John Robarts. As a climax to the lecture program Mrs. Mamie Seto gave seven lectures on two weekends, the last talk being given at the Lord Nelson Hotel. The Sunday afternoon lectures of all the speakers were followed by informal get-togethers at the home of one of the believers. Mrs. Annie B. Romer, chairman of the teaching committee, sums up the principles on which the work was carried out as follows:

"Your committee believes that the work accomplished has been of a solid and consecutive nature. Also all the publicity has been presented with a view to conveying teaching in an acceptable form to avoid repetition; also to give the reading public some idea wherein this teaching differs from the now prevalent ideas of a new world order and the teachings on a united world."

The Helena, Montana, Assembly has not only been active at home but has carried on extension work in Butte. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Saunders and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bryan made regular alternate trips to Butte every two weeks to conduct study classes, accompanied by other members of the Helena community. Besides this fifty dollars worth of Bahá'í literature was supplied to the Butte friends. As a result of this endeavor, the Butte group applied for recognition as an Assembly on March 12th, 1944.

The Race Unity work in Helena has been interesting. Contacts were made with Negro, Chinese, and Filipino people, meetings were held in the Colored Church in Helena and in the army chapel of Gore Field at Great Falls, Montana, and a large meeting was held at the Placer Hotel in Helena.

This Assembly has started a filing system to record the Bahá'í activities and qualifications of the Helena Community members.

In Indianapolis the Bahá'ís held public meetings; fireside gatherings; and classes for Bahá'ís, at which they studied Mrs. Seto's new outline. This Assembly is to be praised for having made a considerable sacrifice for the sake of the national fund. "We gave up the Center as a monthly project and use it only on Feasts and for special occasions, paying for this room each time used, and trying desperately to send more funds to the National Treasurer, and we believe it has proven very satisfactory."

For Bahá'ís in Foreign Service

The Auckland, New Zealand, Spiritual Assembly sends the following invitation to American servicemen:

"Those Bahá'ís friends in the merchant Navy and Services, who wish to contact Auckland Bahá'ís any week day, may do so at a little shop quite handy to the waterfront and Railway station. Miss K. Carpenter's delicatessen shop is on the corner of Customs St., East, and the foot of Anzac Ave. Anyone can direct you to this corner. The shop is a hundred yards from Kings Wharf, and you'll be really welcome. As the shop is closed on Saturdays and Sundays, you may contact us by phoning number 54-089 and thus be able to meet the friends at their Sunday night meeting. You are assured of a hearty welcome."

In New Delhi, India, Mr. Abbasally Butt, member of the National Spiritual Assembly of India and Burma, wishes to do all he can for the American Bahá'í youth serving in the Armed Forces in India. He may be communicated with, care of the National Spiritual Assembly of the
Bahá’ís of India and Burma, Malka-ganj Road, Sbzimani, Delhi, P.O. Box 19, New Delhi.

In Memoriam
Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life, indeed, it bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferrith the gift of everlasting life—Báhá’u’lláh.
Mr. J. W. Caldwell, Peoria
Mrs. Elda O. McCullough, Harrison, Arkansas
Mr. John Stahlheber, Baltimore
Miss Jean Olga Campbell, Burlington
Mr. Augustus Thorndike Sawyer, Pittsburg, Massachusetts
Prof. George W. Henderson, Memphis
Mr. Andrew D. Fleming, New York
Mr. Frank Harvey, Toronto
Mr. Adolph G. Bechhold, Brooklyn
Mr. Y. Mensah, Chicago
Mr. William W. Barrack, Maywood
Mr. Ernest Higman, Medford, Massachusetts
Mr. Gust A. Nordquist, Seattle
Mr. Joseph F. Harley, Chicago
Mr. P. Windsor Howard, Los Angeles
Mr. Nels Platekval, Armstrong, British Columbia
Mr. Edward H. Young, Washington, D. C.
Mr. Fred Gaulke, Milwaukee
Mrs. L. Melicher, Milwaukee
Mrs. Clara Wenzel, Milwaukee
Mrs. Henry Keeling, San Francisco

News of Other Lands

Centenary News
(Concluded)

England
Celebrations in the provinces followed later in the year. The Torquay Bahá’ís held a meeting each day from June 11th to 18th in their Center.

"Manchester held a Centenary Week from June 17th to 24th, and the celebrations took the form of an exhibition and a number of public meetings. They began to prepare the ground by advertising the Faith in the 'Manchester Guardian' and the 'Manchester Evening News' two months previously, and they received from this a number of postal inquiries about the Faith."

The Bradford Centenary Week, from September 4th to 10th, consisted of public meetings and a display in a shop in one of the main streets of Bradford.

Australia and New Zealand
In Sydney, New South Wales, the Centenary was made especially joyous because it could be held in the new Haziratu'l-Quds, which was opened officially while the Convention was assembled May 19-24. On Tuesday, May 23rd "the Convention delegates and friends were the guests of the Guardian at a buffet dinner held at the Pickwick Club." Mr. H. Blundell spoke on the Báb, Mr. Walker on Báhá’u’lláh, Mr. O. J. Routh on 'Abdu’l-Bahá, and Mrs. Dive on "The Bahá’í Faith Today." There was music and the reading of cables of greeting, "and one felt that the bond of fellowship that united Bahá’ís throughout the world was appreciated by all those present." During this Centenary week a radio broadcast was also given.

In Auckland, 285 Bahá’ís and non-Bahá’ís assembled at a Centennial dinner. Chinese, English, American, Colonial, German, Yugoslav, Indian, Fijian, Czechoslovak, and Maori, all associated together in love and harmony. The speakers were Mr. Henry Ah Kew (a Chinese gentleman), Mrs. Mary Owen (a Maori Welfare Officer), Mr. Oldfield (President of the Quest Club), Rabbi Astor of the Auckland Jewish congregations, Canon C. W. Chandler (an Anglican Vicar), Mr. W. Decm (an Auckland Bahá’í) and Corporal Alvin Blum, (American service man) who acted as chairman. Canon Chandler afterwards wrote: "The fact that He has made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth is one of many Christian truths that have been well-nigh lost to our age and generation. Well might God have sent another prophet into the world to proclaim again this message of unity. Before passing judgement let us heed the advice which Gamaliel gave to the Sanhedrin with regard to Peter and John, who were charged with preaching in the name of Jesus. 'If this thing be of man it will come to naught, but if it be of God, it cannot be stopped.' Because men have loved darkness rather than light, they have, in every age, been light-quenchers and in consequence of this they still grope in the darkness of unbelief. Among the people of varied races and nationalities, and of even more varied beliefs, I found myself in my element in this unique function."

The Adelaide celebrations included a picnic in April, a reception on the 2nd of May, followed by a supper and a lecture on "World Unity" by Miss Hilda Brooks. On the evening of the 23rd of May the friends gathered at the Bahá’í Center for a reading on the life of the Báb, followed by a supper.

The Hobart Bahá’í Group arranged a book display, May 14th to June 4th, a Youth party, May 20th, and a broadcast May 21st. The evening of the 22nd there was a social gathering, at which several Bahá’í talks were heard by 50 or 60 Bahá’ís and non-Bahá’ís.

The August, 1944, Newsletter from Hafia, after reporting that the Beloved Guardian was enjoying the best of health, carries news of the Centennial celebrations in Persia, Egypt and Sudan, and Baghdad, Iraq.

Persia
Delegates from all over Persia met on the 22nd of May, 1944 in Shiráz and, shortly before the appointed hour, 2 hours and 11 minutes after sunset, entered the Báb’s House, where He had declared His Mission exactly a hundred years ago. (The believers who read this account will be glad to refer to Nabil’s Narrative, "The Dawn-Breakers" to see pictures of the Báb’s House, pp. 58, 60 and 64). The Shiráz report speaks of the tremendous wave of emotion which swept through the hearts of the delegates as they stood in the upper room.
of the House, known as the Declaration Chamber. After placing a precious rug, the gift of the Guardian, in the sacred Chamber, the delegates "stood there, in all humility and submission and with hearts turned towards the Abhá Kingdom, in complete detachment from the world of matter and man. Shortly afterwards, they withdrew to the hall of the House, where they stayed until the early hours of the morning listening to Bahá’í prayers and tablets chanted in a melodious voice by some of the delegates and communicating with one another with a radiant joy."

"Egypt"

The Centenary celebrations in Cairo, Egypt, which began May 22nd and lasted four days, were highly successful. Not a single untoward incident from mischief makers occurred to mar the joy and happiness of the occasion. Five hundred believers from all parts of Egypt and a small select group of non-believers attended the meetings, which took place in the Hazíratu’l-Quds. The meetings had the official sanction and approval of the local authorities, who have become convinced, as a result of attending some Bahá’í meetings and reading Bahá’í literature, that the followers of Bahá’u’lláh do not meddle in politics and are faithful and obedient subjects of their governments wherever they live. The first meeting, held on that historic day, was a great triumph for the Faith. The meaning of the Cause and the significance of the Declaration of the Báb were proclaimed and the non-believers shared with the believers their joy and admiration for the Bahá’í principles. Indeed the non-believers were so impressed that after tea and refreshments were served and the meeting came to a close, the majority wished to stay for the second meeting, which was to be held that night. They stayed and were present at the hour when the Egyptian believers celebrated the Centenary of the Declaration of the Báb.

Further Bahá’í meetings were held the next day. As a result of these meetings the number of inquirers has greatly increased and a special committee has been appointed to answer the questions of the groups and individuals who now come to the Hazíratu’l-Quds to learn about the Faith.

"Iráq"

At the celebrations held in Baghdad by the believers of Iráq many non-Bahá’í notables, government officials and leaders of religious denominations were present. The National Spiritual Assembly of Iráq is publishing a pamphlet containing a detailed description of the celebrations held at Baghdad and this pamphlet will be sent to all Bahá’í centers of the East and the West.

The Bahá’í delegates from all parts of Iráq present at the Centenary celebrations held several meetings to study the Bahá’í situation in Iráq. Their recommendations and resolutions include the increase in the number of Bahá’í teachers throughout Iráq, the establishment of a Bahá’í bookstore in Baghdad, sending teachers to the Kurds in northern Iráq and printing Bahá’í literature in Kurdish, re-establishing Assemblies in Mosul, Basra and Kirkuk, organizing and advertising special public meetings in the Hazíratu’l-Quds, obtaining from the United States the moving picture film of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and a model of the Temple, etc.

"British Isles"

The British Bahá’í quarterly, New World Order contains, in its summer issue, an account of the Bahá’í Centenary celebrations in London. Sir Ronald Storrs, K.C.M.G., LL.D., L.C.C. opened the celebration and said, in part, "It is a big honor for an Anglican Englishman to have been chosen to open the Centenary of a World Faith." He gave as his qualifications for this honor the fact that he had the honor of ‘Abbas Effendi’s friendship from 1909 until His death. Sir Ronald then went on to tell dramatically and poignantly the story of the Báb, the Centenary of whose declaration was being celebrated.

Speaking of his personal experiences with ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, Sir Ronald went on to say, "My first glimpse of ‘Abbas Effendi was in the summer of 1909, when I drove round the Bay of ‘Akka in an Arab cab, visited Him in the barracks and marveled at His serenity and cheerfulness after 42 years of exile and imprisonment. I kept touch with Him through my confidential agent, Husein Bey Ruhl, son of a Tabriz martyr, and the ‘Persian Mystic’ of my book, ‘Orientalism’."

"When in his famous victory drive to the North, Allenby captured Haifa, he detached me from Jerusalem to organize the British administration there. On the evening of my arrival I visited my revered friend. I found Him sitting in spotless white. He placed at my disposal the training and talents of His community, and I appointed one or two to positions of trust which they continue to deserve... When on November 21, 1921, He was buried, 10,000 men, women and children of many varying races and creeds walked in the funeral procession up Mt. Carmel, to lay His body in the exquisite cypress avenues shrine."

"I have not lost contact with the Bahá’í world and I hope I never shall. Recently I had the honor of receiving at the British legation in Tihràn, a deputation of the Bahá’í community, headed by Samimi, the respected chief Munshi of the Legation, and Varga, President of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’í of Persia."

"My diary of April 5, 1943 tells me: ‘After luncheon, off to visit the House of the Báb, leaving the car for the narrow winding streets, and shown over by Fazl’u’lláh Banna and the curator. A small but perfect courtyard, with a little blue-tiled, eight feet square tank, six large gold fish, a tiny orange tree and runner carpets round the sides, and a narrow deep well. Above, His bed and His sitting rooms (for which our hosts took off their shoes), and on the second floor the room in which in 1844 He declared His mission, to a solitary disciple."

"What can I say more? Half a century ago the great Dr. Jowett, of Balliol, wrote: ‘This is the greatest light the world has seen since Christ, but it is too great and too close for the world to appreciate its full import.’"
The Time Fore-Ordained

The time fore-ordained unto the peoples and kindreds of the earth is now come. The promises of God as recorded in the Holy Scriptures, have all been fulfilled. Out of Zion hath gone forth the Law of God, and Jerusalem, and the hills and land thereof, are filled with the glory of His Revelation. Happy is the man that pondereth in his heart that which hath been revealed in the Books of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Meditate upon this, O ye beloved of God, and let your ears be attentive unto His Word, so that ye may, by His grace and mercy, drink your fill from the crystal waters of constancy, and become as steadfast and immovable as the mountain in His Cause.

In the Book of Isaiah it is written: "Enter into the rock and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the Lord and for the glory of His majesty." No man that meditateth upon this verse can fail to recognize the greatness of this Cause, or doubt the exalted character of this Day, the Day of God Himself. This same verse is followed by these words: "And the Lord alone shall be exalted in that Day." This is the Day which the Pen of the Most High hath glorified in all the Holy Scriptures. There is no verse in them that doth not declare the glory of His holy Name, and no book that doth not testify unto the loftiness of this most exalted theme.

It is incumbent, in this Day, upon every man to put His whole trust in the manifold bounties of God, and arise to disseminate, with the utmost wisdom, the verities of His Cause, Then, and only then, will the whole earth be enveloped with the morning light of His Revelation.

Gleanings From the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, number X.

Messages From the Guardian

I desire to reiterate the warning that no Persian, student or otherwise, must be admitted into the community under any circumstances unless provided with full credentials. Exception and compromise would be detrimental to the vital interests of the Faith at the present juncture. The utmost caution and vigilance are imperative.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Message received January 29, 1945

In view of the fact that a few Persians have, in defiance of the instructions and expressed wishes of their National Spiritual Assemblies, gone to America, and in view of other considerations as well, the Guardian feels impelled to call the matter to your attention. You must recall to the believers' minds the oft-repeated warnings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá concerning Orientals, especially Persians. The Americans, kind and open-hearted as they are, may easily fall a victim to the hypocritical and the insincere, and it is to protect them from being misled and imposed upon that he is sending you this message.—Through his secretary, January 14, 1945.

(These two messages are published for the information of the believers who have recently entered the Bahá'í community and are not yet informed of the strict commands which have controlled our reception of Orientals claiming to be believers ever since the Master departed from America in 1912. The passage on this subject reprinted on page 21 of Bahá'í Procedure, second edition, should be consulted whenever the matter arises for discussion among the American friends).

Deeply appreciate Assembly's loving message, rejoice in the formulation of new plans, delighted with recent accomplishments, anticipate fresh triumphs in the publicity campaigns. Grateful for the provision of funds for The Bahá'í World (Vol. IX) publication. Praying for removal of obstacles to the travel of nine Latin American pioneers. Urge utmost vigilance for preservation at whatever cost of the newly constituted Assemblies throughout the Americas. Appeal exert strenuous efforts to convert the large groups into Assemblies. Praying for increasing flow of blessings on sustained, concerted exertions of the indefatigable, incorruptible, consistently victorious, dearly beloved American Bahá'í community.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Message received February 27, 1945

The question of young Bahá'ís being permitted to serve on committees other than the Youth Committee has been raised in a number of letters recently, and in considering the matter he felt that Bahá'í young people under twenty-one should not be denied the privilege of committee work. Though they cannot be voting members of Bahá'í communities (or exercise the electoral vote at all until they reach that age), and though they cannot, likewise, be elected to Assemblies, there is no reason why they should not serve the Cause on various committees as all committees, national or local, are subordinate to Assemblies and their members not elected but appointed, and appointed by Assemblies. We have many devoted and talented young believers who can be of great assistance to the Cause even though not yet legally of age.—Through his secretary, February 28, 1945.

(On receipt of these directions and explanations, the National Spiritual Assembly annulled its statement concerning youth in which it was said that they were not to be appointed on committees other than Youth Committees).

Regret failure efforts hold Convention. Praying success Peace plan.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Message received March 19, 1945
Centenary travel expense,

Deeply grieve passing of indefatigable, staunch pioneer* of the Faith in the Day of the Covenant. The record of her services imperishable, her reward great in the Abhá Kingdom.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Message received March 27, 1945

"Miss Mary Lesch
My faithless brother Husayn, after long period of dishonorable conduct, has abandoned the Master’s home to consort with his sister and other Covenant-breakers.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Message received April 16, 1945

(To this message the following was sent to the Guardian on April 17: “Grieve lamentable defection of Husayn. Rejoice in the unshakable power of the Covenant and the victorious justice of Guardianship”.

The following excerpt is from letter written by the Guardian, through his secretary, to Miss Hannah Lohe on December 19, 1945, and reprinted with the Guardian’s consent.

Regarding your suggestion to the N.S.A. about a People’s Peace Conference. The idea and the aims are excellent, but the Guardian does not feel that the believers are as yet in a position to undertake such a major step; if the friends seek to carry out a thing of such importance and find that they cannot—through lack of members, prestige, funds, or any other reason,—see the thing through to a successful conclusion, they will have done the Cause a serious injury by making it seem just one more ripple on the surface of a disturbed and turbulent society. They must first build the fabric of their community life so solidly that it can bear the strain which such an undertaking would place upon it, and which, by its very nature, would focus the eyes of the press upon the Baha’is everywhere in the world.

National Spiritual Assembly
Beloved Friends:
The inability, under restrictions imposed by the war, to hold Convention sessions this year challenged the National Spiritual Assembly to maintain the important functions of the annual meeting through other means. Steps were therefore taken to provide for voting by mail, with a committee of tellers to serve in the customary way, to conduct a public meeting or Baha’i Congress in Foundation Hall during the Ridvan Period, and to provide the delegates with subjects for written suggestions and views.

A detailed report of the carrying out of these plans will be published in the next issue of Baha’i News.

Financial Report
For the fiscal year ending February 28, 1945, we have the following items for consideration in our review of the Baha’i year opening the second century of the Era.

Cash receipts 693.389.65
Disbursements 93.087.76
Of the disbursements, the Temple Fund received 12.300.00
Green Acre Fund received 3,700.00
Field for National and Regional Teaching 10,767.95
Dezollation 6,953.55
For Inter-America teaching 6,895.70
Radio teaching 6,728.36
Centenary travel expense 13,144.00
Centenary travel expense, Canadian believers (repaid by equivalent contributions to the Canadian Bahá’í Fund) 528.23

Translation of literature into Spanish 1,570.00
National Committees (other than Teaching and Inter-America) 10,654.79
International Fund 2,545.89
Trustee properties other than Temple and Green Acre 570.35
Centenary Committee 8,503.17
National and State Conventions 2,404.16
Administrative expense 18,280.35

It will be noted that the annual budget adopted after the 1944 Convention amounted to $125,000. The smaller income, plus the special Centenary expenses, have been felt particularly in the important work of maintaining the newer and smaller Assemblies. Many more settlers have been needed than could be sent or than offered their services.

At the Guardian’s request, the monthly contribution sent to the International Fund has been devoted to the Inter-America teaching work in the form of appropriations for cost of printing Spanish books and pamphlets, but this action will be reflected in the next annual financial statement more than in the current figures.

Amendment
The National By-Laws have been further amended, in order to eliminate one reference to the assignment of delegates to local communities not taken care of in the amendments adopted earlier this year. In Art. I of the By-Laws the sentence formerly reading: “It shall be charged with the recognition of such local Assemblies, the scrutiny of local membership rolls, the calling of the annual meeting or special meetings and the seating of delegates to the annual meeting and their apportionment among the various local Baha’i communities”, has been amended to read: “It shall be charged with the recognition of such local Assemblies, the scrutiny of all membership rolls, the calling of the annual meeting or special meetings and the seating of delegates to the annual meeting and their apportionment among the various electoral districts.”

The revised text thus deals with the apportionment of the delegates among the states and provinces in accordance with the Guardian’s later directions, and with the membership lists of the groups and isolated believers who now vote in the state.
elections as well as the membership lists of the local communities. Since there are no longer any "non-voting" adult Bahá'ís, the term "all membership rolls" has become necessary.

The amended Declaration of Trust, and the National and local By-Laws, have been prepared in pamphlet form and copies are available through the Publishing Committee in the usual way.

**Peace Committee for Allied Nations Conference**

The first year of the second Bahá'í century has been devoted to the promotion of the Bahá'í peace program in accordance with a plan prepared by the National Spiritual Assembly coordinating the various National Committees, including Radio, Publicity and Public Relations, with special meetings to be conducted by the local Assemblies.

The calling of the Allied Nations Conference at San Francisco unexpectedly and most gloriously provided the unique occasion of occasions to promulgate the Bahá'í principles on universal peace. This international action filled the hearts of the believers to overflowing, as they saw in it a providential fulfillment of the Master's mission in America, His fertilizing of the continent with the seeds of the future order, and His prophetic utterances and promises concerning America's role, and His words concerning California.

The San Francisco Assembly was requested to submit recommendations, but the Bahá'ís of the bay area had already hastened to the arena of action and were prepared with a comprehensive plan which the NSA adopted at its March meeting.

A committee was appointed, named Committee on Bahá'í Peace Plan, with the function "to promote the Bahá'í Teachings in connection with the Allied Nations Conferences convened in San Francisco, April 25, 1945." This committee was provided with a budget of $3,000, $1,000 of which was pledged locally, and authorized to proceed with the following schedule: preparation of pamphlet, holding one large public meeting, conducting three fifteen-minute broadcasts, and holding series of local meetings in the area with displays.

The believers will await with keenest interest the outcome of this culminating peace effort of the year.

**Communication With the President**

The friends will be interested in going over the text of the two communications addressed to the President, dated January 4, 1944 and March 26, 1945, the letter sent to Mrs. Roosevelt on April 13, 1945, and the letter received from the State Department dated April 17, acknowledging the receipt, by reference from the White House, of our telegram of March 26.

It was to the same President, Mr. Roosevelt, that a beautifully engrossed copy of Bahá'u'lláh's Tablet to the Presidents of the American Republics, and of two Prayers revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá for America, was presented by Miss Juliet Thompson through the President's mother a few years before the war. Photographs of the engrossed text were reproduced in The Bahá'í World.

Step by step we witness the unfoldment of the new World Order. It behooves every believer to realize more deeply the degree of our collective responsibility as agency for the direct reflection of His spirit and the embodiment of His united community.

**NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY**

**Translations**

Believers qualified to work on French translations of the Bahá'í literature are requested to communicate with the National Spiritual Assembly. A very capable committee is now functioning on a series of translations into German, and the NSA wishes to adopt plans for translation into the other European languages, as the basic Bahá'í texts will be the first requirement when the operation of the Divine Plan is extended to Europe by the Guardian. Those who can translate into the other languages such as Russian, Italian, etc., should also report, so that the work may be properly coordinated.

**In Memoriam**

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.—BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

Mrs. Deborah Alexander, New York.
Mr. Edward Harris, Carmichael, Sask. (1941, not previously reported).
Mr. Henry Pope, Jr., Nashville.
Mrs. Eva Martin, ____, North Carolina.
Mr. Andrew J. Nelson, Racine.
Mr. Carman Holmes, Big Bear Lake, Calif.
Mr. Augustus T. Sawyer, Fitchburg, Mass.
Mrs. Emma B. Stott, Los Angeles.
Mr. Francis W. Barlet, Indianapolis.
Mr. Heber S. Cowman, Arlington.
Mr. Gerardus Theodorus Williamers, Kansas City.
Miss Anna E. Van Blarcum, Montclair.
Dr. L. T. Gilmer, Milwaukee.
Mrs. Carolyn Thornhill, Cleveland.
Mrs. Edgar H. Libby, Los Angeles.
Mr. Julio Veve Benetex, Juneau, Puerto Rico.
Mrs. M. Grandison, Washington, D. C.
Mr. Edward Burmeister, Muskegon.
Mr. Henry Keeling, San Francisco.
Dr. E. D. Shaw, Aberdeen, Wash.
Directory

The following changes are reported in the list of Committees appointed for the year begun July 1, 1944:

Committee on Bahá’í Peace Plan, to promote the Bahá’í Teachings in connection with the Allied Nations Conferences convened in San Francisco, April 25, 1945. Leroy Ioas, Chairman, Arthur Dahl, Jr., Vice Chairman, Marion Holley, Secretary, John W. Allen, Arthur C. Ioas, Charlotte M. Linfoot, Dr. Mildred Nichols, Mrs. Shirley Warde, Mr. and Mrs. Ali M. Yazdi.

Radio Script Review, Mrs. Shirley Warde, Marion Holley. Appointed to pass upon material intended for radio presentation.

News Service, Melvin S. Rawitsch added.

Centenary Dinner, Auckland, N. Z.

National Committees

Assembly Development

"It is of the utmost importance that in accordance with the explicit text of the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, the Most Holy Book, in every locality, be it city or hamlet, where the number of adult, declared believers exceeds nine, a local Spiritual Assembly be forthwith established. To it all local matters pertaining to the Cause must be directly and immediately referred for full consultation and decision."

—SHOGHI Effendi

Our first election in the second Bahá’í century assumes great importance as we consider the number of Assemblies still representing an area otherwise virgin. None can judge the full privilege that is ours in playing a part, however small, in their first development and progress, for these new-born, nascent institutions of our Guardian are the mother Assemblies of wide-spread North American regions. With this in mind, as well as in answer to a general need, the Assembly Development Committee offers a few simple suggestions for the conduct of elections.

1. Written notification by the secretary to every adult Bahá’í of the time and place of the election. Votes may be mailed back to the secretary if attendance at the election meeting is not possible. Such votes should not be opened before the election.

2. Opening of the election meeting by the chairman. Prayer and appropriate readings are the first order of business.

3. Appointment of tellers by the chairman. Tellers will see that all are equipped and ready for the election.

4. A final period of quiet, with short prayer.

5. Casting of ballots. Write only nine names. Observe silence.

6. Collection by the tellers of all ballots, including those sent by mail, and retirement of tellers to count votes.

7. Annual reports of committees, and review of the teaching work of the year.


9. Arrangement for the first meeting of the new Assembly. The person receiving the highest number of votes will call the meeting and act as chairman until the new chairman is elected.

10. Election of officers. Each officer will be elected on a separate ballot; chairman, vice chairman, secretary, and treasurer. The officers must likewise be elected by secret ballot, but a majority vote is required.

The friends are again urged to remember our Guardian’s often repeated entreaty to refrain from discussion of personalities before the election, in order that each voter may be free from influence that might hinder independent and prayerful selection. “Every Assembly elected in that rarefied atmosphere of selflessness and detachment is, in truth, appointed by God.” It is for each one to determine for himself “the names of those who can best combine the necessary qualities of unquestioned loyalty, of selfless devotion, of a well trained mind, of recognized ability, and mature experience.”

All Bahá’í administration may be said to come out of the election, as we gather each year for a fresh beginning in the conduct of our affairs. We conceive this holy task with reverence in the light of our Guardian’s statements: “The importance, nay, the absolute necessity of these local assemblies is manifest when we realize that in the days to come they will evolve into the local Houses of Justice, and at present provide the firm foundation on which the structure of the Mas-
ter's Will is to be reared in future.”

"These Spiritual Assemblies will have to be elected directly by the friends, and every declared believer of 21 years and above, far from standing aloof and assuming an indifferent or independent attitude, should regard it his sacred duty to take part conscientiously and diligently in the election, the consolidation, and efficient working of his own local Assembly."**

—Assembly Development Committee

Moving Picture Films of Shrines at Haifa and of Centenary Scenes

The Temple Librarian and Sales Committee is now able to fill a certain number of orders for the long-awaited moving picture films of the Shrines and Gardens which were taken under the Guardian's direction in Haifa last year. The cost per set is $50.00. Only a limited number are available. Orders received for more than the five films on hand will be filled later when and as the Committee finds it possible to make additional copies of the original film.

Motion picture films can also be ordered of the Centenary subjects, showing the Temple, the assembled friends, Convention scenes, Centenary speakers, etc. The cost of these per set is $100.00. These films have been edited and titled from the pictures taken by Mr. Alexander, Mr. Tichenor and by a commercial photographer engaged for the purpose.

Orders and inquiries should be addressed to the Committee through Mr. H. E. Walrath, 4839 Beacon Street, Chicago, Ill.

Centenary Recordings

The two programs conducted in the Temple auditorium during the evening of May 22, 1944—the Commemoration of the Declaration of the Báb, and the Dedication of the House of Worship—were transcribed in order to perpetuate these events for Bahá’í history and also to make them available to the friends.

Under ordinary circumstances, pressings could be obtained from the originals in standard phonograph record size and sets of records could be sold at a very moderate price. The unsettled conditions of these times make it impossible to place an order for pressings, as the large firms are only handling quantities beyond our capacity to use.

Temporarily, however, a number of sets of transcribed records have been produced and these can be obtained from Mr. Walrath at a cost of $21.00 per set.

Publishing Announcements

Declaration of Trust, National and Local By-Laws—text amended to March 13, 1945. Frontispiece: reproduction of Certification issued by the Department of State, May 17, 1929. 20 pages and cover. Per copy, 10c.

Study Outline on Training for Bahá’í Teaching—per copy, 15c.

Study material for education of Bahá’í children (see announcement by Child Education Committee in this issue):


To Live the Life: A Course on Bahá’í Ethics for the Younger Child. Mimeographed, 48 pages and cover. Per copy, 35c.

Comprehensive Study Outline for Children—adapted to varying ages. Mimeographed, 33 pages and cover. Per copy, 50c.

Send orders to Bahá’í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Teaching in North America

The vitality of teaching in North America is reflected in a constant flow of reports from Regional Committees, Assemblies, and teachers. In the thrilling words of the Guardian, the “splendor of the exploit” of the American Community, despite the “sorrows, burdens, and restrictions” of this difficult period, has not been dimmed throughout 1944. We are happy to share with the friends the following news of progress, altogether inadequate as these paragraphs are to represent the scope or intensity of the national effort.

Regional Committees

Regional Teaching Committees have shown outstanding initiative in carrying out teaching circuits, stimulating group activities, and sponsoring regional conferences.

A conference in Syracuse, N.Y., on December 17th, was attended by about forty friends representing twelve communities of New York State. Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Ugo G. Glachery, discussions were led by Miss Ida Noyes on youth, Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh on Bahá’í children’s work, Mrs. Mary Collison on firesides, Mr. William Sears on publicity, Mrs. Lil Oltzki on the development of Spiritual Assemblies, and Mrs. Helen Inderlied on study of the Creative Word as a preparation for teaching. A public meeting on “The Bahá’í Plan for Permanent Peace” was held the preceding evening with Mrs. Mottahedeh and Dr. Glenn Shook as speakers.

Friends from Southern California and Arizona met on January 21st in Los Angeles for a stimulating conference with the following discussions: Miss Charlotte Linfoot emphasized the goals as we enter the Second Century and outlined teaching resources available through national committees; Mrs. Virginia Cameron Foster showed the effect of teaching upon the development of World Order; Mrs. Nancy Phillips summarized the Guardian’s teaching
Canadian Regional Committees are doing outstanding work in the planning of circuits and the development of new groups. In the Maritime Provinces, monthly circuits have been arranged for Charlottetown, Moncton, and Halifax, using such teachers as Annie Romer, William Sears, Doris McKay, Rosemary Sala, Harlan Ober, John Robarts, and Lloyd Gardner. The Ontario Committee has projects for regular teaching in Ottawa and Hamilton, where a flourishing group promises early reinstatement of the Assembly. Speakers include Rosemary Sala, John Robarts, and Laura Davis. The Committee for the Prairie Provinces in addition to the important circuits carried out by Mrs. Margery McCormick and Mr. Emeric Sala which are reported later, is sponsoring a project in Saskatoon where at least fifteen people are interested in the Faith, with outside teaching help from Lulu Barr and Ernest Court.

These items represent but a small part of the manifold activities of Regional Committees, so encouraging, vital, and indeed indispensable to the evolution of the Faith in North America.

Teaching Circuits

Itinerant teachers have contributed immeasurably to the consolidation and expansion of the Faith this past year, with a detachment from the vicissitudes of travel which is truly an example of devotion and effort.

In October Mrs. Margery McCormick carried out a brilliant teaching circuit in Canada which attracted wide notice and was, in her own words, "a really thrilling episode." A closely-packed itinerary had been worked out by the Regional Committee and the Assemblies, which opened in Winnipeg with a public meeting, fireside, and children's afternoon. Regina was next visited, where a fine public meeting for more than thirty people, fireside, supper, and club talk were planned. In Calgary a public meeting and fireside were arranged. Perhaps the high spot was Mrs. McCormick's return to her home city of Edmonton, where after thirteen years' absence she found many friends ready to hear of the Faith. A reception for some thirty-five club women, two public meetings with overflowing audiences, several firesides, and "every luncheon, dinner, breakfast, tea, and hours between . . . taken." In addition, there were two radio talks and a meeting with some forty Muslims, many of whom later returned to hear Rowland Estall. "The Faith was really proclaimed in Edmonton!" Mrs. McCormick then stopped in Saskatoon, where pioneer teaching is being done for two public meetings and a fireside. Mrs. McCormick writes: "I never worked so hard in my life on any previous teaching trip nor did I ever have such glorious confirmation of spiritual help."

William Sears—in addition to an intensive circuit of the Middle West in August and September including visits to Salt Lake City, Laramie, Denver, Omaha, Topeka, Kansas City, Independence, Milwaukee, and Oshkosh, with a total of forty-eight talks—has given intensive service in Eastern Canada. In Halifax two well-attended public meetings were registered on the 19th, followed by a fireside and a Bahá'í session on "God Passes By." "A deep sense of dedication and devotion was enkindled." Charlottetown arranged two public meetings and a radio broadcast. Mr. Sears' circuit was interrupted by illness, but later in January he was able to return to Montreal. At present he is cooperating with the New England Regional Committee for teaching service.

Dr. Edris Rice-Wray has devoted her weekends and holidays during the past year to teaching in areas suggested by the National Teaching Committee. Last Fall she visited St. Louis, Sioux Falls, Cedar Rapids, Toronto, and Hamilton. Christmas week was spent in Greenville, Atlanta, and Birmingham. Dr. Rice-Wray's work is a proof of what can be accomplished when available time, no matter how limited, is coordinated with the needs in the teaching field.

Marzieh Gail spent two weeks in January in the Pacific Northwest, with meetings arranged in Corvallis, Portland, Tacoma Seattle, Richmond Highlands, and Monroe. In Mrs. Gail's words, "the Faith can't keep up with the audience demand in these places." Although all reports are not yet in, from Corvallis we hear of fine opportunities to meet students and faculty at Oregon State College, including talks before two classes and a Forum Lunch, in all the audiences totalling over two hundred. Very interesting club lectures were arranged in Tacoma, including the American Association of University Women, the League of Western
Writers, U.S.O., Tacoma Interracial Council, and a women's Breakfast Club. A Baha'i public meeting, two firesides, and a radio interview completed the program which reached at least four hundred contacts besides the radio audience. Splendid publicity attended this circuit. Mention should also be made of Mrs. Gail’s 4-day visit to Reno last Fall, which was packed with two public talks, fireside, and individual contacts.

Emeric Sala completed in February a two-weeks’ circuit of Winnipeg, Regina, and Edmonton which attracted keen interest and enthusiasm. Full reports are as yet unavailable, but word from Regina tells of three meetings with attendance varying from 35 to 80, and an opportunity to address over 500 students of a Technical School.

Louis Gregory recently completed a circuit of Southern cities from late November into January, which included Charleston, Huntingdon, Greensboro, Greenville, Columbia, the Augustas, and Memphis; and on the return trip Urbana, Springfield, Quincy, and Peoria. In Charleston, besides other fine engagements, Mr. Gregory addressed the assembly of West Virginia State College as well as a Spanish class. Writes Charleston: We “were benefited tremendously” and “the teaching work and each Baha’i took a step ahead.” Many meetings and excellent response are reported from the Carolinas and Georgia; a week was spent in Memphis with talks before churches and colleges; and in Quincy an outstanding meeting was attended by over 75 persons of three races.

Mrs. Peggy True spent two weeks, January 8-22, in New Orleans, Jackson, and Little Rock; and a second Southern circuit is planned for March to include Memphis and Nashville. In addition to Baha’i public meetings and firesides, lectures were given at a high school in Jackson; and for the American Association of University Women, Y.W.C.A., and radio in Little Rock. Many outstanding contacts were made in each city, but the highlight of Mrs. True’s report is her comment on the “wonderful spirit of cooperation and unity” among the believers whom she met.

Charles Mason Remey has recently reported on teaching work completed in 1943 and 1944. His circuit for 1944 included Atlanta, Birmingham, Jackson, New Orleans, Houston, Little Rock, Oklahoma City, Albuquerque, Phoenix, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Geyserville, Reno, Portland, Boise, Butte, Helena, Laramie, Sioux Falls, Fargo, Topeka, and Louisville. It was Mr. Remey’s endeavor to visit particularly the newly-formed Assemblies in virgin areas, and his comments are an inspiring proof of the confirmations which, as promised by Baha’u’llah, are showered upon the pioneers in His Cause.

We quote: “Particularly in these newly organized assemblies did I find much spiritual fervor. The newer assemblies still have a goodly proportion of members who are pioneers and settlers in those places. Some of these friends have gone through troubles, changing residence, giving up former business connections and home environment to go out into new and unknown territories where they have encountered problems in establishing themselves and in teaching the Faith. In other words, their sacrifices have been very considerable. But I found from these very facts a spiritual enthusiasm and an energy and force in their Baha’i relations that was very soul refreshing. There was a lyric quality in their mention of the Cause that reminded me of that same experience that I passed through myself as a young believer many years ago... I write you just as I feel my impressions of the happiness I found among these people...”

Many other teaching visits and circuits have been carried out in the past few months, which will be mentioned in these columns or in the annual report.

In closing this article, however, we mention with pride the pioneers of the Second Century who by responding to new calls during this year have contributed a notable share to the safeguarding of the spiritual prizes. They are Elizabeth Cowles who settled in Charlottetown, Gertrude Gewertz and Katherine McPhee to Greenville, Kathryn Frankland and Rezi Sunshine to Little Rock, Nersa Bissell to Brattleboro, and Margaret Lentz to Puerto Rico. In addition residence projects have been carried out by Mrs. Louise Gregory in Brattleboro, Hannah Lohse in Greenville, and Antonio Roca in San Antonio.

The call of the Guardian remains the foremost responsibility as we approach the new Bahá’í year: Urge utmost vigilance for preservation at whatever cost of the newly constituted Assemblies throughout the Americas.” (January 29, 1945)

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Inter-America News

The friends of Buenos Aires joyfully report the arrival of Elizabeth Cheney. In collaboration with the Committee on Translation and Publication two titles are already on the press, “Dispensation” and “El Alba de la Nueva Era”. A third title will be on the press soon. Together with this work of increasing the Bahá’í publications in Spanish, Elizabeth is making frequent visits to Montevideo to assist the believers there with teaching and in the reestablishment of a Spiritual Assembly.
A letter has been received recently from Estaban Canales, the first native Chilian pioneer, who is following up the extension teaching project of the Santiago Assembly initiated by Marcia Steward in Punta Arenas. We quote from his letter:

"I thank God for this great privilege, because...I believe that to be a pioneer in Punta Arenas is the most great privilege. Magallanes is one of the most important places of my Country and one of the most important of America.

"Mr. Artemus Lamb has arrived recently from Santiago. I am very happy, because together we are going to work very much for the formation of a Spiritual Assembly by April, with the help of our beloved Bahá'u'lláh."

We rejoice at this news, and particularly so in view of the Guardian's recent statement calling our attention to "...the great importance of Magallanes as a center, and the necessity of extending it every assistance, so that this Bahá'í year an Assembly may be firmly established there. It, together with that of Alaska, may be likened to the extremity of the Bahá'í arms stretched out and waiting to embrace the whole world in the order of peace and love which Bahá'u'lláh has established for the children of men in this day." (Feb. Bahá'í News.)

Miss Juliet Thompson and Mrs. Daisy Smythe, after an excellent sojourn assisting the friends in Mexico City, are returning to New York to do inter-racial work. Jeanne Bolles was with them for several weeks in Mexico City, where she gave a number of talks on Bahá'í Administration. They also report that Sr. Pedro Espinosa is carrying on extension teaching in Vera Cruz. A group of five young Bahá'ís has been organized there.

We are most happy to report the very recent departure from the United States of two more pioneers. On February 19 Lotnise Baker left Miami for Trujillo, Dominican Republic, where she will remain until about the middle of April, when she will continue her journey to Caracas, Venezuela, her permanent post. On March 3 Ofelia Montalvo, a native of El Salvador who has made Evanston, Ill., her home for the past three years, also departed for Trujillo where she will remain, at least until an Assembly is formed. May Bahá'u'lláh's richest blessing go with these two young pioneers!

A letter from Dr. Malcolm King in Managua informs us that a well attended study group has been functioning there since December 30th. His interpreter, Mr. Robert M. Hooker, has recently declared himself as a believer. Dr. King is very hopeful and optimistic regarding the ultimate success of his project in Nicaragua.

Leonora Holsapple Armstrong has recently moved from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro. The Committee has requested her to take over the responsibility for the Portuguese section of the Spanish Bahá'í Bulletin during the temporary absence of Mrs. Carol Wood from Rio.

En route to the Orient Mr. and Mrs. Mottahedeh of New York City have made a short stopover and visit with the friends in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bishop, are leaving to teach in Mazatlan, Mexico.

Circular letters are being mailed each month by the Inter-America Committee to Assemblies and groups throughout Latin America. They are written in both Spanish and English. The February letter was on the Observation of the Fast. A letter is prepared for mailing in March on the Conduct of Bahá'í Elections. Further issues will cover such subjects as the functions of the Nineteen Day Feast, the Guardianship, Consultation, and Teaching Methods.

A group of Bahá'ís who have been particularly active in the important teaching work of guiding the thousands of inquirers who visit the House of Worship

TEMPLE GUIDES
Mrs. Janie Lindstrom, Evanston
Mr. Clarence Subh, Milwaukee
Mrs. Marvin Newport, Chicago
Mrs. Helen Roach, Evanston
Mrs. Ruth Schultz, Milwaukee
Dr. Wm. F. Slater, Chicago
Mr. Lloyd Robinson, Chicago
Mr. Frank Peter, Chicago
Mr. Tony Nabby, Milwaukee
Mrs. Ruth Westgate, Chicago
Mrs. M. Ioa, Riverside, Ill.
Mrs. Lillian Morgan, Chicago
Mrs. Viola Tuttle, Riverside, Ill.
Mr. Marshall Tyler, Evanston
Mrs. Frida Beck, Milwaukee
Mrs. Ann Neumann, Milwaukee
Miss Bertha Herkel, Wilmette
Mr. Wm. Schend, Kenosha, Wis.
Mrs. Monroe Ioa, Hollywood, Ill.
Mrs. Florence Hansen, Racine, Wis.
Mrs. Jessie Halberstadt, Kenosha, Wis.
Mrs. Nina Matthiesen, Brisol, Wisc.
Mrs. Julia Shows, Chicago
Dr. Hedwig Kuebel, Milwaukee, Wisc.
Mrs. Mae Scheffler, Evanston, Ill.
Mrs. Marian Stedte, Milwaukee
Miss Cecile Hargis, Chicago
Mr. Arthur Larson, Chicago
Mr. Edwin Mattoon, Wilmette
Mrs. Betty McHenry, Wilmette
Mrs. Joan Engman, Glenview, Ill.
Mrs. Carrie Tyler, Evanston, Ill.
Mr. Louis Voelz, Kenosha, Wisc.
Mrs. Olive Gardner, Chicago
Mrs. Louis Voelz, Kenosha
Mrs. Harriet Terry, Waukegan, Ill.
Mrs. Beatrice Ashton, Evanston, Ill.
Mrs. Hashim Hassan, Wilmette
Mrs. Mary Haggard, Wilmette
Dr. Elizabeth Dickerman, Chicago, Ill.
Mr. M. D. Rosch, Evanston
Miss Evelyn Larson, Chicago
Miss Anna Marie Mattoon, Wilmette
Dr. Edris Rice-Wray, Glenview, Ill.
Mrs. Beulah Brown, Shorewood, Wisc.
Green Acre Baha'i Summer School, 1945

The regular courses of the Green Acre Summer School will open on Monday, July 9, and continue for eight weeks, through September 1. Four types of courses will be given each week: (1) Fundamental Courses in the Baha'i teachings, especially for new Baha'is and non-Baha'is who wish to make a serious study of the Faith. (2) Advanced courses for Baha'is who are, in general, well-informed about the basic teachings. (3) A Seminar, for students who wish to do active research in the Baha'i writings and related materials. (4) A Workshop, in which opportunity will be given to learn and practice techniques in speaking and writing, in relation to Baha'i teaching activities.

The Seminar and Workshop will be open only to those who can attend for at least one week, and it is hoped that most students who choose these courses will be able to attend for two weeks. The Seminar and the Fundamental Course will be given simultaneously, during the second period in the morning. The Workshop will meet for two hours each afternoon.

1. Fundamental Courses.
   2. The Central Figures of the Baha'i Revelation.
   3. The Guardianship and the Administrative Order.
   4. Baha'i character Development.
   5. Baha'i Community Life.
   7. The Baha'i Teacher.
   8. Some Answered Questions—its use as a Baha'i textbook, in teaching activities.

2. Advanced Courses (The order in which this series of courses is given may be changed, in order to obtain the services of teachers who are particularly competent for each course.)
   1. Historical Introduction to God Passes By.
   2. God Passes By—first half.
   3. God Passes By—second half.
   4. The Baha'i Peace Program and the Current World Scene.
   5. Epistle to the Son of the Wolf.
   6. The History and Principles of Christianity, for Baha'i Teachers.
   7. How to Know and Use Baha'i Literature.
   8. The Hidden Words—a guide to Baha'i living.

   Students will carry on a variety of research studies, such as the following: analyzing the teaching techniques used by 'Abdu'l-Baha in His public talks; preparing a study out-

Some of the guests who attended the Naw-Ruz Feast held by the Baha'is of Havana, March 21, 1945

line; making a compilation on a topic of special interest to the student; working on an index for a Baha'i book which needs one; making an historical study, such as "Islamic Civilization in relation to the teachings of Mohammed." It is hoped that most of the students in the Seminar will come to Green Acre with plans as to the particular research they wish to undertake.

4. Workshop.
   The work in writing will concern itself with the composition of Baha'i material for radio, newspaper publicity, World Order, Baha'i magazines, etc. The work in speaking will deal with the presentation and delivery of Baha'i talks for a variety of situations and audiences.

   Students may elect to work in either writing or speaking; or in both, if they are going to attend the course for three or four weeks. If a student is working in both the Seminar and the Workshop, the results of his research in the Seminar may be used as a basis for writing or speaking in the Workshop.

   Three Conferences are planned for the summer, with approximate dates as follows:
   1. Conference on World Order, for Baha'is and non-Baha'i Youth. July 5, 6, 7.
   2. Inter-America Conference. Friday evening, July 27 through Sunday, July 29.

   Other activities include a daily devotional meeting immediately after dinner in the evening, a public meeting at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings, and a series of discussions and musicals in the evenings.

   Daily classes for children will be held in the Recreation room in the dormitory, or out-of-doors when the work the children are doing makes this desirable. The children will be divided into two or three age groups, depending on the ages of the children in attendance. It is expected that all children at the School will attend these classes, and young children may not go with their parents to the adult classes.

Since the National Spiritual Assembly has adopted the policy that Green Acre is primarily a school, and should not be regarded as a summer hotel for persons not primarily interested in the Faith, you are urged to recommend attendance at Green Acre to your non-Baha'i friends only when they have shown a serious intention of studying the Baha'i teachings and wish to attend the classes.

Appeal for Books for the Library of the Green Acre Baha'i Summer School

The Green Acre Program Committee is eager to build a better Library for the Green Acre Summer School. For the summer of 1945 the Library is to be housed in a separate building, where students can work in quiet. We are making an urgent appeal for gifts of books for the Library. Please look over your own books to see whether you have any books which you can contribute,—or send us a gift of a new book. We particularly need the following kinds of books:

1. Extra copies of Baha'i books.
3. Recent books on world problems, both those dealing with the international scene, and those about separate countries.
5. Modern books on economics.
6. Back numbers of any of the Baha'i magazines, especially when those for a complete year are available.
7. A good dictionary; a book of synonyms; books on techniques of writing and speaking.

Books of standard fiction and good recent fiction will also be gratefully received.

If you have books which you are willing to contribute, please send the names to the Chairman of the Green Acre Committee. We will then let you know which ones we can use, and where and when to mail them.

—GENEVIEVE L. COX,
10 Patchin Place,
New York 11, N. Y.
International School 1945 Program

The Committee wishes to report the program scheduled for the Latin-American Session opening June 30th to July 10th, 1945.

Morning Sessions: The study of "God Passes By."
1. The four distinct periods in the evolution of the Faith.
2. A study of the existing conditions of governments and clergy, in Persia and Turkey.
3. Becoming familiar with the sacrifices and suffering and martyrdom of those who gave all to establish the Faith.
4. The development of a World Community working together through the administrative structure brought into being by the Center of the Covenant 'Abdu'l-Bahá and set into action by the Guardian of the Faith.
5. The realization of the Power which was released by the Báb and ignited by the greater Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh destined to bring into being a new creation.

Afternoon Sessions:
1st Period.
Devoted to teaching methods in Latin-America.

2nd Period.
The study of the history of the Cities connected with the Faith.
The Session will close on the Anniversary of the Martyrdom of the Báb, July 9.

The Bahá'í World, Vol. IX

The Bahá'í World, Vol. IX, which will soon be off the press, will cover the activities of the Faith for the years 1940-1944. Because of the unusual length of time represented by this volume and the difficulties of publication in these times, the Guardian was forced to omit many of the excellent things submitted to him for this book. Among these were the articles on early believers which you forwarded to him and which were received. The next, Centennial, volume is also more than likely going to be a crowded one—he sees no objection to these articles being made use of in World Order, if any of them are found suitable for that purpose; and in any case he feels copies of them should be given to the Archives Committee as data in them is of historic interest and should be preserved. Some of these articles may in the future be included in the Bahá'í World.

The committee is preparing to carry out these instructions of the Guardian.

Garreeta Busey, Chairman, Bahá'í World Editorial Committee for Vol. IX.

Child Education

The Child Education Committee wishes to inform the friends that they have ready now for distribution the following outlines for use in the education of Bahá'í children.

"Creation" is especially adaptable for tiny children (5-6 years old). It is a picture course for the tiny tot.

"To Live the Life" deals with a course on Bahá'í ethics for the younger child. Character training is the primary aim of the course.

"Study Course for Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era" is a flexible course for 12-15 year old boys and girls. It deals with the study of the book "Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era." The history of the Faith is omitted in this outline, however.

"Comprehensive Study Outline for Children" can be adapted to varying ages, but for the most part is especially designed for the older child. Its purpose is to create an incentive for teaching, by supplying a few fundamental references, questions, poems, stories, and projects.

Beside these outlines, we have "A Bahá'í Child's A.B.C." book which can be used for youngsters of any age. The art work accompanying each letter of the alphabet is most attractive and appealing to the child. It is an excellent book to be used in the home.

We also want to mention the "Child's Prayer Book" for all Bahá'í children.

These outlines and books may be secured by writing to the Bahá'í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

News Service

In answer to a plea for help in the expanding of Bahá'í publicity during 1945 many excellent news articles have been submitted to the News Service Committee during the past few months by writers in the local assemblies. Three releases will be made to the national press on the subjects of Inter-America teaching, race unity teaching and the Bahá'í Peace Program. Individual believers who feel that they can write effectively are urged to contact Laurence W. LaRocque, 837 Second Street, N.W., Mason City, Iowa.

The Committee appreciates the number of clippings of Bahá'í publicity which have been sent to its secretary Miss Virginia A. Russell, 2622 Prairie Avenue, Evanston, Ill. These clippings are not only placed in the permanent file or annual press book but are studied in the hope of helping local publicity chairmen of Assemblies and are often reprinted as examples of good press mentions in the Bahá'í Publicity Bulletin which is issued periodically to local publicity chairmen.

Not all of the material sent in are newspaper clippings on the Bahá'í Faith. Some of the most interesting have appeared in magazines and particularly in the house-organs of business organizations. Just to mention a few: The Highway Traveler (Greyhound Lines) recently included a good illustration and description of the House of Worship in its department "How well do you know your United States?" The Finder (Bell & Howell) shows a most excellent view of the House of Worship which won the B & H employee first prize in a photography contest; Waco Steel Service (Warden-Allen Co.) an interesting structural view of the House of Worship with detail on the steel reinforcing used; and Flying Magazine (this came from a Bahá'í in the American Army stationed in Saipan) carries a feature story with accompanying map explaining that all Naval flying cadets who are trained in carrier landing along Lake Michigan's shore north of Chicago but who are based at the Glenview (Ill.) Naval flying field use the House of Worship (Point Oboe in Naval code) as a marker or guide in flying to the carriers Wolverine and Sable; and the British Edition of The Yank (The Army Weekly) under its department head "News from Home" shows an arresting scene entitled: "Western
Shrine." This is also a view of the south entrance of the House of Worship with many visitors in evidence gazing at its inspiring beauty.

Publicity Clippings

We were pleased at the recent letter from John Eichenauer, written somewhere in France, reporting that he and many members of his company had seen the Bahá'í article with illustrations of the House of Worship in the February issue of Pure Oil Magazine. The article of some three pages in length deals with the principles of the Faith and construction details of the Temple. It is replete with illustrations.

From the number of clippings sent the News Service Committee by Assemblies and groups in the past weeks one of the most interesting came from Woburn, Mass. It is a clipping from a Boston newspaper for Italian people, Gazetta del Massachusetts, which used the Bahá'í Peace Program broadsides for the text which is printed in both English and Italian.

Clippings of Bahá'í publicity have also been received from the following cities: Geneva and Floral Park, N.Y., New Haven, Conn., Cabin John, Md., Augusta Ga., Wilmette, Ill., St. Louis, Mo., Reno, Nev., Tucson, Ariz., Los Angeles, Geyersville and San Francisco, Cal., and Honolulu, Hawaii. The Committee asks that two copies of all publication publicity on the Faith be sent its secretary.

Bahá'í News Service Committee

Addition to Centenary Radio Broadcasts

One more broadcast is to be added to the impressive list of Centenary Radio activity published in the December issue of Bahá'í News.

May 22, 9:30 P.M., Station WIBA, ten minute broadcast, paid for by local Assembly, Madison, Wisc.

Local Communities

Current Activities

HOUSTON

Mr. Gregory's teaching visit to Houston in January and February, 1944 was highly successful. Besides a series of advertised public meetings attended by 75 to 150 people of both races there were several fireside meetings and dinner parties. Mrs. Butterfield opened her house to all inquirers and the minority was well represented at all meetings. The secretary of the Houston Assembly wrote that she had never witnessed such a clamoring for Bahá'í literature and for opportunity to hear a Bahá'í speaker. The people were "attending every meeting, bringing friends and," in reality, "sitting at the feet of Louis Gregory." Many public meeting places were found where there was no segregation of races, and meetings were held in the Negro districts, with no objections whatsoever on the part of white inquirers.

Very fine broad-minded business and professional men, both Negro and white, came to the meetings, also lieutenants and sergeants from Ellington Field.

NEW ORLEANS

The Spiritual Assembly of New Orleans has recently acquired a meeting place situated near the center of the city in the Queen and Crescent Building, 344 Camp street. (This information is printed especially for the benefit of believers and friends who may wish to visit New Orleans.)

WILMINGTON

Gertrude Gewertz spent almost two weeks in August in Wilmington to assist with the teaching work there. Luncheons and informal evening meetings were arranged with friends interested in the Faith. One fireside meeting at the home of a fine colored woman attracted about fifteen, mostly teachers. A young colored man from Asheville, North Carolina, who attended all the meetings is going back to promote the Cause, after making a more thorough study of it. Dorothy Champ is doing excellent work among the Negroes in Wilmington, and her life is such a shining example that people know she has something to give. Cynthia Powell, who came to Wilmington some time ago as a pioneer, and Mr. Olson, a long resident of Wilmington, have recently been married. The wedding was a Bahá'í one, a good teacher in its beauty and simplicity, attracted much attention and received fine publicity in the papers. Rodney Warren, a new believer, a teacher of commercial chemistry, who has good connections all over the city, is fired with the idea of starting a youth group.

LOS ANGELES

The Bahá'ís of Los Angeles sponsored a "Bahá'í World Order" program every Sunday evening from April 22 to July 16, 1944.

The Centenary of the founding of the Bahá'í Faith was observed in Los Angeles on two days, May 18, when an inter-racial banquet was held, and May 21, at a public meeting in the Ambassador Hotel.

A very joyous meeting of the Bahá'ís of Los Angeles and surrounding communities was held on June 16, 1944, about 100 attending. A high light of the meeting was the showing of moving pictures of the National Centenary celebration. Roy Herrick and Victor Alexander were instrumental in the taking and showing of these pictures. A sound film of the founders of the Geyersville Bahá'í Summer School, John and Louise Bosch, was also shown. Among the speakers at this meeting were Mrs. Oni Finks, Mrs. French, who showed on the map where Bahá'í Inter-America work was being accomplished, Mrs. Helen Bishop, Mr. Iliescas, Mr. Falk and Mrs. Longyear.

Mr. Charles Mason Remey of Washington, D. C. has been making a trip through the United States, paying particular attention to the smaller Bahá'í communities. He was in Los Angeles and vicinity September 11 and 12 addressing an audience assembled from all the neighboring communities on the 11th, and on the 12th, speaking to friends gathered in the apartment of Patricia Scott in Beverly Hills.

In September, through the efforts of Charles Ellis, on furlough from the Merchant Marine, Willard Hatch was able to address an interracial meeting at the Lutheran church in Riverside. In October Mrs. Charles Reed Bishop was to address another meeting of the same type in a Negro church of Riverside. There were five clergymen in the group that heard Mr. Hatch, three white and two Negro. About 67 people attended and were made very happy as the various reasons for interracial unity were brought out.

Mrs. Charles Reed Bishop conducted the Los Angeles public meetings during September and built up a record attendance.

Mr. William deForge of New York City spent a few days in Los Angeles and spoke at the public meeting in West Hall on November 28.

Bahá'ís from Los Angeles and neighboring communities gathered at the grave of Thornton Chase on September 30, the anniversary of his passing. Flowers were placed on his grave and a service was held consisting of remarks by those who had known him and readings from his books.

SAN FRANCISCO

A course for inquirers was completed December 11 and another repeating the same material started on January 9.
Letter to the President on Race Unity
January 4, 1944
The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Your firm and powerful support of the principle of justice in race relations in connection with labor policy at this time, and your attitude of understanding and sympathy toward the economic and social hardships sustained by our Negro citizens, have been noted with grateful appreciation by all American Bahá'ís. It is our confident hope that through your authority and influence this gravest problem of civilization in America may at last be lifted up out of the darkness and distortion of prejudice and realized, by people and government alike, to be the fundamental ethical challenge laid by destiny upon our nation. How can we exercise the concentration of material and spiritual power in America for world peace if we continue to abuse that power in dealing with our own most helpless minority?

Therefore, because the Bahá'ís have for many years been conscious and aware of the vital importance of race unity as a foundation for world order, and have established race unity spiritually and socially in their own community, they now deem it a high privilege to express to their President these few words of sincere gratitude, and their heartfelt best wishes for full success in the noble effort to apply the divine law of human fellowship to political and social fields which have claimed exemption from the power of truth until the whole of humanity has become submerged in the sea of violence and strife.

Recently the Bahá'ís have issued a book entitled "Race and Man" in which are gathered together the most enlightened views of the time on aspects of this matter of race unity.

A copy of the book is being sent, and we trust that it will be accepted as a presentation for the Library of the White House.

Among the statements on race unity found in the Bahá'ís Sacred Writings, the text of an address delivered by 'Abdu'l-Bahá at Howard University on April 13, 1912, seems particularly appropriate:

"In the estimation of God there is no distinction of color; all are one in the color and beauty of servitude to Him... Therefore strive earnestly and put forth your greatest endeavor toward the accomplishment of this fellowship and the cementing of this bond of brotherhood between you. Such an attainment is not possible without will and effort on the part of each; from one, expressions of gratitude and appreciation; from the other kindness and recognition of equality. Each one should endeavor to develop and assist the other (race) toward mutual advancement. This is possible only by conjoining of effort and inclination. Love and unity will be fostered between you, thereby bringing about the oneness of mankind. For the accomplishment of unity between the colored and whites will be an assurance of the world's peace."

"Then racial prejudice," 'Abdu'l-Bahá continued, "national prejudice, limited patriotism and religious bias will pass away and remain no longer."

In these fateful days when ethical foundations alone will support the structures of an enduring society, the question of race unity in America, we dare to hope, will receive the priority of effort and spiritual intention needed to create full assurance "of the world's peace" and security for mankind.

Respectfully,

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada

By: Horace Holley
Secretary

Miss Lucy Marshall entertains Bahá'í service men who wish to spend their free time in town. Her house has become so popular that she can not take care of all her would-be guests and she is asking other Bahá'ís to volunteer for this service.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Shaw, Dr. Nichols and Miss Holley, and Mrs. Louise Gogor have recently entertained in their homes friends who were not familiar with the Cause and thus been able to attract and inform them. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw had several guests to hear a recent Bahá'í radio broadcast. After the broadcast the conversation and discussion were about the Cause.

The Bahá'ís of the Bay Area, (San Francisco, Oakland and Berkeley Assemblies) have presented a weekly radio program Sundays at 6:30 p.m., over Station KYA from September through December and will continue it through January and February. Some of the topics were: "The Challenge to Youth," "What is the Bahá'í Faith," "God's Plan for World Peace," Bahá'u'lláh—Light of the Age," "This Evolving Universe," "The Growth of World Society," "The Promise of This Century," "This Great Ordeal," "The Interdependence of Peoples."

NEW YORK

At a special youth meeting held in June Mme. Dreyfus-Barney and Mrs. Marzieh Gail were the speakers. One of the purposes of the meeting was to attract French people in New York. The hall was most attractive with paintings and French altar-pieces, which were loaned by the Mottahedehs. Lee Hagar, whose paintings were exhibited, and Nulta Schapiro, pianist, also participated. Many people who might not otherwise have come to the Center were present.

The New York Bahá'í News for July speaks of the fact that New York is the spot where the Nineteen Day Feast was first celebrated. "A party of American believers were the guests of 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 'Akká in 1905... In spite of the trouble surrounding Him, 'Abdu'l-Bahá prepared a Feast for the Eastern and Western believers who were visiting Him. As was His custom, He served His guests with His own hands and, passing among them, spoke the words that gather the friends together every nineteen days in a Feast of Unity and hospitality. The words He spoke were addressed..."
Telegram to the President on Peace
March 26, 1945

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

It is the prayerful hope of the American Bahá'ís that your Excellency, chief magistrate of the American nation and symbol of its destiny at this turn-ing-point in human history, will be spiritually guided and reinforced to lead the nations and peoples of the world in the inauguration of universal peace. We recall with reverence and devotion the exalted mission upheld for America by 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 1912 when He traveled from city to city promulgating the principles of universal peace and in the city of Washington declared: "May this American democracy be the first nation to establish the foundation of international agreement. May it be the first to upraise the standard of the Most Great Peace and through this nation of democracy may these philanthropic intentions and institutions be broadcast throughout the world. Truly this is a great and revered nation. Here liberty has reached its highest degree. The intentions of its people are most praiseworthy. They are indeed worthy of being the first people to build the tabernacle of the great peace and proclaim the oneness of mankind. I will supplicate God for assistance and confirmation in your behalf." May the dire needs of humanity be met by the creation of a new world order through the efforts of the forthcoming conference in San Francisco under your leadership.

National Bahá'í Assembly,
George O. Latimer, Chairman
Horace Holley, Secretary

Letter From Department of State
April 17, 1945

Mr. George O. Latimer, Chairman
National Bahá'í Assembly
Wilmette, Illinois

My dear Mr. Latimer:

I acknowledge the receipt, by reference from the White House, of your telegram of March 26, 1945, on behalf of the American Bahá'ís, in which you express the "prayerful hope" that the President "will be spiritually guided and reinforced to lead the nations and peoples of the world in the inauguration of universal peace."

The Department of State shares with the American Bahá'ís the hope that universal peace may be inaugurated at the conclusion of this war. As you are doubtless aware, it is the policy of this Government to establish an international organization for peace and security. The attainment of this objective will require the sustained support of an active and informed public opinion, and for this reason, it is heartening to know of the active interest of the American Bahá'ís in the problems of peace and security.

As of interest to you and your associates, I am enclosing some recently released material on the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals. I believe you will be especially interested in the speech by Mr. Henry S. Villard, entitled "The Positive Approach to an Enduring Peace."

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:
Francis H. Russell, Chief
Division of Public Liaison

Enclosures:
1. Press release No. 51.
Letter to Mrs. Roosevelt

April 13, 1945

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

On behalf of the American Bahá'í community we express sincere and heartfelt sympathy for your sorrow in the death of Mr. Roosevelt, and our realization of the sudden blow which the President's passing means to workers for peace and justice throughout the world.

It has seemed to the Bahá'ís that destiny had found in Mr. Roosevelt the instrument needed to complete the world undertaking begun by President Wilson after the first world war, and thereby fulfill the mission providentially laid upon our country to lead the nations in the establishment of universal peace. We pray that the sacrifice of his precious life at this crucial moment may deepen the determination of the American representatives at San Francisco to succeed in their great purpose, and produce in the body of the people a sense of renewed consecration and fuller understanding of the nature of our supreme task.

Only a few days ago we were moved to send the President a message conveying our hopes that under his leadership the gathering of the Allied Nations would lay a basis for peace. Similarly, in January, 1944 we sent the President a letter expressing our appreciation of his activities in behalf of race unity, while nearly ten years ago we had the privilege of giving him, through the courtesy of the President's mother, an engrossed copy of Bahá'u'lláh's Tablet addressed to the rulers of the American Republics, and of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's prayers revealed for America. As the ideals of peace and race unity are so large a part of your own public work and influence, we send you with this a set of photographs of the engrossed document, and copies of the telegram and letter mentioned.

May we also share with you these beautiful words of Bahá'u'lláh:

"O Son of Man! Thou art My dominion and My dominion perisheth not, wherefore fearest thou thy perishing? Thou art My Light and My Light shall never be extinguished, why dost thou dread extinction? Thou art My glory and My glory fadeth not; thou art My robe and My robe shall never be outworn. Abide then in thy love for Me, that thou mayest find Me in the realm of glory."

Respectfully,

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the U. S. and Canada,

By: Horace Holley, Secretary.

April-May, 1945

Letter to Mrs. Roosevelt

'Abdu'l-Bahá in America

The exposition of these vitalizing truths of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh, which He characterized as the "spirit of the age," He supplemented with grave and reiterated warnings of an impending conflagration which, if the statesmen of the world should fail to avert, would set ablaze the entire continent of Europe. He, moreover, predicted, in the context of these travels, the radical changes which would take place in that continent, foreshadowed the movement of the decentralization of political power which would inevitably be set in motion, alluded to the troubles that would overtake Turkey, anticipated the persecution of the Jews on the European continent, and categorically asserted that the "banner of the unity of mankind would be hoisted, that the tabernacle of universal peace would be raised and the world become another world.—Shoghi Effendi, God Passes By, p. 282

and the premiere of Mr. Kinney's music for the 23rd and 24th Psalms of David.

Philip Sprague and Saffa Kinney gave the Bahá'í Message at a meeting at the McKee High School, May 15. There were other speakers, one of whom spoke on "The Basis of Brotherhood," Irna Marisashe sang and Mr. Kinney played. Sylvia King presided. The meeting was planned by Lila Hope and Ethel Peck.

Marzieh Gail in an interview with Martha Deane over WOR on May 31 brought out the Bahá'í Principles and described the Convention.

New York art critics praised Mark Tobey's exhibit held in April at the 'illard Gallery. His picture, "Threading Light," a picture of Bahá'í expression, has caused much comment. Mr. Tobey is also a noted Bahá'í teacher. He has visited the Guardian, pioneered in England, taught at the Geysville School and at the International School at Tem-erity Ranch, Colorado. He lives in Seattle, Washington and made only a brief visit in New York.

YONKERS

Mrs. Sylvia King spoke over WPTAS, White Plains, for the Yonkers Assembly, May 23.

Three Yonkers papers had excellent publicity on the Centennial.

Programs of regular public weekly meetings have been received at the National Office from four local Bahá'í centers. The time and place of these meetings in each city is given below.

Los Angeles, every Sunday at 3 p.m., West Hall Halliburton Building, 1709 West Eighth Street.
San Francisco, Friday, 8 p.m., Bahá'í Center, 126 Post Street.
Philadelphia, Sunday, 8:15 p.m., 308 Fuller Building, 10 South 18th Street, Washington, D. C., Sunday 4 p.m., Bahá'í Center, 1208 Eye Street.

TOPEKA

Topeka, Kansas issued an attractive Bahá'í Program for 1943-44 containing picture of the Temple, membership roll, names of isolated believers in vicinity, and Bahá'í youth, members of the Assembly, committee chairman, and a calendar of Bahá'í events from April to April. The program calls for one Guest meeting a month.

It is the hope of the Bahá'í News Editorial Committee to study local methods and report the most effective suggestions from time to time.
Local News Letters

Copies of their local news letters have been received from the Los Angeles, California, the Maywood, Illinois, and the New York Communities, and they are full of interesting activities. LOS ANGELES issues monthly a seven-page Bahá'í Journal which includes the Bahá'í calendar for the period; an announcement of the time of the feast or feasts which will be held; much devotional material, not only from the Bahá'í Writings but also from the Bible and the Qur'an; and odd items of interest, such as the poem written by John Greenleaf Whittier in honor of Sarah J. Farmer's birthday. One interesting bit of news was the announcement of the arrival of Mrs. Luisa Garrido de Padilla from Chile with her husband, who is connected with the Los Angeles Chilean Consulate. Mrs. Padillo has been a member of the Spiritual Assembly of Santiago since its inception.

In an effort to build up a Youth Group "of distinction and noteworthy capacity" the Los Angeles Assembly invited all the Bahá'í Youth of that community to a consultation and social meeting on January 7th. Mrs. Virginia Camelon foster is conducting a study class in Los Angeles, using "God Passes By" as a text-book. About twenty-six students are attending this class, which lessons are assigned and opportunity for discussion is given.

The very young assembly of MAYWOOD, Illinois, with a membership of thirteen voting members, published in January its first local Bahá'í News, a vigorous little four-page letter giving excerpts from the Bahá'í Writings; the dates of the feasts to be held January through April, with the names of the hosts; news of the various members of the community; and the following challenging questions:

Do you know?
The periods of development of the Bahá'í Faith?
The chief agency empowered to usher in this Age?
What is the sole framework of the Bahá'í future?
What is the pattern of the new world order?
The source of authority of the Administrative order?
The institutions of the Administrative order?
Its functions?
Its successorship?

"What do you know about
The Universal House of Justice?
The secondary House of Justice?
The institution of the Guardianship?
"Will you be able to answer the above questions, and more, when the outside world begins asking them?"

The last page of the paper is given over to pictures taken in 1937 with the caption: "Do you remember when...Maywood was a group?"

Two news items show how strongly Maywood is supporting the institutions of the Cause: "Our membership is 100% subscribed to World Order and has arranged for free copies to be sent to the Hines and the Vaughan hospitals in Maywood." "At the close of 1944 our treasurer has sent a contribution each and every month to the National Fund."

The New York Bahá'í News, issued monthly, begins with a boxed statement of some current matter important to the community. For instance, in December it carried this item: "At the next Feast, December 30th, there will be important consultation in regard to acquiring our own Center this year. Please be present." The calendar, showing the next three Feasts, is given, announcements of meetings of the various classes, items of interest contributed by committees, personal news, and a financial statement.

The New York City teaching program includes a wide variety of public meetings and study classes. Besides a public meeting every Sunday, that held on the first Sunday of the month being conducted by the local Inter-America Committee, there are four study classes weekly and three fireside meetings. Of the study classes, one, for believers, was engaged in studying the Bahá'í Peace Program in January, and, during February, "God Passes By." Fireside groups meet at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Safa Kinney and of Mrs. Sara Ellen Peake and Miss Gale March.

The young assembly of SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, is issuing a bulletin. In the January number the assembly expresses a hope that by means of this monthly bulletin it can continue its contact with other Bahá'ís in Puerto Rico and create a feeling of fellowship between the friends living in different parts of the island. The Bahá'í calendar for the month is given and two news items: that Miss Margaret Lentz, formerly of Santo Domingo, is now a member of the San Juan community, and that Mr. Thomas S. Morales of New York visited in Puerto Rico with his family. Besides this there are several quotations from the Sacred Writings.

Announcements of Meetings

At least three assemblies get out

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Santiago da Chile, 1944-45
attractive little folders announcing to the public the meetings to be held in their vicinity. That issued by CHICAGO contains announcements of the public meetings to be held at the House of Worship in Wilmette, as well as at the Center, 116 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago. The January calendar contained a special notice of Race Unity Meeting, Thursday, January 25th, having as its theme "Pattern for Future Society." The chairman was Hushang Javid, one of the young Baha'is from Persia, and the speakers were Eli Powlas, Robert Imagire, Arabelle Haywood, and Marion Oas, representing various races and nationalities. Announcement is also made on this program of a Wednesday noon class conducted regularly at the Center by Mrs. Ruth Moffet, a youth meeting every Friday evening, and the Fellowship Group, which meets Saturday evenings, and a Children's hour every Sunday from 12:00 to 1:00.

The little folder published by the LOS ANGELES Assembly contains the announcement of the public meetings to be held at the Bahá'í Library and Reading Room, 207 Haliburton Building during the current two months. In January the speakers were Mrs. Virginia Camelon Foster, Dr. Stephen S. Tornay, and Mr. Robert Thiess, in February, Mr. Willard P. Hatch, Mr. Winston Evans, and Mrs. Orcella Rexford (Gregory). On the back of the folder there is a list of ten Bahá'í classes in the vicinity of Los Angeles with the name and the telephone number of the person to whom one may call for information (Mrs. Jessie B. Kemper, Mrs. J. C. Davenport, Mrs. Elden Smith, Mrs. B. E. Grover, Mrs. Graydon Robertson, Mrs. Olive Dible, Mrs. R. W. Beck, Miss Dorothy Wever, Mrs. Stuart W. French, and Mrs. Charles R. Witt.)

PHILADELPHIA also puts out a very attractive little folder with a fine photograph of the House of Worship on the face and the Words of Bahá'u'lláh inscribed over its nine entrances on the reverse side. It carries the announcement of six public addresses for January and February and two special meetings. The speakers were Marybelle Hammond, Doris Talmon and Edith Segen, Jean Bruce, Curtis Kelsey, Margaret Lear, and Edward Phar. One of the special meetings was a round table discussion on the subject of "Race Unity" presided over by Jes-

Baha'í Program for January, in mimeograph form has been received from the SEATTLE Spiritual Assembly. It announces two public meetings: January 14th, "The Secret of Divine Civilization," at which the speakers were Mrs. Lillian Smith and Miss Elsa Nordquist and the chairman was Mr. Dean Hart; and January 28th, "Peace — A Divine Creation" with Miss Hazel Stauter and Mr. Ray Wardall as speakers and Mrs. Heloise Wardall as chairman. A Friday evening book review and study class was also announced, four meetings at which "God Passes By" was studied by Mr. C. G. Nordquist, Miss Lotus Peterson, Mr. E. G. Washington, and Mrs. Edna Johns.

Two printed cards announcing special meetings have been received. In BEVERLY, Mass., a Race Unity Forum was held with Mr. Harlan Ober as chairman. The guest speakers were Mr. Abraham Gloskky, Baha'i Brith, and Mr. John Caswell Smith, secretary of the Urban League of Greater Boston. Mr. Charles S. Krug, Chairman of the Boston Assembly presented the Bahá'í teachings on the subject. The Beverly Assembly reports that thirty people attended the meeting, in spite of the fact that it was a slippery rainy night.

Last November such a Race Unity meeting was held in BOSTON, presided over by Matthew W. Bullock, of the Massachusetts Parole Board. The speakers were Clarence Q. Berger, Educational Director of the Anti-Defamation League, and Harlan F. Ober of the National Bahá'í Race Unity Committee.

**Annual Reports**

Some very successful teaching work was done in KANSAS CITY, Missouri, by means of fireside groups. Such meetings were held weekly in two homes, and occasionally outside speakers were present, among them the late Mrs. Howard Ives, Mrs. Virginia Camelon Foster, Mr. Winston Evans, and Mr. Louis Gregory. There were, besides this, seven public lectures and two informal gatherings at which Mrs. Joy Hill Earle was the speaker, one at the home of her cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Reynolds, and the other at the home of Prof. and Mrs. G. B. Buster. On these occasions there was a mingling of both races. Publicity in Kansas City was carried on by three display ads, an article in the "Call" when Mrs. Earle spoke, and notices on the church page of the "Kansas City Star."

The LIMA, Ohio, Assembly presented four public meetings on the four great teaching themes of the year. The speakers were Mr. Lothar Schurgast, Mr. St. George Spindlove, Mr. Carl Scheffler, and Mrs. Frank Baker. Three radio talks were given over the local station by Mrs. Frank Baker, Mr. Floyd Spahr, and Mrs. Hazel McCurdy. A race unity banquet was held November 21st, attended by two hundred Bahá'ís and their friends. The Lima Assembly reports this as the most outstanding event of the year. In response to the Guardian's call for pioneers, Mrs. Edna Holloway moved to Charlotte town, Prince Edward Island, and there assisted in forming a spiritual assembly. Three of the Lima community are in the armed forces: Dr. Conrad Baker, William (Bill) Baker, and Joe Stahl.

The youth work in Lima is very active. There is a class for small children, which meets Sunday afternoons. The program covers studies from the Bible, with pictures and stories, the Bahá'í principles and prayers, and some handicraft work. Nine pupils attended, five coming from non-Bahá'í families. The intermediate group, or Junior YOUTH Group, consists of eight children, six from non-Bahá'í families. They are studying "Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era" and plan to take up the lives of the Bab, Bahá'u'lláh, and 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and something about the Guardian. The Senior Youth Group is taking lessons from "The Wisdom of 'Abdu'l-Bahá," "The Chosen Highway," and "Procedure." The ten members enrolled represent seven Bahá'í and three non-Bahá'í families. At the annual Youth Symposium there were guests from Mansfield Medina, and Columbus Grove. The Lima summer session is again planned for a week in June 1944. The theme for the week will be Progressive Revelation, with emphasis on...
the Manifestations of the present day, and their fulfillment. An interesting feature will be Bahá’í plays with the miniature theater loaned by Mrs. Esther Toy Wolf. Choral speaking is also tentatively planned. It is hoped that, like last year, there will be a number of out-of-town guests.”

MADISON, Wisconsin, also, is to be congratulated on having sent more than 96% of its funds to the National Treasurer while at the same time doing very active teaching at home. In May the Assembly sponsored a lecture at the Lorraine Hotel, at which Prof. Gerth of the University spoke on the subject of race prejudice and was followed by Mr. Horace Holley. Ruth Moffett spent ten days in Madison and spoke several times publicly. She gave a radio address at the university radio station so successfully that the manager invited her to speak whenever she came to Madison. Ruth Cornell spoke in October and again in January. Mrs. Stebbins, the publicity chairman, has succeeded in getting a number of articles published in the “Voice of the People” section of the local papers. And the young people have organized a flourishing youth group. The first was the Symposium, February 27th, with about fifteen in attendance. “They have met every other Sunday since then, and have attracted several non-Bahá’í youth and had lively discussions.”

In MAUI, Hawaii, public meetings were held weekly at the homes of Mrs. Daisy Sabin and Mrs. Mary Fantom; a children’s class was held every Monday at Mrs. Sabin’s; and books, along with “World Order” were placed, not only in the local library but also in those on the islands of Molukai and Lanai, where there are no Bahá’í residents.

Perhaps the most effective teaching done by this community came at a time of grief and loss. Mrs. Alice Broadhurst (Mother Broadhurst) passed away January 18, 1944, at the age of 89, and Mrs. Ella Federcell left this life on March 30th. Mrs. Daisy Sabin, who presented the Bahá’í part of the funeral services for both of these friends writes of them as follows: “At the memorial service for our beloved Bahá’í, Mother Broadhurst, which was held at Peter’s Undertaking Parlors in Wailuku, Maui, Rev. R. M. Kennan—pastor of the Wailuku Union Church—gave a very beautiful service. Following Rev. Kennan, I had the honor of conducting the first Bahá’í service of its nature to be held on Maui. There were about thirty-five people present who had never heard of the Bahá’í Cause before.” The reading on immortality was taken from the article “The Path to God” in the October 1943 “World Order” magazine, and the service was closed with one of the prayers of Bahá’u’lláh. Many people afterwards spoke of being impressed by the Bahá’í reading. The other service, that for Mrs. Federcell, took place in the Episcopal Church of Lahaina and Mrs. Sabin was invited by Rev. John M. Horton to conduct her part of the service from the lectern. She writes: “This service was a surprise and has significance, since it was the first time a Bahá’í reader has taken part in a service conducted in any church here on Maui. Several people expressed surprise at a woman conducting a service in the Episcopal church. Also it has significance in the fact that there were five denominations represented: Christian Science, Congregational, Catholic, Mormon, and Episcopalian. Ten different nationalities were represented: Chinese, Russian, Norwegian, English, Scotch, German, Portuguese, Japanese, American colored, Hawaiian and part-Hawaiian. Also many were of mixed races.” People from ten different localities were present, making a total of over one hundred, the largest number on Maui ever to hear of the Bahá’í Faith at one time. Many favorable comments were made and the family of Mrs. Federcell, who were non-Bahá’ís expressed themselves as being much comforted by the words of Bahá’u’lláh.

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut, is to be credited with having sent out two pioneers, Mrs. Marion Clark and Miss Betty Clark, who went to Little Rock, Arkansas. This community has held public meetings every Sunday afternoon at their new Bahá’í Center. Fifty-six meetings have drawn out 809 souls of which 159 were non-Bahá’ís. Lillian Steed conducted a class for the training of speakers. Twenty outside speakers were brought in, five of them non-Bahá’ís, and in this undertaking the HAMDEN and ORANGE groups cooperated.

OKLAHOMA CITY reports that the visits of two teachers, Mr. Louis Gregory and Mrs. Beulah Lewis have greatly extended the interest in the Faith in that city. Mr. Gregory stayed ten days, spoke in several of the Negro churches, to groups of ministers, and to a woman’s club, and made many contacts. A study class conducted by one of the interested people was the result of his visit. Alice Entzminger writes: “This is the first opportunity many of us had to meet Mr. Gregory personally and we are deeply grateful for the
privilege of association with this saintly soul."

Mrs. Beulah Lewis spent a week in Oklahoma City, during which time she spoke publicly on "The Manifestation" and talked to a Fellowship Class at the Unitarian Church. Many questions were asked by a large and alert audience. "Many splendid fire-sides were held with the study class and with newly interested people." At the Feast of the Rídvan three new members were added to the community.

The OMAHA Assembly has been carrying on four study classes: an advanced class, studying the World Order Letters and three beginning classes. For their two public speakers during the year, Dorothy Baker in October and Dr. Edris Rice-Wray in March, the Omaha Bahá’ís were able to get good publicity, better in March than in October, as the Cause was better known and better received in Omaha at that time. Dr. Rice-Wray spoke on the "Noon-Day Forum" program of the Broadcasting Station W.O.W. while she was there, in an interview with Mr. Ray Clark, who asked his questions in such a way as to give her an opportunity to speak fully of the Cause. The community, which had been using as a center the apartment generously offered them by Mrs. India Haggerty, finding the quarters now too small, has obtained a center in the heart of the downtown district. This is only one indication that the Cause is growing in Omaha. There has been increased interest on the part of the public and spiritual growth within the community. The secretary, Josephine Jones, writes: "Attendance has been good at the feasts with a fine feeling of spiritual unity, which at times has been especially strong. There has been a steady spiritual growth and strengthening during the past six months, and we realize that for continued growth, and to maintain and increase the prestige of the Bahá’í Faith in this community, we must be even more loyal and self-sacrificing."

The high points of the year in PHOENIX, Arizona, were connected with the teaching themes given out by the National Spiritual Assembly. The first was a public lecture given by Dorothy Baker, September 30th, at the Phoenix Woman’s Club on the theme of race unity, which was followed by a ten minute talk on the radio the following morning. Publicity for this event was carried on by means of advertising over the radio, display ads and items in the newspapers, letters sent to civic clubs, and cards of invitation sent to individuals.

The second period, in which religious unity was the theme, had as its high point an evening of music, sponsored by the assembly and held at the home of Mrs. Paul Schoenly. Fifty written invitations were sent to friends.

For the period during which world unity was stressed, an announcement of the subjects for the weekly meetings was printed and distributed. The program also contained a picture of the Temple, mention of the Bahá’í library and reading room at the Center, an announcement of the classes held in PHOENIX and EAST PHOENIX, and quotations from the sacred Writings. The period was climaxd by the Bahá’í Youth Symposium, February 27th.

Programs were also printed and distributed for the meetings in March and April, which had as their theme the Manifestation of God.

On April 2 the Phoenix and East Phoenix communities entered into a contract with the Arizona Republic and Gazette for the insertion weekly, during April and May, of a short quotation from the Bahá’í writings.

An interesting feature of the report of the VANCOUVER Assembly is the very complete and detailed financial statement which was submitted by the treasurer, Ernest Liddell. It was accompanied by separate statements for the lending library, as well as a statement of the account of books for sale.

The teaching work in Vancouver was carried on by means of semimonthly public meetings, which alternated with a study class for Bahá’ís only. At two of the public meetings, non-Bahá’ís guest speakers talked, one on the contribution of the Semitic race and the other on the League of Nations. Several Bahá’ís visited the community: Mrs. Amelia Collins; Mrs. Cox, a pioneer en route to Regina; Mrs. Sylvia Joas; Mr. Rowland Estall; and Mrs. Roland McGee. The two gave public addresses.

Vancouver has helped with the extension work in Regina, where Miss Muriel Warnicker made two extended visits, and in Victoria.

The Vancouver Assembly has maintained a Center throughout the year and finds it very valuable to have a permanent room.

Besides the weekly study class, the WAUWATOSA Spiritual Assembly has held thirteen public meetings during this past year, bringing as outside speakers, Mrs. A. Schwandes, Mr. Carl Scheffler, Mrs. Nina Mathiesen, Mrs. Ruth Moffett, Fanny Junick, and Mr. Solon Fieldman.

The YONKERS, New York, Spiritual Assembly reports that in carrying out the plan for uniform teaching subjects in 1943-4, it held a public meeting on inter-racial unity on September 16th, at which Dr. A. M. Rivera, a local non-Bahá’í, and Mr. Ellahi Kalantar were the speakers. On October 20th, at a fellowship meeting, Mr. Bruce Wendell, a concert pianist, played and then spoke on "Man’s Individual Responsibility," Mr. Archie Tichenor spoke on November 17th and Mr. Kalantar on December 6th with Miss Alferetta Bower, speakers in the series were Mr. Hubeb Sabet and Miss Sylvia King.

Enrollments and Transfers
Reported by Local Assemblies

Denver, three.
New York, six.
Columbus, one transfer.
Springfield, Ill., one transfer.
Yonkers, one transfer.
Albhabra, one youth.
Evanston, one transfer, one youth.
Berkeley, one and one transfer.
Tacoma, two.
Topeka, one.
Columbus, one.
Madison, one transfer, one youth.
Lima, five.
Washington, D. C., six transfers.
Los Angeles, three, two transfers.
Oakland, one and one transfer.
Birmingham, one.
Muskegon, one.
Jackson, two.
Teaneck, two.
Burbank, one.
Binghamton, one.
Helena, five transfers.
Alexandria, two.
Louisville, one transfer.
Montreal, one transfer.
Arlington, one transfer.
Halifax, two, two youth, one transfer.
Cedar Rapids, one.
Wauwatosa, three, one youth.
Montclair, two.
Pasadena, three transfers.
Worcester, one transfer.
San Diego, one transfer.
Cleveland, one and one youth.
Peoria, one youth.
Toronto, one youth.
St. Paul, one.
Glendale, two transfers.
Racine, two.
Kansas City, three.
Flint, one youth.
Chicago, four, four transfers, one youth.
Seattle, two and two transfers.
St. Louis, two transfers.
Minneapolis, one.
Naywood, four.
Edmonton, one.

APRIL-MAY, 1945
News of Other Lands

Persia

From Haifa comes news of the steady progress of the Cause in the land of its birth and the National Spiritual Assembly in Iran writes that it is "striving to bend all the activities of the friends in the channel directed by our Beloved Guardian. And nobly are the friends responding to this call. Forsaking home, comfort, and established ties, they are scattering far and wide, within and without the domains of this land, in an effort to prove worthy of their Guardian's trust. They bid fair to become embodiments of that essence of detachment described by the Master in His Will as the hallmark of a true Baha'i. May Bahá'u'lláh grant them fresh strength and cheer their hearts, may He bless their efforts and vouchsafe unto their sincere endeavors true victory."

Near the tomb of Keith Ransome-Keller are interred the bodies of two of the most famous Baha'i martyrs, called by Bahá'u'lláh the King of Martyrs and the Beloved of Martyrs. They were brutally killed in Isfahan in the early days of the Cause, and now the National Spiritual Assembly, at the request of the Guardian, is building suitable tombs for them. The Guardian sent £1000 for this purpose, and the Persian believers are contributing wholeheartedly.

The interest of the Persian believers in Bahá'í activities is shown by the news that, when the "Picture Post" containing the article and picture of the London Naw-rúz arrived in Tehran the price of the paper rose from 3 riyals to 300 riyals, owing to the enormous demand for it.

India

The Haifa news letter for July is all of rejoicing over the splendid success of the Six-year Plan in India. The number of Spiritual Assemblies mentioned in this news letter exceeds that reported in the May news letter from India and we must conclude that it is based on later information. Thirty-seven Spiritual Assemblies and thirty-five groups are now in existence and the Guardian has written to the Indian believers: "The repeated and striking evidences of their high accomplishments invigorate, encourage, and excite the admiration of their sister communities in East and West. They are holding aloft the standard of Divine Guidance in a manner that cannot but evoke the unstinted praise and the unqualified gratitude of their brethren throughout the Bahá'í world."

Seven youth groups participated in the International Symposium March 28 and three other meetings were projected for the youth throughout India. The first, in April, was to be a meeting of discussion on the topic, "The Dawn Breakers," on "The Secret of Success in Life," and on "Character-forming." The meeting in September was to take the form of public lectures on "The Oneness of Humanity—Its True Significance," "The Making of Personality under the Influence of Divine Teachings," and "The History of Mankind." The third meeting, to be held in December in some public hall was to be a meeting of discussion of the following proposition: In the opinion of this house the present society is ready for the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh which fulfills the present needs of the body politic."

Memorial Book From Bahá'ís of India

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HUNDRED YEARS' HISTORY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF INDIA AND BURMAH. By Siyyid S. H. Koreshi

This interesting Centenary booklet deals, for the most part, with the first two periods of the first Bahá'í Century, the period of the Bab and the period of Bahá'u'lláh. It is to be followed at a later date, by a complete hundred years' history of the Cause in those countries.

Before reaching the period of the Bab the author describes the intense expectation which pervaded Shi'ih Islám, during the hundred years (1744-1844) which preceded the first Bahá'í Century, of the coming
to Bombay, which from the first year of the Bahá’í era has played a notable part in the development of the Cause in India. During the lifetime of Bahá’u’lláh several volumes of His Tablets were published at Bombay. Bombay acted as the organizing center for India and Burmah for almost fifty years. It practically financed the tours of all the traveling teachers who came to India and Burmah from the East or the West. But with the beginning of the fourth or formative period of the first century if “most cheerfully handed over charge of the administration to the National Spiritual Assembly elected by the Bahá’ís of India and Burmah in accordance with the instructions of the Guardian and continued to bear the larger part of the financial burden of administration.” Bombay was, however, selected as the fitting place for the observation of the All-India and Burmah First Bahá’í Centenary Celebrations.

Iraq

We learn from Haifa that the believers of Iraq are very active in teaching the Cause and that their Bahá’í activities and organizations continue uninterrupted. On March 1st the youth of that country took part in the international youth symposium by holding a meeting in the Hazratu’l-Quds. A great many non-Bahá’í youths attended.

The British Isles

The British believers report more activity than has hitherto been possible during the war. Two Assemblies have been re-established, and this year, for the first time since the beginning of the war, a summer school was held. A school was hired at Barford, Warwickshire, in beautiful surroundings. Owing to limitations of space, the committee planned at first to restrict it to Bahá’ís, but it turned out that more non-Bahá’ís attended than ever before and some of them declared themselves believers afterwards.

The following incident, reported by the National Spiritual Assembly of the British Isles, shows how an apparently unfortunate occurrence may work for the good of the Cause: “Some months ago it was brought to the attention of the N.S.A. that a man appearing before a Conscientious Objector’s Appeal Tribunal in the North of England was calling himself a member of the Bahá’í Faith. The matter was serious, in that he had served in the Army and had been twice imprisoned for refusing to obey orders to fulfill his military duties, and the proceedings had been reported in full in the Yorkshire papers. The man, of course, was not a Bahá’í, but he had been in touch with the London community for a short period before the war. The Assembly got in touch with the Tribunal, who were very sympathetic and helpful, and an opportunity was given for a member of the Assembly to make a statement at the next sitting, showing what our attitude really is. This was duly reported in the “Yorkshire Post,” by arrangement with the editor.

Australia and New Zealand

The July number of the Bahá’í Quarterly published by the National Spiritual Assembly of Australia and New Zealand tells of the establishment of National Headquarters in Sydney. We quote parts of the Quarterly’s account of this enterprise: “The news of the Guardian’s decision that National Headquarters were to be established, together with his gift of £1000 sterling towards the project was a tremendous surprise. How profoundly stirred we were, how honored, and what a stimulus and tonic to the Australian and New Zealand Bahá’í community. But while we were still rejoicing in this gift and what it will mean in prestige for the Faith to have a building, the material symbol of the institution of the N.S.A., another cable came announcing a further contribution of £2,000 sterling from the Guardian. Then cables and a generous contribution from the much loved N.S.A. in America and Canada. Later we were completely dazzled by a loving cable from Furutan Rahání with a contribution of £2,500 sterling from our Persian brothers and sisters... The spirit which prompted this gift is so pure, so selfless, we are dazzled by its sweetness and beauty. But this was not all, our dearly loved Bahá’ís of India, Iraq, America and a Persian believer sent wonderful contributions.

“Now we have realized more than ever before, the meaning of Bahá’í unity. We rejoice in the reality of our spiritual union with the believers throughout the world.”

The search for a suitable property was commenced immediately and resulted in the purchase of the property No 2 Lang Road, Centennial Park, Sydney. This purchase was made in December, 1943. The National Convention was held during the week of the 23rd of May, 1944 at this recently purchased Hazratu’l-Quds. On Saturday, May 20, the building was officially dedicated by Mrs. Clara Dunn. In opening the Convention the Chairman of the National Assembly, Mr. H. Fitzner, traced the growth of the Faith from the Báb to present day administration, and paid tribute to the work of the late Mr. John Hyde Dunn, Mrs. Dunn, the late Martha Root and many of the pioneer believers in Australia and New Zealand. He called upon the Bahá’ís of those lands to intensify and redouble their efforts that the Message of Bahá’u’lláh might be spread; that the Most Great Peace might become a reality.

The Convention received cables from the Guardian, from which we quote the following sentence: “Praying unprecedented blessing for high minded, stout hearted, dearly beloved Australian and New Zealand believers.”

Following the Convention the National Spiritual Assembly drew up plans for spreading the knowledge of the Bahá’í Teachings not only in the capital cities of Australia and New Zealand, but to every town and country district. The plan was eagerly accepted by the believers everywhere and is working successfully.

A monument has been erected on the late Mr. Dunn’s grave at a cost of £172. Mrs. Dunn chose the materials and the design.

The Adelaide Spiritual Assembly has purchased a residence at Belair which will be used as a Bahá’í school, the school later to become a great Bahá’í college.

The N.S.A. continues to publish the magazine “Herald of the Faith.” Many expressions of appreciation of the magazine have been received from America as well as Australia.

According to the October Bahá’í Quarterly, Corporal Alvin Blum of Memphis, Tennessee was still associated with the Auckland, New Zealand community and was responsible for increased activity in that community and also for initiating a youth group, which is now firmly established under Auckland leadership.

The Sydney Spiritual Assembly reported visits from several young American Bahá’ís who had passed through Sydney with the American Forces.
Messages from the Guardian

Dear and valued co-workers:

The Divine Plan conceived by 'Abdu'l-Bahá for the American Bahá'í community, in the midst of one of the darkest periods in human history, and with which the destinies of the followers of Bahá'u'lláh in the North American continent must for generations to come remain inextricably interwoven, has, during the concluding years of the first Bahá'í Century, triumphantly emerged from the first stage of its evolution. Its initiation, officially and on a vast scale, had, for well nigh twenty years, been held in abeyance, while the processes of a slowly emerging administrative Order, were, under the unerring guidance of Providence, creating and perfecting the agencies for its efficient and systematic prosecution. The next stage in the evolution of the Plan cannot, however, be embarked upon, until the external causes, hampering its further unfoldment in other continents of the globe, are removed through the cessation of hostilities and the signal victories already won through its initial development are sufficiently consolidated throughout the Western Hemisphere. The tasks confronting those who have so valiantly and brilliantly inaugurated the first stage in the execution of the Great Design unfolded by 'Abdu'l-Bahá for the promulgation of the Faith of His Father, during this transitional period, are manifold, exacting, urgent, and sacred. The local administrative units, so laboriously constituted throughout the Americas, must needs, as already pointed out and repeatedly stressed, be maintained, reinforced, closely integrated and their number steadily multiplied. The spirit that has inflamed the pioneers who have set the seal of triumph on the Seven Year Plan, must, under the vigilant care of the national representatives of the American Bahá'í community be constantly watched, kept alive and nourished. The literature of the Faith, particularly in Spanish and Portuguese, must be widely disseminated in both Central and South America, as a necessary adjunct to the systematic consolidation of the work that has been undertaken. Above all, the healing Message of Bahá'u'lláh must during the opening years of the second Bahá'í Century, and through the instrumentality of an already properly functioning Administrative Order, whose ramifications have been extended to the four corners of the Western Hemisphere, be vividly, systematically brought to the attention of the masses, in their hour of grief, misery and confusion. A more audacious assertion of the challenging verities of the Faith; a more convincing presentation of its distinguishing truths; a fuller exposition of the character, the aims and the achievements of its rising Administrative system as the nucleus and pattern of its future world-embracing order; a more direct and intimate contact and association with the leaders of public thought, whose activities and aims are akin to the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh, for the purpose of demonstrating the universalality, the comprehensiveness, the liberality and the dynamic power of His Divine Message; a closer scrutiny of the ways and means whereby its claims can be vindicated, its defamers and detractors silenced, and its institutions safeguarded; a more determined effort to exploit, to the fullest extent possible, the talents and abilities of the rank and file of the believers for the purpose of achieving these ends—these stand out as the paramount tasks summoning to a challenge, during these years of transition and turmoil, the entire body of the American believers. The facilities which the radio and press furnish must be utilized to a degree unprecedented in American Bahá'í history. The combined resources of the much-envied, exemplary American Bahá'í community must be harnessed for the effectual promotion of these meritorious purposes. Blessings undreamt of in their scope and plenteousness, are bound to be vouchsafed to those who will, in these dark yet pregnant times, arise, to further these noble ends and to hasten through their acts the hour at which a still more momentous stage in the evolution of a Divine and worldwide Plan can be launched.

There is no time to lose. The hour is ripe for the proclamation, without fear, without reserve, and without hesitation, and on a scale never as yet undertaken, of the One Message that can alone extricate humanity from the morass into which it is steadily sinking, and from which they who claim to be the followers of the Most Great Name can and will eventually rescue it. The sooner they who labor for the recognition and triumph of His Faith in the new world arise to carry out these inescapable duties, the sooner will the hopes, the aims and objectives of 'Abdu'l-Bahá as enshrined in His own Plan, be translated from the realm of vision to the plane of actuality and manifest the full force of the potentialities with which they have been endowed.

Haifa, Palestine
March 29, 1945

My heavy laden heart, already oppressed by repeated defections of the unworthy kindred of the beloved Master, is relieved by latest signal evidence of the indomitable spirit of the members of divinely chosen American Bahá'í community now unfurling the banner of the Faith and establishing the structural basis of its administrative order in the world's southernmost city. I hail the staunchness and fidelity distinguishing the winners of such superb victories. I acclaim them true brothers and sisters worthy of the name 'Abdul-Bahá. I urge the Inter-America Committee to devote special attention and undertake prompt measures designed to increase the number of believers, establish local administrative headquarters, and multiply the
subsidiary agencies indispensable to the maintenance of a flourishing community in the southern extremity of western hemisphere. Praying ever increasing successes.

Shoghi Effendi

May 8, 1945

The followers of Bahá’u’lláh throughout five continents unanimously rejoice in the partial emergence of a war-torn humanity from the titanic upheaval unerringly predicted seventy years ago by the Pen of the Author of their Faith. The cessation of hostilities in the European continent signals yet another chapter in the tragic tale of fiery trials providentially decreed by inscrutable wisdom designed ultimately to weld the mutually antagonistic elements of human society into a single, organically-united, unshatterable world commonwealth. They gratefully acclaim the signal evidence of the interposition of divine Providence which during such pernicious years enabled the World Center of our Faith to escape what posterity will recognize as one of the gravest dangers which ever confronted the

nerve center of its institutions. They are profoundly aware of the bountiful grace vouchsafed by that same Providence insuring, unlike the previous world conflict, uninterrupted intercourse between the spiritual Center and the vast majority of the communities functioning within the orbit of a far-flung Faith. They are immeasurably thankful for the miraculous preservation of the Indian, Persian, Egyptian, British and Iraqi communities, long threatened by dire perils owing to their proximity to the theatre of military operations. They are deeply conscious that the progress achieved, despite six tempestuous years, in both the Eastern and Western Hemispheres through the collective enterprises launched by these communities outshines the sum total of the accomplishments since the inception of the Formative Age of the Faith.

The Seven Year Plan inaugurated by the American Bahá’í community under the lowering clouds of the approaching conflict victoriously completed the exterior ornamentation of the Mother Temple of the West, established the structural basis of the Faith in every State and Province of the North American continent, and hoisted its banner in every Republic of Latin America. The Indian believers’ Six Year Plan, launched on the eve of hostilities, more than quadrupled the centers functioning within the pale of the Administrative Order. The edifices consecrated to the administrative affairs of an ever-advancing Cause, involving the expenditure of over a hundred thousand dollars, were erected, purchased or completed in the Capital Cities of India, Iraq and Egypt as well as Sydney, Australia. The acquisition of numerous properties in Bahá’u’lláh’s native land, on Mount Carmel and in the Jordan Valley, as well as the purchase of several important historic sites associated with the Lives of both the Herald and the Author of the Faith, swelled to an unprecedented degree our Bahá’í endowments.

Preliminary steps for the completion of the Báb’s Sepulchre and the establishment of the World Administrative Center through the removal of the Remains of the Brother and

Bash’i News

Bash’i News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada as the official news-let­ter of the Bahá’í community. The first issue appeared in December, 1925.

On April 10, 1925, the Guardian wrote: "The News Letter which you have lately initiated fulfills a very vital function... I would urge you to enlarge its scope... that in time it may devote a special section to every phase of your activities, administrative, devotional, humanitarian, spiritual, educational and otherwise. "It should become a great factor in promoting understanding, providing information on Bahá’í activity, both local and foreign, in stimulating interest, in combating false influences, and in upholding and safeguarding the institutions of the Cause."

The contents include: material supplied by the National Spiritual Assembly, such as the Guardian’s messages, the Assembly’s letters and its general statements and reports; Committee plans which have been approved and authorized; Committee news reports of activities; annual reports from local Assemblies; news items from local Assemblies; activities in regional areas as reported by or through the National Teaching Committee; activities in Central and South America as reported by the Inter-American Committee; news from other lands gathered from the bulletins of the various National Assemblies; a record of new enrollments and transfers; a record of deaths; photographs of Bahá’ís in various parts of the world.

Bahá’i News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá’í News Committee: Horace Holley, Secretary, Carreta House, Mabel H. Paine, Address: Bahá’í News Committee, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill.
the Mother of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá were undertaken. The termination of the First Century of the Bahá’í Era, synchronizing with the climax of the raging storm, was publicly and befittingly celebrated, despite the multiplication of restrictions. Above all, the unity and integrity of an incorruptible world community was consistently safeguarded in face of the insidious opposition of avowed enemies without and the Covenant-breakers within.

Such splendid victories, over so vast a field, amidst such tribulations during so prolonged an ordeal, augur well for the colossal tasks destined to be accomplished during the course of the peaceful years ahead by the builders of the embryonic World Order of Bahá’u’lláh amidst the wreckage of a disrupted, disillusioned society.

SHOGHI RABBANI
Received May 12, 1945

(The following messages from the Guardian were written through his secretary).

Our Two Tasks

He fully approves of the concept of uniting the believers’ labors through focussing them on nation-wide teaching campaigns and so on. But he feels that the friends should constantly be encouraged to bear in mind certain salient facts: Bahá’u’lláh has brought a new system and new laws and standards of personal as well as racial conduct into the world. Although outside agencies have been to a certain extent illuminated by the radiance of His Message and doctrines, and are exerting efforts to bring the world into that orbit of universal peace and harmony He has set for it, these outside forces cannot achieve what only the followers of His Faith can. The believers must

Credentials for Persians

The Guardian has already laid down the principle that any one claiming to be a Bahá’í from Persia must have his properly issued credentials from the N. S. A. of Persia before he can be accepted by any other Bahá’í community. Now that the doors are opening increasingly for students and travelers to go to America, the National Assembly can not be too careful and vigilant in this matter. The Master, as you know, was very strict, and the Guardian feels it his duty at this time to be equally strict and observant of the measures introduced by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá Himself.

March 29, 1945

Letters from the Guardian to Individuals

(The following excerpts are published with Shoghi Effendi’s consent).

The Bahá’ís should deal with the members of all religious sects, however, with the greatest tolerance and friendliness, and try to point out to them the significance of the Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh to the world in this Great Day. The Guardian would advise you to teach the Mormons, like everyone else, the Faith, when you find them receptive. They have many great principles and their teachings regarding charity, not drinking or smoking, etc., are quite similar to ours and should form a point of common interest. (From letter written to Mrs. Helen Robinson on or about January 21, 1942).

The world that lies ahead of us after this war is going to be in a terrible condition, and if the believers are going to accomplish their duty and present the Divine Solution to mankind, they must prepare themselves for the great tasks that lie ahead. This particularly applies to Bahá’í youth. Young men and women in the Faith must be deep and thoughtful scholars of its teachings, so that they can teach in a way that will convince people that all the problems facing them have a remedy. They must grasp the Administration, so that they can wisely and efficiently administer the ever-growing affairs of the Cause; and they must exemplify the Bahá’í way of living. All this is not easy—but the Guardian is always greatly encouraged to see the spirit animating such young believers as yourself. He has high hopes of what your generation will accomplish. (From letter written to Seymour Weinberg, May 12, 1944).
National Spiritual Assembly

Beloved Friends:

Since there could be no gathering of the delegates this year, the Tellers reported the result of the election to the National Spiritual Assembly, and the Assembly sends this general letter to the Bahá'í community to announce the election and convey news of plans adopted for the coming year.

Those elected are, with their respective offices: George O. Latimer, Chairman; Allen B. McDaniel, Vice-Chairman; Horace Holley, Secretary; Dorothy K. Baker, Recording Secretary; Philip G. Sprague, Treasurer; Amelia E. Collins, Leroy Joos, Louis G. Gregory, Roy C. Wilhelm.

Our first and foremost concern is to resume, with increased power and determination, the irrefutable forward movement of the body of the Cause in America along the road of our unique destiny. The Guardian has given us the mighty impetus needed to clear our vision and renew our heart. His latest message, dated March 29, 1945, is printed as the clarion call to action throughout the present phase of our Bahá'í evolution.

Annual Budget

The Annual Budget adopted for this year is $150,000, or an average of receipts at the rate of $12,500 per month, to meet the following items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temple Maintenance and Operation</td>
<td>9,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance, Other Properties</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of Temple Land</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Public Campaign</td>
<td>40,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. Public relations</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Publicity</td>
<td>7,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Radio</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Public Meetings and Congress</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>e. Circuits</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>National and Regional Teaching</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inter-America Teaching</td>
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<td>Other National Committees</td>
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<td>Assembly Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Convention, State Elections</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency Reserve</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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</tbody>
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National Public Campaign

It was voted at the meeting of April 29-May 2, 1945, to adopt the following plan for a National Public Campaign as the essential inclusive Bahá'í activity for the current year:

1. The use of a budget of $40,000 for carrying out the following related projects:
   a. Public Relations Activities, $7,500.00
   b. Publicity, $7,500.00
   c. Radio Activities, $10,000.00
   d. Public Meetings and Annual Congress, $10,000.00
   e. Circuit Teaching, $5,000.00
2. These projects are to be carried out under the general supervision and coordination of the National Spiritual Assembly by the following committees:
   a. Public Relations Committee
   b. News Service Committee
   c. Radio Committee
   d. Public Meetings Committee
   e. National Teaching Committee

3. This National Campaign has for its purpose a larger, more audacious presentation of the Bahá'í teachings, both to public leaders and the masses.

4. These projects are to give expression to the various aspects of one central theme for the current year—"The Price of World Peace is World Religion,"—in order to command attention for the essential verities of the Faith as especially emphasized by the Guardian.

5. The participating committees are to report plans in sufficient detail for the August meeting to enable the National Spiritual Assembly to publish an outline of the entire campaign in order to stimulate and guide the collective efforts of the American Bahá'í community throughout the year.

Appeal to the Friends

The condition of the world is such that the general longing for truth and divine guidance intensifies day by day. It is for us now to deepen our spiritual lives until we can respond adequately to the crying needs of mankind. Opportunity calls upon each of us as individual Bahá'ís; and opportunity presses upon our collective capacity as the American Bahá'í community.

The National Spiritual Assembly would heartily stress the importance of conducting study classes for the believers in each local community and group, that we may continuously turn to the light of truth and reflect its illumination by word and deed.

—National Spiritual Assembly

Centenary Souvenir

The Temple Librarian and Sales Committee reports that there are still available about 1700 copies of the Centenary Souvenir, which consists of a reproduction of a photograph of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and a photograph of the House of Worship mounted in a folder stamped "Bahá'í Centenary, 1844-1944" and tied with cord. This Souvenir makes a beautiful gift to compliment a new believer or to convey loving remembrance to a Bahá'í confirmed during the Master's era. Order from H. E. Walrath, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago. ($1.00, postpaid).

The first public campaign is to be inaugurated this year, a truly signal and auspicious event, that we may together and with all our facilities both local and national challenge audaciously the leaders of thought and the masses with the Message of Bahá'u'lláh which alone can bring together in a new order the scattered peoples, nations, classes and creeds.

Just as we learned how to adopt a great Plan for building the Temple, so now we need a great Plan for propagating the Faith as the one Temple of spiritual refuge for a stricken world. The details are to be worked out as soon as possible by a number of Committees, and when this preliminary work is completed a comprehensive statement will be made to all the believers.

The time has come for more impressive accomplishments. The Guardian awaits new and greater evidences of our capacity to unveil the astounding majesty and exquisite beauty of the new World Order. Our loyalty and devotion to the needs of the National Fund are to be tested by the results of this appeal for support of the Budget during these first and most precious weeks of the Bahá'í year. The plans are in preparation. We dare not defer them, for the moment of decisive action is now. Therefore we call to each community and group to rally for the beginning of an era of outstanding contribution, of continuous support by every Bahá'í, that the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh may take its rightful place of spiritual preeminence in the hearts of the people and the counsels of nations.
Convention Report
The following agenda was adopted for the special meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly to be held with the tellers in Temple Foundation Hall, Saturday afternoon, April 28, at 2 p.m.:
1. Prayers and selected readings.
2. Reading of Convention Call by the Chairman.
3. Roll call of delegates.
4. Casting of individual ballots by the Chairman as the roll is called.
5. The sealed ballots are turned over to the tellers.
6. The tellers submit a certified report of the election.

The casting of ballots took place on Saturday afternoon, April 28, 1945, at 3:00 P.M. A photograph was taken of the National Spiritual Assembly members and the tellers.

1. The session was opened by prayer read by Mrs. Collins.

2. The Chairman read two passages from "God Passes By" from the chapter "The Covenant of Bahá'u'lláh" and three paragraphs from the most recent letter from Shoghi Effendi, dated Haifa, March 29.

3. The Secretary read the Convention Call issued to the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada on January 5, 1945, through the State and Province election committees.

4. The Chairman asked the tellers, Harry E. Walrath, Joan Crawford and William Henning, to cast the ballots as the roll was called by the Secretary.

Teller's Report
Summary of Ballots
| Total number of ballots cast | 162 |
| Total number of ballots good | 161 |
| Total number of ballots void | 1 |

Members Elected
- Mr. Horace Holley ............. 114
- Mrs. Dorothy Baker ........... 101
- Mr. Philip Sprague ........... 99
- Mr. George O. Latimer ........ 93
- Mrs. Amelia E. Collins ........ 82
- Mr. Louis G. Gregory .......... 61
- Mr. Leroy Ioas ............... 61
- Mr. Allen McDaniel ........... 61
- Mr. Roy C. Wilhelm .......... 46

Next Nine Names
- Miss Elsie Austin ............ 45
- Miss Edna True ............... 42
- Mr. Paul Haney ............... 37
- Mr. Fred Schopflocher ........ 36
- Mr. Clarence Niss ............ 33
- Miss Marion Holley ........... 32
- Mr. Rowland Estall ........... 29
- Mr. Emeric Sala ............... 28
- Mrs. Margery McCormick ....... 27

Public Bahá'í Congress
The following program was presented by the National Spiritual Assembly in Temple Foundation Hall on April 29:

**The Assurance of World Peace**
Chairman, Allen B. McDaniel
Evolution of Peace in History
Horace Holley

The Nations Build The Lesser Peace
George O. Latimer
Baha'u'llah and The Most Great Peace
Dorothy K. Baker

Ridván Feast
Another distinctive feature of the Annual Convention which the National Spiritual Assembly maintained this year despite the absence of the delegates was the Ridván Feast, which the Temple Program Committee was requested to arrange for Saturday evening, April 28, with invitations extended to the believers of the Temple area. The program was conducted for the Committee by the Spiritual Assembly of Chicago. Those present had the pleasure of hearing from Irving Hansen, who has returned from an assignment which enabled him to spend some time in Persia, visiting the Guardian and the Bahá'ís of Cairo on his return.

Consultation by Mail
In order to reap the fruit of consultation with the delegates, the Assembly prepared a list of subjects on which each delegate was invited to report his views and suggestions in writing. This opportunity was met in a most gratifying manner. A digest of the material has been made and is receiving careful attention from the incoming Assembly. A special report presenting details of this consultation will be presented to the community at an early date.

The Spiritual Atmosphere of Bahá'í Elections
At the very foundation of the Bahá'í community lies the right of the individual elector to exercise his franchise without restriction or interference. Neither the local or national administrative body, nor any individual believer, has the right to exert pressure to influence the voter's free choice. In a world of organized pressure, the spiritual atmosphere of every Bahá'í election is our most precious privilege and sacred right. It opens the door to the power of divine guidance, and protects the community from any influence that would make for disunity and disintegration.

"Nothing short of the all-encompassing, all-pervading power of His guidance, and love," the Guardian wrote many years ago, "can enable this newly-enfolded order to gather strength and flourish amid the storm and stress of a turbulent age, and in the fullness of time vindicate its high claim to be universally recognized as the one haven of abiding felicity and peace." And again: "Moreover, the practice of nomination, so detrimental to the
atmosphere of a silent and prayerful election, is viewed with mistrust inasmuch as it gives the right . . . to deny that God-given right of every elector to vote only in favor of those who he is conscientiously convinced are the most worthy candidates."

Preceding the annual election by the delegates this year, the National Assembly received from a number of delegates a protest at the action of one delegate in issuing a personal circular letter obviously intended to dictate to the other delegates in connection with their votes. After prayerful consideration the Assembly voted to disqualify the ballott sent by that individual delegate. Such occasions can serve to deepen in all the foundations their resolution that the wise and general provisions of the administrative order represent justice and integrity, and are not to be set aside on the assumption that any personal opinion or wish can be a substitute for the teachings and regulations of the Cause.

—NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Local News Letters

The circulation of local news letters and general communications issued by local Assemblies outside their area of jurisdiction is an administrative question which the National Spiritual Assembly felt had been settled many years ago. However, the action of a few Assemblies in recent months, in sending out copies of their letter or bulletin to the entire Assembly list, has raised the question once more.

This action is based upon one of the functions assigned to local Assemblies in the Guardian's earliest communications to the American Bahá'ís: "They must make an effort to maintain official, regular, and frequent correspondence with the various Bahá'í centers throughout the world, report to them their activities, and share the glad-tidings they receive with all their fellow-workers in the Cause."

At the time this and other functions were assigned to local Assemblies, the foundation was being laid for the formation and development of the National Spiritual Assemblies. The local Assembly was naturally first in order of time, but the functions assigned to the National Spiritual Assemblies gradually brought about certain important changes in our collective activities and methods.

For example, the function of review and publication of Bahá'í literature was first vested in local Assemblies, but later became recognized as a national function. In that same letter concerning the local Assemblies the Guardian wrote: "They must supervise in these days when the Cause is still in its infancy all Bahá'í publications and translations, and provide in general for a dignified and accurate presentation of all Bahá'í literature and its distribution to the general public."

In order to prevent any possible confusion as to the relative jurisdictions and powers of local and National Spiritual Assemblies during the formative era, the Guardian established certain clear principles to be applied in any doubtful case or new situation. For example: "Vital issues, affecting the interests of the Cause in that country such as the matter of translation and publication, the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár, the Teaching Work, and other similar matters that stand distinct from strictly local affairs, must be under the full jurisdiction of the National Assembly." And, further: "With it, too, rests the full decision whether a certain point at issue is strictly local in its nature, and should be reserved for the consideration and decision of the local Assembly, or whether it should fall under its own jurisdiction and be regarded as a matter which ought to receive its special attention." The need for the centralization of authority in the National Spiritual Assembly, and the concentration of power in the various local Assemblies, is made manifest," etc.

The newer friends will never realize with what conscientious care the Bahá'í community during those years studied and applied each successive direction which the Guardian dispatched. The status of the local Assembly and of the Convention, as well as their relationship to the National Assembly, was gradually clarified through successive problems and issues. By the time the Declaration of Trust and By-Laws were adopted, the nature of the various institutions could be defined. Here, and in the local By-Laws later approved, it is plainly set forth and made implicit that the local area of jurisdiction is the civil community and outside of that area the local institution does not operate. The individual Bahá'í acts through one institution for local matters and another for matters of national scope.

The question of local and national news letters, however, was not finally settled until 1934, and the record taken from Bahá'í News reveals the successive steps.

In Bahá'í News No. 75, July, 1933, page 7, we find the following: "This publication, established by the National Spiritual Assembly several years ago, affords the only responsible and authoritative medium of communication among the American Bahá'ís. Its functions include: the publication of letters from the Guardian; the publication of announcements, statements and letters prepared by the National Spiritual Assembly; the publication of National Committee reports approved by the National Spiritual Assembly; the publication of such letters and news items as are received from other National Assemblies and also from local Assemblies in America as have general interest and importance.

"National Committees and Local Spiritual Assemblies are invited to send in regularly reports and news items suitable for use in Bahá'í News. Individual believers are requested, in order to avoid confusion, to submit their news items through their local Assembly or through the National Committee directly concerned with that branch of Bahá'í activity—as for example teaching—under which each news item is classified."

The Annual Report of the N. S. A. for 1933-34, Bahá'í News No. 84, page 13, contained these references:

"In several communications Shoghi Effendi has given instructions concerning the relation of local Assemblies to the National Assembly. Writing the San Francisco Assembly on February 19, 1934, the Guardian, through his secretary, in acknowledging receipt of a copy of San Francisco Bahá'í News, declared: 'On behalf of the Guardian I wish to thank you for your welcome letter of January 23, as well as for the enclosed December and January issues of the San Francisco news letter, all of which gave him a clear account of the progress of the Cause in that center."

"He would greatly appreciate it if you send him regularly two copies of your local news letter. He would also advise you to send to each of the Bahá'í National Spiritual Assemblies a copy of that circular which will, undoubtedly, prove of great interest to them."
"However, in view of the principle that local activities should always be subordinated to the national interests, needs and requirements of the Faith, he feels that your Assembly should be careful not to develop their local organ to the extent that it would jeopardize the national activities of the Cause in their country. Just as all local institutions, whether administrative or otherwise, must under all circumstances be considered as subsidiary to national organizations, so also local news letters should be viewed as secondary in importance compared to the national organ of Bahá’í activities . . ."

"On February 20 (1934), a similar letter was sent to the New York Assembly, from which the following excerpt is quoted:

"Just as the local Bahá’í fund must under all circumstances be subordinated to the national fund, so also, every local news letter should be considered as subsidiary to the national report of Bahá’í activities in every country."

Two more references are available on pages 52 and 53 of "Bahá’í Procedure," both taken from the annual report of 1933-1934.

Finally, in Bahá’í News No. 88, November, 1934, page 6, we find this definite view expressed by the National Spiritual Assembly:

"The question has been asked whether in view of the Guardian’s words on the subject quoted in the last annual report of the National Assembly in Bahá’í News of June, local Assemblies which issue news letters should circulate them among other local Assemblies. The view of the National Assembly is that the national Bahá’í News is the medium through which local news should be conveyed to the various local communities, and therefore each local news letter should be distributed not only to its own community, but copies sent the National Assembly, the Guardian, and to other National Assemblies for their information. The Guardian’s latest instruction on this matter appears to indicate a development to a new point beyond that reached in 1923, when (see page 33 of ‘Bahá’í Administration’) Shoghi Effendi included inter-Assembly correspondence as part of the functions of the local Spiritual Assembly."

In the light of this record, the local Assemblies are requested to observe the decision made and published over ten years ago.

As we stand back and survey the matter in perspective, we note that certain decisions are published currently but not carried forward in any standard book of reference. They thus tend to be taken for granted by the older believers and overlooked by the new friends. We also note that the available definition of Bahá’í institutions is sufficiently clear to enable any believer or local Assembly to determine what functions are to be exercised by each, without recourse to any detailed catalogue of exact duties.

Finally, we realize the urgent need of developing the national institutions to the point where they can adequately serve the greatly enlarged community of the present era. This matter is receiving the full attention of the National Spiritual Assembly, and the steps taken will be reported from time to time.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

In Memoriam

I testify, O my Lord, that Thou hast enjoined upon men to honor their guest, and he that hath ascended unto Thee hath verily reached Thee and attained Thy Presence. Deal with him then according to Thy grace and bounty!—‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Mrs. Maybelle Baylor, Milwaukee.

Mr. Mabry C. Oglesby, Boston.

Mr. Samuel Taft, Boston.

Mrs. Eugenia C. Hooks, Little Rock.

Mrs. Ruth B. Kennedy, San Mateo, Calif.

Mr. Dale S. Cole, Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

Mr. I. R. Van Valer, Irvington, N. J.

Mrs. Hazel Petersen, Inglewood, Calif.

Calendar

Anniversaries: Martyrdom of the Báb, July 9, 1850.

Nineteen Day Feasts: Mercy, June 30; Words, July 13; Perfection, August 1.

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: June 21-25; September 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

Enrollments and Transfers

1. Reported by Local Assemblies.

Philadelphia, one.

Denver, one.

Washington, D. C., one.

Phoenix, one.

Boise, one.

Chicago, one youth, three transfers.

Montreal, one.

Little Rock, three.

St. Louis, one.

Los Angeles, one youth, three transfers.

Milwaukee, two transfers.

Colorado Springs, two transfers.

New Orleans, one transfer.

Yonkers, one transfer.
June, 1945

The Mission of Bahá'u'lláh

A Revelation, hailed as the promise and crowning glory of past ages and centuries, as the consummation of all the Dispensations within the Adamic Cycle, inaugurating an era of at least a thousand years duration, and a cycle destined to last no less than five thousand centuries, signaling the end of the Prophetic Era and the beginning of the Era of fulfillment, unsurpassed alike in the duration of its Author's ministry and the fecundity and splendor of his mission—such a Revelation was... born amidst the darkness of a subterranean dungeon in Tihrán.

"During the days I lay in the prison of Tihrán," are His (Bahá'u'lláh's) own memorable words, "though the galling weight of the chains and the stench-filled air allowed Me but little sleep, still in those infrequent moments of slumber I felt as if something flowed from the crown of My head over My breast, even as a mighty torrent that precipitated itself upon the earth from the summit of a lofty mountain. Every limb of My body would, as a result, be set afire. At such moments My tongue recited what no man could bear to hear."

In His Epistle to Náṣírí'll-Dín Sháh these passages... shed further light on the Divine origin of His mission: "O King! I was but a man like others, asleep upon My couch, when lo, the breezes of the All-Glorious were wafted over Me, and taught Me the knowledge of all that hath been. This thing is not from Me, but from One Who is Almighty and All-Knowing. And He bade Me lift up My voice between earth and heaven, and for this there befell Me what hath caused the tears of every righteous man to flow... This is but a leaf which the winds of the will of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Praised have stirred."—God Passes By, pp. 100-102.

National Committees

Publishing Announcement

Declaration of Trust and By-Laws of the National Spiritual Assembly; By-Laws of a Local Spiritual Assembly; amended to March, 1945. Pamphlet, 10c per copy, preferably ordered in lots of five or ten copies.

Religion Returns, by Dorothy K. Baker. Latest addition to series of Teaching Literature pamphlets. 28 pages, paper cover. Page size, 3½ by 5½ inches. Sold in lots of one hundred copies for $2.00.

The Bahá'í World, X

International Youth Section

The International Youth Section of The Bahá'í World Volume X, are making an appeal to the friends, for any items of news received from relatives and friends, among the believers, who are serving in other countries at this time. Due to the uncertainty of the mails, the committee realizes that a number of communications intended for them, have gone astray.

It is the hope of the committee, that through letters, clippings and photographs, etc., received by the believers in this country, there will be made available many items of interest to all readers of Volume X.

Please forward, any items you may have to: Mrs. J. C. Davenport, 433-A North Oakhurst Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

Inter-America News

"Committee gratefully reports eight new Assemblies: Panama City, Mogotes, Caracas, Trujillo, Guayaquil, La Paz, Punto Arenas, Montevideo. Devoted love."

This quotation is part of a message sent to the Guardian by the Inter-America Committee following its meeting on April 26. The Committee has also expressed its deepfelt gratitude to the pioneers in the field for their historic achievements during this past year and for their selfless devotion to their tasks.

The prayers of the Guardian and the blessings showered by Bahá'u'lláh upon the valiant efforts of native believers and of North American pioneers have brought to accomplishment the founding of Spiritual Assemblies for the first time in five Latin American countries, the Republics of Panama, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, and the Dominican Republic, and the reestablishment of an Assembly that had been dissolved in Uruguay. The Assemblies of Bogota and Santiago have been richly blessed in being enabled to establish, through extension teaching, new Spiritual Assemblies in Mogotes, Colombia, and in Punto Arenas, Chile.

The only remaining country of Latin America in which a Spiritual Assembly has not been formed is Nicaragua. However, the pioneer in this country, Dr. Malcolm King, has performed a signal service, fundamental to present and future Bahá'í teaching in that land. Through judicious correspondence and interviews with government officials he has succeeded in obtaining registration of the Faith with the government and its official recognition as a religious body. This was an essential step to freedom of teaching and publicity. The Committee has expressed to Dr. King its sincere appreciation for this accomplishment.

Briefs from Letters of Pioneers

ECUADOR: From Virginia Orbinson, April 21:

"... It would be too hard to describe the wonderfully deep understanding, devotion and dedication which those seven young men and the two women expressed as they each said a few words after the formation of the first Spiritual Assembly of Ecuador established in Guayaquil. The election of officers followed, and there never was expressed I am sure such firmness and love."

In describing the growth to Assembly status the letter continues, "Eduardo Gonzales (Ecuadorian delegate to the Centenary) is the one who has brought them all, and he helps me in the meetings by reading passages and contributing his great enthusiasm.

"We mentioned John Stearns and his work in Ecuador and Peru most lovingly. The goal of his work and sacrifice is now flowering, and he surely must have been with us and very happy."

The two pioneers were present at this election, Virginia and Haig Kavorkian of Argentina, in addition to the nine resident believers.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: From Ofelia Montalvo, a pioneer from El Salvador to Trujillo, April 22:

"With the following program was celebrated the 21st of this month; 1. Prayer, 2. Why we must celebrate the 21st of April, 3. Our Master, Ba-
Baha'i News

Baha'i Social Gathering, Parque Hotel, Asuncion, Paraguay, April 14, 1944. At right is Miss Gertrude Eisenberg, pioneer teacher; and at left, Sr. Centurion Miranda, delegate who attended the Conference with the N.S.A. in July, 1944.

The friends will recall the repeated reference of Abdu'l-Bahá to the great significance of this locality in the Tablets of the Divine Plan. May this new Spiritual Assembly receive wonderful confirmations.

BOLIVIA: From Flora Hottes, April 28:

“Our first feast, yesterday, since the formation of the Assembly, was such a happy one with such harmony . . . And we have real love and an increasing patience and tolerance in our midst, and we are learning to work together in frank consultation. This could not have come here in one year. It took three—and it will take more. I know so well why our beloved Guardian said in his letter: 'Stay until a Firm and Unshakable Assembly with its Community is established in Bolivia.'

No doubt that the following excerpt is typical of the experience of Baha'i pioneers:

“. . . One finely comes to know, not as a prettier than, but from the plowed depths of one's soul, that it is a Divine Hand that guides one—siempre—and we should never for one moment be blind to its beckoning, nor insensible to its constraining touch. Life is so terribly beautiful and wonderful, there is such tremendous Work to be done, especially now, when 'the moving Finger writes' so clearly on the Tablets of the world; we all want to be real Bahá'ís, to serve Him well Who is the One Beloved, to live the life that can show those about us what human unity and love may grow to be. But we must ourselves grow first, through processes sometimes painful, sometimes very slow, but always ahead; and such joy when one becomes cognizant of some new strength, some element of faith reinforced and clarified beyond retrogression. Maybe these seem like too many words (one of the failings of the gents down here!) but you must know the love we feel for you and the always-stronger tie of Baha'i loyalty which at last will knit a world together.

The Flora of the prairies near the Temple blooms in the mountains of South America!

CHILE: On April 17 a message was received from Artemus Lamb announcing eight new believers in Punta Arenas (three had been reported formerly) and assurance of an Assembly. This historic achievement completing the wing-span of the All-America Baha'i community from Magallanes to Alaska was consummated this year by the aid of a series of nine radio broadcasts under the title, "The City of Certitude." This series was publicized as being under the auspices of the Santiago Assembly. The scripts for these Baha'i broadcasts were prepared in question and answer form and were presented by Esteban Canales, Chilian delegate to the Centenary. In this way numerous students were attracted to the classes.

Artemus Lamb writes, "On Naw Rüz we held an International Fiesta at the auditorium of the Radio Station. There was a series of musical numbers from members of the many different national groups present, readings from the Baha'i Writings, and a brief but effective talk by Esteban Canales. The studio audience numbered eighty, including the U. S. Consul and his wife who have become much interested in the Cause. The whole program was broadcast.
It aroused much favorable comment and brought us new students."

A recent letter from Marcia Stewart announces the opening of a new Bahá’í center in Santiago after April 21. 1000 invitations were to be mailed out for this occasion. Extension teaching is being continued in Valparaíso, where it is hoped that in another year a third Chilian Spiritual Assembly will be established.

URUGUAY: From Montevideo comes heartening news of the re-establishment of the Spiritual Assembly, and of most gratifying progress in the teaching work there. They have taken a new Center, where regular meetings are held. Elisabeth Cheney is still in Montevideo, rendering valuable assistance to Wilfrid Barton and the other friends.

COLOMBIA: As a result of a most unusual extension teaching project carried on entirely by mail, the believers of Bogata have been successful in establishing a new Spiritual Assembly at Mogotes. Also, among the members of a leper colony at Contratacion a group of six believers has been formed. A letter from Sra. Magola Maldonado, Secretary at Bogata, in speaking of the members of this newly formed group says, "They seem to be very close to God, and who may say if God may not, for their sakes, reveal a cure for leprosy!"

Library Committee

The Library Committee wishes to express deep appreciation of the assistance given recently by the Assembly Library Committees and the Regional Teaching Committees in getting our library records up-to-date.

We should like to pass along the following suggestions at this time. Assembly Library Committees:

A number of Library committees reported that Bahá’í books were not up-to-date in Main Public Libraries. In several cases, there were no books by the Guardian, no recent Bahá’í World Volumes and little literature in the current Bahá’í Publishing Committee catalog. We fully realize the difficulty of trying to do

Library in your city have separate libraries for "colored" and "white" readers? We should like to donate books to both as new books are available for libraries.

This is the national library task before us. The following list shows our present record of "barren" libraries in the various areas in

It is the center of information to which public personages will turn for research on the Bahá’í Faith to give in sermons, lectures, radio programs, newspaper and magazine articles as soon as public interest is aroused through the growth of the Cause. The time to insure an accurate presentation of the Bahá’í principles and teachings is now when we can lay the foundation by placing our books in key libraries. Do not doubt that there will be a great demand for our books when the time is ripe.

Keep our books in active circulation through appeals to the friends and announcements at public and fireside meetings, on radio programs, in local News Letters and Regional Bulletins and in newspaper articles. The list of books in your Main Public Library might be posted on your Bahá’í Center Bulletin Board for ready reference.

Let us not overlook the importance of presenting at least one comprehensive book in each branch library or perhaps a subscription to World Order magazine. This book may attract readers in various neighborhoods to study further in the Main Public Library or to attend our public meetings as announced in local newspapers.

Reports coming in from your committees show that there is a concerted effort to get Bahá’í books in your "barren" libraries. Several splendid ideas have come to our committee: publishing the list of "barren" libraries in Regional Bulletins with an appeal to the friends to contact those librarians; sending out postcards or form letters to the public libraries and college libraries in your region offering a book or two to librarians; small literature as the literature catalog, Principles of the Bahá’í Faith, Summary of Bahá’í Teachings etc. has been sent to each library; lists of friends in cities where there are "barren" libraries have been sent directly to the National Library Committee so we can enlist their assistance in this national library project.

Correction of address: Miss Helen Reynolds, 3334 Greene Street, Philadelphi­a, 44, Penna. Miss Reynolds is taking charge of the requests coming for "barren" public libraries on your regional list.

Will the friends in the South send us the following information: does your city have separate libraries for "colored" and "white" readers? We should like to donate books to both as new books are available for libraries.

This is the national library task before us. The following list shows our present record of "barren" libraries in the various areas in cities (10,000 population or more) and all colleges and universities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>ColLibraries Level Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming, Colorado</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>5 2 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Idaho, Montana, Utah</td>
<td>3 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>California, Nevada</td>
<td>9 1 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>7 1 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>9 1 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington, Oregon</td>
<td>3 1 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennessee, Alabama</td>
<td>13 9 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minnesota, N. Dakota</td>
<td>14 9 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi</td>
<td>1 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maryland, Virginia</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>4 2 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maine, N. H., Vermont, Mass., R. I., Conn.</td>
<td>21 9 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas, Nebraska</td>
<td>28 5 33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>25 5 5 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York State</td>
<td>1 1 5 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Carolina, South Carolina, Ga.</td>
<td>42 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas, Oklahoma</td>
<td>48 16 64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma, Texas</td>
<td>16 64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky</td>
<td>71 38 13 9 109</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Jersey, Penna.</td>
<td>18 13 101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>83</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illinois, Michigan</td>
<td>78</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wis., Iowa</td>
<td>78</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Iowa</td>
<td>37 115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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News Service

Space will not allow the mention of every one of the veritable deluge of clippings that has descended upon us during the past weeks. The friends have surely been most diligent in their Bahá’í publicity efforts and we congratulate them on their success.
The News Service Committee would appreciate receiving two clippings of every Baha'i mention in newspapers and magazines to serve both as a record and to be used in the planning of its operations.

Alta Gaines' "The Baha'i Column" which has been appearing in the Illinois Times of Champaign, Illinois, a Negro newspaper, has interested us very much for its completeness and clarity, and as well, in its continuity. The Arizona Sun of Phoenix, a Negro weekly, has carried many reports of Phoenix and Tucson Baha'i activities. Elsa H. Steinmetz has been making the "Letters to the Editor" department of the Argus-Leader of Sioux Falls, So. Dakota, a novel and powerful form of publicity is that of Mary A. Marlowe in the Portsmouth, N.H. Herald. At the passing of President Roosevelt this paper carried a column of statements on the various tributes that were paid by local churches and organizations. The Portsmouth Baha'i Community's well written statement incorporating Baha'i principles received one-third of the column article! At the opening of the San Francisco Security Conference the Portsmouth Community followed with an article on 'Abdu'l-Baha's statements on peace made to the World-Herald of Omaha, Nebraska.

--NEWS SERVICE COMMITTEE.

Annual Report
International School
Latin-American Session, 1944
Members: Louie A. Mathews, Chairman; Marion Littie, Secretary; Amelia Collins, George Latimer, Mark Toby, Max and Inez Greven and Wanden LaFarge.

General Subjects
The program of the School for the Session of 1944 was divided into two main groups, morning and afternoon study sessions.

MORNING SESSION
Methods of Teaching in Latin-America
In what sequence to teach Latin-Americans. Give our personal experiences along the path of religion. The Baha'i Message in regard to individuals; in regard to groups.

The Message in relation to educators, to Civic leaders. This program was followed by open discussion of the ways and means of bringing a live consciousness to the community where we are teaching.

AFTERNOON SESSION
Race and Man
Public Meetings
These public meetings were held in Perkins Hall of the Colorado College. Musical programs were arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Colins Thorpe, distinguished musical friends of Colorado and New York.

Our Latin-American pioneers gave a brilliant evening devoted to a sketch of their country and the Baha'i work done therein. The speakers were: Gayle Woolson, from Costa Rica; Cora Oliver and Louise Caswell, from Panama; Winnifred Baker, from Columbia; Raul Contreras, delegate from Costa Rica.

A very impressive Baha'i evening was furnished by Mrs. Amelia Collins and Mrs. Marjorie McCormick, speaking on "God Passes By."

"Headlines for Tomorrow" was given by Mrs. W. M. LaFarge, Mrs. Robert Sherrill, and Mrs. Marion Little.

A concluding evening was entitled "The Spiritual Force in Art," given

Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Charleston, West Virginia, 1944-1945.
News of Other Lands

Haifa

It is with great joy and satisfaction that we convey to you the happy tidings that our Beloved Guardian is in the best of health. The greatest desire and the utmost happiness of the devout and faithful believers throughout the world will forever be the news of the well-being of the Guardian.

Today, the first and foremost duty of every believer and every Bahá’í community is to spread the word of God. This is the day of sowing the seed. “The sower soweth the word.” And the “Word” is badly needed by a world in physical distress and in spiritual agony. A blackout more intense and more blinding than any other form of darkness has enveloped the soul of man, the canker of a moral disease more mortal than any kind of bodily ailment is gnawing at his heart. How can the bearer of light sit still while his neighbor is in darkness, how can the physician refuse to administer to the needs of the sick? Would it not be utter selfishness, to say the least, to keep entirely for one’s self the good that could be done to others? What would it be said of a messenger of happy tidings who kept the message for himself?

“Teach ye the Cause of God, O people of Bahá,” wrote Bahá’u’lláh, “for God hath prescribed unto every one the duty of proclaiming His Message, and regardeth it as the most meritorious of all deeds.”

Iráq

It is for the pursuit of this “most meritorious of all deeds” that the Bahá’í Assemblies in the East are now actively organizing themselves, hoping to accomplish greater victories than in the past. The Bahá’í Newsletter (July-Sept. 1944) of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Iráq conveys encouraging news of Bahá’í activities in that land. The Teaching Committees are aware of the magnitude of their tasks and are endeavoring to live up to their responsibilities. Some fruitful results have been achieved and a number of new believers have joined the Bahá’í community.

The project of a public Bahá’í Bookstore in Baghdad, reported in a previous Newsletter, has been well received by the believers throughout Iráq. It is hoped that this project will soon be executed.

We also learn with great pleasure that the believers held their fifth Summer School for the study of the history and teachings of the Bahá’í Faith, between the 10th and 18th of September, 1944. The following subjects were presented and studied during the various sessions of the school:


The New World Order, by Adib R. Baghdád.


The National Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Iráq reports also the good news that the authorities have granted permission to the said Assembly to obtain the building materials necessary for the completion of certain details in the Hazíratul-Quds or the Bahá’í House in Baghdad. The believers, greatly encouraged by this news, have contributed generously funds needed for the accomplishment of this task.

The Bahá’í Women’s Study Classes continue regularly. In this way, Bahá’í women not only get more enlightened about the Bahá’í Faith, but also prepare themselves to take part actively in Bahá’í fields of service.

Egypt

We are also happy to report that the believers in Egypt are engaged in the service of the Cause with great love and devotion. Spiritual Assemblies are functioning regularly in the four principal centers of Cairo, Alexandria, Port-Said and Ismá’ílíyyih and are actively engaged in upholding the Bahá’í Faith and its Teachings. There are also individual Bahá’ís in sixteen other Egyptian towns and villages. A number of Bahá’í organizations and committees have, during this past year, labored with love and zeal in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities.

The Bahá’í Assemblies are paying special attention to the establishment of a small Bahá’í library in every Bahá’í center. The library of the Bahá’ís at Cairo is well stocked with Bahá’í publications. Two more Bahá’í libraries, still in their infancy, have been organized at Port-Said and in Alexandria.

We learn from the said report of the great efforts made by the believers and the generous funds gracefully donated by the Guardian for the completion of the Hazíratul-Quds or the Bahá’í House in Cairo. The blessing of Bahá’u’l-Ááh was on this project, for many obstacles for the completion of the building disappeared in remarkable ways.

In spite of the many difficulties experienced by the believers in Egypt because of their Faith, they rejoice and give thanks unto Bahá’u’l-Ááh Whose guiding hand has ever been their supporter and protector. They are very happy that their National Assembly has been legally recognized by the government since 1936 and that their Faith stands recognized as an independent religion with its own laws and institutions, thanks to the momentous decision passed in 1925 by the highest Muslim ecclesiastical body in Egypt.
Messages From the Guardian

1. To Chairman of Inter-America Committee

Heartfelt congratulations superb achievement Inter-America Committee opening year second Bahá’í century. Advise concentrate attention formation Assembly one remaining republic, Nicaragua. Consolidation newly fledged Assemblies multiplication groups throughout Latin America reinforcement outpost present year.achievement Inter-America Committee, newly formed, and the departure of pioneers to Latin America. I renew my plea for ever-increasing number of pioneers for both the Northern and Southern fields to unite and lend further, much-needed impetus to the superb, historic enterprises initiated by the American Bahá’í community in the Western Hemisphere during the closing years of the First Century, and hasten the inauguration of a still more shining phase of their World Mission in the opening years of the Second Century.

SHOGHI RABBANI

Received April 30, 1945

2. To National Spiritual Assembly

Fully share National Assembly’s admiration and gratitude for National Teaching Committee’s remarkable exploits in recent years. I appeal to the new Committee to focus its attention upon the steady conversion of a considerable proportion of the existing groups into Assemblies through multiplication of settlers, intensification of individual teaching, and proclamation of Message to the masses. I urge the Regional Teaching Committees to redouble their efforts to lend continued assistance to the attainment of these immediate objectives. I rejoice in the success of the high endeavors of the Peace Committee in San Francisco, and the departure of pioneers to Latin America. I renew my plea for ever-increasing number of pioneers for both the Northern and Southern fields to unite and lend further, much-needed impetus to the superb, historic enterprises initiated by the American Bahá’í community in the Western Hemisphere during the closing years of the First Century, and hasten the inauguration of a still more shining phase of their World Mission in the opening years of the Second Century.

SHOGHI RABBANI

Received June 30, 1945

(The National Spiritual Assembly had sent the following message to the Guardian from the June meeting a few days previously. “Grateful unsurpassed services National Teaching Committee. Unable continue. New Committee established in Temple area. Outstanding success efforts Peace Committee in San Francisco. Inter-America pioneers proceeding to posts: Elena Marcella, Gwenn Sholtis. Devoted Love.”)

National Spiritual Assembly

Beloved Friends:

From 1937 to 1944 the American Bahá’í community concentrated its effort on the achievement of definite tasks within a definite allotment of time. Now that there is no similar schedule before us let us not imagine that the demands of true faith are lessened or that the community can fulfill its great destiny with the slightest relaxation of determination, concentration and sacrifice. The world about us plunges forward at accelerated pace, impelled by the action of divine forces to attain goals already known to every Bahá’í. The momentum of events, the release of a larger measure of power within our community—all this supplies us with a schedule which requires not merely a continuance but an intensification of the best we have ever done for the Faith.

The Guardian’s Plea

“I renew my plea,” the Guardian declares to us in a message received June 30: “I renew my plea for an ever-increasing number of pioneers for both the Northern and Southern fields to unite and lend further, much-needed impetus to the superb, historic enterprises initiated by the American Bahá’í community in the Western Hemisphere during the closing years of the First Century, and hasten the inauguration of a still more shining phase of their World Mission in the opening years of the Second Century.”

This plea is aimed directly at individual Bahá’ís, calling for more and more pioneers and settlers to arise and, under the supervision of the National Teaching Committee or Inter-America Committee, proceed for work in the field of heroic service. But it is directed also to the community collectively, that from our united consultation and action a new and mighty wave of Bahá’í influence shall gather force for achievements more remarkable even than those of the Seven Year Plan. Every local community and group needs to augment its numbers and deepen its spirit. The American Bahá’ís combined need to act through their National Committees in impressing the Bahá’í teachings upon the general public and its responsible agencies. Plans for pioneer settlement and public teaching both depend for their realization upon the sustenance which can be furnished from the National Bahá’í Fund. The condition of that Fund mirrors forth the depths of our collective devotion at all times. Contributions are not a tax exacted by material authority but a sacrifice made by the individual for the Cause of God. ‘Abdu’l-Bahá established this institution; the Guardian has consecrated it by his own donations to the great enterprises we have undertaken.

Treasury Items

In this light let us consider these items from the Treasurer’s report for June:

1. The donations received for May and June together amounted to
SCHEDULE
National Spiritual Assembly
State Conventions
Annual Convention
Meetings of the NSA: September 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10; November 15, 16, 17, 18, 19; February (1946) 15, 16, 17, 18, 19; April 24, 25; April 30, May 1.
Annual Convention, April 26, 27, 28, 29, (election of National Spiritual Assembly on morning of April 28).

Annual Directory

The annual Bahá'í Directory is on the press and will be distributed with a copy of Bahá'í News. The Directory includes the National Spiritual Assembly, the roll of local Assemblies, the National Committees, Regional Teaching Committees, and the Trustee Maintenance Committees, corrected to July 1, 1945.

Committee and Fiscal Year

In this connection the friends are informed that the administrative calendar, which has fixed the yearly term of the National Spiritual Assembly from Convention to Convention (from about May 1 to April 30, the National Committee term from July 1 to June 30, and the fiscal period covered by the Treasurer's annual report from March 1 to February 28, has been synchronized, so that hereafter these two terms shall run concurrently, from May 1 to April 30, allowing the annual election to vary by a few days according to conditions, as in the past, but making for one rather than three administrative years.

National Campaign

The national teaching campaign soon to begin is a challenge to every Spiritual Assembly to adopt its own program of unified effort for the year. The nations have pledged themselves to take the first step in the direction of peace. Many and severe are the problems to be surmounted on the path. But each successive crisis will be the opportunity of the Bahá'í community to connect the revealed Truth with the human and social need. The only effective means of action we have is through use of the various Bahá'í institutions, local, regional and national in scope. Our unity of spirit has developed to this crucial time, for this specific purpose.

National Spiritual Assembly

Consultation with Delegates

Thirty-Seventh Annual Bahá'í Convention—1945

The National Spiritual Assembly, in publishing a summary of suggestions received from the delegates as their written response for consultation, thanks the delegates heartily for their important contributions. The list which follows is necessarily brief, but suggests the scope of the subjects treated in greater detail in the mass of letters received. These and other suggestions, some of which would require decision by the Guardian, have been carefully studied, and the current national campaign is one answer to the widespread, heartfelt
demand for more potent action. To each individual believer and each local Assembly is commended earnest consideration of those items which deal with the spiritual life and the community.

I. Deepening the spiritual life of Assemblies.
   a. Weekly study night for entire community, each believer serving as teacher in discussion of book.
   b. Practice by each believer of prayer, fasting, love and service. Living the life.
   c. Instruction and assistance from the National Spiritual Assembly and National Committees on use of national and local resources.
   d. Intensive study and better understanding of Bahá’í Administration.
   e. Sunday meetings for public presentation of Faith.
   f. Individual effort to attain spirit of love and humility through prayer and reading of teachings.
   g. Full and frank discussion of all local problems in Assembly meetings.

II. Strengthening the bonds of love and unity within the Bahá’í Community.
   a. Emphasis on Feasts and activities of local Feast committee.
   b. Assignment of Bahá’í activity to every believer.
   c. Greater reading of creative word by each believer at meeting.
   d. Greater effort to prepare new members for Bahá’í activity in community.
   e. Practice of courtesy, consideration, respect and esteem in community relations.
   f. Follow-up absent members, encourage personal service and sacrifice.
   g. More attention to committee appointments and activities.
   h. Teaching campaign on “How to be a Bahá’í.”
   i. Encourage regular contributions to local and National Funds.
   j. Regular visits of national teachers.

III. Preservation of Existing Assemblies.
   a. Careful selection of committees.
   b. National teaching campaign geared into local teaching programs.
   c. Study classes for all believers to deepen Cause and to prepare for teaching.
   d. Continuous effort to bring new members into community.

IV. Formation of Assemblies in Remaining Latin American Republics.
   a. Encourage Latin American Bahá’ís to pioneer in virgin areas.
   b. Speed more teachers to Latin America.
   c. Training of Latin American believers, groups and organized communities in Bahá’í Administration.
   d. Stress fireside groups, value of prayer, need of study of teachings, observance of Feasts and living the life.
   e. Strengthening of existing Bahá’í centers.
   f. Development of school and establishment of fund for training of teachers for Latin American service in South America.

V. Development of Groups throughout North America to Assembly status.
   a. Organized communities reach out to assist and strengthen nearby groups.
   b. Emphasize individual study and devotion. Living the life.
   c. Greater attention to fireside groups, social gatherings and contacts with outside groups.
   d. More intensive teaching by group members.
   e. Increase unity and devotion within group by prayer, love, sacrifice and service.
   f. Outside teachers, teaching conferences, visits from members of local and National Assemblies and committees.
   g. Strict observance of Feasts and frequent periods of consultation.
   h. Holding of a series of attractive public lectures to attract and confirm new people.
   i. Small teaching circuits in areas or regions.

VI. Renewed call to pioneers for North and South America.
   a. Each Assembly conduct study group to prepare one or more members to go forth each year on pioneer service.
   b. Tour of representative of the National Spiritual Assembly or the National Teaching Commit-
The Bahá’í Year

Voted to adopt the principle that the fiscal and committee years should coincide as closely as possible with the administrative year representing the term of office of each National Spiritual Assembly. In practice this means that while the election might be held on April 26, 27, 28, 29 or 30, the fiscal year and committee year will be from May 1 to April 30.

b. Develop circuit plan of teaching with nationally directed publicity, advertising, displays, radio programs, etc.

c. Greater appeals for funds for teaching campaign.

d. More emphasis on individual teaching.

e. A centrally directed national teaching campaign.


g. A corps of traveling teachers to visit the weaker Assemblies especially.

h. More dissemination of news through Bahá’í News of teaching work.

Baha’i Relations With Civil Authority

In view of recent inquiries on the subject, the National Spiritual Assembly feels it most desirable at this time for members of the American Bahá’í community to maintain a common understanding of the principles which underlie our relations with different departments of the civil government. In dealing with this matter, the Assembly has no intention of adding to procedure or laying down its own regulations but rather of examining the teachings themselves and bringing forth the principles expressed in the writings of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and the advice and directions of the Guardian.

We find that from the very beginnings of the American Bahá’í community the wise and loving Master counseled the believers to entertain no discussion of political matters in their gatherings. “During the conference no hint must be entertained regarding political affairs. All conferences (i.e., all consultation and discussion) must be regarding the matters of benefit, both as a whole and individually, such as the guarding of all in all cases, their protection and preservation, the improvement of character, the training of children, etc.

“If any person wishes to speak of government affairs, or to interfere with the order of government, the others must not combine with him because the Cause of God is withdrawn entirely from political affairs; the political realm pertains only to the Rulers of those matters; it has nothing to do with the souls who are exerting their utmost energy to harmonizing affairs, helping character and inciting (the people) to strive for perfections. Therefore no soul is allowed to interfere with (political) matters, but only in that which is commanded.” (BWF, p. 407)

“Let them not introduce any topic in the meeting except the mentioning of the True One, neither must they confuse that merciful assembly with perplexed outside questions . . . Make ye an effort that the Lord’s Supper may become realized and the heavenly food descend. This heavenly food is knowledge, understanding, faith, assurance, love, affinity, kindliness, purity of purpose, attraction of hearts and the union of souls.” (BWF, pp. 407-408)

The penetrating power of these words continues through the years. They guide and inspire Bahá’í gatherings today as they did when revealed thirty-five or forty years ago. What the Master tells us is a twofold truth: first, the positive definition of the purpose of Bahá’í meetings and consultation which confines it to spiritual matters; and second, the inherent limitation imposed in the accomplishments of the political realm. The aim of the Faith is to produce the reality of virtue and quality in souls and evolve institutions capable of dealing with social matters justly, in the light of the revealed truths. This is entirely distinctive from the province filled by civil institutions.

Many years later, in 1932, Shoghi Effendi gave us the message now entitled “The Golden Age of the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh,” at a time when our ranks were being swelled with new believers who had not been trained by the Master’s Tablets, when the local and National Assemblies were developing power, and the conditions of the Bahá’í community had become less simple and primitive, less hidden from the prevailing
influences of civilization. In that message he reminded us of an instruction deemed very important.

"And this principle is no other than that which involves the non-participation by the adherents of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh, whether in their individual capacities or collectively as local or national Assemblies, in any form of activity that might be interpreted, either directly or indirectly, as an interference in the political affairs of any particular government. Whether it be in the publications which they initiate and supervise; or in their official and public deliberations; or in the posts they occupy and the services they render; or in the communications they address to their fellow-disciples or in their dealings with men of eminence and authority; or in their affiliations with kindred societies and organizations, it is, I am firmly convinced, their first and sacred obligation to abstain from any word or deed that might be construed as a violation of this sacred principle. Theirs is the duty to demonstrate, on one hand, their unqualified loyalty and obedience to whatever is the considered judgment of their respective governments.

"Let them refrain from associating themselves, whether by word or by deed, with the political pursuits of their respective nations, with the policies of their governments and the schemes and programs of parties and factions . . . Let them affirm their unyielding determination to stand, firmly and unreservedly, for the way of Bahá'u'lláh, to avoid the entanglements and bickerings inseparable from the pursuits of the politician, and to become worthy agencies of that Divine Polity which incarnates God's immutable Purpose for all mankind . . .

"Let them beware lest, in their eagerness to further the aims of their beloved Cause, they should be led unwittingly to bargain with their Faith, to compromise with their essential principles, or to sacrifice, in return for any material advantage which their institutions may derive, the integrity of their spiritual ideals." (WOB, pp. 54, 65)

The application of this principle has produced a series of explanations by the Guardian and the National Spiritual Assembly, as recorded in "Bahá'i Procedure:" on the subject of the voting right in civil elections; on the status of believers in relation to military duty, etc. The National Assembly has also felt it advisable to retain the function of contact with the civil government.

Now we have another application of the same principle to consider with respect to the right, propriety or usefulness of exerting Bahá'í influence for the enactment of certain legislative measures which more or less reflect the aim of some Bahá'í principle or teaching. Should the Bahá'í community, local or national, lend the name of the Cause to support legislation, for example, which seeks to abolish race and religious discrimination in matters of industrial employment, or intervene when measures concerning military training of youth are before a legislature?

The National Spiritual Assembly feels that, as a general policy subject to the Guardian's specific direction in special cases, Bahá'ís and their administrative institutions should not feel obliged to adopt a "Bahá'í" attitude or course of action on matters of civil legislation. Our teachings and basic principles speak for themselves. These can always declare and set forth with all possible energy whenever occasions arise. But a truth which is severed from its sustaining spiritual Source, lifted out of its organic relationship to the Bahá'í community, broken off from the other truths, and made subject to the storm and stress of secular controversy, is no longer a truth with which we can usefully have concern. It has become an enactment to be carried out by institutions and groups committed to other enactments, other aims and purposes and methods not in conformity with the "Divine Polity" entrusted to those alone who give full loyalty to Bahá'u'lláh. Far better for us to strive to mirror forth radiantly the individual and community virtues of a new era than to hope others than believers will achieve the holy mission of the Faith. We Bahá'ís have is reality accepted a world order and not merely a new catalogue of truths or commands. On the other hand, obedience to civil government, is an obligation laid by Bahá'u'lláh upon every Bahá'í.

"Dear beloved friends!" the Guardian called out to us as long ago as 1931, "Humanity, whether viewed in the light of man's individual conduct or in the existing relationships between organized communities and nations, has, alas, strayed too far and suffered too great a decline to be redeemed through the unaided effort of the best among its recognized rulers and statesmen — however disinterested their motives, however concerned their action, however unspiring in their zeal and devotion to its cause. No scheme which the calculations of the highest statesmanship may yet devise; no doctrine which the most distinguished exponents of economic theory may hope to advance; no principle which the most ardent of moralists may strive to inculcate, can provide, in the last resort, adequate foundations upon which the
future of a distracted world can be built.” (WOB, pp. 33-34)

Because our hope is firmly founded, our trust complete, our vision clarified, we Bahá’ís can tread the path of assurance through all the troubles of these days, knowing that the goal is secure.

—NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Notice Concerning Teachers
The National Spiritual Assembly, on suggestion and request made by a local Assembly, would like each National Committee, and each Regional Teaching Committee, which has occasion to send teachers to the Southern States, to advise the local Assembly or Committee making arrangements for the activities of such teachers in that area, of the racial status of the teacher in each case, so that suitable plans can be made.

In Memoriam
Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.

—BAHÁ'U'LLÁH
Mrs. Arthur Krug, Sao Paulo, Brazil.
Mr. Robert Fairley, Vancouver.
Mrs. Lida Dabrowski, Greenville.
Mrs. Margaret Beckhart, Los Angeles.
Miss Millie B. Herrick, Binghamton.
Mr. J. F. Behrens, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho.
Mrs. Florence Etta White, Greenville.
Mrs. L. C. Haskell, Savannah, Ga.

Calendar
Nineteen Day Feasts: Names, August 20; Might, September 8; Will, September 27.
Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly; September 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

Enrollments and Transfers
Reported by Local Assemblies
Tacoma, two transfers.
San Diego, two transfers.
Beverly Hills, one transfer.
Burbank, two transfers.
Greenville, one transfer.
Los Angeles, five transfers, one youth transfer.
Berkeley, one and one youth transfer.
Louisville, one transfer.
Detroit, two transfers.

Denver, two and two transfers.
Elmhurst, one.
Sioux Falls, one.
Chicago, one.
Birmingham, one.
New Orleans, one.
Teaneck, one.
New York, one.
Bethesda-Chevy Chase, one.

Reported by Regional Teaching Committees
In June, four enrollments.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Farewell Words
To the American Friends
I am going away, but you must arise to serve the Word of God. Your hearts must be pure and your intentions sincere.

This is the day when pure hearts have a portion of the everlasting bounties and sanctified souls are being illumined by the eternal manifestations. Praise be to God! You are believers in God, assured by the words of God and turning to the kingdom of God. You have heard the divine call. Your hearts are moved by the breezes of the paradise of Abhá. You have good intentions, your purpose is the good pleasure of God, you desire to serve in the kingdom of the merciful One. Therefore arise in the utmost power. Be in perfect unity. Never become angry with one another. Let your eyes be directed toward the kingdom of truth and not toward the world of creation. Love the creatures for the sake of God and not for themselves. You will never become angry or impatient if you love them for the sake of God. Humanity is not perfect. There are imperfections in every human being, and you will always become unhappy if you look toward the people themselves. But if you look toward God you will love them and be kind to them, for the world of God is the world of perfection and complete mercy. Therefore do not look at the shortcomings of anybody; see with the sight of forgiveness. The imperfect eye beholds imperfections. The eye that covers faults looks towards the Creator of souls. He created them, trains and provides for them, endows them with capacity and life, sight and hearing; therefore they are the signs of His grandeur. You must love and be kind to everybody, care for the poor, protect the weak, heal the sick, teach and educate the ignorant.

National Committees

Publishing Announcement

Bahá’í Peace Program, the pamphlet consisting of compiled utterances issued by the Committee on Peace in San Francisco. (Not to be confused with pamphlet published with this title many years ago). Paper cover. Per copy, 15c.

The Dawning of World Civilization, reprint of compilation on peace published as supplement with World Order Magazine of April, 1945. In lots of one hundred copies for $1.50.

Bahá’í World Faith, Centennial Edition bound in red leather. An impressive gift and a most suitable memorial for preservation in Assembly and Summer School libraries. Per copy, $5.00.

Study Outline for God Passes By, prepared by Horace Holley. Mimeographed, paper cover. Sold in lots of five. Per copy, 10c.

Temple Guides
As a means of attracting visitors and thereby making known to the public the Bahá’í Faith, the Bahá’í House of Worship not only sustains its record of previous years but shows a steady growth in the number of people being guided through. This, despite the fact that the transportation difficulties have increased during the war period. We feel that some credit in this direction is due to the efforts of the Temple Program Committee who have made various attempts in securing greater attendance, by means of “L” placards, letters to Bahá’í Assemblies, and also because of other forms of publicity in bringing to public attention special programs given from time to time.

The record of visitor-attendance is its own evidence of the keen public
interest in the Temple and in the Bahá’í Faith:

During the first five months of 1945 there were 3356 more visitors guided through the Temple than during the same five months of last year. Those who came represented a cross-section of many classes, nationalities, races and religions. The total for these months in 1945 was 5095.

Especially during Sundays in March, April and May have there been a considerable number of visitors, running as high as 393 in a single Sunday. The record shows:

Month Sundays: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th
March 294 118 243 97
April 389 386 189 250 393
May 395 250 241 230

The foregoing came from many countries, as indicated:

In March there were 897 visitors from 25 states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Saskatchewan; Panama, Mexico and Brazil. Ontario, Columbia, the Canadian provinces of Yuko­славia, Holland, Le­banon, Argentina and Brazil.

In April there were 1680 visitors from 33 states, the District of Columbia, the Canadian provinces of Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec; Mexico and Honduras.

In May there were 1821 visitors from 41 states, the District of Columbia, the Canadian provinces of Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and Saskatchewan; England, Hawaii, Yugoslavia, Holland, Lebanon, Argentina and Brazil.

Among the visitors were many groups represented by various organizations, including:

Where From  Group Represented

CHICAGO—Austin Y.M.C.A., Youth Group, Irving Park Congregational Church.

Lawndale M. E. Church, Ishik­
ing Club, Irving Park M. E.
Church.

Edgewater Lutheran Church, Englewood Hikers Club.

Evanston—National College of Education; Junior Guild of 1st M.E. Church; American Association of University Women.

Western Springs, ILL.—Congregational Church.

Kenilworth, ILL.—Girl Scouts.

Valparaiso, IND.—High School Senior Class.

Winnetka, ILL.—Sunday School Class, Congregational Church (Eighth grade).

La Grange, ILL.—Sunday School Class of Evangelical Church.

In view of the foregoing record, it will be seen that the people guided through the Temple form a nucleus for carrying the Bahá’í message to the farthest corners of the world. Seeds are thus being sown in people from every walk of life, including influential members of governments, schools, colleges, clubs and professions. It thus becomes increasingly important to raise and sustain the standard of the quality of guides serving in the Temple, thus challenging those who know most about the Teachings to put forth efforts in behalf of guide work.

—Temple Guides Committee

By: Mary Haggard, Chairman

College Speakers Bureau
March 1—June 30, 1945

We have completed two projects involving literature distribution: the mailing out of reprints of “Ways to Wholeness” to an additional list of students, and distribution of gift copies of The Bahá’í Centenary to educators who have shown special friendliness to the work of the Bureau.

Additional responses to our general letter to Assemblies have been received and indicate general willingness to cooperate in the development of this type of teaching work. The record of college teaching completing the work of the committee year, includes: Mrs. Margaret Randall Ford: Morris Brown College (chapel), Davy T. Howard, Jr. High School (2 social studies classes), Atlanta School of Social Work (class of post graduate students), Moorehouse College (student group)—all in Atlanta, Ga.; Miles College, Birmingham (class), Lanier High School, Jackson, Miss., (chapel, 4 classes); Rowland Estall: University of Manitoba (student group); Emeric Sala; University of Manitoba (student group); Mrs. Terah Smith: Georgia State College (chapel, 4 classes); Rex King: Olivet College (small faculty group); John Roberts: Olivet College (college student forum); Stanwood, Cobb; West Virginia State College (chapel), Mrs. George R. True, Henderson Business College, Memphis (assembly), Booker T. Washington High School, Memphis (assembly). Vanderbilt University, Nashville (class). The number of students reported hearing of the Faith through these talks totals 4,465.

The members of the College Bureau Committee are deeply grateful for the assistance of Assemblies and individuals in working out these college engagements.

By: W. Kenneth Christian, Chairman

The Baha’i World, Vol. X

The committee for Volume X of the Baha’i World urgently appeals to the believers throughout the world to become “Baha’i World book conscious.” By this is intended the bien-
nial publication which is known as the Guardian's book and which is compiled and edited under his direction and on which he depends for presentation to distinguished individuals and publications which he desires to acquaint with the importance of the growing worldwide activities of the Faith.

The Bahá’í World is the only authentic reference book and is designed to be placed in public libraries and files of important newspapers, in college reference libraries and wherever inquirers might be inclined to seek information on the Bahá’í Faith. However important our other publications may be none carries in such complete form the actual historical records intended for general information and no honor is greater than that which accrues to the contributors of these biennial publications.

Because this is so, and because sometimes valuable material which is highly suitable and should find its way to this committee flows into other channels and reaches us too late if at all, we are now appealing to all who collect valuable data to make a special point of addressing their contributions to the Bahá’í World committee either direct to our offices or through the national office in Wilmette. By the Guardian's instructions we require two copies of all material and we urge that everything be sent in by September first. Please bear us in mind and lend us your valued assistance.

By: Nellie S. French, Chairman
786 Chester Ave. San Marino 9, Cal.

American Memorial To
'Abdu’l-Bahá

On Saturday, June 30th 1945, at Evergreen Cabin, West Englewood, New Jersey, was held the Thirty-Third Annual Gathering, commemorating the 'Unity Feast' given by 'Abdu’l-Bahá in 1912, when He came to America to promulgate Universal Peace, and visited West Englewood where He Himself, served the many guests, at the first Unity Feast.

Plants and bright flowers bedecked the grounds around the Cabin, and the fountains which had not been used for the past several years, were, that day, playing merrily during the meeting. The day was warm, so the friends came as early as noon time, to enjoy the country air and have their picnic lunch outdoors under the shade trees. Believers and friends from seven states attended and many of our Persian brothers and sisters were present. Approximately two hundred and fifty guests were served.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, the program prepared by the committee, began outdoors, in a sort of amphitheatre arrangement, with amplifiers to carry the sound. The chairman, Mr. Curtis Kelsey opened the program with prayer and greetings. Mr. Walter Olitzki, Baritone of the Metropolitan Opera Association sang four songs accompanied by Mrs. Harriet Kelsey. The address given by 'Abdu’l-Bahá at the original Feast, was read by Mrs. Maude Gaudreau. Talks on 'Promulgation of Universal Peace'—the theme of this gathering—were given by the following believers:

- 'Abdu’l-Bahá, the Herald of Peace—Charles S. Krug
- Youth Prepares for Peace—Rustam Payman
- Bases for a Durable Peace—Elsie Austin

At the very spot where the Beloved Master’s holy footsteps fell as He chanted prayers and gave His message to the throng in 1912, was held a service at 5 p.m.—in the Pine Grove. Vafza Kinney presided and called upon those friends present who were present at the original Unity Feast, to recall a few words about that glorious day.

Many of the visitors remained for a picnic supper, after which was held an informal ‘fireside’ meeting, presided over by Mr. Allah Kalantar. The spirit that pervaded the entire gathering during the whole day was of such fellowship and love that it well may have cheered the heart of our Beloved Master!

By: Amy Rauvstisher, Secretary

Bahá’í Peace Program at San Francisco During Allied Nations Conference

(Summary of Committee Report Received from Miss Marion Holley, Secretary)

Radio Activities: Thirty minute broadcast at 3:15 on April 21, over station KQW. Theme: “World Order is the Goal.” Recordings were made of this broadcast and have been sent by the National Radio Committee to 39 other cities for rebroadcast. Through cooperation of the Regional Teaching Committee in California, 20 cities throughout California obtained excellent publicity for the Regional broadcast.

Publicity: The two best newspapers in San Francisco carried large display advertisements, outlining the Bahá’í Peace Program. Excellent publicity secured in all Bay newspapers of all Bahá’í activities. There is a record of 69 items of publicity which appeared in 32 newspapers of 22 cities.

Public Meetings: Symposium on Bahá’í Peace Program held May 9. Speakers Dr. Rudolph Holsti, former delegate to the League of Nations from Finland; Dorothy Baker, Leroy Ions. Chairman, Marion Holley. Attendance 650. This was the largest peace meeting of any peace organization held in San Francisco during the Pacific Conference, according to the advice of two different San Francisco newspapers.

Banquet: Given by the National Spiritual Assembly to friends of Dr. Holsti attending the present Security Conferences:

His Excellency, Francisco Castillo Najera, delegate for Mexico and Ambassador to the United States.
His Excellency, Ivan Korni, delegate for Czecho-Slovakia, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.
Dr. Li Shu-Fan, Adviser to Chinese delegation, and adviser to Chinese Supply Commission.
Dr. Carlos Rodriguez Jimenez, Secretary to Venezuelan delegation, and Consul General.
M. Alphonse Als, Adviser to Luxembourgeois delegation, and Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (a friend of St. Barbe Baker)

In addition there were 26 other non-Bahá’í present for the most part distinguished friends of Dr. Holsti. In all there were 50 banquet guests. Copies of the Bahá’í Peace Program were distributed to all present.

Bahá’í Peace Pamphlet: 9000 copies of this pamphlet were published by the Committee. 2,000 copies were mailed to all persons connected with the Conference. 1,500 copies were sent to leading citizens of the San Francisco area. 400 were distributed at the banquet, symposium, exhibit. The Los Angeles Assembly ordered 1,000 copies for local teaching use.

Exhibits: Three exhibits were arranged of the Temple model with Bahá’í literature, maps and placards. Free literature distributed at each exhibit.
Official Observer: Marion Holley and Sylvia Ios were appointed official observers for the Bahá'í Faith, which permitted them to attend the plenary sessions. Mrs. Ios arranged a display of the Peace Pamphlet at the Conference Headquarters.

Local Activities: The San Francisco Assembly devoted a thirteen-week radio series to the theme "Foundations of Universal Peace." Public meetings and fireside meetings were held in each locality along these same lines.

Inter-America

The reports of the Youth Symposia in Latin America have been so inspiring that it was felt well worth while to devote the entire news to this subject. The South American Youth joined with their fellow Bahá'í Youth in North America, Europe and Asia on March 4th, 1945, the Tenth International Bahá'í Youth Day to present the Bahá'í Faith to the World.

Thirty youth were present at a meeting held in Buenos Aires, Argentina to hear Miss Etta Mae Lawrence speak on "The Dynamic Power of Religion." Sr. Haig Kevorkian, who spoke on "Prophetic Utterances," Sr. Oscar Aguirre, whose subject was "God's Plan for the Peace of the World," and Sr. Antranik Kevorkian who spoke on "The Spiritual Challenge to Youth," Sr. Antranik Kevorkian presided as chairman of the program. Tea was served following the meeting and everyone felt that the Symposium was a great success. A reporter from the Standard Newspaper of Buenos Aires interviewed the group prior to the meeting and as a result a very favorable article appeared in that paper.

From Santiago, Chile we hear that a wonderful meeting was held in the home of one of the members of the Youth Committee—Thirty one guests were present; Marcia Steward and Roberto Hererra gave talks on the Cause, tea was served and a strenuous period of questions and answers followed. There was a wonderful atmosphere, the audience was truly marvelous, every one requesting books and further information. Present were such types as an architect, newspaper men, a famous young Chilian actress, all young and of great capacity; practically every nationality was represented and a wonderful spirit prevailed. We felt that this meeting marked a great step forward in our youth activities." Also coordinating with the youth of Santiago, the youth of Punta Arenas presented a program at the Hotel Cosmos with seventeen young people present.

Twenty-one Youth attended the Youth Symposium at Lima, Peru. The theme of the Peruvian Youth was, "Youth's Role in the World of Tomorrow." Sr. Alejandro Franco, chairman of the Bahá'í Youth Committee gave the introductory speech, stressing the responsibility of Youth today. The very latest young Bahá'í woman spoke on "Woman's Role in the World of Tomorrow." Another young man spoke on the "Future World Economics," presenting it more from the material viewpoint. The meeting was concluded with an impressive presentation of the Bahá'í Faith by a visiting Bahá'í Youth from Guayaquil, Ecuador—Jorge Sarco.

Carmelo Perez, chairman of the Bahá'í Youth in Havana, Cuba reports the success of the Symposium held in that city, "The Youth Symposium of Havana was held in the auditorium of 'Radio Universal;' Colon and Prado. The program was broadcast over C.M.B.F. Cantos de la Torre, a youth who has recently reached twenty-one years and hence is now a voting member, was chairman. He recited a Temple Poem which he had composed. Carmelo Perez, the Youth Chairman gave the History of the Cause and Dr. Walter Blomquist spoke on Youths' Role in the New World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, elaborating on the principles." Thirty young people attended the broadcast, many of them having been attracted by the handpainted placards announcing the Symposium which had been placed in prominent places all over Havana. A press notice in the Havana Post also announced the program.

The first Bahá'í Youth Day to be celebrated in Guayaquil, Ecuador was held in a sala of Mrs. Anita McGills guest house. From Virginia Or­bison we received the following, "There was in the atmosphere a strong feeling of solidarity and potent among the six believers and their five friends. There were nine nationalities represented: English, Norwegian, German Jew, Swiss, French, Italian, Ecuadorian and North American. Eduardo Gonzales made the informal introductions and gave the first talk on 'Facing our Responsibilities' and quoting at length from the Guardians writings. He then presented Lauro Sanchez... His talk was Why I am a Bahá'í. The third talk was by Virginia Orbison, traveling teacher for South America. There are hopes that a real
Bahá’í Youth Group will result from this beginning, with a place of their own for meeting and constructive activities for which they will take the entire responsibility.

—INTER-AMERICA COMMITTEE

News Service

It is apparent from the constantly increasing volume of newspaper clippings which are being sent to our Secretary that local publicity chairmen are meeting with greater success in their patient efforts. We appreciate the various types of publicity attempted by individual Assemblies, Groups and even isolated believers. We should all be encouraged by this showing of an audacious spirit of teaching effort.

Miss Nancy C. Phillips of Phoenix, Ariz., writes of successfully placing this committee’s national release “Bahá’ís Attain Spiritual World Order” in the Arizona Sun, read by the 25,000 Negroes of Arizona, and in the Glendale (Ariz.) News. We commend the Phoenix publicity committee for its efforts in also contacting many other newspapers in their immediate territory. Credit is due the Misses Jessie and Ethel Revell and Blanche Lear for the first Bahá’í news release appearing in the Pottsville (Penn.) daily paper and thanks to them for their comments on the help of the Publicity Bulletin. The Panama (C.Z.) Assembly sends us fine clippings from La Nacion and The Panama American and a good “Letter to the Editor” clipping from the Waterbury (Conn.) Republican, The Atlanta (Ga.) Journal carrying an interesting report written by Rebecca Franklin of the statements by Ali Kuli Khan during his visit to that city, have also reached us. The latter was in the form of an interview covering the Bahá’í Peace Program and the mention that the Wilsonian principles were the stepping stones to the United Nations plan and the world’s desire for a lasting peace.

Mrs. Sarah M. Russell of South Bend, Indiana, pleased us with her good reports, a clipping from The (weekly) Mirror of that city and another from the Plymouth (Ind.) Daily Pilot.

We are sorry that space will not allow the mention of all the letters and clippings we have received recently. We do congratulate the local publicity chairmen for their good material in the Peoria (Ill.) Star, Chicago (Ill.) Tribune, Columbus Grove (Ohio) Vidette, Racine (Wis.) Journal Times, Topeka (Kas.) State Journal, Wilmette (Ill.) Life, West Chester (Penn.) Local News, Helena (Mont.) Independent-Record, Charleston (W. Vir.) Mail, Union City (N.J.) Hudson Dispatch, San Francisco (Cal.) Chronicle, Wilmington (Del.) Journal, Tacoma (Wash.) Times and many other newspapers throughout the country. We apologize to Miss Opal Winans of the Independent, Missouri, Assembly for inadvertently referring to her city as being in Kansas.

It has been brought to our attention that quite a number of house organs of the type used by commercial houses and, as well, small magazines of localized circulation are using illustrations of the Bahá’í House of Worship in their content. We would appreciate receiving any of the material for inclusion in the annual Press Books. Please send two copies of any Bahá’í mention you see to our secretary, Miss Virginia A. Russell, 2822 Prairie Avenue, Evanston, Illinois. We thank all publicity chairmen for their good cooperation in helping us keep our files up to date.

—NEWS SERVICE COMMITTEE

Annual Reports

1944-1945

Radio

In response to a request from the National Radio Committee, the Bahá’í Communities of the United States and Canada have submitted their reports on radio activities in their areas for the Bahá’í year 1944-1945. These reports have been digested by the National Radio Committee, and have been assembled here in brief form.

Many of the reports expressed the regret that there had been no radio activity. The reasons were stated, and these particular problems have been passed on to the incoming radio committee for whatever assistance they may be able to give in the coming year.

Some of the local reports were still not available by the time this national report was completed.

In addition to the regularly scheduled broadcasts for the past year, this report contains a brief survey on the special 30 minute transcription “The Goal Is World Order.” This program, featuring the Attorney General of California and several Bahá’í speakers was transcribed during the Peace Conference in San Francisco. It was then shipped to many of the communities of the United States and Canada. The transcriptions were financed by the National Radio Committee.

The special Centenary broadcasts have been covered in a previous report already published in the Bahá’í News.

The summarized report for the year 1944-1945 follows:

1. Total number of stations used: 41
2. Total number of special announcements: 6
3. Total number of programs: 215
4. Total number of states having broadcasts: 25
5. Total number of province having broadcasts: 6
6. Total number of hours on air: 55 hours, 51 minutes.
7. Total estimated audience (all stations) based upon the primary and secondary coverage of stations used, number of programs, average audience, etc. 9 million persons
8. The following is a list of the Bahá’í communities carrying broadcasts during the past year:
   - San Francisco—32 Fifteen minute broadcasts
   - Pasadena—35 Fifteen minute broadcasts
   - Reno—22 Fifteen minute broadcasts
   - New York—11 Fifteen minute broadcasts
   - Washington, D. C.—1 Fifteen minute broadcast
   - Cleveland—2 Fifteen minute broadcasts
   - Cincinnati—1 Fifteen minute broadcast
   - Portsmouth, N. H.—3 Fifteen minute broadcasts
   - New Haven, Conn.—3 Fifteen minute broadcasts
   - Flint, Mich.—2 Fifteen minute broadcasts

Written by the Publicity Bulletin.
Local Assemblies

Peace Programs

In accordance with the recommendation of the National Spiritual Assembly, an effort was made by most of the local assemblies to give public meetings on the Baha'i peace plan. Reports of some of these meetings come to the Baha'i News Committee.

Colorado Springs presented the Baha'i teachings on successive days. Gladys Roberts, the secretary of the Assembly writes as follows: "...the Colorado Springs Baha'i's were co-sponsors with 25 other organizations in a Town Hall Meeting held Saturday, April 7, with a Denver speaker, and a question panel of 9 people. The subject was 'Our Stake in World Peace.' Chosen on the panel was Mrs. Wanden LaFarge, Baha'i from Fountain, Sunday, April 8th, the Baha'i's held a meeting at Halfway House for Mrs. Marzieh Gail, and despite the previous night meeting and no paid advertising, we had 22 people, 15 of whom were non-Baha'i's. We had very good publicity for her in the Sunday paper. On Monday we held a meeting at my home where she spoke on 'Persia as I Saw It.'

Her subject on Sunday was 'Faith in World Peace.' "

Geneva, N. Y., issued a very attractive program announcing a Spring Recital "in tribute to the purpose of the San Francisco Conference on World Organization." A very fine musical program was given, with students from the Eastern School of Music participating. During an intermission William B. Sears of New York talked on "The Dawn of World Civilization."

The Baha'i's of the County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, gave an enormous peace banquet on March 24th at the Schroeder Hotel, where a model of the Temple was displayed in the lobby, along with books which were for sale. Marie Fricke, the secretary of the Milwaukee Assembly writes:

"We feel this teaching banquet was a wonderful success, particularly as a publicizing feature. There were over 700 people present, including members from as far away as Iowa, members from the cities of Wilmette, Winnetka, Evanston, Oak Park, and Chicago, all of Illinois, and members from all over the state of Wisconsin—it is estimated that about 50% of the attendees were non-Baha'i's. Influential and prominent people attended—including Dr. Frank E. Baker, President of Wisconsin State Teachers College, Lowell P. Goodrich, Superintendent of Milwaukee Public Schools, Daniel W. Hoan, Ex-Mayor of Milwaukee, Miss Dorothy Enderis, Director Municipal and Social Recreation Centers, William V. Kelley, Secretary Milwaukee Urban League, Miss Elizabeth Campbell, Executive Secretary International Institute of Milwaukee County, Inc., and Mrs. Grace M. Corwin, Church Editor of the Milwaukee Sentinel. There were also several clergy-men present.

"The races were also well represented. There were a good sprinkling of Negroes, some Chinese, Japanese, and a Japanese Hawaiian, also some Indians.

"The speakers were splendid, the music brilliant and suitable, the tables decorated with red roses and over it all the blue and rose lights interposed in the chandeliers cast a beautiful glow upon the happy faces of the friends. We were all immensely happy—this was indeed a Peace Meeting."

The New York City peace program took place June 8th at New York Times Hall. It began with music by Mr. Thomas Richner, concert pianist, winner of the Naumburg prize. This was followed by an address by Mrs. Dorothy Baker on "World Peace, everyman's part," three solos by Mr. Walter Olitzki, baritone of the Metropolitan Opera Association, and an address on "World Peace, essential institutions" by Mr. Horace Holley.

The San Francisco friends invited the public to celebrate with them the Baha'i festival of Naw-Ruz, at which they presented a program entitled "Foundations of Universal Peace." Rev. Dr. Rudolph I. Coffee, President of the Temple of Religion, was the guest speaker, and Miss Marion Holley and Mr. Leory C. Ioas gave the Baha'i Teachings. This was one of six discussions on the subject, "Prerequisites of Peace" scheduled for March and April. The printed announcement also carried a notice of the Baha'i World Order Radio program given Sundays at 6:30 p.m. on Station KYA.

The Baha'i's of Washington, D. C., Alexandria and Arlington, Cabin John, and Chevy Chase, united with the Regional Teaching Committee to
August, 1945

Race Unity Meetings

From Albuquerque, New Mexico, comes the announcement of a very interesting race unity meeting given March 29th. Mr. O. Leon Anderson, Acting Relocation Supervisor, spoke on the subject “Gleanings from the Relocation Program for Racial Adjustments” and illustrated his talk with motion pictures in color. The Bahá‘í speaker was Dr. E. Lenore Curtis, a Director and Chairman of a Study Group of the United Nations Association, and Dr. Ali-Kuli Khan, delegate to the Versailles Peace Conference.

News of Other Lands

British Isles

From the National Spiritual Assembly of the British Isles comes the inspiring news that they have just pledged themselves to attain the goal set them by the Guardian in response to the request of the 1944 Convention: to form nineteen Spiritual Assemblies in the British Isles before the Centenary of the Martyrdom of the Báb in July, 1950; these Assemblies to be spread over all the different areas, England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and Eire.

Australia

The following excerpts are from a letter from E. W. Handley, Librarian, Hobart Bahá‘í Group, Box 392 C.G.P.O., Hobart, Tasmania, Australia. The letter brought a renewal order covering five World Order subscriptions.

“The Hobart Bahá‘ís extend their greetings and good wishes to the American friends. The Hobart Group is the only Group in Tasmania. It numbers six persons, of whom five are women. We represent only 0.062% of Tasmania’s population; we have however, a promising Youth Group of ten, whose ages range from eight to sixteen years. They have made contact with one or more American Bahá‘ís visiting or passing through Australia.

“We would be glad to hear in ad-

Bullets

A new local bulletin has been added to the list of those received. This is the Albuquerque Bahá‘í News. The first issue was for the month of ’Ašá‘ (beginning March 2nd). It carries the announcement of the weekly Bahá‘í radio program, a list of Bahá‘í events for the month, a few news notes about individual friends, and the financial report.

San Juan, Puerto Rico, continues to issue its attractive little bulletin, beautifully hand-written, and adorned with small sketches in colored inks.

Hyde Dunn Memorial House, Yerrabool Bahá‘í Summer School

Baha’i Summer School

Baha’is for the United States government, author and lecturer on foreign affairs. Mr. W. Kenneth Christian was the Bahá‘í speaker, and music was furnished by Mr. Walter Oltizki, of the Metropolitan Opera. Attractive invitation cards were issued for this event as well as the printed programs given out on the evening itself.

The Portland, Oregon, meeting was held April 13th. Dr. Norman F. Coleman and Mr. George Orr Latimer spoke on “World Unity and an Enduring Peace.”

The Beverly, Massachusetts, Assembly reports thirty present at its World Peace Forum, fifteen of them non-Baha‘is. It was held May 18, and the speakers were Miss Margaret Curtis, a Director and Chairman of a Study Group of the United Nations Association, and Dr. Ali-Kuli Khan, delegate to the Versailles Peace Conference.

The Urbana, Illinois, Assembly, in combination with the Bahá‘í Group of Champaign, presented a race unity program in the City Building of Champaign on April 28th. Non-Bahá‘í speakers were Miss Lucy Nobler, student at the University of Illinois, who talked about race unity from the scientific point of view, and Miss Mary Grace Jordan, who told of practical work for better race relations being done by non-Bahá‘í organizations. The Bahá‘í teachings on the subject were presented by Mr. Farhang Javid, Persian student at the university. There was a large attendance.

Baha’i Summer School
American Bahá’í Directory
1945 -1946

National Bahá’í Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois; Office of the Treasurer,
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

I

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Mr. George O. Latimer, Chairman
Mr. Allen B. McDaniel, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Horace Holley, Secretary
Mrs. Frank Baker, Recording Secretary
Mr. Philip G. Sprague, Treasurer
Mr. Leroy Ions
Mr. Roy C. Wilhelm

Mrs. Thomas Collins
Mr. Louis G. Gregory

II

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

American Memorial to ‘Abdu’l-Bahá
Functions: To conduct the annual gathering commemorating the Unity Feast given by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá at West Englewood, N. J., in 1921; to maintain in Evergreen Cabin such exhibits and activities as will prepare the way for the permanent memorial to the Master to be constructed on this property.
Mrs. Edith Inglis, Chairman, 474 W. 238th St., Fieldston, N. Y.
Mrs. Curtis Kelsey
Mr. Roy C. Wilhelm
Mrs. Amy Raubitschek
Mrs. Archie Tichenor
Mrs. Carrie Kilnay
Mr. Alah Kalantar
Miss Doris Raymond
Mr. Walter Goodfellow

Archives and History
Functions: To maintain the National Archives and organize its contents; to receive Tablets and other material suitable for the National Archives; to advise local Assemblies on the development of their Archives; to obtain and organize historical data on special subjects as may be required from time to time.
Mr. Edwin W. Mattoon, Chairman, 105 Sixth St., Wilmette, Ill.
Miss Bertha Herktz
Mr. Hashim Hassan
Mrs. Carl Hannen
Mrs. Edward D. Struven
Mrs. Thomas Collins
Mrs. M. A. True
Mr. Louis J. Voelz

Assembly Development
Functions: To assist in the development of Assemblies by providing a liaison between Assemblies and their National Spiritual Assembly for purposes of consultation on matters relating to their local progress, their relation to the National Spiritual Assembly and to the use of their National Committees, their relation to the Guardian, their place in the New World Order, and the upbuilding of their administrative life.
Mrs. Thomas Collins, Chairman, Rt. No. 2, Box 394, Phoenix, Ariz.
Mrs. Frank Baker
Mr. Louis G. Gregory
Mr. Philip G. Sprague
Mr. Allen B. McDaniel

Baha’i News Committee
Functions: To edit and issue Bahá’í News for the National Spiritual Assembly; to solicit news from Committees and Assemblies.
Mr. Horace Holley, Secretary, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill.
Miss Garreta Busey
Mrs. E. B. Paine
Mrs. Robert Hutchens

Functions: To obtain material from all parts of the Bahá’í world community, including reports, articles, historical data and illustrations suitable for use in the successive volumes of “The Bahá’í World.”
Mrs. S. W. French, Chairman
Mrs. Clyde Longyear, Secretary, 985 Schumacher Dr., Los Angeles 36, Calif.
Miss Jessie Revell
Mr. Robert Guilick
Mrs. Joseph R. Pereira
Mrs. Harold Gail
Mrs. John E. Kirkpatrick
Miss Christine Loftstedt
Miss Virginia Orbison
Mrs. Clayton J. Davenport
Miss Margaret Swengel
Mrs. Mariam Haney
Mr. John Eichemauer, Jr.
Mrs. Victoria Bedikian, Photograph Editor

Child Education
Functions: To compile the Bahá’í teachings on the subject of child education; to prepare lessons suitable
for classes of children; to cooperate with child education activities maintained in local communities.

Mrs. Edward Lindstrom, Chairman
Mrs. Richard McCurdy, Secretary, 921 Thirteenth Street, Wilmette, Ill.
Mrs. John Haggard
Mrs. Wm. Tuttle
Mrs. G. E. Terry
Mr. Edward Lindstrom
Mrs. Beatrice Ashton
Miss Annamarie Mattoon

College Speakers Bureau

Functions: To bring the Bahá’í Faith to colleges by lecture and literature; to provide a speakers service; to arrange classes for study of the Bahá’í teachings and training for Bahá’í membership.

Mr. Bishop Brown, Lindsay Road, Ingomar, Pa.
Mrs. Bishop Brown
Mr. Otto Zmeskal
Mrs. Otto Zmeskal
Dr. Mary Coffin

Contacts

Functions: To produce and distribute the public teaching bulletin entitled “A World Faith;” to circulate selected lists of people with printed matter.

Mrs. Edwin Eardley
Mrs. Etta Catlin
Mrs. Joanne Engman
Miss Winifred Harvey
Mrs. Chas. Krug
Miss Pauline Hanson
Mr. John M. Clifford

Elementary Education

Functions: To make the Bahá’í principles an influence in the field of elementary education.

Mr. Carl Scheffler, Chairman, 1821 Lincoln St., Evanston, Ill.
Mr. Alfred Osborne
Mrs. Pearl Easterbrook
Miss Zoe Meyer

Exhibits

Functions: To prepare material suitable for use in public exhibits; to supervise and conduct exhibits in state fairs and regional and national expositions.

Mr. Clarence Niss, Chairman, 2039 N. Third St., Milwaukee, Wis.
Mr. Laurence Hautz
Mr. Wm. G. Johnson

Inter-America

Functions: To plan and supervise teaching activities throughout Central and South America; to assist the pioneers; to encourage the formation of local communities and guide their development in administrative practice and teaching activities.

Mrs. Frank Baker, Chairman
Miss Edna True, Secretary, 418 Forest Ave., Wilmette, Ill.
Mrs. E. R. Mathews
Mrs. Enos M. Barton
Mrs. Thomas Collins
Mr. Philip G. Sprague
Mr. Edwin W. Mattoon
Miss Farl Zia-Walrath

Index

Functions: To prepare indexes and glossaries for the standard Bahá’í books; to combine index references into a general cross index.

Mr. Wm. Kenneth Christian, Chairman, 314 Palmer Ave., Syracuse 7, N. Y.
Mrs. Wm. Kenneth Christian
Mrs. Patrick Quinlan

Legal

Functions: To examine the incorporation papers prepared by local Assemblies; to provide information needed for local incorporation; to assist the National Assembly in meeting legal questions.

Mr. George G. Latimer, Chairman
Mr. Horace Holley, Secretary, 536 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, Ill.
Mr. Chester F. Barnett

Library

Functions: To place literature in public and university libraries; to encourage local Assemblies to provide books for local libraries; to maintain a record of all Bahá’í literature in public libraries as far as can be determined.

Mrs. Stuart Sims, Chairman, Leroy Apts., Redbank, N. J.
Miss Helen Reynolds
Miss Dorothy Fisher

National Teaching

Functions: To prepare teaching material; to provide settlers and pioneer teachers; to plan and supervise inter-regional activities; to supervise the Regional Teaching Committees.

Mrs. James P. McCormick, Chairman
Mrs. Harry E. Walrath, Sec’y., 4539 Beacon St., Chicago 40, Ill.
Mr. Thomas Collins
Mr. Monroe Iosas
Mrs. Warren Shows
Dr. Katherine True
Mrs. Monroe Iosas
Mr. Lloyd Robinson

News Service

Functions: To prepare and release publicity material to the press and the press agencies; to provide publicity material suitable for release by local publicity committees, traveling teachers and groups; to make available Bahá’í photographs and other illustrated material of special publicity interest; to encourage and train local publicity committees in development of Bahá’í publicity activities by means of bulletins and instruction material.

Mr. William Henning
Miss Virginia Russell, Secretary, 2622 Prairie Ave., Evanston, Ill.
Mr. Clarence Niss
Mrs. Hazel Rawitsch
Miss Evelyn Erdman
Mr. Lawrence LaRocque
Mr. Melvin Rawitsch
Mr. Ward C. Calhoon
Mrs. Clarence Niss

Pamphlet Literature

Functions: To recommend manuscripts for developing the Bahá’í pamphlet literature.

Mr. George G. Latimer, Chairman, 1927 N.E. 49th Ave., Portland 13, Ore.
Mrs. Alice Robertson
Mrs. Florence Campbell
Photography
Functions: To obtain photographic material, both motion and still, of historical interest and teaching value.
Mr. Edwin W. Mattoon, Secretary, 165 Sixth St., Wilmette, Ill.
Mr. Victor Alexander
Mr. Archie Tichenor
Mr. Curtis Kelsey
Mr. George Miller
Dr. Khan Zia

Portuguese Bulletin
Functions: To edit and distribute a Bahá’í Bulletin in Portuguese for the believers of Brazil.
Mrs. Roscoe L. Wood, Chairman
Mrs. Harold V. Armstrong, Secretary, % Pernambuco Tramways, Caixa Postal 282, Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil.
Temporary address until further notice, Rua Presidente Carlos de Carvalho 132, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Mrs. Roy Worley
Dr. Fernando Nova

Public Meetings
Functions: To promote the aims and purposes of the National Campaign through a series of public meetings in various cities; to recommend the program of the Annual Congress.
Dr. Catherine True, Chairman
Mrs. James P. McCormick
Mr. Charles Reimer
Dr. Edris Rice-Wray
Mrs. Raymond D. Little
Mr. John Robarts
Miss Georgina Fitzgerald
Mrs. Fred Morton
Mrs. Charles Niemann
Mr. Laurence Hautz
Mr. Wm. C. Henning
Mr. Robert S. Hammond
Mr. John Haggard

Public Relations
Functions: To deal with issues arising in the public press which tends to create misunderstanding or prejudice about the Bahá’í Faith; to advise local Assemblies in matters pertaining to such issues; to prepare statements for encyclopedias and the public press; to maintain contacts with government officials.
Mr. Horace Holley, Chairman, 536 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, Ill.
Mr. George O. Latimer
Mr. Allen B. McDaniel

Publishing
Functions: To print and sell the literature approved and authorized by the National Spiritual Assembly.
Mr. Horace Holley, Chairman, 536 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, Ill.
Mr. Harry E. Walrath
Mr. Carl Scheffer
Mr. David Tubbs
Staff:
C. R. Wood, Mgr., 110 Linden Ave., Wilmette, Ill.
J. T. Wood

Race Unity
Functions: To compile the teachings on the subject of race unity; to prepare bulletins of information; to plan race unity activities and programs; to conduct special meetings; to cooperate with Assemblies in race unity activities; to bring the Bahá’í teachings to the minority groups in America, and to place race unity editorial material in the press.
Mr. Harlan Ober, Chairman
Mrs. Salvatore J. Ambrose, Secretary, 1477 Beacon St., Brookline 46, Mass.
Miss Natalie Anderson
Mr. Louis G. Gregory
Mrs. Dudley J. Stevison
Miss Roan U. Orloff
Mr. Matthew Bullock
Mr. William Towari
Mr. George Goodman

Radio Committee
Functions: To make available approved radio scripts on a variety of Bahá’í subjects; to conduct radio campaigns; to stimulate the use of radio for teaching.
Mr. William Sears, Chairman
Mrs. R. Y. Mottahedeh, Secretary, 225 Fifth Ave., New York 10, N.Y.
Mr. Fred Morton
Miss Pearl Berk
Miss Monaver Beethold
Mr. Ugo Giachery
Mrs. Shirley Ward
Mrs. William Sears
Mr. Russell Goudy
Mr. R. Y. Mottahedeh

Regional Teaching
Functions: To organize teaching circuits and route traveling teachers through cooperation with Assemblies, groups and isolated believers; to encourage and stimulate teaching activities of groups and isolated believers; to extend teaching work to areas where no Bahá’ís exist; to assist groups and prepare them for the formation of a Spiritual Assembly; to coordinate inter-community teaching conferences; to issue Regional teaching and news bulletins; to endorse applications for enrollment and transfers of believers outside the jurisdiction of Assemblies. Regional Committees are auxiliary agencies of the National Teaching Committee.

British Columbia
Mrs. Eve Cliff Southwell, Chairman
Mrs. Katherine Mosey, Sec’y., 6069 Alma Rd., Vancouver, B.C.
Mrs. Florence Sherborne
Miss Mae McKenna
Mrs. Viola China
Miss Muriel Warnicker
Mr. Austin Collin

Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba
Mr. Rowland Estall, Chairman
Miss Elizabeth Brooks, Sec’y., Box 121, Winnipeg, Man.
Mrs. Jean Johnston
Miss Patricia Blanche Mosher
Mr. Oscar Arkel
Miss Doris Skinner
Mr. Ernest Court
Mrs. Ann McGee

Ontario (including Ottawa)
Mr. John Robarts, Chairman
Mrs. Laura Davis, Secretary, 44 Chestnut Park Rd., Toronto
Miss Winifred Harvey
Mrs. Ethel Priestly
Mrs. John Robarts
Mr. F. St. George Spendlove

Quebec
Mr. Emeric Sala, Chairman
Mrs. L. C. Boudler, Sec’y., 3721 L’Oratoire, Montreal, P.Q.
Dr. Ragnar Mattson
Miss Rena Gordon
Mr. L. C. Boudler
**New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia**  
Mr. Irving Geary, Chairman  
Mrs. Willard McKay, Sec'y., 279 Richmond Street, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

**Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut**  
Mr. Chas. Krug, Chairman  
Mrs. Victor Archambault, Sec'y., 2 Pilgrim Road, Arlington, Mass.

**New York**  
Mr. Ugo R. Giachery, Chairman  
Mrs. Florence Steinbauer, Sec'y., 3018 Corlear Ave., New York 63, N. Y.

**New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania**  
Mr. Stuart Sims, Chairman  
Mrs. Arthur V. Crane, Sec'y., 100 Prospect Ave., Hackensack, N. J.

**Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia**  
Mr. Paul Hay, Chairman  
Mrs. John Honnold, Sec'y., 3008 Lake Ave., Chevy Chase, Md.

**Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky**  
Mr. Edmund Miessler, Chairman  
Mrs. Clarence Ulrich, Sec'y., 124 Carpenter Rd., Mansfield, O.

**Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa**  
Mrs. Adeline Duff, Chairman  

**Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska**  
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Mrs. Claude Winans, Sec'y., 421 N. Spring St., Independence, Mo.

**Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota**  
Miss Maria Montana, Chairman  
Mrs. Kenneth Klein, Sec'y., 2335 W. 21st St., Minneapolis, Minn.

**North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia**  
Miss Terah Smith, Chairman  
Mrs. M. E. Buffin, Sec'y., 45 S. E. 6th St., Miami 36

**Florida**  
Miss Doris Ebert  
Miss Gertrude Gewertz  
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Mrs. Joseph Sawyer  
Mrs. Eva McAllister  
Mrs. David Ruhe

**Tennessee, Alabama**  
Miss Martha Fettig  
Mr. Robert Durr  
Dr. A. H. Kessler  
Miss Nellie Roche  
Mrs. Eugene Kellar

**Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas**  
Mrs. Raymond D. Little, Chairman  
Mrs. Robert F. Little, Sec'y., 3905 N. Claiborne St., New Orleans, La.

**Oklahoma, Texas**  
Mrs. Dwight Edson, Sec'y., "Briar Hollow" R. 21, Box 16, Houston, Tex.

**California, Arizona, Nevada**  
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Mrs. Leonard R. Herbert, Sec'y., 5372 Templeton St., Los Angeles 32, Calif.
Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico
Mrs. Geo. N. Clark, Chairman
Mrs. Clarence E. Olson, Secretary, Albin, Wyo.
Mrs. M. R. Real Wallace
Dr. E. Lenore Morris
Mrs. Raymond Gillespie
Mrs. Gladys Roberts
Mrs. May Arno

Idaho, Montana, Utah
Mrs. Walter Ingham, Chairman
Mrs. Ona M. Ault, Secretary, 402 E. Washington, Boise, Idaho
Mrs. Bertha S. Adelman
Mrs. Charles Bryan
Mr. J. K. Saunders
Mrs. Ethel Thompson

Washington, Oregon
Mr. Geo. Washington, Chairman
Mrs. Wm. Wilks, Sec'y., 319 N. 83rd St., Seattle 3, Wash.
Mrs. Clara Rainboth
Mrs. Harry Taylor
Mrs. Charley W. Campbell
Mrs. Ernest Walter
Mr. John Clifford
Mrs. Rachel Porter
Mrs. Levi Munson
Miss Gale Marsolais

Alaska
Miss Honor Kempston, Chairman
Mrs. Verne Stout, Sec'y., Box 2394, Anchorage, Alaska
Mrs. Dagmar Dole
Miss Betty Becker
Mr. Verne Stout

Reviewing
Functions: To pass upon the accuracy of manuscripts submitted through the National Spiritual Assembly; to examine manuscripts for literary quality and effectiveness and their usefulness as contributions to the published literature.
Mrs. Mehdi Firoozl, Chairman R.D. 2, Geneva, N. Y.
Miss Elizabeth Brookes
Mrs. Wm. H. Hart

Schools (1945 Season)
Functions: To provide instruction and study courses; to train teachers; to conduct the school program; to encourage attendance at the school.
Geyersville
Mr. Arthur Dahl, Chairman
Miss Gladys Linfoot, Secretary, 150 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.
Mr. John Bosch, Mrs. Amelia Bowman, Mr. Irvin Sommerhalder, Mrs. Leroy Ioas, Mrs. T. J. Greger, Mrs. Arthur Dahl, Dr. Mildred Nichols, Mrs. Leo Perron.
Green Acre
Dr. Genevieve Coy, Chairman, 10 Patchin Place, New York, N. Y.
Mr. Wm. Rosessler, Mr. Bishop Brown, Dr. Glenn Stock, Mrs. Joseph R. Pereira, Mrs. John Marlowe, Mr. Robert Gulick.
Louheals
Mrs. John E. Kirkpatrick, Chairman
Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary, 3208 S. State Rd., M. 15, Davison, Mich.
Miss Phyllis Hall, Cor. Secretary
Mr. Harry Whang, Mr. L. W. Eggleston, Mr. Edmund Meesler, Mrs. Clinton W. Wideman, Mr. Reese Springsten, Miss Margaret Swengel, Mr. Richard Suhm.

International
Functions: To provide instruction for the training of Baha'i teachers wishing to serve in other lands, especially, at present, in Central or South America; to stimulate Latin American contacts and activities by local assemblies in North America.
Mrs. E. R. Mathews, Chairman
Mrs. Raymond D. Little, Secretary, Box 255, Covington, La.
Mrs. Thomas Collins, Mr. George O. Latimer, Mrs. Max Greeven, Mr. Max Greeven, Mrs. Oliver LaFarge, Mr. Mark Tobe.

Selective Service Advisory Committee
Functions: To advise Bahá'ís on applications of the Selective Service Act.
Mr. Allen B. McDaniel, P.O. Box 96, Waterford, Va.
Mr. Paul Haney

Service to the Blind
Functions: To provide Bahá'í literature in Braille for the blind; to place Bahá'í Braille literature in libraries and other institutions; to encourage the formation of groups of Bahá'ís workers to increase the supply of Braille transcriptions, and to provide other means for serving the blind.
Miss Ella Quant, General Chairman, 1069 Glenwood Blvd., Schenectady, New York

Talking Book Division
Mr. Albert Dahl
Miss Ella Quant
Miss Hilda Stains
Mrs. Lothar W. Schurgast
Mrs. Paul A. Schoeny
Miss Adah Schott

Braille Transcriptions Division
Mrs. J. L. Gibson, Secretary, P.O. Box 1135, Santa Monica, Calif.
Mrs. Mayme Jackson
Mrs. A. C. Engelder
Mrs. Mabelle Perry
Mrs. Dale Cole
Mrs. Babiyibh Valentine
Miss Alice Doollittle
Mrs. Eula Fritz
Miss Ella Quant
Miss Sophie Rieger
Mrs. Louise K. Sayward
Mr. Adolph Fehler, Proofreader
Mrs. Lothar Schurgast
Mrs. Melba Cal King

Spanish Publications
Functions: To translate Bahá'í texts into Spanish; to publish and distribute Spanish books and pamphlets.
Buenos Aires Branch
Sr. Emilio Barros, Chairman, 428 Peru, Depto A, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Miss Lillian McRae
Sr. Salvador Torno

Panama Branch
M. Alfred E. Osborne, Chairman, Box "K" Balboa, C. Z.
Mrs. Cora Oliver
Mrs. Louise Caswell
Miss Julia Regal

Study Aids Committee
Functions: To encourage and promote the practice of organized Bahá'í study.
Mrs. Beatrice Ashton, Chairman, 1505½ Oak St., Evanston, Ill.
Mrs. John McHenry
Mr. Marvin Newport

Temple Guides Committee
Functions: To maintain a staff of guides for conducting visitors through the House of Worship; to hold classes for training Temple guides.
Mrs. John Haggard, Chairman, 1229 Cleveland Ave., Wilmette, Ill.
Mrs. Willis S. Hilpert, Secretary, 455 Chestnut St., Winnetka, Ill.
Dr. Edris Rice-Wray
Mr. Edwin W. Mattoon
Mr. Marvin Newport
Mr. Clarence Suhm
Miss Joan Crawford
Mrs. Louis Voelz
Mrs. M. D. Roach
Mrs. Colston Rice-Wray

Temple Librarian and Sales Committee
Functions: To conduct the sale of literature in the Temple; to provide facilities for the sale of Bahá’í photographs, ringstones, displays and exhibits, slides and other Bahá’í material.
Mr. Harry E. Walrath, Chairman, 4639 Beacon St., Chicago 40, Ill.
Mrs. Carl Scheffler

Temple Program Committee
Functions: To conduct the weekly public meeting at Foundation Hall; to conduct such other devotional or public meetings as may be approved from time to time by the National Spiritual Assembly.
Mr. Monroe Ioas, Chairman
Mr. John Haggard, Secretary, 1229 Cleveland St., Wilmette, Ill.
Dr. James Lewis
Mrs. Edna Coleman
Mrs. Willis S. Hilpert
Mr. Albert R. Windust
Mrs. John McHenry
Mrs. Betty Scheffler Ashton

Translations
Functions: To translate Bahá’í texts into the German and other European languages.
Mr. Siegfried Schopflocher, Chairman, 1102 University St., Montreal, P. Q., Canada
Mr. Karl Neumann
Mrs. Laurence Hautz
Mrs. Lothar Schurgast

Visual Education
Functions: To recommend subjects for development of moving picture films with sound, of Bahá’í educational and historic value.
Mrs. Shirley Warde, Chairman, 1321 Taylor St., San Francisco 8, Calif.
Mr. Victor Alexander

World Language
Functions: To develop and encourage the interest in the Bahá’í principle of an international auxiliary language; to make possible effective cooperation with other workers in the field of international language; to provide Bahá’í literature in Esperanto and other international languages.
Miss Roan U. Orloff, Chairman, Hotel Canterbury, 14 Charlesgate West, Boston, Mass.
Mrs. Patrick Quinlan
Mrs. Luella Beecher
Miss Lucy J. Marshall
Mrs. James Kincaid
Mr. A. E. Regal
Mrs. Robert Davis
Mrs. Mabel Vicary
Mr. J. M. Clifford
Mrs. Etty Graeffe
Mr. Chester Blaski
Mrs. Chester Blaski

World Order Magazine
Functions: To edit the American Bahá’í Magazine.
Mr. Horace Holey, Chairman
Mrs. Wm. C. Henning, Secretary, 69 Abbottsford Rd., Winnetka, Ill.
Miss Garreta Busey
Mrs. John E. Kirkpatrick

Youth
Functions: To stimulate and coordinate activities of Bahá’í Youth throughout the American Bahá’í community; to initiate worldwide youth symposiums; to issue bulletins of suggestions, plans and news of youth activity; to provide study material; to arrange conferences.
Mr. Charles Ioas, Chairman, 3300 Prairie Ave., Brookfield, Ill.
Miss Cynthia Hastings, Secretary, 8312 Magnolia Ave., Chicago 30, Ill.
Mr. Ralph Halverson
Mr. Robert Imagire
Miss Pari Zia-Walrath
Mr. DeWitt Haywood, Jr.
Miss Barbara Hannen
Mrs. Betty Scheffler Ashton
Mr. Ruslanger Javid
Mr. Manucher Javid

III
TRUSTEE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEES

Properties Representative, Mr. George O. Latimer, 1927 N.W. 40th Avenue, Portland 13, Oregon.

Temple
Mr. Robert S. Hammond, Chairman, 1217 Asbury Avenue, Winnetka, Ill.
Mr. Lloyd Robinson
Mr. Clarence Ulrich

Green Acre
Mr. Charles Krug, Chairman
Miss Roushan Wilkinson, Secretary, R.F.D. 190, No. Attleboro, Mass.
Mrs. Harold Bowditch
Mrs. James Flynn
Mr. Philip G. Sprague

Bosch
Mr. John Allen, Chairman, 531 Walnut Ave., Burlingame, Calif.
Mrs. Thomas Collins
Mr. Ted Grover
Mr. Ray Brackett
Mr. John Bosch

Wilhelm
Mr. Roy C. Wilhelm, Chairman
Mrs. Amy Raubitschek, Secretary, 1113 Bromley Avenue, West Englewood, N. J.
Mr. Walter Goodfellow

Wilson
Mr. Victor Archambault, 2 Pilgrim Road, Arlington, Mass.
Mr. Harlan Ober
LOCAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLIES

A. United States

Alabama:
Birmingham: Mrs. Verna Inglis, 2431 Cliff Road, Birmingham, 5.

Alaska:
Anchorage: Miss Honor Kempton, The Book Cache (Box 11566).

Arizona:
East Phoenix: Mrs. Carl Deppe, 3438 N. 12th St.
Phoenix: Mrs. Nancy (Mrs. Robert T.) Phillips, 521 West Holly St.

Arkansas:
Little Rock: Mrs. Lucy Hawkins, 1023 Louisiana St.

California:
Alhambra: Miss Annadore von Muenchhausen, 220 Winchester Ave.
Berkeley: Mrs. Helen B. Rutledge, 2828 Stuart St. (5).
Beverly Hills: Spiritual Assembly of Baha’is of Beverly Hills, Box 734. (Mrs. Margaret E. Gordon)
Burbank: Mrs. Anders Nielsen, 1636 W. Catalina St.
Burlingame: Mrs. Frederick Babo, 1048 El Camino, Apt. 3.
Geyersville: (Cloverdale Township) Mrs. Olive Meyer, Geyersville.
Glendale: Mrs. E. A. Stapp, 1244 Justin Avenue, Glendale 1.
Long Beach: Mrs. Allen W. Robertson, 1328 Orange Ave.
Los Angeles: Mr. Willard P. Hatch, 4377 West 8th St., Los Angeles 5.
Oakland: Miss Florence S. Hay, 450 Lee St., Oakland 10.
Sacramento: Miss Bertha Matthesen, 409 East California St., Sacramento 3.
San Francisco: Mrs. T. J. Groger, 64 Agua Way (16).

Colorado:
Colorado Springs: Mrs. Gladys Roberts, 915 N. Hancock Ave.
Denver: Mrs. Geo. N. Clark, 521 Marion St.

Connecticut:
Hamden: Mrs. Louis Keller, 114 Wakefield St., Hamden 14.
New Haven: Miss Gertrude Duel, 501 Whalley Ave.

Delaware:
Wilmington: Mrs. Sara Terry Taylor, 1229 Tatnall St., Wilmington 13.

Washington, D. C.:
Miss Elizabeth C. Hepper, 2220 29th St., N.W., Washington 9.

Florida:
Jacksonville: Miss Kathryn L. Vernon, 707 Post St., Jacksonville 4.
Miami: Mrs. Beth Holden, 65 S.E. 10th St., 36.
St. Augustine: Mrs. Frances A. Shaw, 139 Central Ave.

Georgia:
Atlanta: Miss Doris Ebbert, 1247 Sells Ave., S.W.
Augusta: Mrs. Emma P. Lawrence, P.O. Box 2004 Hill Station.

Hawaii:
Honolulu: Miss Henrietta Fromm, 2336 Beckwith St., Honolulu 5.
Spreckelsville, Maui, Mrs. Mary T. Fantom.

Idaho:
Boise: Miss Elizabeth Adelmann, 906 East State St.

Illinois:
Chicago: Mrs. Harry E. Wallerath, 4639 Beacon St., Chicago 40.
Danville: Mrs. Elizabeth Raimer, 1230 ½ No. Gilbert St.

Indiana:
Fort Wayne: Mrs. Philip J. Schott, 658 Spring St.
Indianapolis: Mrs. Arthur R. Patterson, 2725 Station St., Indianapolis 1.
South Bend: Mrs. Sarah M. Russell, 1031 Lincoln Way West, South Bend 16.

Iowa:
Cedar Rapids: Miss Edna Mackinson, 620 First Ave., N.E.

Kansas:
Topeka: Mrs. Bertha H. Campbell, 1021 Tyler St.

Kentucky:
Louisville: Mrs. Marian Fieguth, 645 South 40th St.

Louisiana:
New Orleans, Miss H. Hullinghorst, c/o Bahai’i Center, 601 Queen & Crescent Bldg., New Orleans 12.

Maine:
Elliot: Mrs. Dorothy Cress.

Maryland:
Bethesda-Chevy Chase: Mrs. Adline S. Lohse, 4700 Dover Road, Friendship, P.O., D.C.

Massachusetts:
Beverly: Miss Helen A. Miller, 15 Ives St.
Boston: Miss Natalie Anderson, c/o Bahai’i Center, 25 Huntington Ave., Boston 16.
Brookline: Mrs. Evelyn W. Haisler, 47 Vernon St.
Springfield: Mrs. David E. Hutton, 658 State St.
Worcester: Miss Fanny M. Holmes, 103 Webster St., Worcester 3.

Michigan:
Ann Arbor: Mrs. Wm. M. Parker, 1601 Pontiac St.
Detroit: Mrs. Edwin Eardley, 2510 Woodstock Drive, Detroit 3.
Flint: Miss Mabel Kitchenmaster, 1123 S. Saginaw St.
Grand Rapids: Mrs. Wilbur Walsh, 526 Jefferson Ave.
Muskegon: Mrs. George D. Neal, 332 Jackson Ave.

Minnesota:
Duluth: Mrs. Virginia B. Peterson, 674 Arlington Ave.

Mississippi:
Jackson: Mr. E. S. Campbell, P.O. Box 2883.

Missouri:
Independence: Mrs. Claude Winans, 421 N. Spring St.
Kansas City: Mrs. Albert Walkup, 2830 Merriamton Ave.
St. Louis: Miss Nayan F. Hartfield, 4447 Washington Blvd., St. Louis 8.

Montana:
Butte: Mrs. A. L. Palmer, Dorothy Apartments, East Granite St.
Helena: Mr. Charles M. Bryan, 507 Sixth Ave.
Nebraska:
Omaha: Mrs. Doreene N. Holliday, 3014 N. 28th Ave.,
Omaha 10.

Nevada:
Reno: Miss Blossom Hay, 225 Ridge St.

New Hampshire:
Portsmouth: Mrs. John Marlowe, 200 Gates St.

New Jersey:
East Orange: Mrs. J. Rockwell, 12 Washington St.
Montclair: Mrs. Catherine M. Healy, Mountainside Hospital.
Teaneck: Mrs. Amy G. Raubitschek, 126 Evergreen Place,
West Englewood.

New Mexico:
Albuquerque: Mrs. Richard Walters, Albuquerque Bahá’í
Community, Box 1268.

New York:
Binghamton: Mrs. Helen Inderlied, 44 Lincoln Ave.
Buffalo: Mrs. J. P. Patterson, 333 Ontario St.
Geneva: Mrs. Lucy Heist, 46 Park Pl.
Jamestown: Mrs. Ralph Emery, 81 Fairmount Ave.
New York City: Dr. Genevieve L. Cox, 119 W. 37th St.,
Room 615, New York 19.
Rochester: Mrs. Rochelle Boonshaft, 171 Alexander St.,
Rochester 7.
Syracuse: Mrs. Paul B. Meyerowitz, 325 Furman St., Syracuse 5.
Yonkers, Mrs. Lillian Rogers, 64 Locust Hill Ave.

North Carolina:
Greensboro: Mrs. Joseph J. Sawyer, 129 S. Mendenhall St.

North Dakota:
Fargo: Mrs. Tyndall O. Morrill, 1240 Broadway.

Ohio:
Cincinnati: Miss Hilda Stauss, 3640 Epworth Ave., Westwood, Cincinnati 11.
Cleveland: Mrs. Mabelle S. Perry, 10817 Earle Ave., Cleveland 8.
Columbus: Mrs. Jose B. Acebo, 777 Franklin Ave., Columbus 5.
Dayton: Mrs. Hazel Volz, 351 Kenilworth Ave.
East Cleveland: Prof. Win. Sandoz, 1770 Delmont Ave.
Toledo: Mr. Charles Hill, 2421 Chase St., Toledo 11.

Oklahoma:
Oklahoma City: Mrs. Albert Entzinger, 734 N.W. 20th St.

Oregon:
Portland: Mr. Fred S. Young, 3207 N.E. 11th Ave., Portland 12.

Pennsylvania:
Philadelphia: Miss Helen L. Reynolds, 5334 Green St.,
Philadelphia 44.
Pittsburgh: Mrs. Otto Zneczek, 4028 Bayard St.
Scranton: Mrs. Zenobia J. Dorsey, 1312 Linden St.
West Chester: Mrs. Clarence F. Lear, 42 West Gay St.

Puerto Rico:
San Juan: Mrs. Lucien McComb, P.O. Box 2190, San Juan 10.

Rhode Island:
Providence: Mr. William Doull, 92 University Ave.

South Dakota:
Sioux Falls: Mrs. Frances B. Jones, 404 S. First Ave.

Tennessee:
Memphis: Miss Johanna Zimmermann, Box 25, Crosstown Station.
Nashville: Miss Nellie Roche, 217-28th Avenue, N.

Texas:
Houston: Mrs. J. Clark Pollard, 7038 Kellar St., Houston 12.

Utah:
Salt Lake City: Mrs. Eleanor Beckman, 347 East 3rd South.

Vermont:
Brattleboro: Mr. Ben D. Weeden, 83 Main St.

Virginia:
Arlington: Mrs. Gretchen Bronwick, 1319 North Adams St.

Washington:
Richmond Highlands: Miss Blanche E. Hillman, Box 123, Richmond Beach.
Seattle: Miss Elsa Nordquist, 4508 18th Ave., N.E., Seattle 5.
Spokane: Mrs. Gladys Bentlcy, 4615 N. Madison.
Tacoma: Mrs. Leslie M. Ames, 7212 S. Park St.

West Virginia:
Charleston: Mrs. Helen S. Anderson, Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Charleston, Box 227, Charleston 21.

Wisconsin:
Kenosha: Mr. Louis J. Voelz, 6108 Sheridan Road.
Milwaukee: Mrs. Herbert L. Voight, 4818 N. Hi Mount Boulevard, Milwaukee 8.
Racine: Mr. Harold R. Olsen, 2007 Slauson Ave.

 Wyoming:
Laramie: Mrs. Raymond Gillespie, 309 S. 8th St.

B. Canada

Alberta:
Edmonton: Miss Gwen M. Clarke, 7852 Jasper Ave.

British Columbia:
Vancouver: Miss Agnes Whitecross, Suite 38, 843 Cardero St.

Manifoba:
Winipeg: Miss Patricia Mosher, P.O. Box 121.

New Brunswick:
Moncton: Mrs. Prudence George, 177 Botsford St.
Nova Scotia:
Halifax: Mrs. Annie B. Romer, 44 South St.

Ontario:
Hamilton: Miss Muriel Wells, 210 Victoria Ave., N.
Toronto: Mrs. A. Victor Davis, 44 Chestnut Park.

Prince Edward Island:
Charlottetown: Miss Helen Gidden, Box 452.

Quebec:
Montreal: Mrs. W. R. Waugh, 11919 Lavale Road, Cartierville, Montreal 9.

Saskatchewan:
Regina: Miss Lauretta Voelz, P.O. Box 284.

Note: To maintain this Directory in complete and accurate form, Committee members, Assembly Secretaries and others concerned are requested to report changes of address, correct inaccuracies in spelling of names, etc., as may be necessary throughout the Bahá’í year.

Issued by
National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada
536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois
“Our Hearts are Uplifted in Thanksgiving”

Our hearts are uplifted in thanksgiving for complete cessation of the prolonged, unprecedented world conflict. I hail the prospects of the removal of the restrictions enabling American Bahá’í Community to expedite the preliminary measures required to launch the second stage of the Divine Plan. I appeal for full attention upon the requirements of the all-important Latin American work. The adequate fulfillment of this vital task presumes the assumption of collective responsibility by triumphant Community of the spiritual enlightenment and ultimate redemption of sorely-tried, war-ravaged European continent, destined to be associated with exploits which must immortalize the second stage of the World Mission entrusted by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá to the apostles of His Father’s Faith in the western world. The opportunities of the present hour are infinitely precious, the time is pressing, the call of the distressed, groaning peoples of Europe pitiful, insistently. The work still to be accomplished to consummate the adequate fulfilment of this stage of an enterprise which, as it reveals its full potentialities, must stretch to embrace the five continents of the globe. World turmoil, grave dangers, severe restrictions, the lethargy of the public engrossed in its war problems, have failed to dampen the zeal, or to undermine the resolve, or to interfere with the successful discharge of the duty assumed by those who have so determinedly embarked on the opening stage of their world encircling, divinely appointed mission. With the return to more normal conditions, with the improvement of the means of travel and communication, with the lifting of the deadening weight of fear and care and the growing receptivity of the masses schooled in adversity and groping for the means of ultimate salvation, opportunities without number and unprecedented in their significance, present themselves to those whose privilege and obligation it is to pave the way for the launching of the succeeding stage of their historic and ever unfolding task.

Not until, however, normal conditions are fully restored and the world situation is stabilized, and, above all, the prizes won through the operation of the Seven-Year Plan are adequately safe-guarded and the basis of the newly established Administrative Order sufficiently consolidated throughout the Western Hemisphere, can the ambassadors of the Faith Bahá’u’lláh, carrying aloft the banner of His Name in the American continent, be called upon to undertake, unitedly and systematically, collective responsibility for the diffusion of His Message, and for the erection of the fabric of His Administrative Order, amidst the sorrow-stricken, war-lacerated, sorely bewildered nations and peoples of the European continent.

The sooner the home tasks are fully discharged, and the newly fledged Assemblies in Central and South America enabled to function adequately and vigorously, the sooner will the stalwart members of the American Bahá’í community, who, during so brief a period, and despite the prevailing darkness, achieved such wonders throughout the Americas, extend the healing influence of their Faith, on a scale as yet unprecedented, to the waiting masses of that agitated continent.

As already observed, an intensification of effort is imperatively required aiming at a bolder proclamation of the verities of a God-given Faith, at a systematic and continent-wide dissemination of its authentic literature, at a closer contact with the masses as well as the leaders of public thought, at a further consolidation and multiplication of the administrative centers scattered throughout the new world, and constituting the nuclei of its future World Order, and, above all, at a more convincing revelation of Bahá’í love, unity, solidarity and self-sacrifice, which alone can hasten the consummation of the preliminary undertakings required to terminate the period of transition intervening between the first and second stages of the greatest crusade ever launched in the history of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh.

Messages from the Guardian

“Dear and valued co-workers: The cessation of hostilities on the continent of Europe, the prospect of an early termination of the bloody conflict raging in the Far East, invest the members of the world Bahá’í community, and particularly its standard-bearers in the great Revolutionary Community of the spiritual community, and particularly its members throughout the world, with a great, a unique, and inescapable responsibility. The first stage of the mission laid upon them by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, the inauguration of which has been so long retarded while the processes of a slowly emerging administrative order were being set in motion, and which coincided with one of the darkest and most tragic periods in human history, has been brought to a triumphant conclusion, and added a golden page to the annals of the closing years of the first Bahá’í century.

As a new phase in the painful evolution of a sorely-tried and wayward humanity opens, a new challenge summons the prosecutors of a Divine Plan to gird up their loins, muster their resources, and prepare themselves for the launching of the second stage of an enterprise which, as it reveals its full potentialities, must stretch to embrace the five continents of the globe. World turmoil, grave dangers, severe restrictions, the lethargy of the public engrossed in its war problems, have failed to dampen the zeal, or to undermine the resolve, or to interfere with the successful discharge of the duty assumed by those who have so determinedly embarked on the opening stage of their world encircling, divinely appointed mission. With the return to more normal conditions, with the improvement of the means of travel and communication, with the lifting of the deadening weight of fear and care and the growing receptivity of the masses schooled in adversity and groping for the means of ultimate salvation, opportunities without number and unprecedented in their significance, present themselves to those whose privilege and obligation it is to pave the way for the launching of the succeeding stage of their historic and ever unfolding task.

Not until, however, normal conditions are fully restored and the world situation is stabilized, and, above..."
Time is pressing, the work that still remains to be accomplished in the new world is vast and urgent, the need of the suffering masses, the world over, and particularly in Europe, is pitiable, the sustaining grace destined to be vouchsafed from on high to those who will arise to achieve that task and fulfill this need is boundless and assured. Its potency has been already fully experienced, and abundantly demonstrated in the years that have witnessed the most prodigious efforts exerted by the American believers. A still more powerful display of its miraculous force can be confidently anticipated, if those who have felt its impact in the past arise to carry out, in the years that lie immediately ahead, the sublime and twofold task of the redemption of mankind and the establishment of the world sovereignty of Bahá'u'lláh.

Sinoom Haifa, Palestine, August 10, 1945

“Greatly Cheered by Evidences of Progress”

Greatly cheered by evidences of progress in all-important teaching work. Praying fervently for complete success of plans adopted. convey my loving appreciation to Gail Woolson, Virginia Orbon and Dorothy Baker for their noble, steadfast services. Supplicating abundant blessing on forthcoming State and Province Conventions. Urge persistent efforts to promote vital tasks facing the believers constituting the prelude to inauguration of second stage of Divinely-conceived Plan.

Shoghi Effendi
Cablegram received September 24, 1945.
(The following messages from the Guardian were written through his secretary).

Mme. Orlova

Regarding the matter of Mme. Orlova: as it is now clear that she is openly associating with the New History group, the friends should ignore her and have nothing more to do with her.

San Francisco Conference

The reports which have reached him about the teaching and publicity during the San Francisco conference were very satisfactory. He feels the American believers are maturing and gaining in experience in presenting the Faith not only to the public at large but also to leaders of importance, and they are doing it in a sober and dignified way. A glance at the pressing problems facing the world is enough to convince any Bahá'í that there is no ultimate solution for its ills except that provided by Bahá'u'lláh. It is therefore of the greatest conceivable importance the manner in which the teachings are presented to a nation with such a leading role in international affairs at the present time as that of the United States. He urges you, in this connection, to seek out and exploit to the full the talents and abilities latent within your community for, whatever the American believers have accomplished heretofore, it is a mere prelude to what they can and must do in the field of Bahá'í service in the future.

August 10, 1945.

Letters to Individuals

The following excerpts from letters written by the Guardian to individuals are published with his consent.

To John Ashton, October 17, 1944

The infallibility of the Guardian is confined to matters which are related strictly to the Cause and interpretation of the teachings; he is not an infallible authority on other subjects, such as economics, science, etc. When he feels that a certain thing is essential for the protection of the Cause, even if it is something that affects a person personally, he must be obeyed, but when he gives advice, such as that he gave you in a previous letter about your future, it is not binding; you are free to follow it or not as you please.

The question of guidance is a very subtle one. We cannot be positive that an impulse or a dream is guidance. We can seek, through earnest prayer and longing, sincerely to do God's Will, His guidance. We can try, as you say, to emulate the Master and at all times live up to the teachings, but we cannot be sure that doing these things we are still making no mistakes and are perfectly guided. These things help us not to make so many mistakes and to receive more directly the guidance God seeks to give us.

Regarding consultation: Any person can refer a matter to the Assembly for consultation whether the other person wishes to or not. In matters which affect the Cause the Assembly should, if it deems it necessary, intervene even if both sides don't want it to, because the whole purpose of the Assemblies is to protect the Faith, the Communities and the individual Bahá'ís as well.

Bahá'í News

Bahá'í News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Bahá'í community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924.

On April 10, 1925, the Guardian wrote: “The NewsLetter which you have lately initiated fulfills a very vital function... I would urge you to enlarge its scope... that in time it may devote a special section to every phase of your activities, administrative, devotional, humanitarian, financial, educational and otherwise.

“It should become a great factor in promoting understanding, providing information about Bahá'í activity, both local and foreign, in stimulating interest, in combating evil influences, and in upholding and safeguarding the institutions of the Cause.”

The contents include: material supplied by the National Spiritual Assembly, such as the Guardian's messages, the Assembly's letters and its general statement and reports; Committee plans which have been approved and authorized; Committee news reports of activities; annual reports from local Assemblies; news items from local Assemblies; activities in regional areas as reported by or through the National Teaching Committee; activities in Central and South America as reported by the Inter-American Committee; news from other lands gathered from the bulletins of the various National Assemblies; a record of new enrollments and transfers; a record of deaths; photographs of general Bahá'í interest.

Bahá'í News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá'í News Committee: Horace Holley, Garreta Busey, Mabel E. Paine. Address: Bahá'í News Committee, c/o Miss Garreta Busey, 303 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois
Beloved Friends:

The National Bahá’í Campaign has taken definite form. The participating committees met jointly with the National Spiritual Assembly, submitted plans and recommendations, their respective work was coordinated, and the intensive effort is well begun. It now rests upon the whole Bahá’í community of North America to bring to this campaign the energetic and unified support, the continuous cooperation, which alone can assure success.

The campaign inaugurates the real work of the Second Bahá’í Century in North America. It offers those whom ‘Abdu’l-Bahá appointed His trustees and holds responsible for the fulfilment of the Divine Plan a truly providential opportunity. Its aim is to present the Teachings of Bahá’u’lláh to the leaders aware of the crisis through which the world is passing, and win the attention and confidence of the masses whose suffering are prolonged by every hour’s delay in entering His Faith.

“A new challenge summons the prosecutors of a Divine Plan” the Guardian declared, “to gird up their loins, muster their resources, and prepare themselves for the launching of the second stage of an enterprise which, as it reveals its full potentialities, must stretch to embrace the five continents of the globe.” What is needed above all at our present stage of evolution is the power which will come when we learn how to unite in one national teaching effort, concentrate upon one task, and create the means by which the energy of the whole community can flow through every local community and group, give it greater capacity to act, and offer more definite teaching assistance than it has ever received before.

Acting one by one, our communities and groups seem weak and ineffective in comparison with the allotted task, for the most part lacking facilities for adequate public presentation of the message. By joining our forces in one continuous, developing teaching campaign we can make the smallest group and the most inexperienced individual believer part of one great and potent organism. This is a new phase; the faster we master it, the sooner and better shall we be prepared to fulfill our sacred trust both here and throughout “five continents of the globe.”

The National Campaign

The foundation of the national teaching plan is a schedule of Public Meetings to be held in eleven key cities, and a great network of Teaching Circuits to serve a large number of other cities and towns. To reinforce and amplify the Public Meetings, the campaign includes newspaper advertising, publicity, radio, free literature, displays and public relations material.

A National Campaign Budget already announced calls for an expenditure of $40,000 as follows:

- Public Meetings and Annual Congress, $10,000
- Circuit Teaching, $5,000
- Radio Programs, $10,000
- Publicity and Advertising, $7,500
- Public Relations Activities, $7,500

The projects sustained by these budget items are carried out under the general supervision and coordination of the National Spiritual Assembly by the Public Meetings, National Teaching, Radio, News Service, Public Relations, Contacts and Exhibits Committees. Their respective projects, activities and functions in the campaign are assigned as follows:

Public Meetings Committee

The Public Meetings Committee prepares the schedule of cities, dates and speakers, selects the subjects, issues the printed programs, selects the free literature, develops where possible special meetings and conferences before or after the Public Meeting to stress the importance of race unity, arranges for the services of field workers in the various cities, and from its budget meets all costs in connection with speakers, printed programs and the meeting places.

The local Assembly of the city distributes the printed programs and makes all possible effort to assure the success of the meeting. It has full responsibility for conducting the follow-up meetings and teaching activities after the Public Meeting has been held.

The Public Meetings Committee is completing its schedule as rapidly as possible. At present we can only report the list of cities and some of the dates: Toronto, October 29; New York, definite date to be decided; Boston, November 16, Washington, D. C., December 5, Atlanta, January 13; New Orleans, January 27; Los Angeles, February 8; Denver, February date to be decided; Portland, March date to be decided; Chicago, April date to be decided.

Baha’i Community of Independence, Missouri. Assembly organized April 21, 1945.
National Teaching Committee

The National Teaching Committee sets up circuits for traveling teachers, both regional and inter-regional in scope, and sustains the expenses from its campaign budget. The preliminary report lists twenty-one different circuits in preparation, bringing the campaign to more than one hundred cities and towns. The detailed and final schedule will be reported later.

Radio Committee

The Radio Committee is preparing a series of thirteen broadcasts along new and dramatic lines. Each broadcast is transcribed when completed, and transcriptions are made available for the radio schedules set up in the different cities. The Radio Committee, with such cooperation as is needed from the local Assemblies, will work out the particular broadcast schedule for each city, and meet the cost from its campaign budget.

News Service Committee

The News Service Committee prepares the campaign newspaper advertising and publicity, working through the local Publicity Committee. It has already issued a Questionnaire in order to obtain the necessary information. The committee will also help the local committee to carry on during whatever follow-up meetings and activities are conducted by the local Assembly. It meets the cost of the campaign advertising and publicity from its campaign budget.

Public Relations Committee

The Public Relations Committee has received approval to complete the projects as recommended:

Reprint an edition of 50,000 copies of Chicago Sunday Tribune colored Temple illustration and accompanying articles, for use as free literature during the campaign and for general teaching purposes.

Prepare and distribute a series of monthly releases to show the relation of the Faith to important current public trends and events.

Arrange for publication of an article about the Faith in a representative weekly or monthly magazine.

Prepare a series of postcard size reprints of selected Bahá’í texts, in color, to provide a new type of teaching literature which individual believers can use at moderate cost.

Prepare and publish a portfolio outlining the Bahá’í aims, teachings and history in a form adapted for making contacts with organizations and leaders of opinion.

Prepare a series of suggestions for local Bahá’í advertising.

Contacts Committee

The Contacts Committee is prepared to mail Bahá’í literature to names and addresses supplied by the local Assemblies in the eleven cities. Each of these Assemblies is requested to develop its list and send a copy to the Contacts Committee as soon as possible.

Exhibits Committee

The Exhibits Committee has been requested to develop a type of display suitable for use in connection with the Public Meetings, and another display suitable for the Circuit Meetings.

Treasurer’s Report

From the Treasurer’s report for July we cite these relevant items: receipts, $6,688.07; expenditures, $5,870.73 (administration, $1,593.33, Temple maintenance, $775.50, Green Acre maintenance, $505.90, National and Regional Teaching, $295, Inter-American Teaching, $1,108.00, etc.). 97 Assemblies, 63 groups and 73 isolated believers contributed in July. At the end of the month the total of all national accounts in bank was $11,904.66, of which only $1,710.44 could be expended by the National Assembly.

The financial report for August shows the condition of the National Bahá’í Fund. The receipts were $13,494.24, a large increase over July; expenditures, $12,045.78, also a large increase (administration, $3,322.69, Temple maintenance, $1,318.90, Green Acre maintenance, $310.64, National and Regional Teaching, $775, Inter-American teaching, $1,761.51, International (covered by a special donation) $4,601.97, etc.). 110 Assemblies contributed, 62 group and 79 isolated believers sent donations. Total amounts in bank at end of month $13,302.71, of which only $2,584.66 could be expended by the National Assembly.

An Historical Record of Bahá’í Service

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes to maintain a file containing data on the services rendered to the Faith by believers who have entered the Kingdom. Assemblies and committees are requested to submit material of this nature from time to time, in addition to the obituary notices prepared for the Editorial Committee of The Bahá’í World, or the records prepared for the local Archives.

Request to Traveling Bahá’ís

A local Assembly writes to ask that a notice be published requesting all believers who visit the city and can speak at a public meeting to notify the Assembly secretary as far in advance as possible. Bahá’í News cannot publish such a notice for one city, but the suggestion is made that the same condition might apply to most if not all the Assemblies. Traveling Bahá’ís are asked to bear this in mind when they stop over for a day or so, whether to visit the friends in a community or help with the public teaching work.

Contact With Social Movements

It is surely very necessary that the friends should keep in touch with the modern social movements, but their main objective should be to draw more people to the spirit and teachings of the Cause. They should learn from the experience of others and not permit themselves to go (off) at a tangent, and finally to be absorbed in other movements as to forget the Cause of God.—Shoghi Effendi, through his secretary.

(From Baha’i Procedure, page 15)
Local Pan-America Activities
The Pan-American Committee of the New York Assembly, Mrs. Philip G. Sprague, Chairman, has kindly made some suggestions which are published here for the information of other Assemblies who can serve in this important field. As our Inter-American work at present is of paramount importance, it is clear that every useful contact and strong impression which the believers in North America can make with Latin Americans in Canada or the United States will have a very helpful influence on the progress of the Faith in the other American republics.

1. Local Pan-American Committees might be appointed in the cities where there are Latin American colonies.

2. Prepare a list of Latin American clubs and of Spanish-speaking clubs in the local schools and colleges. Speakers, entertainers and a mailing list to be developed from these sources.

3. If there is a Spanish newspaper a contact with the editor for publicity is most important.

4. Two types of meeting can be planned: social gatherings, and lectures. Strive for a program with the speakers and entertainers. Include a Bahá’í speaker on each lecture program.

5. Avoid those who are connected with radical political and economic movements. Lists of lecturers can be obtained from the Inter-American Cultural Association.

6. Have the chairman inform the audience that there is an address book which can be signed by all who are interested in receiving notices of future meetings.

Directory
The following additions and changes are reported:

Local Assemblies
Oakland—Miss Rher de Quer, 880 17th Street.
Denver—Mrs. M. Rita Wallace, 811 East 23rd Street, Denver 5.
Reno—Miss Blossom Hay, 708 University Avenue.
Syracuse—Mr. Albert Heist, 224 Grace Street.
Greenville—Mrs. Rachel Mothersill, P. O. Box 1732.
Richmond Highlands—Mrs. Juliet Cole, Box 13.
Laramie—Mrs. Clair Gillespie, 309 S. 8th Street.
Miami, Florida—Mrs. May Verhoeven, Secretary, Bahá’í Center, 131 S. E. Third Street, Miami 22.
Houston, Texas—Miss Ann Bulloch, Corresponding Secretary, 2027 N. Sunset Blvd., Houston 5.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES
Bahá’í Questionnaire: To prepare material in questionnaire form as a teaching device for use by Assemblies, groups, etc.

Service to the Blind, Talking Book Division: Miss Adah Schott, Secretary.

National Teaching: Mrs. Julia Shows

SCHOOLS
Functions: To provide instruction and study courses; to train teachers; to encourage attendance at the school.

Green Acre
Dr. Genevieve Coy, Chairman
Secretary, 10817 Earle Street, Cleveland 8.

Green Bay
Mrs. Rachel L. Williams, Chairman
Secretary, 108 N. Washington Street, Green Bay 3.

INTERNATIONAL
Functions: To provide instruction for the training of Bahá’í teachers wishing to serve in other lands, especially, at present, in Central or South America; to stimulate Latin American contacts and activities by local Assemblies in North America.

New York, N. Y.—Mr. Robert L. Gulick, Corresponding Secretary, Bahá’í Center, 119 West 57th Street, New York 19.
Cleveland, Ohio—Mrs. Mabel S. Perry, Secretary, 10817 Earle Street, Cleveland 8.

Office of Universal Atlas Portland Cement Co., New York City, showing portion of mural which illustrates Bahá’í House of Worship.

LEYDEN
Mr. Bishop Brown
Mrs. Evelyn Bivins, Chairman
Mrs. Wm. Sears
Mr. Philip Sprague

LEICESTER
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Chairman
Mrs. Helen Eggleston, Secretary
Mr. Harry Whang
Mr. L. W. Eggleston
Mr. Edmund Miesler
Mrs. Rebecca L. Wideman
Dr. Alice Kidder
Mr. Winnie Foster
Mr. Wm. Kenneth Christian

IRELAND
Prof. Glenn Shook
Dr. Sarah Eason Pereira
Mr. Robert Gulick
Mrs. Wm. Sears

International
Mrs. E. R. Mathews, Chairman
Mrs. Roberta Wilson, Secretary
Mrs. Amelia E. Collins
Mr. George O. Latimer
Mrs. Wanden LaFarge
Mrs. Gladys Roberts
Mrs. Marion Little

REGIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES
New England
Mrs. Alice Bacon, Secretary
Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia
Mrs. Ada Louise Adams

British Columbia
Mrs. Viola China, Chairman
Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas
Mrs. Evelyn Bivins, Chairman
Mrs. Esther Little, Secretary
3905 N. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans 17, La.
Visitors: Mr. Arthur Foster, Jersey City.

Vitad: Mrs. Welford Liebrock, Los Angeles.

Mrs. Albert D. Heist, Geneva.

Mrs. Emily Gustin, Johnstown, N. Y.

Mr. Joseph Z. Miller, Monroeville, Pa.

Mrs. Isobelle Campbell, Spokane.

Mr. Joseph Clevenger, New York.

Mr. James Agnew, Chicago.

Mr. Edward Westland, Bogota, New Jersey.

Mr. Jonathan Trumbull, Arcadia, California.

Mr. Fred W. Clark, Newark.

Mr. James Agnew, Chicago.

Mr. Edwin C. Anderson, Kenosha.

Mr. Joseph Clevenger, New York.

Mrs. Isobelle Campbell, Spokane.

Mrs. Carlos Van Bergen, Newark.

Mrs. Emily Gustin, Johnstown, N. Y.

Mr. Joseph Z. Miller, Monroeville, Indiana.

Mrs. Albert D. Heist, Geneva.

Mr. Welford Liebrock, Los Angeles.

Mr. Arthur Foster, Jersey City.

Visitors: Mrs. Dorothy Edson, Secretary, R. 12, Beulah, Houston, Texas. Mrs. Kathryn Franklin added.

Mrs. W. R. Brown, Secretary. Miss Nina Howard has moved from the area. Mrs. Homer S. Dyer and Mrs. Lessie McMichael added.

Enrollments and Transfers

Reported by Local Assemblies

Los Angeles, three and four transfers.

Cleveland Township, one.

Atlanta, one and one transfer.

Nashville, one transfer.

Washington, two.

New Orleans, one.

West Chester, one.

Chicago, one youth.

Louisville, two transfers.

Arlington, two transfers.

St. Louis, two.

Birmingham, one.

Pasadena, five.

San Francisco, one.

Danville, five.

Burlington, one.

Independence, one and one youth.

San Diego, two transfers.

Greensburg, one and one transfer.

Wauwatosa, one youth.

Lima, three and two youth.

Spokane, one youth.

New York, two and four transfers.

Urbana, one transfer.

Long Beach, one transfer.

East Orange, one.

Phoenix, one, one transfer and one youth.

Vancouver, four.

Berkeley, three and one youth.

Hamilton, one transfer.

Baltimore, one transfer.

Boston, one transfer.

Reported by Regional Teaching Committees

In July, nine and two youth.

In August, five and four youth.

In September, seven and seven youth.

In Memoriam

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.—Baha'u'llah

Mr. Edward Westland, Bogota, New Jersey.

Mr. Jonathan Trumbull, Arcadia, California.

Mr. Fred W. Clark, Newark.

Mr. James Agnew, Chicago.

Mr. Edwin C. Anderson, Kenosha.

Mr. Joseph Clevenger, New York.

Mrs. Isobelle Campbell, Spokane.

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Mr. Joseph Z. Miller, Monroeville, Indiana.

Mrs. Albert D. Heist, Geneva.

Mr. Welford Liebrock, Los Angeles.

Mr. Arthur Foster, Jersey City.

November, 1945

National Committees

Temple Guides

Abdu'l-Baha's prophecy regarding the attracting power of the Temple is most strikingly coming true. Even before the rationing of gasoline was removed there was a marked increase in the number of visitors, and since then the numbers have been almost doubled.

In June, the total number of visitors was 2,322, which was 425 more than for the same period last year. They came from forty-two States; Panama, the District of Columbia, Hawaii; the Canadian provinces of Manitoba and Ontario; and the countries of England, Latvia, Australia, China, Persia, Syria, Palestine, Columbia and Peru.

In July, the total number of visitors was 4,494, the largest number that had ever visited the Temple in one month. This was an increase of 1,565 over July of last year. They came from forty-one States; Panama, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Panama; the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Alberta; and the countries of India, Chile, Guatemala and Holland.

In August, the total number of visitors was 5,154, an increase of 2,500 over August of 1944. These came from thirty-eight States; Hawaii and Puerto Rico; the Canadian provinces of Ontario, Alberta, Quebec and British Columbia; and the countries of Chile, Ecuador, Dominican Republic and France.

Sales of literature increased markedly. The total amount sold from January 1 to August 31, 1945, was $1,235.57.

The increase in the number of visitors was marked on weekdays, but exceedingly noticeable on Sundays and holidays. A picture of the Temple and an excellent article on the Faith appearing in the Chicago Tribune on June 18 seems to have been partly responsible for the increase. Many visitors mentioned the article. The attendance on Sundays and holidays was, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNE</th>
<th>JULY</th>
<th>AUGUST</th>
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Some noted people have been shown through the Temple this summer. Among them were: Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, of New Delhi, India, head of the delegation from India to the San Francisco Conference; two princes from Damascus, Syria, also returning to their home from the Conference; an ex-Governor from Jerusalem; another visitor was from the world's southernmost city.

Another unusual happening at the Temple was the arrival of Bahá'ís from far off to help in this most thrilling and important guide work. Miss Rosalynn Orloff, of Boston, spent ten days of her vacation here guiding, and Miss Clara Edge, of Grand Rapids, spent 2 weeks guiding every day. About the time Miss Edge left, Mrs. Muriel Ives Barrow, of Shandaken, N. Y. arrived and has helped since in guiding daily. We are very thankful that Bahá'u'lláh led them to us. They were urgently needed. They were greatly thrilled with the work which they performed with enthusiasm and gratitude for the privilege of so serving the Cause. An idea of what guiding in the Temple means may be seen from what Mrs. Barrows said recently: "As an isolated believer, hunting up people who are not interested in the Cause and trying to give them the Teachings, it is most refreshing to guide in the Temple where visitors come and are hungry to hear about the Bahá'í Faith."

With the increased number of visitors, there has been the added strain on the guides of working overtime, staying on Sundays as late as 7:30 to 8:00 o'clock, and some of the guides guiding from 10 A.M., thus taxing their strength and endurance, and putting to the test their resolve to serve the Cause. The Guides Committee, through consultation, has taken care of the problems confronting it and has adequate plans to meet the situation as it grows increasingly difficult to handle.

Our appeal for more guides should be given as much publicity as possible, through speakers who know of this problem and who visit the summer schools and who go on teaching trips. Any cooperation given toward this end will be fully appreciated.

Mary Haggard, Chairman
Inter-America News

Goals Defined

In a message from the Guardian to the Inter-American committee published in August Baha'i News, the paramount tasks to be accomplished in Latin America during the present year are assigned. Let us look at them again. The Guardian advises:

1. Concentrate attention on the formation of an Assembly in the one remaining republic, Nicaragua.
2. Consolidation of the newly fledged Assemblies.
3. Multiplication of groups throughout Latin America.
4. Reinforcement of the outpost in Magalannes.
5. Intensification of efforts in the dissemination of literature.

Now that the present year is half in the past, the Committee wishes that a more complete report could be given of progress toward the accomplishment of these goals. This brief report upon our efforts to realize these objectives will be augmented as the year goes on. We earnestly request assistance in this realization from the body of American believers through their prayers and through their contributions to the National Fund, as a means of upholding the Guardian's plea for an 'ever-increasing number of pioneers.'

Nicaragua

From December, 1944, to August, 1945, Dr. Malcolm King of Milwaukee, Wis., worked diligently toward the establishment of a Spiritual Assembly in Managua. Much time and effort were necessary in order to obtain official approval for holding public meetings and publicizing the Cause in that country. A statement of the aims and principles of the Faith was placed in the Government records. The Inter-America Committee is most appreciative of the tact and patience with which a very delicate situation was handled by our pioneer.

As soon as feasible, weekly study classes were organized which attracted and interested prominent people of Nicaragua. These meetings were held at the home of a newspaper publisher in Managua. By August of this year there were eight declared native believers in this city, and regular weekly Bahá'í broadcasts were being given over a radio station that is heard throughout Central America.

Due to circumstances beyond his control, Dr. King was compelled to return home late in August. However, his efforts in Managua were richly blessed, and accomplishments were beyond our highest hopes.

As this is being written, Gayle Woolson is teaching in Managua on a ten-day stopover en route to her new post in Bogota, Colombia. She will also make brief visits to other Bahá'í centers in Central America. Two other itinerant teachers are expected to visit Nicaragua during this fall, and by the end of October the Committee expects to be able to announce the placing of a new North American settler in Nicaragua. There is every reason to believe that a Spiritual Assembly will be formed there next April.

Consolidation

Newly Fledged Assemblies

The North American Bahá'ís will recall that, although there were long delays in obtaining passports for out-going pioneers, the number of new Assemblies formed last April 21st in Latin America was larger than ever before. These included La Paz, Bolivia; Punta Arenas (Magallanes), Chili; Mogotes, Columbia; Trujillo, Dominican Republic; Guayaquil, Ecuador; Panama City, Panama; Caracas, Venezuela; and Montevideo, Uruguay.

There are now nine North American and three native pioneers who are actively engaged in teaching,—the strongest possible influence toward consolidation,—in the eight new centers listed above. New believers are being deepened in the Teachings and classes are organized for seekers. Panama City has three of these pioneers; Punta Arenas, Trujillo, and Montevideo have two each, though one or both of the teachers may be leaving Montevideo in the near future; La Paz, Guayaquil, and Caracas each have one. Mogotes is the
only newly fledged Assembly which is at present without a pioneer. This center will be visited during the year, however, by the pioneer to be stationed in Bogota.

Another means of consolidation is through visits to these centers by traveling or itinerant teachers. The Committee is most happy to be able to announce that Mr. and Mrs. Emeric Sala of Montreal are leaving on October 20 on a four months tour which will combine business with a Bahá'í teaching itinerary that includes nearly all of the centers in Latin America. Cities in which they will remain for from three to nine days include Mexico City, the capital cities of each of the Central American Republics, Bogota, Guayaquil, La Paz, Lima, Santiago, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro, Caracas, Trujillo, Port au Prince, and Havana. Several other centers will be visited for one or two days.

Publicity and arrangements for public meetings or receptions and for radio broadcasts, where possible, will be made in each center in advance of Mr. and Mrs. Sala's visit.

Plans are under way for a similar tour to be made by another international teacher before the close of the Bahá'í year. Special emphasis in this itinerary will be placed upon visits to newly formed Assemblies and groups.

Letters are mailed each month to all of the Latin American centers stressing such subjects as Bahá'í administration as the conduct of elections, the institution of the Spiritual Assembly, the Nineteen Day Feast, the appointment and functioning of committees, the local Bahá'í fund, and the ordering and sale of literature. These letters, we trust, are of assistance to the pioneers in consolidating the organization and the activities of the newly formed Bahá'í communities. The pioneers themselves are busily engaged in conducting study-classes for the more thorough knowledge of both believers and seekers in the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh.

**Multiplication of Groups**

Extension teaching carried on under the direction of local Spiritual Assemblies and teaching tours into new cities by North American pioneers has resulted in Bahá'í groups being formed in seven of the ten republics of South America and in at least four of the ten republics of Central America and the West Indies.

Chili and Columbia each have a second Assembly with a third either on the way or ready for formation. A Bahá'í group has been formed in Valparaiso, Chili, under the supervision of Sr. and Sra. Herrera, former members of the Santiago Assembly. This group was recently strengthened by the addition of two believers who moved from Punta Arenas. The number of believers in the latter Assembly is now sixteen.

It should be stated that there are now nine believers in the now colony near Contratacions, Columbia, who will form an Assembly next year. All of these, like the believers in Mogotes, became Bahá'ís by means of vigorous campaign in extension teaching carried on by correspondence with contacts in these and in other Columbian cities by the Assembly of Bogota. Bahá'í literature in Spanish and mimeographed lesson outlines were mailed upon request. Much correspondence was carried on with enquirers and in answer to questions from study groups. It is remarkable that the Assembly at Mogotes, as well as the group at Contratacions, were formed without a single visit by the pioneer, Gerard Sluter, who inaugurated this campaign, nor by any other Bahá'í teacher.

Two of the believers in Buenos Aires, Antroniek Kevikian and Mary Poghaharian, were married in early September. They have located in La Plata, Argentina, with the hope of establishing a second Spiritual Assembly in Argentina. (This is the first Bahá'í marriage in South America.)

In addition to the Assembly in Bahia, Brazil, there is an active group in Rio de Janeiro, which is the center for translation and publication of Bahá'í Writings in Portuguese. This group will be augmented before the close of 1945 by the addition of three North American pioneers. At the present time, Gertrude Eisenberg is in Rio en route from her former post in Asuncion, Paraguay to a new post in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Many of the friends may not realize the great need for multiplication of groups and establishing new Assemblies in Brazil. This country contains approximately half the area and population of all of South America!

Extension teaching work in Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru will be reported upon in a later issue of Bahá'í News. The new Assembly in Trujillo and Panama City have succeeded in establishing groups in neighboring cities, the former in Sanchez, Dominican Republic, and the latter in the city of Colon.

At almost every meeting of the Inter-American Committee, held every two weeks, new membership cards are presented, either from Assemblies or groups in scattered parts of Latin America. We rejoice at these various evidences of growth.

**Reinforcement of Magalanes**

Great interest throughout the Bahá'í world has been taken in the new Assembly of Punta Arenas, at the southern tip of the Americas, ever since its founding was announced last April.

Means for the reinforcement of this Assembly which the Inter-America committee has recommended to the National Spiritual Assembly, and which have been adopted and put into effect, include: (a) The deputizing of a native pioneer, Sr. Estefan Canales of Santiago, for a period of at least six months' teaching in Magalanes. Sr. Canales has been most successful in radio and publicity work. A new series of weekly broadcasts is now under way in Punta Arenas, and plans are developing to use the scripts prepared for these broadcasts in other countries, such as Argentina and Uruguay. (b) Financial assistance has also been given toward supplying free literature and toward the expense of maintaining a center.

Sr. Canales is expected to leave Punta Arenas for Santiago in October, — an ocean journey of at least 1500 miles. At that time Marcia Stewart will return to Punta Arenas for a period of at least two months. Artemus Lamb, whose services have been indispensable in the founding and consolidation of this community, has established his business and is making his home in Punta Arenas.

**Dissemination of Literature**

Space does not permit a detailed report on the translation, publication and distribution of Bahá'í literature in Spanish and Portuguese. Suffice it to say that the committees set up to fulfill these duties in Latin America, after meeting some initial difficulties, are now functioning efficiently. The Spanish Publications
Committee, located in Buenos Aires, is under the chairmanship of Sr. Emilio Barros with Lilian McRae serving as secretary. The Panama Branch of this Committee now has Cora Oliver as executive secretary and Alfred Osborne as Chairman. This Committee aids in the distribution of literature and publishes the Spanish Bulletin. A similar Committee is serving in Rio under Mrs. Roscoe L. Wood, Chairman, and Mrs. Harold V. Armstrong, Secretary.

The publication of 25,000 copies of the pamphlet “El Alba” for free distribution was authorized recently. 20,000 of these will be in Spanish and 5,000 in Portuguese. Other publications for free distribution are being prepared.

Gift allotments of Bahá’í books and pamphlets have been shipped to the different centers in Latin America, and all centers are being encouraged to establish revolving funds for the purchase and sale of literature. Budgets have been set up to cover monthly office and storage space rental and other administrative expenses of the above-named committees. Such expenses, together with the cost of free literature, are at present all paid out of the National Fund.

News Briefs

Mr. and Mrs. Roy L. Worley of Bahia, Brazil, visited the Temple on Sept. 20th. They are returning to Bahia in early October. Jean Silver recently returned to her teaching activities in Havana, Cuba. Josefine Kruka of Havana visited in Washington during September. Gwennie Sholtis, who has been teaching in La Paz, will go to Quito, Ecuador, in the near future, upon the return of Flora Hottes from Montevideo to Bolivia. Elena Marcella of Boston, after a long passport delay, is now pioneering with Ofelia Montalvo in Trujillo. Miss Marcella speaks French as well as Spanish, and the Inter-America Committee is suggesting that a part of her time be spent in assisting the Assembly at Port au Prince, Haiti. A number of young believers have been added to the Assembly in Lima through the efforts of our pioneer, Eve Nicklin, in the organization of an International Friendship Club. A part of the meeting time of this club is used in Bahá’í study. Miss Nicklin is publishing a book for children called “Bahá’í Stories.” Dorothy Baker, Chairman of the Inter-America Committee is devoting a few weeks to teaching in Mexico. Her itinerary includes Mexico city, Puebla, and Vera Cruz.

Baha’is of San Jose, Costa Rica.

Bahá’í Study Aid

The Bahá’í Study Aids Committee has been appointed by the National Spiritual Assembly “to encourage and promote the practice of organized Bahá’í study” and to work out “effective methods for stimulating Bahá’í study on the part of local communities, groups and isolated believers.” In this, the first statement of this committee through Bahá’í News, the committee would like to quote some of the words of the Guardian to emphasize the importance of study among the Bahá’ís: “Now surely, if ever, is the time for us, the chosen ones of Bahá’u’lláh and the bearers of His Message to the world, to endeavor by day and by night, to deepen, first and foremost, the Spirit of His Cause in our own individual lives, and then labor, and labor incessantly to exemplify in all our dealings with our fellowmen that noble Spirit of which His beloved Son ‘Abdu’l-Bahá has been all the days of His life a true and unique exponent.” (B.Admin., p. 30.)

And, again, the Guardian reminds us that most important is “the realization down in the innermost heart of every true believer of the regenerating power, the supreme necessity, the unfailing efficacy of the Message he bears.” (B. Admin., p. 102.)

Then, “having attained sufficiently the individual regeneration — the essential requisite of teaching — let us arise to teach His Cause with righteousness, conviction, understanding and vigor. Let this be the paramount and most urgent duty of every Bahá’í.” (B. Admin., p. 60.)

The effectiveness of our teaching, the effectiveness of our daily life, are both dependent on the confirmations of the Holy Spirit. These confirmations come not from ourselves but are in direct proportion to the degree of our dedication and the closeness of our contact with the quickening Spirit.

To attain this regenerating power we need to turn constantly to the source of that Power, to know the Commands of God for this day, to become a living part of the new civilization that will become in time the Kingdom of God on earth, for Bahá’u’lláh has given us “twin duties” (Gleanings, p. 339) in His Day — it is not enough to believe, we must believe and act.

To study the Bahá’í Writings, to come to know, with certainty and through action, the greatness of this Cause and the sure support and inspiration from these Creative Words — is to enter on a new life.
Often we may ask ourselves, Why is my teaching not more effective? What did 'Abdu'l-Bahá mean when he said that he desired distinction for us? Why cannot the Baha'is get along with each other — they of all people should be able to? Why did 'Abdu'l-Bahá say that "Truthfulness is the foundation of all the virtues of the world of humanity?" (B. W. F. p. 384.)

And, what am I doing to help hasten the advent of the Most Great Peace? We would be surprised, perhaps, to know that we were delaying it. But the Guardian has said: "The various Assemblies, local and national, constitute today the bedrock upon the strength of which the Universal House of Justice is in future to be firmly established and raised. Not until these function vigorously and harmoniously can the hope for the termination of this period of transition be realized. It devolves upon us whose dearest wish is to see the Cause enter upon that promised era of universal recognition and world achievements, to do all in our power to consolidate the foundations of these Assemblies, promoting at the same time a fuller understanding of their purpose and more harmonious cooperation for their maintenance and success." (B. Admin., p. 54).

There are many subjects for profitable study. The precepts for this Day are not given all in one book, to be learned like a catechism. They are interspersed, restated and interwoven in the Words that streamed from the Supreme Pen. Only by study can we even begin to glimpse the great wisdom and justice and beauty of these Commands.

To the Study Aids Committee there seem to be in general two types of study: (1) Organized weekly study class and (2) study among one or two persons meeting less often. The former would be possible in a Baha'i community; the latter, among isolated believers or small groups.

For the organized class there are Outlines available if one is desired, and the Study Aids Committee will be happy to suggest forms of study that would be suitable, if it is informed concerning the need or interest of the community. For the conduct of a study class, or discussion group, an organizer is advisable, who will serve to keep the discussion on the subject, to assign chairmanship of the Class to different members and to make sure that everyone takes part in the study, in the discussion, in the reading and particularly in looking up answers in the Writings to questions that may come up.

For the individual believer or small group, organized study is more difficult, because the incentive to meet with the rest of the class is not present. Probably there are but few believers, however, who are so isolated that they cannot meet with one or two other Baha'is once or twice a month. If only two people can meet together, much can be gained through Baha'i study. Or even if you have no Baha'i neighbors, you can study alone. Perhaps the Study Aids Committee can help you with suggestions as to how to study or what to study. The Committee offers itself as a contact point through correspondence for your study and can perhaps help you find answers in the Writings to questions that may arise in your study.

"To deepen ... the Spirit of His Cause in our own individual lives" there is no surer way than study of His Work and the putting into action of the inspiration derived. Much more is gained by study of the Writings than by simply reading them, whether in an organized study class or in a group composed of two persons. For in study, consultation enters. In group study one person may remember and be able to find another passage in the Writings where the same subject is mentioned. Cross reference these passages in your book, and your understanding will increase by this research. Questions will arise. Look up the answers in the Writings and bring them to the next class. Thus all will contribute and all will benefit.

The Study Aids Committee will be glad to receive suggestions from groups that have engaged in helpful study. We all long to serve in whatever way we can, and to increase the effectiveness of our service.

Baha'i Study Aids Committee
Box 252, Evanston, Illinois

Publishing

The Baha'i World, Vol. IX: This volume records the international activities of the Faith for the period 1940-44. Its special features include two colored frontispiece illustrations — design for completion of the Sepulcher of the Báb, and the House of Worship — statements on the Seven Year Plan, nearly two hundred Reproductions of photographs, insert maps, directory, selection of articles, poems, music, etc. 1,066 pages. Per copy, $10.00.

Seven Valleys, Four Valleys: new translation by 'Ali-Kuli Khan assisted by Marzieh Gail. In paperbound, per copy $0.75. Paper cover, $0.50.

Manual of Suggestions for Organizing a Baha'i Children's Hour: Prepared by Child Education Committee for use by teachers desiring to conduct classes for children. Mimeographed. Per copy, $0.15.

Study Outline for God Passes By: Subjects and references for individual study or group discussion, arranged by Horace Holley. Mimeographed. Per copy, $0.10.

Child Education

Dear Parents and Teachers: Many of you have asked us for advice in starting a Baha'i children's class. Because we had some rather general suggestions which we felt would be helpful to you, we have prepared a short manual comprising these, and this is now available for fifteen cents, to be obtained by writing to Baha'i Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Ave. Wilmette, Ill. In the manual we have shared with you some of our ideas which have been formulated through experience in teaching small groups of children. We tried to put in what we thought you might want most to know, and decided on the following headings: How to group children; a sample hour; music; course material for different ages; excursions; books to use; and references for suitable memory verses. Perhaps some of you will have other suggestions which would be helpful if shared. After you have secured the manual, write us, whether it helps you, or whether it doesn't. (We want to know that too!) Write us some of your own experiences in teaching children about the Faith, and tell us what you feel is most needed in course material.

A revision of the course on the Principles of the Faith will be ready soon, and we are hoping to have a new set of mimeographed pictures to be colored in conjunction with it. As soon as this is ready, we promise to let you know. We realize how sparse the actual course material for children is, and are working to meet this need. At present we are at work on a rather ambitious piece of work which goes far too slowly to suit us, but which we
feel you will appreciate when completed.

Have you used the Bahá’í Child’s 
A B C with the younger children yet? We feel that this is really valu-
able for a child five to eight, but whether you are using it in the home 
or in a class, it may be well to re-
member that children of these ages 
retain little at one sitting. Read over 
two or three pages with a small 
child at one time, and talk about the 
meaning with him. Let your child 
ask questions which occur to him, 
even if they seem far afield. Abdu’r-
Rahman Baha’u’llah says that children learn 
through questioning one another. If 
you are working with several chil-
dren, allow them to question each 
other, acting as a guide and 
stabilizer yourself. We feel that this 
is a book containing principles and 
ideas which lend themselves to dis-
cussion, and which can best be ab-
sorbed through leisurely and thought-
ful perusal. If you do not have this 
little red book, you may obtain it 
from the Publishing Committee, for 
seventy-five cents. If you have a 
child, don’t let him miss this 
treasure.

The Child Education Committee is 
sending to each local Spiritual As-
sembly in the United States a free 
copy of the “Manual of Suggestions 
For Organizing A Bahá’í Children’s 
Hour.” Each Community is urged to 
start a children’s hour.

Write to us and tell us what you 
are thinking about Child Education. 
We need your thoughts.

JANET R. LINDBROOK
15 Alberta Rd., 
Brookline, Mass.

Youth

The National Youth Committee, 
with the two-fold objective of assist-
ing the Bahá’í youth in their study 
of the Writings and of stimulating 
and coordinating their activities so 
that they may be enabled to more 
effectively take part in the teaching 
and administrative work of the 
Faith, has laid plans for activities 
in which youth nationally and to 
some extent internationally will 
participate.

An outline of these plans appears 
in the first issue of the National 
Youth bulletin, sent to all declared youth. In 
order that the youth may real-
ize their responsibilities in the Bahá’í 
community and that Assemblies and 
communities may in turn guide and 
assist the youth in their efforts to 
promote the Cause, we are asking 
the friends to consider ways in which 
these plans may be carried out.

Two regional youth conferences 
have been planned to take place 
simultaneously in three regional 
areas — West, Mid-West and East, 
with San Francisco, Chicago and 
New York acting as host commu-
nities. They will be held on October 
13th and 14th of this year and on 
April 6th and 7th of next year.

Our annual International Youth 
Day, at which time Bahá’í youth will 
present at public meetings a sympo-
sium, will be held on February 24, 
1946. In addition, another sympos-
ium, a National Youth Day, is being 
established in order that youth all 
over the country may have another 
opportunity to promulgate the Mes-
sage of Baha’u’llah. National Youth 
Day will be held on November 18, 
1945, and we hope that it may also 
become an annual event. Subjects for 
talks for both this and the Interna-
tional Youth Day will be suggested 
later.

We wish to mention also the Youth 
Bulletin which will appear this year 
as a larger edition every other 
month. If there are declared youth 
in your community who are not re-
ceiving the Bulletin, please send 
their names to the National Spiritual 
Assembly so that the National Youth 
Committee may be in contact with 
them.

Assembly Development

Consultation

The oldest subject in the western 
Baha’i world would seem to be con-
sultation. What is consultation? At 
its best it is a collective channel 
for the Will of God.

The Assembly Development Com-
mittee has enjoyed some compara-
tive experience which may be help-
ful. They find, for example, that 
several mistakes are made in the 
name of consultation, mistakes of the 
community at large.

Community Mistakes 
in Consultation

First, backbiting is often a substi-
tute for consultation. We are all 
guilty of long telephone conversa-
tions “for the good of the Cause,” 
during which complaints and griev-
ances are aired, without the slightest 
intention of consultation with either 
the accused persons or their ad-
ministrative channels. A legitimate 
report to a Bahá’í administrative 
body, be it committee or Assembly, 
for the sake of the safety and well-
bearing of the Faith or its projects, 
is very different from negative ru-
rors and careless criticism. The test 
of backbiting is the question, “Am 
I speaking to those who can help, 
and have I thoroughly gone over it 
first with those whom it concerns?”

Nor is an Assembly member justi-
fied in spreading the details of an Assembly consultation on personal matters, for this, too, is in the nature of backbiting.

Second, individual expression is sometimes a substitute for consultation. To consult with the views and feelings of all on group matters is very helpful; to talk over possibilities for group action with fellow Assembly or committee members is likewise helpful. But to proceed without final consultation by the appointed group is not permitted. Not even a chairman may speak for his Assembly. Freedom of suggestion is one thing; freedom of action another. The Feast offers the best of all opportunities for community consultation.

The Assembly Meetings

We can take to ourselves a number of considerations for the Assembly meeting itself, for in this exalted body lies the seed of the World Order.

First, the committee pleads for greater regularity. Lack of meetings inevitably results in undue individual action, bringing grief not only to the group, but to the devoted and capable individual upon whom the burden falls. What are your regular dates for meetings?

Second, the greatest care should be taken that the consultation of the Assembly be full, free, frank and representative of all members. Every member will need to school himself to listen with courtesy to the views of his collaborators, and be open to change of mind.

It is the duty of the chairman to see that each one expresses himself, that the consultation be kept within the orbit of the subject, and that no one unduly monopolizes the attention of the group. It is incumbent upon each one to realize that he is one-ninth. Avoidance of repetition is an excellent training in self-restraint. The best chairman often talks the least and does his utmost to pass around the circle, drawing out the members of the group, even when their views are diametrically opposed to his own.

There are no minorities on a Bahá'í Assembly. If a unanimous opinion is not obtainable, the matter must not be allowed to weary everyone, but rather, after a reasonable time, be brought to a vote, and the will of the majority be loyally accepted.

Shoghi Effendi emphasizes our common need of prayer in consulta-

tion. "They should, after dispassionate, anxious and cordial consultation, turn to God in prayer, and with earnestness and conviction and courage record their vote and abide by the voice of the majority, which we are told by the Master to be the voice of truth, never to be challenged, and always to be wholeheartedly enforced. True values are apt to be hidden by strong emotions; it is especially good to stop and take recourse in prayer whenever the issue is clouded by feeling.

Functions of the Assembly A Basis of Consultation

We have found that it is easy for an Assembly, particularly a new or isolated one, either to drown itself in minutia of detail which could be turned over to committees, or to fall into irrelevant subjects. This tendency to "go astray" in consultation might be checked by a consideration of the important and ever-present functions of the Assembly.

1. It is for each Assembly to maintain the integrity of the Faith and the accuracy of the Teachings, written and oral, given to the public of that community.

2. The Assembly must make available the literature. Do you have a lending library, as well as proper representation in the public library of the city? Do you have an up-to-date list of books and pamphlets now on sale? Do you display samples of all the new literature at the feasts and public meetings, and arrange for gift literature as well as for sales?

3. The Assembly represents the community in its relation to the Guardian, to the National Assembly, and to other communities. This in no wise forbids personal freedom in these relationships.

4. The Assembly determines memberships within the community.

5. The meetings are called by the Assembly, including feasts and anniversaries. The nine Holy Days are a part of our privilege and obligation, and every assembly will wish to safeguard their observance.

6. The appointment and supervision of all committees lies with the Assembly. How often does your Assembly meet with its important committees or their representatives? Is there plenty of consultation and encouragement, as well as monetary assistance?

7. Collection and expenditure of funds is an Assembly function.

8. The Assembly must promote the material and spiritual education of the children and youth.

9. They must endeavor to promote amity and concord amongst the friends.

10. The Assembly is the "Good Shepherd" and protects the individual rights as well as the group. Bahá'u'lláh Himself has said, "It behooveth them to be the trusted ones of the Merciful among men and to regard themselves as the guardians appointed by God for all that dwell on earth. It is incumbent upon them to take counsel together and to have regard for the interest of the servants of God, for His sake, even as they regard their own interests, and to choose that which is meet and seemly."

Teaching, The Emphasis

The chief concern of every Assembly remains the obligation to teach. "They must regard themselves in no other light," writes Shoghi Effendi, "but that of chosen instruments for a more efficient and dignified presentation of the Cause of God." Happy is the Assembly whose consultation moves ever and always around the mighty tasks of propagating God's Kingdom.

Spiritual Attitudes

And in conclusion, "let us bear in mind that the keynote of the Cause of God is not dictatorial authority but humble fellowship, not arbitrary power, but the spirit of frank and loving consultation. Nothing short of a true Bahá'í can hope to reconcile the principles of mercy and justice, of freedom and submission, of the sanctity of the right of the individual and of self-surrender, of vigilance, discretion and prudence on the one hand and fellowship, candor and courage on the other."

How dispassionate and objective we have to be! "The members of these Assemblies . . . must disregard utterly their own likes and dislikes, their personal interests and inclinations, and concentrate their minds upon those measures that will conduce to the welfare and happiness of the Bahá'í community."

Step by step our heroic bands of believers are approaching that standard, a standard that has more of the celestial degree than any previous religious dispensation can boast. Without ministerial or priestly assistance, innumerable groups comprising every nationality, race and social stratum, are today attaining to
consultation as a way of life. Even in this period of the half-light we are beginning to see the true importance of the words of our revered Guardian: “The various Assemblies, local and national, constitute today the bedrock upon which the Universal House of Justice is in future to be firmly established and raised. Not until these functions vigorously and harmoniously can the hope for the termination of the period of transition be realized.”

House of Worship
Program of Public Meetings, Every Sunday at 3:30 p.m.
Nov. 4 — EDUCATION FOR WORLD ORDER
Carl Scheffler
Nov. 11 — THE WORLD OF TOMORROW
Edris Rice-Wray
Nov. 18 — National Youth Day. General Theme: THE PRICE OF WORLD PEACE IS WORLD RELIGION
Preparation for World Peace — Annamarie Mattoon
From Chaos to World Order — Pari Zia-Walrath
The World Religion — Charles Monroe Ious
Nov. 25 — PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING
Sarah Walrath
Dec. 2 — PEACE — A DIVINE CREATION
Horace Holley
Dec. 9 — CHRIST'S PROMISE FULFILLED
Nina Matthisen
Dec. 16 — THIS AGE OF LIGHT
Pearle Easterbrook
Dec. 23 — THE NEW BIRTH
Albert Windust
Dec. 30 — PROGRESSIVE REVELATION
Edwin Mattoon

Visitor from India
The following item appeared July 12th in Wilmette Life under the head: “Conference Leader from India Visits at the Bahá’í Temple.”
“Sir. Ramaswami Madhiah of India, head of the Indian delegation at the San Francisco Conference, and the supply member of the Indian Governor General’s Executive council was a distinguished visitor to the Bahá’í House of Worship in Wilmette this week.”
“At the conference he headed his delegation and was also chairman of the Commission on the Economic and Social council. He was largely responsible for much of the success attending these deliberations in drawing up the part of the Charter which many view as one of the most important parts of the United Nations’ organization and the most hopeful for the building of a real and permanent peace for tomorrow. In fact, on the day it was presented several spoke of it as the ‘heart of the Charter.’

“Sir. Ramaswami is en route to London via Montreal, the headquarters of the International Labor organization, also visiting our national Capital. Having heard much of the Bahá’í Faith in India and London, he, with his party, made a special stop in Chicago to visit the House of Worship.”

Comment From Outside
The New Haven friends report that God Passes By and The Bahá’í Centenary were both reviewed sympathetically by non-Bahá’ís in The New Haven Journal Courier. The former book was given a whole column on the editorial page. The need for a unified religion is emphasized, a powerful quotation from Canon Townshend’s introduction is quoted, the Bahá’í Administrative order is touched on, and the seven candles of unity are enumerated, with this comment, “The realization of these seven points of Bahá’u’lláh is through his twelve leading principles in analysis and is at once the revelation of Bahá’í vision and the essence of today’s most alert minds.” The twelve principles follow, and the reviewer adds: “Read this book ‘God Passes By’ for a clearer concept of a Faith whose adherence would bring us nearer to a Peace on our domestic as well as our national lives. Whatever your nationality or creed, from East or West, . . . you will find in this book a new insight into the aspects of Truth.”

In ludicrous contrast to this is a warning against the Bahá’í Faith included in the program of a church in Regina, Saskatchewan, which Bahá’ís will find entertaining. “Bahaism believes the true successor to Mohammed (who did not die, they say) will appear one day, establishing justice on earth. He reveals himself thru persons known as Bab’s. The present one is Shoghi Effendi, who calls himself The Everlasting Father, identifying himself with God . . . It is silent on the doctrines of sin, repentance and forgiveness, and in place of the immortality of the soul, teaches unadulterated earthly happiness for the ‘believers’ . . . Christians should read their Bibles, and see there the matchless supremacy of Jesus Christ, in order to confute B’haism.”

Local Assemblies
Local Annual Reports
The year ending April 21, 1945, was one of increased Bahá’í activity according to the annual reports that have been received by the National Spiritual Assembly. The highlights of each community’s activities are summarized here.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
The northermost of our Bahá’í assemblies in the second year of its existence has been able to make the name of Bahá’u’lláh more widely known throughout Alaska. The Peace Broadsides were of great assistance to this community so far from other teaching aids. The four broadsides were printed in their entirety in the daily paper. They were used as the basis of a 15 minute radio forum in which the radio announcer and two Bahá’ís participated. Also the names of three hundred public officials, editors, teachers, and other leading citizens were compiled and sent to the National Spiritual Assem-

by with the suggestion that they be sent the Peace Broadsides.

Anchorage Bahá’ís through correspondence and the sending of literature reached persons in twenty other Alaskan cities and villages.

Two Bahá’í pioneer settlers, Miss Janet Whitenack and Mr. Verne Green, were united in marriage, and the radio announcement of their engagement and the newspaper accounts of their engagement and marriage emphasized their connection with the Bahá’í Faith. The first Alaskan Bahá’í baby was born to Florence and Maurice Green.

Twice the USO made use of Bahá’í speakers, once during a Lenten series, “Adventures in Understanding” with Jewish and Christian representatives, and once at a dinner meeting of the Toastmaster’s Club.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA
The first history of the Bahá’í Faith in Atlanta was written by Miss Olga Finke, who came to Atlanta as
Out of town speakers included Mrs. the papers as well as “news notices.

For a week a local store carried a display window with a picture of the temple and Bahá’í literature. A local book store gave the Bahá’í literature a table.

The race unity banquet held in celebration of the Centenary was so enriching an experience the community felt they would like to feature such an event every spring.

On March 30, 1945, a public peace meeting was held with Virginia C. Foster as the out-of-town speaker. Concerted publicity efforts preceded the meeting and it was hoped that study classes could be conducted to follow up the talk.

A study class on the 36 Lesson Course and one on Bahá’í Administration were held regularly throughout the year. For the public meetings, the Assembly ran paid ads in the papers as well as news notices. Out of town speakers included Mrs. Randolph Bolles, Mr. Curtis Kelsey, Mr. Louis Gregory, and Mr. William Towart. The most intensive teaching campaigns were conducted when Mrs. Ruth Moffett lectured every evening for a week and held a study class every afternoon, and when Mr. Reginald King lectured every night for two weeks. Both were able to speak over the nearby radio station WKNE in Keene, New Hampshire.

For a week a local store carried a display window with a picture of the temple and Bahá’í literature. A local book store gave the Bahá’í literature a table.

The Community moved into a new center in the Barber Building. They write, “We pray that the divine outpourings hasten the day of the fulfillment of the tasks before us.”

The public peace meeting suggested by the National Spiritual Assembly was held in the court house on April 15, 1945, with Mr. W. Kenneth Christian giving the “Bahá’í Plan for Peace” and two non-Bahá’ís speaking, Dr. Eugene Pfaff, Director of the Southern Council of International Relations and Mr. R. E. Martin, faculty member of the local Negro A. and T. College.

A paid newspaper advertisement and two hundred printed invitations drew an audience of 110.

“We have conducted weekly study classes during most of the year. These have been bi-racial but have not proved very conducive to growth. After having given this a fair trial we plan with the consent of the Guardian to have some separate classes. Those familiar with the local situation realize that most white non-believers need to catch the spirit of the divine teachings first; for prejudiced through inherited tradition, they are prone to be upset when suddenly confronted with this departure from custom before having opportunity to learn the broad aspects of the teachings. This is also true of the majority of the negroes.”

In October, 1944, the local spiritual assembly of Kansas City became incorporated and by the time the report was sent in, the papers were on file in the state capital.
Last year’s teaching activities in Kansas City were varied. There were public classes held at the Y.M.C.A., the Kay Hotel, and the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Bailey, Sunday evening fireside meetings at the home of Mrs. John Bechtel, and twenty-two porch meetings and three luncheons at the home of Mrs. Sudy Hurlock.

The Bahá’í mothers helped to form the Kansas City Youth Fellowship. For one meeting Mrs. Opal Winan of Independence, Missouri, showed pictures of the Temple and took pictures in color of the group.

MADISON, WISCONSIN

An active youth group in Madison has met every other Sunday. They attracted ten non-Bahá’í youth through a picnic.

To celebrate the birth of the Báb on October 19, the Bahá’ís had a pot luck supper and met the first Japanese Bahá’í, Mr. Yamamoto, the father of one of the members of the Madison community.

On November 14, the public librarian reviewed Sunner Welles’ Time for Decision, Walter Lippman’s U. S. War Aims, and Becker’s How New Will the Better World Be, while Mrs. Mae Stebbins gave the Bahá’í peace plan.

Two colored people have been attending meetings since the Race Unity meeting at which Mrs. William Fries spoke on the scientific attitude toward race and Mrs. John Svendsen spoke on the Bahá’í teachings of the oneness of humanity.

Four babies were named in a ceremony conducted by Mr. Clarence Niss at the time of the Naw-Rúz. They were James Griffen, Joan Fries, Patricia Schneck, and Bruce Scott.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Inter-American solidarity was demonstrated when Bahá’ís acted as hosts at the Milwaukee Center July 14, to the Latin American friends attending the All-America Bahá’í Centenary Convention. The spirit of oneness “rose to such heights that Sr. Salvador Tormo of Buenos Aires arose spontaneously as did all the rest, and asked the friends to clasped hands and pledge themselves anew to carry on this ‘Great Work’ so that love and unity may soon prevail throughout the world.”

A Second historic event was the Peace Banquet held at the Schroeder Hotel, March 24, 1945. Mr. William Sears and Mrs. Dorothy Baker spoke before an audience of over seven hundred including many Bahá’ís from nearby communities and including such outstanding non-Bahá’ís as Dr. Frank E. Baker, President of the Wisconsin State Teacher’s College, Mr. Lowell B. Goodrich, Superintendent of the Milwaukee Public Schools, Mr. Daniel Hoan, ex-Mayor of Milwaukee, Miss Dorothy Enders, Director of Social and Municipal Recreation Centers, Mr. William V. Kelley, Secretary of the Milwaukee Urban League, Miss Elizabeth Campbell, Executive Secretary of the International Institute of Milwaukee County, and Mrs. Grace M. Corwin, Executive Director of the Milwaukee Sentinel. There were also clergymen present. The races were well represented with the presence of Negroes, Chinese, Japanese, Hawaiians, and Indians. In the lobby of the hotel was a display of a temple model and Bahá’í books.

The Milwaukee assembly did extension work in Green Bay, Oshkosh, Manitowoc, and Shorewood.

Among the young, there were two children’s classes, one for those from 4-8 and another for those from 8-14. Also there was a youth group which met weekly, presented a Christmas program and a Youth Symposium and inaugurated a Louhelen Scholarship Fund. The Youth group sponsored a number of picnics and social events.

During the Centenary, the library committee was able to arrange for a display of Bahá’í Books and a picture of the temple at the public library. Thirteen books and pamphlets were donated to the public library.

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

A full column review of the Guardian’s book, God Passes By appeared on the editorial page of the New Haven Journal-Courier. At the request of the National News Service, five additional copies were sent to it, and one of these went to the Guardian.

At the time of the nationwide Centennial celebration, New Haven Bahá’ís held a banquet on May 25, 1944. Thirty-seven attended, including eight Negroes. Guest speakers were Rabbi Louis Greenberg and Mrs. Ethel Hunt of Washington, D.C.

Each Sunday a study class and a public meeting were held at the Center, 33 Wall Street. In January it was decided to discontinue hiring the room since the meetings held in the homes seemed as well attended as those held in the Center.

RENO, NEVADA

One of the most spectacular of the Reno community efforts was a symposium at the State Building on February 10th on “The Prerequisites of World Peace.” The speakers were Dr. John O. Moseley, President of the University of Nevada, Mr. Samuel Platt, attorney, and Mr. Leroy Iosso, of the Baha’i National Spiritual Assembly. There was an attendance of a hundred and fifty.

On March 24th “Youth’s Responsibility in the Post-War World” was the subject of a Youth symposium at the Reno Little Theatre. Seventy people heard a young woman student from the University of Nevada, a blind boy from Reno High school, Mr. Richard Walton of the Washoe
County Bahá’í group, and a young Negro girl pianist.

Reno Bahá’ís have averaged two radio broadcasts a month over station KOH and have been successful in obtaining other publicity. A local store includes free announcements of Bahá’í public meetings in its Friday morning broadcasts of local events. An announcement of public meetings concludes every regular Bahá’í broadcast. Two paid spot ads precede each special public meeting. Each of the two local papers carries announcements of the weekly Saturday public meetings and paid advertisements entitle the Bahá’ís to a free article preceding each special public event. They have made dignified posters for each of the symposiums and have mailed numerous invitations.

Two Bahá’ís have served as advisors to an inter-racial club meeting weekly at the Y.M.C.A. They have secured Bahá’í speakers for the club and have been instrumental in getting permission for all Negroes to use the public skating rink one afternoon each week.

Urbana, Illinois

Urbana’s Centennial celebration consisted of a successful inter-racial banquet held at the Urbana- Lincoln Hotel and attended by 130, a public meeting in the University of Illinois Union Building, a radio talk over station WDWS, and large advertisements besides free news space showing pictures of the banquet and describing the celebration in each of the newspapers.

The Illinois Times, a Negro weekly paper serving the central Illinois area, published by Mr. Edgar Harris a Bahá’í of the Champaign group, has published weekly reports of Bahá’í teachings, providing a unique opportunity for publicity.

Among the Youth activities were a series of Sunday morning breakfasts at a local park followed by a devotional period of readings from the writings of Abdu’l-Bahá. Several non-Bahá’ís have been interested in the writings when they were assigned the devotion period for one of the Sundays.

The local Race Unity meeting was sponsored as a symposium by the Youth: “Contributing to Better Race Relations,” Miss Lucy Nobler, a college student presenting the contributions of science, Miss Mary Grace Jordan, secretary of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People presenting the contributions of such organizations, and Mr. Farhang Javid presenting the contributions of the Bahá’í Faith and religion, Mrs. Robert Hutchens coordinated the program.

Each month a ten minute Bahá’í program is presented over station WDWS. The music of Handel’s Largo cushions the program from the commercials before and after. Sometimes the music is softened for the reading of a Hidden Word or short quotation keynoting the talk.

There are regular weekly public meetings at the Bahá’í Center and occasional special meetings at the Champaign City Building. The Bahá’ís have been holding weekly study classes on God Passes By.

Extension work was done in Champaign, and Urbana Bahá’ís have cooperated with a newly inaugurated circuit system providing monthly out of town speakers to central Illinois communities and groups. Three hundred Peace Broadsides were mailed to well known people in this community.

Vancouver, British Columbia

On May 23, 1944, Vancouver Bahá’ís and their friends attended a banquet at the Devonshire Hotel. There were fifty persons present to hear Miss Mae McKenna and Mrs. Blanche Liddell. Cooperating with the National Centennial Committee the assembly arranged for a fifteen minute radio talk over station KJOR presented by Miss Muriel Warnicker.

Mr. Rowland Estall, Mr. George Latimer, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Ioas, and Mr. Ernie Sala all spoke in Vancouver as part of their teaching tours. Emerio Sala’s talk in the York Room of the Hotel Georgia on February 12th drew an audience of seventy.

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Independent fireside groups and weekly study classes have been held by the Bahá’ís of Wauwatosa as well as joint public meetings with the Milwaukee Bahá’ís. Fourteen attend the weekly study classes, including seven or eight who are not Bahá’ís. The class studies alternate weeks Bahá’í World Faith and the study outline Fundamentals of Bahá’í Membership.

Several feasts were open to friends of Bahá’ís and an intercalary party was held to promote fellowship.

Wauwatosa Bahá’ís helped entertain the Inter-American delegates when they were in Milwaukee, and helped with the large area Bahá’í Peace Banquet there. They send five children to the Milwaukee children’s classes, and contribute to the Milwaukee Louhelen Scholarship Fund.

To stimulate closer inter-community cooperation, the assembly frequently secures chairmen from surrounding communities when there is a public meeting.

Editor’s Note: The above items have been gleaned from the annual reports of local assemblies to the N.S.A. for the year 1943-1944. In February “Bahá’í News” we will publish a final article based on such reports as have been sent in before January 1st.

News of Other Lands

Germany

The following extract is from a letter to David and Margaret Ruhe from John Elchinenauer:

“Was visiting the Bahá’í Summer School in Esslingen last Sunday and saw the names of several of the Kunz family in the guest book. How happy I was to see the names of so many friends I knew. Calvin Wilder, a fellow believer, and I first found the Bahá’ís in Esslingen on May sixth and since then have contacted the believers in Stuttgart, Goeppingen, Geislingen, Darmstadt and Heidelberg. About a week ago two of the LSA and I obtained written authorization from Capt. Carvel Busey, Religious and Education Officer of Stuttgart Military Government, for Bahá’í activities. He was very considerate . . . had read some (Bahá’í) books and offered to help me whenever I need it. The local assemblies will apply and later we can write USFET for permission for the NSA. This afternoon the Feast will be held at Bahá’í School on the hill in Esslingen.

(Editor’s Note: Captains Carvel Busey is a cousin of Dr. Garretta Busey of Urbana, Illinois, and heard of the Cause in that city.)

Norway

Urbana friends have heard during the summer from Miss Johanna Schubarth of Oslo, Norway. Miss Schubarth became a Bahá’í while living in Urbana. She returned to
her native Norway in order to spread the Faith there, has translated into Norwegian and published "Baha'u'llah and the New Era" and translated the "Iqan," "Hidden Words" and "Advent of Divine Justice."

Miss Schubarth writes that she hopes her health will soon be better and enable her to return to her profession of nursing.

Switzerland

We give below a summary of the annual report from the Bahá'í Bureau at Geneva.

Switzerland, spared the fire of war, has been a haven of refuge for hundreds of thousands of refugees, particularly children from devastated areas who have been hospitalized there.

In Zurich the friends have continued their meetings and have added to their number.

At Heerbrugg Mr. Semle has given two public talks which were favorably received and followed by long and animated discussions.

The Bureau has continued to get out its "Monthly Page," planned to help the friends to remain steadfast in obedience to the revealed Commandments and also for interested outsiders to demonstrate the working out of the Divine Plan in present-day events.

"We are happy and grateful to say that the priceless comfort and strengthening help of the Guardian's letters has not been withheld from us throughout this period."

Toward the end of the year 1941 both letters and periodicals came through from the outside world, Australia, France, Great Britain, U.S., Haifa, Egypt, Iraq and Porto Rico.

Lucien Migette wrote from Lyons, where she is still working, having had two miraculous escapes from danger of death.

Mr. and Mrs. Pomper of Warsaw, parents of Boris Pomper, who did work on the Polish translation of "Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era" were hospitalized at the Geneva Bureau after their release from an internment camp.

M. Renaud Richez, one of the first in Geneva to recognize the Light of this Day, passed away in April. He was a Belgian, a worker in the Secretariat of the League of Nations, and was one of the five who signed the statutes of the Bahá'í Bureau for its official registration in 1930.

Passing of a Great Pioneer

A letter from the National Spiritual Assembly of India and Burma has brought the sad news of the passing into the Abhá Kingdom of Siyyid Muṣṭafá Roumie. On hearing of the death of this distinguished pioneer the Guardian sent the Indian and Burman Assembly the following cable dated July 14:

"Hearts griefstricken passing supreme concourse distinguished pioneer faith Bahá'u'lláh dearly beloved staunch high minded Noble Soul Siyyid Muṣṭafá stop Long record his superb services both teaching administrative fields shed lustre on both heroic and formative ages Bahá'í dispensation stop His magnificent achievements fully entitle him join ranks hands cause Bahá'u'lláh stop His resting place should be regarded foremost shrine community Burmese believers stop Advise holding memorial gatherings throughout India honour his imperishable memory stop Urge Indian Burmese Bahá'ís participate construction tomb stop Cabling three hundred pounds my personal contribution so praiseworthy purpose — Shoghi Rabbani."

France

David Hofman recently made a trip to the Continent with Ensá and was able to meet some of the friends in Paris. He saw seven of them; amongst others, Miss Sanderson, Mrs. Scott, Mme. Hess and Mr. Kennedy. They were all well, though cold, owing to the complete lack of fuel, and without many other necessities. They have been through severe difficulties. All were questioned by the Gestapo after the Germans arrived in Paris, but all except one were left alone afterwards. The Germans tried to confiscate all their books, but fortunately they were able to point out that the flat of the secretary, Mr. Kennedy, had been destroyed by a bomb and books with it. In that way they were able to save some books which were stored in another place. The community lost four members during the war: Mrs. Kennedy died, Mlle. Alcan was killed in an air-raid; Mrs. Stannard died of cancer in November, 1944; and Mme. Montefiore was taken to a concentration camp and has not been heard of since. Other friends left Paris and have not returned. In spite of all their difficulties, however, those who remained, though at one time reduced to three, have held a meeting
on the first Sunday of every month in Miss Sanderson's flat throughout the period of the German occupation.

We are glad indeed to know that these friends are safe and to get in touch with them again. It was possible to send a small parcel of food and soap over by a traveller going to Paris and we hope to get other similar opportunities of showing our sympathy.

**Bulgaria**

We also hear that Miss Jack, the well-known pioneer in Bulgaria, who is eighty years old, has returned to Sofia from a village where she lived after her home in Sofia was bombed. She and all the Sofia believers, with the exception of one, have survived and are now trying to resume their teaching activities.

**Persia**

The Spiritual Assembly of Isfahan has communicated to the Guardian a detailed account describing the transfer of the remains of the two great Baha’i martyrs known as the “King of Martyrs” and the “Beloved of Martyrs” to the new Baha’i cemetery situated outside that town. This was done in accordance with the explicit desire of the Guardian and the decision and help of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’is of Iran.

In November, 1943, the Guardian wired to the said Assembly that it was a duty and an absolute necessity to start immediately on the historic project of building the tombs of the “King of Martyrs” and the “Beloved of Martyrs,” himself contributing for this purpose the sum of one thousand pounds sterling. We now learn from the official report sent to the Guardian signed by nine members of the Spiritual Assembly of Isfahan and four other believers that the said project was brought to a successful completion on the 15th of March, 1944. On that day, the remains of the twin martyrs which had previously been removed from their original resting place by a committee appointed by the Spiritual Assembly, their new coffins sealed in three places with the sign of the Greatest Name and kept in a safe place, in the house of one of the members of the Spiritual Assembly, were placed in two specially built stone receptacles and laid to rest in their new tombs, separated one meter from each other, in the Baha’i cemetery. The ceremony of the transfer took place in an atmosphere of great reverence and a Tablet revealed in their honor by Bahá’u’lláh was recited on this occasion.

The “King of Martyrs” and the “Beloved of Martyrs” were the sons of Mirzâ Ibrahim Efêzhânî, who was one of the early believers in the Bahá’í religion, whom he had personally met. It is believed that one night in Isfahan, he had the privilege of serving the Bahá’ís at supper time. The two martyred brothers were very famous in their home town, not merely for their great material wealth, but for the extraordinary nobility of their character. They were most helpful and generous to everyone who went to them with his pains and troubles. When Bahá’u’lláh was in Iraq, they left Isfahan twice and proceeded to Baghdad, where they had the wonderful privilege of spending some time in His presence. On one occasion, they both forwarded a humble petition to Bahá’u’lláh while He was still in Baghdad, begging that they might sacrifice their lives in His path and thus attain the honor of martyrdom.

And so it was. Two of the most prominent theologians and religious leaders of Isfahan, Mír Siyyid Husayn and Shaykh Bahá, named by Bahá’u’lláh—because of their inhumanity and merciless cruelty—as the Snake and the Wolf respectively, prevailed upon the governor of Isfahan, who was then one of the sons of the Shah of Persia, to order their arrest. Whereupon, the two brothers were thrown into prison, chained and tortured. Shortly after, they were brought out of prison, conducted to the execution place and, by the personal order of the Snake and the Wolf, beheaded.

At the time when the sword of the executioner was brandishing in the air over their heads, they were holding each other in a brotherly embrace and uttering the Most Great Name. After the execution, their bodies were dragged on the ground to a deserted plot of land and placed under a partially ruined wall. This wall was then pulled down on their bodies. On that same night their bodies were recovered by a third brother and properly buried in a cemetery.

The position of these two resplendent souls is supreme among the Baha’i martyrs. Indeed, Bahá’u’lláh Himself definitely established their unique station when He called them the “King of Martyrs” and the “Beloved of Martyrs.”

Among the acts of hooliganism and vandalism, the victims of which were Baha’is and Bahá’í property, was one that took place last May in the village of Abádah, in southern Persia. A mob nearly four thousand strong, attacked the Bahá’í Centre and Guest House, pillaging and setting on fire Bahá’í property, furniture and books, and fatally injuring four believers.

But trials and sufferings serve only to strengthen the determination of the believers that they must hasten and redouble their efforts in their glorious task of spiritually educating mankind. Thus, it is a great pleasure to learn that during the last four years, the Bahá’í Teaching Plan and programs have continued uninterrupted in Persia. Bahá’í teachers classes have been organized in various Bahá’í centres. Four of these classes were held in Tehran alone, with upwards of two hundred prospective Bahá’í teachers attending them. Aside from these classes, twenty-three recognized and well-known Bahá’í Teachers have given their full time to teaching activities and forty-one Bahá’í Teachers travelled throughout Persia to proclaim the word of God.

The movement of Bahá’í families travelling to and settling in various new districts and provinces has been increased and accelerated. These families have been subjected to great sufferings and privations at the hands of the ill-wishers of the Cause, but as a result of their work, one hundred and eighty-seven new Bahá’í centres have been established in various parts of the country.

The believers in Persia have not only helped to finance their own Bahá’í projects and activities, but have also forwarded one thousand pounds Sterling for the national “Haziratu’l-Quds” (Bahá’í House) in each of the following countries: Syria, Egypt and India; two thousand five hundred Pounds Sterling for Australia and New Zealand and five hundred Pounds for the Haziratu’l-Quds of Kuweit in Baghdad.

**‘Iraq**

The Bahá’í Centenary Celebration in Baghdad has given a great impetus to the activities of the Teaching Committee as a result of many inquiries on the part of those who have become interested in the Bahá’í Faith. The Teaching Committee has been meeting five times weekly to
discuss with those interested the Teachings of Bahá'u'lláh.

Bahá'í women in Irán, are given every opportunity to study the Bahá'í Faith and to prepare themselves to serve the Cause side by side with the men. The Women's Progress Committee is actively engaged in this noble task.

Classes for the study of the Bahá'í Teachings and principles for Bahá'í children, young men and women continue regularly and successfully.

Balúchistán

"We are very happy to learn from a letter addressed to the Guardian by the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Quetta in Balúchistán that the believers in that town have at last been able to have a Bahá'í cemetery of their own. The government authorities, after some difficulty, allowed the Bahá'í Assembly to purchase a piece of land necessary for that purpose.

As a result of the efforts made by the Spiritual Assembly of Quetta, the authorities have exempted the Bahá'í House and the land on which it is built from paying the land and property taxes. Other heartening news from Quetta is the opening of a public Bahá'í library in that town.

India

From the annual report of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of India and Burma for 1944-1945 we glean the following:

The National Spiritual Assembly is trying to achieve greater administrative efficiency. It held six meetings during eleven months of 1944-1945. These meetings were all held at the administrative center at New Delhi. The annual report gives the attendance record of each member of the Assembly at these meetings. The Assembly also achieved the transfer of the office of the treasurer to the National Headquarters.

"This is a step forward but it has been almost fully realized that the immediate ideal is the transfer of all the members in office during their term of office to Delhi, inasmuch as the object of assemblies and committees is administration through consultation and consultation is not possible by correspondence.

"International. When this assembly learned about the martyrdoms in Iran, it wired to H.I.M. the Shah of Iran and the Persian Parliament expressing its horror at the tragic event, emphasized the law-abiding nature of the Bahá'ís, their obedience to established Governments, the love that the Bahá'í community of India bore for the native land of Bahá'u'lláh. The assembly drew their attention to the sympathetic interest that similar persecutions in the past had evoked in the breasts of Western writers and finally it appealed for justice and for an impartial treatment of Bahá'ís.

"Mr. Muhammed Sáed, the Prime Minister, chiefly responsible for those dastardly acts, was reminded by the Assembly in its wire that though Persia had been bathed in the blood of Bahá'í martyrs during the last century yet had it failed to stamp out God's Cause from Persia's soil. It further touched upon the lustre that the heroism of Bahá'í martyrs had shed upon the land and the stain which the abominations committed by their persecutors had left upon it. In conclusion the assembly called to his mind the Words of the Báb addressed to a predecessor of his, Hájí Mirzá Aqá, the all-powerful Prime Minister in His day and the arch-opponent of the Cause, wherein the Báb warns him that were the Prime Minister to succeed in killing Him, He will have suffered as the saints and prophets of God had suffered but that act would call down on his (the Prime Minister's) head the curse of God and His eternal wrath.

"It is significant to note that not long after this event Mr. Muhammed Sáed was compelled to resign from his post.

"Visitors. We were happy to have a number of visitors from abroad this year. Most of them were Persians on their way to America. We hope a greater contact with Bahá'ís from other lands will be rendered possible. That it would be beneficial is evident from the instructions of the Guardian to Mr. A. Samimi, now in India, who sought his permission to go to Haifa. "Seize (this) opportunity," ran the cable, "(to) visit the Bahá'í centers throughout India. Promotion of the Faith (at the) present juncture (is) more meritorious (than a) visit (to the) Shrines." Mr. Samimi will visit as many assemblies and groups as the time at his disposal will permit. Other friends from abroad, some passing through, others serving in the armed forces, have given us in one or more centres the pleasure of their company for different periods.

"Books. Bahá'í books for use in India and Burma need to be translated into many different languages. From the annual report we gather that translations have been made or are in course of being made into more than twenty languages.

"Summer School. Secretary, Prof. Pritam Singh. The Summer School held its sessions at Karachi this year. Fifty students attended. The lessons were limited to a few subjects and were spread over a fortnight. Messrs.
Pritam Singh, Ilmi and Akhtar-Khawari were the teachers. A special feature of this year's school was the taking of notes by the students and their submission to a test at the conclusion of the school.

"Eleven lessons on Aqdas and Bayán were given by Mr. M. H. Ilmi and every lesson lasted for an hour.

"A series of public lectures were arranged in connection with the Summer School, on four days, at 7:30 p.m. Chairmen of these meetings were prominent people, such as two ex-mayors of Karachi.

"Youth Secretary, Mr. Núrulláh Akhtar-Khawari. Bahá'í youths between the ages of 15 and 30 years living in all the centres were asked to organize committees. Youth's principal duties were to study the Cause and convey it to non-Bahá'í youth. The National Committee also communicated with National Youth Committees in other lands. The Youth Symposium was duly celebrated in different centres and the Cause brought to the attention of the public."

**Australia and New Zealand**

The Australian friends have held two successful winter schools, one near Sydney and one near Adelaide. Also the believers in New Zealand have held their fifth summer school and report continued improvement and progress each time.

A new Bahá'í community in Australia has been established at Carlingah, a village about 18 miles from Sydney. The members expected to elect their Spiritual Assembly in April.

**British Isles**

The Bahá'í Journal, published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the British Isles, has recently printed, for the first time, the following Tablet from 'Abdu'l-Bahá sent to the early English believers when He was in Paris:

"How are the believers in London? Are they happy? Are they spreading the call of the Kingdom? Are their tongues engaged in the commemoration of God? Are they full of zeal? Do they comfort the unhappy? Do they raise the fallen? Are they kind to all the people of the world? Do they serve the Cause of Universal Peace and Goodwill amongst the nations? Do they sympathize with the unfortunate? Are they the stars of the Heaven of Bahá? Are they the waves of the most great sea? Are they the illuminating path of the travellers? Are they the bright torches of reality? When those art returning to London convey to them my longing and greeting, for I love these friends of God. They are faithful followers of the Light, firm upon the Covenant, sincere servants of His Highness Bahá'u'lláh. They are calling the people to the Kingdom of God and I am extremely pleased with them."

"They must not rest day or night but strive to illumine the children of men, and awaken souls. This is not the day of silence! This is not the day of rest! Each one of you in this day must become a crier for the Kingdom of Abbá, a herald of the glad tidings of the Supreme Concourse. Each one must be attracted and enkindled. Each one must be happy for he has heard the call of the Kingdom. This is indeed a great privilege. Its importance is not known at this time. It will become evident in the future. The apostles of Christ attained to the greatest station in life, yet they were vilified and scorned in their day; because they were followers of the humble Nazarene, they were considered as the most despised and ignorant, but now their brilliant light has flooded the whole world with knowledge and wisdom. Each one of the apostles is shining like unto a star from the horizon of Eternal Glory. Likewise, no one can adequately express the greatness of the friends of God in this Dispensation. The glorious possibilities of this station will become manifest in the future."

"The friends of God must become full of the light of the Teachings. It is well to be thoroughly versed in the sciences, arts and literature, and one must be established in the Kingdom of God on a like basis. The results of physical science are limited. His Holiness Christ said: 'Leave thy nets. Come and I will make thee fishers of men.'"

"The results of the Divine sciences, the guidance of God, the spiritual arts, are unlimited and train the real man. My spirit communicates with you. It annihilates time and space. God willing, the confirmation of the Supreme Concourse shall descend upon you uninterruptedly."

"Day by day may you receive knowledge. Day by day may you draw nearer to God, until you become submerged in the sea of Divine Light. This station is the ultimate result of human life, it is the true fruit of existence. This station is the pearl of human consciousness and consumption, the shining star towards which human destiny points."

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Message from the Guardian</th>
<th>Page Col</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Our Hearts Are Uplifted in Thanksgiving&quot;</td>
<td>1 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;The Cessation of Hostilities&quot;</td>
<td>1 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Greatly Cheered by Evidences of Progress&quot;</td>
<td>2 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mme. Orlela</td>
<td>1 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco Conference</td>
<td>2 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable to Buenos Aires Assembly</td>
<td>2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters to Individuals</td>
<td>2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in the Election of the Shrine of the Bab</td>
<td>4 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact with Social Movements</td>
<td>6 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**National Spiritual Assembly**

- Letters to National Bahá'ís
- An Historical Record of Bahá'í Service
- Request to Traveling Bahá'ís
- Local Pan-American Activities
- Directory
- Enrollments and Transfers
- In Memoriam

**National Committees**

- Temples
- Inter-America News
- Bahá'í Study Aid
- Passing of a Hand of the Cause
- Child Education
- Youth Assembly Development
- House of Worship Program
- Visitor from India
- Comment from Outside
- Local Assemblies—Local Annual Reports

**News of Other Lands**

- Germany
- Norway
- Switzerland
- Passing of a Hand of the Cause
- France
- Bulgaria
- Persia
- Iraq
- Baluchistán
- India
- Australia and New Zealand
- British Isles

**Photographs**

- Bahá'í Community of Independence Missouri
- Sir. Ramaswami Mudaliar at House of Worship
- Bahá'ís of San José, Costa Rica
- Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Toledo
- Teaching Conference for State of New Jersey
- Authority for Reorganization of Stuttgart Bahá'í Community
- Inter-Community Picnic, Fruitport, Mich.
Messages from the Guardian

Suicide

Regarding the "In Memoriam" section of Bahá'í News: although suicide is so strongly condemned in the teachings, it does not mean that a person has ceased to be a Bahá'í because he killed himself; he should, therefore, be mentioned, the same as other believers, in this section.

- Haifa, March 29, 1946

Letters to Individuals

To John M. Clifford, October 17, 1944.

Regarding the whole question of an International language and its relation to the Faith: We, as Bahá'ís, are very anxious to see a universal auxiliary tongue adopted as soon as possible; we are not the protagonists of any one language to fill this post. If the governments of the world agree on an existing language, or a constructed, new tongue, to be used internationally, we would heartily support it because we desire to see this step in the unification of the human race take place as soon as possible.

Esperanto has been in wide use, more so than any similar language, all over the world, and the Bahá'ís have been encouraged by both the Master and the Guardian to learn it and to translate Bahá'í literature into it. We cannot be sure it will be the chosen language of the future; but as it is the one which has spread most, both East and West, we should certainly continue to co-operate with its members to learn and speak it, and translate Bahá'í literature into it.

To Mrs. Beatrice Ashton, October 17, 1944.

All over the world the Guardian is constantly encouraging and enjoining the believers to learn to function according to Bahá'í laws and principles; members of Spiritual Assemblies must learn to face their responsibilities, individuals must learn to turn to them and abide by their decisions. When we realize that all marriages, divorces, disposition of inheritance, etc., are now handled in Egypt and Persia solely through the Assemblies and that the believers abide by their decisions, we see that in Western countries the friends still have a long way to go — the sooner they start the better for themselves and for the Faith.

Correction

In a letter from the Guardian through his secretary to Mrs. Helen Robinson, published in the June, 1945, issue of Bahá'í News, two errors have been noted: the word good appeared as great, and chastity was printed charity. The whole passage should read: "The Guardian would advise you to teach the Mormons, like everyone else, the Faith, when you find them receptive. They have many good principles and their teachings regarding chastity, not drinking or smoking, etc., are quite similar to ours and should form a point of common interest."— The Editors.

National Spiritual Assembly

To the local Spiritual Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees.

Beloved Friends:

On this date, twenty-four years ago, 'Abdu'l-Bahá completed His earthly mission and ascended to the Kingdom of Bahá'u'lláh. The era of the Guardianship and the Bahá'í order has since then established the basis of the administrative institutions in East and West, and undertaken the first steps of the Master's Divine Plan embracing the entire earth. He without doubt watches over our progress, rejoices at every success and grieves whenever we fall short of the opportunities lying within our power.

Now is the time when each American believer can well stop and take thought of his own contribution of effort, love and resources to the Bahá'í work. We need the high and pure spirit which 'Abdu'l-Bahá poured forth upon the friends, and the realization which those pioneer workers had that they lived their lives as in His daily presence.

Around us is a world starved for lack of spiritual nourishment. In our keeping is the storehouse of truth. By intensified individual consecration, by unified striving, let us begin a new period of widespread public teaching. The news from the first two cities of the public campaign, Toronto and Boston, is very encouraging. It remains to perfect our coordination of all publicity and promotion resources, to produce a truly vigorous impression upon the public.

Along with this national campaign there must be ceaseless effort to maintain our own weaker communities and develop groups to Assembly status by April, 1946. A Spiritual Assembly is not a name on a list nor a point on a map. It is a spiritual organism which when united will attract the confirmations of the Holy Spirit and charge every individual Bahá'í with power to act as an instrument for the good of the Faith.

Plans are under way to render more and more service to the younger and smaller communities, but there is much that each community can only do for itself. Your National Spiritual Assembly is turning to the Guardian with a devout cry for spiritual reinforcement in these troubled times. Every community, group assembly and committee is dependent upon the spirit for its success. May the Guardian, as he contemplates the Faith in this land, become conscious that all are united in this cry for help, so that the blessed prayers uttered at the Holy Shrines may transmute our weakness into strength.

As of October 27, the Bahá'í funds on hand amounted to $12,489.34. Of this sum, $8,763.27 was either ear-
marked for special purposes or was held in trustee accounts, leaving $3,786.07 available for expenditure by the National Spiritual Assembly. From October 1 to 27 the receipts amounted to $8,726.84, the expenditures to $12,110.25.

The Assembly is grateful to all the many believers who conscientiously contribute at regular intervals. Their love is what sustains the activities of the National Assembly and all its committees and pioneers, in both North and South America.

Faithfully your co-workers,
—NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

“A Fuller Measure of That Love”

Since teaching is now the paramount concern of every believer and every Bahá’í institution, it will be well for the friends to ponder again some of those advices and appeals which the Guardian directed to us at such frequent intervals during the early years of his mission under the Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. For those passages carry the impact of the Guardian’s first expression of his loving concern for the progress of the Faith, his universal message to the whole Bahá’í community.

“Now surely, if ever, is the time for us, the chosen ones of Bahá’u’lláh and the bearers of His Message to the world, to endeavor by day and by night, to deepen, first and foremost, the Spirit of His Cause in our own individual lives, and then labor, and labor incessantly to exemplify in all our dealings with our fellowmen that noble Spirit of which His beloved Son ‘Abdu’l-Bahá has been all the days of His life a true and unique exponent. The sayings of our beloved Master have been noised abroad, His name has filled all regions, and the eyes of mankind are now turned expectant towards His disciples who bear His name and profess His teachings...

“Behold, the station to which ‘Abdu’l-Bahá is now calling His loved ones from the Realm of Glory:—

It behooveth the loved ones of God to be enarowed of one another and to sacrifice themselves for their fellow-workers in the Cause. They should yearn towards one another even as the sore athirst yearneth for the Water of Life, and the lover burneth to meet his heart’s desire.’

“Such is the sublime, the glorious position He wishes us, and all the peoples and kindreds on earth, to attain in this world; how much more to attain unity and common understanding among ourselves, and then arise to herald with one voice the coming of the Kingdom and the salvation of mankind.”—March 12, 1922.

“Let us pray to God that these days of world-encircling gloom, when the dark forces of nature, of hate, rebellion, anarchy and reaction are threatening the very stability of human society, when the most precious fruits of civilization are undergoing severe and unparalleled tests, we may all realize, more profoundly than ever, that though but a mere handful amidst the seething masses of the world, we are in this day the chosen instruments of God’s grace, that our mission is most urgent and vital to the fate of humanity, and, fortified by these sentiments, arise to achieve God’s holy purpose of mankind.—November 14, 1923.

State and Province Elections

Temporary election committees consisting of three persons have been appointed for each electoral district, as follows:

Alabama: Mr. Homer Dyer, Chairman; Mrs. John C. Inglis, Mrs. Dorothy Loge-
lin.

Arizona: Mr. Paul Schoeny, Chairman; Mrs. Nancy Phillips, Mr. Karl Deppe.

Arkansas: Mrs. Roberta Wilson, Chairman; Mr. Verney Thompson, Mrs. Lucy Hawkins.

California, Northern: Miss Gladysce Linfoot, Chairman; Mr. Arthur Ios. Dr. Mildred Nichols.

California, Southern: Mr. Hasle Corn-
bleth, Chairman; Mrs. Edna Johnson, Mr. Chas. Bishop.

Colorado: Mr. Geo. Nathaniel Clark, Chairman; Mrs. Edgar Meyer, Mr. Roy Taintor.

Connecticut: Mr. Clarence Welsh, Chairman; Mr. J. H. Steed, Sr., Mr. George Goodman.

Delaware: Mr. John Taylor, Chairman; Mrs. Jessie Perry, Mr. Adolphe E. Boyce.

Florida: Mr. Chester Davis, Sr., Chairman; Mrs. Amy Brady Dwyly, Miss Renta Gordon.

Georgia: Dr. David S. Buhe, Chairman; Mrs. Esther Seto, Mr. Roy Lindsay.

Idaho: Miss Isabelle Silk, Chairman; Mrs. Mildred R. Coosey, Mrs. Ethel Thompson.

Illinois, Northern: Mr. Walter Deppe, Chairman; Miss Ruth Westgate, Mrs. Margot Johnson.

Illinois, Southern: Mr. Albert Green,
Chairman; Miss June Miller, Mrs. Robert Hutchens.
Indiana: Mrs. Winnie Foster, Chairman; Mrs. Arthur Patterson, Miss Albertaina Luecke.
Iowa: Mrs. Grace Decker, Chairman; Mrs. Luella Balsiger, Mr. Laurence LaRoeque.
Kansas: Mr. Paul Brown, Chairman; Mrs. Bertha Campbell, Mrs. Cora Schulte.
Kentucky: Mrs. Marietta Wilson, Chairman; Mrs. Laura C. Cummings, Dr. Ciel Fowler.
Louisiana: Mrs. Margaret W. Ellis, Chairman; Mr. Waler A. Blackwell, Mrs. Philip Marangella.
Maine: Mr. Howard Struven, Chairman; Miss Martha Woodsum, Mrs. Emily Piersoll.
Maryland: Mrs. Hazel Langrell, Chairman; Mr. Roland Mann, Mr. John DeMille.
Massachusetts: Mr. Victor Archambault, Chairman; Mr. Joseph P. Silva, Miss Lorna Tasker.
Michigan: Mr. Harry Whang, Chairman; Mr. George R. True, Mrs. Harry Mills.
Mississippi: Mrs. E. L. Bivins, Chairman; Miss Helen Yerger, Mrs. Myrtle Barnes.
Missouri: Mr. Lloyd Sherrill, Chairman; Miss Nayan Hartfield, Mr. Albert Walkup.
Montana: Mrs. Charles Bryan Chairman; Miss Betty Mereness, Mr. Matthew Caldwell.
Nebraska: Mrs. Doreene Holliday, Chairman; Mr. Harold Baker, Miss Jean Hendry.
Nevada: Miss Blossom Hay, Chairman; Miss Helen Griffin, Mrs. David Mayberry.
New Hampshire: Mrs. Lorna Kendrick, Chairman; Mrs. Villa Vaughn, Mrs. Edith Peckham.
New Jersey: Mr. Stuart Sims, Chairman; Mrs. Cora Rockwell, Mrs. Catherine Healy.
New Mexico: Mr. Richard Walters, Chairman; Dr. A. L. Morris, Mr. Jus. Merrill.
New York, Southern: Mr. Russell Goudy, Chairman; Mrs. Rinaldo Quigley, Mrs. Patrick Quinn.
New York, Northern: Mr. Harry Ford, Chairman; Mrs. Harriet Petibone, Miss Ada Noyes.
New York: Mr. Jos. J. Sawyer, Chairman; Mrs. Eva McCollister, Mr. David Work.
North Dakota: Mr. T. O. Morrill, Chairman; Mrs. Marguerite Bruegger, Mrs. Nora King.
Ohio: Mr. Floyd Spahr, Chairman; Mrs. Lynette Storm, Miss Charlotte Lindenber.
Oklahoma: Mrs. Alice Entzminger, Chairman; Mr. Charles Itner, Mrs. H. W. Cuthbertson.
Oregon: Mr. Levi Munson, Chairman; Mr. John Clifford, Miss Lillie Molasner.
Pennsylvania: Dr. Otto Zmeskal, Chairman; Dr. Mary Coffin, Mrs. Margaret Lear.
Rhode Island: Mrs. Ann Alienello, Chairman; Mr. Edward Bornside, Miss Mary Bower.
South Carolina: Miss Gertrude Gewertz, Chairman; Mrs. George Frain, Mrs. Daisy King Moore.
South Dakota: Mr. Haskell Drymon, Chairman; Miss Eliza Steinmetz, Mrs. Joanne Stapleton.
Tennessee: Mrs. Clara Keller, Chairman; Mrs. Maude Barnes, Miss Carrie M. Waters.
Texas: Miss Charlotte Surratt, Chairman; Mr. J. Clark Pollard, Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey.
Utah: Mr. Leslie Hawthorn, Chairman; Mr. Lloyd Byars, Mrs. Florence Lillian.
Vermont: Mrs. Eleanor Stone, Chairman; Miss Maude Mickle, Miss Nyea Bissell.
Virginia: Mr. Raymond Rouse, Chairman; Mrs. Saida Cowman, Mrs. Matie Kiser.
Washington: Mr. Ray Wardall, Chairman; Dr. Louis Speno, Mrs. Loral Luther.
West Virginia: Miss Adah Schott, Chairman; Mrs. Garnett Whitefield, Mr. E. G. Lipsett.
Wisconsin: Mr. Clarence Suhm, Chairman; Mr. Robert Lewis, Mrs. Margaret Lueberger.
Wyoming: Mrs. Solvig Corbit, Chairman; Mr. Jos. Homolas, Mrs. Theresa Olsen.
District of Columbia: Mr. Wm. Dae Gaboriault, Chairman; Miss Elsie Austin, Mrs. Chas Nielman.
Alaska: Miss Dagnor Dole, Chairman; Miss Honor Kemp, Mrs. Frances Wells.
Hawaii: Mr. J. B. Freitas, Chairman; Mrs. Annie V. Crockett, Mrs. E. L. Adolphson.
Puerto Rico: Mr. Lucien McComb, Chairman; Mrs. Marie Theresa Lopez, Mr. Salvador Ramirez Ramirez.
Alberta, Canada: Mrs. E. J. Rimell, Chairman; Miss Doris Skinner, Mrs. G. E. Winkler.
British Columbia, Canada: Mr. Stanley Kemp, Chairman; Mrs. Viola Chintz, Mr. Austin Collin.
Manitoba, Canada: Mr. Ernest Court, Chairman; Mrs. Sigrid I. Lindell, Miss Patricia Moshier.
New Brunswick, Canada: Mr. Hayes King, Chairman; Miss Irmgard M. Mathews, Mrs. Lola Wells.
Nova Scotia, Canada: Mr. Fred Wade, Chairman; Mrs. Edward Bellefleur, Miss Patricia Patterson.
Ontario, Canada: Mr. Victor Davis, Chairman; Mrs. Doris Richardson, Miss Amy Putnam.
Prince Edward Island, Canada: Mr. Irving Geary, Chairman; Miss Christine McKay, Miss Agnes McKinnon.
Quebec, Canada: Mr. Ernest Harrison, Chairman; Mrs. Louise Boudler, Mr. Ernest Sala.
Saskatchewan, Canada: Mr. Charles Tortille, Chairman; Mrs. Dorothy Sheets, Mrs. Helen Temann.

Directory
Assemblies
Birmingham, Alabama—Mrs. Vera A. Inglis, Corresponding Secretary, 1000 South 43rd Street.
Urbana, Illinois—Mrs. Esther G. Harding, Secretary, 1203 West Oregon Street.
Racine, Wisconsin—Mrs. Helen Lorentzen, Secretary, 1548 Kearsney Avenue.
Albuquerque, New Mexico—Mrs. Richard Walter. Albuquerque Bahá’í Assembly, Box 1206.

Committees
Green Acre School—Mr. Bishop Brown unable to serve. New members added: Mrs. Clarence Welsh, Miss Dorothy Fisher, Miss Elizabeth Murray, Mr. Russel Payman.
Louhelen School—Mr. George R. True, Mr. Athan Robarts, Mr. Ralph Haverstock, Mr. Paul Pettit.
Radio—This Committee has been reconstituted with the following membership:
Mr. Russell Goudy, Chairman. Mrs. R. Y. Mottaheheh, Secretary. 225 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., Mr. William Sears, Mr. R. Y. Mottaheheh, Mrs. Fred Morton, Mrs. William Sears, Miss Pearl Berk, Mr. Ugo Giarchery, Miss Nonavir Bechtold, Mr. Rinaldo Quigley, Mrs. Rinaldo Quigley.

Radio Script Reviewing Committee—Mrs. Patrick Quinian, Mrs. Shirley Warde.

Study Aids—Miss Joan Crawford added.

Temple Guides—Mr. Marshall Tyler added.

World Language—Mr. David Earl added.

World Order Magazine Editorial—Mr. Wm. Kenneth Christian added.

Regional Teaching Committees—Florida: Mr. Chester M. Davison, Jr., Chairman. Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa: Miss Clara Edge and Mrs. Charlotte Tinn added. New York: Mrs. Robert McLaughlin, Mrs. Robert McLaughlin, and Mrs. Dorothy Arnold Kent added. Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky: Mr. W. N. Foster and Mrs. W. N. Foster added.

Enrollments and Transfers

Reported by Local Assemblies

Lansing, three transfers.

Detroit, three transfers.

Urbana, one, personal contacting.

Teaneck, one youth; one youth transfer.

Honolulu, one, and one transfer.

Brookline, two transfers.

San Francisco, three transfers: two youth transfers.

Providence, one transfer.

New Haven, one transfer.

Pasadena, two transfers.

Elkton, two transfers.

Lima, one.

Miami, one.

Evanston, one.

Albama, one.

Omaha, two.

Memphis, two transfers.

Glendale, two and one transfer.

Chicago, two transfers.

Colorado Springs, two transfers.

Butte, one.

Boston, one.

Flint, one youth.

San Juan, one and one transfer.

Dayton, one youth.

New York, three transfers.

Washington, three transfers.

Worcester, three transfers.

Pittsburgh, one youth.

Long Beach, two transfers.

Anchorage, two transfers.

Reported by Regional Committees

In October, seven enrollments and two youth.

In Memoriam

Baha'i Service Men and Women

The National Office wishes to maintain accurate and up to date records of all the believers, men and women, who return from the armed services and establish residence in their former Baha'i community or elsewhere in the United States and Canada. Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees are requested to report all such names and addresses as soon as possible.

Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Questions, December 12; Honor, December 31; Sovereignty, January 19, 1946.

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: December 29 and 30, 1945; February 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1946.


National Committees

Toronto Public Meeting

The first of the series of eleven meetings to be held in key cities throughout the United States and Canada was off to a successful start with the Public Meeting in Toronto on October 29th. The believers in Toronto and vicinity did a beautiful job and made the meeting an inspiration to the cities who are also to hold public meetings. The meeting was held in the Crystal Ball Room of the Royal York Hotel and the speaker was Mr. Horace Holley, with Mr. John Robarts as chairman. A book display and free literature were included in this Public Meeting and attractive bouquets of flowers.

Owing to the fact that this was the first meeting, some of the national material was not quite ready, and without the aid of radio or sufficient publicity in the paper, the Toronto friends were handicapped. In spite of this they showed what can be done when each believer puts forth his utmost in a unified plan of action. There were over 400 people at the meeting, a direct result of personal contacting, interviewing and constant telephoning.

Since the follow-up work of any meeting is most important, the Baha'i Center was opened for meetings and consultations and Mrs. Amelia Collins offered her services to the Toronto community during the week.

We are deeply grateful to Toronto for starting this National Public Meetings Campaign off so successfully and feel that if each city will put forth as much individual and unified effort, the whole continent will become enlightened.

Public Meetings Committee

Teaching in North America

The new membership of the National Teaching Committee, as it surveys the field of teaching activity throughout North America, is thrilled to witness the extent to which the believers have utilized the "golden opportunities" for meetings to present the Baha'i Peace Program. Inter-regional circuits have provided teaching help for such meetings in Eastern and Western Canada, the Pacific Northwest, the Southwest and Southern States, while Regional projects have provided teaching help to Assemblies and groups in Ontario, New England, New York, New Jersey, Mississippi, Tennessee and California. In Pittsburgh, Denver, and Washington, D. C., the Regional Teaching Committee cooperated with the assemblies in sponsoring Regional Conferences followed by public meetings for the presentation of the Baha'i Peace Program.

Word of the most recent Canadian Conference held from August 19th to 24th at Banff, Alberta, reports that thirty-eight believers and friends from the surrounding Provinces and States attended the conference, at which four persons declared their intention to join the Faith. Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Ober assisted in the program and Mr. Ober continued on a circuit which included visits to Helena, Butte, Fargo, Sioux Falls, and Buffalo on his return to Boston. In each of these cities meetings were
arranged for Mr. Ober to speak on the Bahá'í Peace Program.

Teaching activity has gone steadily forward. In Canada Mrs. Amelia Collins visited Regina in April, followed in May by Fred Schopfichmar who visited the communities and groups of Western Canada, as well as Ontario and the Maritime Provinces. Later in May an inter-regional circuit was arranged for Reginald King which included visits to Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, West Vancouver, and Vernon. Much interest was reported in each of these cities. The largest groups to hear Mr. King were the Regina and Saskatoon, Sask. Technical High Schools with 500 and 1000 in attendance where he spoke on "The Place of Youth in World Peace." Several meetings were arranged in Vancouver and the public meeting was particularly successful with an attendance of about 100 Bahá'ís and their friends. The group in West Vancouver, the RTC reports, "did a good deal of work in preparation for Mr. King's visit and many new contacts heard something of the living Faith and wish to hear more." Mrs. Ethel Hammond, an isolated believer, living in Victoria, arranged for Mr. King to meet a group of 30 new contacts and reports excellent response.

In Eastern Canada there is a new regional committee for the Maritime Provinces to insure the necessary assistance to those struggling little Assemblies. Moncton, New Brunswick, requires an additional settler to holds its assembly status, and Mrs. Annie Romer, who has been a pioneer settler in Halifax is transferring to Moncton to help preserve this "spiritual prize." Mrs. Florence Cox, formerly of California, who was a pioneer in Regina, moved to Charlottetown, P.E.I. in April to further strengthen that center. In July a Regional Conference held just outside Halifax attracted the Bahá'ís from the nearby cities as well as several non-Bahá'ís who had been attending study classes. Mrs. Laura Davis of Toronto gave a course on "What it means to be a Bahá'í," and Mr. William McKay spoke on Administration. The Halifax Assembly reported "A very fine spirit there and real enthusiasm." Of their own progress Halifax reports having "as high as 40 different non-Bahá'ís at Sunday meetings. We sent a series of the Peace leaflets to a selected list of about 80 leading people whom we knew were interested in World Peace and a New World Order. Also we have started a lending library."

In the Southern States, Mrs. Bahiyih Ford completed a circuit in April which started in Baltimore where she served as moderator during two Race Unity panel discussions. Mrs. Ford also visited Washington, D.C., Waterford and Stanton, Virginia, Charleston and Huntington, West Virginia, and Birmingham, Alabama. The Southern Bahá'ís expressed deep appreciation of the help of Mrs. Ford.

A circuit was arranged which provided the teaching help of Dr. Ali Kuli Khan through four Southern States. Greenville, S. C., Assembly reports that "Dr. Khan spoke in the City Hall Council Chamber here and was a marvelous help to us." In Birmingham Dr. Khan spoke at the chapel exercises of the Booker T. Washington Business College to 150 students and at Parker High School to 500 as well as at a public meeting in the Bahá'í Center where the audience seemed most receptive to his message. We know that Dr. Khan's visit will be very productive, as he covered a great deal of territory and "always spoke with inspiration and authority whether it was giving the Divine Message or counseling with interested ones on world affairs, especially the peace plans now in the making. We have needed some one of his caliber and with his intense devotion and we are so grateful for his visit."

In Texas, despite the heat, the new little Dallas group met regularly all summer, and many contacts were made by Antonio Roca during his five weeks' visit in San Antonio and in Houston. Mrs. Kathryn Frankland has moved to Houston to further strengthen that community.

The New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania Regional Teaching Committee has provided teaching help to both Red Bank and Englewood besides arranging a circuit for Mrs. Ruth Moffett through nine New Jersey cities in the spring. A Regional Conference was held in June in conjunction with the Local Spiritual Assembly of Pittsburgh followed by a public symposium on "The Assurance of World Peace."

Further circuits arranged for Mrs. Moffett took her to Michigan, Iowa, and Missouri where, besides speaking publicly at Bahá'í Centers, she spoke in several colleges and gave radio broadcasts. On Mrs. Moffett's return from San Francisco where she attended the Peace Conference, she spoke in Reno, Nevada, Independence, Kansas City, and St. Louis, Missouri.

The RTC for Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri, arranged to send teaching help to an isolated believer in Joplin, Mo., Mrs. Grace M. Bell, in June, and reports that a group of 14 attended the meetings at which Mrs. Velma Sherrill spoke on the Faith.

The Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and Iowa RTC held the last of its three yearly Regional Conferences in Detroit in April. Bahá'ís from all parts of the state attended the Conference, and the public meeting which followed.

Requests are being made by regional teaching committees and assemblies for reinforcements for the weak assemblies, and the need for volunteers for this type of teaching help is urgent. We are making an earnest plea for these devoted believers who have spent several years of sacrificial service in pioneer areas and who now find for various reasons that they must leave, but remain on at their posts to hold the assembly status until replacements arrive to release them.

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE.

Library

The Library Committee wishes to call the attention of the assemblies to the important book, The Bahá'í World, Volume 9, which should be as widely distributed as possible to our important public, college and university libraries. Our committee is presenting this book to the twenty-five most important university libraries and the Library of Parliament. Complimentary copies of Bahá'í World, Volume 9, have been sent to the following libraries:

1. University of Puerto Rico
2. University of Alaska
3. Library of Parliament (Ottawa, Ontario)
4. University of California
5. University of Southern California
6. University of Wisconsin
7. University of Illinois
8. University of Michigan
9. University of Indiana
10. University of Iowa.
The large Middle West universities have been included in this list, because, being so near to the Temple and the National Headquarters, they may be more aware of the Faith and so appreciate this volume. It is to be hoped that Bahá'ís will donate copies to other colleges and universities in order that this book may be as widely distributed as possible. We also hope that every assembly will give serious consideration to the donation of a copy to its main public library. We should like to have a record of all such presentations for our files.

We have some information on placing books in Army Hospital libraries which should assist the friends in making contacts with these librarians. Books may be secured from our committee after written permission to donate books has been given by the librarians. The Chief of Chaplains told the National Spiritual Assembly that the librarian has the personal responsibility relative to the selection of books, religious or otherwise, though the chaplains often advise with relation to religious literature but had no authority as to the inclusion or removal of any particular literature. Such authority is vested in the commanding officer of the unit concerned. The Library Committee feels that one of two steps could be taken: to contact the Commanding Officer to receive his permission to donate books, or to contact the chief librarian making very certain that the librarian is sincere in accepting the books and will not refuse them after further discussion with local chaplains. There have been several cases where books were rejected and returned and so tact and careful contact work is required to get our books catalogued and used.

A suggestion has come to our committee that the friends may find it possible to interest their local librarians in arranging a display on “Patterns of World Peace” or something similar and incorporating such Bahá’í books as Promulgation of Universal Peace, Foundations of World Unity, Bahá’í Peace Program, Security for a Failing World, etc.

The Library Committee would also be interested in hearing further of the progress of placing books in the “barren libraries” listed for the various regions last year. We feel that a wide distribution of our literature in public and college libraries will be the seed-bed for much future teaching work.

---MRS. STUART SIMS, CHAIRMAN.

Contacts Committee

One of the projects of this Committee recently approved by the National Spiritual Assembly is that of maintaining contacts with service men and women in Government hospitals.

To assist us in establishing such contacts it is requested that you furnish us whatever is available of the following information:

Names and addresses of Government hospitals in your vicinity,
Names and addresses of librarians of these hospitals or of adjacent book stores,
Suggestions for securing entry into

Believers in Vaughan and Hines Hospitals

The Spiritual Assembly of Maywood, Illinois, will make contact with any Bahá’ís from other communities who is hospitalized in either the Vaughan or Hines Hospitals, and in each case will report to the NSA so that the other local Assembly (or Regional Teaching Committee) may be informed.

Assemblies and friends are requested to advise the Maywood Assembly of the names, serial numbers and if possible the rank and company to which any Bahá’í patient is attached, so that the Assembly may arrange for visits and friendly help and association.

Local Teaching

One of the most successful teaching efforts made recently by a local assembly, was the series of public meetings put on by Milwaukee during the week September 30 through October 7th. Lectures were held every evening at Juneau Hall, of the Milwaukee Auditorium, which was beautifully decorated with chrysanthemums, and at the back of which there were arranged striking displays of Bahá’í activities—the Temple model; Bahá’í books; a contribution from the National Display Committee showing the overall size of the Cause; and one from the youth group showing the summer schools.

In preparation for these meetings 7,000 programs were printed and 5,000 letters were sent out, each with a program enclosed. In each program handed out in the hall was inserted a questionnaire with a request for free literature. About 100 people signed this request, thus forming the basis for a mailing list. Newspaper advertising was used freely during the weeks prior to the event.

Although the weather was very bad at the beginning of this series of meetings, yet about 350 people
Moffett did some fast thinking and rented the room. It was vacated Friday, June 1, and decorated Saturday, June 2. Dr. Bohn scoured the town for chairs and a Congoleum rug, finally securing 4 dozen chairs, wooden folding, and a 12 x 15 rug. John Bohn waited in the room till after 5:30 Monday for the rug and chairs finally to be delivered. Mrs. Fowler had shopped for curtains, and they were finished between six and seven that evening. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson furnished a walnut center stand and a wall tapestry; Mrs. Snyder loaned a large throw rug and brought flowers; pictures appeared on walls, and lo, by 8:00 p.m. Monday, June 4, all was in readiness and the first Bahá'í Library in St. Louis was dedicated.

The Bahá'ís of Binghamton, New York, now have a Center in the heart of town, on the 2nd floor of the O'Neill Building on Court Street.

An informal youth gathering in Los Angeles at the home of Mrs. Platt is described in the Los Angeles bulletin by one of the guests, Dwight Barstow. "The gathering was truly one to please the heart of Bahá'u'lláh, for we found there were guests from five continents as well as the West Indies.

"The majority of us were, of course, from North America. South America had sent us Sr. Cuevas from Paraguay ... Jamaica sent Mr. Egbert Tai. From Haiti, Raymond Mars had flown; while from Guatemala came Mr. Julio Cobar. Youth party at Urbana, November 10th.

Our friend from Egypt, (Africa), was Mr. M. A. Nafee; and Mr. Hassan Fateh, of Persia, spoke for Asia. Another visitor was born in Germany and educated in England.

... first introduced by Ruhiullah Rahmani, each guest from other lands gave us a personal sketch of his own country and kindly answered our questions. Then Mrs. Charles Reed Bishop, our guest speaker, gave us an inspired message of unity."

The Bahá'í youth of Urbana were the hosts of about fifteen young Bahá'ís from the Chicago area on November 10th and 11th. At a buffet supper and dance, at the home of one of the Urbana Bahá'ís, there were mingled Americans (white, Japanese, and Negro), Persians (Bahá'í and Moslem), Chinese, and guests from Spain and Luxembourg. On the morning of the 12th, a symposium on the subject "The Price of World Peace is World Religion" was presented at the Bahá'í Center by Miss Annamarie Mattoon, Miss Pari Zia-Wairath, and Mr. Charles Ioas, with Miss Cynthia Hastings acting as chairman.

A full day of talks and discussions on "Bahá'í Answers to World Questions" was held at the Bahá'í Center, McCully Street and Ala Wai Blvd., Honolulu, Hawaii, on August 5, 1945. Well printed programs were sent to all who might become interested, describing in detail the plans for the day and describing the purpose of the Bahá'í Faith.

Mrs. Dorothy Underwood of Danville, Illinois, reports that her whole study class of five members has become Bahá'í and subscribed 100% to the World Order magazine.

In June the New York Community also held a big series of meetings on the Bahá'í plans for permanent peace. The first of these was on June 8th at Times Hall, with Mrs. Dorothy Baker and Mr. Horace Holley as speakers and Mr. Paul Haney of Washington as chairman. Thomas Richner, concert pianist, and Walter Olitzki of the Metropolitan Opera Association furnished the music. This was followed by three meetings at the Bahá'í Center, on June 9th, June 13th, and June 15th. There was also a reception at the Center, June 9th, featuring talks by Mr. Haney and Mrs. Baker.

In preparation for this series of meetings, programs were mailed to 1000 persons (1600 non-Bahá'ís). These programs, carried the Bahá'í principles and quotations from 'Abdu'l-Bahá on peace. Given with this booklet was a double-faced post-card making it possible for those attending to request free literature.

The total attendance during the week was 763, and, at the time the report was written, 35 specific requests for further information had been received at the Bahá'í Center.

Here is an informal play-by-play account of the creation of a Bahá'í Center. Miss Nayan Hartfield reports for St. Louis: "The Hall was engaged by other groups three nights during the second series (when Mrs. Moffett was scheduled to speak), and another room in the same building was not available, nor in any other where our colored friends would be welcome. On Thursday, May 31, a tenant vacated Room 215 in the Studio Building. Dr. Bohn and Mrs. Hushang Javid, Persian student of Chicago, teaching the Faith at youth party in Urbana.
News of Other Lands

Germany

The revival of the Cause in Germany continues to be the most striking news from abroad. The New York Baha'i News for November, 1945, contains the following item:

"Bruce Davison and Johnny Eichauer, Baha'i soldiers now in Germany, sent the following cablegram to the Guardian, through Robert Gulick: BAHAI IN DARMSTADT ESSLINGEN FRANKFURT GEISLINGEN GIessen GEPINGEN HEIDELBERG KARLSRUHE KREISACH NECKARGEMUND STUTTGART AND UBERLINGER SEND LOVING GREETINGS BELoved GUARDIAN ASSURE UNDIVIDED LOYALTY FOR PRAYERS GUIDANCE. The following cablegram from Haifa, dated October 15th, was addressed to Robert Gulick to be forwarded to the Bahai's in Germany: ASSURE EICHENAUER DAVISON DELIGHT NEWS CONVEY FRIENDS ALL CENTERS MENTIONED HEARTFELT GRATITUDE SAFETY ARDENT PRAYERS SUCCESS LOVING REMEMBRANCE ADMIRATION CONSTANCY SHOGHI RABBANI."

Over 250 persons attended a Bahai meeting in Frankfurt on October 19. Many had to be turned away. The speaker was the noted Bahai, Dr. Grossman.

The Philippines

Sergeant Alvin Blum has been conducting a Bahai study class of 40 students in a college in Manila. In April, 1945, Alvin made contact with the Bahai's living at Solano, New Viscaya, Philippines. We quote the following from Alvin's letter giving an account of his visit with these Bahai's:

"I found the Maddelas happy and full of spirit... They are fine, intelligent people. However, they are poverty stricken (since the war). Mr. Maddela read about the Faith some years ago and wrote to America for books. Through his efforts over fifty people met and studied the Teachings. The war broke these meetings up, but as soon as books arrive from the States these meetings will be resumed. Over 25 former members have been killed or have disappeared... Solano, formerly a thriving city of 20,000 people, is in ruins, and about 10,000 people remain. The Maddelas took refuge in a rice field, where they lived for three years. When they returned to Solano they found everything destroyed. The only thing left was a sign which read as follows 'Baha'i Center: Reading Room. Every one Welcome'."

Alvin conducted a Bahai meeting outside the Maddelas' straw hut. 9 Bahais and 5 non-Bahais attended. 11 Bahai's were unable to attend.

Egypt

The following account of stirring events in Egypt is quoted as given in the British Bahai Journal:

"The last Bahai Newsletter received from Haifa gives a lot of news of events in Egypt: The successful holding of the Centenary celebrations in the New Haizratul-Quds had an encouraging and greatly stimulating effect on the Egyptian believers, causing them to make new plans and rise to greater heights of service. The result was the formation of three new local assemblies by April of this year, at Suez, Tanta and Sukhah, making seven in all. Egyptian Bahai families have also gone both to Abyssinia and to the Sudan. They have established a public Bahai lending library in Cairo to meet the great interest which is being shown in the Faith since the Centenary. There was, in fact, in Cairo an uninterrupted stream of callers coming to enquire about the Faith. They came every day and often every night, and represented various classes, sects and religious denominations, coming from different parts of the city. They came singly and in large groups. "All this has, however, been achieved only under great difficulty and even persecution, a number of individual Bahai's, as well as Bahai institutions, being attacked. In Tanta, in April and May, 1944, libellous pamphlets were printed and distributed in public places, warning the public against the believers and instigating it to violence against them. In Al-Mahalat ul Kubra a band of fanatics, encouraged by one of their religious leaders, attacked the little group of local Bahai's. In Al-Arish the one believer was brought into court and his marriage compulsorily annulled because his wife had originally been Moslem, in spite of her statement in court that she now considered herself a Baha'i. In Cairo, too, there was a demonstration against the Faith after the Centenary celebrations, led by irresponsible crowds and groups of students, under the influence of various religious bodies. On the night of August 31st, 1944, a great mob attacked the Haizratul-Quds, smashed the electric lights outside the building and broke the arm of the Bahai' guardian in charge of the building. At the same time the magazine 'Al-Nazir published a series of articles full of calumnies against the believers and the Faith. All these attacks have borne with great patience and courage, not allowing anything to deflect them from their duties and activities."

Haifa

From the Haifa Newsletter we learn of the passing of 'Ali Ashgar Qazvini, who had for twenty-five years rendered exemplary service as caretaker of the Master's House.

Table of Contents

Messages from the Guardian Page Col.
Suicide ........................................ 1
Letters to Individuals ....................... 1
Correction ..................................... 1
Cable about Burma ............................ 2
National Spiritual Assembly
Letter-Accension of 'Abdu'l-Baha .......................... 1
"A Fuller Measure" ............................ 2
State and Province Elections .............. 2
Directory ...................................... 3
Enrollments and Transfers .................. 4
In Memoriam ................................. 4
Bahai Service Men and Women ............. 4
Calendar ...................................... 4
National Committees
Toronto Public Meeting ...................... 4
Teaching in North America ................. 4
Library ....................................... 5
Contacts ..................................... 6
Louhelen Winter Session ................... 6
"World Order" ................................ 6
Local Communities
Believers in Vaughan and Hines Hospitals ........................................ 6
Local Teaching ................................ 6
Hospitals ..................................... 6
Local Teaching ................................ 6
News of Other Lands
Germany ....................................... 8
The Philippines .............................. 8
Egypt ......................................... 8
Haifa .......................................... 8
Photographs
Pet of Naw-Ruz 1944 .......................... 3
Charleston, W. Va. ........................... 3
Bahai Youth and Friends .................... 7
Flint, Mich. .................................. 7
Two Snaps of Youth Party, Urbana .......... 7
Messages from the Guardian

Bold Concerted Measures
Greatly welcome evidences of progress in consolidation of the manifold activities of the American Baha’i community. Urge intensification of efforts in national broadcasting and publicity calculated to reach the masses. Appeal to Assemblies to reinforce the measures undertaken by their national representatives. The proclamation of the verities of the Faith through bold, concerted measures is the crying need of the present hour. Fervently praying for fresh victories; fully share your hopes for Holy Land.

SUGG RABBANI
Cablegram received December 31, 1946.
(This message was the Guardian's response to the cablegram sent him from the November meeting, reporting actions taken and expressing hope that the race difficulties in Palestine will be solved and the propheties concerning the Holy Land be fulfilled).

Letters to Individuals
November 30, 1944.
Regarding Mr. Smeskal’s question about the Covenant-breakers: Baha’u’llah and the Master in many places and very emphatically have told us to shun entirely all Covenant-breakers as they are afflicted with what we might try and define as a contagious spiritual disease; they have also told us, however, to pray for them. These souls are not lost forever. In the Agdas, Baha’u’llah says that God will forgive Mirza Yahya if he repents. It follows, therefore, that God will forgive any soul if he repents. Most of them don’t want to repent, unfortunately. If the leaders can be forgiven it goes without saying that their followers can also be forgiven.

Also, it has nothing to do with unity in the Cause; if a man cuts a cancer out of his body to preserve his health and very life, no one would suggest that for the sake of "unity" it should be reintroduced into the otherwise healthy organism! On the contrary, what was once a part of him has so radically changed as to have become a poison.

To Mr. and Mrs. Otto Smeskal.

National Spiritual Assembly

The holding of the State and Province elections for choice of delegates to the 1946 Convention is a matter of great importance to the American Baha’i community as a whole.

This year the National Assembly is providing every believer with a list of the adult voting Bahai’s resident in his State or Province. These lists are now being mailed, and the kind cooperation of local Assemblies is requested in seeing that each believer is given a copy from the supply of lists the Assembly receives.

As soon as possible, there will be another mailing of ballots, Convention Call, number of delegates to be elected in each district, list of State and Election meeting places, with the hour designated for each and address for sending vote when delegates cannot attend in person. The date of February 10 is uniform for all electoral districts.

In reporting on the annual membership prepared for the last election, the National Assembly pointed out that as of December 15, 1944 there were 4,920 adult Bahai’s in the United States and Canada. This year, as of November 1 there were 4,988 believers qualified to vote. This number does not include those who are absent from the country, either as Bahai teachers in foreign fields or as members of the armed forces. Having passed the 5,000 mark, we can not rest satisfied until there are 10,000 adult Bahai’s in our community, one new believer to be confirmed by each of us serving at this hour. The Master declared that the Cause could double its numbers annually. Will it require one year, two years or three years to attain the goal?

Faithfully and devotedly,

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts: Honor, December 31; Sovereignty, January 19; Dominion, February 7; Loftiness, March 2.
Period of Fast: Nineteen days beginning March 2.
Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: February 15 to 19.
International Youth Day: February 24.

In Memoriam
Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life—Baha’u’llah
Mrs. Elsie Weil, Yonkers.
Mrs. C. Whitcher, Seattle.
Mrs. H. Emogene Hoagg, Charleston, South Carolina.
Mr. William Fred Wineka, East York, Pa.

Enrollments and Transfers

Reported by Local Assemblies

New Haven, one.
Boston, two and one transfer.
Winnipeg, one.
Long Beach, one.
Anchorage, three.
New York, four and four transfers.
New Orleans, two, one youth and one transfer.
Chicago, three, one transfer and one youth transfer.
Halifax, one and one transfer.
Beverley, one.
Regina, two.
San Juan, one.
Toronto, one.
Milwaukee, three and four youth.
West Chester, two.
Pittsburgh, one and one youth.
Minneapolis, one.
Arlington, one.
Nashville, one.
Peoria, two.
Los Angeles, two.
Cincinnati, one.
Seattle, three, and five transfers.
Miami, two transfers.
Glendale, one transfer.
Honolulu, one transfer.
Binghamton, two transfers.
Portsmouth, two transfers.
Eliot, one transfer.
Evanston, one.

National Committees

Public Meetings

Boston

Boston had its Public Meeting of the National Campaign on November 16th. The speakers were Miss Elsie Austin and Mr. Kenneth Christian, with Mr. Harlan Ober as chairman. A fine book display was set up in a good show window in Boston prior to the meeting, and was transferred to a display table for the meeting. The audience filled the auditorium almost to capacity, making a round table of about 275 people. One interesting thing about the audience was the large percentage of young people, about 35 years or younger, and also the large percentage of men. The presence of so many young people is an indication that the youth are eager and ready for the Divine Teachings for this age.

There were spot announcements on the radio and publicity in the paper. Many of the audience came because of the newspaper advertisement.

The talks were well received and a number of people remained afterwards to discuss the Teachings further.

As a result of the public meeting, the Center was filled to overflowing Sunday. We know that the Boston community has received great inspiration from the success of this meeting, and their enthusiasm will help to give courage to the key cities whose meetings are yet to come.

Washington, D.C.

A National Campaign Meeting was held in the Hall of Nations of the Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C. on December fifth. In spite of bad weather about 300 people attended. The audience was very responsive to the stirring addresses of Mrs. Dorothy Baker and Mr. Horace Holley. Mrs. Baker’s subject was “Institutions for Peace” and Mr. Holley’s “The Price of World Peace is World Religion.” Mr. Walter Olitzky, Metropolitan Opera Baritone, sang before and after the talks. The stage, decorated with yellow chrysanthemums and gladioli, was a beautiful setting for the presentation of the Great Message. A book display at the side of the auditorium attracted many.

Four Washington daily papers carried advertisements of the meeting, which had been well worked out by Mr. Henning, chairman of the National Bahá’í News Service. The local assembly felt that a new high had been attained in their publicity work. The contacts made with the press, too, were valuable and may have far-reaching effects in the future.

The follow-up meeting conducted by Mrs. Baker the next evening at the Bahá’í Center was well attended. It took the form of questions, answers, and discussion. The questions were thoughtful and Mrs. Baker’s answers most illuminating.

The Washington community cooperated with surrounding communities in arranging this meeting. All felt profoundly grateful for the opportunity to spread a knowledge of the Faith in that area and for the stimulus to further service which this cooperative effort brought.

—Public Meetings Committee

News Service

The first of the Public Meetings Campaign programs was held in Toronto, Canada, on October 28th with this committee furnishing two paid advertisements and eight publicity releases to appear in each of that city’s three newspapers. For the Boston Public Meeting on November 16th two paid advertisements and nine releases were prepared for the seven editions of that city’s newspapers. The Washington Public Meetings Committee for their meeting of December 5th was sent three paid advertisements and five releases to be used in the five editions of Washington’s newspapers.

In all cases the prepared advertising copy was paid for by the News Service Committee and the publicity releases announcing the meeting and reporting it, as well, were personally delivered to each newspaper on the prescribed day by members of the local Public Meetings Committee.

Reports indicate that the plan of advertising and publicity procedure was most satisfactory and effective and that the material furnished added to the public attendance at these meetings. Much experience was gained by the local committees in making newspaper contacts with editors and local newspaper advertising departments. The contacts made and the general plan of operation followed will be of considerable value in future publicity work in these cities.

Currently plans are in process for the advertising and publicity for the Atlanta Public Meeting to be held on January 13th and the New Orleans Public Meeting on January 28th. While improvements in procedure are made with each succeeding meeting the same general plan which has proven itself effective will be continued for the remaining eight cities of the United States where public meetings will be held under the Public Campaign for 1945-46.

Special mention is made of the splendid publicity and advertising which appeared in the St. John’s (Newfoundland) Telegram and News several months ago at the time of Newfoundland’s first public Bahá’í meeting. Well planned advertising was used in both newspapers the day before the meeting and an average of seven inches of publicity appeared in the two newspapers both before and after the meeting. Moncton (N.J.) believers have been securing good editorial mention in The Times which insures inquiries for Bahá’í information by suggesting that the interested address their letters care of a box number of that newspaper.

We are encouraged, as well, by the many well written, interesting and lengthy articles which have come to this committee as they appeared in the Portsmouth (N.H.) Herald, Buffalo (N. Y.) Courier-Express, Ann Arbor, (Mich.) Washtenaw Post-Tribune, Grand Haven (Mich.) Tribune, Indianapolis (Ind.)
It is regretted that more space cannot be devoted to a full description of each of the above newspaper clippings on the Baha’i Faith. The editorial handling of the subject of the atomic bomb, labor unrest and the principles of the Faith are splendid in all cases. Courage is written through each of the releases for that is what it took in full measure to interest newspaper publishers in such a generous use of their editorial columns.

It is indeed evident that month by month Baha’i mentions in newspapers throughout the United States and Canada are increasing in size and, as already indicated, they are better written and therefore attract more interest not only from the editor but from the general public. We compliment the believers on their patient and painstaking work on Baha’i publicity.

—NEWS SERVICE COMMITTEE

Radio

As the friends know, the National Radio Committee has been working for some months on a series of radio transcriptions. Owing to organizational difficulties within the committee and to the fact that we are evolving a new dramatic medium for radio teaching, the committee has been unable to supply transcriptions for the national teaching campaign.

The Toronto Assembly was unable to get any time on the air for broadcasts to tie in with their public meeting. The large networks in Canada are government controlled and it seems to be almost an impossibility to “break in.” However, the friends in Toronto report that they are not discouraged and will keep trying.

The Boston Assembly was able to get nine one-minute “spot announcements” of their meetings and a fifteen minute interview with Miss Austin on the “People You Should Know” program.

Material was sent to the Washington, D.C. assembly for their December 5th program but no report has as yet been received.

Anchorage, Alaska, reports they are having a weekly radio program. They report that they now have sixteen Baha’is in Anchorage and are hoping through increased radio and publicity to add to their numbers.

Sioux Falls, So. Dakota, also reports a regular weekly radio program composed of music and quotation from Baha’i writings and material published in World Order.

The Los Angeles Assembly has purchased a fifteen-minute weekly radio program and have been developing their own material. Of special interest is an unusual program given on November 4th. We quote from their letter: “On November 4th, at 7:06 p.m., the Local Assembly is sponsoring a special radio program over KMTR. The program will show the Baha’i Spirit Around the Globe.” Mrs. Helen Bishop will be the moderator; Mr. Walter Olitzki, Bahá’í, who sings a baritone part in the Metropolitan Opera, will sing “Where’er You Walk”; Mr. Charles Wolcott will represent North America; Mrs. Luisa Garrido de Padilla will represent South America and Miss Dakin and Hascle Cornbieth will be the anonymous voices that give appreciations of the Baha’i Faith quoted from distinguished men and women of different countries, such as Archduke Anton of Austria. When it comes the turn of Russia, Walter Olitzki will sing “O Cara Mia ben’ Professor Edward G. Browne of Cambridge University, England, will be quoted. India, Australia, and the Islands of the Pacific will be heard from in the quotations. The Prayer of All Nations, or parts of it, will close the program.”

Their plan, as outlined above, was successfully carried out and reports have been received that it resulted in a splendid program.

In closing this brief report, the National Radio Committee wishes to say that it is now functioning smoothly. We can supply a series of new scripts for fifteen minute programs.

We deeply regret that the transcriptions planned for the national teaching campaign have not as yet been cut. We are making slow but steady progress in the development of these transcriptions which we believe will be of inestimable benefit to assemblies wishing to do broadcasting. Our difficulty has been the lack of professional Bahá’í script writers who can prepare material that is appealing to the general public, is timeless, and yet timely. We hope to break away entirely from the fifteen minute lecture type of program because we know that its appeal is limited. Assemblies wishing to institute weekly radio programs before the transcriptions are ready might consider the success of the New York City “Music and Quotations” program which ran successfully for almost a year. The committee firmly believes that this type of program achieves a fine cumulative effect. However, we are prepared to supply the lecture type of script for those assemblies who still prefer it.

We wish to ask your patience while we are developing our new series. We would also like to ask all Baha’is who have done professional radio scripts to get in touch with us.

NATIONAL RADIO COMMITTEE

Mildred R. Mottahedeh, Sec’y.
Inter-America News

Itinerant Teachers

Most of the Latin American Bahá’í Assemblies are being favored this fall and winter by two or more visits of itinerant teachers. On November 13 Mr. Charles Mason Remey left Miami on a three months trip with stops-overs at Bahá’í Centers in the following countries: the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Brazil (Bahá’, Rio, and Sao Paulo) Uruguay, Argentina, Chili (Santiago and Punta Arenas), Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Columbia, Panama, Jamaica, and Cuba.

The itinerary of Mr. and Mrs. Emeric Sala, who are now in Central America and will soon be traveling in South America, was announced in the November issue of Bahá’í News.

Mrs. Gayle Woolson left Chicago on September 18 for an itinerant teaching tour of three months in Central American countries to the north of Panama. She has visited Bahá’í communities in Mexico City, Guatamala City, Tegucigalpa, Managua, and San Jose. She is now in Panama City where she will remain for some time.

Early in October Elizabeth Cheney left Asuncion, Paraguay, where there are now 26 believers, for her new post in Managua, Nicaragua. En route she visited Bahá’í centers in La Paz, Lima, Guayaquil, and Panama City. She has been in Managua since October 25, and she reports that there are now 11 believers in that city.

Virginia Orbison left New Orleans on October 16 and arrived in Rio de Janeiro, her new post, on November 9. She visited the friends in Panama, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia on her way to Rio.

Because the visits of Mr. and Mrs. Sala and of Mr. Remey will follow each other so closely, the Inter-America Committee plans to use them as the means of carrying out a special teaching campaign in Latin America, similar to the one current in North America. All of the centers have been asked to make every effort to exploit these visits to their fullest, planning special public meetings as well as informal conferences. All of the pioneers have been asked to work with the Spiritual Assemblies in developing plans. The Committee hopes to give financial aid for such expenses as halls, invitations, radio and newspaper publicity. Also, the Committee is supplying these centers with special, free literature. This includes the Bahá’í Peace Program in both Spanish and Portuguese, which was compiled and printed in English at the time of the San Francisco Conference; also, The Pattern of a New World Order, which was recently published in Mexico City.

A very enthusiastic report has been received from our pioneers, Elena Marzella and Ofelia Montalvo, in Ciudad Trujillo regarding Mr. Remey’s visit to the Dominican Republic. A letter from them dated November 19, says, “We have had three write-ups in La Nacion, one write-up and one open invitation on the front page of La Opinion, and two announcements over Station HIN. All were lengthy and detailed. We gave out literature and have new people to come to classes. The fact that we had the public meeting in the Ateneo is the biggest ad of all, because the Ateneo, as its name suggests, is like the public meeting places in the days of Athens. Everything that happens there becomes the news of the country.

A recent letter from Louise Baker in Caracas tells of Mr. Remey’s arrival there, and states that, due to changes taking place within Venezuela, the rights guaranteed in the constitution are temporarily suspended, and no public meetings are allowed. “However,” she says, “we had a small meeting last night, only for Bahá’ís, and this afternoon a few people dropped in for informal discussion. Tonight we are having another meeting which, while not public, will at least include some of the friends of the Bahá’ís. Tomorrow a tea will be given in Mr. Remey’s honor, and from those who come, we hope to start a new study class... The entire group, in this short time, adores Mr. Remey.”

A report has been received of a very constructive peace meeting held by Mr. and Mrs. Sala in cooperation with the Spiritual Assembly in Mexico City. That public meeting was held at the new Bahá’í Center.

As additional news of this public meetings campaign throughout Latin America is received, it will be shared with the North American friends.

Panama Conference

An Inter-American Bahá’í Conference will be held in Panama City January 22-25, inclusive. This conference is being sponsored by the International School at Temerity Ranch, Colorado Springs, and by the Inter-America Committee. Public meetings will be held in the evening in a hall donated through the courtesy of the University of Panama. Morning and afternoon sessions will be devoted to the study of the book, God Passes By.

The Spiritual Assembly of Panama City is in charge of arrangements for this conference. Announcements have been prepared and sent to all communities in Central and South America.

North America Teaching

When ‘Abdu’l-Bahá was in America, He advised the friends to travel and teach in groups, and a project embodying this counsel has been most happily consummated. In early September Dr. Edris Rice-Wray and Sheila Rice-Wray, together with three Bahá’í youth,—Miss Margaret Swengel, Miss Pari Zia-Walrath, and Charles Iolas, the latter two members of the National Youth Committee,—drove to Denver to attend the first “Regional Conference for Teacher Training,” stopping enroute and on their return journey at Cedar Rapids, Omaha, Laramie, Cheyenne, and Colorado Springs. “In all of these places,” Dr. Rice-Wray writes, “we could... work individually with people, making the teaching project far more rounded. If every teacher would take at least one would-be teacher on every trip, we would soon double or triple our teacher pool. The youth lit, a fire wherever they went... The spirit of the five of us together was perfect. We had a real working unity and it was a grand experience.”

Besides contributing to the discussions of the Teacher Training classes on “How to conduct Study Classes,” “How to present the Bahá’í Faith” and “How to be a Chairman,” this group gave talks at the public meetings, and made contacts with youth organizations, religious groups as well as racial. Dr. Rice-Wray spoke before several luncheon clubs, the largest that of the Lion’s Club in Cheyenne, where for the first time in the history of the organization in that city, the wives of the members were invited to attend the luncheon and listen to the guest speaker. Mrs. Therese Olson, Secretary of the RTC, reports: “The Secretary of State, the Mayor, heads of various civic organiz-
zations, institutions and leaders were not only at our table but made up the 100 who were there. This was followed by a talk that evening before the Business and Professional Women’s Club of 50 of the town’s leading women of all fields.”

In the Northwest, Miss Charlotte Linfoot combined a business trip with Bahá’í teaching work, and was able to visit Portland, Tacoma and Seattle. In Tacoma Miss Linfoot addressed an audience of approximately 45 on the subject, “The Scope of Universal Peace.”

Mr. Mason Remey made a teaching trip through the Northeastern States in the Fall, visiting local Bahá’í communities and isolated believers and reports meetings in Newcastle, Kennebunk, and York, Me., and two in Portsmouth, N.H. In Syracuse Prof. R. F. Piper of Syracuse University invited Mr. Remey to address his students in the class on Religion and Philosophy. This is the fourth time Mr. Remey has spoken before Dr. Piper’s classes and he reports they seemed more receptive than on earlier occasions. There were “between thirty-five and forty students present and for fifty minutes they gave full attention, taking notes on which they would be examined later.”

An inter-regional circuit was also arranged for Mrs. Marion Little, who spent a week each in Little Rock, Ark., and Jackson, Miss., with a brief stop-over in Memphis, Tenn., making many fine contacts with key people in the educational field, as well as addressing public meetings and conducting study classes. Mrs. Little writes that “in Jackson we had a Bahá’í dinner . . . and each believer invited one guest who had heard of the Teachings. There were nineteen present. I had place cards with quotations giving an outline of the Teachings. These were numbered and read in sequence, giving the basic principles . . . It proved a great success . . . Arrangements have been made to hold a weekly study class in the Teachers’ Home located near the College campus and in one of the best colored sections . . . and to have Mr. Phil Marangella speak November 25th.”

In October Mrs. Terah Smith of Atlanta, Ga., visited Greensboro, N. C. and Greenville, S. C.; and at Columbia, S. C., where there is now a group of 8 believers, the RTC is arranging for Mrs. Esther Sego to give monthly teaching help. Circuit teaching was also undertaken by Mr. John Haggard of Wilmette, who, accompanied by Mrs. Haggard, toured through Ohio and Indiana stopping at Fort Wayne, Dayton, Cincinnati, Columbus, Toledo and Springfield. In Colorado Mrs. Mildred Clark, while traveling on business, has been able to arrange for Bahá’í books being placed in the public libraries of Pueblo, LaJunta, Trinidad and Durango, Colorado. She reports that in Pueblo a study class is organized and in Trinidad, Arn Holt, an isolated believer, has done some teaching work and hopes to have a group there soon.

In Canada teaching activity was greatly stimulated by Mr. John Robarts of Toronto, Ontario, throughout the Western Provinces, where he spoke before enthusiastic groups in Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton and Vancouver early in November. Traveling by air, he was able to spend two days in each city with the exception of Edmonton, where he could remain only one day. In Regina the LSA reports two informal meetings besides a public meeting at which Mr. Robarts spoke to about 35 on the subject “World Order is the Goal.” “The group included a number of youth, of which three were Japanese and two Muhammadan. A highlight . . . was the presence of a Japanese Anglican clergyman . . . who serves 3600 Japanese parishioners . . .” At one of the informal group meetings “and in behalf of the Regina Assembly, Mr. Robarts impressively presented Prayer Books to the four individuals who were recently accepted into the Faith in Regina. Mrs. Elsie Gans, William Ganss, Leslie B. Silversides and Harry Takashiba, who is believed to be the first Canadian Japanese Bahá’í.”

Intensive teaching activity is also going forward in Eastern Canada, where Mrs. Ruth Moffett has been conducting a series of three “Educational Seminars” of two weeks each on “Patterns of the New World Order.” Mrs. Moffett reports that “one young man has already made his declaration” and that she “had the privilege of speaking to students at the Prince of Wales College . . . and had a fine response from them.”

In an effort to open new cities to the Faith Regional Teaching projects have been arranged for Saskatchewan, Sask., where Miss Lulu Barr of Regina is continuing her efforts, and for Eureka Springs, Ark., where Miss Reszie Sunshine of Little Rock has interested a class of eight.

Mr. Harlan Ober spent four days in Toronto and Hamilton where meetings were arranged at the Center and a tea at Mr. and Mrs. John Robarts’ home to follow up the National Campaign meeting and hold the interest of those attracted. About 35 were present at one meeting and 40 at the other. Regional Committees have also arranged for teaching conferences to follow the National Campaign meetings in Boston and Washington, D. C. Mr. Ralph Bates of Springfield spoke at the public meeting following the conference in Boston and Dr. Edris Rice-Wray spoke in Washington, D. C. Other RTC Conferences have been held in Binghamton, N.Y. where over 200 are reported to have attended the public meeting following the conferences in Peoria, Ill.; Los Angeles, Calif.; Ridgewood, N. J.; West Chester, Pa.; Fort Wayne, Ind.; Dayton, O.; Cleveland, O.; and Sioux Falls, S. D.

Much interest was aroused through exhibits in September at the Cheshire County Fair at Keene, N.H., arranged by an isolated believer, Mrs. Doris Bolton of Ashuelot, N.H., in cooperation with the LSA of Brattleboro, Vt., and at the County Fair in Medina, O., arranged by the Granger Township group in cooperation with the RTC and other Bahá’ís.

Four members of the RTC visited Charleston, West Virginia, “to lend teaching help” . . . Annamarie Honnold spoke to from 700 to 800 people at W. Va. State College and Institute and Paul Haney and Mrs. Adeline Lohse spoke to a group at the Frederick Hotel in Huntington, Va.

Pioneer settlers have moved to the following areas to prevent these Assemblies from reverting to group status: Miss Margaret Lentz of San Juan, Puerto Rico, has moved to
January, 1946

Publishing Announcements

Bahá’í Administration, by Shoghi Effendi. Fifth edition of this work which presents the Guardian’s letters written to the American Bahá’í community from January 21, 1922 to July 17, 1932. These letters explained the fundamental principles underlying the formation and functioning of local Assemblies, Committees, National Assembly and Annual Convention. Index. 197 pages, cloth cover. Per copy, $1.50.

Bahá’í Peace Program—compilation on peace made and issued in pamphlet form by the National Committee on Bahá’í Peace Plan which represented the Faith at the San Francisco conference of the Allied Nations. Pamphlet, 16 pages and cover. Per copy, $0.15.

This Earth One Country, by Emeric Sala. An introduction to the Faith written for the general public, presenting the Bahá’í world community and the teachings as answer to the problem of world order. Chapter titles are: The Basis of a Planetary Economy; Postwar Alternatives; The Christian Individual in an Immoral Society; Islam—A Case in Point; The Supranational Community; A World Faith and a World Plan. Published by Bruce Humphries, Inc. Part of the edition donated by the author to the Publishing Committee as contribution to the International Fund. Index. 185 pages, cloth cover. Per copy, $2.50.

One of the Youth Gatherings Held on World Youth Day

“Bahá’í News”

Bahá’í News, in an effort to get back to a monthly publication schedule, has temporarily reduced its number of pages to eight. The Committee, however, is eager for interesting news items. For, even though a selection may have to be made, the paper cannot be interesting and representative of the scope of the Bahá’í Cause unless it has a great deal of material to select from. News stories, compactly written, and photographs, specifically labeled with dates, names, etc., should be sent to Miss Garreta Busey, 503 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois.

The Committee also welcomes suggestions for making Bahá’í News more interesting and valuable. The Table of Contents which appeared for the first time in the November issue, is the result of a suggestion made by the Dumont, N. J. Group. Watch for further innovations in the future.

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE.

Youth

National Youth Day, a symposium of three talks presented at public meetings by youth speakers, was held on November 18th in many Bahá’í communities in this country and Canada. The International Youth Day, to be held on February 24, 1948, is to be a symposium of three talks on the theme, “The New Creation.” The youth will ask the assistance and cooperation of the local Assemblies and Bahá’ís in the communities where symposiums are being undertaken, and we hope that many countries which have been unable to do so for some time, will join in this annual youth activity this year.

—NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE

“World Order”

Table of Contents for January

Two Roads We Face

William Kenneth Christian

Fruit in Abundance

Mary Marlow

The Mirror and the Dust

Poem

William M. Sears

A New Dispensation

Editorial

Horace Holley

Religion and Science

Otto Smeskal

Song of Tomorrow

Poem

Neil Griffith Wilson

Black Boy, Book Review

Arthur Dahl

‘Abdu’l-Bahá in America

Marian Haney

The Day of God

Bábi’u’lláh

With Our Readers

Local Communities

All Bahá’ís will be glad to hear of a recent special meeting in New York City attended by more than a thousand people who came to the Henry Hudson Hotel Ballroom for a program, “America in the Atomic Age.” The Bahá’í principle of unity was demonstrated by the presence of Negro and white speakers and musicians. The guest speaker, Dr. Harry Gideonse, President of Brooklyn College, spoke on “America in the Atomic Age.” He explained that it was his first appearance before a Bahá’í group but that he had accepted the invitation to speak in order to show his esteem for “one of the healthiest movements I have known” in the social and spiritual life of America. Elsie Austin, prominent Negro attorney, represented the Bahá’í Faith in her talk, “Faith for Freedom.” The Hall Johnson Hollywood and Radio Choir, Philippa Schurler, 14-year-old piano prodigy and composer, and Tom Scott, radio troubadour, furnished the music. To insure future benefits from the meeting, copies of the Center program and of “Faith and Freedom” were distributed to the audience with cards to be signed by those wishing notices of future events.

The Bahá’í message is given on the radio every week in Honolulu, Hawaii. Each week there is a Bahá’í broadcast over station KFQD in Anchorage, Alaska. Anchorage Bahá’ís have the novel experience of commemorating Bahá’u’lláh’s ascension at three o’clock in the morning on May 29 with the sun coming up over the mountains, for it is during the season when there are nineteen and
a half hours of sunlight and no real darkness.

Maywood, Illinois, suggests that youth can help spread the teachings by using such books as Race and Man, Security for a Failing World, and The Divine Art of Liking for book reports.

More and more communities are sending out monthly local news bulletins varying in elaborateness from one to seven pages. Recent mails have included those from Maywood, Illinois, Flint, Michigan; Los Angeles, California; St. Louis, Missouri; Urbana, Illinois; New York City; and Dayton, Ohio.

Several new publicity methods were used by the Dayton, Ohio, Baha'is and described in their account of three outstanding public meetings. Dayton has been successful in follow-up work as these reports indicate:

For the annual International Baha'i Youth Symposium, "Letters to the Editor" were printed in two local newspapers, and a letter of invitation was sent to students through each of the principals and presidents of the city's nine high schools and colleges. Besides Dayton's own Al Segen and Mary Evelyn Hoobler, there were Cynthia Hastings and DeWitt Haywood of Chicago, and Julia McCoy Ehardt of Waynesville, Ohio as speakers. Since the symposium, the young people have been invited to speak before the Bethel Baptist Young People's Union and the All-City Baptist Young People's Union.

Peace Broadside's and letters were sent out for Dayton's special peace program. In addition, a picture of Mr. Josei McCoy, chairman of the Dayton Spiritual Assembly and Baha'i speaker for the afternoon. Guest speaker was Mr. John S. Moore, Sr., Director of the League of Nations Association for Ohio and executive secretary of Dayton's Postwar Council.

Art students of the Parker Cooperative High School made a dozen posters which were placed in prominent store windows for the Race Unity meeting. Also there were daily 100 word broadcasts over station WHIO for six days preceding the meeting. Eric Kothoff, a Puerto Rican, and Philip Lee, a Hawaiian, spoke emphasizing the absence of racial prejudice in their countries. Mrs. Dorothy Baker gave the Baha'i message. Three follow-up talks were held on successive Sundays on "The Baha'i Principles," "The History of the Cause," and "Baha'i Administration." Through these meetings several seekers were interested in a study class which meets each Sunday evening.

The Ann Arbor, Michigan, Spiritual Assembly sponsors a discussion group where such subjects as "Dumbarton Oaks Proposals and Their Relation to the Baha'i Peace Plan," "Inter-Racial Relations," and "The Need for a World Faith" are studied. Charlotte Timm is chairman of the discussions.

Pittsburgh's weekly news magazine, The Bulletin Index for August 18, 1945, printed an 800 word article about the Baha'is faith and published a picture of one of the fireside meetings. It gave some of the principles, a brief history of the Faith, and something about 'Abdu'l-Baha's Pittsburgh talk. The same issue carried notice of a public Bahai meeting under the Town Guide.

Baha'is were asked to be guest speakers for the annual Inter-Racial Goodwill Day held at Philadelphia's large Mt. Pisgah African Methodist Episcopal Church. The minister, Rev. Emmet H. Booker, first heard of the Faith through Rubiyiyth Khanum when he was studying at Columbia. His church bulletin for Sunday, July 29, describes the program: "This year we shall be privileged to hear three exceptional ladies, the Misses Jessie and Ethel Revell, and Miss Edith Segin . . . They are faithful members of the great Baha'i Religion, which untranceling labors for the realization of the oneness of all nations, races, and religions. What Wendell Willkie wrote and talked about, they have dared to live daily . . ." As a sequel, the members of the church's Cultural and Racial Unity Committee met with the Bahai's for the Bahai Race Unity banquet on November 24th. The pictures of the Centenary activities were shown, and Rev. Booker asked that they be shown in his church.

Boston's special public meeting on World Peace featured as non-Baha'i speaker, Dr. Ruth Isabel Seabury, educational director of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. Mr. Charles Krug was the Baha'i speaker, and Mr. Matthew Bullock served as chairman. There were 35 at this meeting, of whom 15 were not Baha'is.

A recital celebrating the birthday of Baha'u'llah was presented by the Baha'is of San Francisco. Walter Olitzki, baritone of the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York and of the San Francisco Opera Company, presented a full concert at the California Club, 1750 Clay Street, Monday evening, November 12.

In a series of weekly meetings announced by an attractive printed program, the Brookline, Massachusetts Baha'is presented 'Abdu'l-Baha's "Seven Lights of Unity."

The McCombs have opened their home to meetings each Sunday afternoon and Sunday evening in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

A Baha'i prayer and a Baha'i talk, "God's Assurance of World Peace," given by Mr. Cary Nordquist, were features of an Inter-Faith and Inter-Racial service of worship held at the Plymouth Congregational Church of Seattle, Washington. The Congregational minister, a rabbi, and a member of the Urban League took part in the service which was one of a series sponsored by the city-wide Seattle Religious Fellowship.

A newspaper announcement describes the Seattle celebration of Baha'u'llah's birthday as follows: "Mark Tobey, internationally known painter, will be chairman. Addresses will be given by C. G. Nordquist, Seattle attorney, who will speak on 'Baha'u'llah, the Prince of Peace', and Mrs. Hazel Mori, worker in civic affairs, whose subject will be "The Promised Day Is Come.' Music will be provided by Donald Bushell, cellist and director of the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra, and John Sundsten, composer and pianist."

Beverly, Massachusetts, held a "World Order Forum" on November 17, with Elsie Austin speaking on "Security for a Fearful World." There were 38 present, of whom 15 were not Baha'is.

News From Other Lands

Germany
From a copy of a letter written to the Guardian by Dr. Hermann Grossman in April, 1945 and containing a detailed account of the trials undergone by German Baha'is under the Nazi regime, we glean the following:
The Faith and its administrative institutions were interdicted by the Nazi government in June, 1937. The publishing stock, the archives, both national and local, were confiscated. Even the greater part of private books was taken away.

From 1937 to 1944 several believers underwent rude and scoffing examinations by the police in their homes and some had terms of imprisonment. Dr. Grossman lost most of his extremely valuable Bahá’í library and archives, which he had during twenty years, spent infinite pains in gathering. A part of this library was allowed to be given to the University of Heidelberg Library, which accepted it gratefully and treated it with care and attention.

In May and June, 1944, judicial proceedings were taken against believers and friends of the Cause in Darmstadt and Heidelberg. The latter trial was public. Here, through a remarkable Providence, the public prosecutor gave a clear statement of the history and principles of the Faith and of the claim of Bahá’u’lláh. At both these trials the believers testified to the non-political character of the Faith and in giving their testimony revealed the majesty and power of the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh, their unshakable loyalty to it and the certainty of its ultimate triumph.

"The judges had declared before the tribunals that they intended to extinguish the Cause in Germany. But the Almighty arm of Bahá’u’lláh was stronger than the forces of His enemies. As the false charges against the believers could not be sustained, no sentence could be pronounced against their lives and properties." They were, however, fined.

Burma

Most of the Bahá’ís of Mandalay and Rangoon took refuge in the Bahá’í village of Daidanaw when the Japanese invaded Burma. Not many months afterwards, Burmese hooligans, from adjoining villages, taking advantage of the retreat of the British, attacked Daidanaw, killed many of the friends, looted their property and burned all the huts. Siyyid Mustafá Roumie, the great pioneer teacher of Burma, whose death we recorded in the November News, was murdered in the Hazratu’l-Quds and that building was burned. The surviving Bahá’ís are destitute. The surviving Bahá’ís are destitute.

Iran

The National Board of Education of Iran has passed regulations dismissing Bahá’í students from the National Teachers Colleges. The Principals of these Colleges express entire satisfaction with the Bahá’í students, both as to their behavior and their ability, but are obliged to carry out the Government regulation. A strong letter of protest has been addressed by the N.S.A. of the Bahá’ís of Iran to the Minister of Education.

Through the British Bahá’í Journal comes the report that some Persian Bahá’ís, sent to Mecca by the Guardian, have formed a Spiritual Assembly in that city, the very center of Islam. Miss Garretta Busey of Urbana has recently received a reply to a letter she sent to Mr. Fazii, a young Iranian pioneer on the island of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf. He writes of the joy and inspiration the small group of Bahá’ís there receive from the news and messages from the friends in other lands. He goes on to say: "The news from Iran is always sorrowful. In all villages and cities the Ulama (Muhammadan clergy) try to show their dying power by encouraging the mob against the Bahá’ís and especially against the pioneers in untouched territory. So accustomed are the Iranian believers to these persecutions that when there is no riot or confusion in their locality, they say, 'There is no news in these parts'."

India

"The Promised Day has Come" has recently been republished in India and has received truly appreciative tributes from eminent Indians.

The Indian Bahá’ís have opened a Bahá’í school for children at Panchgani, 63 miles from Poona, where Bahá’í children will be given character training along Bahá’í lines, while attending non-Bahá’í schools for other training.

Australia

The Reverend H. C. Gurney, a returned missionary from Persia, has published an attack on the Bahá’í Faith in the Adelaide Church Guardian. The Herald of the South, Bahá’í Magazine for Australia, will print several hundred copies of its answer to this attack. This attack may aid in the spread of the Cause, as The Adelaide Church Guardian is read in many South Australian homes and, though many may be misled by the Reverend Gurney’s attack, some will be fair and desire to hear the Bahá’í point of view.

Brief Notes

A report that Lydia Zamenhof is alive in Russia has been received through the Red Cross.

Vuk Echtner, the Prague Esperantist, is alive and well. He is busy arranging study groups and translating Tablets.

Mr. A. Samimi made an extensive tour of the Indian Bahá’í Centers in the spring of 1945. He had asked for permission to go to the Holy Shrines, but the Guardian advised him to make this tour instead. His tour was very beneficial, his zeal and enthusiasm infusing into the friends a new ardor for service.

The youth group at Alexandria, Egypt, is very active.

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Col.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Messages from the Guardian</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bold Concerted Measures</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters to Individuals</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter—State and Province Elections</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Memoriam</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments and transfers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directory</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Committees</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Meetings</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Service</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter-America News</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America Teaching</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing Announcements</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Bahá’í News&quot;</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;World Order&quot;</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Communities</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Teaching</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News from Other Lands</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burma</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brief Notes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Display for Public Meeting in Boston</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Teaching Group on</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trip to Denver</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Gathering on World Youth Day</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"For My Beauty’s Sake”

O Thou who hast surrendered thy will to God! By self-surrender and perpetual union with God is meant that men should merge their will wholly in the Will of God, and regard their desires as utter nothingness beside His Purpose. Whatever the Creator of mankind has ordained for creatures to observe, the soul, having they diligently, and with the utmost joy and eagerness, arise and set no limit to its longing. The spirit which its remnant has displayed after so many years of persecution, dispersion and support, both moral and financial. Pressed as the American Bahá’í community, must by the twofold obligation of proclaiming the verities of their Faith to the American public and of consolidating the vast enterprises initiated throughout Latin America, the stalwart and privileged followers of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh in North America cannot allow so great an opportunity to advance the vital international interests of His Cause to

Messages from the Guardian

The Work of Rehabilitation

Dearly-beloved co-workers: The reports recently received from various sources, regarding the sad conditions prevailing among the members of the sorely-stricken, long-suffering Bahá’í communities in Germany and Burma, are of such a distressing nature as to merit the energetic, the immediate, and collective intervention of their fellow-workers in lands which have providentially been spared the horrors of invasion and all the evils and miseries attendant upon it. Upon the
slip from their grasp. I feel confident that in the discharge of this additional task they will exhibit those same traits that have distinguished their stewardship for so many years to so glorious a Cause.

Your true brother,

Shoghi Effendi
Haifa, Palestine. December 21, 1945

The following two paragraphs in the same letter of December 21, 1945, were written by the Guardian through his secretary:

In view of all the German and Austrian Baha’is have passed through, and the naturally disorganized state of their affairs, after so long a period of suppression and suffering, he feels that your Assembly should by all means do all in its power to help them and protect them. If you feel that the suggestion of Mr. Eichanauer is feasible, he advises you to carry it out. Although he has stated that the Bahá’ís mission in Central and South America must be completed before the American believers can start teaching campaigns in other countries, this does not mean that those friends whom duty or business takes abroad are not to serve the Cause all they possibly can. Likewise it does not mean that help should not be given to Bahá’i brothers and sisters in desperate need—such as is the case at present in Burma, the Philippines, Austria and Germany.

In view of the terrible conditions prevailing in Europe today, and the tremendous suffering which the German and Austrian Bahá’ís have passed through, both spiritually and physically, the Guardian wishes you to please make every effort to send, during the rest of this Bahá’í year and the coming one, the contribution of the American and Canadian Bahá’ís to the International Fund to these believers, for their relief and succor. He urges your Assembly to also make every effort to supply them with Bahá’í books in German, either published in the United States or Switzerland—whichever is most speedy, economical and practical.

The German Bahá’í Community

The German Bahá’í community, dearly beloved, highly honored by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and destined to play an outstanding role in the spiritual revival of an oppressed continent, has abundantly demonstrated in the course of ten years of severest tribulations, dire peril and complete suppression, the high character of its indomitable faith. I appeal to the entire community of the greatly blessed, highly privileged American believers, to arise unitedly and contribute generously through dispatch of funds and literature—designed to alleviate the distress and rehabilitate the institutions with which the future prosecutors of the second stage of the Divine Plan must be closely associated.

---Shoghi Rabbani
Cablegram received December 31, 1945

Emogene Hoagg

Deeply grieve passing of exemplary pioneer of the Faith, Emogene Hoagg. Her long record of national and international services is unforgettable, her reward in the Abhá Kingdom assured and abundant.

Shoghi Rabbani
Cablegram received December 31, 1945

February, 1946

National Spiritual Assembly

The Task of Relief

Beloved Friends:

The Guardian calls the American Bahá’í community to the mighty task of contributing to the relief of the suffering Bahá’ís in war-stricken lands, and to the rehabilitation of the Bahá’í administrative order wherever it has been temporarily destroyed. This call has come to us in his letter dated December 21, 1945, and the portion written in Shoghi Effendi’s own hand is shared with the friends in this issue of Bahá’í News.

While the National Spiritual Assembly will not be in session until February 15, individual members are assembling the necessary information on which a concerted, nationwide effort can be strongly based. Pending announcement of plans and methods commensurate with the needs of the believers in Burma, the Philippines, Austria and Germany (the places specifically named in the body of that letter), the friends are naturally free to continue with the work of relief some of our communities have already undertaken on receipt of appeals from the Philippines and Germany.

A contribution of $300 has been cabled to the National Spiritual Assembly of India and Burma for the stricken Bahá’ís of Burma and a special donation of $1,500 has been rushed to the National Fund by a devoted individual believer for this work of international relief. The Guardian himself has diverted to this purpose the contribution which is made regularly to the International Fund in his care.

The spirit of Bahá’u’lláh is a world spirit, His truth a world truth, and the power of His Faith is a world power. Therefore, though we carry heavy tasks in both North and South America, He will assist us to achieve our full share of this new

Bahá’í News

Bahá’í News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Bahá’í community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924.

On April 10, 1925, the Guardian wrote: "The News, you now have lately initiated fulfills a very vital function.... I would urge you to enlarge its scope... that in time it may devote a special section to every phase of your activities, administrative, devotional, humanitarian, financial, educational and otherwise.

"It should become a great factor in promoting understanding, providing information on Bahá’í activity, both local and foreign, in stimulating interest, in combating evil influences, and in upholding and safeguarding the institutions of the Cause."

The contents include: material supplied by the National Spiritual Assembly, such as the Guardian’s messages, the Assembly’s letters and its general statements and reports; Committee plans which have been approved and authorized; Committee news reports of activities; annual reports from local Assemblies; news items from local Assemblies; activities in regional areas as reported by or through the National Teaching Committee; activities in Central and South America as reported by the Inter-America Committee; news from other lands gathered from the bulletins of the various National Assemblies; a record of new enrollments and transfers; a record of deaths; photographs of general Bahá’í interest.

Bahá’í News is Central Office for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá’í News Committee: Horace Holley, Garreta Bussy, Eleanor S. Hutchens, Mabel F. Paine. Address: Bahá’í News Committee, c/o Mrs. Garreta Bussy, 503 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois.
responsibility in Europe and the East. May our first great enterprise as Bahá’í world citizens penetrate the citadels of infamy and desolation, and rescue the oppressed ones in the Name of Bahá’u’lláh!

Faithfully and devotedly,
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Use of Corporate Seal
The National Spiritual Assembly has approved the recommendation made by the Legal Committee concerning the use of the seal by incorporated local Assemblies: that if they wish to do so, it is entirely proper for an Assembly to affix its seal on its letters of credential. The National Assembly itself will hereafter use its seal on credentials issued to Bahá’ís proceeding to foreign countries.

Review of Magazine Articles
The National Spiritual Assembly has recorded the view that magazine articles about the Cause, written by individual believers as their personal understanding of the teachings, need not be officially reviewed, but all statements about the Faith which are officially sponsored by a Bahá’í body are to be reviewed and approved before publication. Individual authors may submit manuscripts to the Public Relations Committee for an advisory opinion if they wish.

The Bahá’í World, Vol. IX
A Correction
It has been pointed out that in the "In Memoriam" section, the photograph used with the article about the late Miss Alma Knobloch is not of Miss Knobloch herself but of her sister, the late Mrs. Pauline Hennen. Committees, Assemblies and individual believers who send in photographs for use either in The Bahá’í World or in Bahá’í News are requested to write the title and date of picture on the back, since many illustrations pass through several hands before they are published, and unlabeled photographs make errors possible.

Glossary
Extensive research and editorial work is being done by Mirzá ‘Alí-Kuli Kháñ in compiling a glossary of Bahá’í terms. The Index Committee is rendering valuable assistance in recording the terms which should be included in a complete Bahá’í glossary. The Guardian’s advice and direction has been requested, so that the work in its final form will conform to his wishes.

In Memoriam
Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life—BAHÁ’U’LLÁH.

Mrs. Gladys Kowal, Fort Wayne.
Mrs. Lena Showalter, Springfield, Illinois.
Mrs. Margaret Pierce, Racine.
Mr. William Atwater, Miami.
Mr. Ignaz Wetzel, Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin.
Mrs. Emma Kohn, Milwaukee.
Mr. William Gauthier, Monroe, Washington.

Removal From Membership
The friends are informed that Mr. Baer Salov of Montclair, N. J. has been taken from the Bahá’í membership list on receipt of his written statement that he agrees with the attitude of the New History Society in its rejection of the Bahá’í Order established under the Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

Public Teaching Bulletins
Nos. 8 and 9 of this bulletin, entitled “A World Faith,” have been mailed out by the National Contacts Committee to its special list of names. Copies are available to local assemblies and individual believers at the rate of 50 for 50 cents or 100 for $1.00. Send order to the National Office with remittance payable to National Bahá’í Fund.

Enrollments
Reported by Local Assemblies
Albuquerque, one.
Fort Wayne, two.
Boston, one.
Arlington, two.
Augusta, one.
New York, two.
Chicago, one.
Indianapolis, one.
Salt Lake City, one.
Baltimore, one youth.
Independence, one.

Reported by Regional Teaching Committees
Eleven adult believers were enrolled during December, 1945, in the areas outside the jurisdiction of local Spiritual Assemblies.

Directory
The following additions and changes are reported:

Local Assemblies

Committee Appointments
Two committees appointed in Panama, one for editing the Spanish bulletin, the other as Panama branch of the publishing work in Spanish, have been combined, with the following membership:
Mr. Alfred Osborne, Chairman
February, 1946

Gifts from Abroad
The Treasurer has received donations from Rose and Salma Dooly of Baghdad, and from the National Spiritual Assembly of Australia and New Zealand, which are much appreciated.

National Committees

Public Meetings
Atlanta
The public meeting held in Atlanta was a great success. The following report comes to us from Mrs. David Ruhe, chairman of the Atlanta Committee for Public Meetings:

"Atlanta held its Public Meeting of the National Campaign on Sunday, January 13, in Morehouse Chapel of Morehouse College. Music provided by the Spelman-Morehouse Choir opened the program in a beautiful and inspiring way. The speaker was Mrs. Dorothy Baker, who gave a most illuminating talk on the subject "Religion Returns." John Inglis of Birmingham, Alabama, served as chairman of the meeting. There were 210 people present; 40 signed cards saying that they would like to make a further study of the Teachings of Bahá'u'lláh. The auditorium was attractive with graceful palms as background on the stage and a stunning floral arrangement in the foreground. The splendid book display sent by the National Public Meetings Committee stood to the left of the platform, and was closely examined by most of those present. A lively question-and-answer period followed the lecture. Many remained to meet Mrs. Baker and ask further questions.

"On the following night, Monday, January 14, there was a dinner at 6 p.m. in honor of Mrs. Baker in the Civic Room of the Ansley Hotel. The public meeting in the same room at 8 p.m. was opened with two piano selections by Chopin brilliantly played by Atlanta's leading young pianist, Mr. Billy Schatten. Dorothy Baker spoke before 75 people on the subject, "World Order is the Goal." The interest shown was very sincere, and many remained until 10:30 p.m. to ask questions. We feel sure that study classes will result from both these meetings.

"In addition to our two public meetings, the regional committee held an inter-regional conference which was a wonderful success and a great inspiration to all who attended. There were visiting Bahá'ís present from Birmingham, Ala.; Jackson, Miss.; Memphis, Tenn.; Nashville, Tenn.; Knoxville, Tenn.; Greensboro, N.C.; Greenville, S.C.; Augusta, Ga.; and Miami, Fla. An inter-racial dinner at the YMCA on Saturday night, January 12, was the opening event of the two-day conference. The subject of the evening's program was "Strengthening the Administrative Order." The participants were Miss Sue Langford, Mr. John Inglis, Mrs. Kate Whitmore, and Mrs. David Ruhe. Mrs. Terah Smith acted as chairman. On Sunday morning the subject was, "Ways and Means of Reaching the Masses," with Mr. Robert Durr, Mr. John Inglis, and Mrs. Ruth Meurer as participants. Mrs. Ruhe served as chairman. The talks and discussion that followed were informative and inspirational. Mrs. Dorothy Baker was our consultant and throughout the two days gave us many helpful thoughts.

"Although it is too early to measure results, we can say with certainty that the events of the three days were a high spot to all the Bahá'ís and renewed our determination to give out courageously the Message of Truth for our day. The Public Meetings attracted many new souls. We feel deeply grateful for all the wonderful aid and assistance given us by the National Public Meetings Committee. The publicity provided by Mr. Henning was outstanding. It is our hope that every city and town in America will find it possible to hold such a meeting soon. The work involved is tremendous, but the fruits are in direct proportion to the effort put forth."

Public Relations
The Public Relations Committee will from time to time inform the friends of those current magazines, books and newspapers which contain Bahá'í illustrations or articles on the Cause. The Committee thanks each of the believers who has so kindly brought these references to our attention. The intention is not to duplicate the function of Bahá'í News Service in listing news and publicity emanating from believers, but to record news about the Cause produced by non-believers.

The front cover of Wilmette Life for September 6, 1945 reproduced an aerial photo of the House of Worship and the harbor, with a caption..."
including this reference: “The world-famed Bahá’í Temple is seen at the extreme right.”

In Locomotive Engineer for June, 1945, we find a quotation by ‘Abdul-Bahá set in a box for special emphasis.


The pamphlet entitled “This Is Your America” issued by the CIO Political Action Committee makes a brief reference to the word Bahá’í.


The magazine, Canadian Geographical Journal, March, 1944, contains an article on “Symbolism and the Humanities” by Sylvia King, with three Temple views, one full page.

The June, 1945, issue of Flying mentions Point Oboe, the code name assigned to the Bahá’í Temple. “Navigational fixes are given from that landmark” in flights from Glenview to carriers in Lake Michigan.

The Pure Oil News of February, 1945, featured the Temple in a three-page illustrated article.

A member of the Board of Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church is writing a book on different religions which contains a clear and sympathetic article on the Bahá’í Faith.

An article by Virginia Pearson entitled “Those Worlds Beyond the Sun” appeared in Mind Digest for November, 1945. The author relates a subjective experience in which she states that ‘Abdul-Bahá appeared to her in visions many years ago.

In Saturday Night, the weekly magazine of Canada, an excellent article about the Cause was published December 8, 1945, using the Toronto Public Meeting as its connection with current news events.

The rotogravure section of the Chicago Sunday Tribune of January 6, 1946, contains a very attractive view of the Temple taken by a staff photographer.

One of the most helpful newspaper references which has ever appeared in this country was the full page, colored photo of the Temple as illuminated during the Centenary celebration, with an extensive article, published in the Chicago Sunday Tribune of June 17, 1945. The editor kindly lent us the color photos for reproduction, and copies will be announced for teaching use in the next issue of Bahá’í News.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

North American Teaching

We are happy to report that several Assemblies have been preserved through the settlement of believers who have already given valiant assistance in other cities during the Seven-Year Plan. Mrs. Beulah Proc­tor, one of the early pioneers in Halifax, has offered to move to Moncton, as Mrs. Annie Romer has been unable to become established there although she plans to give them teaching assistance from time to time; Mrs. Edward Belcher of Binghamton, N.Y., former pioneer in Sioux Falls, S. D. and Syracuse, N.Y., has moved to Boise, Idaho. Other Assemblies that have been re­inforced have received assistance in other cities during the Seven-Year Plan. Mrs. Beulah Proc­tor, one of the early pioneers in Halifax, has offered to move to Moncton, as Mrs. Annie Romer has been unable to become established there although she plans to give them teaching assistance from time to time; Mrs. Edward Belcher of Binghamton, N.Y., former pioneer in Sioux Falls, S. D. and Syracuse, N.Y., has moved to Boise, Idaho. Other Assemblies that have been re­inforced have received assistance in other cities during the Seven-Year Plan.

Particularly do we appeal to the returned service men who, in seeking to re-establish themselves, might consider going to a city where their presence would aid immeasurably in strengthening and consolidating these newly established units of the Faith.

Teaching help has been made available to many of the small Assemblies through visits from teachers able to spend week-ends or longer on circuits. During the Thanksgiving holidays, Dr. Edris Rice-Wray spent six days in Oklahoma City, Okla. The visit coincided with the death by accident of Charles Ittner, and the Assembly reports: “Probably the best opportunity we have ever had here to present the Bahá’í Teachings to a sizeable group was at the funeral services conducted for Mr. Ittner. Many expressed their feelings with words of praise for the beautiful services. . . . Our only public meeting was held at the Biltmore hotel. About 35 people attended, announcements having been sent to about 500. Dr. Rice-Wray gave a splendid talk and we are hopeful that we can interest several new people to attend a class.” Several firesides were also arranged as well as a meeting at the Student Union.
of the University of Oklahoma at Norman, Okla., where there was a request for books for the University Library following the meeting.

In Boise, Idaho, a series of lectures was given by Mrs. Marguerite Reimer Sears from December 13th to 18th, with "excellent publicity and a 10-minute radio interview ... besides breakfast, lunch, and dinner scheduled with interested students. . . . Everyone seemed to cooperate to make everything a success," Mrs. Sears writes. "The total non-Baha'i attendance at the meetings was twenty, six of whom heard of the Faith for the first time."

Other Assemblies received teaching assistance during January from the following teachers: Mr. Allen McDaniel visited Greenville, S.C.; Mrs. Harry Ford visited Wilmington, Del.; William DeForge visited Scranton, Pa.; and Mrs. Amelia Collins visited Worcester, Mass. From Halifax, N.S., Mrs. Annie Romer reports "two broadcasts, one on Baha'i Ideals in Education" and the other 'Peace on Earth: Good Will to Men'. Then we had three meetings on 'Peace' which we climaxed with an International Peace Party. . . . 24 non-Baha'is, French, English, Russians, West Indians, Canadians, Americans, and Chinese, present. We had films . . . on the Arts of Russia, one on Nova Scotia, and one on India." Memphis and Nashville, Tenn., were visited by Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Blum, on their recent trip West, as well as St. Louis, Mo.

Regional Teaching Committee reports indicate that contacts are being made in new areas, new groups are springing up and several groups are ready for Assembly status this April. The RTC for Alaska reports a ten-day teaching trip made by Mrs. Verne Stout to Fairbanks, where two fireside meetings were arranged, and many contacts were made. The Ind., Ohio and Ky. RTC reports that "Miss Clara Edge was asked to go into Media County for a week's teaching program, and her work was very successful." It is reported that Oak Park, Ill. and Santa Barbara, Calif., have sufficient members through transfer, to secure Assembly status this April, and Calif., Nev. and Ariz. RTC reports that work is going forward in Huntington Park, California, and that San Mateo is working hard to achieve Assembly status.

As part of the National Campaign, the New England RTC arranged a Teaching Conference in Boston and 19 Baha'i communities were represented. The Conference was followed by a public meeting with Mr. Ralph Bates of Springfield, Mass. as speaker. The RTC for Md., Va. and West Va. also planned a Regional Conference in Washington to follow up the efforts of the National Campaign there, with Dr. Edris Rice-Wray as guest speaker. Two public meetings were held, one a panel discussion on Race Unity at which Dr. Rice-Wray spoke with two non-Baha'i speakers. Both were very well attended.

"Not until, however, . . . the prizes won through the operation of the Seven-Year Plan are adequately safeguarded and the basis of the newly established Administrative Order sufficiently consolidated . . . can the ambassadors of the Faith of Baha'u'llah . . . be called upon to undertake . . . collective responsibility for the diffusion of His Message, and for the erection of the fabric of His Administrative Order, amidst the sorrow-stricken, war-lacerated, sorely bewildered nations and peoples of the European continent."

Shoghi Effendi
—National Teaching Committee

Publishing Announcements

The Publishing Committee announces a special price on orders for Volumes V and VI of The Baha'i World—both copies will be sold for $4.50, a discount of $1.00 from the combined list price of the two books. This offer holds only when both volumes are ordered together.

Baha'i cards: a series of ten postcard size cards, each carrying a different passage from the Teachings, has been produced by the Public Relations Committee to enable individual believers to spread the message. The cards can be mailed with a 1c stamp as postcards, used as enclosures with letters, or handed out at meetings. Sold only in lots of 100 sets, or 1000 cards, at $3.10.

Archives Secretary

Material for the National Baha'i Archives should be addressed to the Secretary of the Archives Committee, Mrs. Gertrude Struven, 714 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill.

Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Baha, Letters of the Guardian, and sacred relics should be sent by registered mail with return receipt.

Louhelen Baha'i School

Here is an advance notice of dates for the five sessions at Louhelen Summer School for 1946:

Workshop Courses—June 29-July 10 (inclusive)
Junior Youth Session—July 13-19 (inclusive)
Mid-summer Session—July 22-28 (inclusive)
Laboratory Session—July 31-August 11 (inclusive)
Senior Youth Session—August 14-25 (inclusive)

Details will come later, but both youth and adults are assured new and exciting experiences for the coming summer. Both adult sessions are now 12 days in length, the Laboratory Session has been replaced by the Workshop Courses, which are scheduled to open this season June 29. A 10-day course is planned for the senior youth with two extra days allotted for a Youth Conference.

This opportunity for organized study, together with the intimate fellowship of many Baha'is from many sections of the country is of special value to isolated believers and members of small groups. There is no better way for a Baha'i to enjoy his vacation.

If you have not already done so, why not appoint a Summer School Committee in your local community to encourage attendance at all of our summer schools? Such a committee, which would include the Youth, could arrange displays and publicity bulletins, help arrange "share - the - ride" transportation, help in developing funds for financial assistance to the Youth, etc. Such a committee, publicizing all three schools with special emphasis on its own area, could assist greatly in the very important educational program of our Baha'i Summer Schools.

If you want to make reservation early, want information on rates for board and room, write to Louhelen Baha'i School, Davison, Michigan.

Louhelen School Committee

"Baha'i News"

With this issue we are inaugurating a section of devotional material which may be used by the friends for meditation throughout the month, if they so desire. It should serve to remind us of the spiritual implications of the fast.
Library
Professional Librarians
The National Library Committee would appreciate it if the professional librarians in the Faith would contact our committee giving their names and addresses for our files. Such a listing would give us the opportunity of wider consultation on various library problems which arise requiring careful consideration and professional advice and counsel.

Mrs. Stuart Sims, Chairman
19 Leroy Place
Red Bank, N. J.

Local Communities

Additional Annual Local Reports
BURLINGAME, California, reports that a Temple display in a downtown window brought many inquiries. The community held a series on Tuesday night study classes and conducted eleven public meetings with an average attendance of twenty-five. Each week two children's classes were conducted. The younger children, ages 6 to 10, studied the outline on creation and the Bahá'í Child's A B C while the older group, ages 13 to 18, studied the Chosen Highway and the Dawn Breakers.

The community worked with the San Mateo group hoping to assist it to attain assembly status. Both Burlingame and San Mateo newspapers carried advertising for the public meetings and for the radio series over station KYA.

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island, was successful in contacting other organizations. When Matthew Bulloch spoke, the Urban League sent notices to its 300 members, and the World Affairs Council sent notices to its 150 members. Through the International Institute, Bahá'ís took part in a pageant on the oneness of religion, gaining mention of the Faith at three teas, and doing a pageant on the oneness of religion, gaining mention of the Faith at three teas, and doing

Other Local News
When the city was almost paralyzed by strikes, the FLINT, Michigan, Bahá'ís sent the pamphlets, "Industrial Justice," to sixty local clubs and organizations. The community had inquiries for literature, and because of sections on consultation, study aids, etc. However, my husband and I would like to point out an error on page 13, where you refer to our marriage. This is under the Anchorage, Alaska, report. My husband's name is Mr. Verne Stout, not Green!

Other News from Other Lands
Norway
In a letter to a friend, Mrs. Aagot Krantz-Ramslie, one of the two Bahá'ís in Norway, writes of the bombing and burning of the town (Kristiansund), in which she lives. Her house alone was mercifully spared. She was busy ministering to the shelterless people. She has translated many pages from the "Gleanings" and "Hidden Words" and sends some in letters to friends. One friend to whom she sent some of these extracts wrote, "During the time of afflictions, when I thought I could not bear living another day, your letters with enclosed quotations seemed the voice of the Lord. ... I gave all my troubles into the hands of the Beloved of all the worlds and left them there for a solution, and in most miraculous ways they were solved."

Germany
John Eichenauer wrote from Stuttgart in December, 1945, "Now that the German Bahá'ís can correspond with one another, regardless of the zone in which they live, plans are being made to re-establish the National Spiritual Assembly. Several pamphlets have been published and a radio program has been submitted to 'Radio Stuttgart.'"
Public Meetings; Youth Activities: "Public meetings in the Wurttemberg area were inaugurated on the first of December by an address, 'And the Light came out of the Darkness' by Dr. Koller-Jüger of the Stuttgart Assembly, to over 200 people in the Leberbildungsanstalt in Esslingen. Youth activities are blossoming in several cities."

How to send relief to German Bahá'í: "The needs of the German Bahá'í community are for food to get through the winter. Potatoes are filling, but every day they get monotonous, and I don't know how long they will last. Any one who wishes may send food packages to me for the friends. Sugar, coffee, tea, raisins, nuts, preserved meats, soup mixes, candy, vitamins and mineral tablets and any other concentrated foods you can spare will do wonders here. Cigarettes and tobacco can be included. Few smoke; they usually use cigarettes to get their homes repaired, have wood delivered or to barter for food. Old clothes would, no doubt, come in very handy.

"Yours truly expects to be here until next April or May. Address John C. Eicher, ASN 39857209, Tec 4, Det E-1 1st Mil Govt Bn (Sep) APO 758, c/o Postmaster NY, NY."

"Most of the Bahá'ís in the American zone live in Stuttgart (60) and Esslingen (30); there are about 20 in the Heidelberg-Neckargemünd area and another 20 in the Frankfurt area. Any thing intended for the Stuttgart and Esslingen Bahá'ís could be sent to me, and for those farther north, send to Sergeant Bruce Davison, AFN Frankfurt APO 757, c/o Postmaster NY, NY."

"Bruce also expects to be here another six months.

"Please don't postpone anything you wish to do for these faithful servants of Bahá'u'lláh."

Lidia Zamenhof

News reaching us from two separate and reliable sources seems to confirm the sad truth that Lidia Zamenhof died in Poland in August, 1944. More details will appear next month.

'İraq

The Centenary celebrations were held in the Haziratu'l-Quds at Baghdád. On the front walls of the guest house confronting visitors and callers were the twelve basic Bahá'í principles written on large sheets of white linen in very large characters. Inside walls were decorated with the choicest of Persian rugs. The celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Declaration of the Báb on May 22 was for Bahá'ís only and included readings from the Qur'án, the Old and New Testaments and Nabil's account of the Declaration of the Báb. A selection from the Qa'yu'mu'1-Asmá', which the Báb revealed on that sacred night 100 years before, was read at the exact hour of His Declaration.

After this program delegates and other Bahá'ís were guests of a banquet provided through the generosity of Shoghi Effendi. Representatives from 15 Bahá'í centers in Iraq were present.

Meetings on May 23, 24, 25 and 26 were attended by both Bahá'ís and invited guests. Among them were people of rank, state officials, business men, journalists and men of letters, about 44 in number. Subjects of some of the addresses were: "The Birth of a New World Order," "The Future Life of Mankind," "The Bahá'í Faith Establishes the Oneness of Mankind," "The Way to Peace," "New Spiritual Resurrection" and "Divine Remedy for Ibs of Mankind."

As at all the Centenary celebrations, congratulatory telegrams were sent to the Guardian and to all the National Bahá'í Assemblies of the world as well as to neighboring local assemblies. The beautiful replies received were a source of great joy and happiness to the friends and strengthened the ties of love and bonds of unity.

Brief Notes

Mme. E. Schmitz, 49 Rue Mon Desert, Nancy, France, is a Bahá'í, and an ardent Esperantist. She would like to hear from the Bahá'ís.

Mme. Draja Ilic, a devoted and able worker for the Cause in Belgrade, Jugoslavia, died July 23, 1942, after a painful illness. War conditions such as insufficient food and poor nursing contributed to her illness and death.

Johanne Sorensen, a Bahá'í in Denmark, married during the war and is now Johanne Hoeg. She has made some translations of Bahá'í books into Danish. Her address is: Johanne Hoeg, Jerslev, Jylland, Denmark.

Mrs. Palmgren and Miss Zetterlund are Bahá'ís in Sweden. Mrs. Palmgren has done some translating of Bahá'í writings.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

"For My Beauty's Sake"—Words of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá ................ 1

Messages from the Guardian

The Work of Rehabilitation. 1 1
German Bahá'í Community. 2 2
Emogene Hoag. 2 2

National Spiritual Assembly

The Task of Relief. 2 1
Use of Corporate Seal. 3 1
Review of Magazine Articles. 3 1
The Bahá'í World, Vol. IX. 3 1
Glossary. 3 1
In Memoriam. 3 2
Removal from Membership. 3 2
Public Teaching Bulletins. 3 2
Enrollments. 3 3
Directory. 3 3
Gifts from Abroad. 4 2

National Committees

Public Meetings—Atlanta. 4 1
Public Relations. 4 3
North American Teaching. 5 2
Publishing Announcements. 6 2
Archives Secretary. 6 2
Loubelen Bahá'í School. 6 3
"Bahá'í News". 6 3
Library. 7 1

Local Communities

Additional Annual Reports. 1 1
Correction. 7 2
Other Local News. 7 2

News from Other Lands

Norway. 7 2
Germany. 7 3
Lidia Zamenhof. 8 1
Iráq. 8 1
Brief Notes. 3 2

Photographs

Gathering at Thornton Chase Memorial. 3
Display of Temple Model and Bahá'í Literature. 4
Centennial Celebration in Irãq. 5
Mme. Draja Ilic with Martha Root. 8
“Be Filled with Love”

You must manifest complete love and affection toward all mankind. Do not exalt yourselves above others but consider all as your equals, recognizing them as the servants of the one God. Know that God is compassionate toward all; therefore love all from the depths of your hearts, prefer all religious groups before yourselves, be filled with love for every race and be kind toward the people of all nationalities. Never speak disparagingly of others, but praise without distinction. Prolong not your tongues by speaking evil of another. Recognize your enemies as friends and consider those who wish you evil as the wishes of good. You must not see evil as evil and then compromise with your opinion, for to treat in a smooth, kindly way one whom you consider evil or an enemy is hypocrisy and this is not worthy or allowable. You must consider your enemies as your friends, look upon your evil-wishers as well-wishers and treat them accordingly. Act in such a way that your heart may be free from hatred. Let not your heart be offended with anyone. If someone commits an error and wrong toward you, you must instantly forgive him. Do not complain of others. Refrain from reproaching them and if you wish to give admonition or advice, let it be offered in such a way that it will not burden the bearer. Turn all your thoughts toward bringing joy to hearts. Be ware! Beware! lest ye offend any heart. Assist the world of humanity as much as possible. Be a source of consolation to every sad one, assist every weak one, be helpful to every considered in the same category as those of Ruhi; the friends are not forbidden to read them.” (This refers to the articles and pamphlets approved by the Reviewing Committee for the World Order Magazine Editorial Committee and published some years ago).

Status of Pioneer

With the Guardian’s consent is published this excerpt from his letter written to Mr. and Mrs. Hilbert Dahl on March 24, 1945:

The pioneer, as soon as an administrative body has been established, ceases to have any unique status in the community. But, of course, the service he has rendered remains very great, and he should continue to do his utmost for the Cause in conjunction with the Assembly and the other believers.

National Spiritual Assembly

Beloved Friends:

It was our joyous privilege only a few months ago to acclaim the termination of the state of war throughout the world, with all its blessed promise of an opportunity given humanity to heed the dire lessons of conflict and rebuild civiliza-

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and justice revealed by His Word. We are in a time of transition, neither peace nor war, when many powerful interests manifest the scope of the problems still to be solved in the realms of politics, economics, race relations, and religion.

The condition of uncertainty and lack of direction cries out to us as Bahá'ís to attain and show forth from our inmost souls, and in our individual actions, and in our mutual relations, and in our community development, and in our public Bahá'í activities, the qualities and virtues, the wisdom and integrity, the steadfastness and the universality, which the Báb suffered martyrdom to create in mankind. Bahá'u'lláh endured continuous oppression to ordain as the Law of human existence, and 'Abdu'l-Bahá travelled from city to city to exemplify and proclaim.

While, on the one hand, a bewildered multitude implores the gift of assurance which only the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh can offer, on the other hand the organizations of disunity and division, superstition and error, ambition and exploitation multiply their efforts to crush or beguile a world not yet conscious of the illimitable power which God has in this Day invested in a united mankind.

Our highest privilege as believers in the unity of God, our supreme duty as members of the new world order of Bahá'u'lláh, is simple, clear and incapable for every single Bahá'í. First, a true Bahá'í is one who attains full understanding of the fundamentals of the Faith. Second, a true Bahá'í will realize his responsibility to maintain within himself the capacity for consultation and unified action with his fellow-believers.

Therefore the National Spiritual Assembly issues this appeal to the entire American Bahá'í community — believers, Assemblies and committees — to strive to attain the very reality of spiritual understanding and the highest degree of union in all Bahá'í consultation and action. Our sense of limitation is no excuse, since Bahá'u'lláh has revealed the blessed truth that faith is an association with a spiritual power able to transcend all limitations of men. Let us grasp anew the great teaching that virtue is the life of doctrine, and the inner acceptance of human oneness is worth more than the volumes dealing with the outer mechanisms of peace.

In whatever village or city the spirit of Bahá'u'lláh takes possession of the hearts, there will unfold great and mighty expressions of Bahá'í victory. This is a decisive hour for humanity. It is a decisive hour for each and every Bahá'í.

Now with reference to the matter of international Bahá'í relief, about which so many ardent letters have come to the National Assembly. All aspects of this vital subject were discussed at the February meeting, and the following facts emerged which are recorded for the information of the friends throughout the United States and Canada.

1. A cash donation has been transmitted from the National Fund for relief of the Bahá'ís of Burma in response to the Guardian's appeal.
2. The Guardian has established an international Bahá'í trust fund in Tihrán to receive and handle (under his direction) the cash donations intended for rehabilitation of the dissolved Bahá'í institutions and for relief of distress.
3. The Guardian has called upon the American Bahá'í community to provide Bahá'í literature where conditions have made it impossible, as in Germany, for the believers to maintain publishing activity.
4. Appeals have been received for contributions of food and clothing needed by the Bahá'ís of Germany in letters written by John Eichenauer and Bruce Davison. Communication at present cannot be maintained with the native German Bahá'ís, but eleven-pound shipments can be made for them to the American Bahá'ís in the Army of Occupation, if a letter of request (See Emendation, P. 3) can be shown to the local postmaster.
5. Appeals have been received likewise from the Philippine Bahá'ís for various relief supplies, and a report on conditions there has been received from Alvin Blum. Eleven-pound shipments can be mailed directly to the Philippine Bahá'ís once a week by each individual sender (or group or Assembly if collective action is taken).
6. The National Assembly has no record of any American Bahá'í in Austria at present. First class mail can be addressed to natives of Austria, limited to two ounces. Food shipments can be made to Austria via Denmark.

6. The American Bahá'í community is requested until further notice to send food, clothing and other needed supplies for relief to German Bahá'ís through the American believers now in Germany, and direct to the Bahá'ís of the Philippines, in accordance with the existing government regulations. (See Emendation, P. 3.)

7. Contributions sent to the National Fund in cash for international Bahá'í relief will be devoted to publications of Bahá'í literature and as donations transmitted by the National Assembly.

Baha’i News

Baha’i News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada as the official newspaper of the Bahá’í community. The first issue appeared in December, 1925.

On April 10, 1925, the Guardian wrote: "The News Letter which you have lately initiated fulfills a very vital function... I would urge you to enlarge its scope... that in time it may devote a special section to every phase of your activities, administrative, devotional, humanize in, financial, educational and otherwise. "It should become a great factor in promoting understanding, providing information on Bahá’í activity, both local and foreign, in stimulating interest, in combating evil influences, and in upholding and safeguarding the institutions of the Cause."

The contents include: material supplied by the National Spiritual Assembly, such as the Guardian’s messages, the Assembly’s letters and its general statements and reports; Committee plans which have been approved and authorized; Committee news reports of activities; annual reports from local Assemblies; news items from local Assemblies; activities in regional areas as reported by or through the National Teaching Committee; activities in Central and South America as reported by the Inter-American Committee; news from other lands gathered from the bulletins of the various National Assemblies; a record of new enrollments and transitions; a record of deaths; photographs of general Bahá’í interest.

Baha’i News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá’í News Committee: Horace Holley, Garretta Busey, Eleanor S. Hutchens, Mabel H. Paine. Address: Baha’i News Committee, c/o Miss Garretta Busey, 505 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois.
Committees

National Committees

National Spiritual Assembly
Address for the Philippines—Sr. Felix Maddela, Solana, Nueva Carraya, P. I.
Sr. Perfecto Tabora, Cosmopolitan College (opposite main American Red Cross) Manila, P. I.

EMENDATION
Since this letter was printed a cable has been received from John Eisenhauer asking the American friends NOT to send any more packages to him or to Bruce Davison at this time.

Calendar
Nineteen Day Feasts: Glory, April 9; Beauty, April 28.
Period of Fast: Nineteen Days beginning March 2.
Anniversaries: Naw-Rúz, March 21; Ridván, April 21—May 2.
Observance of the first of Ridván, April 21, to be about 3:00 P. M.
National Convention: April 26, 27, 28, and 29, 1946.

Enrollments
Chicago, 5.
Fort Wayne, 1.
Berkeley, 1.
Washington, D. C., 1.
San Francisco, 1.
Burlingame, 2.
Winnipeg, 1.
New York, 3.
Milwaukee, one youth.
Enrollments reported by Regional Committees in January—7 and 1 youth.

Convention Notice
Delegates and individual believers wishing to attend the Convention this year are advised that the matter of accommodations, both in hotels and private homes, has become a most difficult problem. No believer should arrive without a definite reservation in advance made either by himself or for him by the Convention Housing Committee.

Those who need the help of the Housing Committee should apply as soon as possible to Mrs. Carl Hannen, Chairman, 921-13th Street, Wilmette, Illinois.

The Convention dates are: April 26-29, inclusive.

Directory
Local Assemblies
St. Paul, Minnesota—Miss Dahela Abas, Corresponding Secretary, 225 Fuller Avenue, St. Paul 3.
Richmond Highlands—Mrs. C. B. Rainboth, Secretary, 5321 Roosevelt Way, Seattle 5, Wash.
Tacoma—Mrs. Helen M. Ames, Secretary, 5940 South Sheridan, Tacoma, Wash.

Inter-American News
Completion of Teaching Tours
The itineraries of Mr. and Mrs. Emeric Sala and of Mr. Charles Mason Remey in Latin America are nearing completion. The Salas were due in Havana, their last stop, on February 20th, having visited most of the Bahá’í Centers in both Central and South America in a tour lasting three months.

Mr. Remey is attempting to visit all cities in South America where Bahá’í’s reside. In traveling from Buenos Aires to Punta Arenas, Magalanes, a hazardous journey was completed by bus and car, as no other transportation was available. Mr. Remey was particularly impressed with the key people who are being attracted to the Cause in Punta Arenas. He was last heard from in Santiago, Chile, on his return trip by air.

While political conditions in some countries have prevented the holding of large public meetings during the visits of these itinerant teachers, reactions indicated in reports received from all centers visited have been very gratifying. The Inter-America Committee is deeply appreciative of the efforts of these teachers, who themselves have been greatly impressed and have written glowingly of the work of the North American Pioneers.

Inter-America Bahá’í Congress
While a detailed report has not been received to date of the Teaching Conference in Panama City, we have learned that seven Republics were represented by native believers, namely, Cuba, Venezuela, Chili, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama. Six North American pioneers attended, including those from Columbia and Costa Rica, which made nine countries represented in all. This first Inter-America Congress surpassed everyone’s expectations, especially in the number of native believers attending.

Mrs. Amelia Collins represented the National Spiritual Assembly and the Inter-America Committee at the
Congress. She is stopping over on her return trip in San Salvador, Guatemala City, and Mexico City.

News of Pioneers

Elizabeth Cheney reports that the number of native believers in Managua has reached nineteen. A Spiritual Assembly in Nicaragua is, therefore, assured this year. En route to the Panama Congress and, following this, to her new post in Bogota, Colombia, Miss Cheney visited our new pioneer, Evelyn Larson, who has recently located in San Jose, Costa Rica. An enthusiastic report of the progress being made there was given.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bode have arrived in Rio de Janeiro as Baha'i settlers. There are now six pioneers in Rio, and prospects are good for the formation of an Assembly in April. Mrs. Harold V. Armstrong and Virginia Orbison are actively engaged there in the translation and publication of Baha'i literature in Portuguese. News from Sao Paulo, Brazil, indicates that excellent contacts are being made by Gertrude Eisenberg, who has been teaching there for several months.

Dr. Malcolm King has arrived at his new post in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. A study class, public meetings, and assistance with work on French literature are keeping him very busy.

Mrs. Shirley Ward is leaving in early March for Buenos Aires. Her experience in radio and assistance with Spanish publications will make her services there very valuable.

Flora Hottes has accepted a position teaching English in Montevideo. The Baha'i community is growing, and she hopes to remain there indefinitely. Wilfred Barton has recently returned from Uruguay. He is visiting his mother in Chicago.

Gwenne Sholtis is very happy with her Baha'i work in La Paz. Three new membership cards have come from there recently. She, also, is teaching English classes.

Ecuador and the three Central American Republics of Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua are at present without pioneer teachers. The most youthful Spiritual Assembly seems to be very well established and vigorous, however.

One of our pioneers, Louise Baker of Caracas, will be married on February 26th to Mr. William Waterman of Philadelphia. Mr. Waterman is employed as an oil geologist in Venezuela. Their home will be in Caracas for some time. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Baker will be present at the marriage in Caracas.

Public Relations

1. Projects

The Public Relations Committee reports the following projects in which the Assemblies, Regional Committees, and individual believers are offered helpful material for publicity and contact work.

1. Cardsize reprints. This is a series of ten different Baha'i texts printed on postcard size bristol for use by individual believers as postcards, enclosures with letters, etc. 25 sets (250 cards) have been sent to Assemblies and Regional Committees. The cards may be obtained from the Publishing Committee at the rate of 100 sets (1,000 cards) for $3.10. The purpose of these cards is primarily to stimulate more teaching by individual believers in their daily contacts.

2. Chicago Sunday Tribune reprint. With the kind cooperation of the Publishing Committee, the Public Relations Committee has been trying since June, 1945 to place an order for 50,000 reprints of the full page colored illustration of the Temple and the excellent article about the Faith which appeared in the Chicago Sunday Tribune of June 17. The editor has kindly placed the color plates and the original photos at our disposal for this purpose. We are finally able to advise the friends that the reprints are now available. Copies are being given to Assemblies and Regional Committees; the Committee is mailing out a number to the National Baha'i list of influential persons and organizations, and the National Assembly has allocated quantities to other National Committees. The remainder of the edition is turned over to the Publishing Committee for sale at the price of twenty copies for $1.00.

3. Portfolio. The Committee has issued a bound pamphlet containing a presentation of the Faith in its relation to the world crisis, for use in making special contacts such as with newspaper editors, educators, friendly clergy and other persons and organizations active along lines sympathetic to the Baha'i ideals. 1,000 copies are being mailed out direct, 2,000 copies are turned over to the Publishing Committee for sale at the rate of 50c per copy, including a mailing envelop.

4. Press releases. Two releases have already been sent out to papers in towns of more than 100,000 population, and also to local Assemblies and Regional Committees—on the atomic bomb and on industrial justice. Two more will be issued shortly, one on the Guardian's plan for international Bahai relief, the other on Persia as the country of origin of the Faith. Copies of all releases issued by this Committee will be sent on request where groups, traveling teachers and others can use them.

5. Official Navy photo of Temple. The Naval Air Station at Glenview has given us two aerial views of the Temple with permission to reproduce. Copies of one of these have been sent to papers which have a Sunday rotogravure section. Plans are in discussion for using this same picture in a larger number of papers, and a later announcement will be made.

2. Features

The Committee wishes to give special emphasis to the outstanding work done by some of the local Assemblies in getting publicity on the release on the subject of industrial justice. We refer particularly to the action of the Flint Assembly in placing the release in the Flint Journal of January 23 as a paid advertisement, with an offer to send further information on request. As this release gives the Master's statement on the subject, the Flint Assembly has found a way to bring the Baha'i teachings on strikes and wages and government responsibility to the public in the very heart of the troubled motor industry. From South Bend, also, we have a clipping in which the same release is presented under the large heading: Baha'i Peace Plan—Labor and Capital.

The following references to the Faith in publications outside the Cause have been brought to our attention through the kindness of a number of Baha'is, and we list them here for the information of all believers.

The Navy aerial picture was used as front cover illustration on the magazine published by the Navy Air Station of Glenview on January 15, 1946.

Temple illustrations and Baha'i literature have been given to the editor of National Architect at his request, for a feature article on the Cause.

A notice of Temple meetings and guiding has been placed in a bulletin
called the Welcomer which a special organization sends to every family who moves to Wilmette, Evanston, Highland Park, Winnetka, Glencoe and Kenilworth. This bulletin is issued annually, and contains data and information useful to new residents in the area.

A passage from words of the Guardian was quoted in Motive of May, 1945, the magazine of the Methodist Student Movement.

Temple pictures have been given to Conoco Travel Bureau, Continental Oil Co., for reproduction in their bulletin for tourists.

A misleading statement about the Cause was published in Bergen County Panorama, and the correction of this has been taken up with the civil authorities who sponsored the publication.

My Home Town, the Souvenir of Chicago issued for Service Men and Women, carries an illustration of the Temple as central feature of its page of illustrations of churches.

The book entitled Days With Walt Whitman, by Edward Carpenter, contains a reference to the Cause. There are also Bahá'í references in Sunday After the War, by Henry Miller, published by New Directions and in Persian Gulf Command, by Joel Sayre, Random House.

Mr. Joseph Kuperberg, Bahá'í of New York, had an article entitled "New Religion Builds Health" in Let's Live magazine of April, 1945.

3. Policy

The aim of the Public Relations Committee is first, to watch out for important public opinions, events and trends which affect the Bahá'í Faith either favorably or unfavorably, and to take such action with the approval of the N. S. A. as seems best adapted (with the means available) to make the particular situation an occasion for promoting the Bahá'í teachings; second, to issue material which will aid the friends in developing their community, committee or personal contacts with non-Bahá'í organizations and leaders; third, to develop as rapidly as possible a group of nationally prominent persons who are acquainted with the basic Bahá'í teachings and favorably disposed toward the Faith; and fourth, to provide press releases dealing editorially with Bahá'í teachings related to important current events—as for example, the release on industrial justice.

The Committee itself is nothing more than an agency of the National Spiritual Assembly and the servant of the believers. It wishes to be useful, but under no conditions to invade the area of work assigned to other Committees or any other Bahá'í institution. The friends need tools with which to serve the Cause under the highly involved and changing conditions of this era. The credit for using the tools belongs to those devoted and valiant souls who stand on the battle line between faith and unfaith, filled with the spirit of teaching.

We welcome advice, suggestions, names and addresses of prominent persons who should be added to the National mailing list which receives Bahá'í material from time to time.

HORACE HOLLEY, CHAIRMAN
GEORGE O. LATIMER
ALLEN B. Mc DANIEL
WM. C. HENNING

North American Teaching

Effects of the National Campaign

The success of the National Campaign meetings continues to be a great stimulus to the teaching efforts that are being carried forward to follow up the interest aroused in those areas. Encouraging and surprising results are reported, the most recent from Mr. Harlan Ober of Beverly, Mass., who visited Toronto late in January on a circuit planned to provide regular teaching help to the Assemblies and groups in that region. Mr. Ober reports that "the great activity and unity generated in getting the big meeting is producing wonderful results on the friends. They have a new confidence, and the tremendous effort
they made has been invigorating to them."

During Mr. Ober's visit in Toronto two public meeting were held which "filled the Center to capacity" and we understand that talks were also given before a luncheon group, a dinner group at the University Club, and a life insurance salesmen group arranged by Mr. John Robarts. Mr. Ober reports that one of the salesmen "later joined several others who are near to declaring themselves, when I talked about the Will and Testament. Two have asked to join since that meeting." Just outside the city in Forest Hill Village at the Robarts' home, two groups of people came in to a Sunday morning meeting, and in Scarboro nearby, an afternoon meeting at the home of Miss Doris Richardson drew an audience of about 25. Meetings were also arranged for Mr. Ober in Hamilton, Ottawa, and in Montreal.

Mr. Carl Scheffler of Evanston, Illinois, on his return from the recent New Orleans meeting of the National Campaign, stopped over in Jackson, Miss., where he spoke on "Education for World Peace" to a group which included ten non-Baha'i's. "Several strangers were attracted by the newspaper notice. They were quite taken by the Message and remained to talk with the believers until quite late," Mr. Scheffler reports, and adds that he "met a number of men who are State officials, the day following the lecture, at the State Capitol." In Memphis, Tenn., Mr. Scheffler reports an audience of "very refined people who listened very attentively and expressed appreciation."

The New England RTC planned a teaching Conference in Portsmouth, N. H. to follow up the interest created through the big meeting held in that region. Besides the afternoon conference with the believers, there was a radio broadcast by Mr. Ober, and a public meeting that night at which Mr. William Towart, a pioneer settler of Providence, Rhode Island, gave a very good talk on "The Price of World Peace is World Religion."

Circuit Speakers

A circuit through two Western States was arranged to provide for the teaching help of Mrs. Ethel Thompson, of Boise, Idaho. Four public lectures were given in Butte, and in Helena two public fireside meetings were planned. The Spokane Assembly reports a public meeting attended by 32, which was advertized by press and radio, an evening fireside meeting, afternoon meetings and a luncheon meeting arranged for Mrs. Thompson's visit.

During the Christmas holiday period Dr. Edris Rice-Wray covered a circuit in New Jersey and reports that "four talks were arranged by the Regional Committee . . . at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark; at the Center in West Englewood, and though it was New Year's Eve (they had 25 to 30 out); and third at the Kelsey home in West Englewood. They had 35 to 40—a fine group. The final one was at Maud Gaudreaux's studio in Ridgewood." Miss Aline Lindenstruth of Duluth and Mr. Hushang Javid of Chicago accompanied Dr. Rice-Wray on this trip and she writes: "They spoke on every program . . . preceded me with 15-minute talks and everyone seemed to like it . . . It gave variety, presented youth enthusiastic enough to speak for their Faith, and gave them experience. . . ."

Regional Meeting at Harrisburg

The Regional Committee met at Harrisburg, Penna., in January "as a halfway point for all the members to get together." Mr. Stuart Sims broadcast in the morning and spoke at the public meeting held that evening, and Miss Florence Weaver gave the point of view of the youth and how the Faith affected their lives. There were 20 present. "Five new seekers were really interested . . .," writes Mrs. Ethel Crane, the secretary, "and the RTC was very happy over the results."

In California the RTC has worked with the Huntington Park group in an effort to re-establish this Assembly. Regular teaching help has been provided each month. In December Mrs. Virginia Foster spoke to an audience of 127 on "The Door of Hope for Today" and Mrs. Charles Witt spoke in January on "The Way to Peace and Freedom" to be followed in February with a talk by Mr. Joel Marangella on "Youth and the Rising World Community." Mrs. Foster also spoke at a fireside meeting in Fresno at the home of Mrs. Delia Brandin on "The Soul of America."

Canada

From Charlottetown, P.E.I., Mrs. Ruth Moffett reports that the fifth "Seminar" closed February 10th with a group of fifteen new people definitely attracted and three new members confirmed, — Mrs. Daisy Lyle, and Mrs. Hilda Johnston of Charlottetown and Mr. Leo Lagarde, a serviceman there temporarily. This is the culmination of a teaching effort which began in October and has been going forward since with 81 lectures at the Queen Hotel, 89 classes, 32 teas and parties and 14 radio broadcasts. The first permanent Fireside Class has now been formed." On February 16th Mrs. Moffett began two weeks of intensive teaching work in Moncton, N.B., and she states that "they have arranged three lectures every day, some service club addresses and broadcasts. With Annie Romer to inspire them they have been working like beavers in preparation. . . ."

Need for Reinforcements

Regional Bulletins indicate the need for reinforcement in seven different localities, so we again wish to urge those who are free to do pioneer settlement work to contact the Committee immediately.

The task given us by the Guardian continues to be that of the preservation of the status of the present assemblies; the multiplication of groups; their steady and progressive conversion into full fledged assemblies; as well as "the proclamation of the Faith by "bold, concerted measures.""

—NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Publicity for Public Campaign

This committee in co-operating with the Public Campaign program prepared six publicity releases, a total of sixteen copies, and nine advertisements for the three Atlanta daily newspapers in publicizing the January 13th Atlanta meeting. Attendance at the New Orleans Public Meeting of January 28th was aided by the use of sixteen releases and eight advertisements prepared for that city's three newspapers. Of the thirty-four releases for the Los Angeles Public Meeting of February 8th, because of the importance of the suburban area adjacent to the city, all but sixteen of the news items were released to the suburban and racial newspapers. The advertising, as well, made up of twenty-one insertions, was concentrated in the four daily newspapers of Los Angeles but space was also
used in nine suburban and racial newspapers.

Schedules have been completed for the publicity and advertising of the Denver Public Meeting, which is set for March 8th, and plans are in the work for the New York City, Portland, Detroit and Chicago meetings, which follow in the order given.  

**NEWS SERVICE COMMITTEE**

**New Orleans Public Meeting**

The weeks of advance work in connection with these meetings, which covered contacts with colleges, civic organizations, and groups working for better race relations were very fruitful. The press was most cooperative and through its help the Faith was publicized the week before the meetings. For the first time the people of this city became aware of the Teachings.

The first meeting was held January 27th at the Y.W.C.A. and was inter-racial. Both races were well represented. This group was made up of members of the New Orleans Race Relation Committee, the interracial Youth College group, the Urban League, and others, reached through notices in all papers in the city, white as well as colored. The outstanding contribution made by these outside groups was a talk given by the secretary of the Youth College group. These young people reflect the Bahá’í spirit in ignoring all barriers of race, class, and creed. They have invited some of our Bahá’í young people to join them in their work. This is most encouraging and may become a nucleus for a real Bahá’í youth group in the city. Many cards were signed indicating a desire to know more about the Teachings. A follow-up meeting was arranged to be held at the Bahá’í Center February 7th.

The second meeting, at the St. Charles Hotel, January 28th, was a great success, both in numbers and in the type of people attracted. Deep interest was shown, andquirers all helped to make the teach­ings, a larger one will soon be necessary.

A follow-up public meeting is booked for February 13th at the St. Charles Hotel. Mr. Philip Marangella will be the speaker.

**NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC MEETING COMMITTEE**

**The Los Angeles Public Meeting**

The remarkably unified action of all the Bahá’ís in the southern area stirred 800 people to attend the National Public Meeting of February 8th at 8 P.M. in the Elks Temple of Los Angeles. Many of the shut-ins assisted with prayer. One group of 19 used the same supplications, late on the afternoon of the meeting and into the evening. No less remarkable was the turn-out of many Bahá’ís whose busy life has prevented them from being able to participate in the activities of the Cause.

The well-organized mailing division arranged a master list of names with original contact records made. Contact was made with city wide inter-racial groups and their newspapers.

Dr. William Madsen of Pasadena acted as chairman for the meeting. Mrs. Marzieh Gail and Mr. William Sears gave the addresses. Their audience lingered long. Bahá’í artists contributed to the music of the evening: Mrs. Helga Nielsen of Burbank gave a piano solo; Mrs. Willis Brewer of Long Beach sang, accompanied by Mrs. Ingenuus Buner of Los Angeles; Mr. and Mrs. Brewer later sang a duet. Approximately 19 young Bahá’ís acted as ushers for the evening.

The Long Beach Community was most generous in lending the friends an unusual display. An automatic slide projector three by four feet in size showed continuously in progress colored slides of the Temple, of Green Acre, and of Geyserville, with printed notations. It created great interest. There were also eight enlargements of Temple photographs black and white, in stunning frames. Two maps of the hemispheres, with white pins locating all Bahá’í groups and assemblies in the world, hung on the wall behind the Temple model itself. Around the model, the property of the Los Angeles Assembly, the flower committee had arranged fresh blossoms. The Bahá’í book display had arrived from New Orleans just in time to be arranged at the entry wall of the huge lecture hall.

As an aid to the follow-up teaching work, small folded cards were printed and distributed in the chairs. These listed the addresses of the Bahá’ís homes in which, on three consecutive Friday evenings, fireside groups will be held for those who are interested. Space was given to permit the signing of names and addresses. The chairman of the evening allowed time between the speakers for the people to sign these cards, and the ushers collected them. The cards also listed a number of questions which seekers usually ask, questions that would be answered in the fireside discussions. They were compiled so as to attract people of different backgrounds.

The city-wide advertising and publicity articles, the radio programs presented over the Los Angeles Peace program hour two Sundays before February 8th, and the spontaneous cooperation of the Southern California friends in bringing inquirers all helped to make the teaching venture a confirmed success.

**National Public Meetings Committee**

**New Orleans Public Meeting, January 28, 1946, at St. Charles Hotel.**

Mr. Carl Scheffler, speaker. Mr. Philip Marangella, chairman.
World Language

The World Language Committee appeals to the Local Spiritual Assemblies for help in its increasingly important work. So vast has become the scope of our teaching that it has become almost impossible for us alone to carry on our growing projects.

We wish to offer the following suggestions for consideration of the Local Assemblies:

1. That each Local Spiritual Assembly devote one public meeting this year to the subject of world language.

2. That local World Language Committees be appointed, in order to help us in the teaching work. Will those Assemblies who appoint such Committees kindly send to us the names and addresses of the committee members?

The National Spiritual Assembly has placed at our disposal a fine supply of literature. Last year several Assemblies made requests for these booklets, but they were not available at that time. We are now ready to fill any requests, and will be glad to help any of the Local Spiritual Assemblies in this respect.

The most recent report from the Local Spiritual Assembly of Miami carries news of interest: An Esperanto Club has asked permission to meet at the Bahá’í Center, and they have been granted the opportunity of meeting there every Monday evening under the leadership of David Earl, a believer who is serving in the Navy at Miami. He writes:

"Naturally I let the class know what my Faith was and gave them a little information about it from time to time, distributing some of the literature Mrs. Davis has put out. Results: one class-member remembered seeing the exhibit at New York World’s Fair and was very happy to make another contact with the Faith, even borrowing books from our library at the Center; two others have been coming often since then to our regular public meetings and have even attended some Bahá’í study classes; and two others have occasionally attended the public meetings. So a total of five persons have shown more or less interest in the Teachings, directly because of the Esperanto class. That alone is a recompense for the efforts put forth—but also, they know some Esperanto too!"

"In June I was asked to give a talk on Esperanto to the young people of the Miami Shores Community Church. I prefaced my talk by explaining why I was interested in the International language ideal—then talked about forty minutes on the subject assigned. When I finished, the first question was 'What is your religion about?' So I spent almost as long answering questions on the Faith as I had talking on Esperanto. Further, I invited them to the Center to a regular public meeting, and a few weeks later eight or ten of them came in a group to the Center to see what a Bahá’í public meeting was like. More service to the Cause through Esperanto!"

We earnestly repeat our appeal to the Local Spiritual Assemblies to help us in our great work!

World Language Committee

Selected Writings

The attention of all the believers is again directed to the series of three pamphlets published in 1942 with the title of Selected Writings of Baha’u’llah, Selected Writings of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and Selected Writings of Shoghi Effendi. Together, they supply a representative compilation of the Bahá’í teaching in a most convenient form, either for individual study or group teaching use. The edition printed was so large that all three pamphlets can be obtained from the Publishing Committee for 25c.

Publishing Announcement

Bahá’í Portfolio—a twelve-page pamphlet, eight and one-half by eleven inches in size, with illustrations of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and of the House of Worship, planned by the Public Relations Committee for special contacts use. An exposition of the Faith which deals with fundamental spiritual problems involved in the struggle to attain peace. A mailing envelope furnished with each copy. Per copy, 50c.

A Junior’s Book of Religion, by Margarette True, issued by the Publishing Committee for the Child Education Committee. 12 mimeographed pages, with cover, eight and one-half by eleven inches in size. Part I: The Prophets; Part II, The World of Tomorrow; Part III, Questions and Answers. Planned for group study or family discussion. Per copy, 25c.

A Commentary on the Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, by David Hofman. This exposition was approved by the British Reviewing Committee and published under the auspices of the National Spiritual Assembly of the British Isles. The text has been reprinted in Part IV of The Bahá’í World, Vol. IX. Pamphlet, per copy, 25c.

Bahá’í Teachings for a World Faith, Esperanto edition. Per copy, 10c.

Special offer—Individual believers and Assemblies wishing to complete their sets of volumes of The Bahá’í World are informed that copies of Volumes V and VI can be supplied at the rate of $4.50 when both are ordered at once. Separately the combined price is $5.50.

Wanted— for Green Acre

WANTED for the 1946 season of Green Acre Summer School (June 25 to September 10) an energetic student to take complete charge of the kitchen and dining room services to include hiring the personnel, planning of meals and buying. Please give experience, references and expected salary in first letter. Address—Genevieve L. Coy, Chairman Green Acre School Committee, 10 Patchin Place, New York City 11.

WANTED for the 1946 Season of Green Acre Summer School (June 25 to September 10) a Bahá’í to completely manage the school dormitory. (A dietitian will be engaged to take charge of the kitchen and dining room.) The dormitory and adjacent cottages accommodate between 100 and 150 people. Please give experience, references and expected salary in first letter. Address—Genevieve L. Coy, Chairman Green Acre Summer School Committee, 10 Patchin Place, New York City 11.

"World Order"


House of Worship

Program of Public Meetings

Every Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

March 3—The Coming of a Divine Educator
Carl Scheffler

March 10—Prayer, the Heart’s Desire
Margot McNamee Johnson

March 17—World Safe for Humanity
Margery McCormick

March 31—A New Industrial Order
Harvee Holley

April 7—God’s Call to the Christians
Today
Albert Windust

April 14—Out of the Scriptures
Dorothy Baker

April 21—World Religion for World Peace
Marzieh Gail

April 28—Convention Program
*Announced later*
Branch Libraries

The Library Committee has recommended that the friends try to present some basic literature to "branch libraries" in their cities to give sufficient information on the Teachings to attract readers to the Main Public Library collections. Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, which is small (conserving library shelf space), comprehensive and inexpensive, makes a splendid donation for these libraries. Since these branch libraries have often been overlooked by the friends, we offer this brief summary from our files to encourage further donations:

Canada: We have records of Bahá'í books in all large public libraries but no branches.

It is encouraging to report that there is basic literature in all the branch libraries in the following cities:

- Denver, Colo., 12 branches
- Atlanta, Ga., 5 branches
- Springfield, Ill., 3 branches
- Gary, Ind., 7 branches
- Glendale, Calif., 3 branches
- Columbus, Ohio, 6 branches
- Pasadena, Calif., 4 branches
- Toledo, Ohio, 5 branches
- Philadelphia, Penna., 36 branches
- Pittsburgh, Penna., 15 branches
- New Orleans, La., 5 branches

Several cities have Bahá'í books in a number of branches and we hope that the friends continue their good work with a 100% record soon:

- Lincoln, Neb., books in 3 of the 8 branches
- Chicago, Ill., books in 25 branches
- Baltimore, Md., books in 12 of the 25 branches
- Boston, Mass., books in 12 of the 30 branches

We have very little information on Bahá'í books in the "branch libraries" in the following cities:

- Detroit, Mich. (records for 4 of the 25 branches)
- New York City (records for only 6 branches)
- St. Paul, Minn. (only South St. Paul branch listed)
- Cincinnati, O. (records for 2 branches)
- Cleveland, O. (records for East Cleveland Heights—no other branches)
- Los Angeles, Calif. (record of only 1 branch library)
- Miami, Fla. (records for 2 of the 8 branches)
- Indianapolis, Ind. (record for only 1 of the 18 branches)

We have no records of Bahá'í books in the "branch libraries" in the following cities:

- Birmingham, Ala. (11 branches)
- Buffalo, N.Y. (no data)
- Fort Wayne, Ind. (5 branches)
- St. Louis, Mo. (29 branches)
- Rochester, N.Y. (12 branches)
- San Francisco, Calif. (21 branches)
- Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma, Wash. (no data)
- Milwaukee, Wis. (no data)
- Minneapolis, Minn. (no data)

Temple Guides

September and October, 1945

The number of visitors to the Temple continues to be astonishing, as also their receptiveness and the great quantity of literature they purchase there.

In September the total was 4424 as compared to 2451 in Sept. in 1944. These came from 46 states and the District of Columbia, 4 provinces (9 cities) of Canada, Hawaii, Netherlands, Chile and Brazil. The numbers guided on Sundays were 894, 557, 465, 379, and 188. The total number on Sundays was 2483, week-days 1941, including Labor Day which was 702.

In October the total was 2357 as compared with 2771 in October, 1944. Fifty per cent came on Sundays. They came from 41 states, the District of Columbia, 12 from 3 provinces of Canada, from Barbados, Trinidad, Brazil, England, China, Australia, Czechoslovakia, and the Philippines.

The following organizations visited in a body: (June, July and August are included because they were omitted in the last report.)

- June—13 North Shore Girl Scout Troop, Winnetka, Ill.; 17 Evanson, Ill.; 22 Prairie Club, Chicago (Hikers)
- July—19 Rebecca Guild from Grace Evangelical Church, Milwaukee, Wis.; 12 Youth Group from the Pilgrim Cong'1. Church, Oak Park, Ill.
- August—25 Rogers Park Play School, Chicago, Ill.; 40 Jehovah Lutheran Church, Chicago.
- Sept.—15 Girl Scout Troop, Wilmette, Ill.; 23 Students from Evangelical Institute, Chicago.
- Oct.—30 Lions Club, Winnetka, Ill.; 18 As You Like It Readers Club, Harvey, Ill.; 16 Y.W.C.A. Northwestern University.

From January 1, 1945, through October 31, 1945, Bahá'í literature in the amount of $1,877.43 has been sold by the guides, including 1137 copies of "Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era."

Week-day guiding will continue indefinitely owing to the fact that visitors continue to arrive in great numbers, many of whom come from remote and sparsely settled states and foreign countries. We feel this necessary, since it is doubtful if any but a few of these would have another opportunity to visit the Temple or hear of the Faith. We hope that it will be possible to so heat the Temple that it can be open every day in the year.

Among means of serving the Cause Temple Guiding is unique. None other is so full of possibilities of teaching with widespread effect. The enthusiastic comments of the visitors and their interest is amazing. They come here desiring to learn and delighted with what they hear.

More fireside groups and public meetings are needed everywhere. We should like all of you, no matter where you live, who wish to be listed as willing to hold fireside groups, to send your name to the Guides Committee. We will keep a list at the Temple. Many visitors would be interested in attending such meetings.

Since we shall need many more guides and public speakers for the work by next summer, we invite those who would like to spend their vacations in Wilmette to volunteer for this work. It will be necessary for you to prepare yourself well and to be approved as a teacher by your Local Spiritual Assembly or Regional Teaching Committee. We will furnish Guides Study Courses to those who are so approved if they will apply for them. Some assemblies are holding guide study classes and supervising them. Only those who seriously intend to do this work should apply for Courses, as the supply is limited.

The four who spent their vacations last summer in Wilmette guiding in the Temple found it a most thrilling work. They were Roan Orloff, Boston, Massachusetts; Clara Edge, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Muriel Barrow, Shandaken, New York; and Mary Beasley, Detroit, Michigan.

The total number of visitors to the Temple from January 1 to October 31, 1945, was 24,396. Last year for the same period it was 16,391. The total since Guide Service started, July 1, 1932, is 205,824!

TEMPLE GUIDES COMMITTEE,
Mary J. Haggard, Chairman.
Permanent Memorial Exhibit

The Bahá’í Committee on American Memorial to ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, at the request of the National Spiritual Assembly, is endeavoring to establish a permanent exhibit in the Evergreen Cabin at West Englewood, New Jersey, commemorating the Master’s visit to America. Any newspaper clippings, photographs, relics or accounts of personal interviews with ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, that have any bearing on His visit in this country will be acceptable. Photostatic copies of these precious mementos can be made and used in lieu of the originals should the owners not wish to part with them. Whatever information or articles any believer has, will he or she please submit them to, or contact the Secretary of this Committee?

COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN MEMORIAL TO ‘ABDU’L-BAHÁ

Mrs. Army G. Rautitzek, Secty., 1113 Bromley Avenue, West Englewood, N. J.

Bahá’í College Students

The College Speakers Bureau is anxious to obtain the names of Bahá’í students in educational institutions.

The Bureau wishes to compile this list of Bahá’í students in order to make special contact with them, both as a possibility of presenting a Bahá’í speaker in the college where they are enrolled and for assistance in teaching among undergraduates.

Names and addresses of the Bahá’í students should be sent to the secretary of the Bureau.

RUTH RANDALL BROWN, Sec’y, Box 111, Ingomar, Pa.

College Speakers

In cooperation with the Race Unity Committee, the College Speakers Bureau is glad to report that Mrs. Joy Earl is spending three months in the south visiting many well-known colleges. Mrs. Terah Smith will visit several colleges in Georgia this month in connection with a teaching trip. Dr. Edris Rice-Wray will fill an opening at Iowa State University and will have an opportunity to speak to the students and faculty and make a radio address.

News of Other Lands

Egypt

The British Bahá’í Journal gives the following description of the Haşiratu’l-Quds in Cairo:

Philip Hainsworth spent some time in Egypt on his way to East Africa and stayed in the Haşiratu’l-Quds in Cairo for a few days’ leave. He gives the following description of it:

“It is very new and a most beautiful place. It was only completed a matter of one hour before the Centenary celebrations were due to begin. As soon as the workmen finished, swarms of the friends dashed around the place and cleaned it up so that everything should start on time. The exterior and dome is still incomplete.

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS IN CAIRO, EGYPT, MAY 22-24, 1944

Banquet for Ladies. One of the Banquets for Men.

It is a nine-sided building of simple design but unusual, with a dome on top supported on nine pillars, about 15-20 feet above the main body of the building. Eventually the surface will be covered with some plastic material and the dome will be floodlit.

“It lies a hundred yards back from the main road between a Coptic Church and a Mosque. (This Mosque was built specially to oppose the Haşiratu’l-Quds and meetings are held in it for the sole purpose of raising hatred against the Bahá’ís.)

“In the basement of the Haşiratu’l-Quds are five rooms, kitchen, etc., the rooms being used for the library and book store, for the Youth Groups (boys and girls meet separately for the present), the local assembly, etc. Above the basement is the reception hall, a small office, and the large assembly hall, which will seat 150 or so. The next floor has the two guest rooms, the archives room, the N.S.A. room, library (display), bathroom and small kitchen. Above this again is the flat sun roof with the dome rising above all.”

Our readers will remember the great success which attended the Egyptian Centenary celebrations. About 400 believers from all parts of the world were present.

Election Committee for Michigan, 1946. Left to right: Mrs. Harry Mills, secretary; Mr. Harry Whang, chairman; Mr. George True.

Child Education

Dear Parents and Teachers:

In the teaching process there comes a time when a child has assimilated sufficient knowledge on a given subject to express some of this knowledge in his own words. Through this means of expression his learning becomes more firmly imprinted on his mind and soul. The following was dictated by a child eight and a half years old, who had been studying the Faith for about a year.

“Bahá’u’lláh was a good man. He was good to us. We love Him. We should love all God’s Men. We should be good, and if we are we will be happy, and so will God. If we pray every night, God will know we love Him. God knows everything we do and say. He knows what we think, too. We are dumb compared to God!

“If all the nations agreed, the world would be perfect, but we cannot be perfect with all these wars.

“Bahá’u’lláh taught us to worship God, and He taught us the Hidden Words. ‘A Bahá’í has to believe in Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá too. ‘Abdul-Bahá went on with Bahá’u’lláh’s Teachings. Shoghi Effendi is the living grandson of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. He is the head of all Bahá’ís around the world.”

Janet R. Lindstrom
15 Alberta Road
Chestnut Hill 67, Mass.
Egypt attended and a fine group of non-believers was attracted to the Faith and have since come to the Baha'i meetings in Cairo. We have recently received a detailed account of the Centenary celebrations which, by showing the obstacles the Egyptian believers had to overcome, makes the success of this great event even more striking. The completion of their Haziratu'l-Quds by May, 1944, seemed, in 1943, impossible, owing to lack of funds and difficulty in obtaining materials. But contributions from the Guardian revived the hopes of the N.S.A. Materials were miraculously procured. Carpentry was entrusted to three committees, in Cairo, Beni-Suef and Port Said. Electrical installations were contributed by the friends of Beni-Suef and the plaster by Port Said.

Centenary Celebrations: Preparations for the great event were made by various committees and included obtaining the consent of the police, arranging accommodations for the several hundred out-of-town Baha'is, some in hotels, but most in homes of Cairo Baha'is, arranging the program, arranging for refreshments and meals in tents which were pitched beside the Haziratu'l-Quds, approving the names of non-Baha'is who expressed a desire to attend, etc. The celebration lasted for three days. The program included addresses on "The Position of Women in the Baha'i Cause," "The Life of Qurratu'l-Ayn," "The Accord between Religion and Science," "Why Baha'is feel Tranquility," readings from the Qayyumu'l-Asma', the "Dawn Breakers" and Abdul' Baha's American Addresses, and music.

The audience was divided, children up to twelve occupying the basement, men the second floor, and women the third. A public address system had been installed by means of which all could listen to the program. Those in attendance were from different nationalities and faiths—Moslems, Christians and Jews. All were conscious of a new, matchless and life-giving spirit. The fragrances of spiritual love and brotherhood were diffused.

Hundreds were gathered outside, eager to listen, and all the radios of the neighborhood were silent in order that people might listen to the loud speakers. Many poor people gathered around the building and were fed. Celebrations in Cairo are generally more or less disorderly, but this one was marred by no disturbing incident.

New Field of Service: Soon after the Centenary the Guardian wrote advising the Egyptian Baha'is to establish the Cause in new localities and contributing 1,000 pounds to help finance pioneers and aid in the general teaching work. As a result, three new assemblies have been formed, in Suez, Tanta and Sohag. Two believers have settled in Khartoum, Sudan, and the believers there are well organized, holding weekly meetings, attending Nineteen Day Feasts regularly and keeping in communication with the National Spiritual Assembly.

Sabri Effendi Elias of Alexandria has returned to Ethiopia, after a long absence which began when the Italian war against Ethiopia broke out in 1933. Reports show that he is promoting the Cause in a wonderful way and it is hoped that he can stay in Ethiopia permanently.

Persecutions: In Tanta, when the Spiritual Assembly was formed, the Baha'is were attacked, beaten and, in one case, wounded by a mob which the police dispersed with great difficulty. Later, however, as the people of Tanta came to know the Baha'is better, a friendly feeling came about, and now many of the people of Tanta are inquiring about the Cause.

Baha'i Marriage Certificates Still Unrecognized: Recently an application of a Baha'i for permission for his wife (a Palestinian resident) to become a resident of Egypt was refused on the ground that the Baha'i marriage certificate of the couple was not legal, since the Baha'i Faith is not recognized by the Egyptian Government. This case is being appealed. Such verdicts are frequent in spite of the judgment pronounced by the Grand Mufti of Islam in Egypt in which he proclaimed the independent status of the Baha'i Faith. The Egyptian Baha'is are preparing a memorandum in which they hope to gain from the Egyptian Government the right to enjoy the privileges sanctioned by the Constitutional Law on an equal footing with other religious communities.

Burma

Superb Services rendered the Cause by Siyyid Mustafá Roumie

Our November issue carried the news of the death of Siyyid Mustafá Roumie and the Guardian's cable, which spoke of his "magnificent achievements" entitling him to "join the ranks of the Hands of the Cause of Baha'u'llah." Readers will remem-
Siyyid Muṣṭafā belonged to a noble family of Baghdad, 'Trāq. His father had settled in Madras, India. When Sulayman Khan Iyās, popularly known as Jamāl Effendi, the first Bahá'í teacher sent by Bahá'u'lláh to India in 1875, arrived at Madras, Siyyid Muṣṭafā was in his early twenties. He was very spiritual and very careful in the observance of his religious duties. The moment, therefore, he came in contact with the commanding personality of Jamāl Effendi, he was attracted to him. He became a firm believer of the truth of the Cause and enkindled with love for it. When Jamāl Effendi left Madras, he accompanied him and travelled with him throughout India and Burma.

On reaching Burma in 1878 he left Jamāl Effendi and settled in Rangoon, where he married into a wealthy Indo-Burman family of traders and became a partner in their business.

Jamāl Effendi succeeded in establishing two Bahá'í groups in Burma, one in Rangoon and one in Mandalay. Siyyid Muṣṭafā followed up his teacher's work and, under the direction of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, succeeded in developing these groups into Spiritual Assemblies.

In 1910 the firm in which he was a partner failed, and, soon after, his wife died. From this time on he devoted his whole time to the service of the Faith. In 1899 he carried to the Holy Land, with other Bahá'ís, the marble casket made by the Bahá'ís of Mandalay for the Holy Remains of the Báb. He was received by 'Abdu'l-Bahá most graciously and was the recipient of many favors from Him.

Besides consolidating the Centers at Rangoon and Mandalay he was assisted in establishing a new Center at Daidanaw, a village in the township of Kungyangoon. It happened that the headman of Daidanaw was involved in a troublesome legal case. In the Rangoon court when his application for bail was granted there was no one to stand surety for him because he was a stranger. One of the Bahá'ís of Rangoon, happening to be in the court room, at once offered himself as surety. This impressed the headman and his companions and they inquired of the Bahá'í to which Faith he belonged. When told of Bahá'u'lláh and His great Message they were very desirous to hear more of it. They were brought to Siyyid Muṣṭafā, who convinced them of the truth of the new Revelation. The headman and his party went back to their village and related this experience to the people. The elders of the village held a consultation and decided to invite Siyyid Muṣṭafā to their village to teach them the new Faith of God. This Siyyid Muṣṭafā did in his own convincing manner and the village embraced the Cause en masse. Siyyid Muṣṭafā set about bettering the lot of these people. With financial aid from Rangoon Bahá'ís he started a school in the village. He translated several Bahá'í books into Burmese, supervised translations into Urdu and wrote Lessons in Religion in Burmese.

Siyyid Muṣṭafā was entirely detached from the world. He loved the Beloved Guardian to such a degree that in all his daily life he followed his example. He knew that the Beloved Guardian loved and appreciated nothing but work and service for the Divine Faith, and he worked for it day and night unmindful of his health.

He was about 99 years of age at the time of his death, but his spirit was as young as the spirit of a youth of 22. If he heard of an inquirer he would walk a long distance to meet him. His method of teaching was to help the inquirer to be self-reliant in his search for truth and remove from his mind the attitude of dependence upon so-called religious leaders. He would build his argument on the knowledge of the inquirer and convince him of the truth proclaimed by Bahá'u'lláh.

The Passing of Lidia Zamenhof

From Mrs. Mabelle L. Davis comes the news of two reports of the passing of Miss Lidia Zamenhof, daughter of the inventor of Esperanto, and prominent Bahá'í teacher. The friends will remember her successful lecture tour in this country before the war.

Through a Danish periodical, the Dansk Esperanto-Blad, December, 1945, we learn that a Polish Esperantist wrote to Mr. E. Malmgren of Sweden, one of the officers of the International Esperanto League, as follows:

"In the last few days before the wailing up and closing of the Jewish quarter, I went to Miss Zamenhof and offered to hide her with my Polish family. But that noble woman refused my offer to save her, saying that I and my family would perish as well as the Jew who was found. Miss Zamenhof was burned in the crematory for Jews in Treblinka, a place between Warsaw and Bialystoko."

A report which seems to confirm this came to Miss Roam Orloff from Mrs. Anne Lynch in Switzerland: that Lidia Zamenhof died in August, 1944.

Marion Holley and David Hofman were married in Northampton, England, Sunday, October 21, 1945.

Auckland, New Zealand, Bahá'ís are settled in a new Center in a good position on the main street of the city.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page Col.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Be Filled with Love&quot;— Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Messages from the Guardian &quot;Special Immediate Appeal&quot; Status of Pioneer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly Letter to the Believers Calendar Enrollments Convention Notice Directory In Memoriam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Committees Inter-America News Public Relations North American Teaching Publicity for Public Campaign New Orleans Public Meeting Los Angeles Public Meeting World Language Selected Writings Publishing Announcement Wanted—for Green Acre &quot;World Order&quot; House of Worship—Program of Public Meetings Branch Libraries Temple Guides Permanent Memorial Exhibit Bahá'í College Students College Speakers Child Education News from Other Lands Egypt Burma Passing of Lidia Zamenhof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs Official Navy photography of Bahá'í House of Worship New Orleans Public Meeting Election Committee for Michigan Centenary banquets in Cairo, Egypt Mohamed Effendi Said speaking at Centenary celebrations in Egypt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"Be in Perfect Unity"

You have heard the Divine call. ... You have good intentions, your purpose is the good pleasure of God, you desire to serve in the kingdom of the merciful One. Therefore arise in the utmost power. Be in perfect unity. Never become angry with one another. Let your eyes be directed toward the kingdom of truth and not toward the world of creation. Love the creatures for the sake of God and not for themselves. You will never become angry or impatient if you love them for the sake of God. Humanity is not perfect. There are imperfections in every human being and you will always become unhappy if you look toward the people themselves. But if you look toward God you will love them and be kind to them, for the world of God is the world of perfection and complete mercy. Therefore do not look at the shortcomings of anybody; see with the sight of forgiveness. The perfect eye beholds imperfections. The eye that covers faults looks toward the Creator of souls. He created them, trains and provides for them, endows them with capacity and life, sight and hearing; therefore they are the signs of His grandeur. You must love and be kind to everybody, care for the poor, protect the weak, heal the sick, teach and educate the ignorant. ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Beloved Friends:

For the first time in the history of the National Spiritual Assembly, an election to fill a vacancy in its membership has been held after the Convention period. On account of Mr. Wilhelm's inability to attend the meetings this year, with the Guardian's approval, the delegates serving at the annual election of 1945 were called upon to vote by mail for one new member. The tellers appointed to count the ballots cast at the 1945 election served again; and their report states that Miss Elsie Austin was elected. Miss Austin will therefore, from March 16, receive the weekly reports prepared for the members of the National Assembly, and attend the one remaining meeting to be held prior to the 1946 Convention.

The fifteen highest votes were: Miss Elsie Austin, 30; Miss Edna True, 12; 9 each for Mr. Paul Haney and Mrs. Marjorie McCormick; 7 each for Mr. Wm. Kenneth Christian, Mr. Rowland Estall and Mr. Clarence Niss; 6 each for Mr. Curtis Kelsey and Mr. Emeric Sala; Mr. Siegfried Schopflocher, 5; 4 each for Mr. Carl Scheffler and Mr. Albert Windust; 3 each for Mr. Mathew Bullock, Dr. Kathryn True, Mrs. Sarah S. Walrath. Seven received two votes each, and one vote was cast for each of twenty-two persons.

For the annual election of local Spiritual Assemblies on April 21, the NSA has sent out copies of the Assembly Roll used for reporting these elections. Through the National Teaching Committee, the Regional Teaching Committees are also receiving copies for use by groups prepared to form an Assembly for the first time. A brief bulletin explaining the conditions under which new Assemblies can be formed has also been distributed. Where there are exactly nine adult Bahá'ís, the Assembly is formed by joint declaration, and a different type of form is needed, copies of which may be obtained from the National Assembly.

Unexpectedly the NSA was advised by Mr. John Eichenauer on March 19 that no more packages should be sent to him or to Mr. Davison for the relief of German Bahá'ís. Details were not given in the cabled message. No doubt the shipments were so numerous from all parts of the country that the two devoted believers could not receive any more. It is hoped that postal regulations will be changed soon to permit us to send direct parcels and letters to German Bahá'í Assemblies.

The latest available financial report is dated January 31, 1946. Total cash on hand, $27,681.35; received in January, $17,437.12; expenditures, $9,772.70; carmarked, $11,213.25; available for use, $16,468.10.

The friends, and particularly the local Assemblies, are reminded of the Guardian's explicit instruction that all Orientals coming to America are to be received as Bahá'ís only when having credentials from the proper Bahá'í administrative body of their own country. Such credentials are to be sent to the National Assembly here, which will issue its own credentials permitting the believer to be enrolled as member of the Bahá'í community. All other cases should be reported to the National Assembly and its advice awaited before action is taken.

-NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

In Memoriam

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestows joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferrith the gift of everlasting life.—Bahá'u'lláh.

Mrs. Frances La Roza, New Haven.
Mrs. Anna W. Baumer, New Haven.
Mrs. Henrietta Snead, Homewood, Alabama.
April, 1946

Enrollments

Racine, one.
Atlanta, one.
San Francisco, one youth.
Washington, one.
New York, one.

National Committees

Radio

The National Radio Committee is very pleased to advise the friends that it now has a wide variety of good material for broadcasting. The following are available without cost to Assemblies, Regional Committees, and isolated Bahá’ís who can secure radio time:

3 Dramatic Presentations of the Faith (for a fifteen minute broadcast). Transcription records. These have been produced by a professional radio director and each has a large cast of professional actors. The transcriptions compare favorably with the best professional programs. Many small local stations will allot time free for this type of program as it offers a quality which they are glad to get.

1 half hour Dramatic presentation of the Faith. Transcription record. Produced and written by a Bahá’í with long radio experience. A fine production showing the establishment of the Faith all over the world. Carey McWilliams, the negro author, is the principal non-Bahá’í guest on this program. Has a good cast. Suitable for all types of stations interested in educational programs.

4 scripts, fifteen minutes in length. These present the wide aspects of the Faith. They are interesting, comprehensive, and accurate.

Samples of “spot announcements.” These are useful for the friends as models from which to write their own spot announcements.

Question and Answer script. An informative script with questions about the Faith asked by the announcer and answered by a Bahá’í. A good introduction to the Faith.

Variety of short selections from the Bahá’í Writings suitable to be used with musical intervals to make up a fifteen minute program.

New transcriptions records, in addition to the ones mentioned above, are now in the process of being made. We hope to complete a series of thirteen. These will include dramatic shows, interviews, and round table discussions. We hope the friends will take advantage of this material which has taken us so many months to produce. We feel that we have taken a long step forward and we know that the friends will agree when they hear the transcriptions.

National Radio Committee

Public Relations

The Public Relations Committee brings three new projects to your attention:

1. An Official Navy Photograph of the Temple (aerial view) has been made available to us and the committee has arranged to distribute mats to 4,000 newspapers in small towns. Extra mats have been obtained, and mats will be sent on request to local Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees. It is hoped that many of the larger papers can be interested in using the picture through the efforts of the friends.

2. A release has been sent to papers in towns having a population of 100,000 or more, on the subject of the building up of the Bahá’í centers in Germany, Burma and the Philippines. A copy is enclosed with this letter for local assemblies and regional teaching committees. Where necessary, the release can be re-dated, shortened, or rewritten as a letter to the editor. The main thing is to obtain as much Bahá’í publicity as possible in these crucial days.

3. For assisting in special contacts, a portfolio has been printed entitled — “Bahá’í — The Coming of World Religion.” An edition of three thousand copies has been produced, part of which are being sent direct to a National List, and the remainder will be sold through the Publishing Committee at 50 cents per copy. A complimentary copy is being sent your Assembly or Committee under separate cover. It is suggested that you consider how these portfolios can be used for impressing the Bahá’í teachings on leaders of your community.

The committee urges local assemblies to develop a list of the key persons and organizations of the city, and adopt some definite plan for bringing the Faith to their attention at regular intervals. It is important to the unfoldment of the Faith that in every city there be a number of interested and informed friends, persons of capacity and influence who respect the teachings and admire their aims and purposes.

The successful policy will be based on effort to share the teachings with leaders without exerting pressure to enroll them as members of the community. Depending on conditions, the question is one of wise and patient contact, either through personal ac-

Bahá’í News

Bahá’í News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’í of the United States and Canada as the official newsletter of the Bahá’í community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924.

On April 10, 1925, the Guardian wrote: “The News Letter which you have lately initiated fulfills a very vital function . . . I would urge you to enlarge its scope . . . that in time it may devote a special section to every phase of your activities, administrative, devotional, humanitarian, financial, educational and otherwise.”

“It should become a great factor in promoting understanding, providing information, and spreading the work, both local and foreign, in stimulating interest, in combating evil influences, and in upholding and safeguarding the institutions of the Cause.”

The contents include: material supplied by the National Spiritual Assembly as well as the Guardian’s messages, the Assembly’s letters and its general statements and reports; Committee plans which have been approved and authorized; Committee news reports of activities; annual reports from local Assemblies; news from other lands gathered from the bulletins of the various National Assemblies; a record of new enrollments and transfers; a record of deaths; photographs of general Bahá’í interest.

Bahá’í News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá’í News Committee: Horace Holley, Garreta Busey, Eleanor S. Hutchens, Mabel H. Paine. Address: Bahá’í News Committee, c/o Miss Garreta Busey, 503 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois.
quaintance, distribution of selected Bahá’í literature, notices of public meetings, or occasional invitations to participate in special programs of general appeal, such as peace, social justice, race unity, religious unity, etc.

This is a long-term effort, to be pursued steadily from year to year in full realization of the fact that one by one all human hopes and beliefs will fail, and ultimately the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh alone can maintain the foundation of social progress. Educators, editors, social workers, race and minority leaders, liberal clergy, artists and scientists, professional men and women, as well as civic leaders — this relatively small group can be favorably disposed to the Faith, and its natural endowment of talent and capacity is a precious asset which challenges the believers to fulfill some of the great promises which ‘Abdu’l-Bahá made to the American Bahá’ís. A number of assemblies have been pursuing this policy for years, with splendid results.

Finally, we ask your cooperation in sending for our National List those local names and addresses which you regard as of first importance, so that through our mailings we can reinforce your local work.

Public Relations Committee
Horace Holley, Chairman
Allen B. McDaniel
George O. Latimer
William C. Henning

Publishing Announcements
The Bahá’í Temple, House of Worship of a World Faith: This 34-page illustrated pamphlet was issued in 1942, to commemorate the completion of the steps and exterior ornamentation. The cost per copy has been 10c but this is reduced to 5c per copy as long as available. Orders taken for lots of ten copies for $0.50.

Chicago Sunday Tribune: The full page color photo of Temple as flood-lighted during the Centenary celebration, and excellent article, published June 17, 1945, has been reprinted as a four-page folder as a project of the Public Relations Committee. This makes a very attractive and interesting piece for general teaching use, for distributing at public meetings, for general contacts work, and especially for use by Publicity and Radio Committees in showing the influence of the Faith. Sold in lots of 20 copies for $1.00.

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Dayton, Ohio, incorporated, January 7, 1946.

The Bahá’í Centenary: The book prepared by the N. S. A. as part of the celebration of the Centenary, featuring the development of the Cause in North America since 1894 described. Per copy, $2.00.

A World Survey: Compiled by the Guardian in 1944 contains statistical material showing the distribution of the Bahá’í community throughout the world. Sold in lots of 50 for $1.50.

“World Order”

The editors are planning a four-page pictorial supplement as a regular feature of the magazine, reproducing photographs of special Bahá’í interest: convention gatherings, summer schools, large public meetings, inter-racial banquet, youth conferences, etc. Photographs suitable for use in this supplement, clearly labeled in as much detail as possible on the back, should be sent to Mrs. William Henning, 69 Abbottsford Road, Winnetka, Illinois.


The magazine brings us this month a section devoted to the Word of Bahá’u’lláh, “The Day of God.”

—World Order Magazine Committee

Green Acre School, 1946

The Green Acre Bahá’í Summer School at Eliot, Maine, will be in session from Saturday, June 29, through Monday, September 2, 1946. A lecture-discussion course will be given each morning from 9:30 to 10:30. The topics for each week are as follows, although it is not yet certain that the courses will be given in exactly the order listed.

July 1-5: Islamic Civilization.
July 8-13: “The Dawn Breakers.”
July 22-27: Bahá’í Ethics.
Aug. 5-10: The Influence of Religion on Art.
Aug. 12-17: How to Know and Use Bahá’í Literature.
Aug. 19-24: Reaching the Public with the Bahá’í Teachings.
Aug. 26-31: The World Economy.
A Research Seminar will be given throughout the Season, under the direction of Prof. Glenn Shook. In this
Classes for Children will be held in the Arts and Crafts Studio each morning. These will probably be arranged in three groups, covering the age-range from three to fifteen years. All children in residence at the School are expected to attend these classes three hours, each morning.

Special Classes for Youth will be held during the two weeks from July 29 to August 11. These classes are limited to young people between the ages of 15 and 25.

The Weekly Program of Evening Events will be as follows:

- **Mondays** — School Community Meeting of all students.
- **Tuesdays** — “Open House” at the cottage of Mr. and Mrs. Holley.
- **Wednesdays** — “Ways of Reaching the Public,” — a round-table discussion on teaching and publicity.
- **Thursdays** — A program in charge of Youth, with music, readings and talks.
- **Fridays** — Left open for special events.
- **Saturdays** — Current events of the week, considered in relation to Bahá’í principles and teaching.

**Sundays** — Concerts, and Lectures in other art fields.

Information as to Dormitory rates, application for admission to the School, etc. will be published in later numbers of Bahá’í News.

**Race Unity Conference
At Green Acre, 1945**

The Race Unity Conference at Green Acre last year, August 17-19, 1945, afforded the numerous Bahá’ís and their friends who were in attendance, the opportunity to hear the subject of Race Unity discussed by the selected speakers: Mr. Carl Krug, Mr. Raoul Zargarpur, Mr. George Brawley, Mrs. Terah Smith, Mr. Louis Gregory, Mrs. Walter H. Corestine, Dr. Glenn Shook and Dr. ‘Ali Kuli Khan.

Mr. Krug emphasized the eternal quality of truth despite the retarda-

**A group of students at the Lo-**

Some of teachers at the Lonhelen Mid-Winter Session, December, 1945. Left to right: Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mr. William Kenneth Christian, Mrs. Florence Keed.

course each student works on a topic of his own choice, and results of the individual studies are shared with other students on Saturday mornings.

A Workshop in Speaking and Writing meets each day (except Sundays) throughout the season. In this course students have an opportunity really to practice speaking and writing on Bahá’í topics and related themes. A student may elect Speaking, or Writing, or may work in both. Leaders of this Workshop—July, Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh; August, Mrs. Margaret Sears.

A Workshop in Bahá’í Administrative Procedure will be held throughout the season. This course will include practice in holding assembly meetings, committee meetings, etc. Typical community problems will be presented as subjects for practice in consultation. Leader for this Workshop for one month, — Genevieve L. Coy. (The Leader for the second month has not yet been chosen.)

A Study class for non-Bahá’ís only will be held whenever there are non-Bahá’ís at the School who need such instruction.

Special Week-end Conferences. It is planned to hold three such conferences, with dates as follows:

- June 29-30. Securing the Peace.
- August 24-25. Inter-America Conference.

*Some of teachers at the Lonhelen Mid-Winter Session, December, 1945. Left to right: Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mr. William Kenneth Christian, Mrs. Florence Keed.*

April, 1946

*A group of students at the Lonhelen Mid-Winter Session, December, 1945.*
of the masses. Bahá'u'lláh has come to the men of this Day to explain that "these oppressions are preparing humanity for the advent of the Most Great Justice."

Bahá'u'lláh brings a message to the world which admits of no race qualifications. In the words of Dr. Khan, "The acceptance of the principle of the Oneness of Mankind is a step toward Universal Peace. Kings may express this principle through their edicts; governments through their parliaments; musicians through their instruments and poets through their writings." The practice of brotherly love and friendliness toward all is man's new conception of divinity. Let the Bahá'ís in their everyday activities help to lay the foundation stones of this heavenly kingdom!

The musical renditions offered by Miss Adele Keshelac, Miss Ida Noyes, Mrs. Joy Earle, Miss Lois Keller and Miss Lydia Martin contributed the harmony of atmosphere which supported beautifully the harmony of spirit so characteristic of Green Acre.

GREEN ACRE RACE UNITY CONFERENCE
Sarah Martin Pereira, Chairman

Inter-American News

The newest pioneer, Mrs. Shirley Warde, formerly a member of the San Francisco Community, left Miami by Pan American Airways, March 5th, with her final destination Buenos Aires. En route to her post, Shirley stopped over in Ciudad Trujillo, Bahía, Rio de Janeiro, and Montevideo. In Buenos Aires, she is to assist the Publishing and Distributing Committee with their arduous and demanding tasks, and to help the Community in their teaching activities. Because of her rich experience in radio, Mrs. Warde will devote herself especially to a wider and more effective use of this medium of promoting the Faith in the various Latin American centers.

The Inter-American Committee rejoices especially over the news from the Rio of the formation of a group in that city, consisting of Leonora Armstrong, Virginia Orbison, Mary and Edward Bode, Dr. Tomas Sanchez Egea, and Hans Sirach. Dr. Sanchez Egea, the Secretary of the Group, became a Bahá’í in Montevideo. Virginia Orbison and Edward Bode have been added to the Portuguese Publishing and Distributing Committee, of which Leonora Armstrong is the Chairman. Plans are being formulated for the immediate publishing in Portuguese, of Bahá'u'lláh and The New Era and Dispensation.

From Chile comes the news of the certain formation of a Spiritual Assembly in Valparaiso, where a lovely Group has been developed under the joint auspices of the Santiago and Punta Arenas Assemblies. Marcia Steward has been concentrating her efforts on Valparaiso for several months, assisted by two former members of the Punta Arenas Assembly, now living in Valparaiso. This will make the third Bahá’í Community in Chile.

After attending the Panama Conference, Elisabeth Cheney proceeded to Bogota, where she will remain at least until the April election.

From the Panama Conference, Mrs. Amelia Collins travelled through Central America, stopping over in San Salvador, Guatemala City, and Mexico City, en route home. Mrs. Collins brought back a most enthusiastic and heartening account of the Panama Conference, and of the inspiration it was to all those participating in it.

Dr. Malcolm King reports from Port-au-Prince, Haiti, encouraging evidences of deep interest in the Bahá’í talks which he is giving.

Artemus Lamb is currently in the United States on business, and hopes to attend the Convention before returning to Punta Arenas.

After devoting her full efforts to assisting with the arrangements for Panama Conference, Gayle Woolson is now in San Jose, and will divide her time between Costa Rica and Panama. Evelyn Larson is remaining as pioneer in Costa Rica, and Cora Oliver is at present spending her holiday in San Jose.

Denver Public Meeting

The Public Meeting at Denver, part of the National Campaign, was held at the Shirley-Savoy Hotel on March 8th, with an audience of about 375. The A Cappella Choir of the East Denver High School opened the meeting with five selections, and Mr. Carl Scheffer spoke on the subject "The Price of World Peace Is World Religion." Mrs. E. R. Roberts was chairman.

In preparation for this meeting the Denver Spiritual Assembly was able to get daily notices in both leading papers, the Denver Post and the Rocky Mountain News, in addition to paid advertising. On the radio a half hour transcription was given the Sunday before the big meeting and one of fifteen minutes on the Sunday after. This was followed up by a broadcast given by Mr. William Sears in person on March 17th. Six-
teen spot announcements mentioned
the public meeting on KFEL and
one free announcement was given
over KVOD.

An attractively printed card
invited the public to attend three
follow-up meetings at the Cosmopolitan
Hotel on the three evenings follow­
ing the lecture of Mr. Scheffler.
The subjects were "The Challenge
of the Atomic Bomb," "Unity or
Disintegration," and "Universal
Teachings.

Banquet in Pittsburgh at the Webster Hall Hotel, January 26th, 1946. Left
to right, along the side of the table: Prof. Bishop Brown, Miss Elsie Austin
(guest speaker), Mr. Walter Buchanan (chairman), Dr. Otto Zmeskal (chairman,
Spiritual Assembly).

Local Communities

Several communities have reported
indirect teaching through social func­
tions this month. The Bahá'ís of TÉA-
NECK, New Jersey, have been hosts
to several cultural gatherings at their
Bahá'í Center, Evergreen Cabin,
West Englewood. On two occasions
non-Bahá'ís presented the entire pro­
gram drawing their friends for the
audience. One evening a former resi­
dent of Java and Bali spoke of those
islands, illustrating his talk with ex­
quise colored pictures. Subsequent­
ly the speaker became very much
interested in the Faith. Another well-
publicized, well-attended meeting
was a program by the poet letter-
carrier of West Englewood, who read
his poetry to the musical accompani­
ment of a Bahá'í pianist, and who
showed colored slides of the nearby
country scenes. Many town residents
made their first visit to the Bahá'í
Center for this program.

When Dr. Alain Locke was sched­
uled as a speaker for the Rhode Isla­
land School of Design's exhibition
of Negro art, the Negro College Club
and the PROVIDENCE Bahá'í held
a joint meeting for which Dr. Locke
talked on "Democracy in Human
Relations" and spoke of being a
Bahá'í. There were twenty non-Bahá'ís present in spite of bad weather.
His talk was reported and the next
Sunday's program was announced
in both the Urban League Bulletin
and the Providence Chronicle. As a
result of this unsolicited publicity,
the Sunday meeting for Mr. George
Goodman, a Negro Bahá'í from HARTFORD, Connecticut, had a
record attendance.

NEW YORK CITY has held a se­
ries of Latin American evenings.
There was a capacity audience in
the Bahá'í Center for the one held
January 25th, the first to be held
entirely in the Spanish language. It
was advertised through the Spanish
newspaper LaPresse and over the
Spanish radio station, WBNX, and
through invitations sent in the mail.
Mr. Eduardo Ricci was chairman
for the elaborate Spanish program.
Dr. Ernest Chenel, professor of Ro­
mance Languages at Fordham Uni­
versity, spoke on "The Inca Em­
pire," Ritta Mae Lawrence, Bahá'í
pioneer to Buenos Aires, gave the
Bahá'í message, and there was a
 technicolor sound movie, "South to
the Land of the Conquistadores." Blue Mountain and his trio furnished
Latin American folk music.

A Bahá'í banquet held at PITTS­
BURGH's Webster Hall Hotel on Jan­
uary 26th was very successful. There
were sixty present, most of whom
knew a little about the Faith. The
atmosphere was responsive and
friendly. Among the guests were
twelve members of the soriety of
which Elsie Austin was once grand
president. The pamphlets, "The Ba­
há'í Peace Program," were used as
place cards and were all of them
taken home to be read. The waiters
asked for copies too! After the turkey
dinner came the program: a wel­
come by the chairman of the local
spiritual assembly, Mr. Otto Zmes­
kal; and an introduction to the Mas­
ter of Ceremonies, Mr. Walter Bu­
chanan; a few words from Tom
Dunbar, recently discharged from
the army; piano selections by Mrs.
Harris, member of the Delta so­
rority; a talk about the souvenir
peace pamphlet by Mr. Bishop
Brown; introduction to Miss Austin
by Florence Zmeskal; and an ex­
cellent and inspiring talk by Miss
Elsie Austin. The Pittsburgh Cour­i
sent a reporter and photographer.

The Bahá'ís of URBANA and
CHAMPAIGN, Illinois, celebrated
Naw-Rúž this year with an inter­
cractal dinner at which about 120
people heard the Message of Bahá'úlláh.
Each Bahá'í invited one or more
guests but more than half of the tick­
ets were bought by non-Bahá'ís inter­
ested in better race relations. Mr.
Taylor Thomas, of the Champaign
Group, was master of ceremonies.
The non-Bahá'í speaker was Prof.
Charles Shattuck of the University
of Illinois, who made a plea for
Negro students to become active in
the theater of that institution.
Margaret Swengel told about Bahá'í
youth work for race unity, and Mrs. Margery McCormick spoke on "The World Safe for Mankind."

* * *

The DANVILLE, Illinois, Bahá’í assembly felt that that community was drawn together in harmony and fellowship when a surprise covered-dish supper was held in honor of two Bahá’ís, Mrs. Ruth Chavis and Mrs. Marie Weaver, whose birthdays fell on the regular study class evening. The study of the Dawn-breakers was enriched by the presence of Mr. Farnhang Javid, a student at the University of Illinois from Thrân, and a fourth generation Bahá’í, who helped the class with pronunciation. Another study class is beginning in Danville using the outline prepared by Mamie Seto.

* * *

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, announced the holding of their first meeting in a public auditorium on January 13th. The program built about the subject, "The Need for Universal Peace," was composed of talks in Spanish by Mr. Marcelino Castro and Mr. Lucien McComb, Jr., of readings from the teachings in Spanish, and of music by a non-Bahá’í. The Bahá’ís were able to obtain the use of the room free of charge and have been promised the future use of it also. They feel that it is the best auditorium for their use in San Juan, housed as it is in a building entirely devoted to civic affairs and connected with the cultural society, Ateneo Puertorriqueno.

* * *

ST. LOUIS Bahá’ís are conducting a series of fellowship meetings the first Sunday of each month with community singing, recreation, and refreshments. A ten minute talk is given on one of the following: What It Means to Be a Bahá’í in Relation to — Personal Character Building, Contact with Family, Contact with Friends, Contact with Business Associates, Contact with Denominational Churches, Contact with Other Races, and Contact with the World at Large.

Public meetings are held on the Bahá’í principles at the new Bahá’í Library, Musical Arts Building, 549 N. Boyle.

**News from Other Lands**

**Moslems Look to America**

A well known Egyptian daily has printed an account of Bahá’í activities in the United States with the subtitle, "Necessity of a Moslem Cultural Center in America to Inform the Americans of the True Moslem Cult." The article, sent by airmail from the paper’s New York correspondent, remarks on the great religious freedom which exists in the United States and on the energy with which American Bahá’ís are making use of this freedom. It comments on the general meetings which Bahá’ís hold in many large cities and particularly on the wide-spread propaganda which Bahá’ís of San Francisco conducted at the time of the San Francisco Conference. The correspondent draws the conclusion that the Moslem world should also take advantage of the religious freedom offered by the United States by building a mosque in Washington and establishing a cultural center "to impart to Americans the truth about the Moslem cult."

The article gives in full "The Bahá’í Peace Program, a statement published by Bahá’ís in many American papers" showing the aim of Bahá’ís to be "to transform all the nations into a spiritual unity . . . ."

and closes with the 10 basic Bahá’í principles.

Thus through a widely circulated newspaper have the Bahá’í teachings been brought to the notice of many Moslems.

**India**

We learn that the Indian friends inaugurated in January a 4½ Year Teaching Plan to terminate in 1950 on the Centenary of the Martyrdom of the Báb. The goal is the establishment of at least 63 centers in British India, Burma, and the most important Indian states. All dissolved assemblies are to be reestablished and all groups turned into assemblies. They have divided India into 8 zones, naming certain towns in each where work is to be concentrated.

The Indian Bahá’í Youth Committee has been authorized by the N.A.S. to organize the Summer School and supervise the children’s character training classes. Both these activities are at Panchgan, a hill station and health resort. Just three days before the Summer School started plague broke out at Panchgan and caused the committee the greatest anxiety "but by Divine Grace there was a lull in the epidemic for 15 days, exactly the period of the Summer School."

**Egypt**

Egyptian Bahá’ís from 17 different places in Egypt gathered last sum-
mer for their first summer school which was held at a beautiful spot on the eastern bank of the Suez Canal overlooking the Mediterranean.

Mecca

The Persian Bahá'ís sent by the Guardian to Mecca to establish a Bahá'í Center in this stronghold of Islam are being confirmed and blessed by Bahá'u'lláh. They have developed many friendships through trying to be of service to those with whom they are associated, have won the respect of the authorities in Mecca, and have had no opposition from any source. They have a Bahá'í library, named in honor of Mulla 'Ali Bastami, the first Bahá'í martyr in Arabia.

Marian Jack in Bulgaria

A letter from Miss Marian Jack in Sofia, Bulgaria, tells of disaster but also of hopeful signs. One Bahá'í was crushed to death when her bombed house fell on her. Almost all the Bulgarian Esslements were burned when this house was destroyed. At the time of her writing Miss Jack was copying by hand some translations of the Writings a Bulgarian friend had made. Some of the Sofia Bahá'ís have passed on, “one dear man was killed,” and several went away but “interest in the Cause continues in spite of our inability to organize.”

Sweden

Mr. Gustav Sundquist of Stockholm, Sweden, writes of meeting Mr. and Mrs. Mottahedeh on their recent travels. He is aflame with joy at finding the Truth after a twenty years' search and will do everything he can to bring the knowledge of the Cause to the Swedish people, for, to quote him, “to learn of Bahá'u'lláh is the only thing which can help an unhappy world.” He is translating short extracts from the Writings to distribute, would like to print them, but finds this difficult as the war ruined his business and he has a family to support.

Norway

Miss Schubarth writes from Oslo of corresponding with some who have become interested in her translation of Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era. A letter from the Guardian has given her increased courage and joy in the knowledge of his prayers for her teaching and her health. She is partly incapacitated by rheumatism and is using the time to correct translations made years ago.

Our readers will remember that Mrs. Ramíl's town of Kristiansund, Norway, was bombed and burned. The inhabitants are consequently lacking in clothing and would welcome used clothing. Address: Mrs. Krantz-Ramsli, Kristiansund, Norway.

British Isles

Meetings in Hyde Park: The Committee appointed for the purpose has duly commenced to hold meetings on Sunday mornings in Hyde Park. The meetings have been very successful, good crowds listening on each occasion. This is a good method of making the name and the basic teachings of the Faith known to large numbers of people, and it has resulted too in some people coming to the Centre for further information.

Pioneer Settlers at Work: Nottingham and St. Ives are the first places to have pioneer settlers at work under the Six Year Plan by which British Bahá'ís are working towards the goal of nineteen assemblies distributed among the different countries of the British Isles by 1950.

Mr. and Mrs. Mottahedeh in London: The British community had the great pleasure recently to receive a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Mottahedeh of New York, who came over here on business. They visited Bahá'í communities and friends in various parts of the country. In London Mrs. Mottahedeh spoke at two well-attended meetings, one at the Bahá'í Centre. The other meeting was held in a private cinema which was rented. The film of the American Centenary Convention meetings, lent by Mr. and Mrs. Mottahedeh, was shown, and Mrs. Mottahedeh spoke on the activities of the Faith on the American Continent.

Brief Notes

The British N.S.A. has a collection, used for exhibition, of translations in 38 different languages of Dr. Esslemont’s book. Following the Guardian’s advice, the Australian N.S.A. has decided to conduct for the present only one summer school. This was held December 28, 1945, to January 6, 1946, at “Bolton Place,” Yerrinbool, N.S.W.

The British Bahá'í Convention will be held April 27, 28.

Australian and New Zealand Bahá'ís will hold their Convention May 11 to May 19 in Sydney. This time (during the school holidays) was chosen as being the most convenient.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Col.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Be in Perfect Unity—Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter to the Believers</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Memoriam</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Committees</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing &amp; Advertising</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writ Order</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Acre School, 1946</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race Unity Conference</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Acre, 1945</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter-America News</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver Public Meeting</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Communities</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News from other Lands</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moslems Look at America</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mecca</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marian Jack in Bulgaria</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Isles</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Dayton, Ohio</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some of the teachers at the Louhelen Midwinter Session</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolton Place, Yerrinbool, New South Wales</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students, Louhelen Midwinter Session</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahá'í literature display for Public Meeting Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banquet in Pittsburgh</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer School at Funchgani</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presiding Officers Centenary Convention, Persia</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Heed Not Your Weaknesses”

O my beloved friends! You are the bearers of the name of God in this Day. You have been chosen as the repositories of His mystery. It behooves each one of you to manifest the attributes of God, and to exemplify by your deeds and words the signs of His righteousness, His power and glory. The very members of your body must bear witness to the loveliness of your purpose, the integrity of your life, the reality of your faith, and the exalted character of your devotion. . . . Heed not your weaknesses and frailty; fix your gaze upon the invincible power of the Lord, your God, the Almighty. Has He not enabled Moses, whose staff was His only companion, to vanquish Pharaoh and his hosts? Has He not established the ascendancy of Jesus, poor and lowly as He was in the eyes of men, over the combined forces of the Jewish people? Has He not subjected the barbarous and militant tribes of Arabia to the holy and transforming discipline of Muhammad, His Prophet? Arise in His name, put your trust wholly in Him, and be assured of ultimate victory.

The Báb
From His Address to the Letters of the Living.

Public opinion and the masses, as well as the establishment of the newly fledged local Assemblies throughout Latin America on an unassailable basis, and the dissemination of Bahá’í literature among its people, demand, whatever the nature of the supplementary responsibilities that will have to be assumed in the years to come, the closest attention on the part of the entire body of the American believers, and must continue to be regarded as the fundamental issues facing their national representatives. The exploits immortalizing the first stage of the Divine Plan, however glorious their record, have yet to yield their noblest fruits. Efforts unremitting, systematic, and continent-wide in their scope, can alone garner a harvest worthy of the high confidence placed in them by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. May they prove themselves increasingly worthy of so high a privilege, so glorious a task.

(signed) Shoghi Effendi
Haifa, Palestine
March 25, 1946.

Message From the Guardian

“Efforts Unremitting”

Dear and valued co-workers:

The assistance extended by the American Bahá’í Community to the long-suffering German believers is a further evidence of their readiness, so abundantly demonstrated in the past, to champion the interests, and to rehabilitate the institutions of their sister communities throughout the Bahá’í world. This support, so generously extended, so consistently and faithfully offered by the rank and file of the American believers, and particularly by their elected national representatives, is but a subsidiary aspect of the tremendous undertakings which, in both the North and South American continents, the standard bearers of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh have initiated and developed, for the promotion of its interests, during the concluding decades of the first Bahá’í century.

The two-fold task which they have so nobly undertaken—the proclamation of the Faith in the North American continent and the consolidation of its nascent institutions in Latin America—must, whatever plan is devised in the coming years for the furtherance of their world-wide mission—be relentlessly prosecuted. That further responsibilities, of a momentous character, will have to be superimposed on the stalwart prosecutors of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Divine Plan, as they gird up their loins to carry a stage further their historic labors in obedience to His wishes, no one can for a moment doubt. As the field of their activities, ranging over entire continents, grows in scope and in importance, the aims and purposes associated with the first stage of their glorious mission must, in no wise, be either neglected or forgotten. The steady multiplication of groups and of Spiritual Assemblies throughout the States of the great American Republic, the continual broadcasting of the Divine Message to the leaders of public opinion and the masses, as well as the establishment of the newly fledged local Assemblies throughout Latin America on an unassailable basis, and the dissemination of Bahá’í literature among its people, demand, whatever the nature of the supplementary responsibilities that will have to be assumed in the years to come, the closest attention on the part of the entire body of the American believers, and must continue to be regarded as the fundamental issues facing their national representatives. The exploits immortalizing the first stage of the Divine Plan, however glorious their record, have yet to yield their noblest fruits. Efforts unremitting, systematic, and continent-wide in their scope, can alone garner a harvest worthy of the high confidence placed in them by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. May they prove themselves increasingly worthy of so high a privilege, so glorious a task.

(signed) Shoghi Effendi
Haifa, Palestine
March 25, 1946.

“Fundamental Issues”

Beloved Friends:

In a world beset by differences of opinion and policy, the followers of Bahá’u’lláh may well appreciate their blessing in the true union which the Guardian maintains for the entire Bahá’í community. Most grievous of all confusions are those which arise when persons supporting the same general truths disagree on how those ideals should be served.

As we turn to the message Shoghi Effendi has given us in his letter of March 25, we note the emphasis he lays on the “fundamental issues” we are to pursue with complete determination and resolve during years to come. As we work in those two fields, “the proclamation of the Faith in the North American continent and the consolidation of its nascent institutions in Latin America,” we shall remain under the light of guidance, and receive the reinforcement of supernal Power.
In that same letter there is a passage written by the Guardian through his secretary which goes to the very heart of our individual and collective spiritual problems:

"The believers, to better understand their own internal condition, should realize that the forces of darkness in the world are so prevalent and strong that their morbid and turbulent influence is felt by all. They should therefore consciously strive to be more loving, more united, more dedicated and prayerful than ever before, in order to fight against the atmosphere of present-day society which is unloving, disunited, careless of right and wrong, and heedless of God."

An event of great historical moment for the Faith has been reported to us by cable from John Eichenauer in Germany: that a two-day Convention of German Baha’is has been held, with nineteen delegates and the institution of the National Spiritual Assembly has been recreated by the election of nine members. Thus the irresistible power of the Faith has asserted itself under most dramatic circumstances. We rejoice in this notable strengthening of the pillars of the new world order, and we pray for the mighty confirmation of our brothers and sisters in Germany and in all countries overrun by war.

In our recent general letter on the subject of international Baha’i relief we listed the address of Sr. Perfecto Tabora in Manila. We now learn that Sr. Tabora has moved, the new address being 22 Halum Street, Mesa Heights, Quezon City, P. I.

The Assemblies are reminded that Annual reports of the local activities to April 21, 1946, will be most welcome, and the information shared as fully as possible with the friends in Baha’i News.

Faithfully yours,

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

In Memoriam

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bane of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.—BAHA’U’LLAH.

Mrs. John Mack, Denver.

Mrs. Charles Timley, San Francisco.

Mrs. Gertrude Harney, Rochester.

Mrs. Elvira Benning, Kenosha.

Mrs. Jennie Bowman, Phoenix.

Mrs. Louise Brooks, New York.

Mrs. W. C. Nichols, San Antonio.

Mrs. Annie Belle Killius, Springfield, Illinois.

Reports of Annual Elections

Local Spiritual Assemblies are requested to fill out and return the form provided for reporting the annual election, with names of officers, address for correspondence, etc., at the earliest possible date, so that the American Bahá’í Directory may be published.

Calendar

Anniversaries: The Declaration of the Báb, May 23, 1844. To be celebrated on May 22, at about two hours after sunset. The Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh, May 29, 1862. To be observed if feasible at 3:00 A.M. on May 29.

Nineteen Day Feasts: Grandeur, May 17; Light, June 5; Mercy, June 24.

Public Meetings Campaign

The public meetings in Brooklyn, Portland, Detroit, and Chicago rounded out the campaign conducted by the National Spiritual Assembly and inaugurated in Toronto last October. We are printing below reports of three of these final meetings. No official news has come from Detroit, but we understand that there was a large attendance at the meeting there in spite of the transit strike which was called just at that time.

—The Editors

Brooklyn

The largest Bahá’í gathering yet to be held in Brooklyn was that of March 25, 1946, sponsored by the National Public Meetings Committee. Between 700 and 800 people, many of them uninformed about the Faith, thronged to the dignified and impressive Brooklyn Academy of Music to hear Miss Hilda Yen speak on “Peace Plans Compared” and Mr. Masjid Vakil in Shiráz where the Bab silenced His enemies.

Enrollments

St. Paul, 2.

Detroit, 2.

Milwaukee, 6 and 3 youth.

Hamilton, 3.

Pittsburgh, 2.

Lima, 2.

Paso, 2.

Minneapolis, 4.

Los Angeles 2, 1 youth.

Evanston, 2.

San Francisco, 2 youth.

Toronto, 2.

Baltimore, 1.

Beverly Hills, 1.

Honolulu, 1.

Sioux Falls, 1.

Little Rock, 1.

Halifax, 1.

Colorado Springs, 1.

Bolva, 1.

Anchorage, 1.

New York, 1.

Spokane, 1.

Provo, 1.

Regina, 1.

Berkeley, 1.

St. Louis, 1.

Enrollments reported by Regional Teaching Committees in February—2; in March—16.

National Committees

Carl Scheffler discuss “The Price of World Peace Is World Religion.”

Philip Sprague presided. Musical selections were presented by Walter Oltzki of the Metropolitan Opera, Philippa Schuyler, gifted 14-year-old pianist and composer, and the Gerard Duo Quartet, conducted by Gerard Altenaar of the Royal Conservatory of Holland.

Cards requesting further information about the Faith and notices of future meetings were signed by more than 110 persons.

Particulars about those who participated in the meeting and the topics presented, Bahá’í quotations, the address of the New York center, etc., appeared on six pages of the attractive “Program and Magazine of the Brooklyn Academy of Music”

—NEW YORK SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Portland

On March 28, the Portland Baha’i community held its Public Meeting of the National Campaign in the Neighbors of Woodcraft auditorium, with approximately 350 people attending. Mrs. Helen Bishop spoke on “The Price of World Peace Is World Religion,” and held throughout her address the complete and enthusiastic attention of her audience. Mr. Robert L. McCoy, formerly soloist with the Washington, D. C., Symphony, sang two selections before and after the address.
Large bouquets of beautiful mixed flowers were used effectively as decoration.

Both the Oregonian and the Oregon Journal advertised the meeting extensively, and two radio transcript broadcasts aroused marked interest. Posters, distributed throughout Portland and neighboring Vancouver, paid well for the time and effort expended.

The Portland community is especially enthusiastic concerning the follow-up work done by Mrs. Bishop. On April 1, at the regular weekly meeting, she spoke to an audience of sixty people; on April 8, she again addressed the meeting. Both audiences included people who had been interested by her able and profound explanation of the Message. On several occasions Mrs. Bishop attended fireside meetings and dinners to which she was invited to explain the Cause. She also addressed a group of sixty-five persons on April 5 in Corvallis, Oregon.

This community is greatly inspired by the outcome of the Public Meeting and all the follow-ups. To our minds, the activity has been highly successful in that the Message has reached many people, and in a most profound way.

—PORTLAND SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Chicago

A most successful meeting was held in Chicago in the beautiful Ballroom of the Continental Hotel April 11th. This was the last of a series of eleven nation-wide meetings arranged by the Public Meetings Committee. It was a beautiful occasion.

The splendid and effective publicity prepared by the Baha’i News Service, the personal efforts of the Chicago believers, and the full cooperation of adjacent Baha’i communities within a radius of two hundred miles resulted in an audience of nearly a thousand interested people, many of whom heard of the Baha’i Faith for the first time.

Mr. Albert Windust, who always radiates a genial, charming friendliness, acted as Chairman. Miss Carol Smith of Hollywood, Illinois, entertained the gathering with two beautifully rendered solos. The main part of the program was then entered upon. The speakers, Marzieh Nabil Gail and Kenneth Christian presented the subject of the evening—"The Price of World Peace Is World Religion" in a scholarly fashion. The non-Baha’i’s present could not help but be impressed with the tremendous potentialities for Peace embodied within the Baha’i Faith. Meetings of this type are far reaching in their deepening effect on the public in its understanding of the fundamental principles of the spiritual program inaugurated by Baha’u’llah for this day.

—CHICAGO SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Inter-America News

An English translation has just been received of a special number of the Spanish Baha’ Bulletin, which is devoted to a description of the first Latin-American Baha’i Conference held in Panama City, January 21-25, under the auspices of the Baha’i International School at Colorado Springs and of the Inter-America Committee.

A few excerpts from this report will indicate the warmth of spiritual unity in the Faith of Baha’u’llah experienced alike by the Latin believers from seven Central and South American countries and the six North American pioneers who attended the Conference.

"The Conference was a great success, exceeding our highest hopes. A marvelous spirit of brotherhood, happiness and cooperation permeated all the meetings and activities, and everybody took his part in perfect coordination with the others... Every morning there were informal teaching sessions and every evening a public lecture was held. "The Guardian wrote that to Panama would fall the honor of holding the first Baha’i Latin-American Conference, which would be followed by many others."

Morning sessions were given to the study of selections from God Passes By, and to round table discussions on the Administrative Order and on teaching problems in Latin America. At one of these sessions the characteristics of a Baha’i teacher were described as, "... profound faith, deep impersonal love for all alike, tact, eagerness to listen with understanding to the viewpoint of the student and his problems, capacity to present the Cause of God in such a way that he can easily understand it and apply it to his own life, great patience, perseverance, humility, living the Baha’i life, complete obedience to Baha’i Administration, generosity, courage, and the capacity to find in every disaster nothing but a great opportunity to serve."

Whether from distant Chile or from nearby countries, all who came, native believers as well as pioneers, were given parts by the Conference Committee appointed by the Spiritual Assembly of Panama City, either as leaders of discussions or as speakers in public meetings or over the radio. "The Panamanian
North American Teaching

The Smaller Assemblies

During the past month the focus of teaching activity has been the preservation of the status of the smaller Assemblies by reinforcing their ranks and supplying teaching help to provide an increase of membership before April 21st. Especially intensive teaching has been going forward in Moncton, N.B., and Halifax, N.S., where Mrs. Ruth Moffett, Mrs. Annie Romer and Mrs. Beulah Proctor have been bending every effort to attract and confirm believers. A recent report advises that Moncton has added Miss Ann McLean to its rolls and Halifax has a study class of from 10 to 15 to be conducted by Mrs. Romer. Plans have been made to provide return visits by Mrs. Ruth Moffett to both Charlottetown and to Moncton for additional help during April.

The Louisville, Ky., community has also received teaching help in March and April, as well as the promise of further reinforcements very soon. Mrs. Marion Little spent a week early in March making new contacts and arranging for a public meeting. In order to secure a suitable meeting place Mrs. Little provided suppers to an audience of 27 at one of the local hotels. Mrs. Marguerite Ulrich spent the first week of April endeavoring to bring the attracted ones closer, and early in May Dr. Edris Rice-Wray plans to visit Louisville to give them still further help.

A letter from the secretary of the Greenville, S. C. LSA comments that "having prayed for help in the teaching work, we have received a deluge." A project for Greenville provided the teaching help of Mrs. Terah Smith for two weeks, and during that period Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Blum and Mr. and Mrs. William DeForge arrived there. A symposium was immediately arranged in order to utilize all the available talent.

Recent Events

The itinerant teachers, Mr. Mason Remey and Mr. and Mrs. Emeric Sala, have now returned home from their teaching tours in South America. They are expected to be present at the Convention and to relate some of their experiences.

En route to Buenos Aires, Shirley Ward has spent several weeks in Río de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, Brazil. Excellent contacts have been made in both cities. Owing to most energetic teaching on the part of our pioneers in Río, it is fully expected that a Spiritual Assembly will be elected there on April 21.

Managua, Nicaragua, now has twice the number of believers required for electing a Spiritual Assembly; Valparaiso, Chile, will also have its first Spiritual Assembly this year, and in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, a Spiritual Assembly will be re-established. A number of Bahá’í groups have been organized throughout Latin America as a result of extension teaching during this and former years.

After April 21 Marcia Steward will leave Valparaiso for Central America where she will assist in the consolidation of Assemblies and in public teaching in the countries north of Panama. Hascel Cornbleth has left Los Angeles to pioneer in Quito, Ecuador.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Baker have recently returned home after visiting Assemblies in Caracas, Venezuela; Kingston, Jamaica; and Havana, Cuba. Louise Baker is remaining in Caracas until after the election. However, she plans to attend the Convention.

Artemus Lamb returned to the United States on personal business in the early spring, but will leave directly after attending the Convention in Wilmette, to continue his teaching work in Punta Arenas, Chile.

Regional Conference

Forty Bahá’ís attended a Regional Conference and public meeting held in Wilmington, Del., on March 9th to aid and stimulate local teaching efforts. The subject of the meeting was "The Bahá’í Faith" and the speakers included Miss Jessie Revell, Miss Edith Segen and Mr. Stuart Sims.

Circuits

A circuit arranged by the New York RTC provided the teaching assistance of Miss Julia Goldman to the Assemblies of Syracuse, Geneva, Rochester, and Buffalo, New York.

In connection with a business trip, Mr. Alvin Blum visited the communities of Oklahoma City, Okla., Topeka, Kansas, Omaha, Neb., Kansas City, and Independence, Missouri.

Settlers

To enable the Butte, Montana, Assembly to maintain its status, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McAllister of Seattle have settled there. Mr. McAllister became enrolled as a Bahá’í on Naw-Rúz and early in April left for Butte, so the continuance of this Assembly is assured.

Mrs. Florence Cox, formerly a pioneer in Regina and Charlotte-town, moved to Laramie, Wyo., early in March and is now established in an apartment which "is the library and class room for the Bahá’ís." A class is at present underway through which Mrs. Cox hopes "will increase for we had an attendance of 9 the first evening and 10 the second."

Groups

Regional Committees have also been working with many of the larger groups to prepare them for Assembly status on April 21st as well as with disbanded Assemblies ready to become reconstituted on that date.

National Campaign

The follow-up teaching activities, in the key cities where the meetings of the National Campaign have been held, are going forward through the help of outside speakers. In Portland, Ore., Mrs. Helen Bishop, who was speaker for the large public meeting held there, spent several weeks assisting with the follow-up teaching activities.

Mr. John Inglis and Mr. Robert Durr of Birmingham, Alabama, were speakers for meetings arranged to follow-up the National Campaign meeting held in New Orleans, stopping over in Jackson enroute.
To provide a follow-up speaker for Atlanta, Ga., a circuit was developed for Mr. Philip Marangella which included Birmingham, Greenville, Columbia, Augusta and Mobile, Alabama.

Mr. Monroe Ioas spent three days assisting Denver in its plans to continue the interest aroused during the National Campaign meeting, and visits were also made to Laramie, Wyo., and Colorado Springs, Colo. Mr. Ioas also assisted with a meeting in Detroit on April 7th, followed by Mrs. Margery McCormick, who remained from April 13th to 17th assisting the community in its follow-up activities. Mr. John Roberts of Toronto is scheduled to speak for a meeting to be held in Detroit May 5th.

A series of four meetings has been arranged to follow the large public meeting held in Chicago, beginning with Mr. Horace Holley, speaking on "Religion for the Modern World" April 16th; Mrs. Orcella Rexford on "Iran's Contribution to World Culture" with sound films of Iran April 23rd; Mr. Philip Marangella, whose subject is, "And His Is the Power and Glory" April 30th; and Mrs. Helen Bishop, closing the series May 7th with a talk on "The Goal of the Twentieth Century."

... an intensification of effort is imperatively required, aiming at a bolder proclamation of the verities of a God-given Faith, at a systematic and continent-wide dissemination of its authentic literature, at a closer contact with the masses as well as the leaders of public thought, at a further consolidation and multiplication of the administrative centers scattered throughout the new world and, above all, at a more convincing revelation of Bahá’í love, unity, solidarity and self-sacrifice which alone can hasten the consummation of the preliminary undertakings required to terminate the period of transition." Shoghi Effendi.

—National Teaching Committee

Green Acre

Wanted for the 1946 season of the Green Acre Summer School, July 1 to September 2:—A Bahá’í young man, between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five, to teach the class of Junior Youth, 12 to 15 years of age. The applicant should be able to conduct Bahá’í study suitable to girls and boys of these ages. He should be able to teach such sports as baseball and swimming, and should have some skills in handicrafts and/or arts. Classes are held six days a week from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The teacher should also be willing to spend an hour on several afternoons in playing games or swimming with the students. Remuneration for approximately four hours work per day—board and room in the Dormitory or one of the cottages. Address applications to Genevieve L. Coy, Chairman, Green Acre Summer School Committee, 10 Patchin Place, New York City, 11.

Local Communities

Urbana Public Meeting

Inspired by the success of the recent meetings held in large cities under the auspices of the National Public Meetings Committee, the Spiritual Assembly of Urbana arranged a meeting with Miss Hilda Yen as speaker on March 29th. The meeting was held in one of the lecture rooms of the University of Illinois. Permission to use the room was obtained by the Bahá’í Youth Group, an organization registered with the University authorities and headed by two active young Bahá’ís, Mr. Farhang Javid and Miss Margaret Swengel.

600 folders with a very attractive picture of Miss Yen and a short account of her various and vivid experiences and rare qualifications as a speaker were used as posters on University bulletin boards and for mailing to individuals. Her lecture also obtained good publicity in the three daily papers of Urbana and Champaign and through two spot announcements on the radio.

The lecture room, accommodating nearly 300 people, was filled to capacity with a representative audience containing leaders of thought in the community as well as many students, including a number of young Chinese men and women. Miss Yen’s subject was “Peace Plans Compared.” Although she spoke longer than is the custom at the University, she held the enthusiastic attention of her audience. Miss Swengel, as chairman, emphasized the

Group of Chinese students at the University of Illinois after the lecture given there by Hilda Yen, March 29, 1946.
in Edmonton, a reading from The Gleamings, music by a non-Bahá’í guest, and a talk by Mrs. E. J. Rimek, beginning with an explanation of the meaning and origin of Naw-Rúz and concluding with world unity. The talk was followed by a general discussion and refreshments. All the guests—Christian, Muslim, and Bahá’í—expressed great pleasure at being present.

“It was a beautiful warm spring night, clear, blue and star-spangled, just the kind of night for New Year’s Eve, herald of the birth of a New Year.”

Race Unity in Miami
The Miami, Florida, Bahá’í Community held a race unity lecture in Liberty Square Auditorium on March 16th when Mrs. Joy Earl was the speaker. Printed announcements were distributed, and, although there was little time for advance publicity, sixty-five attended. The race unity committee has sponsored bi-monthly meetings alternately in the white and in the colored districts, and the community maintains a public meeting place where both races may meet together. Every nineteen days the senior youth group of Miami mimeographs a page of news called “Scratches and Scribbles.”

Other Local Activities
A public speaking class is sponsored by the Chicago assembly. Professor Mills of Northwestern University was engaged to present a series of ten classes. Aside from the regular public and fireside meetings, the Chicago youth hold monthly all day study classes for the declared youth of the area.

Letters from Bahá’ís in Germany
The following are summaries of letters from Germany which relate some of the important events for the Cause in that country and show in some detail what happened in the German Bahá’í communities between May and September, 1945.

From Marta Weiss of Esslingen, August, 1945:

“The first general meeting of German Bahá’ís in 8 years took place May 23, 1945, when “21 true souls” came together at the Bahá’í Home on the hill overlooking Esslingen. John Eichenauer, a Bahá’í in the U. S. Army, was present bringing love and greetings from the Ameri- can friends. “One had the feeling that all the friends were with us in their prayers. Our thoughts were of the entire globe, but mostly particularly of Haifa.” John brought them a copy of World Order containing a report of the 100th Anniversary Celebration in Haifa, also a copy of God Passes By.

“The youth, some of them inquirers, are meeting every Thursday and are eagerly studying the Message. Literature for the youth is especially desired.”

From John Eichenauer, Bad Cannstatt, Germany, August 28, 1945:

“Dearly beloved Bahá’ís of America! If you could have been here today, you would have felt yourselves carried into the realms of paradise.

The Bahá’ís of Stuttgart and Esslingen gathered at the Bahá’í Home on the hill overlooking Esslingen and the verdant Neckar valley...

“That our Division hovered around in this area had something to do with Divine intervention, not because of myself, but in order that some Bahá’ís could convey to these friends the greetings from the Bahá’í world without, from which they have been deprived for about eight years, long, hungry, terror-filled years. We were seated in the lecture hall for lunch, with quotations from ‘Abdu’l-Bahá hanging from the walls. From there I went to an adjoining room to play the organ. How my heart warmed as the Bahá’í children gathered around. It seems almost unbelievable that out of all this destruction, disorder and chaos, the foundations of that World Civilization of Bahá’u’lláh have emerged well-anchored, that the fire and zeal of the believers has remained unflamed, and that their plans for the spreading of the Faith in the coming months will make the Bahá’í world sit up and take notice.

“As the afternoon wore on Bahá’ís came in droves from Stuttgart and Esslingen, aged and infant, drawn by that irresistible Power of the Cause, that indescribable happiness that pervades every Bahá’í meeting. Here are Friedrich and Annamarie Schweizer, two pillars of the Cause; there is Paul Gollmer, the National Secretary, who risked so much to preserve Bahá’í relics; there are his two daughters, Lilo and Agnes, who both lost their husbands in the war; not far away is Herr Richter of Leipzig, who was on the Russian front, found his way to Denmark, was finally discharged this month and is now looking for his wife and child from one town to the next... You are particularly drawn to the youth, Valtrout Kuebler, Hildegard Muller, Peter Rommel and many others. Then somebody asks you, ‘Did you hear from Mason Remey?’ ‘Did you hear Helen Bishop?’ ‘Did you hear from my brother, who is a prisoner of war in Colorado or Missouri or New York?’ You say that literature is on the way and only hope that there are plenty of pamphlets in German for these spiritual beavers to disseminate. Well do I remember my embarrassment on May 22 in the home of Anna Köstlin when a Bahá’í asked me how many Bahá’ís in America and I could offer no reply when he said, ‘5,000 is not very many...
for America.' If the American believers could only be transported into this environment, realize the hardship and privation that these exemplary souls have undergone and are still undergoing to a lesser degree, they would rise up as a powerful, spiritual radio and television transmitting station to proclaim with undaunted fervor the Message of the Lord of Hosts. Have you ever been seated in your homes reading your Baha'i books and had fear clutch at your heart because you thought the shuffle of feet outside your apartment was some Gestapo agent coming to check up on your activities? Did you ever have to hide your pictures of 'Abdu'l-Baha because you didn't want them confiscated or desecrated? How long must our beloved Guardian spend his energy directing appeals to the outstanding American believers who fulfill the Seven Year Plan by the skin of their teeth, who pass up so many opportunities to share the Message with their fellowmen that only by the Grace of God is the Instrument of the Cause left in our hands, who have to be pleaded to on bended knees in order to complete a budget that should be many times as large for the tremendous task we have before us.

"As these thoughts race through your mind the 75 some odd believers are gathering in the garden for a picture; you hope it will have a galvanizing effect on the American community. Now they are gathering again in the lecture hall. Hugo has just read a prayer, and now Paul Gollmer is reading from 'Sun of Truth,' a Tablet of 'Abdu'l-Baha. The meeting over, Annamarie Schweizer asks you to her Friday evening study class. Dr. Koller mentions her Monday evening class, you realize the need of getting the youth together, you wish you had more time to give to the Cause... Then, when you feel that you could go on living in this exalted atmosphere forever, you are reminded of the end of the day. You never have felt the warmth that you feel when you shake the hand of each believer and embrace and kiss them and whisper 'auf Wiedersheen, Allah-u-'Abha'. And so you leave this spot of Paradise and wind your way back to Cannstatt, eager to share your joy with your Bahá'í brother (Calvin Wilder), who, as early as May 6, without any address whatsoever, helped you search for the Bahá'ís in the spiritual heart of Germany.

'Bahá'í Prisoners of War in America: Hauptwin Oskar Weiss 7WC-68D Komp 7 P W Camp Carson (Colo.) c/o G P O Box, N. Y., N. Y.
(Brother of Marta Weiss of Esslingen.)
Ob gefr Gerhard Bender 61G 90262
(Son of Hugo and Klara)
P. W. Camp Crowder (Mo.) c/o Box 20 GPO, N. Y.

From John Eichenauer, Bad Cannstatt (near Stuttgart), Germany, to N.S.A. of U.S. and Canada, August, 1945:

"Bahá'í of Wilmette, Calvin Wilder and self found 100 Bahá'ís in the Stuttgart, Eslingen, Goppingen, Geisingen area." (As reported in the November News, John obtained written authorization for Bahá'í meetings in Stuttgart from Captain Carvel Busey, Religion and Education Officer of the Stuttgart Military Government Detachment.) John had two interviews with Captain Busey which proved helpful to the Cause. At the second meeting Herr Gollmer, Chairman of the Stuttgart Assembly, and Dr. Adelheid Koller, another member, were present. Herr Gollmer had filled out the political questionnaire which the Military Government requires. This questionnaire when completed reveals one's political history for the past ten years, especially as to whether one had joined the Nazi party. (No one absolutely had to join it.) He was given other forms for the other members of the Stuttgart L.S.A. to fill out. Herr Gollmer showed Captain Busey copies of correspondence between the N.S.A. of the U.S. and Canada and Himmler concerning suspension of German Bahá'í activities.

"Capt. Busey said that each Local Assembly would have to apply for authorization and that later on the National Assembly could apply for authorization at USFET in Frankfort. Eventually the American National Assembly can present the case of all the Bahá'ís in Germany and Austria before the Four Power Control Commission in Berlin.

"The shipping date of our division..."
is uncertain. I am trying to get into Mil. Gov't. or UNRRA in order to remain in Germany for 6 months or a year and help bring the Bahá'ís of Europe together."

From Mara V. Edmonstone, Publicity Chairman of the Miami Bahá'í Assembly, October, 1945:

"As soon as hostilities ended Bruce Davison got busy in Frankfurt, where he was stationed. He advertised for Bahá'ís and received four answers. Within a week they all met. Among them is Mrs. Horn, who formerly lived in the United States. She was sent to Frankfurt by the Guardian. The Frankfurt Bahá'ís began holding regular meetings. They are also holding study classes."

From John Eichenauer and Bruce Davison, Hedderheim, Frankfurt, Sept. 27, 1945:

"To National Spiritual Assembly, Wilmette, Ill."

"We are planning teaching activities for American Zone, publication of literature, radio and press publicity and coordination with Bahá'í communities in Europe.

"This evening we are observing the Feast with the Frankfurt Bahá'ís."

In Stuttgart and Esslingen, 7 weekly meetings and study classes are being held.

Vienna

Mrs. J. R. Bolles of New York City has received a letter from Fr. Pollinger of Vienna in which he says "nearly all of us survived those darkest years except the Jewish friends, of whose fate we scarcely can get a glimpse or trace." He speaks also of having "studied Bahá'í works in the last silent years, the 'Book of Certitude,' 'Nabil's Narrative,' prayers, etc., which I never before had opportunity to read thoroughly." He will "try to translate the words of our beloved Guardian into German and convey your loving letter to all the friends here."

Mr. Pollinger's address is Vienna II. 2. F. Bocklinstrasse 4/15.

First Ukrainian Bahá'í

In July, 1938, at the request of Lidia Zamenhof, a Russian translation of the Kitáb-i-Iqán was sent from the International Bahá'í Bureau at Geneva, Switzerland, to Mrs. Vasyl Dorosenko, a Ukrainian living in Eastern Poland. A correspondence ensued between Mrs. Lynch of the Bureau and Mr. Dorosenko, who soon declared himself a believer.

Mr. Dorosenko was a scholar, for many years engaged in education, first as teacher and then as inspector, but by 1938 had retired and was living in the country near Kremenetz. He was an Esperantist and a deeply religious seeker, and had investigated many religious and philosophical movements, but had not joined any. He belonged to a group of seekers associated with the Theosophical group in Kremenetz. He read "Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era" in Esperanto and explained the contents to the group of seekers, who received his message gladly. Of this book he wrote "It has become my daily reading, I cannot do without it. With it I have health, wealth and happiness."

With the Guardian's approval he began to translate this book into Ukrainian. He shared the Message with more and more people. He wrote that they appreciated especially the "Hidden Words" in Russian and the prayers, which were sent them by Miss Zamenhof.

Early in 1939 Miss Zamenhof visited this group in Kremenetz and gave four talks on the Cause before the Theosophical Group and the Seekers and left them a typewritten copy of "Some Answered Questions" in Esperanto.

Soon after, Mr. Dorosenko was taken ill. He was still in bed when he wrote his last letter to Mrs. Lynch, and it has not been possible to find out what happened to him later because a few months afterwards Eastern Poland became again Russian territory and all communication ceased.

Sweden

A letter from Mr. Sundquist of Stockholm reports the death of Mrs. Palmgren in the autumn of 1944. This leaves Mr. Sundquist, as far as we know, the only Bahá'í in Sweden. He has distributed a thousand pamphlets giving an introduction to the Bahá'í Faith and has translated "Bahá'u'lláh and His Message," but cannot afford to have it printed. He has received many inquiries about the Faith and writes that it is glorious to work for it. Mrs. Palmgren had translated "Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era" and it has been printed, Mr. Sundquist's address is, Brankyrkagatan 36, Stockholm, Sweden.

This news from Sweden has come to us from Mrs. J. R. Bolles, to whom we are often indebted for news from Europe. At the request of the Guardian Mrs. Bolles has visited the Bahá'ís in several European countries and carries on correspondence with them, thus rendering a beautiful and valuable service to our European brothers and sisters and to us.

India

The Bombay friends have their own structure for a Haqíqátu'l-Quds. It is a five storied structure and it is hoped that its occupation will be a great step forward in the activities of the Bombay friends.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page Col.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Heed not Your Weaknesses&quot;</td>
<td>1 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Words of the Báb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message from the Guardian</td>
<td>1 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Efforts Unremitting&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Fundamental Issues&quot;</td>
<td>2 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Memoriam</td>
<td>2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports of Annual Elections</td>
<td>2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments</td>
<td>3 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Committees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Meetings Campaign</td>
<td>2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter-America News</td>
<td>3 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North American Teaching</td>
<td>4 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Acre</td>
<td>5 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Acre Announcements</td>
<td>8 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Communities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urbans Public Meeting</td>
<td>5 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naw-Rúz in Edmonton</td>
<td>5 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race Unity in Miami</td>
<td>6 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Local Activities</td>
<td>8 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Reports</td>
<td>6 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News of Other Lands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters from Bahá'ís in Germany</td>
<td>8 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vienna</td>
<td>8 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Ukrainian Bahá'í</td>
<td>8 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>8 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>8 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mason Remey in Havana</td>
<td>3 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Students at University of Illinois</td>
<td>5 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Hilda Yen's lecture</td>
<td>5 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting at Miss Dickinson's Home in New York</td>
<td>5 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Assembly of Baltimore</td>
<td>7 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Green Acre Announcements

For reservations, address:—

Mrs. Flora Valentine. After June 1, Green Acre Summer School, Eliot, Maine.

The Week-end Conference on "Securing the Peace" will be held on July 6 and 7, instead of June 29 and 30, as was originally announced.
BAHÁ'Í NEWS

NO. 184 JUNE, 1946 YEAR 103 BAHÁ'Í ERA

“The First Choice”

Every man of insight will, in this day, readily admit that the counsels which the Pen of this wronged One hath revealed constitute the supreme animating power for the advancement of the world and the exaltation of its peoples. Arise, O people, and, by the power of God's might, resolve to gain the victory over your own selves, that haply the whole earth may be freed and sanctified from its servitude to the gods of its idle fancies—gods that have inflicted such loss upon, and are responsible for the misery of, their wretched worshippers. These idols form the obstacle that impeded man in his efforts to advance in the path of perfection. We cherish the hope that the Hand of Divine power may lend its assistance to mankind, and deliver it from its state of grievous abasement.

O people of God! Do not busy yourselves in your own concerns; let your thoughts be fixed upon that which will rehabilitate the fortunes of mankind and sanctify the hearts and souls of men. This can best be achieved through pure and holy deeds, through a virtuous life and a godly behavior. Valiant acts will insure the triumph of this Cause, and a saintly character will reinforce its power. Cleave unto righteousness, O people of Bahá! This, verily, is the commandment which this wronged One hath given unto you, and the first choice of His unreserved Will for every one of you.

BAHÁ’U’LLÁH

Faith to the masses. The second objective is completion of the interior ornamentation of the holiest House of Worship in the Bahá’í world designed to coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of the inception of this historic enterprise. The third objective is the initiation of systematic teaching activity in war-torn, spiritually famished European continent, cradle of world-famed civilizations, twice-blessed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá’s visits, whose rulers Bahá’u’lláh specifically and collectively addressed, aiming at establishment of Assemblies in the Iberian Peninsula, the Low Countries, the Scandinavian states, and Italy. No effort is too great for community belonging to the continent whose rulers Bahá’u’lláh addressed in the Most Holy Book, whose members were invested with spiritual primacy by 'Abdu'l-Bahá and named by Him apostles of His Father, whose country was the first western nation to respond to the Divine Message and deemed worthy to be first to build the Tabernacle of the Most Great Peace, whose administrators evolved the pattern of the embryonic world order, consummated the first stage of the Divine Plan, and whose elevation to the throne of everlasting dominion the Center of the Covenant confidently anticipated as the resistless impulse propelling the Plan accelerates, the American Community

Messages from the Guardian

To the Convention

Hail with joyous heart the delegates of the American Bahá’í Community assembled beneath the dome of the Mother Temple of the West in momentous Convention of the first year of peace. The souls are uplifted in thanksgiving for the protection vouchsafed by Providence to the preeminent community of the Bahá’í world enabling its members to consummate, despite the tribulations of a world-convolving conflict, the first stage of 'Abdu'l-Bahá’s Plan. The Campaign culminating the Centenary of the inauguration of the Bahá’í Era completed sixteen months ere the appointed time the exterior ornamentation of the Mashriqu’l-Adhkár, laid the basis of the administrative order in every virgin state and province of the North American Continent, almost doubled the Assemblies established since the inception of the Faith, established Assemblies in fourteen republics of Latin America, constituted active groups in remaining republics, swelled to sixty the sovereign states within the pale of the Faith.

The two-year respite, well-earned after the expenditure of such a colossal effort, covering such a temendous range, during so dark a period, is now ended. The prosecutors of the Plan who in the course of six war-ridden years achieved such prodigies of service in the Western Hemisphere from Alaska to Maganlanes are now collectively summoned to assume in the course of the peaceful years ahead still weightier responsibilities for the opening decade of the Second Century. The time is ripe, events are pressing, Hosts on high are sounding the signal for inauguration of second Seven Year Plan designed to culminate first Centennial of the year nine marking the mystic birth of Bahá’u’lláh’s prophetic mission in Shíyá-Chál at Tihrán.

A two-fold responsibility urgently calls the vanguard of the dawn-breakers of Bahá’u’lláh’s Order, torch-bearers of world civilization, executors of 'Abdu'l-Bahá’s mandate, to arise and simultaneously bring to fruition the tasks already undertaken and launch fresh enterprises beyond the borders of the Western Hemisphere.

The first objective of the new Plan is consolidation of victories already won throughout the Americas, involving multiplication of Bahá’í centers, bolder proclamation of the
must rise to new levels of potency in response to the divine mandate, scale loftier heights of heroism, insure fuller participation of the rank and file of members, and closer collaboration with the agencies designed to insure attainment of the fourfold objectives, and evince greater acuity in tearing down the barriers in its path.

Upon the success of the second Seven Year Plan depends the launching, after a respite of three brief years, of a yet more momentous third Seven Year Plan which, when consummated through the establishment of the structure of the administrative order in the remaining sovereign states and chief dependencies of the entire globe, must culminate in and be befittingly commemorated through world-wide celebrations marking the Centennial of the formal assumption by Bahá'u'lláh of the Prophetic Office associated with Daniel's prophecy and the world triumph of the Bahá'í revelation and signaling the termination of the initial epoch in the evolution of the Plan whose mysterious, resistance processes must continue to shed ever-increasing lustre on successive generations of both the Formative and Golden Ages of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.

Pledging ten thousand dollars as my initial contribution for the furtherance of the manifold purposes of a glorious crusade surpassing every enterprise undertaken by the followers of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh in the course of the first Bahá'í century.

(signed) Siocan

From his Letter of March 25th

The following passages are from letter dated March 25, 1946, written through his secretary:

He wants the American friends to help their destitute brothers and sisters in Europe and Asia all they can. This includes sending food and clothing when feasible.

The chart you sent him on the cable that the project for a Bahá'í Radio Station can not be carried out at present; he considers that such a station would be a very great asset to the Cause, not only as a teaching medium and a wonderful form of publicity, but also as an enhancement of its prestige. He feels your Assembly should not drop the matter but go on investigating ways to make such a project materialize as soon as possible.

National Spiritual Assembly

"Your First Order of Business"

Beloved Friends:

The members of the newly elected National Spiritual Assembly send greeting to the American Bahá'ís.

The Guardian's message addressed to the Convention inaugurates a second Seven Year Plan whose four objectives are to carry the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh far along on the path of world victory. Our tasks are tremendous, requiring the consecrated effort and sacrifice of every single believer, and the spiritual reinforcement poured forth upon the unified body of the followers of Bahá'u'lláh can alone assure our full measure of success.

A copy of that message appears above, and your help is requested in sharing it with the local community or with the believers of the regional area through the regional bulletin.

The meetings of the National Assembly were maintained through four days following the Convention in order to cope with the four great objectives set up by Shoghi Effendi, prepare plans commensurate with the immensity of the work, appoint the committees, and define the financial requirements of the campaign in its first year.

The results of that study have been embodied in a special bulletin and issued to every individual believer of North America. When the bulletins are received you are urged to make their contents your first order of business, so that by discussion and consultation the Guardian's objectives may be thoroughly grasped, the plans and methods involving the annual Bahá'í budget and committee functions be clearly understood, and the entire American Bahá'í community be aroused to instant and whole-hearted action.

Not one single Bahá'í can be spared in this, our supreme responsibility.

The way to victory has been disclosed, and we can only acquire worthiness to celebrate the Centenary of "the year nine marking the mystical Birth of Bahá'u'lláh's prophetic mission in Siyáh-Chál at Tihrán."

Reaching the masses with the message at this time is of the greatest importance. More initiative should be shown by all the Bahá'ís, and encouraged by the NSA and local Spiritual Assemblies.

Pending the discussion of the definite plan, the local and regional teaching work must be reinvigorated, and the needs of the new national budget assured of hearty support. As the Guardian states, the time of respite is over, and every passing day must yield its full fruit.

The incoming Assembly has organized as follows: Mrs. Dorothy Beecher Baker, Chairman; Mr. Paul Haney, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Horace Holley, Secretary; Miss Edna M. True, Recording Secretary; Mr. Philip G. Sprague, Treasurer; Miss Elsie Austin, Mrs. Amelia E. Collins, Mr. George O. Latimer, Mr. William Kenneth Christian.

Faithfully yours,

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Annual Election

From the Tellers' report of the result of the election of members to the National Spiritual Assembly:

Miss Elsie Austin, 123 votes; Mr. Philip G. Sprague, 113; Mr. Horace Holley, 113; Mrs. Dorothy Baker, 108; Mrs. Amelia E. Collins, 87; Mr. George O. Latimer, 77; Miss Edna M. True, 62; Mr. Paul Haney, 58; Mr. Wm. Kenneth Christian, 53.

The next nine reported were: Mr. Allen B. McDaniel, 52; Mr. Rowland Estall, 47; Mr. Leroy Ioas, 46; Mrs. Margery McCormick, 45; Mr. Emery Sala, 34; Mr. John Robarts, 31; Mr. Mathew Bullock, 30; Mr. Clarence Niss, 26; Mr. Siegfried Schopfocher, 25.

Distribution of Bahá'í News

In connection with the circulation of Bahá'í News outside the United States and Canada, the National Assembly for the information of the friends reports the following schedule:

1. In bulk to other National Assemblies in accordance with their own request as to number desired.
2. American believers temporarily resident in other countries.
3. To such established Bahá'í centers as International Bahá'í Bureau, Geneva, Switzerland, the Bahá'í group of Paris, France, and to the local Assemblies and Publishing committees of Latin America.
ANNUAL BUDGET
1946-1947, First Year of New Seven Year Plan

I. Consolidation of Victories—Formation of New National Assemblies—Proclamation of Faith to Masses
A. Consolidation—Formation of New National Assemblies
1. National and Regional Teaching Committees ................................ 10,000.00
2. Inter-America Committee ........................................................... 25,000.00
3. Canadian National & Regional Teaching Committees ................. 3,000.00
4. National Youth Committee ......................................................... 400.00
5. Summer Schools ........................................................................... 500.00
6. Study Aids .................................................................................. 25.00
B. Proclamation of Faith to Masses
1. Public Relations Committee .......................................................... 15,000.00
2. Public Meetings Committee ......................................................... 12,000.00
3. Radio Committee ........................................................................ 12,500.00
4. Temple Program Committee, including paid newspaper advertising 1,500.00
5. Temple Guides Committee ............................................................ 500.00
6. Race Unity Committee ................................................................ 1,000.00
7. World Order Magazine Committee .............................................. 300.00
8. Visual Aids Committee .................................................................. 500.00
9. College Speakers Bureau ............................................................. 1,000.00
10. Questionnaire Committee ........................................................... 500.00
11. Service to the Blind Committee ................................................ 500.00
12. Library Committee ...................................................................... 1,000.00
13. Temple Librarian and Sales Committee ................................. 50.00
14. World Language Committee ...................................................... 1,000.00
15. Teaching Literature (NSA) .......................................................... 25.00

II. Temple Construction—Temple Trustees—First Year of Plan .................................................. 75,000.00

III. Initiation of Systematic Teaching Activity in Europe
1. European Teaching Committee ...................................................... 10,000.00
2. Literature for European Teaching ................................................ 2,500.00

IV. Baha'i Service Committees
1. Publishing Committee ................................................................. 2,500.00
2. Baha'i News Committee ............................................................... 250.00
3. Baha'i World Editorial Committee (Operating Expenses) ........... 25.00
4. Reviewing Committee ................................................................. 50.00
5. International Relief Committee (Operating Expense) .................. 90.00
6. Child Education Committee ......................................................... 25.00
7. Archives Committee ..................................................................... 50.00
8. Committee on American Memorial to 'Abdu'l-Baha ................... 150.00
9. Index Committee ......................................................................... 25.00

V. Baha'i World Center—Annual Contribution 
(Channeled to International Relief by Instruction of the Guardian January, 1946) ............ 3,600.00

VI. Printing cost, Baha'i World, Volume X ........................................ 5,000.00

VII. Maintenance of Properties
1. Temple ..................................................................................... 12,000.00
2. Other Trustee Properties ............................................................. 4,000.00

VIII. Administrative Expenses
1. Expense of Annual Convention, State and Provincial Conventions 1,500.00
2. General Administrative Expenses .............................................. 6,000.00
3. Secretary's Office ...................................................................... 9,540.00
4. Treasurer's Office ..................................................................... 3,000.00

IX. Reserve for Contingencies ......................................................... 20,710.00

TOTAL NATIONAL BAHAI BUDGET ................................................. 250,000.00

Telegram to the President
The National Spiritual Assembly on May 10 sent the following telegram to the President, White House, Washington, D. C., in order to bring to the official attention of the government the Baha'i teachings on the subject of industrial justice.

"On behalf American members of the Baha'i Faith we respectfully affirm the right and duty of government to intervene in industrial disputes affecting paramount interests of general public. We believe there can be no social order in this new era without legislation and court procedure upholding conceptions of justice based upon interdependence and partnership of all classes and their equal responsibility before the law. We appeal for completely representative and non-partisan handling by government of issues which go to roots of our civilization, transcend scope of technical economics, and involve essential questions of social philosophy pertaining to religion as well as to the state. In one form or another these same issues are agitating and confusing every nation and people throughout the world. Our hope is that by attaining a solution in terms of moral unity, mutual respect and the spirit of cooperation America may demonstrate to mankind that material and spiritual welfare are two aspects of the same truth. May the divine Father and Lawgiver guide and sustain you in fulfillment of your historic mission."

In Memoriam
Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life and joy, and the carrier of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.—Bahá'u'lláh
Mr. Charles Johnson, Mauston, Wisconsin. (Passed on in 1942 but not previously reported).
Mr. Charles P. Michael, Scranton.
Mr. Frank Spink, Muskegon Heights, Michigan.

Portrait of 'Abdu'l-Bahá
The Temple Librarian and Sales Committee has obtained an edition of one hundred copies of the steel engraving of 'Abdu'l-Bahá which has been so greatly beloved by the friends. Per copy, $2.00, postpaid. Send orders to Mr. Harry E. Warrath, 4653 Beacon Street, Chicago 49, Illinois.
Accuracy of Bahá'í Texts

The friends are requested to bear in mind that the authenticity of all passages taken from Bahá'í Writings should be verified before being circulated, whether as quotations used on programs, mimeographed bulletins intended for believers, or printed for the public. The books and pamphlets issued by the Publishing Committee are accurate sources of the revealed Word as far as the National Assembly knows.

The Guardian informed the National Assembly some years ago that, in the case of new translations from the Persian, the material will be passed upon by him before publication.

The Convention

Cable to the Guardian

The following reply was sent to the Guardian, Friday, April 26, from Foundation Hall:

120 delegates and unusual number of visiting friends assembled in Convention reminiscent of Centennial in spirit and size, listened with profound emotion to momentous decisions of beloved Guardian's cable on first goals of second Bahá'í century.

Overwhelmingly grateful for Guardian's confidence in American believers, completely humbled by immense responsibilities, Convention dedicates itself to prayerful consultation on new goals within well defined plan so graciously given to canalize our efforts.

Spurred by Guardian's generous gifts, we prepare for sacrifice and achievement, and beseech fresh measures of spiritual grace. Desire ever closer bond beloved Guardian and long his presence.

Thirty-Eighth Annual Bahá'í Convention

Temple Foundation Hall
Wilmette, Illinois
Friday, April 26, 1946

Highlights of the Convention

The 38th Annual Convention of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada assembled in Foundation Hall of the Bahá'í House of Worship in Wilmette, on April 26, 1946, in great eagerness to hear the "momentous historic decisions" promised in the Guardian's recent message. From as far South as Punta Arenas, southernmost city of the world, to the frontier community of Alaska came Bahá'ís in this hemisphere numbering about 750. To add to this joyous occasion was the appearance of James Barrett and his wife from Chile, Alvin Blum, who spent many months in the Philippines, Sgt. John Eichenauer who arrived during the Convention from his post in Germany, Duncan McAlary who returned recently from France, Mrs.

The Convention

Judd Stroud, a newly-declared believer from Holland. Of the 942 people registering at the Convention, 135 were delegates.

At the opening of the Convention, following the prayer, the convention officers were elected: Mr. George Latimer, chairman, Mr. Horace Holley, secretary.

The Guardian's Message

With rapt attention the audience listened to the Guardian's message, telling of two Seven Year Plans for the American Bahá'í Community. The first of these Seven Year Plans is to begin immediately, to be followed by a respite of three years, and another Seven Year Plan, ending in the year 1963, in fulfillment of the prophecy of Daniel, at which time the world-wide triumph of the Bahá'í Faith will be proclaimed.

As the four objectives of the immediate Seven Year Plan were read, the audience was awesomely silent, since each of the objectives in itself seemed a tremendous task. The first objective is the consolidation of victories already won through the Americas, involving multiplication of Bahá'í centers, and bolder proclamation of the Faith to the masses; the second objective, the completion of the interior ornamentation of the House of Worship in Wilmette; the third objective, formation of three National Spiritual Assemblies, one in Canada, one in Central America, and one in South America; and the fourth objective, the imitation of systematic teaching activity in war-torn spiritually famished Europe.

The National Fund

The Guardian's initial gift of $10,000 gave impetus to the embarking on such work, and one believer offered another $10,000, while another contributed $1,000 and other sums poured in, totaling $30,000 during the Convention period. This, according to the treasurer, is only a start, since the Bahá'ís must double their contributions if we are to achieve the goals. We were reminded of a story about 'Abdu'l-Bahá in which he had asked one of the Bahá'ís to do something. She delayed in the matter, and a few days later came to Him saying she was ready to do it. He replied, "Now it is too late." We were reminded that we should fulfill these objectives before it is too late, and that the Guardian never asks us to do anything that is beyond our reach. We need a new viewpoint about the Bahá'í Fund, not that of contributing money, but that of "achieving the goal" set by the Guardian. The treasurer reported that 106 assemblies had contributed last year to the Fund but 28 failed to do so. We were requested not to send money in cash as it is often lost, but to make out a check or money order to the National Bahá'í Fund.

Projected Radio Station

In addition to these four objectives, the delegates recommended that the National Spiritual Assembly take legal steps to obtain the only remaining Frequency-Modulation Band in the Chicago area, and thus pave the way for a radio station operating either from the Temple or the Temple area. The cost of installation was estimated at $15,000, with a maintenance cost of $10,000 per year. This initial cost would include playback machine and equipment for cutting records. On the 40 hours a week allotted to this station, only educational material could be broadcast, thus eliminating commercials.

Completion of Temple

The National Secretary explained that the Guardian, in his request for an estimate of the interior ornamentation of the House of Worship, stated that the ornamentation should be along the lines designed by Mr. Louis Bourgeois, modified to make it less expensive. The estimate for this work amounted to $450,000. A description of the interior was given and the need for an additional $5,000 for the completion of the utilities. As a matter of publicity interest, it was announced that the Domestic Engineering Magazine contained photographs of the Temple, particularly of the boiler room, stating that it was the finest to be found anywhere in the United States. Also at the recent Oilburner Convention in Philadelphia, attention was drawn to the oil burner in the Temple as it was one of the largest installations in the country. It was reported that pictures of the Temple appeared in
a newspaper in Paris and in one or two editions of the military paper.

International Relief

The new International Bahá’í Relief Fund now contains $1,500 to be used for food, clothing and literature. Of particular interest is the need of the Bahá’ís in Germany, France and the Philippines. It was announced that John Eichenauer, now on terminal leave, had just arrived in the country from Germany and might be able to get to the Convention. Meanwhile Alvin Blum who spent many months in the Philippines, brought word from the believers there and greetings from the Bahá’ís in New Zealand. He stated that the need is great and besides food, such simple things as buttons, thread, and materials are not available. Later, when John Eichenauer arrived, he read the following cablegram from the Guardian: "Greatly rejoice news convention, election NAS (Germany). Deeply appreciate reaffirmation undivided loyalty beloved friends, heart filled with hope for unprecedented expansion and consolidation of Bahá’í activities. Will transmit ten thousand pounds collected for national fund as soon as possible. Should be devoted relief, promotion teaching work, multiplication of centers, expansion literature, establishment of Faith in Austria and renting or purchase as soon as possible, adequate housing in Frankfurt as National Hazíratul-Quds designed to become focus of Bahá’í activity for all German and Austrian believers. Praying abundant blessings. Eager to receive reports of progress of community destined to develop as prophesied by 'Abdu’l-Bahá into most powerful center of spiritual illumination of the entire European continent. Deepest love. Smirz." 

German NSA

John Eichenauer brought greetings, from 32 Assemblies in Germany and told how he first made contact with the Bahá’ís on May 6, 1945, and later met a group in Stuttgart. There have been two youth conferences, and on October 20, 1945 the first spiritual assembly was formed in Heidelberg. The NSA of Germany was restored on April 7, 1946, being the first chance that many believers had to meet together in nine years. Many members had been in concentration camps, but four of the original National Spiritual Assembly members were still there. There was an attendance of almost 200 at this election meeting in Stuttgart. He also told of the work of two other Bahá’ís in Germany, Captain Henry Jarvis in Heidelberg, and Sgt. Bruce Davison of Frankfort. Owing to the efforts of the Bahá’ís in America, many hundreds packages of food and clothing arrived through these servicemen to be distributed. However, due to the great response, it was necessary to ask the Bahá’ís to curtail the sending of these packages as it was a strain on the three young men receiving them. On June 15th, Sgt. Eichenauer plans to return to Stuttgart as a civilian, working under Restitution Controls. He said that there are many positions open now in Germany under civil service for $3,400 per year. Those interested can write to the Overseas Branch of the War Department, Washington, D.C. He gave addresses of Bahá’ís in Germany and France who would distribute packages. One of these addresses was that of Paul Gollmer whose house stood unharmed in the midst of blocks of rubble. Eighty per cent of Stuttgart was destroyed but Mr. Gollmer’s house still stood. Sgt. Eichenauer told of attending the United Nations meeting in London through a pass which he obtained from Mrs. Roosevelt.

France and England

It was recommended that a National Service Committee be formed to handle the contributions of food, clothing, and other needs to the Bahá’ís in Europe and the Philippines, so that parcels may be sent systematically, and where needed most. Duncan McAlear reported on
his observations in France. He said that in Nancy, France, 96% of those who are between the ages of 18 and 21 have tuberculosis including twelve young people who are interested in the Faith. They need especially food, soap, and sufficient vitamins to improve their condition. Mr. McAlear said he remembered how the Guardian said, "Turn to your Bahá’í brothers and sisters who are living with you in the Kingdom. Indeed the believers have not fully realized how to draw on each other in times of need," and he began to write to the isolated believers in England and France, sharing their letters. He felt that there was a whole network of Bahá’ís who had gained strength from this correspondence.

Mrs. Motahedeh told of her visit to London and of the depressed feeling of the believers there. She said that the Bahá’ís in London took courage when they heard of the problems of the pioneers to South America, saying, "We suffered here involuntarily during the war, but those who went to South America did so voluntarily." There is no housing in many parts of England, and no soap, she said. And the need is great for food, fats, oils, vitamins, broth, and meal. An idea of the situation is seen when a suit costs $300, bedroom slippers $100, an apple 90c, and an ordinary dinner $20.00. Very few people can afford these things.

Pioneers for Europe

Further work on the Fourth Objective of the Seven Year Plan was proposed by Mr. Tony Rocco who offered to pioneer in his native land, Spain; Mr. Philip Marangella who offered to pioneer in Italy, and requested the translation of literature into Italian for this work; Mrs. Solveigh Corbit who offered to go to Norway; Mrs. Judd Stroud who offered to go to Holland where there is only one other Bahá’í. Mrs. Stroud came to America in December, where she learned of the Faith. As preparation for her pioneer work, she plans to go to a Bahá’í Summer School.

Projected National Assemblies

Discussing the Third Objective outlined in the Guardian’s Cable, the Canadian delegates felt that the believers in Canada would approach the formation of a National Spiritual Assembly with enthusiasm. There are about 200 believers in Canada now, and as an aid to their development before forming the National Spiritual Assembly, it was suggested that they have more help in spreading the Faith, that one member from Canada be placed on each National Committee to gain experience in committee work, that they form a Canadian Coordinating Committee, and that some effort be made to teach the Canadians who speak French, as they are the "minority group" in Canada.

Public Relations

The Faith has begun to attract the attention of many non-Bahá’ís. Saturday Night, a Canadian paper, contained a message from Ruhiyyih Khanum. Mr. Marinoff, son-in-law of Mr. Albert Einstein, is now writing a book on the Faith. A professor at Iowa State University is writing a book which includes material on the Faith. A new book just off the press, "Iran", includes part of a chapter on the Faith. Literature has appeared in Stars and Stripes, and in three copies of the French paper, Fraternité. The Public Relations Committee report that during the last year, special literature was sent to all the governors of the states, the White House, the Supreme Court, and senators and representatives who are considered liberal in their viewpoints. The chairman of this committee read interesting replies from many outstanding people in this country. Mr. Victor Alexander, of Hollywood, who is in the film industry, offered to make some pictures about the Faith. The delegates moved to have the National Spiritual Assembly approve this project. Mr. Balling, also a non-Bahá’í, offered to change the World Order Magazine so that it would be acceptable on the newsstands. It was moved to have the National Spiritual Assembly approve this project also. Another interesting fact was that Massachusetts now legalizes Bahá’í marriage.

The National Secretary emphasized the difficulties in holding the meetings of the National Spiritual assembly last year, because of strikes, priorities, and transportation troubles. The total time of meetings amounted to 25 days and nights in business sessions. It was announced that Mr. Roy Wilhelm had finally been permitted by the Guardian to resign from the National Spiritual Assembly due to ill health. In his place, by special election of last year’s delegates, Miss Elsie Austin was elected.

The Election

On Sunday morning, April 28th, the National Election was held, and the following were members of the new National Spiritual Assembly: Miss Elsie Austin, Mr. Philip Sprague, Mr. Horace Holley, Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Mrs. Amelia Collins, Mr. George Latimer, Miss Edna True, Mr. Paul Haney, Mr. Kenneth Christian. The new Assembly met, and elected the following officers: Dorothy Baker, chairman, Paul Haney, vice-chairman, Horace Holley, corresponding secretary, Edna True, recording secretary, and Philip Sprague, treasurer.

Reply to the Guardian

In reply to the Guardian’s message, the Convention sent a cablegram telling of their humility in face of the immense responsibilities outlined by the Guardian, and their desire to be aided by his prayers to attain these goals.

Teaching in North America

In regard to Objective I of the Guardian’s message, the National Teaching Committee pointed out that there are at present 27 states who have only 1 assembly, and many pioneers who left their homes for the first Seven Year Plan are desirous of returning. In order to safeguard the victories of this First Seven Year Plan, there is an immediate need for 25 Bahá’ís to pioneer in the following areas: Char-
lottetown, Montón, Louisville, Ky., Greenville, S. Car., Brattleboro, Vt., Boise, Idaho, Toledo, Ohio, and Chevy Chase. These needs are most urgent. In addition, one more settler is needed in Knoxville, Tenn.; two settlers in West Vancouver, B. C., West Haven, Conn., Geneva, N.Y., Seneca Township, Findlay, Ohio, Granger Township, Hinckley Township, Ohio, Urbana, Ohio, Glenfield, N. Dak., Inglewood, Calif., San Mateo, Calif., and Monroe, Washington.

It was stated that only 72 new Baha’is entered the Faith in this Continent last year, which indicates that we need to stop and study our lives and teaching methods in order to confirm those souls who may be ready. The importance of prayer was emphasized. It was stated that Martha Root felt that the only time she failed was when she didn’t pray before it; and that ‘Abdu’l-Baha when asked how to have a successful meeting said to pray beforehand. In Toronto the Baha’is have a prayer squad which operates constantly, and also pray during Baha’i meetings.

Along with prayer was the emphasis for the need of love and unity among the believers. The Guardian said, “Unity of the heart attracts the outpourings of the whole sphere. Prayer is the power that promotes our faith. Do not observe faults because we cut off the hearts and kill the whole spirit.” We must live the Baha’i life individually and also in groups. A timely excerpt was read from the Tablet by ‘Abdu’l-Baha written on the occasion of the beginning of the House of Worship in Isfahán: “The forces of darkness in the world are so prevalent and strong that their mobb and turbulent influence is being felt by all. Therefore you should strive to be more loving in order to fight against the atmosphere every passing day.”

Another point which was emphasized was that we should meet with the believers in other ways than just the Nineteen-Day Feasts. We should enjoy social gatherings, plan social functions, and associate more closely in other activities.

The importance of an attractive Center for Baha’is was discussed, and also the need for listing the Baha’i Secretary in the telephone books so that people who are interested, or who are travelling through the cities may know where to find out about meetings.

The most successful teaching medium, the fireside group, was discussed. Owing to the hospitality, and the intimacy of the gatherings, interested people could feel free to discuss more in detail their views. It was suggested that we use a series of short five or ten lesson courses rather than a thirty-six lesson course which might frighten some people away because of its length.

The great need for training more good teachers was discussed. In addition, we must try to have a variety of speakers so that they will give the different aspects of the Faith rather than just one in which a particular teacher is interested.

Reaching the Masses

A new method of teaching more boldly and to the masses this year was that of the large public meetings in key cities where a number of national committees such as radio, teaching, contacts, and publicity, keyed their work to these projects. The chairman of the Public Meetings Committee reported on the meetings held in the eleven key cities, with an attendance averaging from 250 to 800 people. Although there were many problems in this the first year of the venture, and a number of unforeseeable difficulties such as an ice and sleet storm in Washington, D.C., a transportation strike in Detroit, and the opening of the United Nations Organization in New York City, the cities were enthusiastic about this method of teaching as it enabled them to carry out effectively a very good meeting and to give a fine presentation of the Faith to the public through radio, newspaper, and the lecture platform. Milwaukwi and Urbana, following the same ideas, put on their own public meetings, which were very successful. Cities who are desirous of having such meetings this year should indicate their desire to the National Spiritual Assembly.

Radio

Another method of teaching was outlined by the Radio Committee who played for the Convention the first of a series of fifteen-minute dramatizations called The Worldover Series. The committee is planning to make thirteen different transcriptions which can be circulated all over the country. There is time on these broadcasts for local announcements of meetings, to tie in with the story of the Faith. The Radio Committee emphasized the importance of having radio scripts approved in order to prevent any law suits against the
Faith. Each assembly is responsible for any material put on the air over its stations.

As a means of understanding more about the Faith, the programs for the Summer Schools were announced. At Louhelaen, a special midsummer session in child guidance will include not only Bahá’í teachers, but also others who are specialists in this field. Another feature of Louhelaen will be a conference for Bahá’í parents the weekend of July 20-21. The Geyserville committee announced that they are to extend the Summer School from two weeks to one month. The Green Acre committee announced a program including sample meetings of Assemblies in action, and a special conference on “Securing the Peace” as well as a Race Unity Conference and a Latin-American Conference.

Conferences
Announcement was made of the Rice Lake School in Canada, near Toronto, which will have a conference for one week, beginning July 27th. As they can only accommodate fifty people, reservations should be made soon. Then followed announcements of some new conferences: one in Banff, Alberta, Canada, from August 11-17, reservations to be made through Miss Elizabeth Brooks, Box 121, Winnipeg, Canada, a five-day conference at the end of June in Halifax, N.S., and a summer school in Homer, Alaska, to be held on the five acres given by Marjorie McCormack of Alaska.

Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh announced a plan to have Dr. George Townsend, author of “Heart of the Gospel,” and “Promise of All Ages,” come from Dublin this summer and visit all summer schools.

Latin America
News of the Latin American work included the announcement of 135 new Bahá’ís, almost twice the total of new believers in North America. The work in Latin America is only fifteen years old, but already twenty countries have assemblies. All had cabled their greetings to the Convention. There is a noticeable trend towards liberation in Latin America and a greater receptivity of Bahá’í literature. Sgt. Jim Barrett, accompanying by his beautiful Chilean bride, outlined the work of publicity at the recent Panama Conference, telling of the newspaper and radio work. He said that this was very successful and that Latin America is far ahead of North America in free radio time.

Mr. Artemus Lamb brought greetings from Punta Arenas, southernmost city of the world. They felt that radio programs in Chile had a great deal to do with the forming of the spiritual assembly as the climate was bad, and the daylight hours few. Consequently, people listened to the radios a great deal, and incidentally, to the Bahá’í broadcasts. He spoke of the bond between Punta Arenas and Alaska since the Guardian had mentioned these two especially when speaking of the teaching work in this hemisphere.

Louise Baker told of some of the interesting teaching work in South America, stating that it was the work of many Bahá’ís, coming from time to time, that established the Assemblies; that there is a great bond between the pioneers and the local group; and that the believers are naturally very loving and gracious.

Mrs. Rosemary Sala quoted from Bahá’u’lláh, “And the love of God, like unto an artery, shall beat over the heart of five continents,” saying that one can feel this spirit of love when travelling through the countries in Latin America. The spirit of their devotion reminded her of the days of the Dawn-Breakers, and yet these were Bahá’ís in this hemisphere. Of interest is the Five Year Plan which the Bahá’ís of Ecuador have made for themselves, at the completion of which the Assembly is to visit Haifa. Mrs. Sala stated that seventy percent of the believers are men, and that Bahá’u’lláh had blessed the American believers with fruits far beyond their deserving.

Mr. Emeric Sala reminded us that the work of those who labor in the Kingdom will endure for millenniums, and that in travelling in Latin America he witnessed the birth of an entire new civilization. Of interest also is the fact that 80% of the believers are not white. He said that pioneers must endure hardships we can never appreciate such as heat, disease, uncomfortable travel, mosquitoes, bad food, many delays over visas, and life in near-slam conditions.

Mr. Mason Remey told of his visit to each of the countries in South America saying that they have great love and affection largely from the heart. The believers are universally friendly and loving. He said that he had to go down to South America to see how strong the Cause is in North America, so strong that it had kindled the hearts and stirred the believers to leave their homes and pioneer in South America.

The Colleges
A report from the College Speakers Bureau emphasized the specialized work they are trying to do in some colleges, particularly those in the Temple area. The work of Mrs. Joy Earl in Negro colleges in the South, of Mrs. Terah Smith in taking to white colleges in the South, and of Dr. Edris Rice-Wray at Iowa State College where she is helping a professor with material for a book on the Faith, was described. It was requested that if anyone knew of Bahá’ís who are in a college or university, or someone who is sympathetic to the Faith in colleges, he should communicate such information to the College Speakers Bureau. At present, in the University of Illinois there are two Bahá’i students, which allows the Bahá’ís to be listed as a religious group. The Bureau would also like to know of any religious weeks or forums on social, economic, current events, historical or philosophical subjects which would accept Bahá’í speakers.

Youth
The Youth Committee reported that 105 youth attended the banquet held during the Convention. At present, the Youth Committee is adjusting to the post-war location of its members, and attempting to keep in touch with all the Bahá’í youth. A message from the Guardian of October 20, 1945 was read, in which he urged the young Bahá’ís in every city to make a point of keeping in touch with local youth activities and clubs, and to make their views known to as many young people as possible. He also emphasized the high example that these youth must set for the world in chastity, politeness, friendliness, hospitality, and optimism for the future of mankind.

The chairman of the Youth Committee outlined their program of study, teaching activity, research, and circulation of the Youth Bulletin. The keynote, they felt, should be the close working of youth and adults. It was suggested that the National Spiritual Assembly ask the Guardian if the New York City Baha’i Laws which serve as a model for this country, could be amended so that Bahá’í youth from 15 to 21 may be listed as Bahá’ís. The presence of one youth member on each national committee was also discussed.
Child Education

The Child Education Committee emphasized that parents should teach themselves so that they may know how to answer their children. They should also find ways of making each child feel he is a part of the Bahá'í world. Interest can be aroused if the child is approached correctly, and summer schools not only help to develop the children, but also give them an opportunity to meet many other Bahá'í children.

Questionnaires

The Questionnaires Committee passed out questionnaire cards which may be handed to friends or strangers by the Bahá'ís. The purpose of these cards is to build a mailing list and really attract the attention of those who might be interested. If the local assembly wishes it may have its own address printed on the cards for their return. These questionnaire cards may also be used as a basis for study groups.

Libraries

The Library Committee requests that we check on the books in the libraries and bring them up-to-date, that we call these books to the attention of those interested, and that we also take them out occasionally. Attention was called to a National Religious Book week, May 5-12 during which we might ask to have Bahá'í books displayed. The Library Committee would like to have books placed in the following cities: Montgomery, Ala., Tampa, Fla., Rockford, Ill., Evansville, Ind., Lexington, Ky., Meridian, Miss., Canton, O., Salem, Ore., El Paso, Tex., Norfolk, Va., Roanoke, Va., as well as eleven colleges and universities. The suggestion was made of placing books or a subscription to World Order Magazine in branch libraries as well as main libraries, and that we supply the libraries with good books to offset any books attacking the Faith. One believer stated that he became a Bahá'í because he was surprised at the statements of criticism against the Faith. He said, "No person could be as bad as these people are reported to be." The suggestion was made not to appear disturbed if the librarian noted books attacking the Faith, but to draw attention to the good books. We should also request that New History books be catalogued under New History Society.

Meetings for the Public

During the Convention there were several public meetings. On Friday evening, the Bahá'í Youth presented a series of lectures; Ross Woodman outlining the decline of present-day civilization and the ultimate collapse due to its lack of spirituality, Betty Schefler outlining the power of religion when unified, Fari Walrath outlining the institutions and laws of the new world-wide civilization of Bahá'ulláh, and Robert Imagire presiding as chairman.

On Saturday evening, the Feast of the Rívdán was celebrated, with the Milwaukee Bahá'ís acting as hosts. The chairman described the atar of roses which the Guardian had sent for the Rívdán Feast at the time of the Centennial, but which did not arrive until later. Mr. Mason Remey talked on "The Lesser and the Most Great Peace," Mrs. Margery McCormick on "The Descent of the Son of Man in Great Glory," and William Sears on "Incidents in the Life of Bahá'ulláh." After the Rívdán Feast, Oreella Rexford explained a sound film on Iran which we had the opportunity of seeing.

Sunday afternoon, the last of the Public Meetings Committee series presented Mrs. Charles R. Bishop, speaking on "The Price of World Peace Is World Religion," and Mr. Ali Yazdi speaking on "World Order in the Making," with Mr. Harlan Ober presiding as chairman.

A very personal note of the life of the Guardian gave a fitting climax to the last evening of the Convention when Mrs. Joy Arnold, who was born in Tibrán and lived in Haifa, told details of the Guardian's marriage.

Mrs. Mancuhest True Convention Reporter

National Committees

Summer Schools

Geyserville Bahá'í School
June 23rd to July 20th

COURSES OF STUDY

Course I: TOWARD WORLD ORDER
First Week: June 24-30 (9:30-10:45 a.m.)
Monday—The Source of Civilization.
Tuesday—The Dawn of the Day of God.
Wednesday—The Proclamation of World Order.
Thursday—The Divine Economy.
Friday—Evidences of the Disintegration of the Old Order.
Saturday—The Decline of Religion as a Moral Force.
Sunday—The Challenge of the Atomic Age.

Second Week: July 1-7 (9:30-10:45 a.m.)
Monday—The Process of Integration.
Tuesday—The Uniting of the Nations.
Wednesday—The Lesser Peace.
Thursday—The Most Great Peace.
Friday—The Emerging World Community.
Saturday—The Immediate Task.

Course II: CHALLENGING VERITIES OF THE BAHA'I FAITH
First Week: June 24-30 (11:00 a.m.—12:15 noon)
Monday—The Transforming Power of the Prophet.
Tuesday—New Standards of Conduct.
Wednesday—The Law of Justice.
Thursday—The Principle of Unity.
Friday—The Covenant.
Saturday—The Law of Consultation.
Second Week: July 1-7 (11:00 a.m.—12:15 noon)
Monday—The Creative Work.
Tuesday—The Eternality of the Soul.
Wednesday—Modern Interpretations of Religion.
Thursday—The Bahá'í Answer to Modern Interpretations of Religion.
Friday—Modern Ideologies.
Saturday—The Bahá'í Answer to Modern Ideologies.
Sunday—The New Creation.

THE BAHA'I TEACHER—1946
Third Week: July 8-14
Course I
(9:30-10:45 a.m.)
PRACTICE TEACHING
Purpose: To acquire practice in effective teaching of the Cause by applying the material and guiding principles covered in Courses II and III.
Method: Actual teaching efforts by class members on subjects discussed in Course II, followed by class analysis and discussion.

Course II
(11:00 a.m.—12:15 noon)
BAHA'I CLINIC
Purpose: To learn to apply the Bahá'í Teachings to current problems and to the gradual establishment of World Order.
Method: Lectures by specialists in each field, followed by discussion.

Course III
(3:30-4:30 p.m.)
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
EFFECTIVE TEACHING METHODS
Purpose: To review and discuss the spiritual prerequisites, psychological considerations and types of teaching activities.
Method: Round table discussion with reports by students on assigned subjects. Examples of various teaching mediums will be covered.

YOUTH WEEK
Fourth Week: July 15-20
Course I
(9:30-10:45 a.m.)
SOME BASIC TEACHINGS OF THE BAHA'I FAITH
Monday—The Living Religions of the World.
Tuesday—The Functions of the Prophet.
Wednesday—The Relation of the Individual to God and to the Prophet.
Thursday—The Beginning of the New Era.
Friday—The Covenant of God.
Saturday—The Bahá'í Administrative Order.

THE BAHÁ’Í NEWS 9
June, 1946

Course II
(11:00 a.m.-1:15 noon)

YOUTH QUESTIONS AND BAHA'I ANSWERS
Monday—And Wars Shall Cease.
Tuesday—Social and Political Philosophies.
Wednesday—A New World Government.
Thursday—Economic Justice.
Friday—The Leaves of One Tree.
Saturday—Science versus Religion?
Rates: $14.00 to $17.00 per week (including breakfast and dinner). Daily rates on a pro-rata basis.

RESERVATIONS: Reservations must be made in advance through Miss Gladysce Linfoot, 150 Nova Drive, Piedmont 10, California.

Louhelen Bahá'í School
WORKSHOP SESSION June 20-July 10, Inclusive

SPIRITUAL GROWTH—Manme Seo
Study of the subject of Faith—the technique of attaining Faith and the reward of Faith. Will include, among others, such subjects as: The Relationship of God to Man, Holy Scripture, Sovereignty and Sacrifice, Tests, Tests and Fastings.

THE GUARDIANSHIP & THE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER—Paul E. Haney
An advanced course in Administration covering the Foundations of the Administrative Order, its Institutions and their present-day functions, the responsibilities of the Individual Believer, and the World Significance of the Administrative Order.

WORKSHOP—Teaching Techniques:
VISUAL: DISPLAYS & EXHIBITS
Arthur Patterson
To provide elementary training in presenting the Cause through use of displays and exhibits. Daily 15 minute, illustrated lectures on theory of colors, arrangements and materials, followed by class work on individual projects and group planning of results. No attempt will be made to develop special talent.

ORAL PUBLIC GROUP, INDIVIDUAL
Florence Reed
Practice in technique for presenting the teachings including chairmanship, organization of panel discussions, conduct of meetings, selection and organization of material for talks, etc.

EVENINGS—Special programs and topics of interest including student evaluation of the session.

JUNIOR YOUTH SESSION
July 13-19, Inclusive

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?—Peggy True
A course in fundamental principles—how to answer questions about the Faith asked by friends and associates and how to conduct ourselves as Bahá'ís in everyday situations.

BAHÁ'Í CHARACTER—Harry Ford
The evolutionary growth of religion and human character based on selected stories from the Old Testament, Gospels, Koran, etc., and culminating in the practical application of Bahá'í principles of moral and ethical conduct.

TRIPS TO OTHER LANDS—Paul Pettit
Making of maps to trace travels of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Stories of geography and customs and characters of peoples in countries of special interest to Bahá'ís.

NATURE STUDY & CRAFTS
Eleanor S. Hutchens
Nature studies based on Louhelen environment. Elementary art work together with leatherwork, beadwork, soap carving, and other activities intended to stimulate interest in handicrafts. Will include field trips.

COUNSELOR HOUR—Staff Round-table discussion of topics and problems proposed by the students and other subjects of current interest to youth.

RECREATION AND INFORMAL PROGRAMS
COUNSELORS—Peggy True, Paul Pettit

CONFERENCE OF BAHA'Í PARENTS
July 20-21
Consultation on how to meet the special problems of Bahá'í parents. Robert Christian, Director.

MID-SUMMER SESSION
July 22-28, Inclusive

AIDING THE CHILD TO MATURITY
A combination workshop and lecture approach to the problems of social adjustment presented by Bahá'í and non-Bahá'í speakers. How to conduct meetings, relating the teachings to current thought, techniques and psychological principles.

EARTH ONE COUNTRY
Emeric and Rosemary Sala
Based on his book of the same title. Considers the causes of breakdown of present-day national and international institutions through the principles of the Bahá'í Faith as a practical challenge to currently popular social and economic theories, and points to the need for a new world-ethnic. Good training in how to present the teachings to leaders of current thought.

BUILDING COMMUNITY LIFE
Harlan Ober
Because of the extraordinary changes in process throughout the world, with all the old and inadequate forms of thought and conduct undergoing transformation, new standards are necessary. In the Bahá'í community, the ideals and standards of the New Age are being developed. This course will consider the basic spiritual principles of civilization as revealed by Bahá'u'lláh and their application to the thought and conduct of Bahá'ís among themselves and in contact with the world at large.

EVENINGS—Character Development and special programs. Alice Bacon.

SENIOR YOUTH SESSION
August 14-25, Inclusive

A NEW SOCIAL PATTERN
Arnold Ketels
A study of the Bahá'í standards of social conduct, our attitude toward others, and a practical consideration of the problems of Bahá'í Youth in their normal relationships with non-Bahá'ís.

RISE AND FALL OF CIVILIZATIONS
Heshmat Ali
A study of how particular civilizations, which have been born and which have flourished and declined, have constituted successive stages in the ever advancing process of the development of mankind and how we now stand at the threshold of a new cycle, a world-embracing civilization.

THE EMERGING WORLD ORDER
Arch. E. Tichnor
A study of the evolution of various world organizations and institutions in which the principles of the Bahá'í Faith are gradually taking form, and how the Bahá'í Faith establishes the pattern and furnishes the integrating force necessary to make these principles universally applicable and successful.

LOUHELEN BAHT CHOIR
Esther Wilson, Director
Combines the fun of singing together with practical training in elements and appreciation of music.

FORUM
Round-table discussion of topics proposed by the students and of other subjects of current interest.

EXPERIENCES IN OTHER LANDS
Talks by youth who have served in the Armed Forces abroad relating observations and experiences of special interest and value to future pioneer teachers.

COUNSELORS—Leonard Boyd, Arnold Ketels.

RATES AND RESERVATIONS
RATES—For room and meals, per day, per person:

ADULTS: Single room ............... $3.00
Double room .................. $2.50
Dormitory ..................... $2.00

YOUTH ..................... $1.75
(Note: Above rates apply only for Youth in attendance at a Bahá'í Youth Session)

RESERVATIONS—Since attendance has been steadily increasing, enrollments in most sessions are near capacity. Therefore, to assure accommodations, it is important that reservations be made as far in advance as possible.

Reservations should designate:
1. Session in which you wish to enroll.
2. Type of accommodations preferred, and if you wish transportation arranged from Flint or Davison, the exact date, time and place of your expected arrival.

Make reservations by mail or telegram addressed to:

LOUHELEN BAHT SCHOOL
3308 South State Road
Davison, Michigan

Green Acre

Children's Classes

The children’s classes are an important feature of the Green Acre Summer School. If you are planning to attend the School with your children, you will be glad to know that they will be taught each morning, except Sunday, by competent teachers. Classes will be held this year in the Arts and Crafts Studio.
The youngest group—three to six years—will be under the supervision of Amy Brady Dwelly, a trained Nursery School teacher. There will be a devotional period, handwork, games, stories, and all that will make the smallest children happy during the morning at Green Acre.

The middle group—seven to eleven years—will be taught during July by Marguerite Sears, and during August by Helen Campbell. These children will have a period of Bahá'í study, handcraft, music, games, and nature study.

The oldest group—twelve to fourteen—will be supervised, the Committee hopes, by a young man of college age.

**Gifts**

Under the guidance of the Guardian, Green Acre has become a school, the beginning of that great Bahá'í University which will arise there in the future. The cooperation of the friends has been an active factor in the success of the summer school. Many gifts have helped to make the dormitories more comfortable and attractive. The Program Committee wishes to make known some of the things most needed for the coming season, June 29 to September 2, 1946:

2. Table and bridge lamps.
3. A reading stand.
5. A mimeograph.
6. A typewriter for the library.
7. A projector for slides (550 watts), especially needed.

If you can supply any of these needs, the Committee will gladly pay the express.

**Inter-America News**

The Inter-America Committee is most joyful and thankful to be able to announce that the goal of a spiritual Assembly in every country of Latin America is now realized. Assemblies are formed for the first time in Managua, Nicaragua, in Valparaíso, Chili, and in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. An Assembly has been reestablished in Puntarenas, Costa Rica.

The ten Central American countries now have eleven Spiritual Assemblies including the two in Costa Rica. The ten Republics of South America have at present fourteen Spiritual Assemblies, with three in Chili, and two each in Brazil and Columbia.

In addition to the twenty-five Assemblies in Latin American countries (this does not include those in Jamaica and Puerto Rico) there are at least ten Bahá'í groups. North American pioneers are assigned to only two of these groups, Quito and Sao Paulo.

As reported by the Chairman of the I.A.C. on the Convention floor, it is planned to form a number of regional committees throughout Central and South America whose functions will be to build groups into Assemblies, to carry the Teachings to new localities, forming new groups, and to carry the Teachings to the masses by means of the radio. These committees will be composed of native believers as well as of North American pioneers.

Perhaps the friends in North America will be glad to hear that Bahá'ís membership in Latin America is increasing at a far more rapid rate in proportion to total membership than is being reported from the centers in this country. In a two week's file of correspondence from assembly secretaries and pioneers, which accumulates between meetings of the I.A.C., one usually finds ten or more new membership cards. There were seventeen of these cards in the last file available to the writer.

**Publishing Announcements**

**Bahá'í World Faith: Centennial Edition**—bound in full leather, red with gold stamping. A beautiful volume for the personal Bahá'í library and for presentation to the Bahá'í Library of your Assembly or Summer School or as gift to a friend. Per copy, $5.00.

**Two Roads We Face,** by William Kenneth Christian, latest addition to the series of Teaching Pamphlets. Reprinted from the article in recent issue of World Order Magazine. A most timely presentation of the message. Sold in lots of 100 copies for $2.00.

**Local News**

The Philadelphia Bahá'ís are holding regular monthly study days. They begin at 3:30 to study individually in the Kitáb-í-Íqán, share supper, and in the evening hold a question and answer period using Horace Holley's study outline for the Íqán.

To follow up their large public lecture attended by 850-1000 persons at the Continental Hotel on April 11th, Chicago Bahá'ís held four special public meetings at their Michigan Avenue Center. On April 18, Horace Holley spoke on "Religion for the Modern World," on April 23, Orcella Rexford spoke to an audience of 106 on "Iran's Contribution to World Culture" showing a sound film on Thirán, on April 30, Philip Marangella spoke on "And His Is the Power and the Glory." Mrs. Helen Bishop was scheduled to speak on May 7th on "The Goal of the Twentieth Century." Horace Holley was invited to share the platform with Dr. Preston Bradley and Rabbi Levi for the Town Public Forum to
discuss, “Can Religion Meet the Challenge of the Times?” There were estimated to be 800 present.

Baha’is in San Francisco cooperated with the Cosmos Club, an organization among the city’s Negroes who are interested in inter-racial culture. Mr. Leroy Ioas was invited to speak a few minutes about the Faith to an audience of a thousand persons. He and Mrs. Ioas were invited to lead the grand march and Baha’i girls were among the ushers. One of the Negro churches made Mr. Ioas’ talk the subject of a sermon the next Sunday.

The Beverly, Massachusetts Race Unity Forum program reached us, listing several races among the speakers. Dr. Glenn Shook spoke for the Baha’i Faith, and with him on the platform were Senor José B. Cortes, Director of the Philippine Center in Boston, and Mr. S. P. Pu, graduate student in economics at Harvard.

News From Other Lands

Germany

The following notes are based on an account by John Eichenauer of the first national convention held by the German Baha’is since the war. The Convention was held in Stuttgart, April 6 and 7, Splendor 17 and 18. The 19 delegates were from the four communities of Esslingen, Frankfurt, Heidelberg and Stuttgart. On Saturday evening 150 believers from all over the American Zone gathered in a reconstructed, bomb-damaged room to listen to annual reports. Loving hands had converted the room into a hall of dignity and beauty. Flowers and green sprigs decorated the tables of the audience and the speakers’ rostrum. After music and prayer Herr Paul Gollmer welcomed all and summarized the historic tasks before them, above all that we must be self sacrificing and living examples of what we believe.

John Eichenauer spoke of a letter he had received from the Guardian in which he urged everyone to write to him of his experiences during the war and since.

Brief reports of the work already done since May, 1945, when hostilities ended, were given by Frs. Marta Weiss and Edith Horn, Dr. Hermann Grossman, Frau Brauns-Forel, daughter of the famous Swiss scientist, Frau Annamarie Schweizer, Dr. Adelheid Koller-Jager and others. From our reports in former issues of Baha’i news the friends will realize how very active the German Baha’is have been, holding public meetings, youth meetings and conferences, fire-side and study groups, and Nineteen-Day Feasts and giving thorough publicity to their public activities.

Dr. Grossman spoke eloquently of the importance of the Baha’i work and how only a supreme effort could attract the masses from their disillusion and waywardness.

“Sonne der Wahrheit” (Sun of Truth), comparable to World Order Magazine, was reported as almost ready to go to press with a leading article on the history of the Faith in Germany since Dr. Fisher, an American dentist, first proclaimed it in Stuttgart in 1906.

Convention delegates met Sunday at 8 a.m. in the apartment of Herr Gollmer on Neckarstrasse. This street, formerly one of the most beautiful in Stuttgart, is now lined with fire gutted and bombèd out buildings. For some unknown reason the four-story building containing Herr Gollmer’s apartment escaped destruction.

Among the suggestions made by the delegates to the NSA about to be elected were the appointment of committees to review membership lists for believers whose voting status is not clear, to send teachers to other Zones in Germany, to establish central direction of youth, teaching and publication activities. The eligibility of believers who were members of the Nazi party (regardless of the reason) for election to the NSA was discussed and it was decided they would not be eligible.

The following were elected to the NSA: Dr. Adelheid Koller-Jager, Frau Hedwig Schubert, Dr. Hermann Grossman, Herr Paul Gollmer, FrL Edith Horn, Herr Fred Kohler, Herr Eugen Knorr, Frau Marta Brauns-Forel and FrL Marta Weiss. The NSA decided to meet monthly.

As the hour of the NSA session approached the delegates departed for the Baha’i School Site near Esslingen to attend a devotional program. About 100 believers and visitors attended this meeting.

Excellent publicity was gained for the Convention.

John’s account closes with these words: “Thus was concluded two of the happiest and most dramatic days of my service in the Cause of Baha’u’llah.”

British Isles

The Baha’i’s of the British Isles held an important teaching conference in Manchester, February 2 and 3. The first session was devoted to reports from the 5 assemblies and 2 groups with discussion of the same. Through the devotional period at the second session the Conference was lifted to a realm of dedication and spiritual resolution greatly reinforced by H. Balyuzi’s inspired message. At the third session true collective action took place. The Conference selected 9 “goal towns,” a goal town being defined as, a Baha’i community carrying on “active work... with sufficient regularity to justify reasonable hopes of an Assembly within the period of the Six Year Plan.”

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page Col.
“The First Choice”—Words of Baha’u’llah .................. 1 1
Messages from the Guardian .................. 1 1
To the Convention .................. 1 1
From his Letter of March 20th .................. 2 1
National Spiritual Assembly
“Your First Order of Business” .................. 2 2
Annual Election .................. 2 3
Distribution of Baha’i News .................. 2 3
Annual Budget .................. 3 1
Telegram to the President .................. 3 3
In Memoriam .................. 3 3
Portrait of ‘Abdu’l-Baha .................. 3 3
Accuracy of Baha’i Texts .................. 4 1
The Convention
Cable to Guardian .................. 4 1
Highlights of the Convention .................. 4 1
National Committees
Geyerville .................. 9 2
Lourelen .................. 10 1
Green Acre .................. 10 3
Inter-America News .................. 11 1
Publishing Announcements .................. 11 1
Local News .................. 11 2
News From Other Lands
Germany .................. 12 1
British Isles .................. 12 3
Photographs
Aerial Photograph of Baha’i House of Worship .................. 5
Poster for Baha’i Lecture In Frankfurt .................. 6
Spiritual Assembly, Denver .................. 7
Children’s class, Green Acre, 1945 11
“With Absolute Detachment”

By the righteousness of God! Who so openeth his lips in this Day and maketh mention of the name of his Lord, the hosts of Divine inspiration shall descend upon him from the heaven of My name, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. On him shall also descend the Concourse on high, each bearing aloft a chalice of pure light. Thus hath it been fore-ordained in the realm of God’s Revelation, by the behest of Him Who is the All-Glorious, the Most Powerful.

There lay concealed within the Holy Veil, and prepared for the use of God, a company of His chosen ones who shall be manifested unto men, who shall aid His Cause, who shall be afraid of no one, though the entire human race rise up and war against them. These are the ones who, before the gaze of the dwellers on earth and the denizens of heaven, shall arise and, shouting aloud, acclaim the name of the Almighty, and summon the children of men to the path of God, the All-Glorious, the All-Praised. Walk thou in their way, and let no one dismay thee. Be of them whom the tumult of the world, however much it may agitate them in the path of their Creator, can never sadden, whose purpose the blame of the blamer will never defeat.

Baha’u’llah

Messages from the Guardian

New Enterprises

Obstacles, however formidable, should be determinedly surmounted, every opportunity seized, rank and file of believers continually stimulated and reminded of their responsibilities and directed into channels of active service. No time to lose, great sacrifices demanded, unity, audacity and stern resolution essential. Devout prayers offered at Shrines.

From telegram received May 5, 1946:

Greatly welcome initial evidences of magnificent responses of Assembly to new Plan. Invoking divine assistance for vigorous, wise, sustained prosecution of manifold activities to be initiated in North America, Latin America and European continent.

Telegram received May 9, 1946:

(This message came in response to the telegram sent to the Guardian by the National Spiritual Assembly from its meeting May 5, 1946, following the Convention, as follows: “You have disclosed to American Baha’is the glorious path of faith leading to world spread of Baha’u’llah’s Message and ascendency of the authority and dominion of His Divine Revelation. Awed but resolute the Assembly has pondered the four objectives of Seven Year Plan, formulated measures, established necessary agencies and adopted annual budget of $250,000 sanctified by your contribution. Invoking divine aid for purification of the souls and attainment of the spiritual worthiness requisite to success of America’s mission under mandate conferred by ‘Abdu’l-Baha.”)

Opening phase of spiritual conquest of the old world under divinely conceived Plan must be speedily and fittingly inaugurated. Feel necessity prompt dispatch of nine competent pioneers to as many countries as feasible charged to initiate systematic teaching work, commence settlement and promote dissemination of literature. Urge establishment of auxiliary office in Geneva as adjunct to International Bureau equipped with facilities to foster development of assemblies in countries falling within the scope of Plan. Recommend European Teaching Committee undertake without delay measures aiming at close collaboration of British

Review of Magazine Articles

The following letter was written by the Guardian through his secretary, April 13, 1946:

“In the February Baha’i News, page 3, it mentions that magazine articles about the Cause ‘written by individual believers as their personal understanding of the teachings’ ... need not be reviewed officially. He feels this is unwise in view of the Master’s own instructions that articles about the Cause should not be published by individuals without proper approval of some responsible body.

“The Guardian says the local Assemblies can pass upon such articles; it is not necessary to refer them to a national committee.

“So often persons can be carried away by their enthusiasm and express something detrimental to the Faith. Therefore they must either re-
for their articles to their local Spiritual Assembly or the National Reviewing Committee.""

In connection with this direction, the National Assembly has voted to publish the communication from the Guardian and advise the believers that magazine articles are henceforth to be reviewed by local assemblies where the author is member of an organized community, otherwise the article is to be submitted directly to the National Reviewing Committee in the usual way. (The local assembly acting in each case is determined by the residence of the writer, not the location of the magazine).

**National Spiritual Assembly**

*Who Can Assist?*

Beloved Friends:

Before this issue of Bahá'í News reaches you, each member of the Bahá'í Community of North America will have received an individual copy of the bulletin prepared by the National Assembly on the subject of the new Seven Year Plan. Consideration of the objectives of the Plan and the channels through which effort is to be directed has become, and will long remain, our first and most imperative concern.

The new Seven Year Plan comes to us as guidance, charged with authority and power, not as mere wish and hope unable to rise above the destructive pressure of human affairs. To be a Bahá'í is to have capacity to recognize the Guardian's plans as guidance and to feel the power offered to the spirit of every believer who arises to serve. This arena of service is truly a divine gift to us above the dominion of kings and states, for in that arena we dwell in the light of the Most Great Peace, partake of the food of inspiration, and work with the tools of the most effective force. We build, while others seek to emerge from the wreckage of the past. Therefore Bahá'ís are free of fear and spared the tragedy of frustration. We need not be rich, superior in health or intelligence, or have any other human advantage. With faith the lowliest can achieve success in the Kingdom, where the law of existence is inspiration by the Holy Spirit and not struggle and competition.

The new Plan has a tremendous range of possibility. From time to time the Assembly wishes to give special emphasis to some one particular feature, in its effort to stimulate the hearts and give direction to the efforts.

At the outset of the Plan, therefore, the Assembly stresses the continuous and vital need of pioneers within the United States and Canada. This community of North America is the storehouse of that power on which the Divine Plan of 'Abdu'l-Bahá depends for its consummation from stage to stage. It is not for all of us to serve in Latin America or in Europe, however we might long to do so. But there are many more able to arise as settlers here than can volunteer to work in the foreign field.

In this issue of Bahá'í News the Assembly lists sixty local groups having five or more believers and therefore capable of development to local Assembly status within two or three years. (See page 11.)

May each believer ponder this list of cities, towns and villages. Who can arrange his or affairs so as to offer to the National Teaching Committee to assist in this great and fundamental work? The Cause is a unit. Those who serve in the formation of a large number of new Assemblies are in reality contributing to the work in Central and South America and the countries of Europe.

The believers in these various groups likewise have each one a glorious mission to teach the Cause and confirm new believers, thus lessening the immensity of the task. New Bahá'ís, and Bahá'í settlers, to a total number of over one hundred and fifty are urgently required. What can we do to assist the National and Regional Teaching Committees in their weighty and responsible task?

**National Spiritual Assembly**

The Guardian Appeals for Thirty New Local Assemblies

Appeal National Teaching Committee uniedly arise play notable part in stupendous exertions now being made by Bahá'í communities throughout Americas in furtherance of second Seven Year Plan. Plead focus attention enable thirty groups having six or more members speedily attain Assembly status. Devoutly praying number of Assemblies functioning in North America will reach one hundred and seventy-five ere expiry of second year of second stage of Divine Plan. Attainment of this immediate objective will challenge and galvanize all other agencies functioning in Latin America and European continent to follow the superb example set for sister committees laboring at the heart of the mother community of the Western hemisphere.

*Source*:

Cablegram received June 13, 1946.

**Calendar**

Anniversary: The Martyrdom of the Báb, July 9. To be celebrated at about the hour of noon.

Nineteen Day Feasts: Words, July 13; Perfection, August 1; Names, August 20.

Summer School Sessions: As announced by each School Committee.

Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly: July 4, 5, 6, 7; August 30, 31, September 1, 2.

**Enrollments**

Enrollments of new believers have been reported by local assemblies as follows:

- New York, three and one youth; Chicago, two; Laramie, one; Elmhurst, one; Maywood, one; Fort Wayne, one; Los Angeles, two; Lima, one; Regina, one; Baltimore, two; St. Paul, one; Moncton, one; Anchorage, one youth; Muskegon, three; San Juan, two; Boise, one; Cloverdale Township (Geyserville), one; Richmond Highlands, one; Washington, D. C., one; Berkeley, one; New Orleans, one. Total 28 and 2 youths.

Enrollments reported through Regional Teaching Committees; — for April, 5; for May, 6.

**Credentials for Traveling Bahá'ís and Appeals for Financial Help**

Once more it has become necessary to remind the American believers that every traveling Bahá'í is expected to carry credentials and need not be recognized as a believer if credentials are lacking. It is also pointed out that, whether or not a visitor has Bahá'í credentials, any request for loans and financial assistance should be decided by consultation of the local assembly rather than by any individual believer. From time to time the National Assembly learns of cases where be-
believers have been deceived and their generosity abused by persons who in some cases claim falsely to be Bahá'ís and in other cases are Bahá'ís whose stated need for funds should be subjected to scrutiny.

For example, a warning has been received from the Fort Wayne Assembly concerning a Mr. Williams who has used the name Bahá'í in solicitation of funds; and instances have been reported from Providence and Boston recently of an enrolled believer misreporting his circumstances to the friends.

"Unnecessary Administrative Details"

Immediately after the Convention the Guardian cabled the National Spiritual Assembly to point out the "overwhelming responsibility" resting upon its members in connection with the new Seven Year Plan. He declared: "Feel necessity eliminate unnecessary administrative details enabling Assembly members to focus their attention at sessions on the diverse imperative requirements of the plan."

This calls for an immediate and complete readjustment of the agenda of NSA meetings, so that each meeting can be devoted to prayerful meditation and action on those matters which are really essential to the progress of the great international campaign.

The National Spiritual Assembly cannot accomplish this result without the conscious and hearty cooperation of the entire American Bahá'í community. "Unnecessary administrative details" are for the most part laid upon the NSA by individual believers, local assemblies and committees who fail to carry their full measure of responsibility in some activity or relationship and therefore feel obliged to ask the NSA to take over and solve the problem or finish the task.

The Guardian is not altering the nature of the administrative order. What he seeks is to free its highest level of administrative authority in America of details which others can and should assume, so that the particular contribution of that level can be rendered through clarity of vision, preservation of balance and encouragement and direction of Bahá'í affairs as a whole.

Prayerful consideration is sought, by all the believers, of this crucial matter. A little more maturity, a little more thoughtfulness, a little more conscientious effort on the part of the communities and assemblies, will do more than anything to place the National Spiritual Assembly in a true relationship with the Guardian and with the objectives of the plan which Bahá'u'lláh has formulated through His one chosen representative on earth today.

National Spiritual Assembly

Radio Script Writing

The Faith has urgent need of believers trained in the preparation as well as delivery of radio scripts. This is a new literary technic, combining dramatic and informative elements in a way different from that of the popular and effective public speaker or influential author of books and essays.

The National Assembly appeals to the friends to make use of whatever facilities are available to them in colleges and universities, or at Bahá'í Summer Schools, for training in the technic of radio script writing.

The published list of committees includes one for Radio Script Review, and scripts are to be submitted to that committee for approval for national use.

The Bahá'í School Committees are likewise requested to include in their courses as soon as possible programs in script writing to be conducted by professionals, and to submit projects with estimates of cost for approval by the National Assembly.

National Committees

North American Teaching

The Guardian's message to the Annual Convention gives the first of the four objectives of the second Seven Year Plan as "The consolidation of victories already won," the "multiplication of Bahá'í centers," and a "bolster proclamation of the Faith to the masses." The accomplishment of this first objective is our immediate task and each believer can aid in its achievement by holding fireside meetings through settlement in areas needing assistance, and by supporting the local teaching effort materially and spiritually through your attendance at public meetings and your contributions to the fund.

During the Convention period nine believers volunteered to settle in communities where reinforcement is
needed to hold the assembly status, and plans are underway already for the settlement of three of these volunteers. The Louisville, Ky., community has been strengthened through the settlement of Miss Frances Jones, formerly a pioneer in Sioux Falls, S.D., and late in June Mrs. Kathryn Frankland, a former pioneer in Albuquerque, Little Rock and Houston, will further reinforce this community. Miss Josie Pinson of Charleston, S.C., is making arrangements to move to Greenbriar, S.C., in August to help in the consolidation of that community, and Mrs. Annie Romer, a former pioneer in Halifax, N.S., after a rest in the Temple area, will settle there also. Arrangements are also under way to provide reinforcements to other communities now needing assistance to hold assembly status, but the demand continues to exceed the supply of settlers available for this type of teaching service.

An appeal from the NTC for believers to aid with the teaching work in the small, new assemblies as part of their Convention trip, won response from several teachers and provided very stimulating help. In this way also the spirit of the Convention was brought to these small communities and news was supplied in a way to provide reinforcements to other communities now needing to hold the assembly status, but the demand continues to exceed the supply of settlers available for this type of teaching service.

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a good representation of foreign students in the audience."

The week-end of May 24th Mr. John Robarts, the newly appointed chairman of the new Canadian National Teaching Committee, made a flying trip to the Maritimes and spent a day in each of the communities there. Details of this trip will no doubt be given in a forthcoming issue by the new Committee.

Conferences in many regions have brought to the isolated believers, groups and communities, reports of the Convention activities to inspire and stimulate participation in the achievement of the goals of the new Plan.

**Temple Guides**

For the Months of January, February, March and April, 1946.

Records of previous years continue to be surpassed each month by the number of visitors to the Temple. Records for these four months for the years 1945 and 1946 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>1945</th>
<th>1946</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>1190</td>
<td>445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>1585</td>
<td>897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>2174</td>
<td>1680</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Temple was opened for daily tours this year on April 1st instead of May 1st, which in previous years was the opening date. During January, February and March tours were conducted on Sunday only.

In January, 1946, visitors came from 26 states, the District of Columbia, 1 province of Canada, and Mexico, Bolivia, Norway, France, Switzerland, and Palestine.

In February, 1946, they came from 31 states, the District of Columbia, 1 province of Canada, and Mexico, Nicaragua, Brazil, El Salvador, and Palestine.

In March they came from 37 states, the District of Columbia, 2 provinces of Canada, and Mexico, Trinidad, England, China, India, and Sweden.

In April they came from 39 states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, 2 provinces of Canada, and China, France, England, and Sweden.

The total number of visitors guided through the Temple from June, 1932, when guiding began, through April, 1946, was 216,386.

Many have answered our invitation to come to Wilmette to help in the Guide Work during vacation months. They have been sent study courses and are preparing themselves for this work. Mrs. Terah Smith of Atlanta stayed over for one week after the convention to serve in this way.

The increasing importance of guide work in the minds of the guides themselves is shown by the following excerpt:

"Dear—, I wonder sometimes if you people who live near the Temple appreciate the wonderful privilege you have always so near you! I know some of you do, but all of you should. It is the greatest privilege in the whole world today. That is literal. There is no other spot on the face of the entire globe where so much service may be rendered as you blessed souls have right at your door.

"You know, in ancient days, those who served at the holy places were specially blessed and only those who were pure and without flaw were permitted to render such service. You remember that, at long periods of history, only virgins were allowed to serve, since virgins typified purity. And always it has been to those rare souls whose dedication and love of God surpassed everything else that service at the Temple was permitted. It has been a high office that was striven for, sometimes for years, and that always was performed with deep love and joy. It is, and always has been, the closest a servant of God may come to the realization of that precious nearness. It is the greatest outward symbol of an inner devotion.

"And, of course, in this Day it is even more precious than at any other time in the past. For now, here at this Temple, we may not only offer up a continual prayer of gratitude, thanksgiving and worship, as has always been done, but we have the inestimable privilege of proclaiming to dozens and sometimes hundreds of people a day, the wonderful Truth of this Day and Age we, as Bahá'ís, are ushering in. The wonder of that is an amazement to me.

'Day after day, as I've guided there at the Temple, I've seen people come in who were discouraged, bewildered, sometimes even desperate with the problems, that, to them, had no solution, and, time after time, I've watched their eyes clear and then grow blazing bright as they realized that, through the Bahá'í Revelation, there was a Plan, there was hope, there was the wonderful certainty of a glorious future where-in the age-old promise of God to man would be fulfilled. And we, as guides at the Temple, have this inestimable privilege, this glorious opportunity, of opening the doors of hope and new spiritual life to these people.

"And so many people! this coming year there will be thousands more than we had last year—just as last year there were thousands more than the years before. It is the greatest teaching field there is in the whole world. Whereas the average pioneer works months before a single soul is touched, here at the Temple we are able to set aflame dozens of people each day. It is an amazing, astonishing thing to watch. And the fact that we are allowed to reach these souls, that we are privileged to hold the Divine match that sets them aflame, is a bounty that should fill our hearts to bursting with gratitude.

"You remember in the 'Gleanings' Bahá'u'llh mentioned the fact that all the holy ones of the past would give all they possessed to be

Exhibit at Los Angeles Public Meeting, March 1946, showing box with automatic colored slide display. The 22 flags indicate Bahá'í assemblies around the world.
alive for one instant in the great Day. And when I guide in the Temple I can easily realize why. The glory of proclaiming this Day—the thrilling joy of announcing to the world that, at long last, the promise of all ages is being fulfilled, is certainly a privilege that has never, in any era, been experienced before. And it is our privilege.

"In the mystery and bounty of God, we are being permitted to serve Him in this magnificent and wonderful way. And I think we should pray constantly, from the depths of our hearts that we may attain to a station that is worthy of such a privilege—that, like the servants in the temples of old, we may always strive toward that degree of selfless service and of complete devotion and dedication that will allow us, in the eyes of God, to be fit and qualified to guide humanity through His House of Worship.

"I do pray that all of you who are within any practical distance of the Temple may not, for a single instant, forget the bounty and privilege that is at your door. Guide at the Temple in every spare instant and with all your hearts—for there is nothing more wonderful in this world that you may do."

TEMPLE GUIDES COMMITTEE
By Mary Haggard, Chairman

Bahá'í Study Aids

The purpose of the Study Aids Committee is, primarily, to aid Bahá'ís in their study of the Bahá'í Teachings and not, directly, to bring new believers into the Cause (which is the function of teaching committees.) Of course in this day every believer is enjoined to teach the Cause, and the Study Aids Committee by encouraging study has also for its purpose the improvement of teaching effectiveness through study of the Sacred Writings.

We are all surely agreed that it is very important to emphasize study for new believers. Study broadens and deepens one's knowledge of the Cause. Study, especially in small groups, promotes unity through placing emphasis on the Teachings, not on personalities. Study promotes action, through increasing one's awareness of the greatness of the Cause and creating the desire to have an active part in its unfoldment.

For the new believer, especially, study reveals the importance of his function in the group, for upon each one of us rests the responsibility of the establishment of World Order, through the application of the teachings given us by Bahá'u'lláh.

"To strive to obtain a more adequate understanding of the significance of Bahá'u'lláh's stupendous Revelation must, it is my unalterable conviction, remain the first obligation and the object of the constant endeavor of each one of its loyal adherents" (Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 8).

In these words the Guardian himself urges us first and foremost to study. Then we can give to others the true, clear Teachings and, with the impetus of the inner realization of "the unfailing efficacy of the Message," demonstrate that the Bahá'í Faith is actually building a workable world unity today.

Bahá'í House of Worship

Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

Date Subject and Speaker
July 14 THE DESTINY OF AMERICA Nina Matthias
21 PROPHETIC, THE SOUL OF HISTORY Horace Holley
28 SAFEGUARDS FOR CIVILIZATION Margery McCormick

August 4 CAN THE RELIGIONS UNITE? Edwin Mattoon
11 SUBJECT TO BE PROVIDED Youth Group
18 VICTORIOUS LIVING Dorothy Baker
25 "ADAM TO ATOM" Margaret Ulrich

Banff Summer Conference

The Regional Teaching Committee for Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta has prepared for a Summer Conference at Banff, Alberta, August 11th to 16th. Present indications point to another large attendance and a very vital program on the theme, "The Bahá'í Faith in Action." The following topics will be discussed:

1. The individual Bahá'í as a dynamic, living instrument for the propagation of the Faith.
Lecture Course by Dr. Edris Rice-Wray of Chicago.
(1) Devotional Life.
(2) Intellectual life (the Bahá'í as a student).
(3) Social life (ethical attitudes and actions).
(4) Bahá'ís as individual teachers.
(5) Bahá'ís as administrators and members of a Community.
2. The Bahá'í Community as the sole means by which the world objectives of the Faith will be realized. Lectures by various Bahá'í teachers, and discussions.

(1) A channel through which World Order will come.
(2) Unity—the most important principle.
(3) Justice
(4) Consultation
(5) Relationship of the Bahá'í Faith to other political, religious and social movements.

3. The immediate scope and goals of the Faith in its present period of development.
A Forum—Everybody.
(1) International
(2) National
(3) Local
(4) The Bahá'í Faith—personal, social and historical—a Summary.

Inter-America News

A Message from the Guardian

In reply to a request by the Inter-America Committee that the Guardian suggest a city in which to hold the next Latin-American Teaching Conference, the following message has been received: "Advises Buenos Aires, Panama. Immediate task confronting Committee further multiplication centres, increasing and consolidation existing assemblies designed reinforce representative character future National Assemblies. Urges intensification effort dissemination literature, increase activities itinerant teachers both North and Latin American, establish closer relationship between existing groups, assemblies. Fervently praying attainment objectives." (Signed) Shómár

Conferences will, therefore, be arranged in both of these cities. They will probably be held after January 1st, and will be under the auspices of special committees appointed by the local Spiritual Assemblies.

Numerous reports reach the I.A.C. of extension teaching activities and the multiplication of centers. In Colombia, for example, with assemblies in Bogota and Medellin, Calli, and Barranquilla. Sr. Ernesto A. Flores is the guiding spirit and enthusiastic teacher in Cartagena, and Sr. Victorino Magagna, who studied the Faith while a student in the University in Santiago, Chili, has recently come home to Barranquilla, where he will be of great assistance to the Cause.

It is evident that the leaven of the Divine Plan is working among the native believers.
We are informed that the Guardian has approved the plan of the National Spiritual Assembly to set as a goal to be attained at the end of five years, or in 1951, the formation of National Assemblies covering Central America and South America. Word is coming from all of the Latin countries telling of how thrilled the believers were upon receiving the Guardian’s Convention message, and describing how they are already beginning to arise to meet their new responsibilities. One description of this nature is contained in a recent letter from Marcia Steward, who on her way to do itinerant teaching for several months in the five Central American countries north of Panama, has visited Assemblies in Lima, Quayaquil and Panama City since the Guardian’s message was received. She writes, “I left Lima with the most profound admiration and joy... for the way the Faith is developing and consolidating with marvelous rapidity. Coming direct from Chili, I have been able to view the different communities from a whole new standpoint, and what I have seen has filled me with a joy that is unexpressible. One senses the surging of the Sea of the Covenant... The Guardian’s latest cable has caused a new surging tide of the spirit, which is manifesting in startling changes, in overnight growth, in a visible maturing action, in an assumption of responsibilities all through the communities. “It is hard to express what I felt amongst the believers in Quayaquil... There is a poignancy about that particular group, a yearning for more knowledge and for help, an eagerness to spread the Faith... They are so dear, so faithful, so young... “Panama, too, is a revelation to me. Last night there were forty people at a meeting, people of every color, race, and religion, including Muhammadans. A spirit of union and peace prevailed, and one sensed the flowing together of the races.”

The acceptance of new responsibilities is also evident in the spirit of sacrifice among the Latin believers. A check has come from a friend in La Paz, Bolivia, to be used for Bahá’í relief in Burma. Evelyn Larson reports that the Assembly in San Jose, Costa Rica, has started a special fund to help pay for finishing the interior of the Temple. A Chilian believer is making it possible to start a Bahá’í Summer School in that country.

Difficulties hard to overcome, and too detailed to report in brief space, have handicapped the publication and dissemination of Bahá’í literature in Latin-America. However, four new titles in Spanish were reported less than a year ago, and three additional titles have just come from the press in Buenos Aires. These are, Some Answered Questions, The Great Announcement, and Wisdom of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. A new and improved printing of Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era has been made in Portuguese, together with Bahá’í Prayers and two pamphlets. The efforts of all concerned, the Committee, pioneers, and native believers, are definitely being intensified in this field.

Teaching in the Maritimes

The report of the Regional Teaching Committee for the Maritimes was not received in time to be included in the Annual Report of the NTC and so a brief digest of their report is given as follows:

“There are five isolated Bahá’ís in the region, making a total number of 34 in the Maritime Provinces.

Visiting Teachers

“Charlottetown—Mrs. Ruth Moffett, October 15, '45 to February 15, '46, gave 81 lectures at the Queen Hotel, 189 classes, and 14 broadcasts. Mrs. Moffett addressed the students of the Prince of Wales College. Three new members signed, one since removed. "Halifax — During Mrs. Moffett’s visit March 9th to March 25th, there were 33 lectures and classes and 2 radio broadcasts. Mrs. Moffett addressed the Haddeassah Club, the Public Radio Forum, Dalhousie University, etc. Willard McKay visited Halifax Feb. 28th to March 2nd.

“Moncton — There was special teaching work by Mrs. Annie Romer in February to prepare for Mrs. Moffett’s visit, Feb. 16th to March 6th. During that period there were 19 lectures, 24 classes, 3 broadcasts, a reception, a farewell dinner, and talks before several organizations. Several reported interested. Mrs. Beulah Proctor also assisted with the work.

Activities Within Centers to April 1st

“Moncton—A study meeting was begun in September on “The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh.” Special publicity with quotations from Bahá’í Writings were weekly inserted in paid space. An Esperanto class was organized by and conducted by Mrs. McEwen which several Bahá’ís and excellent non-Bahá’i contacts have been attending. Since Mrs. Moffett’s Seminar in Moncton there is a class in “Dispensation.” There have been numerous fireside meetings in the various homes throughout the year.

“Halifax — A week-end Maritime
Teaching Conference was held in Harring Cove, N.S. from June 30th to July 4th. The teachers were Mrs. Laura Davis, of Toronto and Mr. Willard McKay of Charlottetown. There were 24 present at some of the meetings. While representatives from Charlottetown and Moncton were present and preliminary consultation was carried on by mail, this project was inaugurated by the Halifax friends.

Assembly meetings were held on alternate Monday evenings at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wade and a study class on “World Order of Bahá’u’lláh” was held at the various homes. Meetings for non-Bahá’ís were held regularly on Thursday or Friday evenings. About 75 Service men and students were reached and 4 indicated an intention to enroll at a future date. From Oct. 27th to January 19th, meetings were held at the Women’s Council House. This was also a publicity project. The whole month of December was devoted to the subject of Peace, including a special radio broadcast, and 2 discussion meetings, climaxing by a brilliant international Peace party with 10 nationalities represented and 35 non-Bahá’ís present. During “Education Week” a radio broadcast was given in “Bahá’í Ideals in Education.” Copies were distributed to teachers and principals of schools. Public relation work was very strong here with 75 leading people receiving literature. A lending library has been established.

Charlottetown—Through May and June, 1945 weekly advertised meetings were held at the Queen Hotel and a series of 20 broadcasts was finished. Early in July a Bahá’í Library was opened with Florence Cox in residence; and the room was open daily and considerable literature was given and sent out. There was a weekly advertised public meeting there from July to October 1st. Mrs. Cox also conducted a class on “Dawn Breakers” for several weeks. On October 1st it was decided to move the meetings to the Queen Hotel while retaining the Bahá’í Library, as the room was too small for the fall projects.

“Since October our entire effort has centered around the teaching activities of Mrs. Moffett. When she left on February 25th, immediate plans were drawn up to consolidate the gains of more than four months of intensive effort, as follows: 1. Study Class under L.S.A. to complete ‘Dispensation,’ followed by ‘Heart of the Gospel’ with Bahá’í and Christian references. 2. Weekly public meetings — forums, musicales, addresses — newspapers and radio publicity, at the Queen Hotel, alternating with meetings at the homes of the McMays and the Gearys on Saturday evenings. 3. Fireside established by Mrs. Moffett at the home of Helen Gidden to be continued each week. 4. Two Feasts of Attraction, Feb. 27th and March 20th and a special New Year broadcast with Spring music and a Bahá’í talk on ‘The Return of Spring.’

“Mrs. Moffett returned March 25th to April 4th, and classes and conferences were held at the Queen Hotel and at the various homes; with a number of social occasions. Successful contact was made with most of the people on her ‘attracted’ list.

“A Regional Bulletin was issued in April, 1946.”

G. I. GEARY, chairman
MRS. Does McKay, secretary

World Order

Local Bahá’í News

The first MILWAUKEE Bahá’í marriage took place on March 9, 1946, when Miss Florence Masshardt, a WAC stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and Mr. Albert S. Royse of Columbus, Ohio, were united at the Bahá’í Center, 744 North 4th Street, Milwaukee. The bride and groom presented letters of consent from all four parents, and the ceremony was witnessed by the chairman and secretary of the Milwaukee Bahá’í Spiritual Assembly, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s marriage tablet was read, the groom repeated, “Verily, we are content with the Will of God,” and the bride rejoined, “Verily, we are satisfied with the Desire of God.”

The printed program for the Latin American evening scheduled by the NEW YORK Bahá’ís for June 7th, included the Spanish translation of the inscriptions above the entrances to the House of Worship. The entertainment was to include music by Señor Angel del Busto, composer and bassoon virtuoso, and Gladys Mayo del Busto, and two sound motion pictures, the Walt Disney “South of the Border,” and “Americans All.”

Some good ideas for weekly Bahá’í talks are given in the programs for WEST CHESTER, PA. Among them were the following: A New Justice for a New Day, Youth Prepares for Peace, True Happiness through Religion, The Millenial Promise, World Cooperation, Dedication to a Cause, Freedom as a Step toward World Peace, Love and Fellowship, Pales-

Youth dance at the cabin in West Englewood, N. J. held at the time of a Bahá’í youth conference from nine northeastern states, held in the New York Bahá’í Center and in West Englewood, May 18 and 19, 1946.

A world unity forum was conducted in BEVERLY, MASS., on April 20th. Harlan Foster Ober was chairman. Dr. Glenn Shook, professor of physics at Wheaton College, spoke on "Atomic Energy and a Unified World," while Mrs. Wendell Bacon spoke on "The Price of World Peace is World Religion." There were thirty-four present of whom thirteen were non-Baha’i.


Community cooperation is practiced by LOS ANGELES in its widely distributed program. The telephone numbers are listed for information concerning Baha’i classes not only in Los Angeles but also for Alhambra, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Glendale, Long Beach, Maywood, Pasadena, San Marino, and Santa Monica. The Los Angeles ideas for subjects include The Perfect Man; The Path of True Liberty; Panorama of Religions; Three types of consultation; The Door of Hope: the Bab; The Fulfillment of Prophecy: Baha’u’llah; and New Life for the World.

News of Other Lands

Geneva Baha’i Bureau

The annual report from Mrs. Anne Lynch, secretary of the International Baha’i Bureau at Geneva, Switzerland, contains interesting news of the European Baha’is.

One of the functions of the Bureau is to maintain an international Baha’i library. To this end all Baha’i publishing committees are asked to send two copies of each publication printed since 1939. The Bureau already has Baha’i literature in 42 languages.

The Bureau also serves as a link between isolated believers and groups of believers in Europe and other parts of the world and as a central bookstore. It has a large number of books, pamphlets and multigraphed material available for distribution and sale. Since financial conditions in most European countries are very difficult, it would be only fair to set aside part of this stock for free gifts. The report adds, "Will the friends whom this may interest get in touch with the Bureau? Let us lose no time in lending a hand to those who need such help in promoting the Baha’i Message." Address Baha’i Bureau, 40 Grand Rue, Geneva, Switzerland.

The following countries are now in touch with the Geneva Bureau: Austria, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Great Britain, Morocco, Norway, Palestine, Persia, and the U.S.A.

The report from Austria shows only eight Baha’is left of the once flourishing community of over eighty. The food situation is very grave. Luise Lappinger, former member of the Vienna Assembly, wrote on April 4, "Food is so scarce that |I often wonder how it is possible to live on so little."

An earnest seeker, Mr. Renard of Ligny, Belgium, wrote to the Bureau in 1940 expressing his desire to take the proper steps to become a Baha’i. In 1946 he writes: "I had hoped so much to regain possession of my minute stock of Baha’i literature and my annotations made in studying it. But I had served in the Army, my wife had taken refuge in France and my house had been plundered in 1940—nothing was left...

I would be very grateful to receive all the literature that you can send to me on the Cause and wish to assure you that I have the most ardent desire to continue my study of it in order to consecrate my efforts to the promotion of so lofty a Faith."

Marta Weiss, Kesselwarm, Esslingen, a/N wrote to the Bureau in April requesting addresses of Baha’i groups throughout the world, adding, "It is so important for our youth to have the stimulating experience of hearing and learning from youth of other countries. We would be very grateful for such a list." As the addresses at the Geneva Bureau are 6 years old youth groups in the countries reached by this report are asked to get in direct touch with Marta.

Vuk Echtner of Prague, Czechoslovakia, spoke on the Baha’i Cause as the New World Order in the city of Pilsen in April. He feels very much the lack of information material: pamphlets, leaflets, etc.

Madame Acard, "Le Clos Fleuri," La Poterie, Hyeres (Var), France, has adopted two children and is bringing them up as Baha’is. She
expresses gratitude for parcels sent by American friends and adds, "The only thing I dare ask for is baby food and soap. . . . And yet I must say that I long for news more than I do for food. It does not matter if the friends write in English. I could have the letters translated."

Bahá'í groups in Zurich and North-eastern Switzerland remain firm and continue seed sowing through talking with friends about the Cause, distributing their lending publications and occasionally holding public meetings. The American friends will be interested to know that the Zurich group owes its beginnings to the labors of Mr. Mason Remey and Mrs. Anna Kunz.

"The Fragrance of Letters" by Ruhiyih Khanum

This beautiful and inspiring article appeared in the January number of "The Herald of the South," Australian Bahá'í Magazine. The author quotes the many letters from all over the world which stream into the Guardian's mail bag and adds her own illuminating comments. We can make only a few brief excerpts from this heart warming article.

"From letters one glean bright and lovely facets of the many-sided whole that goes to make up Bahá'í activity and thought. Here is an excerpt from a Regional Teaching Committee's bulletin (of which there are dozens now to meet the needs of the many believers and the work they undertake): 'Senor Pecora Blue Mountain, our Bahá'í brother, a native Peruvian of Inca Indian origin, is making a goodwill tour for South America. He visits the Bahá'ís in the cities through which he passes, sharing that very valued quality of fellowship and love Bahá'ís know so well. We deeply appreciate the privilege of this contact. While in Birmingham, (Alabama) it was arranged for him to give a piano concert of South American music over station WSGN . . .'

"These regional News Letters or Bulletins are very stimulating reading. Take this, for instance: 'Please understand the purpose of this publication. It is to try and keep you informed of the plans and activities of this committee and of the region in the hope that by so doing we all may become better acquainted and more unified and thus better able to spread the light of the Faith and cast the anchor of its Administrative Order throughout the states of Utah, Wyoming and Colorado, thence throughout America, and thence throughout the world.' Those 'thences' are pretty ambitious! The calm, determined way he rolls them out one would not be surprised if he had added 'and thence throughout the Solar System.'"

International Relief

(Editors' note: The following bulletin was received just as Bahá'í News was being made up. Part of it is being printed in this issue. Other addresses will be given later.)

The Committee on International Relief 1946-1947 appeals to assemblies, regional committees, groups, and isolated believers to send immediately names and addresses of individual believers, assemblies, and groups in Europe and the Philippines in need of relief, to its chairman Mrs. Randolph Bolles, Box 165, Washington, Conn. Specify if possible the kind of relief most needed.

What and Where to Send

Attached is a list of believers who are in urgent need of assistance. Confine the relief to food, clothing, edible fats, and other essentials. It is not intended that cash be sent to the individual Bahá'ís.

This committee recommends to Bahá'ís residing in:

Western States of the United States and Western Canada to concentrate their relief upon the Philippines at present and the far eastern countries when names and addresses will be available.

Middle Western States to concentrate on Finland, Norway, Switzerland, Holland, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Jugoslavia, Germany, and Hungary.

Southern States and Eastern Canada to concentrate on the southern part of France—Marseilles, Lyon, Hyères, Toulouse.

Eastern States and Eastern Canada (including New England) to concentrate on the rest of France, on Germany, and on Great Britain.

Packages to Europe are not to exceed 42 inches in length and girth, and their weight is not to exceed 11 lbs, including wrapping. Postage: 14 cents per pound. One package a week (per person).

This service is now available only to the American zone in Germany. It is recommended that dehydrated food and powdered milk be shipped in preference to canned food. (Powdered milk is more nourishing and palatable.) Edible fats in tins only. Avoid any glass containers. Coffee beans, tea, dried fruits, sugar, hard candies, chocolate, sweet cocoa, sewing thread, darning thread (except for England), canned meats, canned fish, vitamins, first aid medicines (except for England), all kinds of wearing apparel, shoes, underwear, bed linens, towels, etc. Please see that all garments are usable, cleaned and repaired. It is hoped that the National Spiritual Assembly will recommend all local assemblies in the United States and Canada to appoint relief committees to collaborate and assist in this vital and imperative work.

Address all correspondence to the chairman of the Committee for International Relief, Mrs. Randolph Bolles, Box 165, Washington, Connecticut.

Relief Agencies

Parcels have been sent up to 25 lbs (foodstuffs and soap, very concentrated foods like dehydrated milk, meat, vegetables, canned butter, etc.) made up by the Trans-Ocean Packing & Shipping Co., from their stocks in Sweden. Address in New York City, 33 Whitehall St. Their things are insured by Lloyd's of London, E. They will also mail packages made up.

Food parcels can also be sent to Austria through the Free Austria Movement in Switzerland. Standard parcels of Swiss francs 19.50 and 32.50 can be ordered at the above address.

The following is a list of agencies compiled by the American Red Cross and given to the Dept. of Agriculture branch of the Red Cross as a guide in sending supplies abroad:

CARE (Cooperative for American Remittance to Europe) 50 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

American Relief for France, 39 East 36th Street, New York, N. Y.

American Relief for Italy, Inc. 27 Broadway, New York 6, N. Y.

American Relief for Norway, 135 S. La Salle Street, Chicago 3, Ill.

United Yugoslav Relief Fund, 677 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

American Hungarian Relief, Inc. 165 West 46th Street, New York 18, N. Y.

Philippine War Relief of the U.S. 1720 Eye Street, Washington D.C.
United China Relief 1780 Broadway, New York 19, N.Y.

American Friends of Czechoslovakia 8 West 49th Street, New York 16, N.Y.

American Relief for Holland, 465 Fifth Ave. New York, N.Y.

(If you decide to use any of these agencies check with them first.)

Address List
THE PHILIPPINES
Revised corrected list of needy Bahá'ís submitted by the Bahá'ís of Washington D.C., June 11, 1946.

Felix Madella, Bintawan St., Solano, Neaua Vizcaya, Philippines. Food and clothing. First Philippine Bahá'í.


13, Helsinki, Finland. Food and clothing. (Annamarie Honvold received letters.)

(Please inquire at the post office as to whether packages can be sent to these places.)

EUROPE
Finland Mr. Valto Rissani, Box 13, Helsinki, Finland Friend of J. Krupa. Family consists of wife, husband & two children.

Norway Johanna Schubarth, Prof Dahli, 1111, Oslo, Norway. Fru Aagot Krantz-Ramsli, Vaagevej 7, Kristiansund, Norway, asks especially for clothing and shoes (no sizes given) her town burned down “her house alone was still standing by the pier.”

Holland Mrs. Wygman Verbeek, Mezenbroekweg 92, Heerlen Limburg Holland. (Esperantist who is studying the Bahá'í Faith.) Arnold van Ogtrop, Groot Hertoginmelan 32, Bussum, Holland. Has corresponded with Norwegian believer since the war (Bahá’í).

Switzerland Anne Lynch, (Mrs.) 40 Grand’ Rue, Geneva, Switzerland (has her married daughter and young baby with her from France.)

Austria (Declared believers) Mr. & Mrs. Franz Pöllinger, Wein 11, Whittmann & Mrs. Pendel, Deutsch-Wagram, Helmersdorf; Mrs. Marie Amschel, Wein 12, Wienerbergerstr. 10/X/3; Hans & Luise Lappinger, Wein 3/40, Reisenreiterstr. 7/11, Franz Bausbeck, Stammersdorf b/Wien, Brünnerstr. 79; Mrs. Julia Schwarz, Wien, Ramperstorferstr. 25; (parents have farm, all others need food). Mr. Victor Erdman, Wein 19/119 Kahnbergerstr. 59, Austria.

Czechoslovakia Mr. Vuk Echter, c/of Brückner, U, Pujcovny 2, Prague, (eleven) II, C. (very active Bahá’í, several young children)

Bulgaria Miss Marion Jack, (oid, devoted pioneer in that country) c/of Miss Roseva, ul Neophyte Rilska 40, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Yugoslavia Mme Desanka Forgove ice Tokin, Ostheimerstr. 76, Vraec, J. (asks for coffee, tea, sugar, canned meat and cocoa.)

Hungary Mrs. Jenny Komlos, Vilma Kiralyosi 9f.2, Budapest 7, H. Germany (groups and isolated believers with study classes):


Böcklin str. 4, Tür 15, Austria; Mrs. France Moreau, 10 Ernest Michat, Nancy, Meurthe et Moselle; Louis Martin, chez Mme. Vervast, 46 Rue Carnot, Nogents-Oise, Oise, France; Mme Lucienne Acard, Les Clos Fleurie, La Poterie, Hyeres, France. (Is in want. Has baby girl about 6 months (orphan) to bring up in the Faith.)

(Please inquire whether packages can be sent to all these places.)

Bahá’í Groups, June, 1946

1. United States

Group Membership

TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA ............ 7

 Correspondent—Mrs. F. L. Drye, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

ARCADIA, CALIFORNIA ............ 7

 Correspondent—Mrs. Mortimer Rich, 1212 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia

BIG BEAR LAKE, CALIFORNIA 6

 Correspondent—Mr. R. Bruce Munro, Box 228, Big Bear Lake

COMPTON, CALIFORNIA ............ 5

 Correspondent—Mrs. W. J. Williams, 1235 W. Spruce St., Compton 27

DOWNEY TWP., CALIFORNIA ... 5

 Correspondent—Mr. Wm. Schilling, 103-98, Rancho Los Amigos, Hondo

EL MONTE TWP., CALIFORNIA 8

 Correspondent—Mrs. W. John Grewank, 137¾ N. LaRica, Baldwin Park

HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA ............ 5

 Correspondent—Mrs. Asher Goodrick, 2117 Mortimer Ave., Huntington Park

INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA ............ 8

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Shirá for the year 102, Bahá’í era.
JULY, 1946

DAVISON, MICH ................................... 6
DAVISON, MICH Correspondent—Mr. W. L. Eggleston, 3208 S. State Rd., M 15, Davison
DEARBORN TWP., MICH .................................. 5
DEARBORN TWP., MICH Correspondent—Mrs. Gerald M. Horne, 4423 Kingston St. R. D. 4, Dearborn
KALAMAZOO, MICH .................................. 8
KALAMAZOO, MICH Correspondent—Miss Gladys Kline, 415 S. Park St., Kalamazoo
NIRYANA, MICH .................................. 6
NIRYANA, MICH Correspondent—Mrs. Helen Zeno, Thompson, Box 9, Nirvana
BERGENFIELD, N. J. .................................. 7
BERGENFIELD, N. J. Correspondent—Miss Zelda Rustay, 80 Fairview Ave., Bergenfield
INGLEWOOD, N. J. .................................. 7
INGLEWOOD, N. J Correspondent—Mr. David Acheson, 118 Jewett Ave., Inglewood
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA ......................... 7
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA Correspondent—Mrs. John H. Fisher, 6 Parker Ave
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA ......................... 7
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA Correspondent—Miss Ottilie Rhin, 244 N. Fremont St., San Mateo
SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA ......................... 7
SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA Correspondent—Mrs. Mary Smith Johnson, 5899 E. Miramar Blvd., Los Angeles
SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA .................. 7
SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA Correspondent—Mrs. Edna J. Montfort, P. O. Box 477, Vernon
SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA ...................... 7
SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA Correspondent—Mrs. Mrs. M. E. Fry, 2964 Inglewood Ave., Hollyburn P. O., B. C., Can.
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA ................... 7
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA Correspondent—Mrs. Audrey Westheimer, 6 Parker Ave., Toronto 13

TABLE OF CONTENTS

With Absolute Detachment"— Words of Baha’u’llah .................................................. 1

Messages from the Guardian—New Enterprises .................................................. 1

Review of Magazine Articles .................................................. 1

Thirty New Assemblies .................................................. 2

National Spiritual Assemblies—Who Can Assist? .................................................. 2

Calendar .................................................. 2

Enrollments .................................................. 2

In Memoriam .................................................. 2

Credentials for Traveling Baha’is and Appeals for Financial Help ........................................ 2

“Unnecessary Administrative Details .................................................. 3

Radio Script Writing .................................................. 3

National Committees—North American Teaching .................................................. 3

Temple Guides .................................................. 5

Baha’i Study Aids .................................................. 6

Baha’i House of Worship Program .................................................. 6

Banff Summer Conference .................................................. 6

Inter-America News .................................................. 6

Teaching in the Maritimes .................................................. 7

“World Order” .................................................. 8

Local Baha’i News .................................................. 8

News of other Lands—Geneva Baha’i Bureau .................................................. 9

“The Fragrance of Letters” by Ruhiyih Khanum .................................................. 10

International Relief .................................................. 10

Baha’i Groups, June, 1946 .................................................. 11
American Bahá’í Directory
1946-1947

National Bahá’í Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois; Office of the Treasurer, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

I

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Mrs. Dorothy Beecher Baker, Chairman
Mr. Paul Haney, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Horace Holley, Secretary
Miss Elsie Austin

Mrs. Amelia E. Collins
Miss Edna M. True, Recording Secretary
Mr. Philip G. Sprague, Treasurer
Mr. George O. Latimer

Mr. William Kenneth Christian

II

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

American Memorial to ‘Abdu’l-Bahá
Functions: To conduct the annual gathering commemorating the Unity Feast given by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá at West Englewood, N. J., in 1921; to maintain in Evergreen Cabin such exhibits and activities as will prepare the way for the permanent memorial to the Master to be constructed on this property.

Edith Inglis, Chairman—474 W. 238th St., Riverdale House, Fieldstone, N. Y.
Harriet Kelsey
Roy C. Wilhelms
Amy Raubitschek
Agnes Tichnor
Carrie Kinney
Doris Raymond
Walter Goodfellow
Ethel Revell

Archives and History
Functions: To maintain the National Archives and organize its contents; to receive Tablets and other material suitable for the National Archives; to advise local Assemblies on the development of their Archives; to obtain and organize historical data on special subjects as may be required from time to time.

Edwin W. Mattoon, Chairman—105-6th St., Wilmette, Ill.
Berta Herklotz
Minuela Hammen
Gertrude Struven
Corinne True
Louis J. Voelz
Beatrice Ashton
Ruth Dascher

Bahá’í News
Functions: To edit and issue Bahá’í News for the National Spiritual Assembly in accordance with the principles defined by Shoghi Effendi.

Garrela Busey, Chairman—500 W. Elm St., Urbana, Ill.
Allee Cox
Annamarie Mattoon
Marzieh Gail
Mabel Paine
Eleanor Hutchens
John Ashton
Doris Holley
Margaret Swengel

Service to the Blind
Functions: To prepare and distribute Bahá’í teaching material for the blind, including braille transcriptions and talking books.

Amidee Gibson, Chairman, P.O. Box 1135, Santa Monica, Calif.
Ella Quant
Hilda Stauss, Secretary of Braille Transcription Division, 3649 Epworth Ave., Cincinnati 11, Ohio.
Marion Longyear
Gertrude Schurgast
Salome Engelder
Mayne Jackson
Mabelle Perry
Eula Fritz
Sophie Rieger
Louise K. Sayward
Adolph Feher
Melba Call King
Zarah Schoney
Bahiyah Valentine
Adah Scholt, Sec'y of Talking Book Division, 2020 Washington St., E., Charleston 1, Va.
Hilbert Dahl

Bahá’í World Editorial, (Vol. XI, 1946-1948)
Functions: To obtain material from all parts of the Bahá’í world community, including reports, articles, historical data and illustrations and to submit this to the Guardian.

Ali Yazdi, Chairman
Marion Yazdi, Secretary—3910 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, Calif.

Marian Longyear
Jessie Revell
Robert Gulick
Sarah Eason Pereira
Marzieh Gail
Christine Loftstedt
Marlan Haney
Pari Zia-Walrath
Mary Sprague
Elisabeth Cheney
Victor Alexander

Child Education Committee
Functions: To compile the Bahá’í teachings on the subject of child education; to prepare lessons suitable for classes of children; to cooperate with child education activities maintained in local communities; parent education.

Florence Gibson, Chairman, 549 Michigan Ave., Evanston, Illinois.
Bess Iona, Secretary—3603 Rosemead Ave., Hollywood, Ill.
Barbara McLevy
Harriet Terry
Annamarie Mattoon
Rouhiye McComb
LATIN AMERICAN COMMITTEES

Buenos Aires Publishing

Functions: To review and translate Bahá’í texts; to publish and distribute Spanish books and pamphlets.


Lillian McRae
Sr. Salvador Torno
Shirley Warde

Panama Distributing

Functions: To distribute Spanish books and pamphlets.

Clare Hamilton, Chairman
Cora Oliver, Secretary—P. O. Box 1296, Ancon, Canal Zone, Panama

Norma Hamilton
Julia Regal
Alfred E. Osborne
Raquel Francois
Eiko Rounmoener
Sr. Carlos Porras

Portuguese Bulletin Publishing and Distributing

Functions: To edit and review Bahá’í publications in Portuguese; to publish and distribute Bahá’í publications in Portuguese; to edit and distribute Portuguese Bahá’í bulletin.

Edward Bode, Chairman
Dr. Tomas Sanchez, Secretary—Caixa Postal 73—lapa, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Virginia Ormsen
Leonora Armstrong
Dr. Aurea M. Cooper
Dr. Orlando Prentas, Portuguese Secretary
Mary Bode, English Secretary, Rub Oto Simon No. 169 Apt. S., Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Spanish Bulletin Committee

Functions: To compile and distribute a Bulletin of Spanish News.

Walter Hammond, Chairman—Casilla 236, Santiago, Chile

Rosy Vadanovic, Secretary, Casilla 79, Punta Arenas, Magallanes, Chile, S. A.

Tony Fillon
Marcela Stewart
Hugo Artesagabetti
Esteban Canales

Legal

Functions: To examine the incorporation papers prepared by local Assemblies; to provide information needed for local incorporations; to assist the National Spiritual Assembly in meeting legal questions.

George O. Latimer, Chairman—1927 N.E. 49th Ave., Portland, Ore.

Horace Holley

Library

Functions: To place literature in public and university libraries; to encourage local Assemblies to provide books for local libraries; to maintain a record of all Bahá’í literature in public libraries as far as can be determined.

Ellen Sims, Chairman—Leroy Apts., Red Bank, N. J.

Helen Reynolds
Dorothy Fisher
Duncan McAlear

Public Meetings

Functions: To bring the teachings to the leaders and masses through a series of public meetings in various
cities to be conducted with the cooperation of the respective local Assemblies.

Charles Reimer, Chairman
Nina Matthiesen, Secretary—R.F.D. 1, Box 240, Bristol, Wis.
Marguerite True
Laurence Hartz
Dr. Katherine True
John Haggard
Joy Earl
Margery McCormick
Annamarie Mattoon

Public Relations
Functions: To deal with public issues which tend to create misunderstanding or prejudice about the Bahá’í Faith; advise local Assemblies in matters pertaining to such issues; prepare statements for encyclopedias and reference books; prepare and release publicity material to the press; prepare contacts material for leaders and the masses; cooperate with local Assemblies in developing contacts; maintain contacts with Government officials.

Horace Holley, Chairman
Wm. Henning, Secretary—69 Abbottsford Rd., Winnetka, Ill.
George O. Latimer
Virginia Russell
Clarence Niss
Bertha Campbell
Elsie Austin
Robert L. Gulick
Marzieh Gail
Richard McCardy
Marguerite True

Publishing
Functions: To print and sell the literature approved and authorized by the National Spiritual Assembly.

Horace Holley, Chairman—336 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, Ill.
Harry E. Walraith
Carl Scheffler
Staff
C. R. Wood, Manager
J. T. Wood

Questionnaire
Functions: To produce and distribute public teaching material in the form of questionnaires; to distribute the printed teachings which answer the questions received.

Ward Calhoun, Chairman—R. R. 1, Box 1, Oconomowoc, Wis.
Nina Matthiesen, Secretary, R.F.D. 1, Box 240, Bristol, Wis.
Edna Voigt
Sylvia Calhoun
Herbert Suhm
Dr. James Lewis
Hildegard Lewis

Race Unity
Functions: Three projects.
1. Plan during the year one large public event, in the nature of a seminar.
2. Act as a participating observer for large conferences which address themselves to problems of prejudice and bigotry.
3. Issue a pamphlet.

Louis G. Gregory, Chairman
Wm. Tawort, Secretary—84 N. Main St., Providence, R.I.

Rhode Island
Matthew Bullock
Mary Stevenson
Eli Powlas
Robert Imagire
George Goodman
Alvin Blum
Anthony Seto
Rex Parmele

Radio
Functions: To make available approved radio scripts on a variety of Bahá’í subjects; to conduct radio campaigns; to stimulate the use of radio for teaching.

Russell Goudy, Chairman
Mildred Mottahedeh, Secretary—225—5th Ave., New York 10, N. Y.
Samuel Fox
Elnido Quigley
Shirley Quigley
William Sears
Marguerite Sears
R. Y. Mottahedeh

Reviewing Lecture Scripts:
Della Quinlan
Betty Fox

Reviewing Committee
Functions: To pass upon the accuracy of manuscripts submitted through the National Spiritual Assembly; to examine manuscripts for literary quality and effectiveness and their usefulness as contributions to the published literature.

Marguerite Firoozian, Chairman—R. D. 2, Geneva, N. Y.
Elizabeth Brooks
Ruby Hart
Mary Hill
Marguerite- Firoozi, Chairman—R.D. 2, Geneva, N. Y.

Bahá’í Sales Committee
Functions: To conduct the sale of literature in the basement outside the Foundation Hall; to provide facilities for the sale of Bahá’í photographs, ringsstones, displays and exhibits, slides and other Bahá’í material.

Harry E. Walraith, Chairman—4639 Beacon St., Chicago 40, Ill.
May Scheffler
Marshall Tyler
Agnes Mitchell
M. D. Roach

Study Aids
Functions: To encourage and promote the practice of organized Bahá’í study and supply teaching aids, including suitable, timely pamphlets.

Beatrice Ashton, Chairman—P.O. Box 252, Evanston, Ill.
Arabella Haywood
Florence Zmeskal
Joan Crawford
John Ashton

Temple Guides
Functions: To maintain a staff of guides for conducting visitors through the House of Worship; to hold classes for training Temple guides.

Mary Haggard, Chairman
Harriet Hilpert, Secretary—924 Judson, Evanston, Ill.
Dr. Edris Rice-Wray
Edwin W. Mattoon
Marvin Newport
Clarence Suhm
Genevieve Voeltz
Helen Roach
Sheila Rice-Wray
Cynthia Hastings
M. D. Roach
Marshall Tyler

Temple Program
Functions: To conduct the weekly public meeting at Foundation Hall; to conduct such other devotional or public meetings as may be approved by the National Assembly from time to time.

Monroe Ioss, Chairman
John Haggard, Secretary—1229 Cleveland Ave., Wilmette, Ill.
Robert Lewis
Edna Coleman
DIRECTORY

Visual Education
Functions: To develop Baha’i display material from photographs, moving pictures and sound films for educational and display purposes; to compile a photographic record of Baha’i historical value; to conduct exhibits at state fairs and other suitable occasions.

Charles Wolcott, Chairman
Marion Longyear, Secretary, 1378 ½ Kelton Ave., Los Angeles 24, Calif.

Victor Alexander
Kenneth Kadrie
Leonard Herbert
Marjorie Taylor
Edwin Mattoon
Virginia Foster
Marzieh Gail
Archie G. Tichenor
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Palmer

World Language
Functions: To develop and encourage the interest in the Baha’i principles of an international auxiliary language; to make possible effective cooperation with other workers in the field of international language; to provide Baha’i literature in Esperanto and other international languages.

Roan U. Orloff, Chairman—Hotel Canterbury, 14 Charlestown West, Boston 15, Mass.
Della Quinlan
Lucy J. Marshall
A. E. Regal
Mabelle L. Davis
Mabel Vicary
J. M. Clifford
Ethel Graeffe
Chester Blaski
Jeanne L. Blaski
David Karl
Anna Mikuriya

World Order Magazine Editorial
Functions: To edit World Order Magazine, the official publication of the American Baha’i community.

Horace Holley, Chairman
Gertrude Henning, Secretary—69 Abbotsford Rd., Winnetka, Ill.
Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick
Eleanor Sweeney Hutchens
Kenneth Christian

Youth
Functions: To stimulate and coordinate activities of Baha’i Youth throughout the American Baha’i community; to initiate worldwide Youth symposiums; to issue bulletins of suggestions, plans and news of Youth activity; to provide study material; to arrange conferences.

Charles Iona, Chairman
Cynthia Hastings, Secretary—6212 Magnolia Ave., Chicago 48, Ill.
Robert Imagire
Dewitt Haywood, Jr.
Barbara Hannen
Harlan Scheffler
Hushang Javid
Manucher Javid
Mary Elizabeth Moore
Narrine Kluge
Larry Kramer

National Teaching (for the United States)
Functions: To prepare teaching material; to provide settlers and pioneer teachers; to plan and supervise inter-regional activities; to supervise the Regional Teaching Committees; to assist the smaller communities.

Margery McCormick, Chairman
Sarah S. Walrath, Secretary—4639 Beacon St., Chicago 40, Ill.
Amelia E. Collins
Monroe Iosi
Dr. Katherine True
Gertrude Iosi
Amelia Bowman
Pari Zia-Walrath
Elisabeth Cheney
Carl Scheffler

Regional Teaching (United States)
Functions: To organize teaching circuits and route traveling teachers through cooperation with Assemblies, groups and isolated believers; to encourage and stimulate teaching activities of groups and isolated believers; to extend teaching work to areas where no Baha’is exist; to assist groups and prepare them for the formation of a Spiritual Assembly; to coordinate inter-community teaching conferences; to issue Regional teaching and news bulletins; to endorse applications for enrollment and transfers of believers outside the Jurisdiction of Assemblies.

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Terah Smith, Chairman
Ruth Hart, Secretary—“Knollwood” R.D. 3, Waterloo, N. Y.
Bahiyih Ford
Harriet Pettibone
Della Emery
Florence Steinhauser
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Ida Suhm
Beulah Brown
Dr. James Lewis
Charles Reimer
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Etye Graebe
Elsa Steinmetz

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May Brown, Chairman
Opal Winans, Secretary—421 N. Spring St., Independence, Mo.

Bertha Campbell
Cora Schulte
Emiie Baker
Velma Sherrill

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Madelon Becktel

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Rose Brown, Secretary—923 First St. No., Birmingham, Ala.
Martha Fettig
Robert Durr
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Leslie McMichael
Homer Dyer

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Evelyn Bivins, Chairman
Mrs. Lee Blackwell, Secretary—324½ Pine St., New Orleans, La.

Esther Little
Verney Thompson
Marion Little
Ethelyn Campbell
Dorothy Campbell

Oklahoma, Texas
J. Clark Pollard, Chairman
Mary Heal Edson, Secretary—Briar Hollow, Rt. 12, Box 16, Houston, Texas

J. R. Reynolds
Charlotte Stirrat
Albert Enzinger
Elizabeth Bailey

Ne., California, Nevada
Dr. Mildred Nichols, Chairman
Isobel Locke, Secretary—714 Farrington Lane, Burlingame, Calif.

Charlotte Linfoot
Jessie Vanderford
Farrucha Iosas
Mamie Soto
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So. California, Arizona
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Jesma Herbert, Secretary—5372 Templeton St., Los Angeles 32, Calif.

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Zahrah Schoeny
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Mildred Clark, Secretary—821 Marion St., Denver 3, Colo.
Theresa L. Olson
M. Rita Wallace
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Gladys Roberts
Florence Cox

Idaho, Montana, Utah
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Ora M. Ault
Bertha S. Adelman
Charles Bryan
J. K. Saunders
Eudol Thompson

Washington, Oregon
George Washington, Chairman
Helen Wilks, Secretary—8535 30th Ave., N. W., Seattle 7, Wash.

Marjorie Taylor
Gladys Beasley
John Schureif
John M. Clifford
Ella Meissner
Rachel Porter
Clara Rainboth

Alaska
Dagmar Dole, Chairman
Frances Wells, Secretary—Box 45, Anchorage, Alaska
Honor Kempton
Janet Steut
Helen Robinson
Blanche Sturt
Vern Huffman
Margery McCormick

Canadian National Teaching
Functions: To prepare teaching material; to provide settlers and pioneer teachers; to plan and supervise inter-regional activities; to supervise the Regional Teaching Committees.
John Robarts, Chairman
Laura Davis. Secretary-44 Chestnut Park Rd., Toronto, Ont., Can.
Doris Richardson
Rowland Estall
Emerc Sala
Siegfried Schopefcher
Victor Davis

Regional Teaching (Canada)
British Columbia
Viola China, Chairman
Katherine Moscrop, Secretary—2654 Marine Drive, W. Vancouver, B. C., Can.
Florence Sherborne
Mae McKenna
Muriel Warnicker
Austin Collin
Eve Cliff Southwell

TRUSTEE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEES
Properties Representative, George O. Latimer

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Alfred Zahf
Rex Collison
Wyatt Cooper
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Ray Brackett
Ted Groger
Tom Lisota
Fred Bado
A. Y. Seto

Wilhelm
Curtis Kelsey, Chairman
Mrs. Amy Rautbartsch, Secretary—1113 Bromley Ave., W. Englewood, N. J.
Roy C. Wilhelm
Walter Goodfellow

Wilson
Harlan Ober, 53 Conant St., Beverly, Mass.

LOCAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLIES
A. United States

Alabama:
Birmingham: Mrs. Verna Inglis, 1000 S. 43rd St., Birmingham

Alaska:
Anchorage: Mrs. Evelyn Huffman, Box 837, Anchorage

Arizona:
East Phoenix: Mrs. Louise Depe, 3438 N. 12th St., Phoenix
Phoenix: Mrs. Nancy Phillips, 521 W. Holley St., Phoenix

Arkansas:
Little Rock: Mrs. Lucy Hawkins, 1023 Louisiana St., Little Rock

California:
Alhambra: Mrs. Mayme Glass, 805 N. Bushnell Ave., Alhambra
Berkeley: Mrs. Helen B. Rutledge, 211 Regent St., Berkeley
Beverly Hills: Mrs. Marion E. Gordon, Spiritual Assembly of Beverly Hills, Box 784, Beverly Hills.
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Glendale: Mrs. Mary Louise Stapp, 1244 Justin Ave., Glendale 1
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Oakland: Not reported
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San Diego: Mrs. Gladys Loudon, 143 Elm St., San Diego 1
San Francisco: Mrs. Louise A. Groger, 94 Agua Way, San Francisco 16
Santa Barbara: Mrs. Berdette Matteson, 3002 Paseo del Refugio, Santa Barbara

Colorado:
Colorado Springs: Mrs. Gladys Roberts, 915 N. Hancock Ave., Colorado Springs
Denver: Mrs. Mildred Clark, 321 Marion St., Denver 3

Connecticut:
Hamden: Mrs. Caroline Keller, 114 Wakefield St., Hamden
New Haven: Miss Gertrude Duell, 561 Whalley Ave., New Haven 11

Delaware:
Wilmington: Mrs. Miriam N. Schleigh, 205 W. 9th St., Wilmington

District of Columbia:
Washington: Mr. Harold Peter Bye, 1306 Eye St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

Florida:
Jacksonville: Miss Kathryn L. Vernon, 707 Post St., Jacksonville
Miami: Miss Ida Solomon, 137 N. W. 11th Ave., Miami
St. Augustine: Not reported

Georgia:
Atlanta: Miss Doris Ebbert, 1247 Sells Ave., S. W., Atlanta 8
Augusta: Mrs. Emma P. Lawrence, P. O. Box 2064, Hill Station, Augusta

Hawaii:
Honolulu: Miss Henriette From, 2338 Beckwith St., Honolulu 5
Spreckelsville-Maui: Mrs. Mary T. Fantom, Spreckelsville, Maui

Idaho:
Boise: Miss Elizabeth Adelmann, 906 E. State St., Boise

Illinois:
Chicago: Mrs. Kathryn Mortensen, 6529 S. Kimbark Ave., Chicago 37
Danville: Mrs. Elizabeth S. Rainer, 12304 N. Gilbert, Danville
Elmhurst: Miss Mary L. Fischer, 300 N. York St., Elmhurst
Evanston: Mrs. Beatrice Ashton, Box 252, Evanston
Maywood: Mrs. Alvena Lange, 104 Oak St., Maywood
Oak Park: Mrs. J. F. Woodell, 1628 N. Taylor St., Oak Park
Peoria: Mrs. Emilie K. Ziegler, 147 Rebecca Pl., Peoria 5
Springfield: Mrs. Gretchen Schults, 216 S. Renfro St., Springfield
Urbana: Mrs. Esther G. Harding, 1203 W. Oregon St., Urbana
Waukegan: Mrs. Louise Niblack, 22 Jefferson Ave., Waukegan
Wilmette: Miss Bertha L. Herkdolt, c/o Mattoon, 105 Sixth St., Wilmette

Indiana:
Fort Wayne: Mrs. Philip Schott, 668 Spring St., Ft. Wayne
Indianapolis: Mrs. E. S. Griffith, 2243 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis 5
South Bend: Mrs. Sarah M. Russell, 1031 Lincoln Way West, South Bend 16

Iowa:
Cedar Rapids: Miss Edna Mackinson, 620 First Ave., N. E., Cedar Rapids

Kansas:
Topeka: Mrs. Bertha H. Campbell, 1021 Tyler St., Topeka

Kentucky:
Louisville: Mrs. Rebecca Petree, P. O. Box 2004, Louisville

Louisiana:
New Orleans: Miss H. Hulinghorst, c/o Bahá'í Center, 801 Queen and Crescent Blvd., New Orleans 12

Maine:
Eliot: Mrs. Dorothy C. Cress, Eliot

Maryland:
Baltimore: Mrs. Martha C. Dorrada, 5391 Gwynn Oak Ave., Baltimore 7
Bethesda-Chevy Chase: Miss Doris Lobshe, 4700 Dover Rd., Friendship Station, Washington, D.C.

Massachusetts:
Beverly: Mr. Richard S. Gladding, 90 McKay St., Beverly
Boston: Miss Natalie Anderson, c/o Bahá'í Center, Rm. 419, 25 Huntington Ave., Boston 16
Brookline: Mrs. Janet R. Lindstrom, 15 Alberta Rd., Chestnut Hill 67
Springfield: Not reported
Worcester: Miss Fanny M. Holmes, 103 Webster St., Worcester 3

Michigan:
Ann Arbor: Mrs. Martha Parker, 1601 Pontiac, Ann Arbor
Detroit: Miss Phyllis Hall, 2287 Woodstock Dr., Detroit 3
Flint: Miss Mabel Kitkenhemmer, 1123 S. Saginaw St., Flint
Grand Rapids: Mrs. Laura Walsh, 528 Jefferson Ave., Grand Rapids
Lansing: Mrs. Roberta Christian, 819 Fayette St., Lansing 10
Muskegon: Mrs. Adeline B. Duff, 1815 Manz St., Muskegon
Roseville: Mrs. Katherine Page, 18450 Hazelwood, Roseville

Minnesota:
Duluth: Miss Arlene Lindenmuth, 2426 E. 5th St., Duluth
Minneapolis: Miss Sina O. Olsen, 123 S. 11th Ave., Apt. H, Minneapolis 2
St. Paul: Miss Dahela Abas, 235 Fuller Ave., St. Paul 3

Mississippi:
Jackson: Mr. Edward S. Campbell, Box 2083, Jackson

Missouri:
Independence: Mrs. Opal H. Winans, 421 S. Spring St., Independence
Kansas City: Mrs. J. B. Becktel, 4222 Olive St., Kansas City 4
St. Louis: Miss Nayan F. Hartfield, 4447 Washington Blvd., St. Louis 8

Montana:
Butte: Mr. John W. McAllaster, 627 West Park, Butte
Helena: Miss Betty Mereness, 1043 Breckenridge, Helena

Nebraska:
Omaha: Mrs. Doreene N. Olsen, 3014 S. 28th Ave., Omaha 10

Nevada:
Reno: Miss Helen Grifing, Box 1906, Reno

New Hampshire:
Portsmouth: Mrs. C. Pennington Lewis, 1061 Maplewood Ave., Portsmouth

New Jersey:
Dumont: Mrs. Emilie Kalantar, 314 Washington Ave., Dumont
East Orange: Mrs. Cora A. Rockwell, 12 Washington St., East Orange
Newark: Mrs. Ethel Murray, 964 Broad St., Newark
Teaneck: Mrs. Marion Wilcox, 126 Evergreen Place, West Englewood

New Mexico:
Albuquerque: Mrs. Evelyn Walters, Albuquerque Bahá'í Community, Box 1006, Albuquerque
DIRECTORY

New York:
Binghamton: Mrs. Helen Inderlied, 44 Lincoln Ave., Binghamton
Jamestown: Mrs. Della Emery, 81 Fairmount Ave., Jamestown
Rochester: Miss Elizabeth Brooks, 49 Rowley St., Rochester 7
Syracuse: Not reported
Yonkers: Mrs. Lillian Rogers, 64 Locust Hill Ave., Yonkers

North Carolina:
Greensboro: Mrs. Pearl Kent, 123 East Smith St., Greensboro

North Dakota:
Fargo: Mrs. Etty Greene, Box 564, Fargo

Ohio:
Cincinnati: Miss Hilda Stauss, 3640 Epworth Ave., Cincinnati 11
Cleveland: Mrs. Mabel Perry, 1611 Earl Ave., Cleveland 8
Columbus: Mrs. Margarete Acebo, 777 Franklin Ave., Columbus 8
Dayton: Mr. Albert Segen, 1731 W. 3rd St., Dayton 7
East Cleveland: Prof. Wm. Sandzio, 1770 Delmont Ave., East Cleveland
Lima: Mrs. Marie L. Kramer, 121 S. Collett St., Lima

Oklahoma:
Oklahoma City: Mr. Albert P. Entzminger, 734 Northwest 20th St., Oklahoma City

Oregon:
Portland: Mrs. Rachel Porter, 5544 N. Delaware Ave., Portland 11

Pennsylvania:
Philadelphia: Miss Helen L. Reynolds, 5334 Greene St., Philadelphia 44
Pittsburgh: Miss Timi Brant, 811 E. Ohio St., Pittsburgh
Scranton: Mrs. Zenobia J. Dorsey, 1312 Linden St., Scranton
West Chester: Mrs. Margaret Lear, 42 West Gay St., West Chester

Puerto Rico:
San Juan: Mr. Cruz Iribarry Valle, Box 2130 Puerto Rico 10

Rhode Island:
Providence: Mr. Wm. Doull, 92 University Ave., Providence

South Carolina:
Greenville: Mrs. Rachel Mothersill, Box 1735 Greenville

South Dakota:
Sioux Falls: Mrs. Fritz Shaver, 1420 S. Spring Ave., Sioux Falls

Tennessee:
Memphis: Mrs. Thomas H. Watkins, 733 N. Bellevue Blvd., Memphis 1
Nashville: Mrs. Hazel Holt, 1213 Sigler St., Nashville 4

Texas:
Houston: Miss Dorothea Slight, 436 W. 21st St., Houston 8

Utah:
Salt Lake City: Mrs. Eleanor Beckman, 447 East Third South, Salt Lake City

Vermont:
Brattleboro: Mr. Ben Weeden, 83 Main St., Brattleboro

Virginia:
Alexandria: Mrs. Raymond C. Rouse, 3043 Manning St., Alexandria
Arlington: Mrs. Florence Hansen, 4419 4th Rd., N., Apt. 4, Arlington

Washington:
Richmond Highlands: Mrs. Clara B. Rainboth, 13017 Aurora Ave., Seattle 33
Seattle: Miss Elsa Nordquist, 4508 18th Ave., N.E., Seattle 3
Spokane: Mrs. Gladys Beasley, 4015 N. Madison Ave., Spokane
Tacoma: Mrs. Helen M. Ames, 5940 S. Sheridan Rd., Tacoma

West Virginia:
Charleston: Mrs. Helen S. Anderson, c/o Bahá’í Assembly of Charleston, Box 227, Charleston 21

Wisconsin:
Kenosha: Mr. Louis J. Voelz, 6108 Sheridan Rd., Kenosha
Madison: Not reported
Milwaukee: Mrs. Edna N. Voigt, 1918 Hi Mount Blvd., Milwaukee 8
Racine: Mrs. Helen Lorentzen, 1549 Kearney Ave., Racine
Wauwatosa: Mrs. Adolf Grad, 1440 N. 87th St., Wauwatosa 13

Whitefish Bay: Mrs. Patricia L. Skobel, 700 E. Day Ave., Whitefish Bay

Wyoming:
Laramie: Mrs. Vera Ulrich, Box 112, Laramie

B. Canada

Alberta:
Edmonton: Miss Gwen M. Clarke, 7852 Jasper Ave., Edmonton

British Columbia:
Vancouver: Mrs. Kay Lannon, 918 Cardero St., Vancouver

Manitoba:
Winnipeg: Miss Elizabeth Brooks, Box 121, Winnipeg

New Brunswick:
Moncton: Miss Anne L. McLean, 25 Archibald St., Moncton

Nova Scotia:
Halifax: Mrs. Muriel Bellefleur, 593 Gottingen St., Halifax

Ontario:
Hamilton: Mrs. Frances Young, 270 Main W., Hamilton
Toronto: Mrs. Laura R. Davis, 44 Chestnut Park, Toronto 3

Prince Edward Island:
Charlottetown: Mrs. Grace Geary, 279 Richmond St., Charlottetown

Quebec:
Montreal: Mrs. Louise Boudler, 1548 Pine Ave., W., Montreal

St. Lambert: Mrs. Margaret Laurie, 521 Desaulniers Blvd., St. Lambert

Saskatchewan:
Regina: Miss Lauretta Voelz, Box 264, Regina

1 Former Assembly restored.
2 New Assembly.

Printed in U.S.A.
"I Desire Distinction for You"

Be pure, O people of God, be pure; be righteous, be righteous ... The betterment of the world can be accomplished through pure and goodly deeds, through commendable and seemly conduct ... Equity is the most fundamental among human virtues ... He that is unjust in his judgment is destitute of the characteristics that distinguish man's station ... Be ye the stewards of God amongst His creatures, and the emblems of His generosity amidst His people ... Let truthfulness and courtesy be your adorning—let your acts be a guide unto all kind, for unity and accord; for love and justice. In brief, you must become distinguished in all the virtues of the human world; for faithfulness and sincerity; for justice and fidelity; for firmness and steadfastness; for philanthropic deeds and service to the human world; for love toward every human being; for unity and accord with all people; for removing prejudices and promoting international peace. Finally, you must become distinguished for heavenly illumination and acquiring the bestowals of God. I desire this distinction for you.

BAHÁ'ULÁH

I desire distinction for you. The Bahá'ís must be distinguished from others of humanity. But this distinction must not depend upon wealth — that they should become more affluent than other people. I do not desire for you financial distinction. It is not an ordinary distinction I desire; not scientific, commercial, industrial distinction. For you I desire spiritual distinction; that is, you must become eminent and distinguished in morals. In the love of God you must become distinguished from all else. You must become distinguished for loving humanity; for unity and accord; for love and justice. In brief, you must become distinguished in all the virtues of the human world; for faithfulness and sincerity; for justice and fidelity; for firmness and steadfastness; for philanthropic deeds and service to the human world; for love toward every human being; for unity and accord with all people; for removing prejudices and promoting international peace. Finally, you must become distinguished for heavenly illumination and acquiring the bestowals of God. I desire this distinction for you.

'ABDU'L-BÁHÁ

Messages from the Guardian

"Praying Speedy Initial Victories"

Rejoice at news of impending departure of pioneers for Transatlantic field of service. Delighted at appointment of Latin American committees; at noble determination of National Teaching Committee, and projects for proclamation of Faith to masses. Urge all agencies cooperate, bend energies, and persevere in attainment of all objectives of Plan. Praying speedy initial victories in both hemispheres.

SHOGHII

Cablegram received July 13, in answer to message cabled to the Guardian from the July meeting.

All Must Participate

(The following is a portion of the Guardian's long letter to the individual believers, dated June 15, 1946.)

Dear beloved friends:

It is not for us, at this crucial hour, to delve into the future, to speculate on the possibilities of the Plan and its orientation, to conjecture on its impact on the unfolding of an embryonic World Order, or to dwell on the glories and triumphs which it may hold in store, or to seek to delineate the mysterious course which a God-given Mission, impelled by forces beyond our power to predict or appraise, may pursue. To try to obtain a clear view of the shape of things to come would be premature inasmuch as the glittering prizes to be won are directly dependent on the measure of success which the combined efforts that are now being exerted must yield. Ours is the duty to fix our gaze with undeviating attention on the duties and responsibilities confronting us at this present hour, to concentrate our resources, both material and spiritual, on the tasks that lie immediately ahead, to insure that no time is wasted, that no opportunity is missed, that no obligation is evaded, that no task is half-heartedly performed, that no decision is procrastinated. The task summoning us to a challenge, unprecedented in its gravity and force, is too vast and sacred, the time too short, the hour too perilous, the workers too few, the call too insistent, the resources too inadequate, for us to allow these precious and fleeting hours to slip from our grasp, and to suffer the prizes within our reach to be endangered or forfeited. So much depends upon us, so pregnant with possibilities is the present stage in the evolution of the Plan, that great and small, individuals, groups and Assemblies, white and colored, young and old, neophytes and veterans, settlers, pioneers, itinerant teachers and administrators, as isolated believers, as organizers of groups, and as contributors to the formation of local or national Assemblies, as builders of the Temple, as laborers on the home-teaching front, or in Latin America, or in the new transatlantic field of service—all, without exception and in every sphere of activity, however modest, restricted, or inconspicuous, must participate and labor, assiduously and continually, until every ounce of our energy is spent, until, tired but blissful, our promised harvest is brought in, and our pledge to our Beloved fully redeemed.

However dark the outlook, however laborious the task, however strange and inhospitable the environment, however vast the distances that must be traversed, however scarce the amenities of life, however
To be privileged to render, in His stead, on so colossal a scale, at such a challenging hour, and in the service of so sublime a Plan, so great and enduring a service, is a bounty which we can never adequately appraise. We stand too close to the noble edifice our hands are rearing, the din and tumult into which a war-devastated world is now plunged are too distracting, our own share in the furtherance of those global aims, tasks and problems that are increasingly absorbing the attention of mankind and its leaders is as yet too circumscribed for us to be in a position to evaluate the contribution which we, as the executors of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Mandate, as the torch-bearers of a civilization of which that Order is the mainspring and precursor, are now being led through the ineradicable dispensations of an almighty Providence, to make to the world triumph of our Faith, as well as to the ultimate redemption of all mankind.

National Spiritual Assembly

“A God-Given Mandate”

Beloved Friends:

Shoghi Effendi has addressed to every individual Bahá’í of North America a communication which immerses us in the potent and creative spirit of the world-embracing Divine Plan destined to assure the consummation of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. In this message each of us may draw near the very central citadel of the Bahá’í Revelation, where its floodgates of power are open and the forces of inspiration are undimmed and unchecked by an ignorant world. There can be no higher privilege for us at this crucial hour than to ponder the Guardian’s words, concentrate on their significance, and open our hearts to their blessing.

With all possible swiftness, the National Spiritual Assembly has taken steps to place a copy in the hands of every believer. In mimeographed form, ten pages in length, the communication, which has been entitled “A God-Given Mandate,” is being addressed to the individual home by first class mail. While preparing the large edition needed for this purpose, one copy has first been sent to each National Committee, each Regional Teaching Committee, and each local Assembly. These advance copies are for the inspiration of such Bahá’í gatherings as are held before individual distribution shall have been effected, and to prepare the friends by consultation to realize the vital importance of this message issued from the World Center of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh.

“Might not this second and still greater adventure,” the Guardian asks, after speaking of the first Seven Year Plan, “undertaken by the trustees of a God-Given Mandate, demonstrate in both hemispheres, despite the prodigious scale on which it is launched, such prodigies of service as will carry its prosecutors far beyond their avowed objectives, and eclipse, through the wisdom, the valor and exploits of those pioneers and administrators immediately responsible for its planning and execution, the splendor of every previous collective enterprise undertaken by the followers of Bahá’u’lláh in the West?”

“However dark the outlook,” the Guardian also states, “however laborious the task, however strange and inhospitable the environment, however vast the distances that must be traversed, however scarce the amenities of life, however irksome the means of travel, however annoying the restrictions, however listless and confused the minds of the people and races contacted, however trying the setbacks that may be suffered, we must, under no circumstances, either falter or flinch. Our reliance on the unfailing grace of an all-loving, all-preserving, ever-sustaining, ever-watchful Providence must, however much we may be buffeted by circumstances, remain unshaken until the very end.”

Immense will be the changes in the conditions of the world before the fateful year of 1953 is attained. Great will be the spiritual risings and fallings. May to us each and all be granted the supreme bounty of faithfulness, loyalty and devotion, unity and activity, through every passing day until that goal is won!

National Spiritual Assembly

In Memoriam

Death proffered unto every faithful believer the cup that is life indeed. It brought to us rich joy and the bearer of gladness. It conferred the gift of everlasting life.—BAHÁ’U’LLÁH.

Miss Marion Kappes, Glenview, Illinois.

Mr. John J. Mack, Denver.

Mrs. Cynthia Baldwin, New Haven.

Bahá’í News

Bahá’í News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Bahá’í Community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924.

On April 10, 1925, the Guardian wrote: “The News Letter which you have lately initiated fulfills a very vital function... I would urge you to encourage its success, in that in time it may devote a special section to every phase of your activities, administrative, devotional, humanitarian, financial, educational and otherwise.

“It should become a great factor in promoting understanding, providing information on Bahá’í activity, both local and foreign, in stimulating interest, in combating evil influences, and in upholding and safeguarding the institutions of the Cause.”

Bahá’í News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by the Bahá’í News Editorial Committee: Garretta Busey, chairman, John Ashburn, Alice Simmons Cox, Mabel Hyde Paine, Margaret Swengel. Editorial office: Miss Garretta Busey, 545 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois.

Please report changes of address to which Bahá’í News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Bahá’í National Office, 538 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.
The Proposed Bahá’í Radio Station

Since the Convention session which indicated such interest in the possibility of acquiring an FM Radio Station at the Temple, in the light of the Guardian’s statement on the subject, the National Spiritual Assembly has consulted with a member of the Radio Committee, appointed a special committee to investigate further into the details of the matter, and acted to keep the subject actively before the members.

This is in the nature of a brief progress report for the information of the Bahá’í community.

Among the principal items bearing upon the matter are:

1. The Guardian has received a detailed report. His consent must be obtained before the Assembly would feel justified in using the House of Worship as a radio transmitter or studio.

2. The necessary FM wave band is still obtainable.

3. FM broadcast programs have as yet only a very small audience, but the listeners will undoubtedly increase from year to year.

4. Responsible firms urge all interested to realize that actual installation and operation costs are likely to be very much higher than would be indicated by advance estimates. Figures already available run from $30,000 to $75,000.

Further reports will be made from time to time.

Treasurer’s Report

Dear Bahá’í friends:

Now since your National Assembly has established a new budget of $50,000.00 for the current Bahá’í year it is well for us to watch form month to month how we progress towards the achievement of this goal, for upon our success or failure to support the financial requirement of the Guardian’s Plan will depend the success of the whole Seven Year Plan. During the month of May, which is the first month of our new Bahá’í year, our budget was $20,333.30. Contributions from May 1st to May 31st amounted to $11,448.81, which means that there was a deficit in meeting our budget obligations of $9,884.49.

One hundred Assemblies contributed during the month of May, 39 Assemblies did not contribute, 55 Groups contributed and 102 isolated believers contributed.

Regional Conference at Banff, Alberta, Canada, 1945. For the announcement of the 1946 conference, to be held in August, see Bahá’í News for July.

With the initiation of the new Seven Year Plan, the opening up of Europe as a new teaching territory, the commencement of the interior decoration of the Temple, and with the increased financial demands made upon the Fund by Inter-America and National Teaching Work, it is well for each believer to follow closely the degree of “complete, exact and immediate obedience” which the Guardian is calling for.

With delays beyond the Treasurer’s control your Yearly Report had not yet been sent out when this was written. However, it is hoped that in the near future each believer will receive a detailed report of all of the different expenses of the Faith.

Inquiries regarding the handling of the Fund, or any other question, will be gladly answered by the Treasurer’s Office.

PHILIP SPRAGUE, Treasurer

National Committees

International Relief

The Committee on International Relief reemphasizes the importance of sending relief packages to the Friends in war-devastated countries. Again, the Committee emphasizes the advisability of sending help through reliable agencies, such as CARE. This agency has acquired army surplus parcels: it guarantees delivery within three months (or less) or money back. The parcels include solid meat, stews and hashes (9.8 lbs.); fruit jam and pudding (3.6 lbs.); vegetables (2.3 lbs.); sugar and candy (3.9 lbs.); cocoa, coffee and beverage powders (1.1 lbs.); evaporated milk (0.8 lbs.); preserved butter (0.5 lbs.); cheese (0.4 lbs.); and a can opener, cigarettes, and soap. This 40 pound package costs $15.00. Send order blanks to CARE, 50 Broadstreet, New York, New York.

In using such agencies, unfortunate experiences such as that of having packages arrive filled with stones or with all of the chocolate removed may be avoided.

Some addresses have already been given in Bahá’í News for July. A list of additional addresses follows:

I. England.

On all parcels clearly mark “Gift—Not for Resale” both on front of the package, and on the customs declaration tag. Gift packages may not be sent more than once a month when mailed by the same addressee. There is a small duty on most foodstuffs that must be paid by the addressee. Make sure that all clothing sent is labelled on tag as “worn.”

To comply with both U.S. and British postal regulations, gift packages should not weigh over 11 pounds gross weight or
be over 42" in length or 72" in length and girth combined. They may be insured, but not registered.

Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Hosketh, Ringwood, Hampshire.

Mr. Arthur Cole, Liverpool University, Liverpool.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lacey, 15 Church Drive, "Colmanhay", Ikeston, Derby.

Miss Doris Weeks, 42 Oakwood Road, Henleaze, Bristol.

Miss Alice Stokely, Mundford, Thetford.

Mrs. Lilian Stevens, "3 Hilles", Hampton Court, Surrey.

Mrs. Esther Richardson, "The Cottage," 26 Fernleigh Ave, Mapperley, Notts.


Mrs. Edith Cramner, 102 Seabourne Rd., Southbourne, W. Bournemouth, Hants.

Mrs. Geraldine Cooper, Penicowlis Old Hall, Pleasington nr. Blackburn, Lancs.

Mrs. D. Ferraby, Bahá’í Centre, 1 Victoria Street, London S W No. 1.

Miss J. Young, Bahá’í Centre, 38 High Street, Manchester.

Miss J. Wilkinson, Bahá’í Centre, 68 Great Horton Road, Bradford.

Miss E. Eastgate, 5 Richmond Road, off Tudor Hill, Sutton-Coldfield, Warwick.


George Edensor, Stone Road, Stafford, England.

Mr. and Mrs. Nara Achoury, "Jalal", Nottingham Road, Larch Farm near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Mrs. T. Williams, 17 Prince’s Road, Petersfield, Hampshire.

Miss J. Howes, 10 Greenway, Northampton.

Miss D. Jacobs, 20 Archbold Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northumberland.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Hall, Barrow-Greaves Farm, Eller R.F., Lanes, Lancashire.

Mrs. McKinley, Channel-View, Kingsbridge, Devonshire.

Miss J. B. Bearman’s Cottage, Margaretting, Ingatstone, Essex.

Mrs. C. Cohen, 10 Manor Road, Hereford, Herefordshire.

II. France (Paris)

See advice given under England.

Miss Edith Scott, 12 Rue Victor Conscript, Paris 18-e.

Miss Edwina Scott, 12 Rue Victor Conscript, Paris 18-e.

Miss Edith Rose Thiessen, 9 Rue de L’Amonication, Paris 16-e.

M. Charles Kennedy, 6 Rue Leon Bonnet, Paris 17-e.

Mr. Marie Levoyer, Quai de Seine, Audesy, Paris 16-e.

M. Martine Chaize, 6 Rue de Bouef, Lyon, (Rhône).

M. Pierre Tissier, 6 Rue du Delft, Paris 3-e.

Pierre Tessier, 6 Rue du Delft, Paris 3-e.

Levoy, Quai de Seine, Audesy, Seine et Oise.

Mme Mutign, 1-ter Rue Chanez, Paris 16-e.

Andre Walter, 6 Rue Port aux Balnches, Nancy, Mehe e. Mlle.

Mlle. Lucienne Mégette, 10 Rue Morunet-Sully, Paris 20-cme.

Mme. Aussenedac de Broglio, 97 Rue de Rome, Paris 17-e.

III. Southern France.

Mme. Marie Sughemmonian, 31 Rue Deuderon, Marseilles.

Mme. Morched Zadeh, 57 Rue Lejeune, Toulouse.

M. Martine Chaize, 6 Rue de Bouef, Lyon, (Rhône).

Mme. Pelissier, 33 Quai Galillet, Lyon, (Rhône).

Mme. Roume, 32 Boulevard Rodeat, Hyeres, (Var).

Mlle. Tousaint, 16 Boulevard Rodeat, Hyeres, (Var).

Mlle. Lucienne Akred, Les Clou Fleur, La Poterie, Hyeres, (Var).

IV. Finland

Personal gift packages (which should be appropriately marked) are admitted duty free, but weighing under 22 pounds. No restrictions on number or frequency of packages received by an individual. Used clothing is duty free. Postal regulations same as England.

Mr. Valo Rissanen, Box 13, Helsinki.

V. Norway

Gift shipments of food and used clothing weighing up to 110 lbs. will be admitted free of import duties and taxes. Frln. Johanna Schubarth c/o Prof. Dahls’ gt. 13, Oslo.

Mrs. Aagot Krantz-BamsU, Vaagevej 7, Christiania.

VI. Holland (The Netherlands)

Gift packages should not contain sugar. Packages worth more than $1.96 are liable to import duties. Mark same as for England.

Mrs. Wygman Verbeek, Meenenbroekerweg 92, Heeren-Limburg.

M. Arnold van Otrop, Groot Hortogine-laan 32, Bussum.

VII. Switzerland

Rationed articles are subject to rationing laws, and recipients must surrender their coupons for such articles. Mark as for England.


Mrs. J. Young, Bahá’í Bureau, 30 Grand Rue, Geneva.

VIII. Bulgaria

(Send packages through C-a-re or Ameropa. No silks—duty prohibitive.)

Miss Marion Jack, c-o Roseva, ul Neophyte Rilaka 48, Sofia.

IX. Hungary

There is no limitation as regards number and weight of packages received at any single address. If the contents of the parcel obviously cannot be used for commercial purposes. Mark as for England.

Mrs Jenny Koozol, Vilma Kiralyo 9, f-2, Budapest 7.

X. Jugoslavia

(Send packages through C-a-re or Ameropa.)

Mme. Dusanka Forgacce-Tokin, Ostguterstrasse 76, Vrasc.
Two new committees are being appointed to assist in the intensified teaching campaign. They are a Radio Committee, which will prepare and distribute scripts for several series of radio programs, and a Committee on Correspondence Teaching, which will prepare and distribute outlines on the Teachings for use in study classes and in isolated groups where a resident teacher is not available.

Location of Pioneers

The North American believers will be interested in knowing where our pioneers in Latin America are now stationed. The list follows:

- Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Bode, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- Mrs. Louise Caswell, Panama City, Panama.
- Mr. Hasle M. Cornbleth, Quito, Ecuador.
- Miss Flora E. Hottes, Montevideo, Uruguay.
- Dr. Malcolm M. King, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.
- Miss Josephine Kruka, Havana, Cuba.
- Mr. Artemus Lamb, Punta Arenas, Chile.
- Miss Evelyn Larson, San Jose, Costa Rica.
- Miss Elena Marsella, Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic.
- Miss Eve Nickin, Lima, Peru.
- Miss Cora Oliver, Panama City, Panama.
- Miss Gwennie D. Sholtis, La Paz, Bolivia.
- Miss Jean Silver, Havana, Cuba.
- Mrs. Marcia Steward, Guatemala City, Guatemala.
- Mrs. Shirley A. Warde, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Mrs. Gayle Woolson, Bogota, Columbia.

A former pioneer in Brazil, Miss Gertrude Eisenberg, has recently returned to the United States, but her place in Sao Paulo will soon be taken by Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Miessler, who expect to leave in August for permanent settlement in Brazil.

This distribution of teachers leaves two South American countries, Paraguay, and Venezuela, and three Central American countries, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua, without North American pioneers. However, Marcia Steward is visiting all of the Central American centers consulting with Spiritual Assemblies, holding public meetings, and helping with extension teaching.

Elizabeth Cheney, who has been stationed in Bogota, Columbia, for several months, has recently visited Bahá’í groups in Cartagena and Barranquilla, Colombia, and Assemblies in Caracas, Venezuela, and Havana, Cuba. Miss Cheney is en route home. She will be located in Wilmette for at least a year and will serve as Secretary of the Inter-America Committee, taking over these duties from Miss Edna True, who is now organizing the work of the new European Teaching Committee.

The Thirty-Fourth Annual Souvenir Feast

By chartered bus, automobile, train and ferry, about 500 Bahá’ís and their friends gathered with picnic lunches June 29th to participate in the Thirty-Fourth Annual Commemoration of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Unity Feast, on the grounds at Evergreen Place, West Englewood, New Jersey.

For the first time in all those...
years it rained intermittently throughout the day, thereby breaking a tradition, but as the Chairman, Mr. H. Borrah Kavelin, said, it is traditional for Bahá'ís to break traditions.

The Picnic. At noontime, guests began arriving and found picnic tables arranged for their convenience under the trees on the west lawn. Desserts of cakes and doughnuts; and hot and cold beverages were served to them under an awning at the south side of the Cabin. It started to rain at two o'clock, but the friends found adequate shelter on the porches and in the Cabin.

The Program. By the time the program was scheduled to begin, the sun had come out and danced on the sprays of water playing in the fountains, and glistened through the drops of rain which clung to the ferns and flowers in the rock gardens and hanging baskets. Light was reflected everywhere! Everyone gathered on the east lawn which recently had been graded and seeded, and formed an amphitheatre about the east porch of the Cabin. A loud speaker system made it easy to hear the program from any place on the lawn. This is the first time that the program has been presented in this part of the grounds, and it was found very much better, as the heat of the afternoon sun was not as intense as it is on the west side at that time of the day.

The chairman, Mr. H. Borrah Kavelin, opened the program with a prayer and a few words of greeting and then introduced the pianist, Lucille Rothman, a 16 year old honor student of the Curtis School of Music in Philadelphia. She played most brilliantly Robert Schuman's "Papillons," Opus No. 2. Mrs. Emilie Moore Kalantar read the address which the Master gave to the group gathered here in 1912 at the first Unity Feast. Then the pianist Lucille Rothman played "Rondo Capriccioso," Opus No 14, by Felix Mendelssohn, and two encores.

The theme, "Birth of a World Commonwealth," was divided into four phases and was presented as follows: Individual's Aspect, Bruce Wendell; Youth's Aspect, Miriam Raubitschek; Social Aspect, Bahiyyih Randall Ford; Spiritual Aspect, Dr. Ali Kuli Khan.

Each subject was handled briefly but thoroughly and clearly and was very well received by the audience. The Chairman closed with the "Prayer for All Nations" and announced the service which would follow at the Pine Grove where Safi Kinney conducted a half-hour of prayer and chanting on the ground made holy by the sacred presence of our Beloved Master, in June 1912.

Once again it started to rain, and so the guests came indoors. While some finished the contents of their picnic baskets, or partook of refreshments served by the committee, others met and visited friends they had not had the opportunity to greet during the afternoon. At 7 p.m. the sun again shone and cast a friendly parting glow through the pines upon the scene of this thirty-fourth Unity Feast at West Englewood.

AMY G. RAUBITSCHEK, Secretary, Committee on American Memorial to 'Abdu'l-Bahá

News of Assemblies and Groups

Inter-Racial Difficulties in South Bend

Mrs. Sarah Russell, secretary of the South Bend Assembly, reports that inter-racial gatherings in their new center have been the cause of threats from unknown persons. Mrs. Russell has remodeled her grandmother's house, next door to her own, part of which is to be used as a Bahá'í center. She writes:

"South Bend had an Inter-Community Conference, the first of its kind, here Sunday, with believers from Ohio, Indianapolis, and Fort Wayne. We had about twenty-five visitors and a wonderful meeting. The youth held their conference here also. Both were at the Y.W.C.A. The social gatherings were held at the new center. About seventeen or more youth attended, most of them colored. The neighbors were on their porches and didn't like the picture." Mrs. Russell goes on to say that her husband was called by telephone at his place of business and told that the racial gatherings would have to stop immediately or the Ku Klux Klan would have something to say about it. When Mr. Russell informed the police and the FBI, he was told that, since it was not a threat by mail or from another state, it was a local police matter. If it happened again, however, he was to let the FBI know about it.

Successful Meeting in Atlanta

Atlanta reports that the most successful public meeting since Dorothy Baker's visit in January was held on June 30th. The thirty-nine people who attended (twenty-three colored and sixteen white) were very much interested in a talk given by Mrs. Marguerite Ulrich, whose subject was "God Calleth the Nations." Music was provided by Miss Marjorie Ulrich, Miss Florence Ulrich,

Lecture room in the Hazratul-Quds at Sydney, New South Wales.
Latin American Evening

The Pan-America Committee of New York City presented a highly successful Latin-American Evening at the center on Friday, June 7th. The program included Angel del Busto, world's foremost bassoon virtuoso, who was accompanied at the piano by his wife, Gladys Mayo del Busto. Two movies were shown: Walt Disney's sound and technicolor, "South of the Border" and "Americans All." The hall was beautifully decorated with flowers, Spanish shawls, and the flags of the twenty-one Latin-American countries. Borrah Kavelin gave the Message of the Nineteen Day Feasts and at the close he sang, "In the Name of God." An invitation was broadcast over the local Spanish station, WBNX, and there was a capacity audience.

Public Meetings in St. Louis

The St. Louis Assembly has put out a very interesting program of Sunday evening public meetings for July and August, with two speakers for each evening. The speakers are Mr. Louis L. Landry, Mrs. Velma Sherrill, Mr. Anna M. Ferrill, Mr. Nayan F. Hartfield, Mrs. Mary Wunsch, Mrs. Jennie Anderson, and Mrs. Mary Wallace. An interesting feature of the program is the announcement of the subject for July 7th, "Religions of the Ages." The nine living religions are listed with the approximate dates of their origin, a device which makes the subject look very tempting.

News Bulletins

The June bulletins issued by Boston and San Francisco have come to us this month. We know that many other bulletins and news letters are issued by assemblies in between these two coastal communities.

Boston's Center Fund

Boston is trying to raise money for a new center without interfering with contributions to the National Bahá'í Fund. Proper attendance at the Nineteen Day Feasts and at the public meetings was emphasized in the bulletin. On the latter subject, we quote: "Our Program committee has been and is doing an outstanding job of securing a steady succession of splendid speakers for our regular Sunday meetings. The least we can do is to attend these meetings with at least one non-Bahá'í and as many more as we can properly interest.''

Baha'i News

News from Japan

The San Francisco news letter contains this interesting note: "Michael Jamir reports in a letter from Japan, 'In a Bahá'í way things seem to be shaping into a regular study group which will have its first meeting this Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Nagamma (Mrs. Emma Smith's sister) and Mr. Sawada know many of the Teachings.'”

Baha'í Wills

At one of the feasts in San Francisco, Dr. Nichols, at the request of the Assembly, opened a discussion on the question of cremation and wills. The news letter summarizes this interesting discussion as follows: "It was pointed out that many new Bahá'ís do not know of Bahá'u'lláh's prohibition of cremation. 'Abdu'l-Bahá explained that rapid disintegration of the body is contrary to laws of nature and not to be allowed, unless public health requires cremation because of an epidemic of contagious disease.'

"Friends who have included a request for cremation in their wills before becoming Bahá'ís often fail to change the will and a burial procedure, which as Bahá'ís they would not have wished, is carried out by non-Bahá'í relatives who are not acquainted or in sympathy with Bahá'í laws.

"It was pointed out that Bahá'u'lláh has left a definite plan for distribution of one's estate which it is recommended that Bahá'ís follow, though it is not a law. It was suggested that sealed copies of wills be given to the Assembly for safe keeping and for checking after the passing of believers, to make certain that distribution of the estate is made in accordance with their wishes. Also that it would be wise for friends, whose families do not live in the community, to leave names and addresses of nearest of kin with the Assembly for notification in case of serious illness or death.

"In this connection we pass along a suggestion from one of the friends which the assembly found acceptable. That is, to have one's funeral, or that of any Bahá'í for whom you might have the responsibility, listed in the vital statistics section of local newspapers as a Bahá'í service.'

Enrollments

1. By Assemblies.

2. Reported by Regional Committees
   Regional enrollments in June—eleven.

Letter to the Editors

(The following letter from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, makes a correction, which we are glad to print.)

Thank you for publishing the ac-
count of our Naw Rúz celebration in the May News issue. There is, however, one error which should perhaps be rectified if possible. The person who gave the splendid talk was Mrs. Ina Trimble and not myself. The reason I should like you if possible to correct this in the next issue is that I want Mrs. Trimble's friends in the United States and Canada to share the fact that she prepared and gave it and to know how splendid it was. Ina Trimble, is, you see, a crippled lady who feels that her contribution to the Faith is very limited. This is not the case. Besides, she was the first resident Bahá'í in this city. If it isn't too much trouble, would you mind making this correction so that Ina's friends can know she is getting out of her home whenever possible and is very ably making her contribution to the Faith which has meant so much to her since becoming a member?

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,
Kathleen M. Rimpler

News of Other Lands

Germany

A report from Esslingen covering the year 102, April, 1943-March, 1946, written by Fr. Maria Weiss, shows great activity among these staunch Bahá'ís and also a spirit of joyous devotion to our beloved Cause.

For eight years all Bahá'ís in Germany was dissolved and the friends, mindful of Bahá'u'lláh's injunction to obey the government under all circumstances, did not meet until May 23, 1945, after the abolishment of this prohibitive measure.

From that time on the Esslingen Bahá'ís were intensely active. The Bahá'í Festivals, November 12 and March 21 were celebrated in beautifully decorated homes with selections from the Holy Writings and music. Unity Feasts were attended by about 30 believers and 15 youth. Regular weekly meetings were devoted to a thorough study of the Teachings. Thirteen new believers were registered during the year. Three well-attended public meetings were given at the Bahá'í School during December. Great interest was shown by those attending and introductory courses were arranged for those desiring to know more about the Cause. The public meetings had to be discontinued on account of lack of heat.

Hildegard Muller reports that the youth meet each week for study-teaching and are attracting new members. They publish a youth-newspaper each nineteen days. The wonderful conclusion of the year was the youth meeting on March 17, 1946, in Esslingen Bahá'í Home, where 12 different cities were represented.

Egypt

Bahá'u'lláh's prophecy concerning the atomic bomb, and articles on the Bahá'í Faith and its Peace Plan have appeared in the Egyptian newspapers and been broadcast from the Egyptian Broadcasting Station.

Bahá'ís of Tanta in Lower Egypt have endured mob persecutions with great fortitude and have finally been rewarded. An important government official summoned the ringleaders of the mob and told them: "Your evil deeds have shown you to be far removed from the teachings of Islam, for Islam is a religion of peace. It also seems that you are ignorant of the fact that there are more than 400 different religions on the face of the earth and that the Qur'an says: 'If your Lord should so desire it, He would gather all the peoples of the world into one nation.' Then he warned them to stop their attacks on the Bahá'ís and made them sign a statement of good behavior. Since then, the believers of Tanta have not been harmed or molested.

The Bahá'ís of Sudan are hoping to establish a Spiritual Assembly in Khartoum soon.

Miss Margaret Swengel of Urbana, Illinois, has received from one of the Cairo Bahá'ís a section of a Cairo newspaper showing pictures of Bahá'í women celebrating the Rúyán Feast in the Cairo Hazratu'l-Quds, one of women casting their votes at the annual Bahá'í election and one of a Bahá'í young man delivering a sermon to an audience of women. The paper contains also an account of the origin of the Faith and of its teachings, with especial emphasis on Bahá'í marriage laws and the equality of the sexes.

Abyssinia

Through the efforts of the Bahá'í pioneer in Addis Ababa, Sabri Effendi Elias, a number of outstanding Abyssinians have recently embraced the Faith. The Abyssinian Government has at last granted officially to Sabri Effendi Elias the necessary permit to live in Abyssinia permanently if he desires.

Australia and New Zealand

Two Summer Schools were held at "Bolton Place," Yerrinbool, one in October, 1945, and one in January, 1946. The management, which, up to this time, had been the personal responsibility of Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Bolton, the founders of the School, has been transferred to the N.S.A. of Australia and New Zealand.

Summer School was held in New Zealand at the Auckland Center. The afternoon sessions were devoted to intensive study. The evening sessions consisted of lectures or readings followed by questions and discussion. There were non-Bahá'ís guests and guest speakers, among them the Reverend C. W. Chandler, a Church of England Canon, who is sympathetic with the Bahá'í Message and who in 1944 invited an American Bahá'í station in Auckland during the war to preach in his church.

Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts—Perfection, August 1; Names, August 20; Might, September 8.

Meeting of National Spiritual Assembly—August 30, 31, September 1, 2.

Table of Contents


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"For the Triumph of My Cause"

O SON OF MAN! Humble thyself before Me, that I may graciously visit thee. Arise for the triumph of My cause, that while yet on earth thou mayest obtain the victory.

Lauded be Thy name, O Thou in Whose hands is the kingdom of all names, and in the grasp of Whose might are all that are in heaven and all that are on earth! I entreat Thee, by Him Who is Thy most Effulgent Name Whom Thou hast made a target for the darts of Thy decree in Thy path, O Thou the King of eternity, to rend asunder the veils that have shut off Thy creatures from the horizon of Thy glory, that haply they may turn their faces in the direction of Thy mercy, and draw nigh unto the Day-Spring of Thy loving-kindness.

Leave not Thy servants to themselves, O my Lord! Draw them through the influence of Thine utterances unto the Dawning-Place of Thine inspiration, and to the Fountain of Thy Revelation, and to the Treasury of Thy wisdom. Thou art He to Whose strength and power all things have testified, Whose Purpose nothing whatsoever of all that hath been created in Thy heaven and on Thy earth hath been able to frustrate.

Render, then, victorious, O my God, Thy servants who have set their faces toward Thee, and directed their steps to the seat of Thy grace. Send down, then, upon them what will keep them safe from the danger of turning to any one but Thee, and from fixing their eyes upon aught else except thyself.

Potent art Thou to do what Thou wilt, and to rule as Thou pleasest. There is no God but Thee, the God of glory and wisdom.

BAHA’I’I ERA

National Spiritual Assembly

The Responsibilities of Maturity

Beloved friends:

The more we ponder the far-reaching implications of the Guardian’s letter of June 15, following swiftly upon the second Seven Year Plan cabled to the Convention, the more ardent becomes our resolve to act upon this call inaugurating so important a stage in the world mission of the American Bahá’ís.

The majority of the friends were active in the Faith when the Guardian initiated the teaching mission for Central and South America. Never in our Bahá’í experience had so great a teaching task been laid upon us in addition to the basic work of spreading the message in our own land. In that hour began the maturity of soul which must characterize the members of the American Bahá’í community. The nature of maturity is ability to take care of one’s self and at the same time take care of others who are yet small and weak.

The Latin American teaching work, historically, represented a spiritual parenthood for the believers of the United States and Canada. Collectively we assumed responsibility for the protection, guidance, support and education of children (as others had cared for us in the earlier years of the Faith) until they in their turn could evolve to their own mature state and join as partners in the work of the Divine Plan.

It is an astounding miracle, that in so brief a time, with so few available workers, the basis of the Bahá’í administrative order could have been laid in the republics of Central and South America, and the mighty power of the Bahá’í spirit given these precious new instruments by which to hasten the salvation of a darkened world. A task utterly impossible if undertaken by individuals on their own initiative could be consummated when undertaken by individuals representing the community of the Greatest Name!

Now the American Bahá’ís are held responsible for establishing an Assembly in each of ten countries of war-torn Europe—countries not all of which can at present even receive a visit from an American Bahá’í. Already the new European Teaching Committee has outlined its work, adopted plans, and is preparing to send the first body of Bahá’í workers across the sea. An office is to be maintained in Geneva, Switzerland, for the better coordination and encouragement of the work in the various lands. New translations are being printed of standard Bahá’í works. With marvelous speed and force the challenge is being met in the name of the entire Bahá’í community.

Let those of us who cannot take a mission in the international field remember that the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh is a unit, and all types of service are acceptable and mutually interdependent. Whoever serves valiantly in his own small village here, loving the Cause and loyally supporting its needs—such a soul may surely be accounted a pioneer in the spiritual sense; and though the drums are not sounded, the work is added to the total score of victory when the task is done. With a high sense of mission may each of us catch a new and clearer vision of the importance of his or her own Bahá’í work and bring to it the consecration of the pioneer who stands alone beneath a foreign sky.

National Spiritual Assembly

Committee Projects for the Seven Year Plan

In this report the National Spiritual Assembly informs the believers of the important projects and activities already approved for a number of national committees directly concerned with the work of the Seven Year Plan. Similar reports will be made from time to time, and each committee will make its own report
Cable from the Guardian

Profundly grieve passing dearly-beloved, great-hearted, high-minded, distinguished servant Bahá'u'lláh, John Bosch. His saintly life, pioneer services, historic contribution of institution of summer school, entitle him to rank among outstanding figures of the closing years historic, and opening years of the formative age of the Bahá'í Dispensation. Concours on high extol his exalted services. Assume his wise and valiant companion of my deepfelt sympathy. Advise hold special gathering in Temple as tribute to his imperishable memory.

SHOGHI

Cablegram received July 29, 1946.

3. College Speakers Bureau

This committee is developing a campaign of Bahá'í literature to supplement its function of placing speakers on college platforms. The country has been divided into four zones, each zone to be under the intensive supervision of one committee member. In the distribution of Bahá'í literature, faculty members will be chosen from a number of departments such as History, Religion, Economics, Fine Arts, Oriental Languages and Culture, Sociology, Architecture, etc.

4. Public Relations Committee

This committee will carry on activities carried over and coordinated from the three committees formerly known as Contacts, Bahá'í News Service, and Public Relations.

It will provide literature and contact by mail with persons of capacity and influence whose names and addresses are selected by the committee itself or sent in by other committees and individual believers. The aim is to develop a national list for the public teaching bulletin to be issued four times a year, so that continuous contact will be maintained in the case of persons who give evidence of real interest.

Three press releases a month will be sent out—two of these directly to the press and one to assemblies, groups and other believers who can place articles in the local press. The friends will be kept informed of this and other material through a mimeographed bulletin.

Plans are under way for an advertising campaign to be conducted in national magazines. This campaign will concentrate on calling attention to a new pamphlet reprinting several talks of the Master from The Promulgation of Universal Peace, the pamphlet being entitled World Order Through World Faith. Material will be given to local Assemblies and groups which would like to repeat all or some of these advertisements in the local press.

Later reports will deal with other activities of this committee.

The Reporting of Bahá'í Activities for Bahá'í News

In order to clarify the method by which news of the various kinds of activity is to be gathered and reported for publication in Bahá'í News the National Spiritual Assembly has recorded the following general plan.

1. Local Assemblies are reminded of their duty and responsibility for submitting regular monthly reports briefly outlining the more important activities of Bahá'í activity.

Bahá'í News

Bahá'í News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Bahá'í Community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924.

On April 10, 1925, the Guardian wrote: "The News Letter which you have lately initiated fulfills a very vital function. . . . I would urge you to enlarge its scope . . . that in time it may devote a special section to every phase of your activities, administrative, devotional, humanitarian, financial, educational and otherwise."

"It should become a great factor in promoting understanding, providing information on Bahá’í activity, both local and foreign, in stimulating interest, in combating evil influences, and in upholding and safeguarding the institutions of the Cause."

Bahá'í News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá’í News Editorial Committee: Garretta Busey, chairman, John Ashton, Alice Simmons Cox, Marthe Gail, Doris Holley, Ammariah Kuns Honnold, Eleanor Sweney Hutchens, Mabel Hyde Faine, Margaret Sweney. Editorial office: Miss Garretta Busey, 503 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois.

Please report changes of address to which Bahá’í News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Bahá’í National Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.
public activities and conferences in their communities.

2. Each local Assembly is authorized to appoint a News Reporter empowered to send monthly news direct to Bahá’í News.

3. Regional Teaching Committees, in addition to the reports they are expected to continue sending to the National Teaching Committee, are now responsible for sending monthly statements to Bahá’í News outlining the principal news items of the area.

4. National Committees are requested to submit monthly outlines to Bahá’í News reporting plans and projects in which the Bahá’ís are to participate and news representing the application and progress of their committee plans.

5. Regional Teaching Committees are to send a copy of their bulletins to the Bahá’í News Committee.

6. The Bahá’í News Committee will receive monthly from the National Office copies of communications from Haifa which are to be made available to the Bahá’í community; bulletins and reports received from other National Assemblies, and such other items as may come to the attention of the National Office that are not likely to be known to other contributors of news.

7. The National Office will from time to time provide editorials, bulletins, announcements and other items of general news interest and importance.

8. Bahá’í photographs are to be regarded as news of outstanding interest.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY
Treasurer’s Report

During the month of June contributions received for the National Bahá’í Fund, $17,173.46; contributions to the Temple and Trustees Account, $648.25; 94 Assemblies contributed, 44 Assemblies did not contribute; 48 Groups contributed and 92 isolated believers.

During July up to July 30th the deficit in meeting our Budget amounted to $9,556.07; during the month of July contributions to the National Fund amounted to $12,422.95; and contributions to the Temple and Trustees accounts $4,159.30; 106 Assemblies contributed; 32 Assemblies did not contribute; 81 Groups contributed and 131 isolated believers; as of July 31st the deficit in meeting the Budget as set up by the N.S.A. at the beginning of this Bahá’í year amount to $12,807.22.

This really is serious because the Budget set up this year was developed from actual figures that each committee used during the past Bahá’í year.

PHILIP SPRAGUE, Treasurer

The Recommendations of the State Conventions

That World Order Magazine be made more popular in style and content, and be placed on newsstands with other magazines, and should include articles interesting to non-Bahá’ís as well as to Bahá’ís.

Voted to refer this recommendation to the World Order Magazine Committee.

A Bahá’í Youth of India, now in the United States, points out the need in India of publicity about the Cause in America.

Voted to record that in correspondence with Mr. Fozdar, who is now a student at the University of California, it has been pointed out that the Guardian has made “The Bahá’í World” volumes the official source of Bahá’í publicity concerning activities in the various countries and that copies have always been made available to the National Spiritual Assembly of India and Bur-
September, 1946

ma. In addition they have always received copies of our Bahá'í News. That a pamphlet be published setting forth the Bahá'í ordinances enumerating duties of a Bahá'í as listed in World Order Magazine, November 1944, pages 254-6. Also pamphlets enumerating duties of Assembly officers.

Voted to refer this suggestion to the committee which has been appointed to study the pamphlets and make recommendations.

That a new edition of "Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh" be printed; also that in the style of Bahá'í Peace Pamphlets suitable for professional people.

Voted to record that this is under consideration by a special committee.

That the production of children's books be expedited.

Voted to write to the Child Education Committee that we would welcome this year something further in the book line for children, especially like the book on the Prophets such as we have heard that Harry Ford is making.

Voted to record that the National Spiritual Assembly for many years has taken the view that local Assemblies should account for the receipt of donations from believers through the use of a suitable receipt form and books of record.

That the State Conventions be used as teaching mediums.

Voted to record that if the convention committees appointed early in the fall can find ways and means to arrange for public meetings this would be very welcome.

That a prepared report for the tellers, using a standard form of certification, should be furnished.

Voted to request Harry Walrath to prepare a standardized form of certification by the tellers of the annual state and province elections, to be sent out by the National Spiritual Assembly with the papers calling the 1947 State conventions.

Inquiry regarding the feasibility of individual Bahá'ís undertaking to carry on personal communication with individual Bahá'ís in the war-stricken areas.

Voted to record that all possible action has already been taken in the matter of relief.

That a fund be established for delegates' expenses.

Voted to record there is no State administrative body which could inaugurate and supervise the expenditure of such a fund.

Recommendations already acted upon and those not acted upon after being presented at this meeting, are not included in the foregoing list.

Calendar

Anniversary: Birth of the Báb, October 20.
Nineteen Day Feasts: Might, September 8; Will, September 27; Knowledge, October 16.
Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: August 30 and 31, September 1 and 2; October 12, 13.

The unpublished Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahá now interspersed through "Bahá'í World Faith" be published as additional volumes of "Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahá."

Voted to record that the Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh are now available in "Bahá'í World Faith."

No action was taken on the suggestion regarding the unpublished Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

That the pamphlet "Radiant Acquiescence" be reprinted.

Voted to refer this recommendation to the committee for review of the present pamphlet literature.

That the National Study Outline Committee issue a question and answer pamphlet to cover simple, fundamental questions to be available for general use.

Voted to record that this is in process.

That more pamphlets be printed which will describe the precepts of all the religions, stressing their oneness of purpose.

Voted to record that the Public Relations Committee is undertaking such a project.

That the practice of listing couples as "Mr. and Mrs." be abandoned and that individual names be listed.

Voted to record that the National Spiritual Assembly has recognized the trend in this direction.

That instructions be given regarding the receiving of contributions.

Voted to record that the National Spiritual Assembly for many years has taken the view that local Assemblies should account for the receipt of donations from believers through the use of a suitable receipt form and books of record.

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In Memoriam

I testify, O my Lord, that Thou hast enjoined upon men to honor their guest, and he that hath ascended unto Thee hath verily reached Thee and attained Thy Presence. Deal with him then according to Thy grace and bounty!—'Abdu'l-Bahá

Mr. John D. Bosch, Geyserville.
Mr. Charles Hillhouse, West Haven.
Mr. Axel Swensen, Kenosha.
Mrs. Octavia S. Beaton, Los Angeles.
Mr. Charles Q. Adams, Portland, Oregon.
Mrs. Mary Joan Spreckelsville, Maui, Hawaii.
Miss May Williams, Geneva, New York.
Dr. James Fulton Percy, Los Angeles.
Mr. George Albert Muffler, Serena, Illinois.
Mr. Sol Flaumenbaum, Teaneck.
Mrs. Homer Chavis, Champaign, Illinois.
Mr. Fredrik Mortensen, Chicago.
Mrs. Helen Hicks, Wilmette.
Mr. V. E. Oldson, Atascadero, Calif., June or July, 1946
Mr. Sigurd Russell, Los Angeles, Calif., August 4, 1946
Mrs. Orcella Rexford Gregory, Los Angeles, Calif., August 11, 1946
Mrs. Emma Groger, San Francisco, Calif., July 17, 1946
Mrs. Maybelle Baylor, Milwaukee, Wis.

Gathering of young Bahá'ís at the time of the Youth Conference in Philadelphia, May 5, 1946.

National Committees

Bahá'í Study Aids

The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh is in effect today. We have, however, yet to complete the framework on which this structure can come into expression on this earth. The Guardian tells us: "Without the study and application of the Administration, the teaching of the Cause becomes not only meaningless, but loses in effectiveness and scope."


How, then, can we better support our teaching activity and our community living than by "obtaining a more adequate understanding of the significance of Bahá'u'lláh's stupendous Revelation" as it unfolds through His own divinely ordained instrument of the Administrative Order?

To fulfill this purpose, the Bahá'í Study Aids Committee will soon have ready an outline aid for the study of the Administrative Order as a divine instrument. One copy will be sent to each Assembly secretary and to the secretary of each Regional Teaching Committee. The Study Aids Committee can only suggest that this study be undertaken, or reviewed, but as we think of the Guardian, awaiting the time when the believers "learn to function according to Bahá'í laws and principles," may we not feel our individual responsibility more keenly and, by increasing each one his own understanding and practice of the Administrative Order, hasten the coming of the Bahá'í World Commonwealth?

The Bahá'í Study Aids Committee will be glad to help any of the friends, through correspondence, with the study of the Administrative
September, 1946

Order or in any study in which they may be interested.

Baha’i Study Aids Committee
Box 252, Evanston, Illinois

International Relief

The friends are urged to check with their local postal authorities concerning the changes in regulations for gift packages to war-devastated countries. The contents of such packages should still be limited to essential relief items, such as non-perishable foods, clothing, soap, and medicines. Other special requests (money, expensive equipment, books, etc.) should be referred directly to the National Spiritual Assembly. The packages should be marked “GIFT PARCEL” and the contents itemized and the value stated. If such is done, in case of damage or loss, the addressee will have the opportunity of placing claim for the loss.

The Committee on International Relief suggests another organization for handling relief to Germany and Austria: Committee for the Relief of the German Needy, Inc., 220 East 23 Street, New York 10, New York.

Declared Believers
in Frankfurt, Germany:
Fr. Edith Horn, Waidmannstr. 41
Fr. Matilde Kowalsky, Ffm. Arndtstr. 46
Fr. Johanna Brenning, Ffm. Rohrbachstr. 14
Fr. Katharine Spalch, Ffm. Rotlindstr. 49
Fr. Beate Diesterweg, Ffm. Finkenhoferstr. 31
Fr. Else Gehlen, Fm. Holbeinstr. 46
Fr. Paula Fisher, Ffm. Humboldstr. 46
Fr. Helma Schröder, Ffm. Bernsteinstr. 19
Fr. Milly Gesell, Ffm. Eshwegersstr. 10
Herr Georg Ruhl, Ffm. Egenolfstr. 30
Herr Albert Pretzmann, Ffm. Rödelheim, Treisbergerstr. 5
Fr. Friedrich Wiedle, Ffm. Fechenheim Distelrasen 8
Herr Karl Rau, Ffm. Eulengasse 24
Frau V. Baur, Ffm. Platenstr. 43
Herr Dr. Karl Heimbuch, Ffm. Passavantstr. 42
FrL Helia Häusler, Ffm. Sonnenstr. 47
Herr Wilhelm Häusler, Ffm. Sonnenstr. 47
Herr Richard Glaser, Ffm. Leimenrode 11

Baha’is of Frankfurt, Germany, holding the Feast of Baha’u’llah, June, 1946.

Bruce Davison in foreground with two of the Baha’is children.

Mounet-Sully, Paris 20 eme.
Mme Lucienne Acard, Les Clos Fleuri, La Poterie, Hyeres, (Var). M. Raymond Moreau, 10 Ernest Michat, Nancy, Meurthe et Moselle.

Holland

Arnold van Ogtrop does not wish relief.

Bulgaria

Miss Marion Jack, c/o English Speaking League, 25 Tzar Osvo-bodich, Sofia.

Hungary

Mrs. Jennie Komlos, Vilma Kiralyno 9, f-2, Budapest 7.

Yugoslavia

Mme. Desanka Forgevic - Tokin, Sindjeliceva 8, FNB, Vraac.

Czechoslovakia

Mr. Vuk Echtner, c/o Brückner, U. Pujcovny 2, Praha 11.

Germany

Frau Lisselotte Jensen, Massmannstrasse 31, Rostock-Mecklenberg.
Frau Johanna Werthern is now with Frl. Ursula Muller (see below).
Frl. Ursula Muller, Weidmannstr. 41, Frankfurt a/Main.
Herr Paul Schreher, Nebraerstrasse 24, Wiesbaden.
Frl. Else Becker, Auerbach b./Zwickau, E. Ehalmanstrasse-84.

Frau Marie Küßnner, Seestrasse 13, Ludwigshburg.

Austria

Wherever Weis appears in addresses for Austria, it should be spelled Wien (Vienna).

Temple Guiding

There is no field of teaching where so many people can be reached in so short a time and with the cost of so little effort and money, as guiding at the Temple. The inquirers come from all parts of the globe, where in time Baha’i communities will be established. We, of the Temple Area, have a special privilege in having this wonderful opportunity of giving our message of hope and healing to the stream of visitors who pour through the building.

The Guides’ Committee, wishing to share this privilege with others than those of the Temple area, as well as to supply the increasing need for guides, welcomes vacation guiding. The Committee has on hand a few copies of the Guide Courses and will make them available to those seriously interested.

It is of the utmost importance for those guiding at the Temple to have the proper qualifications for meeting the public and adequately presenting the Faith. Therefore, a letter from one’s own Assembly, or from the secretary of the region in which he lives, must accompany the request for the Guide Course.

The Committee will make every effort to secure accommodations in the vicinity of the Temple and to welcome the visiting guides. Address communications to Mrs. John M. Haggard, Chairman, 1229 Cleveland St., Wilmette, Illinois.

Report of Temple Guides Committee, May and June, 1946

The number of visitors for each month continues to exceed the number for the same months of previous years. In May, 1946, there were 2,754 visitors as compared with 1,821 in May, 1945. In June, 1946, there were 2,815 visitors as compared with 2,332 in June, 1945.

In May visitors came from thirty-nine states, the district of Columbia, Panama, Hawaii, the Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba; and the countries of Belgium, Sweden,
England, Scotland, Latvia, India, China, Argentina, Mexico, and Cape Colony, S. Africa.

In June, visitors came from forty-five states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, the Canadian provinces of Ontario, Alberta, Quebec, Saskatchewan; Australia, Samoa, Mexico, Brazil, Peru, the Philippines, Venezuela, the Netherlands West Indies, China, Palestine, Italy, Greece, France, Holland and Sweden.

During the first six months of 1946 the total number of visitors was 11,025, which is 3,600 more than for the same period of 1945. Since we had 10,552 more last year than ever before, it is evident that the scope of Temple guide work is becoming increasingly greater each year.

Books sold at the Temple during May totaled $271.92 and during June $434.46, a total of $712.38.

TEMPLE GUIDES COMMITTEE
MARY J. HAGGARD, Chairman.

Latin-American News

Incorporation of Assemblies

The second seven year plan has opened with the incorporation of the Faith in the first two South American countries. The Colombian government granted incorporation to the Bogotá Bahá’í Community, with similar protection extended to all other groups and Assemblies in that country, on May 27th of this year, while a similar incorporation was granted to the Community of Asunción, Paraguay, with protection to all other groups and Assemblies that may be formed in that country, on June 11th. Incorporation was applied for in Paraguay prior to the application in Colombia, even though it was granted a little later, and the form of application used in Colombia, and now being used in Venezuela, was worked out by the friends in Paraguay last October.

Brazil

Other news of major importance in Latin America is the opening of Brazil to the Bahá’í Cause. Because of certain difficult conditions, Brazil had been like the forgotten stepchild, even though a valiant pioneer, Mrs. Leonora Armstrong, lived there for many years, and prior to the close of the first seven year plan, was successful in forming the first Bahá’í Assembly in Bahia. Then conditions changed. Miss Virginia Orbison, who had given notable service in many parts of South America, and then returned to the United States for a much needed six months of change and medical care, was sent to Rio de Janeiro the fore part of last November. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bode followed as settlers, and an Assembly was elected in the capital this April. Miss Orbison is now arranging to transfer to Sao Paulo, the great industrial city of Brazil, where Mr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Miessler of Columbus Grove, Ohio, will follow her as pioneer settlers. It is hoped that a third Assembly will be formed in that city this year.

The Regional Committees

New plans are being put into effect in Latin America this year. One, the use of regional committees, which have been used successfully in North America. The 19 countries have been divided into eight regions. Each region has been asked to choose a goal city for the formation of a new Assembly this year, and each country is expected to form at least one additional group in addition.

New Memberships

During the past month fifteen membership cards have been re-
ceived from the Latin-American field: three from Caracas, Venezuela; three from Havana, Cuba; one from La Paz, Bolivia; two from Guatemala City, Guatemala; one from Panama City, Panama; and five from the City of Mexico. Of the last five, three were completely new members, and two others had considered themselves as Bahá'ís for a time, but had not before signed an affirmation of faith.

Teaching by Correspondence
A correspondence teaching plan on an international scale is to be begun in Latin America this year. Outstanding people, who are universal in sentiment; those who respond at public meetings or write to radio stations asking further information about the Faith, will be circularized and taught by mail through the new correspondence teaching committee. The Masons in Venezuela and in Cuba, including 40 Venezuelan lodges and 18,000 active Cuban Masons, have offered themselves for this type of teaching. It is hoped that members of the Masonic Lodge and of other universal type groups in other Latin-American countries, will take advantage of this opportunity to learn the Bahá'í Message. Correspondence teaching in Colombia last year resulted in a second Assembly and half a dozen smaller groups.

Radio
A radio committee has been set up for Latin America, so that scripts in Spanish may be available for all groups able to obtain radio time. Mrs. Shirley Warde, who has done such outstanding radio work in North America, heads this committee, assisted by Hugo Arteagabietta and Artemus Lamb, both of Chile. Mrs. Warde is now in Buenos Aires making arrangements for the first Latin American Bahá'í Conference to be held in South America. This is tentatively scheduled for November 6 to 11 in Buenos Aires. The second Latin American Bahá'í Conference for Central America, Mexico and the Antilles, will be held in Panama City a little later in the year.

The Inter-America Committee deeply regrets the loss of efficient and beloved Miss Edna True as their secretary, but realizes that her experience is essential for the new European work. Miss Elizabeth H. Cheney has been brought in, after nineteen and a half months of teaching in many Latin-American countries, to continue in Miss True's place.

Local Communities
A number of news sheets have come to Bahá'í News in recent months, including those of Dayton, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Chicago. The following items are of particular interest:

Dayton—The January Dayton Bahá'í News tells of four public meetings held over a period of eight weeks during November and December at the Miami Hotel. John Haggard, Wilmette, spoke on "Behind and Beyond Atomic Power"; Carl Sheffler, Evanston, on "Science and Religion"; Mary Evelyn Hoobler, a Bradley College graduate, and Albert Segen, who has traveled extensively, on "Peace and World Government"; and finally on December 16th Thomas H. Sauter, city engineer of Cuyahoga Falls, spoke on "The Foundation of a Just and Lasting Peace." The newspapers of Dayton are becoming better and better educated in the Bahá'í Teachings and generally give very good cooperation. In August all the Dayton papers carried general write-ups on Bahá'í Summer Schools, in addition to mentioning the three Dayton believers who attended three different Bahá'í Schools. The papers always carry an announcement of all Bahá'í meetings held to commemorate Bahá'í Holy Days. The Bahá'í Community of Dayton has been incorporated, the final papers having been duly signed and sealed by the State in January of 1946.

San Francisco—A well attended meeting was held at the Forum Club on the afternoon of April 14th in

American Bahá'ís at the German National Convention. Left to right: Bruce Davison, John Eichenauer, Capt. Henry Jarvis.

Publishing Announcements
The Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh, by Horace Holley, reprint of the statement on aims and purposes of the Faith which has appeared in successive volumes of The Bahá'í World. 16-page pamphlet, with reproduction of photograph of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Price 15c each. Order in lots of ten copies for $1.00.

The Bahá'í Peace Program, compiled by the San Francisco Committee on Bahá'í Peace Plan appointed to represent the American Bahá'ís at the Peace Conference which adopted the United Nations Organization, Selections from Writings of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and passages from the Guardian, related to the Bahá'í concept of international peace. This is the second edition, ordered to meet the demand for an attractive and well-selected presentation of the Bahá'í Plan. Price 15c each. Order in lots of five for 75c.

Current Bahá'í price list on request. Address: Bahá'í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois, U. S. A.
News From Other Lands

Broadcast in Germany
This message, dated April 8, 1946, was broadcast over the American Forces Network reaching Paris, Bremen, Berlin, Bayreuth, Normandy, Frankfort, and a few stations in Austria: “And in Stuttgart, Germany, the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’is of Germany held its first meeting in nine years. The group seeking world unity through religion was banned in 1937 by Henrich Himmler, and many of its members were imprisoned by the Gestapo.”

Much of our other European news...
this month is culled from a new bulletin issued from the International Bahá’í Bureau at Geneva and called the Geneva Bureau News Exchange. It gives us several heartening signs of re-awakened activity among the Bahá’ís of “that spiritually famished continent.”

Two Letters from Germany

Annelie Homan, Stuttgart, writes:

“. . . ‘The misery and suffering of the war years, the present day distress, and the knowledge of difficult times ahead have caused many hearts and minds to ripen for the acceptance of Bahá’u’lláh’s Teachings. The souls around us are starved for the Word of God, and it is up to us to show them the Light. The best means for this are our weekly meetings. What a joy it is to see new faces each time! We are now 67 declared believers in Stuttgart.’”

A letter received from Mrs. Leidinger, mother of a prisoner of war, reveals both the handicaps which German Bahá’í youth suffered under during the Hitler regime and the way in which at least one of them kept his faith in spite of these handicaps. Mrs. Leidinger writes that her son, Reinhold, has interested one of his fellow prisoners in the Faith. He himself has been deprived of a thorough instruction in the Faith, because he had been perforce a “Hitler Youth” and so received compulsory instruction based on principles directly opposite to those of the Faith. But he knew enough of the fundamental truths of the Faith to derive spiritual sustenance from it and pass it on to one of his comrades. Then he wrote home asking for a “Bahá’í letter for his friend and some booklets.” The account adds that the Bahá’í letter was sent to the friend and two Bahá’í books for Reinhold.

Switzerland

The editor of a weekly paper issued in Berne and Zurich has published an article about Bahá’u’lláh written by a Bahá’í of Paris, Mr. A. Alexander. This editor has become interested in the Bahá’í Teachings and will be glad to use his paper to publicize them further. His nephew is also interested and desires more material about the Cause so that he may make the Teachings known among his friends.

Yugoslavia

Through Mrs. Bolles we have heard from Mme. Desanka Toklu-Forgovice-Tokin, a Bahá’í who teaches music in Vrsac, Yugoslavia. She expresses deep gratitude for all that Mrs. Louise Gregory did for her in confirming her in the Faith. She also writes of the “awful strain of these days,” which has injured her health. She has been obliged to move to very poor quarters because her former lodgings were confiscated by the state. We quote the following from her letter: “We spent the days of May 23 and 29 in ardent prayers for the realization of the religious brotherhood in the whole world. May the Abater of all troubles grant us our prayers. I deeply regret that I cannot write to Palestine, and thank you for having sent my respects there.” For Mme. Tokin’s address and needs see June News.

Professor Desanka Toklu-Forgovice, Bahá’í of Yugoslavia.

Italy

Geresina Campani of Florence is, so far as we know, the only Bahá’í in Italy. She writes Mrs. Bolles of the fearful strain she and her family are under. Her husband does his best, but prices are so high that “nothing he can earn is enough.” Her daughter, husband and baby, not yet a year old, had their house destroyed by Allied bombs in 1943 and had to live with 25 other refugees for 45 days in three rooms without light or water. They are now living with her parents, the Campanis. Her husband, a doctor, has as yet no position. She speaks of Italy as “no more the land of songs and joy. Too many tragedies in the largest tragedy of the war.” But she closes with this note of hope: “that a real Peace will issue from so great a turmoil, that our children and grandchildren may see a healthy world (healthy in spiritual meaning).” She gives her adress as Viale duce di Genova, 24 Florenze, Italy.

Czechoslovakia

Vuk Echtner has written of an Esperanto meeting devoted to the Bahá’í Cause held in Prague on June 5. The meeting was very successful. With the help of a good Bahá’í teacher from outside he thinks a Bahá’í assembly could soon be formed.

A new book on the Cause written in Czech was published in April. It is entitled The Orient and the New Era and is a compilation of fragments “from the Czech translation of Dr. Esslemont’s book and from A World Religion and The Goal of a New World Order by Shoghi Effendi.”

Mr. Echtner has taken up again his work for the blind and has “assumed the editorship of the magazine ‘Aurora,’ a Braille publication.” He is in touch with Mr. Harald Thilander of Sweden. According to Mr. Thilander the international movement for the blind has suffered greatly through the war. Mr. Echtner thinks that Bahá’ís could help to revive it through working with the “World Association of Organizations for the Blind.” He has a plan of work to suggest in this connection and “would be glad to communicate it to the World Language Committee.” Perhaps our national committee would like to write Mr. Echtner regarding this. A letter sent to him in care of The International Bahá’í Bureau, 40 Grand Rue, Geneva, Switzerland, would reach him.

Another letter from Mr. Echtner described a shop window exhibit of Esperanto and Bahá’í books and pictures arranged by him in a busy part of Prague. For the benefit of inquirers attracted by the exhibit Mr. Echtner has arranged a correspondence course on the Bahá’í Faith in Esperanto.

India

The youth committee of Poona has catalogued the Bahá’í library there and ordered many new books. They have also conducted a children’s training class every Sunday morning.

The Poona Youth Day Symposium was a successful occasion, attracting about 50 youth of both sexes, many of whom expressed their interest and intention to study the Bahá’í Teachings. A half-column article in the leading vernacular daily gave a good account of the symposium.

‘Iraq

Foundations of a Hazíratu’l-Quds
are being laid in Baghdad, and two other 'Iraqi Assemblies have taken steps toward renting or building such a center.

The Baha'is of Iraq have contributed more than 6,000 rupees for relief of their stricken brethren in Burma.

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Index, 1945 Baha'i News

Abbreviations: 173-178, January-December

AR I, Annual Report, Part I
AR II, Annual Supplement, Part II
D, Directory supplement

Members National committees, D-1-8
National Spiritual Assembly, D-1
Trustee maintenance, D-6
Additions, changes, 173-5, 174-4, 175-5, 175-8
Dominican Republic, 173-7, 173-8, AR I-21

Ecuador, 175-8, 176-9, AR I-31
Edmonton, Alberta, 173-10, 177-14
Egypt, 173-8, 173-9, 178-8
elections, 174-4, 175-5, 178-2-3
England, 175-11, 175-12
enrollments transfers, 174-18, 175-7, 177-3, 178-4
exhibits, 177-4, D-2

France, 175-7, 177-17
French translations, 174-3

Geneva, N. Y., 176-11
German translation, 174-3, AR I-38
Germany, 177-16, 178-8
Geysevile, AR I-33
God Passes By, 173-1, 177-13
Greenacres, 174-9, AR I-4, 33
Greenbush, N. C., 177-14
group development, 176-3
Guardian's messages, AR II

To 1944 Convention: AR II-3, D-4
Arm. achievements
Latin-Am. aims
scale of Cause

To Individuals:
administration, AR II-9
Baha'i village, AR II-9
Baha'i Faith, world's refuge, AR II-9
Baha'i calendar dates, 173-5, AR II-9
consultations, 177-2
"cord." AR II-9
"siders," AR II-9
elections, 173-3, AR II-9
guidance, 177-2
"Hosts of Testament," AR II-9
individual struggle, AR II-8
infallible only on Cause, 177-2
international language, 178-1
local assembly functions, 178-1
love, unity, 173-5, AR II-10
Mormons, 173-3, corrected
people's peace, AR II-10
study, 173-3, 173-5, AR II-9
young, 173-3, 173-5
vaccination, 173-3, AR II-9

To National Spiritual Assembly:
administrative orders, 175-1
America, 173-1, 175-1
Asian peace, 177-1
Buenos Aires cable, 177-1
Bunreese troubles, 178-2
Covenant breakers, 174-2, 175-1, 177-1, AR II-5, 177-1, 177-5, 178-2
Divine Faith, 175-1, 177-1, AR II-7
European peace, 175-2
Faith spared, 173-1, 175-2

Enrollments

Cleveland, one, Peoria, one, Worcester, one, Edmontom, one, Denver, one, Boston, one, Columbus, one.
Buringleame, one, Lima, one youth.
Fort Wayne, two youth.
Portsmouth, two. Chicago, two.

Baha'i News

help groups, 173-2, 173-2, 176-1, AR II-5
Inter-America Com., 176-1
maintaining assemblies, 173-1, 2
Mary Leish, 174-2
Pensions, 174-1, 175-3, AR II-6
pioneers, AR II-5
radio and press, 175-1, AR II-7
Seven Year Plan, 172-2, AR II-7
Stearns, John, AR II-5
suicides, 174-1
Teaching, 173-2, 175-1, 177-1, AR II-5
Committee, 176-1
in Europe, 177-1
in Latin America, AR II-6
translations, 173-2, AR II-5, 177-2
victory of plan, AR II-4
vigilance, 173-1, AR II-6
youth on committees, 174-1, AR II-7

To NSA through secretary:
continued labor, AR II-6
European teaching, 173-2, AR II-6
importance of Magnalanes, Alaska, 173-2
prayers, changing, AR II-7
NSA by-laws, 173-2
Persians, AR II-5
San Francisco Conference, 177-2
shrine of Bahá, 173-3
summer schools, 172-3, AR II-5
time for assembly formation, AR II-2
youth on committees, 174-1, AR II-7

Guayaquil, 175-8, 178-8

Halifa, 175-12, 176-8
Halifax, 173-10
Hamden, Conn., 176-3
Havana, Cuba, 176-9, 178-9
Hawaii, 174-17, 175-2, 178-7
Helena, Mont., 175-10
Historical report of service, 177-4
Honolulu, 178-6, 178-7
Houses of Worship, 177-13, AR I-37, D-6

Houston, Tex., 174-11

Illustrations:
'Babul-Bahá, AR I-2, 173-3
Auckland Centenary, 174-4, 5
authorization for Stuttgart reorganization, 177-17
'Baha'i House of Worship, AR II-2
Bahá'ís, India, Burma, 174-3
Berkeley display, 176-9
Cairo, custodian of headquarters, 173-8
Centenary Convention, 176-1
Charleston, W. Va., 175-11, 178-3
Flint, Mich., 178-7
Hamden, Conn., 176-5
Havana Radio Free, 174-9
Independence, Mo., 177-3
Latin Am. delegates, 175-4
Long Beach, Cal., 178-8
Michigan picnic, 173-20
NSA of Bahá'ís of Egypt and Sudan, 173-9

New Jersey conference, 177-15
office, Portland Cement, 177-5
Paraguay Baha'is, 176-9
St. Louis, Mo., 175-7
San Jose, Costa Rica, 177-9
San Salvador, 173-7
Santiago de Chile, 174-15
Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar at the Temple, 177-7
Teanoe exhibit, 174-17
Temple guides, 174-3
Toledo, 0., 177-11
Urbana, Ill., 174-7, 178-7
Independence, Mo., 177-3
-- ..
12
Index Com" AR 1-26, D-2
India and Burma, 173-10, 174-19, 175-2,
177-17,19
Indianapolis. 173-10
In Memoriam, 173·11, 174-3, 175-5, 177-6.
177-1,4
Inter-American news, 175-8, 173-6,8, 17'?'7, D-2
International language, AR 1-26, D-6
International school. 174-10, 175-11
'Iraq', 173-12, 174-20, 175-12, 177-18
Italian translations, 174-3
Jackson, Miss., 174-6
Kansas City, Mo., 174-16. 177-14

Landscaping Temple, AR 1-1
La Paz, Bolivia, 175-8
Legal Committee, AR 1-26, D-2
Library Committee. 175-19, }18-5, AR 127, D-2
Lima, 0 .• 174-113
Little Rock, Ark., 174-6
Local assemblies, 173-5.6. 174-4
Local news 1etters. 174-15, 175-6
Long Beach, Cat., 176-3
Los Angeles, Cal., 174-5,11,16. 178-7
Lauhelen, AR 1-36, 178-6
Love, 178-2

Madison, Wis., 174-17, 177-15
Magalannes, 173-2, 177-8
Martyr" 177-18
Matthews property, AR I.fi
Maui, Hawaii, 114-17
Maywood, Ill.. 174-15
Meditations. 174-1
Mexico, AR 1-22
Milwaukee. Wis., 176-11, 177-15, 178-6
Mogotes, Colombia, 175-&
Montivideo, Uruguay, 175-8
National Spiritual Assembly messages:
amendments to by-laws, 174-2
army identiflc-ation tags, 173-5
budget, 175-4
Centenary book additions, 173-4
committee, fiscal years, 176-2
correspondence to, 175-10
Divine Plan, 178-1
land on Mt. Carmel, 173--2
National teaching campaign, 17:>'4,
174-4, 177-3
number of Believers, 173-3
pioneers needed, 176-1
pioneers to Latin America, 173-4
OPA gas regulations, 173-5
results of elections. 175-4
voting by mail, 174-2
New Haven, Conn., 174-17, 177-15
New Orleans, La., 174-11
News of other lands, 178-8, 177-16,20. 17011, 174-19,20, 173-11
New, Service, 174-10, 175-10, 176-10, 177-4,
AR 1-28, D-2
"lew York City, 174-12, 176-11, 177-5, 178-7
New Zealand, 173-10, 174-4,5,28, 178-12,
177-20, 175-5
Nicaragua, 173-7, 175-8, 178-1, 177-7, AR
1-21
Norway. 177-16
Oklahoma City, 174-17
Omaha, Neb., 174-18Orlova, Mme.. , 177-1

Pamphlet literature, AR 1-28, D-2
Panama, 173-6, 17fH1,9, AR 1-21
Pan-American activities, 1'T'7-5
Paraguay, 175-9
Peace, 174-3,13, 175-5, 176-8,11, 178~
Persia. 173-11, 174-19; 177-18

SEPTEMBER,

1946

Persians. 174-1
Peru, 176-9, AR 1-22
Philadelphia, 174-16
Philippines, 178-8
Phoenix, Ariz.., 174-18
Photography, AR 1-29., D2
Pioneers, 176-1,3, 177-7, 173-4, AR 1-20-22,
AR II-4,5
POlitical questions, 176-4
Portland, Ore., 176-12
Portuguese, 177..a, D-2
President Roosevelt, 174-3, 12
Publicity 174-10 (see News Service)
Publishing announcements 173-4, 174-5,
1711-6, 179-10, AR 1-30, D-3
Public Meetings Com., 177-3. 178-4, D-3
Public Relations Com., AR 1-29. D-3
Punta Arenas, Chile, 175-8, 177-8
Race Unity, 173-10, 174-12,16, 176-12, AR
1-31, D-3
Ramo, 1711-10, 177-4, 175-1, D-3
Regional Teaching Com., 174-5, AR 1-11,
D-3
Reno, Nevada, 177-15
Reviewing Com., AR 1-32, D-4
Russian translations, 174-3
St. Louis, Mo .• 175-7, 178-7
San Francisco, 174-11, 176-11
San Francisco United Nations Conference, 174-3. 176-8
San Juan, Puerto Rico, 174-15, 176-1!
Santiago,Chile, 176-9, 174-15
Seattle, Wash., 174-16, 176-12
Service to the blind, D-5
Service men and wome~r '178-4,6, D-5
Shoghi Effendi (see Guardian>
social movements, 177-4
Sp}'-nish literature,. ~ 1-22, 0-5
spIritual growth, 116-:i ,..
Study Aids, 177-9, D-5
study classes, 175-4, 177-9
summer schools, 177-2, 177-9
Switzerland, 177-17
Syracuse, N. Y., 174-5
teaching, circuits, 174-5, AR 1-8
Inter-American. AR 1-19, D-2
North American. 174-5, 177-4, 178-4,5,
AR 1-6,19
Temple, AR 1-3
guides, 174-7, 176-6, AR 1-37, D-5
visitors, 173-7, 176-7, 177-8
thanksgivjng 17'1-1
Toledo, 0., 177-11
Topeka, Kan., 174-14
Toronto, Ont., 178-4
traveling Baha'is, 17'1-4
Treasurer's report, 173-3, 174-2, 176·1,
177-4, 178-1
Trujillo, 175-8
Trusteeships, AR 1-3, D-6
Unity, 176-3, 178-2
Urbana, m, 174-7, 176-12, 177-16, 178-7
Uruguay, 175-10, AR 1-21
Vancouver, B. C., 174·18, 177-16
Venez.uela, 173--6, 175-9, AR 1-21
Washington. D. C., 176-11
Wauwatosa, Wis., 174-18
Wilhelm property. AR 1-5
Wilmington, Del., 1"74-1]
Wilson property. AR 1-6
World OrdeT magazine, 173-8, 178-6, AR
1-30-38
Yonkers, N. Y., 174-14,18
Youth activities. 176-9, 173-3, 177-4, 178-'1,
AR 1-39, D-6

Directory

_

The following changes are. r~port­
ed:
European Teaching Committee:
Correspondence is to be sent, for the
time being. to Miss Edna True. Chairman, 418 Forest Ave., Wilmette, IlL
Wilmington, Delaware Secretary _
Mrs. Miriam N. Schleigh, 2417 Market
St., Wilmington.
Fargo, N.D. Mrs. Esther Morrill, Secretary pro tern., 451 Oakland Ave., Far~
go.
TABLE OF CONTENTS
Page
"For the Triumph of My Cause:'
Words of Baha'u'llah .......... I
Cable from the GuardianJohn Bosch ............. " .... 2
National Spiritual Assembly
The Responsibilities of Maturity 1
Committee Projects for the
Seven Year Plan ..... .
1
Reporting ot Baha'i Activities
tor BaM'i News ............ 2
Treasurer's Report ,.......... 3
Recommendations of the
State Conventions .......... 3
Calendar ...................... 4
In Memoriam ............... ,. 5
Enrollments ... . . . . .
. , , . , .11
Directory ..... , ............... 12
National Com.m1ttees
BaM'i Study Aid, ........ ,.,. 5
International Relief .......... 6
Temple Guiding ........ ,..... 6
Latin-American News ........ If?
Local Communities ............. 8
Dayton ....................... ,. 8
San Francisco , ............. ,. 8
Los Angeles .. , ............... 9
Chicago ....................... 9
Dumont, N. J. ........
9
News from Other Lands:
Broadcast in' Germany ....... 9
Two Letters from Germany .. 10
Switzerland ......... , ......... 10
Jugoslavia ......... , .......... 10
Czechoslovakia ....... , ....... 10
India ...... ; ................... 10
'Iraq ....................... , .... 10
Index, 1945 BaM'l News ........ 11
Photographs
Baha'i Sunday School, New York 3
Spiritual As,embly of 'jThran 3
BaM' I Youth Symposium,

Bombay

....... , ............ 4

Youth Conference in
Philadelphia .......... ,..... 5
Baha'is of Frankfurt. Germany 6
Baha'is of AscUD,!;i6n,
Paraguay ................... "I
Spiritual Assembly of BogotA..
Columbia ................... '1
American BaM'is at German
Nat. Convention ... ,........ 8
Baha'is attending German
Convention ., .............. ' 9
Members of Ckrman N.S.A... 9
Prof. Desanka ToJdn.-Forgovice 10

Col.
1
2
1

3
3
2
3
3
I
2
3
2
1
.3
1
2
3
3

1
2
3
2
1
1
I
3
3
3
1


“Help Ye the One True God”

The Day Star of Truth that shineth in its meridian splendor beareth us witness! They who are the people of God have no ambition except to revive the world, to ennable its life, and regenerate its peoples. Truthfulness and good-will have, at all times marked their relations with all men. Their outward conduct is but a reflection of their inward life, and their inward life a mirror of their outward conduct. No veil hideth or obscureth the verities on which their Faith is established. Before the eyes of all men these verities have been laid bare, and can be unmistakably recognized. Their very acts attest the truth of these words.

O friends! Help ye the one true God, exalted be His glory, by your goodly deeds, by such conduct and character as shall be acceptable in God have been able to subdue and conquer the citadels of the hearts of men.

BAHÁ’U’LLÁH, Gleanings p. 271

“My Constant Prayer, My Ardent Hope”

Letter from the Guardian
To the N.S.A.

Dear and valued co-workers:

The new Plan on which the American Bahá’í community has embarked, in the course of the opening years of the second Bahá’í century, is of such vastness and complexity as to require the utmost vigor, vigilance and consecration on the part of both the general body of its practitioners and those who are called upon, as their national elected representatives, to conduct its operation, define its processes, watch over its execution, and ensure its ultimate success. The obstacles confronting both its participants and organizers, particularly in the European field, are formidable, and call for the utmost courage, perseverance, fortitude and self-sacrifice.

The precarious international situation in both Hemispheres, the distress and preoccupation of the masses, in most of the countries to which pioneers will soon be proceeding, with the cares of every day life, the severe restrictions which are still imposed on visitors and travellers in foreign lands, the religious conservativism and spiritual lethargy which characterize the population in most of the lands where the new pioneers are to labor, add to the challenge of the task, and render all the more glorious the labors of the national community that has arisen to achieve what posterity will regard as the greatest collective enterprise, not only in the history of the community itself, but in the annals of the Faith with which it stands identified.

The initial success of the enterprise which has been so auspiciously launched, the enthusiasm which it has already engendered throughout Latin America, the hopes it has aroused amid the suffering and scattered believers in war-torn Europe, the feelings of admiration and envy it has excited throughout several communities in the Bahá’í world in both the East and the West, augur well for the future course of its operation, and foreshadow the splendors of the victories which its consummation must witness. The forces that have been released through the birth of the Plan must be directed into the most effective channels, the spirit that has been kindled must be continually nourished, the facilities at the disposal of its organizers must be fully utilized, each and every barrier that might obstruct its expansion must be determinedly removed, every assistance which Bahá’í communities in various lands may wish, or be able, to offer, should be wholeheartedly welcomed, every measure that will serve to reinforce the bonds uniting the newly-fledged communities in the Latin world, and to stimulate the movement, and raise the spirits, of itinerant teachers and settlers laboring in the continent of Europe must be speedily undertaken, if the colossal task, which in the course of seven-brief years must be carried out, is to be befittingly consummated.

The sterner the task, the graver the responsibilities, the wider the field of exertion, the more persistently must the privileged members of this enviable community strive, and the loftier must be the height to which they should aspire, in the course of their God-given mission, and throughout every stage in the irresistible and divinely guided evolution of their community life.

Setbacks may well surprise them; trials and disappointments may tax their patience and resourcefulness; the forces of darkness, either from within or from without, may seek to dampen their ardor, to disrupt their unity and break their spirit; pitfalls may surround the little band that must act as a vanguard to the host which must, in the years to come, spiritually raise up the sorely ravaged continent of Europe. None of these, however fierce, sinister or unyielding they may appear, must be allowed to deflect the protagonists of a God-impelled Plan, from the
course which ’Abdu’l-Bahá has chosen for them, and which the agencies of a firmly established, laboriously erected, Administrative Order, are now enabling them to effectively pursue. That they may press forward with undiminished fervor, with undimmed vision, with unflinching determination until the shining goal is attained is my constant prayer, my ardent hope, and the dearest wish of my heart.

Your true and grateful brother,

Shoghi Effendi

Haifa, Palestine
July 20, 1946

The following statements were written by the Guardian through his secretary in a letter dated July 20, 1946, the postscript of which, signed by Shoghi Effendi, is printed above.

Seven Year Plan

You can well imagine that much of his thoughts are now centered on the work of the new Seven Year Plan. Its tremendous importance cannot be over emphasized, for on its success hangs the success or failure of the future work which ’Abdu’l-Bahá in His wisdom apportioned to the Bahá’ís of North America. The Guardian, however, having had now for 25 years the experience of working with the American believers, no longer has any doubts as to their capacity for work, their devotion, their loyalty and their determination to never fail their Faith! It is therefore with a mind at rest and a confident heart that he has entrusted to them the great tasks of the next seven years.

Temple Services

As regards the whole question of the Temple and services held in it: He wishes to emphasize that he is very anxious, now that this first and greatest Temple of the West has been built, and will, within a few years, be used for worship and regular services by the Bahá’ís, that no forms, no rituals, no set customs be introduced over and above the bare minimum outlined in the teachings. The nature of these gatherings is for prayer, meditation and the reading of writings from the Sacred Scriptures of our Faith and other Faiths; there can be one or a number of readers; any Bahá’í chosen, or even, non-Bahá’í, may read. The gatherings should be simple, dignified, and designed to uplift the soul and educate it through hearing the creative word. No speeches may be made, no extraneous matter introduced.

The use of pulpits is forbidden by Bahá’u’lláh; if, in order to be more clearly heard, the platform reader stands on a low platform, there is no objection, but this should not be incorporated as an architectural feature of the building.

As he already informed you by cable, he thinks that the best seating arrangement from every standpoint is that the section of the audience in the center of the auditorium, beneath the dome, should face towards ’Akka, and all the other seats around this central space should be placed in the form of a circle so that the seats face inwards towards the center of the Temple. In other words a central mass facing ’Akka-wards, surrounded by circular rows of seats facing inwards.

The reader should stand where he or she will be best seen and heard by all. All minor details regarding this matter are left to the discretion of your Assembly to decide after receiving the advice of experts. As he already informed you, he suggests using fixed rather than movable seats.

Vocal music alone may be used and the position of the singers or singer is also a matter for your Assembly to decide; but again, there should be no fixed point, no architectural details marking a special spot. Acoustics should certainly be the main consideration in placing the singers.

The Guardian feels that the Temple, if divided into an auditorium and eight or nine small rooms, would have a far too circumscribed seating capacity for a National House of Worship and that also the small rooms would serve no useful purpose whatever. In view of this he instructed you to do away entirely with these superfluous rooms; the whole main floor of the building should form one vast auditorium with no dividing walls at all. What provision for keeping the cold out, and what entrances you wish to make constant use of, are matters for your Assembly to decide after receiving expert advice.

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Color may be used in the interior—and, indeed, it was Mr. Bourgeois' intention to use it, as the original cross-section showing the interior, which now hangs here in the archives, shows. (The photographic plate and reproduction of this draw-
solutely universal, and what might seem a beautiful addition to their mode of celebrating a Feast, etc., would perhaps fall on the ears of people of another country as unpleasant sounds—and vice versa. As long as they have music for its own sake it is all right, but they should not consider it Bahá’í music.

Acts of Immorality
Any blatant acts of immorality on the part of the Bahá’ís should be strongly censored; the friends should be urged to abandon such relationships immediately, straighten out their affairs, and conduct themselves as Bahá’ís; if they refuse to do this, in spite of the warnings of the Assembly, they should be punished through being deprived of their voting rights. The N.S.A. is empowered to settle such cases of flagrant immorality without referring them to the Guardian.

Formation of National Assemblies in Central and South America and Canada
As he already informed you by cable, the West Indies, Mexico and Panama are considered part of Central America, and will be under the jurisdiction of the Central American N.S.A. The Canal Zone and Puerto Rico also are part of this area and under its jurisdiction. Two N.S.A.’s will be formed; one for Central and one for South America. They will adopt their own constitutions after election, which should follow as closely as possible that of your own body. This new constitution—for obviously these two new N.S.A.’s will not seek for Latin America to have two different ones—will be in Spanish, and will be published in the Bahá’í World. There, with their sister constitutions in English, German, Arabic and Persian. The Canadian constitution should, likewise, be patterned on and closely follow your own.

Your Assembly must determine the number of delegates, and call the first Conventions of these three new national bodies, and they must receive a certain amount of supervision and guidance from you until the end of the present Seven Year Plan, when they will pass directly under the supervision of the Guardian. Your Assembly is, so to speak, their sponsor, and they will become independent at the end of this present plan.

Bahá’í Funeral Services
There is no objection whatsoever to non-Bahá’ís being present when the long prayer for the dead is read*, as long as they respect our manner of reading it by rising and standing as the Bahá’ís do on this occasion. Nor, indeed, is there any objection to non-Bahá’ís being present during the reading of any Bahá’í prayer for the departed.

An official Bahá’í funeral service should only be given for a believer, but there is no objection to the reading of Bahá’í prayers, or indeed to a Bahá’í conducting the funeral service of a non-Bahá’í, if this has been requested.

In reporting Bahá’í marriages it is much better to mention that the ceremony was performed by the Assembly, as this is the proper thing to do, and an individual only acts for the Assembly on this occasion. As a funeral is not a legal ceremony more latitude can be allowed, especially as the family of the deceased may want some particular Bahá’í friend to officiate.

International Relief
Concerning the question of the Philippines, they are not under your Assembly’s jurisdiction, but you can, being such a sturdy and prosperous community, lend them a helping hand and advise them. The Guardian urges great caution, however, in handling the situation there; this is a new community which has never had any close contact with Bahá’ís from other countries, and well organized and recognized administrative bodies—such as existed in Germany, Austria and Burma before the war. You should ascertain if the people requesting help really need it, and are really Bahá’ís. He would not recommend that anything more than food parcels, clothes, and Bahá’í literature be sent them at present, and he hopes the way will open for a competent Bahá’í teacher to visit them, and help them organize their affairs on a true Bahá’í basis.

He feels that sufficient relief funds have now been accumulated in Tehran, and that, except for any parcels of food and gifts individual believers may still wish to send, any sums on hand for this purpose should be directed into the European teaching and publishing work.

Radio Station in Temple
The Guardian approves in principle of a radio station, and sees no objection to its being in the Temple; but he considers the cost you quote too much of a burden at the present time for the Fund to bear, in view of the multiple expenses of the new Seven Year Plan. If there is any way it can be done for a price you feel the Fund could pay, and which would be more reasonable, he approves of your doing it.

Object of Inter-Racial Work
The following letter by the Guardian, written through his secretary, was addressed to the Race Unity Committee on December 30, 1945, and is published with the Guardian’s consent.

“He feels that as the main object of the Bahá’í inter-racial work is to abolish prejudice against any and
every race and minority group, it is obviously proper for them to include in particular any group that is receiving especially bad treatment—such as the Japanese-Americans are being subjected to. There is also no reason why work should not be done among and in cooperation with the Mexicans, the Chinese and so on.

"He has always been very anxious to have the Indians taught and enlisted under the banner of the Faith, in view of the Master's remarkable statements about the possibilities of their future and that they represent the aboriginal American population.

"The Negros, likewise, are, one might say, a key problem and epitomize the feelings of color prejudice so rife in the United States. That is why he has so constantly emphasized the importance of the Bahá'ís actively and continuously demonstrating that in the Faith this cruel and horrible taint of discrimination against, and contempt for, them does not exist but on the contrary is supplanted by a feeling of esteem for their great gifts and a complete lack of prejudice in every field of life.

"The work of the Race Unity Committee should include, as far as is possible, contacts with all minority groups, and wherever there is a particularly stout prejudice against a special group—such as the feelings against the Japanese in the Western States and the Negros in the Southern (states), etc., efforts should be made to counteract it by showing publicly the Bahá'í example of loving tolerance and brotherly association."

**Keep in Touch with Local Youth Activities**

The following excerpts from letter of the Guardian, written through his secretary and addressed to the National Youth Committee under date of October 29, 1945, are published with the Guardian's consent.

"He feels that one of the primary duties of your Committee is to encourage young Bahá'ís to prepare themselves for pioneer work, in Latin America; as he has already informed the American believers, the tremendous tasks facing them in Europe—indeed, all over the world—cannot be embarked upon until they have finished the work begun in South America. In this field youthful Bahá'ís have already accomplished much, and he hopes others will arise and follow them.

"Now that the war is over and so many young people are being released from the services and returning to a more normal life, the young Bahá'ís in every city should make a point of keeping in touch with local youth activities and clubs, and should make their views known to as many young people in as many ways as possible. Above all, they should set a high example to them; chastity, politeness, friendliness, hospitality, joyous optimism about the ultimate future happiness and well-being of mankind, should distinguish them and win over to them the love and admiration of their fellow-youth. The thing which is most conspicuously lacking in modern life is a high standard of conduct and good character; the young Bahá'ís must demonstrate both, if they hope to seriously win over to the Faith members of their own generation so sorely disillusioned and so contaminated by the laxity war gives rise to."

**National Spiritual Assembly**

**National Consultation on Race Unity**

Dear Bahá'í friends:

At its September meeting the National Spiritual Assembly adopted comprehensive plans for general consultation on the subject of race unity teaching, to focus attention upon this basic application of the principle of the oneness of mankind and prepare the way for the adoption of new methods and policies which can intensify the influence of the entire Bahá'í community as an instrument for the removal of prejudice and separation between the races on this continent.

Steps have been taken to invite the members of the National Race Unity Committee to consult with the NSA from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., Sunday, December 8, and to hold a general consultation with the believers in Temple Foundation Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. that same day. Luncheon will be served in Temple Foundation Hall if possible.

The Temple Program Committee has been requested to arrange the program of the public meeting at 3:30 p.m. December 8 as a meeting devoted to the theme of "The Bahá'í Basis for Human Relations," dealing directly with the Bahá'í conception of unity.

A special invitation is being extended to the National Teaching Committee and the Regional Teaching Committees and Assemblies of the following States to be represented at the general conference:

- Maryland
- Virginia
- West Virginia
- Dist. of Columbia
- No. Carolina
- So. Carolina
- Georgia
- Florida
- Kansas
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- Alabama
- Mississippi
- Louisiana
- Arkansas
- Oklahoma
- Texas

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**The Status of Bahá'í Youth in the Community**

Since there has not been a common understanding of the place of Bahá'í Youth in the community, the National Spiritual Assembly has decided upon the following principles:

First, the term "Bahá'í" is not limited to declared believers twenty-one years of age or older. Young people between the ages of fifteen and twenty-one are Bahá'ís even though they may be referred to as Bahá'í Youth. The members of a community, are all the declared believers in that community, regardless of age.

Second, each individual, fifteen years of age and older, becomes a registered believer upon acceptance of the qualifications of faith set forth.
by the Guardian and by declaration to a Spiritual Assembly or to a Regional Committee. All individuals, regardless of age, should be lovingly and carefully prepared for acceptance into the community.

Third, it is not necessary for a regularly enrolled Bahá’í Youth to redeclare his faith at the age of twenty-one. When a Bahá’í Youth declares his faith, it should be a spiritual step binding upon him for the rest of his life and not a mere statement of some future intention. On reaching the age of twenty-one, the individual is to notify the local Assembly secretary or the regional committee so that he may be registered as a voting member.

Fourth, individuals between the ages of fifteen and twenty-one have all the rights and privileges of a community member except voting in Bahá’í elections. Bahá’í Youth may participate without question in all the consultations of the community; they may serve on any committee of the local Assembly; in fact, it is the conviction of the members of the National Assembly that local Assemblies should use all feasible opportunities to give encouragement, experience, and training to the younger members of the community. Bahá’í Youth may also serve on national and regional committees.

Fifth, members of the community under twenty-one may not serve as Convention delegates or as members of a local or National Assembly. In these matters, as in voting for these positions, the age limit of twenty-one must be maintained in order to assure the legal position of the local and National Assemblies.

Sixth, the children of believers may attend the Nineteen Day Feasts and other intimate gatherings of the community, but when they reach the age of fifteen, the local Assembly should lovingly inquire if they wish to declare their faith and enroll as members of the community. If they do not declare their faith after fifteen, they do not have the rights and privileges of community membership. The local Assembly is cautioned not to exert undue pressure on such young people but to treat them in a very kindly spirit and, when they wish to declare their faith, to assist them in careful preparation to understand the significance of such a step.

The Guardian has repeatedly stated the tremendous responsibilities to be discharged by the present generation of Bahá’í Youth. All local Assemblies are urged to adopt a consistent policy of encouragement for the development of a generation of trained and devoted Bahá’í Youth.

The First Pioneers to Europe

The great new project of the Second Seven Year Plan is that of bringing the Message of Bahá’u’lláh to ten European countries. Therefore the National Spiritual Assembly appointed a European Teaching Committee with the following membership: Edna True, Chairman, Mary Barton, Paul Haney, Anna Kunz, Charles Mason Remey, Julia Shows, Mary Sprague, Dr. Katherine True and Clara Wood.

The first meeting of the European Teaching Committee was held on June 26, 1946, and plans were laid out in accordance with the Guardian’s letter to the Bahá’ís of North America dated June 15, 1946. In this message of the Guardian, the committee was directed to dispatch nine pioneers immediately to the capitals of Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Italy, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal, to start their teaching work; to furnish the pioneers with adequate Bahá’í literature translated into all the languages needed for these countries.

The Guardian’s convention message and his letter to the North American Bahá’ís in June, created tremendous interest throughout the United States and the European Teaching Committee is very happy to report that a number of wonderful souls have volunteered to take up pioneer work in the goal countries mentioned by the Guardian. As of this date (Sept. 3, 1946), the committee can report that these posts have been filled by Bahá’í pioneers who are nationals of the countries the Guardian wishes opened up at this time. This is one of the miracles of Bahá’u’lláh, because these volunteers already are completely familiar with the languages necessary and the fact of their being nationals greatly expedites the matter of getting passports and visas.

As a vital part of the European teaching campaign, the Guardian has requested that the European Teaching Committee set up an auxiliary office in Geneva, Switzerland, as an adjunct to the Bahá’í International Bureau. Mrs. Etty Graeffe has been chosen to be in charge of this office and is sailing on September 7 to make a survey of the goal countries.
October, 1946

on her way to Geneva. With Mrs. Graeffe will sail Mrs. Solveigh V. Corbit, who will be our pioneer to Norway. On Sept. 18, Miss Rita Van Sombeek and her sister, Mrs. Jetty Straub, of the New York City Bahá’í community, will take up their posts in Holland. Later, on Oct. 18, Mr. and Mrs. Anders Nielsen with their son, of the Burbank, Calif., Bahá’í community, will embark for Denmark, to take up their post in that country. Miss Madeline Humbert of the New York City Bahá’í community, leaves in late September or early October, for Belgium to serve as pioneer in Brussels. As soon as traveling and passport arrangements can be completed, our chosen pioneers will be dispatched to Spain, Portugal, Italy and Luxembourg.

Our chairman, Miss Edna True, will be sailing the latter part of September to make a personal survey of some of the goal countries and to help in establishing the Geneva office and to consult with the British Publishing Trust.

Each pioneer will be equipped with Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era in the language of the country to which he is going as well as with a pamphlet for free distribution, which has been especially compiled by the European Teaching Committee for this purpose. The committee is also very fortunate in having some of the other Writings already existing in several of the languages required.

The committee feels assured that the community of the believers in North America will join them in their special prayers for the inauguration of this new and tremendous project.

EUROPEAN TEACHING COMMITTEE
KATHERINE K. TRUE, News Editor

Plan of the Public Meetings

Campaign

The function of the Public Meetings Committee as outlined by the National Spiritual Assembly is “to bring the teachings to the leaders and masses through a series of public meetings in various cities to be conducted with the cooperation of the respective local Assemblies.”

Continuing the work so admirably begun last year, “key cities” have already been selected: Minneapolis, Winnipeg, Montreal, Binghamton, Urbana, Albuquerque, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Baltimore, Miami, Nashville, Pittsburgh, and Cleveland. The climax of the campaign will be the Convention Public Meeting.

The theme this year is “World Order Through World Faith” and in most instances but one speaker will be used. This together with a fine musical program, well-planned publicity, exhibits, and radio broadcasts will, we know, again bring the name Bahá’í to the attention of the masses.

The programs or invitations this year are quite outstanding in appearance, something that will not be idly laid aside by those receiving them.

The first meeting is scheduled for Minneapolis on October 13th and the prayers of all the friends are requested for this city and each one to follow.

The eleven key cities of last year have been supplied a budget and invited to again join in this work by putting on a similar meeting this year. They will all use the theme “World Order Through World Faith” and thus the momentum begun last year will be doubled.

Special stress is being laid on the follow-up work to be planned well in advance by a special committee organized for this purpose, which with the assistance of the Regional and National Teaching Committees has, by far, the most important work to do, that of keeping alive the interest of the seekers attracted to the Cause through the public meetings.

—PUBLIC MEETING COMMITTEE

National Bahá’í Advertising Begins

Following general approval of plans by the NSA in July, the Public Relations Committee met July 28 and made decisions on details of the work. This report covers activities conducted in July and August, 1946.

1. Two releases have been sent direct to newspapers and news magazines during each of these two months, through the public relations firm of Harry Coleman, Chicago. The list includes papers in towns of 25,000 and more population. The subjects used in July: Commemoration of the Martyrdom of the Báb; plans for interior ornamentation of Temple; August themes: world changes in religion today; the public campaign to be conducted this year on world order through world faith.

2. A release for use by Assemblies, groups and active workers locally has been prepared in each of these months, for distribution through the committee bulletin. This series of publicity does not duplicate the material issued direct.

3. A schedule of national advertising has been adopted, including the following magazines: Newsweek, for the general public; World Report, for those directly interested in world peace; Editor and Publisher and Publishers Auxiliary, for editors, columnists, feature writers; and Broadcasting, for radio announcers, station managers, program editors, etc. The public advertising goes in two magazines having a circulation of 763, 781. The papers going to press and radio workers have a circulation of 34,795.

The general, public advertising features the theme of World Truth for a World Era, and offers free copies of booklet reprinting several talks from The Promulgation of Universal Peace. This is a 32-page pamphlet entitled World Order Through World Faith, carrying out the theme of the whole public campaign this year.

The advertising planned for professional men in the press and radio fields is intended to make the name “Bahá’í” have a definite and important significance. A copy of the summary of the teachings is to be sent free on request.

The September schedule has been placed as follows: Newsweek, September 23, ½ column; Editor and Publisher, September 14, ½ column; Publishers Auxiliary, September 14, 42 lines (three inches); Broadcasting, September 14, ½ column.

This effort marks the beginning of national Bahá’í advertising in America, and the accumulative effort should be to make the Faith far more generally known to the public and also to key persons influential in press and radio fields.

4. The Committee has entered into a contract with the Coleman firm for professional services including publicity, advertising and special public relations work from July, 1946 to April, 1947. The firm is now working with the various Chicago bureaus which can feature visits to the Temple by national convention and other travelers coming to Chicago this year.

5. The Committee is preparing 200 copies of a “Public Relations Kit” containing publicity, advertising and other material which can be used by national committees, local Assemblies, groups and traveling teachers.

6. Contacts by mail. The Committee is mailing out to selected lists of key persons on a regular monthly schedule copies of printed matter.
including the Summary of the Teachings, Chicago Tribune Temple picture reprint, and special reprints of Bahá’í material: A Pattern for Future Society, Industrial Justice, The Principle of Religious Unity, and The Reality of Brotherhood. 10,000 each of these four reprints are to come from the printer in September. 10,000 Summaries were printed in August. A second edition of The Coming of World Religion is expected by September. Lists of names can be sent to the Committee for this contacts work, and the Committee will use as many as possible, as well as names taken from the Temple Guides Committee Register of Visitors.

7. In order to make available for local use the material offered by the Committee in form of publicity, advertising, photographs, etc., a plan has been adopted for issuing a bulletin about nine times during the year. The first number was prepared in July, but the mimeographing and mailing has been delayed by conditions outside our control. The bulletin also offers useful suggestions for local campaigns. Our present direct press publicity schedule carries the Bahá’í releases to some 673 papers in about 350 towns.

—Public Relations Committee

Latin American News

Latin American activity is hitting a new high in preparation for consolidation of existing Bahá’í Communities and the extension of the Message to the masses. Chile is setting the pace by opening extension teaching in four different cities; two in the deep south; one under the direction of the so recently formed Assembly in Valparaiso, and another further north. The four are Temuco, Mulchen, Valdivia and Viña del Mar. The friends in Guayaquil, Ecuador, have been assisting Hascel Cornbelt in the goal city of Quito. A center has been opened and Hascel reports regular weekly meetings with average attendance of 15.

Gayle Woolson is now teaching in Cali where the Masons have opened their lodge to listen to the Message. She will also visit Guayaquil and Quito in Ecuador, and later, Medellin, Cartagena and Barranquilla in Colombia. Miss Lotus Peterson of St. Paul is planning to leave as a pioneer to open up the new goal city of Maracaibo, Venezuela. The Assembly in Caracas is doing extension teaching in Maracay, Valencia and Puerto Cabello. Mrs. Woolson will visit them later. Gwene Sholtis is working in the new goal city of Sucre, Bolivia, with the result that there are now four active Bahá’ís there, one brand new, and several persons near to the Cause. Miss Sholtis will go in December to Lima for change of climate and will join there in the regional drive to open Callao. The Assembly of Lima, Peru, assisted by Miss Eve Nicklin, has opened a center in Callao; there is a small group and a new believer has just registered.

Miss Virginia Orbison has gone to the goal city of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and the first believer there has just registered. Mr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Miessler of Columbus Grove, Ohio, are sailing to Brazil on the 15th of September, to settle there as resident pioneers. Mr. Miessler is manager of the Sao Paulo branch of a large importing firm.

In Central America, Mrs. Marcia Steward is making a survey of all six countries with a view to consolidating existing Assemblies and stimulating extension teaching work. Mrs. Louise Caswell has gone to the goal city of Colon, where there are now three active believers, one just registered. Dr. Escalante is opening extension teaching in the new goal city of La Ceiba in Honduras. In the West Indies, Dr. Malcolm King, pioneer at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and chairman of regional work in the Islands, will make a trip to Kingston, Jamaica, to consult with the Assembly, choose a goal city in Jamaica and begin regional teaching there. In Cuba, Joan Silver is teaching in the goal city of Cienfuegos, and Dr. Walter Biomquist of Havana has been visiting and teaching in Santa Clara, with the result that a class of twenty-two students has been formed. Santiago is the goal city in the Dominican Republic and the Assembly in Ciudad Trujillo is doing extension teaching there.

Mrs. Shirley Warde and the Assembly of Buenos Aires are preparing the first South American Teaching Conference to be held in that city November 8 to 11. Delegates from all the South American countries are invited to attend and splendid publicity has been granted. Mrs. Amelia Collins will attend as official representative of the Inter-America Committee and of the National Spiritual Assembly. Mrs. Warde, Artemus Lamb of Punta Arenas and Hugo Arteagastabettia of Valparaiso are collaborating on an up-to-date radio series, including suitable scripts for all cities and also transcriptions on discs. Artemus has been making a survey of Chile and plans also to survey Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, to consult with his regional committee and assist in the stimulation of extension teaching. Fourteen new Bahá’ís have registered this month.

Appeal for Settlers and Teachers

The seven most critical cities in the United States requiring urgent teaching help are: Brattleboro, Vt., Wilmington, Del., Greenville, S.C., Louisville, Ky., Fargo, N.D., Lafayette, Wyo., Boise, Idaho.

The National Spiritual Assembly makes urgent appeal that all believers who can volunteer to settle in any of these cities, or even give brief or occasional teaching help, notify the National Teaching Committee at once.

Latin American Spiritual Assemblies Elected April 21, 1946

South America

Brazil—Rio de Janeiro and Bahia
Venezuela—Caracas
Colombia—Bogotá and Mogotes
Ecuador—Guayaquil
Peru—Lima
Bolivia—La Paz
Paraguay—Asunción
Chile—Punta Arenas, Santiago and Valparaiso
Argentina—Buenos Aires
Uruguay—Montevideo

Central America

Guatemala—Ciudad de Guatemala
Honduras—Tegucigalpa
Nicaragua—Managua
Costa Rica—Puntarenas and San José
El Salvador—San Salvador
Panama—Panama City

West Indies

Cuba—Havana
Haiti—Port-au-Prince
Dominican Republic—Ciudad Trujillo
Puerto Rico—San Juan
Jamaica—Kingston, B. W. I.

North American Continent

Mexico—Ciudad de Méjico

Bahá’í Literature in Spanish for North America

The Bahá’í Publishing and Distributing Center for Spanish literature in Panama requests that believers desiring to order Spanish books for North America be apprised of the
Summer Teaching Circuits

The program of expansion and consolidation which has been outlined by the Guardian for the first two years of the second Seven Year Plan involves the immediate reinforcement and strengthening of seven of our "spiritual prizes" won during the first Seven Year Plan; the further consolidation of fifty small Assemblies; the speedy conversion into Assemblies of "over thirty groups having six or more members"; the achievement of a hundred and seventy-five Assemblies functioning in North America.

The National and Regional Committees are bending every effort to bring these needs before the body of the believers and to solicit their help in this great task. Regional Teaching Conferences have been held in many cities to stimulate and focus the attention of the believers on the goals which have been set for the region; inter-regional circuits have been developed to provide teaching help to the weaker Assemblies; the large Assemblies have been asked to cooperate with the Regional Teaching Committees by providing teaching help to nearby groups and Assemblies, as well as settlers to reinforce and hold the status of established Assemblies; and various teaching bulletins and teaching aids have also been made available.

During the summer RTC reports indicate that twenty new isolated believers have been enrolled, and many regional projects have been completed with most encouraging results.

Nine inter-regional circuits provided teaching assistance to Assemblies in the Northeastern, Southern, Central and Western states. Mrs. Mamie Seto of San Francisco, Calif., enroute to Louhelen in June visited Boise, Ida., Salt Lake City, Utah, and Laramie, Wyo. Successful meet-

ings are also reported in Lima, Cleveland, and Albuquerque. Commenting on her trip Mrs. Seto writes: "Everywhere I went I found a new readiness on the part of people, which makes our new task easier."

During July and August while attending the Green Acre Bahá'í School, Mrs. Sara E. Witt of Santa Monica, Calif., gave teaching help to the Assemblies of Portsmouth, Boston, Providence, New Haven, Hampden, Brattleboro and the group in Hartford, Conn. In Brattleboro, Mrs. Witt spoke on "The Gateway to Spiritual Rebirth" and the local Spiritual Assembly reports that Mrs. Witt "has given us a very encouraging start for our work under the Second Seven Year Plan." Mr. and Mrs. Crane of Hackensack, N. J., also visited Brattleboro enroute home from a teaching trip to the Maritimes in July.

Mrs. Margarite Ulrich of Oak Park, Ill., with her two daughters, Marjorie and Florence, and Robert Miessler visited Greensboro, N.C., Greenville, S.C., Augusta and Atlanta, Ga., from June 17th to 30th. The Augusta Assembly reports that Mrs. Ulrich "gave a talk on the Temple and Temple slides which were shown at the Oliver General Hospital" as well as at the homes of Mrs. Sego and Mrs. Allen. The young people entertained with violin, piano and vocal music and at the Greenville meeting Robert Miessler gave a review of This Earth One Country, fireside meetings as well as public meetings were planned in all of the cities visited.

Another group, composed of Miss Pari Zia-Walrath, Miss Betty Scheffler and Mr. Harlan Scheffler, from the Temple area, and Mr. Ross Woodman of Winnipeg, Manitoba, devoted their vacation period to teaching and presented symposiums in Sioux Falls, S.C., Fargo, N.D., Duluth, Minneap-

olis and St. Paul, Minn., from July 22 to 31st.

On a circuit planned in cooperation with the Canadian Teaching Committee, Dr. Edris Rice-Wray attended the Conference at Banff, Alberta, in August and on her return made several stop-overs in Montana and Minnesota.

Mr. Alvin Blum of Little Rock, Ark., again visited St. Louis, Independence, Kansas City, Missouri and Topeka, Kansas, in August and reports the meetings well attended. En route to International School this summer, Mr. Mason Remy

made stop-overs in Columbus, Dayton, Cincinnati, Ohio, Indianapolis, Ind. and Topeka, Kansas.

In August, when Mr. John McHenry with his wife and two children moved to California, stop-overs were arranged and meetings were planned in Waterloo, Iowa; Omaha, Neb.; Cheyenne and Laramie, Wyo.; Denver and Colorado Springs, Colo.; Salt Lake City and Reno, Nevada.

Another Bahá’í family moving to California from New York state, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd H. Munson, and their son, are making stop-overs enroute so that the friends can plan fireside meetings in Port Wayne, Ind., Peoria, Ill., Oklahoma City, Okla., and in Albuquerque, N.M. They also plan to visit isolated believers in Joplin, Mo., and Jefferson City, Mo., and in Kingman, Arizona.

Mrs. Ruth Moffett visited Manchester and Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in July and two new believers were enrolled following the meeting. In Cedar Rapids she appeared on the "Distinguished Guest" program for a ten-minute broadcast during which she was interviewed.

Regional Teaching Committees also report many circuits and projects which have been successfully completed during the summer months. One of especial significance, because it resulted in the strengthening of one of the weaker Assemblies, is the Regional Teaching Conference held in Richmond Highlands, Washington, on July 27th and 28th. Ar-
rangements were made for twenty three over-night guests by a local housing committee and a food committee planned a dinner served cafeteria style to sixty-one persons attending the Conference. ‘Saturday afternoon the conference discussed the Guardian’s message,” Mrs. Helen Wilks, RTC secretary, reports, “and in the evening a public meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, beautifully decorated for the occasion by Venus Curl of the Seattle community. Mr. John Schurcliff of Tacoma and Mrs. Alice Elmendorff of Seattle spoke on ‘Unity in World Religion.’ About seventy-five attended this meeting. On Sunday, a study class on ‘The Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá,’ was conducted and in the afternoon Convention and Summer School reports were given.

The children sang songs which they had learned at Summer School, and stood on a natural rock platform edged with rocks and flowers, with trees on either side, which made a beautiful setting.” The report further states that as a result the Assembly is “over the hump,” and that much care is being given to the planning of follow-up meetings there, with the chairman, speaker, and hostess working together closely to insure the success of the meetings.

Another very successful project at Hampton Institute, Va., is elsewhere reported in this issue.

In many regions the groups and Assemblies arranged picnics. In Hartford, Conn., 45 people attended a picnic which was given excellent publicity — with a picture of Mr. George Goodman, the speaker, in the local papers—and other regions report similar success. Regional projects have also been developed to help groups in an effort to increase the membership to the required nine for Assembly status in April. In Columbia, S.C., the group is being given regular monthly teaching help by Mrs. Esther Sego of Augusta, Ga. Another group at Glenfield, N.D., is to receive the help of Miss Margaret Detwiler of Fargo, N.D., during the month of September, and this group has recently had a visit from Mr. Hassan Abas who stopped there on his way home from a teaching trip to Edmonton, Alta. The Washington and Oregon RTC plans to send regular teaching help to the groups at Auburn, Kirkland and Bremerton over a period of months to help these groups increase their membership. Groups and Assemblies have been visited by Miss Agnes Alexander of Hawaii, who is visiting in the United States.

Renewed activity is reported from all regions, with the efforts of the believers directed toward the course charted by the Guardian to accomplish the task “summoning us to a challenge, unprecedented in its gravity and force.”

**National Teaching Committee**

**What Displays Do You Need?**

What kind of display-exhibit material do you need or would you like to have in your community? Do you have available space or large or small store windows; can you use a booth at the near-by state or county fair? Would your public library use a counter display?

This committee covers the wide range activity field of sound film, slide-programs and photographs. But as an immediate project, it is the desire of this committee to develop the most effective display ideas possible to attract the largest number of people. They hope to keep the ideas simple enough for the friends to construct and assemble displays from the materials at hand.

One project now under the direction of the committee, as of its August 11th meeting, is a portfolio of photographs and designs of actual and proposed displays and exhibits. Whatever of this project is accepted by the National Assembly will be circulated among the friends to assist them in meeting local needs. For this reason the Visual Education Committee would appreciate an immediate response of surveys of local needs and an outline of requirements.

**Visual Education Committee**

**Baha’is and Military Service**

In recent months the National Spiritual Assembly has received several requests for a clarification of the present obligation of Bahá’ís in connection with military service, with particular reference to whether the establishment of the United Nations Organization alters the spiritual necessity for Bahá’ís to apply for and maintain a non-combatant status when the conscription laws provide this opportunity for those who are opposed to combatant training and service because of their religious convictions.

Since the Teachings sanction an international police force as an agency of a sovereign world government, and approve the use of military force against recalcitrant nations refusing to abide by the decisions of a Supreme Tribunal, the question arose as to whether the existence of the United Nations Organization in its present form should change the attitude of Bahá’ís toward military duties which might require the taking of human life.

The National Spiritual Assembly referred this question to our Guardian, and received the following reply in a letter from Haifa, dated July 20, 1946:

“As there is neither an International Police Force nor any immediate prospect of one coming into being, the Bahá’ís should continue to apply, under all circumstances, for exemption from any military duties that necessitate the taking of life. There is no justification for any change of attitude on our part at the present time.”

Therefore it is still the spiritual obligation of Bahá’ís in the United States and Canada who may be called into military service to apply for a non-combatant status in accordance with the previous instructions of the National Spiritual Assembly as outlined in the various special bulletins and rulings issued since 1941, and which can be obtained from the National Office. It is also still incumbent upon those already in the armed forces to maintain their non-combatant status, regardless of the consequences upon their personal safety, their convenience, the type of...
activity they must discharge, or the rank to which they may be assigned. (See ruling of N.S.A., published on page 4, Bahá’í News, April, 1946.)

—NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Bahá’í News Reporting

The new deadlines for reports to be sent Bahá’í News are as follows:

Local News — the 10th of each month.

Regional News — the 10th of each month.

National Committee Reports — the 20th of each month.

News desired from local communities is that of successful teaching experiences, successful publicity, new teaching methods, and special activities to further the progress of the Cause. Photographs are most welcome.

Address: Miss Garreta Busey, 503 West Elm Street, Urbana, Ill.

Hampton Institute Entertains Bahá’ís

Hampton Institute, the oldest institution of learning for Negroes in the United States, Alma Mater of Booker T. Washington, was host to the Regional Teaching Committee for Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia which met there, on Saturday and Sunday, July 27-28. About fifteen Bahá’ís from the region attended. They were housed in “The Moorings,” an Alumni hall; and their meals were served on the campus at the Holly Tree Inn.

On Saturday evening a public Bahá’í meeting was held in Clarke Hall, about forty attending. Talks were given by Mr. Williams and Miss Elsie Austin of Washington, D.C., on the subject, “The Key to Success in World Affairs.” Major Walter H. Brown, Secretary of Hampton Institute, gave a message of welcome and told of the origin and aims of the Institute. After the meeting colored slides of the Bahá’í Temple and of the various Bahá’í summer schools were shown by Mr. George Miller of Washington.

At dinner Sunday at the Holly Tree Inn we had a number of guests from Hampton and Newport News. Among the guests was President Ralph Bridgeman, of Hampton Institute. He gave a word of welcome and told of the program under way to make Hampton an educational institution which recognizes no barriers of creed, nationality, or color.

The last meeting of the series was Sunday afternoon when a round table discussion was held on “Race Unity in World Affairs.” Miss Austin was moderator and the other participants included a physician, an educator, a Y.W.C.A. secretary.

Several people on the faculty at Hampton attended and seemed to be very much interested in the Bahá’í Faith. Fifteen questionnaire cards were turned in at the meetings. A display of Bahá’í books was at the back of the room and was of much interest to many. Pamphlets for free distribution were on hand and were taken in quite large numbers. Many students who were not able to attend other meetings stopped to look over the literature and take pamphlets.

Because the meetings fell between summer sessions and on a weekend many of the students were away and there was not a large presentation of students in the audience. However, the meetings were well attended, all things considered, and it was felt that the venture was most successful in that “key” people at Hampton had a good opportunity to learn about the Faith and seemed warmly interested in it. The invitation has been extended to the Bahá’ís by the Secretary of the Institute to hold similar conferences at Hampton again.

“We felt also that this teaching project was unique in that we were able as a group to associate informally for two days with those whom we wished to interest. It was a little like holding a Bahá’í summer school on a non-Bahá’í campus, and seemed to be a more effective way to stimulate real interest than the holding of an isolated meeting. All of us who went were extremely happy over the whole trip and hope that many seeds were sowed.”

News from Local Communities

Local news has come to us from several communities, three of which, Atlanta, Charloittetown and Chicago, have appointed news reporters, who already have gone into action. We eagerly await news from others as well.

In ATLANTA the theme for the August weekly Sunday meetings was The Prophet, with the following subtitles: “The Purpose of the Prophet,” “The Proofs of Prophethood,” “The Word of the Prophet,” and “The New Creation.” In September each of the major Prophets will be considered. One of the Atlanta projects is the association of some of the community with a group known as Georgians United for World Federation. Margaret Ruhe writes, “By attending the bi-monthly meetings of this group we are getting acquainted with a variety of liberal individuals who sooner or later may be ready for the Faith. In the discussion periods we have a wonderful opportunity to hear each one give his views, and also, we are enabled to give the Bahá’í point of view. This group is composed of Quakers, Unitarians, Bahá’ís, Theosophists, Christian Scientists, Communists, Agnostics, Baptists, etc. In every city there are such groups; we recommend that Bahá’ís everywhere associate with them. Here is one good avenue towards finding ready souls.” Public lectures featuring out-of-town speakers have been held in the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. John Robarts from Toronto spent from August 16 to 23 in CHARLOTTETOWN doing contacts work. There was a public meeting on “Faith for Freedom” and a broadcast on “A World Faith.” Christine McKay includes a sample of their new publicity venture. In an attempt to make the word “Bahá’í” les formidable to the public, a series of Saturday morning insertions in the Charlottetown Guardian has been initiated with the title, “The Word Bahá’í Means Light.” This is followed with a very short one sentence quotation from Bahá’u’lláh or ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in which various facets of that Light are revealed. The fourth Maritime Bahá’í Conference was held at Keppoch about five miles from Charlottetown, P.E.I. from June 29 to July 1. The attendance from the
three Maritime Provinces varied from nineteen to twenty-four. Doris Richardson of Toronto was the guest teacher.

On August 8, 1946, the CHICAGO Community had a program presenting the Case of the American Indian with Mr. Ed Towas, who is a member of the Oneida Tribe and President of the Indian Council as the Bahá’í speaker. The entertainment was by American Indian Artists of Chicago with Anita Sky Eyes rendering readings and songs. Present were about forty-nine of which thirty were non-Bahá’ís. A Japanese-American Citizen’s Group meets once a month at the Center. Recently they requested that a Bahá’í speaker tell them about our Faith, whereupon Horace Holley gave them the message.

From Oak land comes word that several programs were sponsored at which the late Orcella Ford spoke. A radio talk, a large public meeting, two public classes, and a banquet led the way to weekly classes attended by a group of non-Bahá’ís at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jones. “God’s Word does not return unto Him void.”

The JACKSON invitation-to-a-meeting folder includes a photograph of the House of Worship, a quotation from ‘Abdu’l-Bahá on “You Must Be Happy,” prayers for the removal of difficulties, for healing and for protection while travelling, as well as explanations of Bahá’í words and information as to where further material may be obtained.

The CLEVELAND Bahá’ís have inaugurated a new series of public meetings which are held every Sunday at 11 a.m. at the International Institute. Excellent publicity in the newspapers and on the radio is being received. Sarah Martin Pereira writes, “The Community members have spent a summer of intensive study following the study outline of Horace Holley, ‘Deepening the Spiritual Life.’ There is a great deal of enthusiasm about the fireside study groups from which the names of new Bahá’ís should soon be forthcoming.”

The Bahá’í Journal of LOS ANGELES continues to come our way. The August issue states that Andrew Moller is planning a trip by air to Denmark in order to visit his mother who is ill. He will take an international Bahá’í traveler’s letter, and he hopes to spread the Bahá’í Glad Tidings of world peace. In the same issue is carried a short biography of and splendid tribute to John D. Bosch, who passed away on July 22, 1946. He and his wife gave to the Bahá’í World Religion all of their property at Geyserville, California for a Bahá’í School. “It was through this beloved Bahá’í (Mr. Bosch) that the famous scientist Luther Burbank became attracted to the Faith. Luther Burbank told John and Louise Bosch ‘of asking his secretary to read to him from the Bahá’í Teachings when he, all worn out and tired would come to the house to rest on his sofa awhile—he felt restoration coming to him from hearing read the divine words—he was a natural believer.’” To John Bosch and Luther Burbank together Abdu’l-Bahá revealed a Tablet.

**Intensive Work in the British Isles**

Our readers will remember that the British Bahá’ís have selected 9 goal towns, in which to establish spiritual Assemblies as a step toward the completion of their Six Year Plan. With the cooperation of visiting teachers, a program of regular activity has been mobilized in eight goal towns and four other towns. The cities in which intensive work was done in March and April were Leeds, Northampton, Blackburn, St. Ives, Blackpool, Nottingham, Birmingham, Liverpool, Exeter, Torquay, Bournemouth, Altrincham and Bradford. Among the activities described in these towns we note an exhibition in a shop viewed by 400 people 196 of whom signed the visitors’ book, a Naw-Rúz meeting attended by 84 which brought a notable tribute to the Faith from the non-Bahá’í chairman, a reading of “The Eternal Covenant,” Mr. Balyuzi’s script, which made a direct appeal in a new way to a number of people, the use of a sound truck for advertising and a public meeting at a Theosophical Center. Among the workers in England we note David and Marion Hofman and Mr. Mottahedeh, all well known to American believers. In Blackburn Mr. Mottahedeh spoke at a fireside, “with such love for all in his heart (that) everyone was very happy.” At the Shop Exhibition at Leeds “every Bahá’í friend who assisted... felt happy and excited... the atmosphere was so spiritual and peaceful. We had a gramophone hidden away playing soft music, and the sun shone in making the flowers look gayer than ever.”

**Local Assemblies Sustaining the Seven Year Plan During August 1946**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alabama</th>
<th>Birmingham</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Anchorage</td>
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<td>Arizona</td>
<td>E. Phoenix Rural, Phoenix</td>
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<td>Little Rock</td>
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<td>Atlanta, Augusta</td>
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<td>Honolulu, Maui</td>
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<td>Idaho</td>
<td>Boise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
October, 1946

Baha’i Addresses

National Office:
536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

Treasurer’s Office:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Baha’i Publishing Committee:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Enrollments


Enrollments reported by Regional Teaching Committees in July, six.

New Baha’i Literature

The Publishing Committee announces the following additions to the Baha’i catalog:

Baha’u’llah kai la Noe Epeko, Lidia Zamenhof’s Esperanto translation of Dr. Esslemont’s work, published in Germany in 1930. A few copies have been imported from London.

The Mission of Baha’u’llah, by George Townshend, pamphlet reprint of Dr. Townshend’s introduction to “God Passes By,” 24 pages and cover, 3½ by 5½ inches. 100 copies for $4.50.

He Has Come to the Nations, by Marjorie Gail, with illustration of the Garden of Ridván. 12 pages with cover. 3½ by 5 inches. 100 copies for $3.00.

An Aid to the Study of The Administrative Order of the Faith of Baha’u’llah, by Study Aids Committee. (See notice, page 5, September Baha’i News). This outline provides a convenient and thorough method for use by individual believers and groups of students to know and understand the institutions, agencies and aims of the order which contains the germinating seed of the future civilization. Mimeographed. 18 pages and cover. Ten copies for $1.50.


Send orders to Baha’i Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Directory Changes

National Committee: Service to the Blind

Mrs. Amedeen Gibson, Chairman, 616 N. Oxford Street, Los Angeles, California.

Local Spiritual Assembly, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Mrs. Lucy Hawkins, Secretary, 1418 Louisiana Street, Little Rock.

Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words of Baha’u’llah</th>
<th>Page Col.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Help Ye the One True God</td>
<td>1 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letter from Guardian to N.S.A.

Seven Year Plan | 1 3

Temple | 2 1

Temple Service | 2 2

Baha’i Music | 3 3

Acts of Imorality | 3 1

New National Assemblies | 3 1

Funeral Service | 3 2

Marriage Service | 3 2

Radio Station in Temple | 3 3

Guardian’s letter to Race | 3 3

Unity Committee | 3 3

Guardian’s letter to Youth | 4 1

National Spiritual Assembly

Consultation on race unity | 4 2

Status of youth | 4 3

Appeal for settlers | 7 3

On Military Service | 5 2

Treasurer’s Report | 11 3

National Committees

Baha’i News Reporting | 10 1

European Teaching | 5 2

Inter-America | 7 1

I-A Assemblies | 7 3

Spanish Literature | 7 3

National Teaching | 8 1

Public Meetings | 1 1

Public Relations | 6 2

Visual Education | 9 2

Local Assemblies | 10 2

British Isles | 11 2

Hampton Institute | 10 1

New Baha’i Literature | 12 2

Calendar | 12 1

Enrollments | 12 2

Directory Changes | 12 3

Baha’i Addresses | 12 2

Photographs

John D. Bosch Funeral | 3 2

First European Pioneers | 5 2

The Ulrichs and R. Meissler | 8 3

Green Acre School group | 9 2

Agnes Alexander and two Georgia friends | 10 3

Baha’is with Mr. and Mrs. Anders Nielsen | 11 2

Calendar

Anniversaries: Birth of the Bab, October 20; Birth of Baha’u’llah, November 12; Day of the Covenant, November 28; Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Baha, November 28, at 1:00 A. M.

Nineteen Day Feasts: Knowledge, October 16; Power, November 4; Speech, November 23.

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly: October 12, 13; December 5, 6, 7, 8.


Indiana—Indianapolis, South Bend.

Iowa—Cedar Rapids.

Kansas—Topeka.

Kentucky—Louisville.

Louisiana—New Orleans.

Maine—Eliot.

Maryland—Baltimore.

Massachusetts — Boston, Brockline, Springfield.

Michigan—Ann Arbor, Flint, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon.

Minnesota, Minneapolis, St. Paul.

Mississippi—Jackson.

Missouri—Independence, Kansas City, St. Louis.

Montana—Butte.

Nebraska.

New Hampshire.

New Jersey—Dumont, Teaneck, Newark.

New Mexico—Albuquerque.


Rochester, Yonkers, New York.

North Carolina—Greensboro.

Ohio—Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton.

Lima.

Oklahoma—Oklahoma City.

Oregon—Portland.


Rhode Island—Providence.

South Carolina—Greenville.

South Dakota—Sioux Falls.

Tennessee—Memphis.

Texas—Houston.

Utah—Salt Lake City.

Vermont—Brattleboro.

Virginia—Alexandria, Arlington.

Washington—Richmond Highlands, Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma.

Wisconsin—Kenosha, Madison, Racine.

Wauwatosa, White Fish Bay.

Wyoming—Laramie.

104 Assemblies contributed

32 Assemblies did not contribute

45 Groups contributed

109 Isolated Baha’is contributed
"No Will But Thy Will"

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Thou seest me dwelling in this prison-house that lieth behind the seas and the mountains, and knowest all well what I have endured for Thy sake and for the sake of Thy Cause. Thou art He, O my God, who hath raised me up at Thy behest, and bidden me to occupy Thy seat, and to summon all men to the court of Thy mercy. It is Thou who hast commanded me to tell out the things Thou didst destine for them in the tablet of Thy decree and didst inscribe with the pen of Thy Revelation, and who hast enjoined on me the duty of kindling the fire of Thy love in the hearts of Thy servants, and of drawing all the peoples of the earth nearer to the habitation of Thy throne.

And when, as bidden by Thee, I arose and called out, by Thy leave, all Thy creatures, the wayward among Thy servants opposed me. Some turned away from me, others listened to my claim, a few hesitated, while others were sore perplexed, notwithstanding that Thy testimony was set forth before the followers of all religions, and Thy proof demonstrated unto all the peoples of the earth, and the signs of Thy might, so powerfully manifested as to encompass the entire creation.

I have no will but Thy will, O my Lord, and cherish no desire except Thy desire. From my pen flowed only the summons which Thine exalted pen hath voiced, and my tongue uttered naught save what the Most Great Spirit hath itself proclaimed in the kingdom of Thine eternity. I am stirred by nothing else except the winds of Thy will, and breathe no word except the words which, by Thy leave and Thine inspiration, I am led to pronounce.

Behold, then, O my God, my loneliness among Thy servants and my remoteness from Thy friends and Thy chosen ones. I beseech Thee, by the showers of the clouds of Thy mercy, whereby Thou hast caused the blossoms of Thy praise and utterance and the flowers of Thy wisdom and testimony to spring forth in the hearts of all them that have recognized Thy oneness, to supply Thy servants and my kindred with the fruits of the tree of Thy unity, in these days when Thou hast been established upon the throne of Thy mercy. Hinder them not, O my Lord, from attaining unto the things Thou dost possess, and write down for them that which will aid them to scale the heights of Thy grace and favor. Give them, moreover, to drink of the living waters of Thy knowledge, and ordain for them the good of this world and of the world to come.

Thou art, verily, the Lord of Bahá and the Beloved of His heart, and the Object of His desire, and the Inspirer of His tongue, and the Source of His soul. No God is there but Thee, the Inaccessible, the Most High. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful. Bahá'í. Prayers and Meditations, p. 106.

Messages from the Guardian

The Forces Mysteriously Released Are Inconceivably Potent

The opening year of the second Seven Year Plan so auspiciously inaugurated is half spent. The entire American Bahá'í Community, galvanized through fuller perception of the progressive unfoldment of its glorious destiny, is geared to a higher speed of organized activity, and uplifted to a new level of collective achievement. The forces mysteriously released, designed to direct the operation and stimulate the processes to insure the consummation of the second stage of the Divine Plan, are inconceivably potent. Full, rapid use of these forces, by an organized community alive to the sublimity of its mission, is imperative. The manifold agencies, local, regional, national and international, directly responsible for prosecution of the Plan are now called upon to achieve, in their respective spheres, termination of this current year, successes so conspicuous as shall immeasurably fortify hopes of winning, within the stipulated time, a total, decisive victory. An immediate notable increase in the number of pioneers, particularly for the newly-opened transatlantic field of service, is the more necessary basis of this challenging hour. The present trickle must at all costs swell into a steady flow of consecrated settlers and itinerant teachers, who, mindful of the Master's poignant plea, careless of their limited resources, undismayed by the somber international outlook, undeterred by the formidable character of the tasks undertaken or by the obstacles to be surmounted, will, in both the administrative and teaching spheres, arise to accomplish feats outshining the exploits immortalizing the record of American Bahá'í's stewardship in both continents of the New World since the inception of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan. May the months immediately ahead be productive of results exceeding my fondest expectations.

Smoun Haija, Palestine October 7, 1946 (Cablegram)

"Mounting Evidences of Magnificent Work"

Overjoyed, grateful for mounting evidences of magnificent work achieved. Assure the departed and the prospective pioneers of my boundless gratitude, fervent prayers and loving admiration, and abundant reward for exemplary response and magnificent labors.

Smoun Haija, Palestine October 19, 1946 (Cablegram)

Note: The Guardian's message of October 19 was sent in reply to the cablegram which the National Assembly addressed to him from the October meeting as follows:

"Deep gratitude your message October seventh sending copy every be-
liever stop Happy report helpful conference Temple Technical Committee European pioneers departed Solveig Corbit, Etty Graeife, Jetty Straub, Rita Van Sombeck and committee chairman Edna True for surveys conferences Mr. Mrs. Nielsen scheduled sail October eighteenth. First Public Meeting Minneapolis attracted overflow audience. National advertising campaign arousing interest. Devotedly."

There Is No Time to Lose
Dear valued co-workers:

As the opening phase of the Second Year Plan draws inexorably to a close, the American Bahá’í community, which has already abundantly demonstrated its capacity to carry to a triumphant conclusion the initial stage of the Plan conceived by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, must equally—nay, even more convincingly—prove to the entire Bahá’í world, its inflexible determination and undoubted ability to discharge befittingly whatever responsibilities the constant evolution of the Plan may impose upon its members under any circumstances and in whatever continent of the globe. As the field of their historic labors steadily widens, as the implications of their high mission become more apparent, as the complexity of their task increases, as the agencies designed to facilitate and accelerate its execution multiply, the members of this community must, individually as well as collectively, redouble their efforts, evince a nobler spirit of self-sacrifice, display greater resourcefulness, unity, initiative, steadfastness and enterprise, rise to loftier heights of heroism and self-abnegation, and establish, more convincingly than ever, their right to be regarded as the worthy champions of a glorious Cause, the principal builders of a unique Order, the chosen trustees and executors of a divinely conceived Plan.

Theirs is the duty, at once urgent, inescapable and sacred, to scatter more widely and as far as the extremities of both the North and South American continents, to cross the ocean in ever-increasing numbers, and reinforce, rapidly and systematically, the outposts of the Faith in Western Europe, lay, on a definite and unassailable basis, the foundations of new and flourishing communities, disseminate, energetically, and on a far more extensive scale, the literature of the Faith in all the languages which the execution of the Plan, at its present stage, demands, collaborate more closely with the two National Assemblies and their subsidiary agencies already functioning in that continent, initiate, wisely and patiently, whatever measures may be required to further the purposes of the Plan, and surmount, at whatever cost, every obstacle they may encounter in their path.

As to those who, owing to circumstances beyond their control, are unavoidably prevented from participat-

Memorial to John Stearns, first Bahá’í pioneer to Ecuador. Interment at Lima, Peru
community: all, without exception, with no reservation, without further delay, must participate. Each and every one, to the fullest extent of his or her ability, and however directly or indirectly affecting the prevailing circumstances, or circumcised the means, must arise to contribute to the success of this new enterprise, that will once safeguard the fruits already harvested through the successful conclusion of the first stage of the Divine Plan, and enable its prosecutors to launch, at the appointed time, a third and a still more glorious age in its evolution.

There is no time to lose. The task, though prodigious, is not beyond the capacity of those who, in so short a time, in such distant fields, over wide an area, and in the midst of a people so alien in temperament, language and custom, have won such conspicuous victories for their beloved Faith, and laid so enduring a foundation for its nascent institutions. This gallant community is now summoned to undertake, further and in circumstances admirably more adverse and challenging, a task infinitely more meritorious, and considerably richer in its potentials. To fail, at this critical juncture, to rise to the height of the occasion, would jeopardize the colossal work so painstakingly loosed in the course of many long years, and irretrievably shatter the hopes for the early opening of the third and most shining phase of the Divine Plan, a stage whose completion must mark the closing of the Initial Epoch in the Plan's progressive unfoldment.

May this community, faithful to 'Abdu'l-Bahá's mandate, arise as one man and carry out, in its entirety and to the fullest extent, the task which it has so spontaneously undertaken.

Bahaí News

The following passages are from the Guardian's letter of October 5, 1946, written through his secretary.

Need for Pioneers

Shoghi Effendi wants to particularly emphasize the need for more pioneers and travelling teachers, particularly in the European part, the present very unsettled part of the world, the confusion and suspicion which seems to be growing rather than dissipating, necessitating immediate action; no postponement to future years of an increase of workers abroad can be permitted, if the goals of this second Seven Year Plan are to be successfully achieved. Indeed, a time may come when the friends will look back and regret every hour of delay as a priceless opportunity irrevocably lost! Rapid as has been the work in Latin America, the work in Europe must go forward at a much more urgent pace. Although he feels the European Teaching Committee has already done wonderfully well, he urges you to appeal to the believers to arise in far greater numbers, and go abroad at once, heedless of the sacrifices involved. He himself, through his personal correspondence is constantly pressing the Bahá'ís to volunteer for this service, and hopes during the coming months many more people will place themselves at your disposal for this all-important service.

I need not tell you all that he constantly prays for your success and guidance in the discharge of your increasingly heavy duties. He admires greatly the spirit of perseverance and dedication with which you are serving, and you may call upon him at any time for his assistance and advice.

The Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Guardianship

The Passing of 'Abdu'l-Bahá

With the approaching observance on January 6th of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Guardianship, our minds turn back this month to the events of 1921 which connect the Guardianship with the life of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. To refresh our minds concerning the passing of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, we quote brief selections from a letter of Louise Bosh written from Haifa, December 5, 1921.

"Our beloved 'Abdu'l-Bahá passed from this earth early Monday morning. It was at half-past one o'clock—that is to say, one and one-half hours after midnight on Sunday. He had no illness in bed. His departure from this world was a rather sudden occurrence. It was half an hour before he closed his benignant eyes forever that he said to Rouha Khanum, who was alone in the room with him, "I am dying." There was no one else in the room with him, as all were in their respective beds asleep, no one imaging on awakening that such could be the case. Notwithstanding the fact that our beloved 'Abdu'l-Bahá was not so well that day, and in truth had not been well for a long time, but in consideration of his work which he did every day, and the care that he took to carry out his work every day, and the attention which he paid to matters great and small, and the visitors which he received up to the last, and his inquiries after the welfare of the pilgrims present and the sick in the village, and the requirements of the holy family,—in short, notwithstanding the fever which 'Abdu'l-Bahá had that day and several days previous, which fever would come and go and was designated as malarial—the members of the household were not aware of the approaching departure.

"After Rouha Khanum had given him some medicine, she awakened the holy mother. The others, also Dr. Krug, were sent for. He happened to be (as a pilgrim) on the grounds. He and his wife were lodged, and still are at the present time, in the room which 'Abdu'l-Bahá had built for himself as an addition to his house—the room to which a stairway leads, in the garden near the entrance. So Dr. Krug was not far away and could come quickly; but alas! 'Abdu'l-Bahá breathed only a few times more and all became still within his holy temple.

"At first we were as dumb and speechless, bewildered. We stood or knelted before the bed. We gazed upon his face and could not trust our eyes. . . . Then, after awhile, the mosquito netting over the bed was let down, and this covered from our eyes the earthly remains of our Lord. We got up and went into the adjacent room, and the door of the room out of which we came was closed.

"The holy funeral took place on Tuesday morning, the casket being borne on the shoulders of men, up and up and up Mount Carmel, until the sacred spot of the Tomb of His Holiness the Bab was reached, and there 'Abdu'l-Bahá was temporarily buried.

"The holy family awaits the ar-
rival of Shoghi Effendi Rabbani from England. Until that time nothing will be undertaken regarding the reading of the Testament of Our Lord, the Center of the Covenant of God. He left a letter addressed to Shoghi Effendi, and this letter he gave for safe-keeping to the holy mother, and gave the order to write to Shoghi to come home. . . ."

From "Star of the West," vol. XII, pp. 276-282.

When we observe on November 28 the Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, let us also prayerfully review the life-long labors of the Master and the great heritage He has bequeathed to us.

"Thus was brought to a close the ministry of One Who was the incarnation, by virtue of the rank bestowed upon Him by His Father, of an institution that has no parallel in the entire field of religious history, a ministry that marks the final stage in the Apostolic, the Heroic and most glorious Age of the Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh.

"Through Him the Covenant, that 'excellent and priceless Heritage' bequeathed by the Author of the Bahá'í Revelation, had been proclaimed, championed and vindicated. Through the power which that Divine Instrument had conferred upon Him the light of God's infant Faith had penetrated the West, had diffused itself as far as the Islands of the Pacific, and illumined the fringes of the Australian continent. Through His personal intervention the Message, Whose Bearer had tasted the bitterness of a life-long captivity, had been noise abroad, and its character and purpose disclosed, for the first time in its history, before enthusiastic and representative audiences in the chief cities of Europe and of the North American continent. Through His unremitting labors, as reflected in the discourses He composed, the thousands of Tablets He revealed, the discourses He delivered, the prayers, poems and commentaries He left to posterity, mostly in Persian, some in Arabic and a few in Turkish, the laws and principles, constituting the warp and woof of His Father's Revelation, had been elucidated, the fundamentals restated and interpreted, its tenets given detailed application and the validity and indispensability of its verities fully and publicly demonstrated. Through the warnings He sounded, an unheeding humanity, steeped in materialism and forgetful of its God, had been apprised of the perils threatening to disrupt its ordered life, and made, in consequence of its persistent perversity, to sustain the initial shocks of the world upheaval which continues, until the present day, to rock the foundations of human society. And lastly, through the mandate He had issued to a valiant community, the concerted achievements of whose members had shed so great a lustre on the annals of His own ministry, He had set in motion a Plan which, soon after its formal inauguration, achieved the opening of the Australian continent, which, in a later period, was to be instrumental in winning over the heart of a royal convert to His Father's Cause, and which, today, through the irresistible unfoldment of its potentialities, is so marvellously quickening the spiritual life of all the Republics of Latin America as to constitute a befitting conclusion to the records of an entire century.

"Nor should a survey of the outstanding features of so blessed and fruitful a ministry omit mention of the prophecies which the unerring pen of the appointed Center of Bahá'u'lláh's Covenant has recorded. These foreshadow the fierceness of the onslaught that the resistless march of the Faith must provoke in the West, in India and in the Far East when it meets the federated orders of the Christian, the Buddhist and Hindu religions. They foreshadow the turmoil which its emancipation from the fetters of religious orthodoxy will cast in the American, the European, the Asiatic and African continents. They foreshadow the gath-

From forty to forty-five children of all ages attend the daily Bahá'í class given by Sra. Natalia Chávez of Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The children have a good knowledge of the Faith and their parents are friendly to it, and some of them are studying it. The picture shows some of the members of the class, with Marcia Bieward in the doorway and Sra. Chávez in front.
National Spiritual Assembly

Race Unity Consultation

Change in Agenda

Since the general plans reported in October Bahá’í News were adopted, the National Assembly has found it advisable to provide for more intensive consideration of the teaching policies involved in the best promotion of the Faith in the Southern areas. The proposed banquet to be held Saturday evening, December 7, in Chicago is eliminated from the plans. Instead, a laboratory session will be held Saturday evening with the Race Unity Committee, non-Bahá’í consultants, and members of the NSA.

The Sunday morning conference in Temple Foundation Hall, December 8, is limited in attendance to the representatives of the Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees of the Southern States as listed in October Bahá’í News. The Conference will be devoted to the subject of teaching and race relations in the South, hence the natural limitation of the participating areas.

The public meeting Sunday afternoon in Temple Foundation Hall will be held as previously announced.

How to Increase Bahá’í Effort

Dear Bahá’í friends:

Each of you has received a personal copy of the message which Shoghi Effendi cabled from Haifa on October 7. When he calls upon the “manifold agencies, local, regional, national and intercontinental,” to achieve conspicuous successes this year, the Guardian addresses himself to every individual Bahá’í and every Bahá’í committee and Assembly now existing in North America. How can the sum total of our Bahá’í effort be greatly increased—that is, effort expressed in deeds, not words?

The answer is, by employing the full capacity each of us already has—by turning into action the devotion and the knowledge which we actually possess. The intention is mysterious and profound, but the method of realizing the intention is simple, clear and measurable from day to day. For example:

1. Do I attend the Nineteen Day Feasts regularly? If not, what prevents me?

2. Am I aware of the definite plans adopted for attaining the objectives of the new Seven Year Plan? Have I felt that I have no responsibility under the Plan if I am not a member of one of the National Committees?

3. What are the facts about my contributions to the Bahá’í Fund? Have I ever thought through this matter of expressing my faith in terms of sacrifice? Am I donating twice as much as last year?

4. Am I teaching the Faith? If not a lecturer or public speaker, do I find ways to share the teachings with others? Have I taught myself to the degree that I begin to express the basic truths and attitudes in my daily life?

5. Do I contribute to the unity and enthusiasm of my community or group? Or am I carried along by the spiritual power generated by others?

6. Am I able and willing to abandon my present way of life and offer to go to some post of difficulty and trial?

7. Do I study the teachings regularly, with others or alone?

The self-examination is the important thing, and not the particular form of questions we ask ourselves. Action today is the sign of faith, and not acceptance of any passive formula which leaves ourselves out of the daily work. Let each of us set a higher standard of Bahá’í work. Living up to a higher standard is the way to grow in strength, integrity, capacity, usefulness, assurance and the joy that nothing can take away.

How to Increase Bahá’í Effort

Bahá’í Addresses

National Office:
358 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.
Treasurer’s Office:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.
Bahá’í Publishing Committee:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Bahá’í visitors to New York from Mexico City. Left to right: Sra. de Vegara and her two children, Mrs. Rolles, Sra. de Vegara, and Mr. Randolph Rees, Jr.
National Spiritual Assembly will be held responsible to third persons for the acts of committees or other agents appointed by it, if the acts in question are within the scope of the authority and duties assigned to such committees or agents.

2. The National Spiritual Assembly will also be responsible to third persons for the acts of an employee—a person who is employed for special or particular work and who works under the general supervision and control of the National Spiritual Assembly, its committees or agents, provided that the acts are within the scope of the employee's duties and authority.

3. The National Spiritual Assembly will not be responsible for the acts of an independent contractor, i.e., persons such as contractors, caterers, or others who are employed for certain services and who are put in complete control of the work without interference from the National Spiritual Assembly or its committees.

4. As a general rule the National Spiritual Assembly will not be responsible to third persons for the acts of sub-agents who are appointed by its committees since an agent is not permitted to delegate his authority to another person. However, under certain circumstances the National Spiritual Assembly may find itself liable for the acts of such sub-agents. Such liability results when the sub-agent is appointed by a committee or agent which has been assigned work which in view of normal business customs ordinarily includes the authority to appoint other agents, and which properly conducted reasonably requires the employment of other agents.

In view of these general legal principles and the inability to make any rule which can cover all cases, the National Spiritual Assembly should guard itself against committee actions based more upon enthusiasm than wise judgment by issuing a general statement regarding the limitation of committees. The following statements are suggested for inclusion in all committee appointments by way of notice to committee chairmen:

A. It is understood in accepting this appointment that no committee or committee member shall have authority to bind the National Spiritual Assembly by any contract or agreement with third persons unless the National Spiritual Assembly shall have in writing officially and expressly assented thereto.

B. All committees or agents acting on their own initiative must advise third parties that the National Spiritual Assembly can be made liable only by its written agreement or assent to any undertaking and that no agreements made by committees or agents shall create any liability upon the National Spiritual Assembly.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Treasurer's Report

Dear Bahá'í friends:

Since we are into our sixth month of this Bahá'í year it might be well to review the Budget as of September 30th, 1946.

The total Budget for the period from May 1 to September 30 was $104,166.66.

Total contributions to the National Bahá'í Fund and Trustee Accounts amounted to $89,167.01, leaving a deficit in meeting our Budget of $14,999.65.

It might be well to remember that in this item of $89,167.01, which represents the total contributions for the period, that there are several non-recurring legacies which we have received since the beginning of this Bahá'í year.

Plans are going forward rapidly in all branches of Bahá'í activity and it will not be long before the Fund will be drawn upon in large sums for the interior decoration of the Temple.

The degree to which we support the activities which the Guardian has outlined for the Second Seven Year Plan, through the Fund, will measure our ability to reach these goals.

Faithfully,

PHILIP G. SPRAGUE, Treasurer

Greeting to Esperanto Convention

The National Spiritual Assembly sent through the Chairman of the World Language Committee the following message to the national Esperanto Convention held in July:

The American Bahá'ís send cordial greeting and best wishes. We trust that your gathering will be crowned with success in your devotion to the great principle of a universal auxiliary language which is a goal also sought by the followers of Bahá'u'lláh.

This year our hearts are deeply touched by the loving memory of the late Lidia Zamenhof, whose laudable death in Poland has shed her many friends throughout the world. The American Bahá'ís are arranging a memorial meeting in her honor to be held by our local groups in hundreds of cities throughout North America. We hope that Esperanto friends will meet with Bahá'ís on that occasion.

Memorial Gathering in Honor of Mr. John D. Bosch

A memorial meeting to honor Mr. John D. Bosch will be conducted in Temple Foundation Hall, Wilmette, Illinois, at 11 a.m., Sunday, November 2, 1946, by a special committee appointed by the National Spiritual Assembly.

Four who plan to “group pioneer” in Cleveland. Left to right: Larry Kramer, Mabelle Perry, Narrabe King, Bobo Imajere.

Concerning Bulletins from A. J. Stenstrand

For twenty years or more, circular letters have been issued to some of the Assemblies by a party who signs himself A. J. Stenstrand, Chicago. These bulletins apparently seek to make Bahá'ís believe that Bahá'u'lláh was not a Manifestation, the One foretold by the Báb, but an imposter. When asked what to do with such communications, the National Spiritual Assembly has always advised the Assembly or individual to put them in the waste paper basket and forget them. They merit no consideration by Assemblies, with their feeble echo of the violation of a by-gone day.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY
**Ask for Credentials**

One more Assembly has reported having extended financial assistance to a person claiming to be a Bahá'í, whose statements were later proven wholly unreliable and untrue. The name used in this case was Robert Williams.

Bahá'í membership can, whenever necessary, be authenticated. Whenever a stranger, claiming to be a believer, seeks to exploit the Faith in any way, the Assembly's duty is to request credentials.

**November World Order**

A Bahá'í Philosophy of Education—John Stroessler
Scientific Approach to Moral Conduct—Jack B. Falooh
We Long for Divine Guidance—Shirley Warde
Blazing the Trail—Stanwood Cobb
This Glory, This Power—(Editorial)
Horace Holley
Aiká, Poem—Laura Romney Davis
The Promised Day Is Come, Book Revised—Mabel Hyde Paine
Double Rainbow, Poem—Nell Griffith Wilson
South African Misson—Fanny Knobloch
With Our Readers

**Foreign Language Editions**

Part of the new editions prepared by the European Teaching Committee has been acquired by the Publishing Committee for sale here.

Bahá'u'lláh et L'Ère Nouvelle (Esslemon book in French), per copy, $1.25.

Bahá'u'lláh Og Den Nye Tid (Esslemon book in Danish). Per copy, $1.50.

Address: Baha'i Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

**Books and Pamphlets**

The Publishing Committee calls attention to several titles which are either new publications or timely subjects helpful in teaching work.

*Race and Man*, compiled by Maye Harvey Gift and Alice Simmons Cox, consisting of excerpts from current scientific, sociological and religious authors, and selections from the Bahá'í writings. A valuable source of material, and a book which can be presented to libraries, teachers and race leaders. 134 pages. Paper cover. Per copy, $0.90.

Baha'i Peace Program, by the National Committee on Bahá'í Peace Plan, 1945. Excerpts from writings of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá and Shoghi Effendi, with comment relating the teachings to the current world problem. 16 pages and cover. Per copy, 15 cents.

**Pioneers to Europe Begin Teaching**

Shoghi Effendi once said in a visiting pamphlet: "God raises up whatever means He needs to promote His Cause." This surely seems to be so as we follow the destinies of those pioneers who have volunteered to inaugurate the European Teaching Campaign. On September 7th New York harbor was filled with ships unable to move because of the maritime strike. Two ships and two ships only, the "Kingsholm" and the "Stavangerfjord," were able to sail on that day (because of special circumstances), and one of these two ships carried our pioneer to Norway, Mrs. Corbit, and our representative to Geneva, Mrs. Graeaffe. A New York daily paper reported that these two ships sailed that day "under dramatic circumstances." And our Committee adds: "Did it not!"

Through a series of equally fortuitous circumstances our Chairman, Miss Edna True, sailed September 25th on the Dutch liner "Westerdam," directly to Holland. Within two days of sailing she was able to get passage for our two Dutch pioneers, Miss Rita von Sombeck and her sister, Mrs. Jetty Straub, on the very same ship. This too is a "dramatic circumstance," as the ship these pioneers intended to leave on was indefinitely delayed by the strike, and is, at this writing, still tied up in New York harbor.

Already letters are beginning to come back from these first pioneers, and these letters are full of hope...
and enthusiasm. Mrs. Corbit writes from Oslo, Norway, that there are many interested persons there. Miss Johanna Shubarth (formerly of Urbana, Illinois) has done splendid contacts work in Oslo, and through her efforts several meetings were held while Mrs. Graeffe was there. Among other things, Miss Shubarth and Mrs. Corbit are starting a study class composed of young Norwegians who speak English.

On October 18th, our pioneers to Denmark, Mr. and Mrs. Anders Nielson, will be sailing for Copenhagen to take up permanent residence there. These will be followed in the very near future by other pioneers, as soon as transportation can be arranged.

In our next report we hope to give many details of the progress of the work in Europe. This time the European Teaching Committee has wanted to share with the friends our conviction and our gratitude that the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh cannot be held back by such things as maritime strikes or any other material obstacles. “God raises up whatever means He needs to promote His Cause!” KATHERINE K. TRUX
European Teaching Committee

Preparation for the Latin American Conferences

Excitement is running high as 19 delegates begin their trek to the first Bahá'í South American Conference, which will open in Buenos Aires the evening of November 7th. It is expected to be a memorable occasion foreshadowing the future unity of the 10 South American Republics in a single National Spiritual Assembly to be elected in April, 1951. Every one of the ten countries will be represented at the Conference by one or more delegates. The 19 en route are from countries other than Argentina, where the congress will be held.

Because of the immense distances to be traversed and the equally high expense of such journeys, one most generous Bahá'í made a sacrificial gift to aid with transportation, where necessary, so that no country, however far, might be left unrepresented. The interesting thing is that, in spite of the poverty of many of the believers, only three of the most distant countries accepted aid to the extent of a complete round trip for their delegate. Even then, he was to pay his personal expenses, hotels, etc., en route and any necessary expenses in Buenos Aires. Five of the other countries accepted aid with half of the transportation expense, for one delegate per country. Eleven are planning to go entirely at their own expense. The majority are traveling in buses or trains; sometimes part of the way by sea, in order to reduce expense and gather in the Argentine capital on the opening night.

The Buenos Aires Assembly, ably assisted by Shirley Warde, has been putting on a fine publicity campaign accompanied by a series of public meetings with audiences overflowing the Bahá'í Center and resorting to public halls in order to accommodate the people. Among North Americans who plan to be present are Shirley, Flora Hottes, now in Montevideo, and Artemus Lamb, who has been pioneering in Punta Arenas and doing regional teaching throughout Chile. His sister, Mrs. Valeria Nicholas, and his mother are en route from California to join Artemus in Santiago, Chile, where they will reside and assist the believers. Chile has three Assemblies and four new groups have recently been formed.

The first tests of combining correspondence teaching with visits of itinerant teachers has worked out very well in Cali, Colombia, this month. Mrs. Louise Caswell made some contacts there last December. These were sustained through correspondence and others added. The group invited Mrs. Gayle Woolson to visit them, when possible. She did so the middle of September with the result that 13 adults and 2 youth were confirmed as Bahá'ís and a class of 20 is continuing to study. Among the members of this new Bahá'í community are a prominent physician and the grand master of the Masons of western Colombia. Gayle continued her regional teaching trip into Ecuador, with the result that seeds planted there began to bear fruit. Three new memberships and enthusiastic reports have just come in from Guayaquil, while the secretary of the group in Quito reports two former members reconfirmed and active and one new member added, making six active members in their group. He writes, “This is fruit of the seed Johnny Stearns has sown, but Huscle Cornbleth and Gayle have now made it ripe.” He winds up, “We need registration cards. Please rush!”

Mrs. Gwennie Sholtis has been doing an outstanding teaching job in the Bolivian goal city of Sucre, where three new adult members and one declared youth have just come in through her efforts. A Bahá'í Center has been opened and meetings are continuing now in her absence. Flora Hottes and Sra. Yvonne L. de Cuellar of La Paz contributed to the founding of the group in Sucre as well as to the teaching work in La Paz.

Enthusiastic reports have been pouring in from Central America as the result of Mrs. Marcia Steward's three and a half months' teaching trip through the six countries. Mrs. Steward emphasized the guardianship and the reality of Bahá'í Administration in preparation for the election of the second Latin American National Spiritual Assembly, which will include Central America, Mexico and the West Indies. Two new membership cards accompany a most enthusiastic letter from the secretary in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Many important persons were reached by Marcia, assisted by the members of the various assemblies. Among them was Dr. Guerrero, president of the International Court of Justice, who said to the Bahá'í representative, “I feel myself completely linked with you, and I wish you to do me the honour to consider me from now on as a member of your organization.”

Miss Louise Baker will sail from New Orleans November 1st for Vera Cruz, Mexico. She will teach in Vera Cruz and Puebla. Mr. Charles Mason Remy will leave Washington in December to visit the Panama Bahá'í Conference and also to call upon the Bahá'í Communities in the West Indies and Central America. The Conference is officially set for January 19 - 25. Mrs. Loulie Matthews of Temperiry Ranch, Colorado, plans to attend it as a representative of
the Inter-America Committee. A second representative will be Dr. Edris Rice-Wray of Glenview, Ill., who will visit Guatemala on the way south and stop in some of the islands of the West Indies en route homeward. Mr. and Mrs. Emeric Sala of Canada have now completed their plans for a teaching trip in December including the West Indies and Venezuela.

Word has come that Mr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Miessler of Columbus Grove, Ohio, have just arrived in Rio de Janeiro, where they will spend a month prior to continuing to their pioneer post in Sao Paulo.

Twenty-three adult memberships and four declared youth, as well as the reconfirmation of two additional Bahá'ís, have been received from Latin America this month.

**Inter-America Committee**

**Public Meetings Series**

**Opens Successfully**

The series of Public Meetings for 1946-1947 opened with the Minneapolis meeting on October 13th, held in the East Room of the Curtis Hotel. The "Trio Unique," a piano and string ensemble, set the stage with fifteen minutes of music while the audience was gathering. The ushers in colorful formal attire and of various races, demonstrated the Bahá'í principle of the Oneness of Mankind, as variegated flowers from the garden of humanity.

Maria Montana, a member of the Minneapolis Community and professional concert artist, contributed greatly to the program with the sacred song, "How Beautiful Upon the Mountains," by F. Flaxington Harker, with violin cello accompaniment by Dr. Charles Frink.

A lighted model of the Temple, loaned by the St. Paul community, was used as a window display during the week preceding the meeting and in the hotel lobby the night of the lecture.

Daily spot announcements were made over the radio the week of the meeting. Two fifteen minute broadcasts used the transcriptions provided by the National Radio Committee. The radio director of one of the stations said that the transcriptions were so fine that if he could find time to run them again after the rush season was over (sports etc.), he would give them free time. The meeting was well publicized in the newspapers and two thousand invitations were mailed out.

The hall capacity was 450, all seats were filled, and a good many stood during the entire program, while others were turned away. The speaker of the evening was Carl Schefle and the finest tribute to his work comes through Lawrence Hautz, chairman of the evening, who said: "The audience remained glued to their seats after the completion of the lecture, and it was necessary to inform them a second time that the program was over." As follow-up work a regular Wednesday night meeting is scheduled at the Minneapolis Bahá'í Center.

The Key Cities holding meetings in November are as follows:

- Nov. 3rd—Albuquerque, N. M., speaker, Dr. Edris Rice-Wray;
- Nov. 5th—Urbana, Illinois, speaker, Miss Elsie Austin;
- Nov. 10th—Binghamton, N. Y., speaker, Mr. Matthew Bullock;
- Nov. 24th—Winnipeg, Manitoba, speakers, Dr. Edris Rice-Wray and Mr. Emeric Sala.

Salt Lake City has its meeting tentatively scheduled for December 15, with Helen Bishop as speaker; San Francisco, for Jan. 10th, with Horace Holley and Elsie Austin as selected speakers. Baltimore is planning its meeting for January 21st with William Sears as speaker.

Montreal's meeting will be held in February with Horace Holley, speaker. Miami and Nashville will also hold meetings in February, with Harlan Ober as speaker.

For the month of March Cleveland is scheduled, with Dorothy Baker, and Pittsburgh, with Kenneth Christian.

Last year's Key Cities, reporting similar meetings to date are—Atlanta, Detroit, Denver, Boston (meeting scheduled for October 25th), New Orleans (the latter part of January), New York (November 7th with Matthew Bullock as speaker), Portland (February 3rd with Mark Toby as speaker), Toronto, and Washington, D. C. (October 12th). Chicago and Los Angeles are the only cities that have not been heard from to date.

**Public Meetings Committee**

![Temple Display on Nicollel Ave., Minneapolis, during the week preceding the National Public Meeting, October 13th.](image-url)
Sixteen New Settlers in Goal Cities

A review of the activities in the twenty-one regions of the United States and Alaska during the first six months of the new Plan indicates a movement toward the accomplishment of the goals which have been given us by the Guardian. To aid in the establishment of the first objective of the new Plan, a total of sixteen believers have moved to goal cities, and the National Teaching Committee has arranged twelve inter-regional circuits to give teaching assistance to the weaker Assemblies and groups holding promise of Assembly status, besides approving twenty regional projects designed to stimulate teaching activity.

Fourteen Regional Teaching Conferences have been held to focus the attention of the believers on the goals of the second Seven Year Plan and to discuss ways and means of achieving these goals. Several of the Regional Committees have provided large maps of the region designating the location of the goal cities, and the agendas of the meetings have covered such topics as: "How to bring groups to Assembly status"; "Fireside meetings"; "Consolidation of the Victories Already Won"; "Ways and Means of Securing an audience"; and various aspects of the new Plan such as regular contributions to the National Fund, need for pioneer settlers and teachers, etc.

In connection with most of the Regional Conferences, a well-advertised public meeting has been held and this has been very helpful to the smaller communities. Those cities where Conferences have been held are: Rochester, N.Y.; Red Bank, N.J.; Jackson, Miss.; Laramie, Wyo.; Topeka, Kan.; Kalama-zoo, Mich.; Fort Wayne, South Bend and Indianapolis, Ind.; Logan, Utah; San Francisco, Calif.; Los Angeles, Calif.; Washington, D.C.; Kenosha, Wis.; and Chicago, Ill. An RTC Conference in Minneapolis on Nov. 16th will provide follow-up interest for the big meeting held there in October, and a Conference and public meeting is planned for Knoxville, Tenn. in December to aid the group in its effort to increase its membership and achieve Assembly status next April.

The National Teaching Committee has planned for two conferences with Regional Teaching Committee members of nine Eastern and Southern regions to talk over general plans for the accomplishment of the goals of the new Plan. The first conference was held with members of the five Regional Committees of New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Ohio, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, in New York, N.Y. on October 20th, and the second is to be held on Nov. 10th in Atlanta, Ga., with the members of Regional Committees from the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas.

In these nine regions there are twenty-three weak Assemblies in need of strengthening, and sixteen groups holding promise of Assembly status, or over half of the thirty on which the Guardian has focussed attention to "speedily attain Assembly status." With but six months in which to accomplish the goals set for this first year of the new Plan the National and Regional Teaching Committees are endeavoring to utilize every opportunity for the furtherance of the teaching work.

The settlement of believers in the goal cities during these months has likewise been a very important part of the work of consolidation, as sixteen believers have moved to the following goal cities: Mr. and Mrs. Lucien McComb and Mrs. Gutherie of Long Island, N.Y., and former pioneers in Puerto Rico, have moved to Portsmouth, N.H.; Mr. Clarence Newport of Elmhurst, Ill. has moved to Providence, R.I.; Mrs. Barbara Jones of Lima, O. has moved to Brattleboro, Vt.; Mr. and Mrs. Ronald E. Erfurth have moved to Boise, Idaho, but unfortunately just temporarily, as they find their property is outside the city limits and they will be moving to their new home when it is completed in the spring; Miss Gertrude Eisenberg of Chicago, a former pioneer in South America, has become established in Louisville, Ky.; Miss Josie Pinson of Charleston, S. C., has secured a transfer of her position to Greenville, S.C.; Dr. and Mrs. Clyde Longyear of Los Angeles have moved to Beverly Hills, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Aldrich of Fargo have been transferred to Butte, Mont.; Mr. and Mrs. Betty Arrants of Gadsden, Ala., have settled in Knoxville, Tenn., to bring the membership of the group there to nine, thus insuring Assembly status in April. Settlers are still urgently needed and we urge anyone free to move to one of the goal cities to write Mrs. Sarah S. Walthall, Sec'y. of the National Teaching Committee, 4639 Beacon St., Chicago, Ill.

Twelve Regional circuits have provided teaching help to the goal cities, the most recent of which are: A circuit arranged for Mrs. Sara E. Witt of Santa Monica, Calif., through the Upper New York region in September, and during October arrangements have been made for visits to Fargo, Butte, Helena and Salt Lake City. Mrs. Witt will be the guest speaker for the public meeting in connection with the RTC Conference in Logan, Utah, on October 28th and 27th, going on to Boise, Ida., and to Reno, Nev., in November.

Mr. Duncan McAlear of Boston, Mass., covered a circuit which included Albany, Syracuse, Rochester and the Finger Lakes. Mr. William DeForge of Teaneck, N.J. made a three-day teaching tour which included New Haven, Hamden, and Orange, Conn. centers, and over Columbus Day Mr. DeForge visited Brattleboro, Vt. Mrs. Margery McCormick of Evanston, Ill. will visit Greensboro, N.C.; Greenville, S.C.; Columbia, S.C.; Augusta, Ga.; and Atlanta, Georgia the latter part of October and November.

Especially intensive teaching work has been going forward in Louis-
ville, Ky., in an effort to build up that community, Mrs. Kathryn Frankland has been actively engaged for several months in making contacts and doing the preparatory work for a series of meetings planned by the National Teaching Committee for October and November. The series opened on Oct. 6th with a talk by Mr. Horace Holley on the subject, "World Hope of Religion," before an audience of seventy-five; excellent publicity and radio announcements advertised the meetings. A series of six 15-minute broadcasts are also being given through cooperation with the Natl. Radio Committee. Mrs. Sarah Walrath of Chicago spoke on "What should Religion do for the Individual" before an audience of fifty deeply interested and responsive people on Oct. 17th, and Mr. Carl Scheffer of Evanston, Ill., will speak on "Material and Spiritual Education" on Oct. 27th. Mrs. Frankland is following up the interest that has been aroused through fireside meetings, teas, luncheons, etc. Dr. Rice-Wray will speak early in November and negotiations are under way to provide a youth symposium and further speakers during November.

**NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE**

**Developments in National Publicity and Advertising Campaign**

Bahá’í advertisements have appeared in *Newsweek, World Report, Editor and Publisher, Publishers Auxiliary, and Broadcast.* 116 written requests for literature have been received, one of which listed eleven other persons. The total mailings of literature to October 11 have been 137. The booklet, *World Order Through World Faith,* is sent out with a copy of the summary.

The indirect results of the campaign are interesting and important. The advertising magazines, *Printers Ink, Advertising Age,* and *Tide,* all published a notice, and *Tide* interviewed our public relations counsel and on September 13 published an extensive statement with picture of the Temple.

When the article in *Tide* was noted by the editors of *The Christian Century,* they wrote an editorial about the campaign in their issue of September 2, which stated that the "plan is all right. The Bahá’ís have something to sell." They wonder, however, how the Bahá’ís are going to tell the people about the stations of the Báb, Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abe’l-Bahá and the Guardian.

The next link in the chain of cause and effect is that the editorial in *The Christian Century* was noted in the editorial office of *Time Magazine,* and a wire was sent to their Chicago office for information which could be used in the preparation of an article. The Chicago office interviewed our public relations counsel and a number of Bahá’ís in the Chicago area and sent the results to New York. The new religious editor of *Time Magazine* shortly afterward came to Chicago and spent some time in the National Bahá’í Office obtaining information and literature. His attitude was that a brief and dignified general statement about the Faith should be published in their religious section and he hoped his material would be approved.

The main point is, that every step forward in the promotion of the Faith produces unexpected and mysterious results. The confirming power of the Spirit acts whenever the believers press forward.

During September two newspaper articles have been distributed through our counsel to about 675 papers in 350 towns. The list includes a number of national magazines.

Subjects: The new European Teaching Campaign, and the need for Spiritual Education.

The following figures show the extent of public influence which can be exerted through publicity for the Faith. The Public Relations Committee has received 417 clippings of the U.S. Navy aerial picture of the Temple sent out to a special list of small town papers last spring with the caption "Landmark for Peace." Allowing for possible duplication, the Temple picture was seen by at least two million readers. Associated Press has recently distributed another picture of the Temple with caption reporting plan to complete the interior, and so far the clippings show it has appeared in seventy-seven different papers.

To assist the cities holding meetings under the Public Meetings Committee, the Public Relations Committee with its counsel has prepared three advertisements and three press releases which with change of local data can be used in all the cities. The Committee is prepared to render further service in these cities through mailings of literature to selected lists.

The Contacts Division of the Committee has mailed out 1,450 pieces of literature to a selected list of 725 persons of influence, including lecturers, radio commentators, authors, educators, musicians.

A circular letter was issued to Assemblies, Regional Teaching Committees and some active individual workers on September 16 with a sample copy of the 32-page booklet. Assemblies were requested to supply lists of names and addresses.

Our public relations counsel has carried out a number of special projects including: letter to travel and tourist bureaus, hotels and other agencies in the Chicago area with material about the Temple, to interest convention delegates and tourists visiting Chicago to include the Temple in their sight-seeing arrangements; special memo to New York papers concerning Miss Edna True’s departure for Europe on the work of the European Teaching Committee; contact with the New York Herald-Tribune Forum to include a Bahá’í speaker on their program; interviews with magazine editors, editing and placing of the advertisements and press releases.

For its contacts campaign, the Committee now has available a supply of the following printed material: *The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh* (summary and outline), Chicago Sunday Tribune reprint of Temple picture and article, *Bahá’í—The Coming of World Religion,* and these four-page reprints—*The Principle of Religious Unity,* *Abdu’l-Bahá;* *The Reality of Brotherhood,* *The Reality of the Future Society,* *The Pattern for Reality of the Future Society,* Shoghi Effendi; and the booklet, *World Order Through World Faith.*

One of the permanent projects in development is the working up of a National Bahá’í Mailing List of Key Persons and Organizations, classified according to their major interests, for the regular distribution of literature. The more names and addresses received, the more the Committee can help the local community or group.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

New Braille Publication

*"The Reality of Man"* in English Braille, grade one and a half, published earlier in the year is now available to all Braille readers in the United States and its Territories through the placing of one gift copy in the Library of Congress and in
November, 1946

Visual Education Committee

The Visual Education Committee for 1946-47 was assigned the functions of three former committees of allied interests, in order to coordinate the resources for visual teaching under one plan. The timeliness of this action of the National Assembly has been amply proven by the flood of inquiries which have come to the committee from all parts of the continent, and many points beyond this country. So great has been the demand that the National Assembly has suggested that we summarize our plans and the service we can offer, through Bahá'í News.

The work of the Committee falls into three areas of method, and a technical unit has been set up for each one. These units are (1) Exhibits and Displays; (2) Photography for teaching and documentary purposes; (3) Motion Pictures, silent and sound; Slides and Slide-films are part of No. 2 and No. 3. Our over-all budget is $500.00 for the year. It is therefore apparent that our work this year must be largely survey and experimental in character, and serve as the basis for efficient production and distribution to aid the teaching campaigns of the new Seven Year Plan.

At the present time, however, production on a small scale is being undertaken in each unit. Our budget will not allow us the short-cuts of using commercial firms to carry out our projects, but in two localities, Los Angeles and the Temple area, volunteer service groups are working under the supervision of a V.E.C. member to create specific designs or projects. Exhibits for the Public Meetings campaign, approved and financed by that Committee, are now getting under way in the Temple area, under the direction of Mr. Arthur H. Patterson. In California, the Los Angeles Youth Group, supervised by Leonard Herbert, are working on materials for the portfolios of sample illustrations of displays, which will serve as models for arranging small window and counter exhibits. The designs for these have been kept simple and the "props" are few and easily available. Models for travelling exhibits are still in the experimental stage, but will be reported through these columns as soon as shortages of materials can be overcome.

Exhibits for State and County Fairs, Festivals, and Community Parades, and other similar events cannot be served by the V.E.O. this year, as they involve large scale supplies and expenditures beyond our capacity.

Another committee project is the planning and preparation of synchronized slide-and-script programs to serve as teaching aids for inexperienced teachers, or to supplement the work of trained teachers. Methods of production and distribution have not been set up for this section yet.

The motion picture unit is occupied with plans for both documentary and teaching films. The script for the first Bahá'í teaching film is now being written. In the survey area a study is being made of suitable commercial films, on educational subjects, which can be used as a valuable adjunct for Bahá'í programs.

The Committee will welcome any inquiries or suggestions about its activities. New progress of the work will be reported in subsequent issues of Bahá'í News.

Please note new address for V.E.C. mail: Mrs. Clyde S. Longyear, Secretary, 456 South Bedford Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

Charles Wolcott, Chairman, Visual Education Committee

Good Response to Questionnaire Cards

The new Questionnaire enterprise recently put into operation by the National Questionnaires Committee, is meeting with a response beyond our early predictions. The new question cards seem to fill a long felt need, that of locating new seekers. With these cards the rank and file of the believers are equipped to give the Message daily to those with whom they come in contact. Questionnaires are coming in from many different sources, including editors and faculty and students of colleges and theological seminaries. Praise for the questionnaire service is voiced by Assemblies, groups, and even non-Bahá'í seekers who have sensed the possibilities of this growing project.

In the seven-month period that this committee has been issuing these questionnaire cards, over 3,000 pieces of literature have been mailed out to new seekers who have checked the questions on subjects. So far, 33 states have been heard from as well as the Philippines and Hawaii. Through the enthusiastic cooperation of Assemblies, groups and individual believers, these cards have spread throughout the nation in less than half a year. It can be readily seen what an important tool they are in locating real seekers. Every believer should carry them with him at all times. Put your own name in a corner, if you wish, and you will then be able to ascertain how many of the cards you have handed out are bearing fruit.

Card number 3, headed "Questions I Would Like to Have Answered" has brought the greatest response to date—a proof that people are more interested in questions that concern their individual lives than they are on the general topics listed on Card No. 2. This gives us a very good idea as to what makes for attractive subjects to publicize for fireside groups and also for lecture topics. Listing them in the order in which they are most widely checked at this time:

1. What are the principles of the Bahá'í Faith?
2. What are your teachings about healing?
3. What is the difference between the mind, spirit and soul?
4. Does the soul progress more through servitude or through joy in this world?
5. Is prophecy being fulfilled?
6. What is true prayer?
7. What are some of the problems to be overcome before a lasting peace can be attained?
8. How does the Bahá'í Faith teach that workmen should share in the profits of a business?
9. How does the Bahá'í Faith propose to eliminate strikes?
10. Is it possible to attain true happiness?
11. Will the love one has entertained for another be forgotten in the next world?
12. Are we ever cut off from those in the other world?

Through the National Teaching Committee these cards are distributed to the Regional Committees for follow-up work especially when cards are sent in from places where there are as yet no Bahá'ís.
The questionnaire cards are an added incentive to Bahá'í's themselves to inaugurate Bahá'í's to become thoroughly informed of the answers to the questions on the card so that if, after handing one of these cards to an individual, he should ask him to immediately answer one of the questions, the believer will be ready to answer it. A study outline for this purpose is in the process of completion and assignment to the Study Aids Committee.

The questionnaire cards are available to assemblies, groups and regions at the rate of $5.00 per thousand or 60 cents a hundred. A special small package of fifty cards is now available to individual Bahá'ís for 35 cents.

Packages containing complete sets of answer literature for study classes may be had for 25 cents. All orders are to be mailed to Ward Calhoun, Chairman National Committee Bahá'í Questionnaires, Box 1, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

NINA MATTHESEN, Secretary

Temple Visitors from Six Continents

Report for July, August and September

Through the Bahá'í House of Worship, the Bahá'í Faith is becoming known in the six continents of the world. Every month visitors come from every state, or nearly every state, and many foreign countries. Some write about it in newspapers, magazines and novels, thus insinuating others to come. A number use it in their advertising. Since June, 1932, through September, 1946, 33,124 have been conducted through the building.

The largest group during this three-month period was 90. Each month has exceeded the same month of all previous years in the number of visitors. Following are comparative figures for the past six years:

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<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>Sept</th>
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<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>1,291</td>
<td>4,027</td>
<td>2,638</td>
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<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>1,960</td>
<td>2,428</td>
<td>1,793</td>
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<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>2,497</td>
<td>2,918</td>
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<td>1944</td>
<td>2,929</td>
<td>2,634</td>
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<td>1945</td>
<td>4,344</td>
<td>5,194</td>
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<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>5,906</td>
<td>6,407</td>
<td>5,068</td>
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For the year beginning October 1, 1945, and ending September 30, 1946, the number of visitors was 33,124. For the year ending September 30, 1945, the number was 25,298. Some of the increase may be due to the fact that in 1946 the Temple was kept open until 8 p.m. each day during July and August.

Groups visited the House of Worship from every state in the Union and from the District of Columbia. The numbers of groups from countries outside the United States will show how far-reaching the influence of the Temple is: From Hawaii there were 9 groups, from Alaska 1, Puerto Rico 2, Ontario 43, Manitoba 5, British Columbia 10, Alberta 3, Saskatchewan 4, Quebec 3, Mexico 6, Panama 1, Costa Rica 7, El Salvador 1, Honduras 1, Haiti 1, Jamaica 2, Bahamas 1, Cuba 3, Trinidad 1, Equador 1, Brazil 7, Uruguay 1, Peru 1, Bolivia 1, Chile 4, Argentina 1, British Guiana 1, Sweden 4, Iceland 1, Norway 3, Denmark 2, England 5, Scotland 1, France 1, Spain 2, Italy 1, Czechoslovakia 1, Turkey 4, Greece 2, Cyprus 1, New South Wales 1, Lebanon 4, Syria 1, Iran 3, India 3, China 1, the Philippines 2, Guam 1, Transvaal Colony 2, South Rhodesia 1, Cape Colony 3, Hunan (West Africa) 1, Egypt 1.

Much Bahá'í literature was purchased by the visitors. In July sales amounted to $531.97, in August to $496.36 and in September to $462.11.

One of the delightful and thrilling happenings was the fact that eleven members came from great distances to help in this teaching effort. Mrs. ElsBeth Renwanz of St. Joseph, Mo. arrived July 2nd and stayed until August 20th, serving nearly every day of that time. Miss Clara Edge of Grand Rapids, Michigan, served three weeks. Miss Cora Edge, Grand Rapids; Mrs. Murdoch Eaton, Grand Rapids; Miss Roan Orloff, Boston; Mrs. Della Quinlan, Brooklyn, New York; and Mrs. Catherine Healy, Montclair, New Jersey, each served one week. Those serving a few days were Mr. Murdoch Eaton, Grand and hundreds of pamphlets were given to the public. It is thought that at least between ten and fifteen thousand individuals made inquiries.

Springfield also reported that the Central Illinois Teaching Circuit held an inter-city picnic and short conference at Lincoln State Park at Old Salem on Sunday, September 8th. About 46 people from Peoria, Danville, Urbana, Champaign, Springfield and Quincy were present. Miss Pearl Easterbrook served as chairman.

(Continued on page 14)
November 1946

International Relief
Correction of Address List

In the August and September issues of Bahá’í News, the American believers were given names and addresses of Bahá’ís of Europe to whom essential relief material can be sent. The following corrections are to be noted by the friends.

Frankfort, Germany. Herr Richard Glaser has left the Faith.

American Occupied Germany. Fr. Elsa Grossmann, Neckargemünd, Fr. Eberstr. 39; Adolf Lorey, Kreidach über Waldmichelbach 1/Odw. (am Bahnhof); Frau Margarete Walcker, Murnauerstr. 1, Kohlgruberstr. 75; Frau Schreiber, Ziricli; Mrs. Gertrude Waidner, Nerobergstr. 24; Frau Marie Ott, Heilbronn a/N, Raabeweg 6; Frau Annamarie Schweizer, Zuffenhausen b/Stuttgart, Friesenstr. 28; Familie Bracht Macco, Th. b. Immenstadt Allgau, Thalkirchen; Distributing centers are: Herr Paul Gollmer, Neckarstr. 123 III, Würtemberg, and Frl. Anna Kostlin, Wehrneckerstr. 1, Esslingen.

France. Mme. Elisabeth Hesse, 1 rue Rafaeli, Paris 16-eme; M. Charles Kennedy, 6 rue Leon Bonnat, Paris 16-eme; M. Sasha Pitoëff, c/o Mr. Pierre Pitoëff, 26 rue Tronchet, Paris 9-eme; M. Pierre Cugnot, 48 rue Jassier, Nancy; Mme. M. Pierre Tessier, 6 rue du Deltam, Paris 19-eme; Mlle. Lucienne Migette, 10 rue Meunet-Sully, Paris, 20-eme; Mme. Marie Sogho-monian, 31 rue Deverger, Marseille; Mme. Reume, 35 Boulevard Riondet Hyeres, (Var); Mlle. Toussaint, 15 Boulevard Riondet, Hyeres (Var); Mme. Lucienne Acard, Le Clocher Fleuri, La Poterie, Hyeres (Var).


Holland. A new address for Holland is: Mevrouw E. M. Tysen, Haagweg 188, Ryswyk, Holland/dem Haag. (These are old Bahá’ís and are very much in need.)

Switzerland. Mrs. Anne Lynch, International Bahá’í Bureau, 6 Cours des Bastions, Geneva; Mme. Vautier, Pension Neptun, 15 Seefeldstrasse, Zürich. Other believers in Switzerland are: Dr. Leo Bernhard, Grubenacker-str. 67, Zürich 11; Seelisbach; Mr. Leuthold, Kochliatr. 35, Zürich; Mr and Mrs. Frischmann, Gossau Mettendorf (Cant St. Gallen).

Recipients in Switzerland no longer have to surrender ration tickets for articles received.


Yugoslavia. Mme. Desanka Forgovic-Tokin’s address is changed to: 20 Sindjicevica, Vrsac.

Czechoslovakia. Mr. Vuk Echtner, c/o Bruckner, U. Pujcovny 2, Praha.

Austria. Mr. and Mrs. Franz Polinger, Bockklinstrasse 14, Tur 15, Wien 11; Mrs. Wittmann, Deutsch-Wagram, Helmersdorf; Mrs. Maria Amschel, Wienerbergerstrasse 10x3; Wien 12; Mr. and Mrs. Lappinger,

(Continued from page 13)

Rapids; Mrs. Kathryn Alio, Dayton, O.; Mrs. Eunie Baxter, Omaha, Nebraska and Mrs. Amy Raubitschek, West Englewood, New Jersey. They felt that guiding was a real privilege and that the experience gained therefrom would give them inspiration for their teaching work back home. Needless to say the Guides Committee was more than happy to have them and appreciate the beautiful spirit they showed in sacrificing time and money to come here.

With the continual increase in the number of visitors, it is quite evident that we will need more and more guides. We hope that many more will be able to spend their vacations here next summer. All wishing to do so, should have their names approved and sent in by their Spiritual Assembly or Regional Teaching Committee, if their group has not yet reached Assembly size. The supply of Guide Courses has become exhausted, but new ones will be ready by January, we hope. When they are available, announcement will be made in Bahá’í News. These may be purchased through the Publishing Committee. A guide class is held in the Temple at 1:30 each Sunday, which any one living near may join. Classes are being held in Milford, Conn. They have given themselves well, for the interest expressed through guiding has increased.

—TIDELE GUIDES COMMITTEE

Bahá’í Literature in Public Libraries

Since our Annual Report was made we are happy to announce that books have been placed in the following libraries:

College and University libraries


Additional books given to: University of Vermont, Burlington College, N. Y.; University of Washington, Appalachian State Teachers College, N. C.; University of Iowa, Bucknell University, Pa.; Rice Institute, Texas; Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Colorado A & M College.

Public Libraries

First donation: Logan, Utah, Dickin-

Tulsa, Okla., Lisbon, N. D., Linton, N. D., Geyserville, Cal. (Branch Library), Valley City, N. D., St. Peter Minn., Albert Lea, Minn., Valley Stream, Long Island, N. Y., Fernandina, Fla., Gainesville, Fla.

Additional books have been given to Bozeman and Glasgow libraries, Montana; Blair, Neb., South Bend, Ind., and East Jaffrey, N. H.

We regret that the Oklahoma public libraries with Bahá’í books were omitted in the Annual Report: Lebanon, El Reno, Miami, Muskogee, Norman.

The following public libraries in Missouri were also omitted from that report: Carthage, Hannibal, Jefferson City, Joplin, Liberty, Lexington, St. Charles, St. Joseph, University City, Warrensburg.

Bahá’í books are also in the following public libraries in Oregon: Cascade Locks, Corvallis, Medford, Oregon City.

Mississippi has books in the following libraries: Biloxi, Greenwood, Harrison, Laurel, McComb, Natchez, Vicksburg.

Bahá’í World, Volume 9 is not in any local Bahá’í libraries to our knowledge. Will the Assemblies report any donation of this important book to their Main Public Library for our records? Our budget was limited to college and university libraries and we know the Assemblies will respond to our appeal to present this book to large Public Libraries. It is our hope that all new Bahá’í books will be placed in their local libraries by Assembly Library Committees so that the collections in these libraries will be up-to-date.

It is most important that all of our books in the long list of libraries published in our Annual Report and given in Bahá’í News be kept in active circulation. Will the friends cooperate by using these books to keep them on "open shelves"? Mrs. Stuart Sims, Chairman.
The British Isles. A letter from the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the British Isles, 1 Victoria St., London S.W. 1, points out the British believers are not much in need of relief. It says: "While living is somewhat austere and monotonous, we do not suffer from inflationary prices. The cost of living is officially estimated to be about 50% above pre-war. We are not in need of the necessities of life and feel that the need of some of the European countries is much greater. We suggest that if the American friends wish to send us parcels they might send them to the Local Assemblies and the National Assembly so that we could send them to those who need them most." The addresses of the Local Assemblies are as follows: Bradford, Bahá'í Centre, 68 Great Horton Rd., Bradford; Bournemouth, Mrs. E. Cranmer, Sec'y., 182 Seabourne Rd., Southbourne, Bournemouth; London, Bahá'í Centre, 1 Victoria Str., London S.W. 1; Manchester, Bahá'í Centre, 39 High Str., Manchester 4; Torquay, Bahá'í Centre, 14 Market Str., Torquay.

Local Communities Discuss Seven Year Plan

The National Spiritual Assembly welcomes heartily the effort made by some twenty-seven local Assemblies to respond to the request for reports on the result of consultation with the community on ways to further the Seven Year Plan.

The following specific suggestions have been compiled from the various reports, and are presented for the information of other communities.

1. Increase contributions to the National Fund. Six assemblies reported their determination to double their contributions made last year.
2. Discuss the Fund at each Feast.
3. Continue and increase newspaper advertising.
4. Organize prayer squads.
5. Increase contacts with Latin Americans.
6. Study Spanish.
7. Encourage and increase youth work.
8. Send members of the Youth Group to Summer School.
9. Give youth experience and training by service on committees.
10. Use qualified youth as chairman at public meetings.
11. Develop local mailing projects in order to assist in reaching the masses of the people. Arlington, Va., is starting a project whereby a Bahá'í text card and questionnaire card will be sent to each name in the local telephone directory.
12. Assist the Public Relations Committee by supplying names for the national mailing list.
13. Present books such as This Earth One Country, Security for a Failing World, and Heart of the Gospel to stores having lending libraries.
14. Place books in hospital libraries.
15. Place World Order on the newsstands.
16. Develop books, pamphlets, and radio talks presenting the Faith "in clear and simple language."
17. Strengthen weak Assemblies by assistance in developing the spirit and functioning of the Administration.
18. Extension teaching to build near-by groups to Assembly status.
19. Train more teachers in the local community.
20. Strengthen, and develop the new believers.
21. Special effort on the part of Assemblies to keep contact with near-by isolated believers.
22. Increase fireside teaching.
23. Use visual aids and films in fireside meetings.
24. Make Bahá'í Centers more attractive.
25. Have the Bahá'í Center open regularly as a public reading room.
26. More thorough planning of teaching projects undertaken.
27. Develop a definite program of formal and informal public meetings.
28. All Assemblies should be listed in phone books.
29. List Assembly (address and phone number) with local Chamber of Commerce.
30. Make a thorough study of A God-Given Mandate.
31. Try to lend all possible sup-
The Charleston Extension Teaching Committee was authorized by the Regional Teaching Committee to write to 110 weekly newspapers throughout the state and offer a series of brief “inspirational” quotations to be run with a call to the Temple. Enclosed with each letter was to be a pamphlet together with a sample of the 1-inch, 1-column advertisement as published last year in a Charleston daily newspaper. It is hoped the weeklies will accept this without cost. The letters have been begun.

Youth Enrollment Cards

A new form of youth enrollment card is in preparation. The local Assemblies having the older type of card on hand are requested to note that it was prepared for the registration of isolated youth and therefore provides for signature of the Regional Teaching Committee. When used for youth in organized communities, the committee signature is naturally not needed.

In Memoriam

“Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferretb the gift of everlasting life.”—Baha’u’llah.

Mrs. W. H. Lightly, Madison, Wisconsin; September 26, 1946.
Mrs. Ebba Sherman, Verdur, P. Q., Canada; August 4, 1946.
Mrs. Elizabeth Jagger, Shark River Hills, N. J.; August 30, 1946.
Mr. John Whitton, Geyersville, California; July 13, 1946.
Mr. Ernest W. Sturm, Boscob, Wisconsin; October 2, 1946.
Mrs. Annie Jacobsen, Racine, Wisconsin; September 15, 1946.
Mrs. Daisy Jensen, Chicago, Illinois; Reported September 26, 1946.
Mr. Howard Hall Martin, Minneapolis, Minnesota; July 27, 1946.
Mrs. Cora Starr Taylor, Santa Barbara, California; July 29, 1946.
Mrs. Eva Karst, Regina, Saskatchewan; July 31, 1946.
Mr. Frank Lillelendahl, Salt Lake City, Utah, July 20, 1946.

Calendar

Birth of Bahá’u’lláh, November 12; Day of the Covenant, November 26; Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, November 28, at 1:00 a.m.

Nine teen Day Feasts: Power, November 4; Speech, November 23; Questions, December 12; Honor, December 31.

Directory

Local Spiritual Assemblies:

Laramie, Wyoming—Mr. Nell W. Hand, Sec’y., P. O. Box 112.
Springfield, Massachusetts—Mrs. David Hutton, Sec’y., 536 Oak Grove Ave., Springfield, Massachusetts.
Houston, Texas—Miss Dorothea Smith, Sec’y., 1016 Main St., Houston, Texas.
Fairbanks, Alaska—Mr. Wm. Dougl, Sec’y., 568 Potters Ave., Providence, Rhode Island.
New York, New York—Mr. Rustam Payman, Sec’y., 160 Broadway, New York 7, N. Y.
Regina, Saskatchewan—Miss Eva Slack, Sec’y., P. O. Box 204, Regina, Saskatchewan.

Regional Teaching Committees:

Illinois and Iowa—Miss Elizabeth Hackett, and Miss Margaret McMann Johnson appointed; Mrs. Anna Kunz and Mrs. Grace Decker, cannot serve.
Michigan—Miss Gladys Kline cannot serve.
Alabama and Tennessee—Mrs. Irene Gleason appointed.
New York—Mr. and Mrs. Robert McLaughlin appointed.

Committees

The Bahá’í World, vol. XI, Editorial Committee: Mr. Harold Gail, Mr. Mathew Bullock and Mr. George O. Lalimer appointed.

Child Education Committee: Miss Anna Marie Mattoon, Secretary, 105 Sixth Street, Wilmette, Illinois. Mrs. Bess Brown cannot serve.

Baha’í Service for the Blind: Mrs. C. S. Longyear cannot serve.

International Relief Committee: Mrs. Beatrice O. Ashton appointed.

Visual Education Committee: Mrs. Clyde S. Longyear, 465 South Borden Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

Study Aids Committee: Mrs. Beatrice Ashton, Box 302, Wimnneka, Illinois.

Geyersville School Committee for 1947 season: Mr. Arthur Dahl, Jr., Chairman; Miss Mildred Linfoot, Secretary; 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, California.

Trinity School Committee: Chairman; Mrs. Louise Groger, Dr. Mildred Nichols, Miss Charlotte Linfoot, Mrs. Anna Perron, Mrs. Jessie Vanderford, Miss Sally Sanor, Miss Anita Toas.

Louhelen School Committee for 1947 season: Mr. H. W. Eggleston, Chairman; Miss Ophelia D. Crum, Secretary, 3206 S. State Road, Davison, Michigan; Mr. Arnold Keteis, Mr. Albert Segan, Mrs. J. E. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Paul Fett, Mrs. Rebecca Wrightman, Mr. L. W. Eggleston, The Rev. Betty Hauh, Mr. Kenneth Christian.

International School Committee for 1947 season: Mrs. E. R. Matthews, Chairman; Miss Ophelia D. Crum, Secretary, P. O. Box 1664, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Mrs. Amelia E. Collins, Mr. George O. Laliner, Mrs. Gladys Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Ford, Mrs. R. D. Little, Mrs. Nathaniel Clark.

Committee on Pamphlet Literature:

Mr. Kenneth Patterson, Chairman, 819 Fayett St., Lansing, Michigan; Mr. Arthur Patterson, Mrs. K. Christian, Miss Elise Austin, Mr. Harold Scheffler.

Table of Contents

- “No Will but Thy Will,”
- Baha’u’llah’s Message from the Guardian
- Forces Mysteriously Released
- Mounting Evidences of Magnificent Work
- There Is No Time to Lose
- Need of Pioneers
- 25th Anniversary of Guardian
- National Spiritual Assembly
- Race Unity Consultation
- Concerning A. J. Stenstrand
- How to Increase Baha’i Effort
- Liability of M.S.A. to Third Persons
- Treasurer’s Report
- Greeting to Esperantists
- Memorial to John D. Bosch
- Ask for Credentials
- Progress of the Seven Year Plan
- European Teaching Committee
- Inter-America Committee
- Public Meetings
- National Teaching Committee
- Public Relations
- Visual Education Committee
- Questionnaire Committee
- Temple Exhibit at Illinois State Fair
- Temple Visitors, July, August and September
- Baha’i Literature in Public Libraries
- Books and Pamphlets
- Foreign Language Editions
- Braille Publication
- Local Communities Discussion Plan
- Charleston New Teaching Plan
- Relief List Corrections
- Youth Enrollment Cards
- World Order Magazine Contents of November Issue
- Baha’i Addresses
- In Memoriam
- Calendar
- Directory
- Photographs
- Memorial to Laila Sidi-Allah
- “Children’s Class Tegucigalpa”
- Visitors from Mexico City
- “Group pioneers”
- Miss Edna M. True, Miss von Sombeck and Mrs. Straub
- Young Czechslovakians
- Temple Display Minneapolis
- Regional Conference at Hampton Institute
- Display at Illinois State Fair
Even as a Fruitful Tree

"O ye, the faithful loved ones of 'Abdu'l-Bahá! It is incumbent upon you to take the greatest care of Shoghi Effendi, the twig that hath branched from the fruit given forth by the two hallowed and Divine Lote-Trees, that no dust of despondency and sorrow may stain his radiant nature, that day by day he may wax greater in happiness, in joy and spirituality, and may grow to become even as a fruitful tree.

For he is, after 'Abdu'l-Bahá, the guardian of the Cause of God, the Amín, the Hands (pillars) of the Cause and the beloved of the Lord must obey him and turn unto him. He that obeyeth him not, hath not obeyed God; he that turneth away from him, hath turned away from God and he that denieth him, hath denied the True One. Beware lest anyone falsely interpret these words, and like unto them that have broken the Covenant after the Day of Ascension (of Bahá'u'lláh) advance a pretext, raise the standard of revolt, wax stubborn and open wide the door of false interpretation. To none is given the right to put forth his own opinion or express his particular convictions. All must seek guidance and turn unto the Center of the Cause and the House of Justice. And he that turneth unto whatsoever else is indeed in grievous error.

The Glory of Glories rest upon you!"

From the Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Bahá

Messages from the Guardian

Bahá'u'lláh's Promise to Every Assembly

The following excerpt from the letter written by the Guardian through his secretary to the Evanston and Wilmette Assemblies on November 17, 1933, is published with the Guardian's consent:

"Bahá'u'lláh has given the promise that in every Assembly where unity and harmony prevail, there His glorious spirit will not only be present, but will animate, sustain and guide all the friends in all their deliberations.

"It is to unity that the Guardian has been continually calling the friends. For where a united will exists, nothing can effectively oppose and hamper the forces of constructive development."

National Spiritual Assembly

Observance of the Guardianship

Beloved Friends:

This issue of Bahá'í News contains a special supplement on the subject of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Guardianship. It is printed as a separate pamphlet so that each Bahá'í may give it full attention on frequent occasions before the date of January 6.

Local Assemblies and groups, as well as isolated believers, will note that the supplement gives the program to be observed at the Anniversary meetings.

The other material in the supplement consists of selections from the Guardian's messages by which we can become more conscious of the establishment of the unique powers and functions vested in the successive Guardians by 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Ruhíyyih Khánum has graciously consented to prepare a tribute to the Guardian which is expected from Haifa, and this will be made available through Bahá'í News.

From November 28 to January 6 we pass through a period of forty days, the twenty-fifth anniversary of that period which intervened between the passing of the beloved Master and the reading of the Testament by which the Guardianship was created for the world community of the followers of Bahá'u'lláh.

Well is it for us now, and well for the sublime mission entrusted to us, if we employ these forty days in humble effort to achieve worthiness to be called by the glorious title, Bahá'. It is a time of prayerfulness, meditation, sacrifice, renewed and reinvigorated resolve to serve the Faith with purer intention and firmer conviction. It is a time when our dedication may find manifestation in outer action as well as movement of spirit within.

Perhaps some devoted souls will learn the blessed art of prayer for the first time; perhaps some will respond to an urgent desire to teach in a distant city, even a foreign land; perhaps some will dedicate a special gift to the National Fund. The Guardianship is a gift and a blessing which we can never repay; but to be a Bahá'í in the time of the Guardianship is to seek continuously the best ways and means by which we may testify to our reverence and gratitude to God.

Sincerely and devotedly,
National Spiritual Assembly

Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts
December 12th
December 31st
Meeting of the National Spiritual Assembly January 16, 17, 18 and 19.
Progress of the Seven Year Plan

Headquarters in Europe Established

The European Teaching Committee is very happy to announce that the headquarters for the committee have been secured in a most attractive part of the city of Geneva. These headquarters are sufficiently large to house both the European Teaching Committee and the Baha’i International Bureau. The address is 6 Cours des Bastions, Geneva, Switzerland.

Mrs. Graeffe and Miss True report that the first meeting held at the new address, the celebration of the “Birthday of the Báb,” with an attendance of nine Bahá’ís. There are several Persian Bahá’ís in the University at Geneva and six of them together with Mrs. Lynch Mrs. Graeffe and Miss True celebrated this commemorative meeting together.

Honor Kempton has secured passage on the Queen Elizabeth for November 29 to go first to England, and then to her post on the continent.

The committee wishes to announce that its next meeting will be held on December 4, and we are very hopeful that by that date we will have the names of many volunteers for the European field in response to the recent most urgent message from the Guardian.

KATHERINE K. TRUE
EUROPEAN TEACHING COMMITTEE

First All South American Conference

The following cable has come from the first all South American Conference held in Buenos Aires this month: “Rejoicing great success, marvelous spirit and unity. Growing maturity evident in rising to meet responsibilities. Obvious impact on public. Congress Committee.”

A breathless letter that just came flying in from Shirley Warde, who has done yeoman service as chairman of the Congress Committee, with notable assistance from Emilio Barros, Salvador Tormo and others, is dated a few days before the opening of the Conference and comments on the great diversity of types among the 24 delegates from 9 countries in addition to Argentina. One of these is Sr. Gabriel Silva S. from Mogotes, Colombia, secretary of the second Bahá’í Assembly to be elected in that country. Mogotes is like an Alpine town, high in the lofty Andes, almost inaccessible in the rainy season. None of the Mogotes friends had ever seen a Bahá’í other than their own group, who have studied and accepted the Cause by correspondence. Marvel upon marvel has been unfolding for this young mountainer at last among Bahá’í brothers and sisters in a great city, taking part in a historic conference.

Then there is the young doctor, Dr. Luis Guillermo Molina of Guayaquil, Ecuador, one of the brilliant scientific minds of his country, and the fine city physician of Bahá, Dr. Fernando Nova, who was Brazil’s Centenary delegate; from Brazil also came a noted musician, a fine young attorney, and business men; from other countries, writers, an actor, teachers, representatives of all the walks of life in a truly Bahá’í cross-section, together with North Americans who have gone south to pioneer for the Faith. Among the latter are Artemus Lamb, whose sister, Mrs. Valeria Nichols, joined him in Buenos Aires at the time of the Conference, and will later accompany him to Punta Arenas and Santiago, Chile; also Shirley Warde, who has been doing splendid work in Buenos Aires; Mrs. Mary L. Bode, whose activity together with that of her husband, Edward, has done much to carry forward the splendid Bahá’í foundation first built in Brazil by Leonora Holsapple Armstrong, second pioneer to visit Latin America, who has remained in that country teaching for some 20 years; Flora Hottes, who has been in Bolivia and Uruguay for the past four years and is planning a trip home in the spring.

Those taking part in the Conference program include Sra. Yvonne L. de Cuellar, first Bahá’í of La Paz, Bolivia; the noted pianist, Ernesto C. Mastronardi; and Sr. Auro Cooper of Rio de Janeiro, and Dr. Nova of Bahia, Brazil; Raul Villa-gran of Punta Arenas and Esteban Canales L. de Valparaiso, Chile; Simon Rosenweig and Gambetta Rodón of Montevideo, Uruguay; Roque Centurión Miranda, first Bahá’í of Asunción, Paraguay; Alberto Lovatón of Lima, Peru; Sra. Yolanda L. de Sitronch of Caracas, Venezuela; Dr. Thomas W. Sánchez de Ega from Rio who will now settle in Sao Paulo, Brazil; the noted singer from Rio, Delvair Silva; Dr. Molina of Ecuador, Salvador Tormo, Antronik Kevorkian and Emilio Barros of Buenos Aires; Miss Hottes, Mrs. Warde and Artemus Lamb. Representatives of all 10 countries took part in the round table discussions and served as chairmen at the various meetings, which were held in a special theater, since gatherings were already overflowing the commodious Bahá’í Center even before the opening of the conference.

Plans are under way now for the first historic Bahá’í Conference for all the countries of Central America, Mexico and the West Indies, which is scheduled for Jan. 19 to 25 in Panama. The first all-Latin America conference was held in Panama last year. This year there are two Latin American Bahá’í conferences divided in accord with the future division of the countries in the two Latin American National Spiritual Assemblies, the first being held in Panama, in April, 1951. Among special visitors already expected at Panama are Mrs. Loulie Matthews and Mr. Matthews from Temerity Ranch, Colorado; Mr. Charles Mason Remy of Washington, D.C.; Mrs. Marcia Steward of Pasadena, Calif., who is now enroute to a special, project in San José, Costa Rica, calling on the communities in six countries on her way south, and Mrs. Gayle Woolson of Bogotá, Colombia. The Pan-

(Continued on page 4)

Honor Kempton, pioneer to Luxembourg, shortly before leaving Anchorage, Alaska.
Seven More Groups Ready for Assembly Status

To pave the way for progress toward the goals of the new Seven Year Plan along the East Coast, two conferences were arranged with Regional Teaching Committee members, for intensive discussion of ways and means to accomplish the task. Twenty members of Regional Committees met with members of the National Teaching Committee in New York on Oct. 20th and eighteen from the Southeastern states met in Atlanta on Nov. 10th. These conferences have been mutually helpful and it is hoped that in the months ahead further conferences can be held to aid Regional Committees in the accomplishment of the objectives of the new Plan. Mrs. Margery McCormick, Dr. Katherine True and Mr. Monroe Joan represented the NTC at the New York Conference, and Mrs. McCormick, Mrs. Sarah Walrath and Mrs. Amelia Bowman, represented it at the Atlanta meeting.

Progress toward our goals for the consolidation of the weaker Assemblies and the establishment of thirty new Assemblies has been made during the past month, for six Assemblies have had the reinforcement of settlers or new members; seven groups have had an increase in membership sufficient to insure Assembly status; and twenty-five new believers have been enrolled by Regional Committees.

Intensive efforts have been made by resident and circuit teachers sent to the goal cities by the National Teaching Committee to strengthen and consolidate the local activities; exhibits at State and County Fairs as well as successful window displays have attracted widespread attention and have resulted in the dissemination of hundreds of pamphlets on the Faith; and Questionnaire cards have been supplied to goal cities for distribution locally to increase contacts. Six sets of colored slides have been provided by Mrs. Margery McCormick for the use of Regional Committees in an effort to stimulate fireside meetings, and records on "A New Cycle of Human Power" have been sent to Regional Committees, also for fireside teaching, by Mrs. Florence Morton.

Questionnaires have been sent to all the Spiritual Assemblies with the approval of the N.S.A. for the purpose of analyzing the various teaching activities now underway and determining the needs so that practical suggestions and help can be offered by the National Teaching Committee to increase the effectiveness of our teaching efforts.

The following believers have moved to goal cities to serve the needs of the new Plan: Mr. Joseph Silva of Beverly, Mass., has moved to Hadmen, Conn.; Miss Beverly Jones of East Orange, N. J., has moved to Montclair, N. J.; and Mrs. David Wark of Greensboro, N. C., have become established in Red Bank, N. J.; Mrs. Annie Romer is now located in Greenville, S. C.; Mr. George Monfils of Milwaukee, Wis., has moved to Fargo, N. D., to replace Mrs. Eitty Graeffe there; and Miss Bennet Dorn of Seattle, Wash., is endeavoring to become established in Reno, Nevada. The housing shortage has presented a formidable obstacle to the re-establishment of believers, and in many cases homes have had to be purchased in order to secure living quarters. In order to remain in Glendale and aid in maintaining Assembly status in that California city, Mrs. Eleazar Hollibaugh is living in a trailer, and in many cities reinforcements are assured as soon as housing facilities are available.

New believers have been enrolled in the goal cities as a result of teaching efforts during the past month as follows: Mrs. Williams of Monroe, Wash., brings the membership there to nine; San Mateo, Calif., through the recent enrollment of Mr. and Mrs. Basil Fletcher, Dr. J. W. Goldstein and Mrs. Carl Berger now has twelve members assuring Assembly status; Shorewood, Wis., has had three enrollments, Mr. and Mrs. William Nagler, and Mrs. Marie Vedder; the Laramie Assembly has been reinforced through the enrollment of N. W. Hand, Louisville, Ky., has likewise been reinforced by a new believer, Mrs. Helm; and Omaha, Neb., reports the enrollment of Mrs. Josie Longsdorf and Hanz Ehlers.

Special projects have provided teaching help to goal cities to build up the membership. The last two weeks of October Mrs. Ruth Moffett gave a series of lectures or an "Educational Seminar" on "The Message of the Age and the Coming New World Order" in Omaha, Neb., and an evening class of nine and an afternoon class of six persons have been attracted. Two lectures were also given by Mrs. Moffett at the University of Omaha Sociology Department which were well received. Mrs. Moffett has spent the month of November working in the goal cities of Toledo, Findlay, Urbana, and Lakewood, Ohio.

Dr. Edris Rice-Wray spent four...
days in Louisville, Ky., early in November and during that time many meetings were arranged with those interested in the Faith, to meet Dr. Rice-Wray at luncheons, dinners, teas, and informal firesides in the evenings. The public meeting was very successful with thirty-five people attending, and a dinner meeting for twenty-five was also planned. Mrs. Gill, a believer living in the suburbs, gave a tea for about a dozen interested ladies, and Mrs. Frankland gave several fireside meetings.

These meetings were followed up with a Youth Symposium on Nov. 17th when Miss Pari Zia-Walrath and Mr. Charles Ioa of Chicago spoke to about forty people on “Youth Looks at World Unity.” Many fine contacts were made with youth and a very successful dinner meeting was also arranged. Mrs. Kathryn Frankland reports a study class underway with six or more deeply interested people and to continue the momentum which has been achieved the National Teaching Committee is arranging for Mr. Albert Windust of Chicago to speak there on December 1st.

Special projects which were developed to stimulate teaching also included an exhibit sponsored by the RTC for Georgia and the Carolinas in cooperation with the Augusta Assembly at the Youth Festival on October 22nd. A large picture of the Temple was provided for the exhibit and literature besides pictures of Bahá’í youth which were provided by the National Youth Committee. As a result of the exhibit several window displays were made possible by local stores, and another display is scheduled following the Christmas holiday.

Another exhibit which attracted widespread attention was held at the New Jersey State Fair in Trenton, N. J., from Sept. 22-29, at which slides were shown of the Temple besides the photographs and hundreds of leaflets were distributed. This exhibit was followed by a public meeting in Trenton on the Sunday evening following the Fair. The Albuquerque, N.M. LSA and the RTC co-operated in placing an exhibit at the State Fair in Albuquerque in October but a report of the project has not yet been received.

“Following the project inaugurated last year of having a Bahá’í exhibit at the Cheshire County Fair at Keene, N. H., the believers of Ashuelot, Hanisdale, and Brattleboro, Vt. in cooperation with the N.E. RTC sponsored an exhibit on Sept. 5-7 of this year,” Mr. Ben Weeden, secretary of the Brattleboro LSA describes the exhibit: “A large booth in the Parent-Teachers’ Association tent was obtained by Mrs. Doris Bolton of Ashuelot, N. H. Six believers from Brattleboro and Mr. Charles Krug, chairman of the RTC, set up the exhibit using at the back a canvas painted with sky effect on which was hung the large picture of the Temple... On the left side was another large photograph showing one of the pylons and on the right wall was a large map of the world with red cords originating from each country of the seventy-eight to which the Faith has spread and ending at miniature cut-out replicas on which were printed the number of countries and the number of languages represented. Under this map was a table with the Bahá’í Library in a fitting case. A table for free literature completed the exhibit. On the opening day of the Fair, radio station WKNE of Keene, N.H. took a portable microphone to each booth and broadcast a description of it. We were fortunate in being one of the first, thereby getting more time than many.” Many additional reports might be included of activities but space does not permit.

South American Conference
(Continued from page 2)

ama Committee through Miss Julie Regal, Box 1328, Ancon, Canal Zone, is asking for the names of any others who may be able to attend the conference.

Tony Fillon of Santiago, Chile, has sent out the first Spanish Bulletins to be published in that city for all of Latin America. Special issues are planned, covering the two major conferences.

Gwenne Sholtis announces that La Paz, Bolivia, will take part in the special contributions to the Temple which will mark the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Guardianship. Sr. de Cuellar has already sent a first contribution of $36.00. Gwenne will go in December for a visit and special regional work to Callao, Peru, and Miss Eve Nicklin, now in Lima, will exchange with her and go to Sucre, Bolivia, to assist the group there for a time. Word has come from Mr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Miessler of Columbus Grove, Ohio, that they reached their final objective in Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 29th.

The first all-Bahá’í wedding to be celebrated in Lima, Peru, united Miss Mary Angulo and David Beckett, who are members of the Bahá’í Community of that city. Mr. Beckett received the consent of his father, who is a Christian minister in England. More than 60 Bahá’ís and friends attended the wedding.

Nineteen new membership cards have been received this month.

Display of the Bahá’ís for the Youth Festival at Augusta, Georgia. (See report of the National Teaching Committee.)
Public Recognition of the Faith

Local committees and individual teachers working along public relations lines find it exceedingly helpful to know how the name and the ideals of the Faith are being promoted, with one motive or another, through channels outside the Cause or by non-Baha'i writers and lecturers.

Here are a few interesting examples which have come to the attention of the Public Relations Committee.

"The House of God" by Desider Holisher, published by Crown Publishers, New York, at $3.00 per copy. This is a book containing photographs of the "magnificent cathedrals, fine churches and temples of worship of all faiths in the United States." The illustration of the Baha'i House of Worship appears on page 171. This would be a very good book to present to local public libraries as a gift from Baha'is.

"Preface to Philosophy: Book of Readings" edited by Ross Early Hoople, Raymond Frank Piper and William Pearson Tolley of Syracuse University, published by the Macmillan Co. of New York and Toronto. This is the book originally intended for publication by the army as a contribution to the soldier's understanding of world truth and his appreciation of cultures other than his own. Though the material was prepared in time, the army edition was delayed and finally abandoned at the end of the war. The book is now available for general civilian use, and in one volume assembles writings of religion and philosophy from many sources. From pages 379 to 384 the Baha'i Faith is represented by a brief history, twelve statements of principle, and excerpts from the Writings of the unity and functions of the prophets, the actions of the righteous, and the principles and plan of a world commonwealth. This work is a very valuable public recognition of the Faith. (Price per copy not stated)

"The Magic Powder" by Earl J. Hadley, a history of the Universal Atlas Cement Co. and the cement industry, published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. This work, of particular interest to architects, engineers and men connected with the industry, features the Baha'i House of Worship as a unique expression of architectural concrete. The frontispiece illustrates the Temple, a close-up picture appears on page facing page 197, and the building is described on pages 200 and 201. Per copy, $3.50.

"They Have Found a Faith" by Marcus Bach, published by Bobbs-Merrill Co., Cincinnati. Dr. Bach of Iowa University has made a study of "America's little-known religions, and includes a statement in the Baha'i Faith along with his accounts of Jehovah's Witnesses, Spiritualism, the Kingdoms of Father Divine, Unity, the Foursquare Gospel, Oxford Group and Psychiana. The author's investigation has been sympathetically conducted and he has apparently made a study of the Baha'i Teachings. This association of the religion of Baha'u'llah with cults springing up to fill needs not met by the traditional faiths will repel many inquirers but on the other hand may bring the Cause to the attention of souls who at present are not otherwise receiving the message. Per copy, $3.00.

Other references to the Faith in non-Baha'i publications are: illustration of Temple in Business Week, August 31, 1946; illustration of Temple and description in Airways, July, 1946; Psychic Digest, Toronto, April, 1946; Mind Digest, August 1946; International Arts Quarterly, Denver, September - November, 1946; members (a trade paper), January, 1946; and Religious Education, August 1946—a review of The Baha'i World, Vol. IX, which contains this statement: "Anyone pretending to religious literacy should become acquainted with it" (i.e., the Baha'i Faith).

The Public Relations Committee wishes to record as completely as possible all references made to the Faith by non-Baha'is, and also all references made by Baha'is in non-Baha'i publications. The believers who from time to time send information are very helpful and such cooperation is gratefully received.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Bulletin on Public Relations

The Public Relations Committee has issued the second of its series of bulletins, dated November 1946. A copy has been sent each local Assembly, Regional Teaching Committee, National Committee, and group. The committee is particularly anxious to supply copies to individual Baha'i workers who are active along publicity lines.

The second bulletin contains eighteen pages of mimeographed text, including the following subjects; Function and methods of the Public Relations Committee; a list of books and pamphlets referring to the Faith; statement on the national Advertising Campaign; suggestions on publicity and advertising for public meetings; text of the first two advertisements appearing in Newsweek; press releases issued nationally in September, October and November; teaching by mail; information about the Associated Press Temple illustration release which has appeared in 127 different papers; the advertising and publicity prepared by the...
Public Relations Committee for the Public Meetings Campaign; a statement on use of the Hotel Church Directory; and full text of five recent national press articles as sent to newspapers since September.

The committee is sending out literature as rapidly as possible to the names and addresses sent in by local Assemblies. Among the cities covered in this way are: Davison, Mich.; Sioux Falls, Alaska; New Orleans; a special California list; New Haven; Fargo; South Bend; Lima; Springfield, Ill.; Elmhurst, Ill.; Boston; East Phoenix Rural; and Colorado Springs. A total of 367 pieces mailed.

In sending names and addresses of key people and organizations, classify if possible by their interests: peace and world unity, industrial justice, religious unity, race unity.

1450 pieces of literature have been mailed to names on the national list compiled by the Public Relations Committee.

The current Bahá’í advertisement appeared in Newsweek of November 18; the next will appear in the issue of January 20, 1947. During December an advertisement is scheduled in World Report, and World Report will carry another advertisement in February.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

International Bahá’í School Announcement of 1947 Season

Beginning with the 1947 season, the International Bahá’í School at Temerity Ranch, Pine Valley, Colorado Springs, will be conducted under full Bahá’í management. Since this important institution was donated to the Faith by Mr. and Mrs. Mathews, the School sessions have been arranged by a national committee appointed annually by the NSA. The hospitality, however, has been extended to guests by Mrs. Mathews as her further generous contribution to the development of the School.

A Maintenance Committee has now been appointed, and the students will make arrangements with the manager in the same way as at other Bahá’í Schools. Only a limited number can be accommodated in the charming and delightful quarters and early reservation for 1947 should be made. The cost will range from $20 to $25 per person for a ten day session.

Two ten day sessions are planned for 1947. From June 18 to June 27 the School will conduct a program for Latin America teachers, pioneers, students and guests from Latin America. From July 1 to 10 the session will be devoted to European teaching, and the program will be for European pioneers, teachers, students and guests from the European countries.

Local Assemblies are requested to bring this notice to the attention of their communities.

Winter Session at Louhelen

The Winter Session of the Bahá’í School will be held December 26 through January 1. Two courses will be given:

- Study of Some Answered Questions conducted by Harlan Ober.
- Teacher training class conducted by Miss Elisabeth Cheney.

Rates: $3.00 per day for dormitory, $3.50 per day for single room.

For reservations please write to Mrs. L. W. Eggleson, 3252 S. State Road, Davison, Mich.

Correction

In the cable from the Guardian receiving after the passing of John Bosch and published in Bahá’í News for September, certain short words had, as usual been supplied. One of the sentences was printed as follows: “His saintly life, pioneer services, historic contribution of institution of summer school, entitle him to rank among outstanding figures of the closing years heroic, and opening years of formative age of Bahá’í Dispensation.” It has been pointed out that it must have been the Guardian’s intention to say “historic contribution to institution of summer school” in view of the fact that the idea of the summer school originated with Leroy Ioaas, who consulted a number of Bahá’í teachers about it and presented it to the National Spiritual Assembly, whereupon Mr. Bosch offered his property for the school and eventually deeded that property to the National Spiritual Assembly.

Stimulating Conference at Banff

The fourth Summer Conference arranged by the Prairie Regional Teaching Committee, held at Banff August 11th to 16th, was so successful that a unanimous vote was recorded to ask the Committee to plan other similar conferences in 1947 and perhaps to make of this an annual event in Western Canada. The thirty-two who attended came from four Canadian Provinces and five of the United States. Among them were five non-Bahá’ís and three youths.

The theme of the Conference was “The Bahá’í Faith in Action.”

At the request of residents of and visitors to Banff, a public meeting was arranged at which Dr. Edris Rice-Wray gave an illustrated lecture on the Temple and its meaning, which attracted eighteen non-believers and was followed by considerable discussion.

At a specially arranged afternoon meeting, the Ven. Dr. S. H. Middle-nton, the principal of St. Paul’s Residential School for Indians at Cardston, Alta., gave a most informative and interesting talk on the history, beliefs, and needs of the Indians. He is an outstanding au-

Regional Day at Temerity Ranch, Colorado Springs, Colorado. A group of Bahá’ís and Chinese officers who were guests, July, 1946.
authority on this subject. In his introduction he said that he had read a number of Baha'i books and always has on hand for reference the World Order magazine. Dr. Middleton's contribution was an outstanding event of the Conference and the friends were reluctant to have him leave.

Apart from the regular program, those present enjoyed riding, swimming, a picnic, after which a group photograph was taken, and various other activities for which this beautiful mountain resort is famous. All were loath to leave.

**REGIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE**
for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta

**Baha'is Take Leading Part in University Event**

The Berkeley Baha'i Assembly took an active part in an important project at the University of California last summer when asked to serve on the steering committee of the Institute on Human Relations. The Institute, held June 3 to 8, was designed to work toward unity among the wide diversity of racial and religious groups on the campus.

The Institute on Human Relations was directed by the Department of Institutes of the University of California Extension Division, and sponsored by the Associated Students of the University of California, the Graduate Students Association, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Among the cooperating organizations were the Berkeley Baha'i Assembly, Hillel Foundation, International House, Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A.

The Baha'i Assembly received a letter from the chairman of the Institute which stated: "We would like to have your interest and support. . . . We would very happy to see the Berkeley Baha'i Assembly enter the Institute."

A careful investigation of the aims of the Institute and its sponsors showed that the organization was non-political and non-partisan in nature. The opportunity seemed made to order. Indeed it proved to be an experience perhaps unique on any campus.

The Baha'is took a leading part in arranging inter-religious and interracial book and art exhibits which attracted tremendous student attention throughout the week. A nine day exhibit in the University Library featured the Baha'i Temple as a symbol for the Institute. Arresting to the thousands of students who passed by, the Chicago Tribune reprint, "Story of the Baha'i Temple," and the Tribune picture of the Temple were dramatically arranged in a large upright glass case, together with a card (written by the non-Baha'i student chairman of the committee!) which stated: "Baha'i—an inter-cultural religion. One approach to the problem of inter-group and human relations."

A second Baha'i exhibit also drew the interest of crowds of students and adults who came to see the paintings by Chimura Obata and the photographs by Hansel Adams. A series of Baha'i Temple pictures and details, together with a Temple booklet for visitors to read, was arranged by Mr. Obata next to his own exhibit.

Exhibits of books on human relations were held in the lobby of Wheeler Hall in connection with the programs given in the auditorium. Thirteen Baha'i books were displayed and hundreds of Baha'i pamphlets ("Pattern for Future Society," Chicago Tribune reprints, and "Christians, Jews and Muhammadans") were literally snatched up. It was notable that these books simply laid out on long tables, à la bookstalls on the Seine, attracted actual investigation by people who handled the books freely and jotted down titles.

A banquet was given for Carey McWilliams by the steering committee at which the purpose of the Institute was described and special credit given to the Berkeley Baha'i Assembly for its work.

At the final evaluation meeting, tribute was again paid to the work of the Baha'i representatives in helping to make the Institute a success. At this meeting Ali M. Yazdi summarized the Baha'i point of view and showed opportunities for carrying on the work for student unity. He offered the continued advice of the Baha'is in this field. The Institute ended on this note.

**In Memoriam**

Mrs. Zenobia J. Dorsey, Scranton, Pa.
Mrs. Alice Hellig, Vancouver, B. C.
October 26, 1946.


Dr. Walter M. Goodfellow, West Englewood, N. J. November 1, 1946.

Mrs. J. A. Shuey, Oakland, California.

Mrs. Alta Krueger, Salem, Oregon. November 11, 1946.
State and Province Elections

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Mr. Homer Dyer

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Mr. Verney B. Thompson, Chairman
Mrs. Pauline Hansen, Sec'y., 717 Scott St., Little Rock
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Mr. Earl Shetterly

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Miss Nellie Roche

(Continued on page 12)
News from Local Communities

Many communities have sent in most interesting and inspiring reports during October and November. A few of the highlights are the following:

In SAN FRANCISCO the Birthday of the Báb was celebrated on October 19th with a large public meeting in the beautiful Century Club auditorium. Mrs. Robert W. Kenny and Mr. Anthony Seto spoke to an audience of 240 people, of whom about 90 were Bahá'ís of the Bay area, of the significance of this date to the Bahá'ís and to the world. Mr. Walter Olitzki of the Metropolitan Opera Company was the guest artist. The local Spiritual Assembly received a gift of shares of stock amounting in value to over $30,000 for the purchase of suitable premises for San Francisco Bahá'í activities, to be called the Helen S. Goodall Fund. The city was one of many holding memorial meetings for Lidja Zamenhof. The Esperantists of the city were invited to attend.

On October 27th ELMHURST held its third annual banquet. Over 100 persons attended, a good percentage of whom were non-Bahá'ís, thus demonstrating what the united efforts of even a few Bahá'ís can produce. The theme was "World Citizenship—Our Goal," and the program consisted of fine music and three speakers, Walter Deppe, chairman of the LSA, Togo Tanaka, young Japanese of note, and Horace Holley, secretary of the NSA.

Under the sponsorship of the ANCHORAGE Spiritual Assembly, a display of books on peace and on the Bahá'í Faith has been presented to the Anchorage Public Library. It has excited much interest in the community. A new Sunday morning fireside, referred to as the "Dawnbreakers," has been started by Miss Betty Becker in her apartment. Her guests enjoy a waffle breakfast and learn about the Bahá'í Teachings.

The LITTLE ROCK Spiritual Assembly has contracted with KXLR Radio Station for two broadcasts monthly. The friends intend to utilize all the transcription records that are available. The Assembly has had the two transcription records "A New Interpretation of History" and "A Call to Action" reproduced onto four records that fit the ordinary machine and can in this way be played in the home for fireside meetings and for other teaching work. Mr. Alvin Blum used the records in talks recently in Eureka Springs and Harrison, Arkansas. The Bahá'ís have donated the use of the Bahá'í Center to the Esperanto Group's Study Classes.

New York Begins Public Meetings Series

The New York Community, under the sponsorship of the National Spiritual Assembly, held one in a series of three public meetings at the Henry Hudson Hotel, Thursday evening, November 7th, at 8:30 p.m. Long and careful preparation was made for this meeting and the results proved extremely gratifying. In addition to sending invitations to a mailing list of approximately 3500 people, a 5-minute free radio announcement was given over station WNYC on November 7th at 8:45 a.m. Releases were sent to all local newspapers.

About 700 people were present. Cards inserted in the programs were handed to the people as they entered, with the request to fill out name and address and return to the ushers. Eighty cards were returned.

Bahá'í Literature

The Publishing Committee lists several titles of current interest.

Selected Writings—a set of three pamphlets, one compiled from words of Bahá'u'lláh; one from words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá; and one from the Guardian's writings. This set of pamphlets offers the believer, for personal study, group discussion or public teaching, a very representative collection of the Bahá'í writings. Each of the three pamphlets presents the selections by topics, making the books convenient for reference. The large edition ordered has made it possible to fix a very low price. The hope is that every believer will obtain a set for his own use. Per set of three pamphlets, $0.25.

Prophecy Fulfilled, by Elisabeth Cheney, a new edition of this interesting and helpful presentation of prophecy from the Bahá'í point of view. Rising costs make it necessary to increase the price. 100 copies for $2.50.

Industrial Justice—from 'Abdu'l-Bahá's statement on strikes, published as a chapter in "Some Answered Questions." This leaflet is one of our most timely subjects. 100 copies for $2.00.

Chicago Sunday Tribune Reprint—through the kind permission of the editor, the full page color illustration of the floodlighted Temple taken by the Sunday Tribune during the Centenary celebrations, and their article about the Faith, have been reprinted in the form of a convenient four-page folder. This reprint is effective contact material. 20 copies for $1.00.

World Order Through World Faith—seven of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's American talks combined in one pamphlet by the Public Relations Committee for their public campaign. 32 pages, per copy, $.15; 10 copies for $1.25.

English Bahá'í Summer School held at Matlock Bath, Derbyshire, July 27-August 10, 1946. The picture was sent by Mrs. Elizabeth Lacey, (Seventh from left in back row). Marlon Holley Hofman is just below her,
Frankfort Germany's New National Center

The Guardian has congratulated the German N.S.A. on the "undivided loyalty" of the German friends and the prospects of "tremendous unprecedented expansion, consolidation of activities" and sent 10,000 pounds to be devoted to relief, teaching work, expansion of literature, and renting or purchasing of an adequate house for a National Haziratu'l-Quds in Frankfurt.

Continuous and Great Growth in Thiran

The Thiran S.A. meets at least five times a week. Besides its own activities it supervises the work of sub-committees for Teaching, Youth, Relief, Women's Progress, Travel and Liaison, Health, Education and Pioneering. Many of these committees have sub-committees. The Teaching Committee supervises weekly 75 to 85 meetings for study of the Teachings. Since the beginning of this Bahá'í year, 102, these meetings have introduced 300 inquirers to the Faith, 76 of whom have accepted the Teachings. The work of the other committees is on the same scale.

French Bahá'ís Under the Occupation

The French Bahá'ís underwent severe trials and losses during the occupation. Mrs. Stannard, who had worked for the cause for many years died in 1944; Mme. Alcan was killed in a bombing; Mme. Kennedy died suddenly in 1943; Mlle. Gallimard in 1941, both worn out by the tension of the occupation; Mme. Motezi, sister of Mme. Hesse, was sent to a concentration camp and her fate is unknown. The archives of the Paris Assembly and much Bahá'í literature were destroyed when Mr. Kennedy's house was bombed. Mr. C. N. Kennedy, 6 Rue Leon Bonnat, Paris 16 is the president of the newly elected S.A. of Paris and Mlle. Lucienne Migette its secretary.

Letters from Abroad

A personal letter received from Budapest, Hungary, and written by one who had been deeply drawn to the Bahá'í Faith reveals some of the meaning of the Guardian's phrase "spiritually famished" as applied to Europeans. We quote parts of the letter:

"Life here is very exhausting. . . . We have to count already in trillions and one gets quite crazy with it (the inflation). The material life takes so much time and is so difficult that I am unable to live a spiritual life. Eight years ago in 1937 I got the fire. Now I've lost it. I trust in God and wish I could be the same good follower of the Bahá'í Teachings as I used to be . . . but since I knew I had lost my husband I can't pray . . . There was a magic power in the Teachings, which helped me a lot . . . Now I feel old, and my Bahá'í past is my lovely remembrance of my youth."

Brief Notes from Other Lands

John Elchenauer writes from Stuttgart that the 15 (now 10) dollar relief packages distributed by C.A.R.E., 50 Broad St., New York, N. Y., are excellent. Ten days after the order is placed in New York the addressee is notified to pick up his package at the local warehouse of C.A.R.E. John urges friends to order these packages so people can prepare for the winter which threatens to be colder than the last.

Mr. Manuscher Zahib of Iran has been sent to Germany by the Guardian to tell the German friends of the Faith in Iran, especially how the Iranian friends carry out the instructions of the Guardian and the Administration in spite of persecution by the Government.

News that some of the Japanese Bahá'ís are still alive has been received. Mr. H. S. Fugita is at Janai, some 300 miles south of Tokyo. He is working as interpreter for the American Army at a railway station.

The remains of the renowned Bahá'í teacher, historian and philosopher, Abu'l-Fadl, and of the self-sacrificing pioneer and teacher, Mrs. Lua Getsinger, have been transferred to the Bahá'í cemetery in Cairo. Their two adjoining tombs, one facing the East and the other the West, were especially built at the direction of the Guardian.

Newly married Bahá'ís in Persia are still faced with the choice of some months imprisonment or payment of a fine, since Bahá'í marriage is not yet recognized officially and there is no civil registry. Many are the youths who choose the former alternative.

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<tr>
<th>Bahá'í Addresses</th>
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<tr>
<td>National Office:</td>
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<tr>
<td>336 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer's Office:</td>
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<tr>
<td>110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bahá'í Publishing Committee:</td>
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<tr>
<td>110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.</td>
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Inspecting the Institute on Human Relations literature, which includes thirteen Bahá'í books and hundreds of pamphlets, in the lobby of Wheeler Hall, University of California. The exhibit was arranged by the Bahá'ís of Berkeley.
Local Assemblies Sustaining the Seven Year Plan During September, 1946

The following are the Assemblies which contributed to the National Fund during September:

- **Alaska**: Anchorage
- **Arizona**: E. Phoenix Rural
- **Arkansas**: Little Rock
- **California**: Alhambra, Berkeley, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Burlingame, Glendale, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Pasadena, Sacramento, San Diego, Santa Barbara, San Francisco
- **Colorado**: Denver, Hamden, New Haven
- **Connecticut**: Hartford, New Haven
- **Delaware**: Wilmington
- **Florida**: Jacksonville, Miami
- **Hawaii**: Honolulu, G. Maui
- **Georgia**: Atlanta, Augusta
- **Idaho**: Boise
- **Illinois**: Chicago, Danville, Elmhurst, Evanston, Peoria, Springfield, Urbana, Wilmette
- **Indiana**: Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, South Bend
- **Iowa**: Cedar Rapids
- **Kansas**: Topeka
- **Kentucky**: Louisville
- **Maine**: Ellot
- **Massachusetts**: Boston, Brookline, Springfield, Worcester
- **Michigan**: Detroit, Flint, Lansing, Muskegon
- **Minnesota**: Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Paul
- **Missouri**: Independence, Kansas City, St. Louis
- **Montana**: Butte, Helena
- **New Hampshire**: Portsmouth
- **Ohio**: Toledo, Lima
- **Oklahoma**: Oklahoma City
- **Oregon**: Portland
- **Pennsylvania**: Philadelphia, West Chester
- **Rhode Island**: Providence
- **South Carolina**: Greenville
- **South Dakota**: Sioux Falls
- **New Jersey**: Dumont, East Orange, Teaneck
- **New York**: Binghamton, Jamestown, New York, Rochester, Yonkers
- **North Dakota**: Fargo
- **Ohio**: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Lima
- **Tennessee**: Memphis
- **Texas**: Houston
- **Utah**: Salt Lake City
- **Vermont**: Brattleboro
- **Virginia**: Arlington, Alexandria, Richmond
- **Washington**: Seattle
- **West Virginia**: Charleston
- **Wisconsin**: Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Wauwatosa
- **Wyoming**: Laramie

Slides of Haifa and Ákká

A set of 2x2 inch slides in color has recently been completed, showing views of the Shrines, the gardens on Mt. Carmel, and the garden of Ridvan. There are twenty-four slides in the set. All are Kodachrome transparencies. They are duplicates of 35 mm. transparencies sent to the National Archives Committee by the Guardian, and some are enlargements from the 16 mm. color film of the Shrines and gardens. This set is available to Assemblies and National Committees for teaching purposes. It may be purchased through the Temple Sales Committee at a cost of $6.00.

Radio Transcriptions

The Assemblies will be pleased to know that we now have available eight, fifteen minute dramatic transcriptions. They are entitled as follows:

1. A New Interpretation of History.
2. A Call to Action.
3. This Is My Faith.
4. Meet Mr. Justice.
5. A World Language.
6. Hometown, U.S.A.
7. Mr. Justice Returns.
8. Back Where They Came From.

The Assemblies are urged to make the fullest possible use of these dramatic transcriptions which have been enthusiastically received both by the friends and by radio stations. The content of the material on these transcription records is of such a high quality that professional people feel strongly inclined to use it.

These records are for broadcasting purposes only, and they are to be circulated around the country. We therefore, strongly urge the Friends to return the records to this office promptly after they have been used in their communities. It is also important that they make a notation of the number of times they used the record. After a certain amount of use the record must be discarded and a new one substituted in order to give the best broadcasting results. We would appreciate the return of the records as promptly as possible so that other Assemblies who are waiting for them will not be delayed in putting on their radio programs.

MILDRED R. MOTTAREIEN, Secretary, Radio Committee.
Election Committees

(Con't from page 8)

Texas
Mrs. Dwight Edson, Chairman
Miss Dorothy Sligh, Sec’y., 1816 Main St., Houston
Mr. Chris Woodruff
Utah
Mr. Leslie Hawthorne, Chairman
Mr. K. L. Stors, Sec’y., 36 S. 4th St., Salt Lake City
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Miss Dorothy Sheets, Sec’y., 2318 Halfax St., Regina
Mr. Harvey Takashiba

Enrollments by Assemblies


Regional Teaching Committees

enrolled, August 11; September 5; October, 10.

Directory

Changes of address, new appointments, etc. are as follows:

Local Assemblies

Washington, D. C. Miss Elizabeth G. Hopper, Secretary, 2220 29th St., N.W.
North Dakota, Miss Mildred Estall, Secretary.
Mr. Edward S. Campbell, Secretary, P. O. Box 1883

National Committees

The Baha’I World, XI, Editorial Committee.
Miss Virginia Orbison appointed as one of the foreign correspondents.
Child Education Committee
Mrs. Richard McCurry, Secretary, 1500 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill.
European Teaching Committee
Mrs. Nelle S. French appointed.

Reviewing Committee
Mrs. Ruth Hart unable to serve.

Regional Teaching Committees

Miss Gladys Lemmon appointed to R. T. C. for Ohio.
Mr. Clarence Lear and Miss June Sims appointed to R. T. C. for Del., E. Pa. and N. J.
Mr. Herbert Horn appointed to R. T. C. for New York.
Mrs. Pauline Hansen appointed to R. T. C. for La., Miss. and Arkansas.
Miss Florence Hay, Secretary, for R. T. C. for Northern California.
Mrs. Dipple, one youth appointed chairwoman of R. T. C. for Michigan.
Mr. Arnold Ketels is unable to serve on R. T. C. for Illinois and Iowa.

Mrs. Dorothy Arnold Kent is unable to serve on R. T. C. for New York.

The promise of every Assembly

Treasurer’s Report

Progress of the Seven Year Plan

National Spiritual Assembly

Brotherhood of the Guardians

Baha’i of the Guardians

Baha’i Literature

Baha’i Addresses

Calendar

Directory

Enrollments

25th Anniversary of the Guardianship

TABLE OF CONTENTS

“Even as a Fruitful Tree”—Baha’u’llah

Messages from the Guardian

The promise of every Assembly

The part of youth

National Spiritual Assembly

Observance of the anniversary

Treasurer’s Report

Progress of the Seven Year Plan

Headquarters in Europe Established

Committee at Buenos Aires

National Teaching

Publicity

Bulletin on Public Relations

Public Meeting in New York

Banff Conference 1946

International School Plans for

Louhelen School Winter Session

Radio Transcriptions

State Election Committees

International News

Local Communities

Anchorage

Little Rock

New York

In Memoriam

slides of Haifa and ‘Akká

Baha’i Literature

Baha’i Addresses

Calendar

Directory

Enrollments

25th Anniversary of the Guardianship

Photographs

Honor Keamton, pioneer to Luxemburg

Montevideo Welcome M. r.s.

Warde

Display at Augusta, Ga.

Elmhurst banquet, 1946

Regional Day at Temery

Banff Conference, 1946

English Baha’i Summer School, 1946

Literature display, 1945, of Human Relations Wheeler Hall, Univ. of California.
The Unfoldment of the Guardianship

In His Will and Testament the Master wrote: "After the passing of this wronged one, it is incumbent . . . to turn unto Shoghi Effendi—the youthful branch branched from the two hallowed and sacred Lote-trees . . . as he is the sign of God, the chosen branch, the guardian of the Cause of God, he unto whom all . . . must turn. He is the expounder of the words of God . . ." And so ‘Abdu’l-Bahá projected into the future the care and protection which He had always shown to the believers. The loving command had been spoken; the way of unity was plain; the Faith of God was protected and its progress assured.

1922

In the early letters from Shoghi Effendi we sense the struggle and sacrifice he faced in assuming the unprecedented responsibilities of the Guardianship.

"At this early hour when the morning light is just breaking over the holy land, whilst the gloom of the dear Master’s bereavement is still hanging thick upon our hearts, I feel as if my soul turns in yearning love and full of hope to that great company of His loved ones across the seas, who now share with us all the agonies of His Separation."

"May I also express my heartfelt desire that the friends of God in every land regard me in no other light but that of a true brother, united with them in our common servitude . . ."

"Now that my long hours of rest and meditation are happily at an end, I turn my face with renewed hope and vigor to that vast continent the soil of which is pregnant with those seeds that our beloved Master has so tenderly and so profusely scattered in the past. Prolonged though this period has been, yet I have strongly felt ever since the New Day has dawned upon me that such a needed retirement, despite the temporary dislocations it might entail, would far outweigh in its results any immediate service I could have humbly tendered at the Threshold of Bahá'u'lláh."

1923

"And, now, that this all-important Work may suffer no neglect, but rather function vigorously and continuously in every part of the Bahá’í world; that the unity of the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh may remain secure and inviolate, it is of the utmost importance that in accordance with the explicit text of the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, the Most Holy Book, in every locality, be it city or hamlet, where the number of adult (21 years and above) declared believers exceeds nine, a local ‘Spiritual Assembly’ be forthwith established. To it all local matters pertaining to the Cause must be directly and immediately referred for full consultation and decision."

1924

"Let us also bear in mind that the keynote of the Cause of God is not dictatorial authority but humble fellowship, not arbitrary power, but the spirit of frank and loving consultation. Nothing short of the spirit of a true Bahá’í can hope to reconcile the principles of mercy and justice, of freedom and submission, of the sanctity of the right of the individual and of self-surrender, of vigilance, discretion and prudence on the one hand, and fellowship, candor, and courage on the other."

"Not by the force of numbers, not by the mere exposition of a set of new and noble principles, not by an organized campaign of teaching—no matter how worldwide and elaborate in its character—not even by the staunchness of our faith or the exaltation of our enthusiasm, can we ultimately hope to vindicate in the eyes of a critical and sceptical age the supreme claim of the Abhá Revelation. One thing and only one thing will unfailingly and alone secure the undoubted triumph of this sacred Cause, namely, the extent to which our inner life and private character mirror forth in their manifold aspects the splendor of those eternal principles proclaimed by Bahá'u'lláh."

1926

"I feel . . . that in view of the expansion and the growing importance of the administrative sphere of the Cause, the general sentiments and tendencies prevailing among the friends, and the signs of increasing interdependence among the National Spiritual Assemblies throughout the world, the assembled accredited representatives of the American believers should exercise not only the vital and responsible right of electing the National Assembly, but should also fulfill the functions of an enlightened, consultative and cooperative body that will enrich the experience, enhance the prestige, and assist the deliberations of the National Spiritual Assembly."

"The administrative machinery of the Cause having now sufficiently evolved, its aim and object fairly well grasped and understood, and its method and working made more familiar to every believer, I feel the time is ripe when it should be fully and consciously utilized to further the purpose for which it has been created. It should . . . be made to serve a twofold purpose. On one hand, it should aim at a steady and gradual expansion of the Movement along lines that are at once broad, sound and universal; and on the other it should insure the internal consolidation of the work already achieved. It should both provide the impulse whereby the dynamic forces latent in the Faith can unfold, crystalize, and shape the lives and conduct of men, and serve as a medium for the interchange of thought and the coordination of activities among the divers elements that constitute the Bahá’í community."
1929

"The Declaration of Trust, the provisions of which you have so splendidly conceived, and formulated with such assiduous care, marks yet another milestone on the road of progress along which you are patiently and determinedly advancing. Clear and concise in its wording, sound in principle, and complete in its affirmations of the fundamentals of Bahá’í administration, it stands in its final form as a worthy and faithful exposition of the constitutional basis of Bahá’í communities in every land, foreshadowing the final emergence of the world Bahá’í Commonwealth of the future."

* * *

In Shoghi Effendi’s first letters to us as Guardian he enclosed translations of prayers, and through these years he has continually widened our spiritual horizons by translations of superlative beauty. A mere listing gives some indication of the loving labor involved:

1925—Hidden Words of Bahá’u’lláh
1926—Kitchens
1928—The Dawn-Breakers
1935—Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá’u’lláh
1939—Prayers and Meditations of Bahá’u’lláh
1941—Epistle to the Son of the Wolf

* * *

1931

"For Bahá’u’lláh . . . has not only imbued mankind with a new and regenerating Spirit. He has not merely enunciated certain universal principles, or propounded a particular philosophy, however potent, sound and universal these may be. In addition to these He, as well as ‘Abdu’l-Bahá after Him, have, unlike the Dispensations of the past, clearly and specifically laid down a set of Laws, established definite institutions, and provided for the essentials of a Divine Economy. These are destined to be a pattern for future society, a supreme instrument for the establishment of the Most Great Peace, and the one agency for the unification of the world, and the proclamation of the reign of righteousness and justice upon the earth."

* * *

1932

"That the Cause associated with the name of Bahá’u’lláh feeds itself upon those hidden springs of celestial strength which no force of human personality, whatever its glamour, can replace; that its reliance is solely upon that mystic Source with which no worldly advantage, be it wealth, fame, or learning can compare; that it propagates itself by ways mysterious and utterly at variance with the standards accepted by the generality of mankind, will, if not already apparent, become increasingly manifest as it forges ahead towards fresh conquests in its struggle for the spiritual regeneration of mankind."

"Let them refrain from associating themselves, whether by word or by deed, with the political pursuits of their respective nations, with the policies of their governments and the schemes and programs of parties and factions."

* * *

1934

And then came that tremendous message published under the title The Dispensation of Bahá’u’lláh. In its four major parts we have a summary of the “fundamental verities”, the “root principles” of the Faith.

"To obtain a more adequate understanding of the significance of Bahá’u’lláh’s stupendous Revelation must remain the first obligation and the object of the constant endeavor of each one of its loyal adherents."

"The Faith of Bahá’u’lláh should indeed be regarded, if we wish to be faithful to the tremendous implications of its message, as the culmination of a cycle, the final stage in a series of successive or preliminary and progressive revelations."

"... it emphatically repudiates the claim to be regarded as the final revelation of God’s will and purpose for mankind . . . the fundamental principle which constitutes the bedrock of Bahá’í belief, the principle that religious truth is not absolute but relative, that Divine Revelation is orderly, continuous and progressive and not spasmodic or final."

". . . the twin pillars that support this mighty Administrative Structure—the institutions of the Guardianship and of the Universal House of Justice . . . should be regarded as divine in origin, essential in their functions and complementary in their aim and purpose. Their common, their fundamental object is to insure the continuity of that divinely-appointed authority which flows from the Source of our Faith, to safeguard the unity of its followers and to maintain the integrity and flexibility of its teachings. Acting in conjunction with each other these two inseparable institutions administer its affairs, coordinate its activities, promote its interests, execute its laws and defend its subsidiary institutions. Severally, each operates within a clearly defined sphere of jurisdiction; each is equipped with its own attendant institutions—instututions designed for the effective discharge of its particular responsibilities and duties. Each exercises, within the limitations imposed upon it, its powers, its authority, its rights and prerogatives. These are neither contradictory, nor detract in the slightest degree from the position which each of these institutions occupies. Far from being incompatible or mutually destructive, they supplement each other’s authority and functions, and are permanently and fundamentally united in their aims."

"No Guardian of the Faith . . . can ever claim to be the perfect exemplar of the teachings of Bahá’u’lláh or the stainless mirror that reflects His light. Though overshadowed by the unfailing, the unerring protection of Bahá’u’lláh and the Báb, and however much he may share with ‘Abdu’l-Bahá the right and obligation to interpret the Bahá’í teachings, he remains essentially human and cannot, if he wishes to remain faithful to his trust, arrogate to himself, under any pretense whatsoever, the privileges and prerogatives which Bahá’u’lláh has chosen to confer upon His Son."

* * *

1936

"Into such a period (of intense turmoil) we are now steadily and irresistibly moving. Amidst the shadows which are increasingly gathering about us we can faintly discern the glimmerings of Bahá’u’lláh’s unearthly sovereignty appearing fitfully on the horizon of history. To us, the “generation of the half-light”, living at a time which may be designated as the period of the incubation of the World Commonwealth envisaged by Bahá’u’lláh, has been assigned a task whose high privilege we can
never sufficiently appreciate, and the arduousness of which we can as yet but dimly recognize. . . . We stand on the threshold of an age whose convulsions proclaim alike the death-pangs of the old order and the birth-pangs of the new.”

“Ceasing to call itself a movement, a fellowship and the like—designations that did grave injustice to its ever-unfolding system—dissociating itself from such appellations as Bābī sect, Asiatic cult, and offshoot of Shi‘ih Islām, with which the ignorant and the malicious were wont to describe it, refusing to be labeled as a mere philosophy of life, or as an eclectic code of ethical conduct, or even as a new religion, the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh is now visibly succeeding in demonstrating its claim and title to be regarded as a World Religion . . .”

“Their Faith, Bahá’ís firmly believe, is moreover undenominational, non-sectarian, and wholly divorced from every ecclesiastical system, whatever its form, origin, or activities. No ecclesiastical organization, with its creeds, its traditions, its limitations, and exclusive outlook, can be said (as is the case with all existing political factions, parties, systems and programs), to conform, in all its aspects, to the cardinal tenets of Bahá’í belief. To some of the principles and ideals animating political and ecclesiastical institutions every conscientious follower of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh can, no doubt, readily subscribe. With none of these institutions, however, can he identify himself, nor can he unreservedly endorse the creeds, the principles and programs on which they are based.”

To the Convention in 1936 came the historic cable which started the First Seven Year Plan—“Convey to American believers abiding gratitude efforts unitedly exerted in teaching field. Inaugurated campaign should be vigorously pursued, systemically extended. Appeal to assembled delegates ponder historic appeal voiced by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Tablets of the Divine Plan. Urge earnest deliberation with incoming National Assembly to insure its complete fulfillment. First century of Bahá’í era drawing to a close. Humanity entering outer fringes most perilous stage its existence. Opportunities of present hour unimaginably precious. Would to God every State within American Republic and every Republic in American continent might ere termination of this glorious century embrace the light of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh and establish structural basis of His World Order.”

* * *

1937

When in 1937 the Guardian married Ruhiyyih Khanum (Mary Maxwell) the National Assembly cabled the joy and loving greetings of the believers. Shoghi Effendi’s response was expressed in the cable—“Deeply moved your message. Institution of Guardianship, head cornerstone of the Administrative Order of the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh, already ennobled through its organic connection with the Persons of Twin Founders of the Bahá’í Faith, is now further enforced through direct association with the West and particularly with the American believers, whose spiritual destiny is to usher in the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh.”

* * *

1939

“The community of the organized promoters of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh in the American continent—the spir-
cial and administrative activities, absolute chastity in
their individual lives, and complete freedom from pre-
judice in their dealings with peoples of a different race,
class, creed, or color.”

* * *

1941

In the midst of the recent War we received The Prom-
ised Day Is Come.

“A tempest, unprecedented in its violence, unpredict-
able in its course, catastrophic in its immediate effects,
unimaginably glorious in its ultimate consequences, is at
present sweeping the face of the earth . . . ”

“This judgment of God . . . is both a retributory calami-
ty and an act of holy and supreme discipline.”

* * *

1943

The year before the Centenary our hearts were thrilled
by the cable—

“I desire to announce to the elected representatives of
the valiant, blessed, triumphant American Bahá’í Com-
munity . . . the momentous decision to convene, in May,
1944, an All-American Centennial Convention comprising
delegates to be separately elected by each State and
Province in the North American Continent, and to which
each Republic of Latin America may send one represen-
tative. All groups, all isolated believers, as well as all
local communities already possessing Assemblies, will
henceforth share in the election of Convention dele-
gates. The multiplication of Bahá’í centers and the re-
markable increase in the number of groups and isolated
believers, prompt my decision . . . I hope to forward,
in time for the solemn thanksgiving service to be held
in the auditorium of the Temple on the evening of May
twenty-second, at the hour of His epoch-making Declara-
tion, a sacred portrait of the Báb, the only copy ever sent
out from the Holy Land . . . ”

* * *

1944

Then the Centenary Convention came his greeting:

“Hail with glad, grateful heart the historic Assembly
of the elected representatives of the followers of the
Faith of Bahá’u’lláh throughout the Western Hemisphere
participating in the first All-America Convention . . . I
recall with profound emotion on this solemn, auspicious
occasion the milestones in the progress of the commu-
nity whose rise constitutes one of the noblest episodes in
the history of the First Bahá’í Century . . . I am moved
to pay a well deserved tribute . . . to the gallant band of
its apostolic founders . . . to its intrepid pioneers . . . to
its indefatigable administrators . . . to its heroic martyrs
. . . to its itinerant teachers . . . to its munificent sup-
porters . . . last but not least to the mass of its stout-
hearted, self-denying members whose strenuous, cease-
less, concerted efforts so decisively contributed to the
consolidation and broadening of its foundations. . . . ”

In this same year we received Shoghi Effendi’s sur-
vey of the first hundred years of the Faith—God
Passes By.

* * *

1946

Then, as we met in our first peace-time Convention,
we received the call to greater service in further un-
folding of the Divine Plan.

“A twofold responsibility urgently calls the vanguard
of the dawn-breakers of the West, champion-building of Bahá’u’lláh’s Order, torch-bearers of world
 civilization, executors of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s mandate, to
arise and simultaneously bring to fruition the tasks al-
ready undertaken and launch fresh enterprises beyond
the borders of the Western Hemisphere.”

“The first objective of the new Plan is consolidation of
victories already won throughout the Americas, involv-
ing multiplication of Bahá’í centers, bolder proclamation
of the Faith to the masses.”

“The second objective is completion of interior orna-
mentation of the holiest House of Worship in the Bahá’í
world designed to coincide with the Fiftieth Anniversary
of the inception of this historic enterprise.”

“The third objective is the formation of three Na-
tional Assemblies, pillars of the Universal House of
Justice, in the Dominion of Canada, Central and South
America.”

“The fourth objective is the initiation of systematic
teaching activity in war-torn, spiritually famished Euro-
pean continent . . . ”

“Upon the success of the second Seven Year Plan de-
pends the launching after a respite of three brief years,
of a yet more momentous third Seven Year Plan which,
when consummated through the establishment of the
structure of the administrative order in the remaining
Sovereign State and chief dependencies of the entire
globe must culminate in and be beautifully commemor-
atored through world-wide celebrations marking the
Centennial of the formal Assumption by Bahá’u’lláh of
the Prophetic Office associated by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá with
Daniel’s prophecy and the World Triumph of the Bahá’í
Revelation and signaling the termination of the initial
Epoch in the evolution of the Plan whose mysterious,
resistless processes must continue to shed ever-
increasing lustre on succeeding generations of both the
Formative and Golden Ages of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh.”

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís
of the United States and Canada
Seventh Pioneer Flies to Lisbon

As this goes to press, December 22, Virginia Orbison is flying from Rio de Janeiro to Lisbon to teach the Baha'i Faith in Spain and Portugal. She is the seventh pioneer, apart from Mrs. Graebe, who is in charge of the office of the European Teaching Committee in Geneva, to leave for Europe under the second Seven Year Plan. Honor Kempton, who sailed November 29th on the Queen Elizabeth, arrived after a stormy passage, in England on her way to Luxembourg. With her was Isabel Locke, who is not under the European Teaching Committee, but plans to help with the work in England.

Miss Edna True, chairman of the ETC, returned to the United States November 27th. She reports that the European office of the Committee is now completely installed and functioning in Geneva, and that news from Mrs. Corbit in Norway, Miss van Sombeek and Mrs. Straub in Holland, and Mr. and Mrs. Anders Nielson, of Burbank, California, now established in Denmark, give thrilling indications that the European teaching project is definitely launched.

Mrs. Erna Mattson of the Montreal Baha'i Community is spending the winter in Zurich and has graciously consented to serve as the European Teaching Committee representative there.

The chairman conferred with friends, both in Paris and London, about the possibility of future cooperation between them and the European Teaching Committee and was deeply impressed by the great interest shown in this teaching project and by the warm and cordial spirit of helpfulness which was manifested everywhere.

Historic South American Conference

"The Baha'i's of South America grew up over night," writes Shirley Warde in her report on the all South American Baha'i conference held recently in Buenos Aires. "That is a statement meant literally and not figuratively," she continued. At the first session when the delegates gathered in the Center, it was a disorganized, somewhat disorderly group, fired with enthusiasm, but confused as to the issues before them, all wanting to talk at once, irrespective of procedure, and given to speech making and tributes. But in the space of twenty-four short hours the 'irresistible forces' promised by the Guardian for these days that are launching the Seven Year Plan, and perhaps released here by the reading of his momentous letter, 'God-given Mandate,' had penetrated to the core of every heart, and, through the operation of their mysterious power, welded the delegates, as the second day's session opened, into a united, efficient, consecrated and hard-working body.

"Although the conference sessions had been scheduled only for the mornings, leaving the afternoons free for committee meetings and any personal activities necessary, so great was the spirit animating the congress that, in the days following, the sessions were resumed in the afternoons and lasted until the delegates had only time to rush to the public meetings, often without their evening meal. Equally impressive with this sudden-born earnestness and dedication to the enormous tasks at hand, was the quick and eager shouldering of their own responsibilities on the part of the delegates. The needs of this vital hour were readily recognized and the representatives of the South American Assemblies set themselves to finding ways and means to meet these needs. The cablegram sent to the Guardian on the second day clearly stated their unified resolution. Because the delegates wished the North American believers present to be included..."

Nine Additional Pioneers

The present European project heralding the spiritual regeneration of the entire continent is the pivot on which hinges the success of the second Seven Year Plan... The dispatch of nine additional pioneers to facilitate the immediate formation of stable groups in the goal towns of the ten selected countries is imperative... A more liberal allocation of funds for the furtherance of the most vital objective is indispensable.

National Magazine Publishes Baha'i Statement

Pathfinder Magazine of Washington, D.C., has featured the Baha'i Faith on the religious page of its December 18 issue. Prepared by an editor of the magazine, the statement runs nearly half the page, and the text is illustrated with a photograph of 'Abdu'l-Baha and one of the Temple.

Pathfinder is an old established paper now having a circulation of a million and more copies. It is especially popular in the smaller cities and towns.

The Public Relations Committee supplied the literature from which the statement was compiled, and the interest of the editorial department was aroused by the publicity agency engaged by that Committee. Copies of the December 18 number have been mailed to local Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees.

Four National Public Meetings in November

Four Key City Meetings were held during the month of November: at Albuquerque on the 3rd; at Urbana, Illinois, on the 5th; at Binghamton on the 10th, and at Winnipeg on the 24th. The aggregate attendance at the meetings proper was about..."
South American Conference
(Cont'd from page 1)

In these countries, the delegates to the recent Latin American assembly held in Buenos Aires, worked tirelessly to strengthen the bonds between their countries and to establish a powerful spirit of unity in diversity. The delegates met to plan and organize the future activities for their countries, with the aim of creating a powerful spirit of unity in diversity.

Stuttgart Bahá'í Kindergarten

The Bahá'í Kindergarten in Nürnberg was the first to be established in Germany. The kindergarten was founded in 1946 by a group of Bahá'ís who were eager to provide a nurturing environment for the children of the community.

British Push Six Year Plan

The British N.S.A. is developing new methods to carry through to success its Six Year Plan to establish by 1950 nineteen Assemblies in the British Isles. It is offering every assistance, financial and moral, to those who arise to pioneer and also enlisting and supporting an ever increasing army of travelling teachers.

In Memoriam

Death proffers unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It becometh joy and is the bearer of gladness. It concomiteth the gift of everlasting life.

British Bahá'í Youth have brought out their first Bulletin. It is attractive in format, interesting in content and ably edited. Copies of this quarterly can be obtained from Miss Janet Howe, Business Manager, 22 Kingsley Road, Northampton, England.

Baha'i Addresses

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338 Sheridan Road, Wilmette,
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Treasurer's Office:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette,
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Baha'i Publishing Committee:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette,
Illinois.

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January 19, 1947

British Push Six Year Plan

The British N.S.A. is developing new methods to carry through to success its Six Year Plan to establish by 1950 nineteen Assemblies in the British Isles. It is offering every assistance, financial and moral, to those who arise to pioneer and also enlisting and supporting an ever increasing army of travelling teachers.

Attendance at the British Summer School was 110, thirty of whom were non-Bahá'í. The spirit of love and unity was so strong that all material and human shortcomings disappeared and the true expression of unity in diversity remained. Several nationalities, English, Irish, Scottish, French, Dutch, American, Persian, Egyptian, and German, were represented.

Two teaching bulletins are being distributed, "Contacts with Individuals and Groups" and "Rostrum Technique of Training Bahá'í Teachers."

British Bahá'í Youth have brought out their first Bulletin. It is attractive in format, interesting in content and ably edited. Copies of this quarterly can be obtained from Miss Janet Howe, Business Manager, 22 Kingsley Road, Northampton, England.

In Memoriam

Death proffers unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It becometh joy and is the bearer of gladness. It concomiteth the gift of everlasting life.

British Bahá'í Youth have brought out their first Bulletin. It is attractive in format, interesting in content and ably edited. Copies of this quarterly can be obtained from Miss Janet Howe, Business Manager, 22 Kingsley Road, Northampton, England.

Baha'i Addresses

National Office:
338 Sheridan Road, Wilmette,
Illinois.
Treasurer's Office:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette,
Illinois.
Baha'i Publishing Committee:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette,
Illinois.

Calendar

Nineteen Day Fasts
January 19
February 7
May 7th Anniversary of the Guardianship, January 6th.
N.S.A. meeting, January 18, 17, 14 and 19.
Settlers Needed in North America

The settlement of pioneers in the West needed reinforcement to hold the assembly status continues to be most pressing, and the National Teaching Committee urges anyone free to enter this field of Bahá’í service to write the secretary, Mrs. Sarah S. Walrath, 4539 Beacon Street, Chicago 40, Illinois.

The National Teaching Committee, with the help of the Regional Committees and the Extension Teaching Committees of the larger Assemblies, has given concentrated attention to the assistance of the goal cities during the past month. It has provided circuit teachers, and, by issuing bulletins, has endeavored to encourage the friends in these places to hold fireside meetings. The bulletins are "Teaching Techniques Suggested in The Advent of Divine Justice," "Teaching Bulletin on Fireside Meetings," and "Suggestions for the Study of the Will and Testament of 'Abdu’l-Bahá."

The teaching circuit made by Mrs. Sara E. Witt, of Santa Monica, California, across the continent during September and October, was concluded by intensive work in Salt Lake City and Logan, Utah, and Boise, Idaho. At Logan, after a talk which was heard by several professors from a local college, Mrs. Witt was asked to speak to the students of the college on the history of the Faith and the Administrative Order. There were sixty-five students present, three or four professors, and some other visitors. Many interesting and pertinent questions were asked.

Mrs. Margery McCormick of Evanston, Illinois, made a circuit through the Carolinas and Georgia, stopping at Greensboro, N.C.; Greenville, Columbia, and North Augusta, S.C.; and Augusta and Atlanta, Ga. The believers in those places provided public meetings, fireside meetings, luncheons, and suppers to enable her to reach interested people. "Each hour of the day was filled with contacts," reports Mrs. McCormick.

In Ohio, Mrs. Ruth Moffett of Chicago conducted an intensive teaching campaign in Findlay, Toledo, Lakewood, and Urbana, leaving study groups in each of those places.

The Corvallis, Oregon group was greatly stimulated through the ETC conference held there in November and the public meeting at which Mrs. Hazel Mori of Seattle and Mr. John Shurcliff of Tacoma were the speakers. Forty-one persons were present, eight of whom came through publicity. The group is planning follow-up work for December and January.

Delegates to the first all South American conference at Buenos Aires. Delegates were present from all ten countries and from the United States.

Recommendations of the 1946 National Convention

That the National Spiritual Assembly continue to distribute the monthly record of contributions received from local Spiritual Assemblies.

Voted to approve this recommendation.

That all reports of National Committees be published in advance and given to delegates in time to study before the Convention, so they may have opportunity to consult on problems and help the National Spiritual Assembly.

Voted to ask the committees to give very brief summaries for advance publication on February 15 and their annual reports as of May 1.

That the National Spiritual Assembly concentrate on an educational program for administration.

Voted to record that the National Spiritual Assembly has already acted to provide a series of articles on administration for Bahá’í News and has also authorized the publication of a new study outline on that subject.

That the National Spiritual Assembly employ professional technicians for public relations, new book covers and improved appearance of Bahá’í News.

Voted to record that the public relations committee already has the services of professional public relations counsel and that a committee has been appointed to investigate technical improvement of Bahá’í News.

That delegates arrive the evening before the Convention to become acquainted with each other.

Voted to request the Chicago Assembly to assume responsibility for a simple informal reception without program to be held in Foundation Hall the evening preceding the opening of the convention, the purpose of the reception being to provide an informal social gathering for the believers who arrive early.

That the National Spiritual Assembly call State and Province conferences very soon to consider the Guardian’s message, in order to bring the rank and file into the work.

Voted to record that there is no permanent administrative body qualified to conduct state and province conferences other than the annual election of delegates. We have taken steps to urge the study locally and regionally.

That the National Spiritual Assembly make effort to bring Dr. Townsend to America to teach in the Summer Schools and country-side public meetings, either this summer or next.

Voted to record that the National Spiritual Assembly has this under consideration.

That the By-Laws include recog-
JANUARY, 1947

Revised and approved by the National Spiritual Assembly.

The National Spiritual Assembly has this under consideration.

That one Youth be appointed on each Regional Teaching Committee.

Voted to record that this was not found to be entirely possible, but wherever possible it was done.

That Child Education work be included in the agenda of the 1947 Convention.

Voted that this Recommendation be approved.

That the National Spiritual Assembly establish a Bahá'í reference Library near the UNO and have contacts made with its members.

Voted to record that steps are being taken to establish a Bahá'í connection with the UNO.

That the American Bahá'ís should make clear to the world what the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh are on the subject of race unity; that a demonstration be made, comparable to that of the peace teachings in San Francisco.

Voted to record that this has been assigned as a project for the year to the Race Unity committee.

That the National Spiritual Assembly consult with the editor of West Englewood who wishes to submit a plan to place World Order magazine on newsstands.

Voted to record that this has been referred to the Publishing Committee and the conference has been held, although no report has been received as yet.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Public Meetings

(Com'd from page 1)

1500, but by means of the publicity associated with them, the Faith was brought to the attention of many thousands more. Detailed accounts of the meetings can be found elsewhere in this issue of Bahá'í News.

The definite dates of meetings to be held in last year's Key Cities are: New Orleans, January 28th; Chicago, February 4th; and Atlanta, February 9th.

Excellent Publicity at Albuquerque

Albuquerque, reporting through the secretary of their Public Meeting Committee, Muriel Ives Barrow, states that no stone was left unturned in the way of publicity, that every member of the committee worked with whirlwind velocity, with particular mention made of the labors and accomplishments of the committee chairman, Edna Andrews, who did a monumental job with the newspapers in the face of very discouraging odds. Due to the increased demands for advertising space they were told no space had been available for six months, but in the face of these odds they succeeded in getting free publicity which in some instances was front-page. Showing further versatility, they had placards made and bought display space in the thirty busses for the four days prior to their meeting. Window cards were prominently displayed and as always, the placing of them enabled the Bahá'ís to speak of the message and give out programs.

Dr. Edris Rice-Wray was speaker for Albuquerque with Dr. E. Lenore Morris presiding as chairman. They made excellent use of her time with first a luncheon to which prominent people had been invited. A supper feast was arranged on Saturday where she spoke to the Bahá'ís on "The Responsibility and Privilege of Being a Bahá'í." A buffet supper was arranged for Sunday afternoon with invited guests. A radio interview on Sunday morning for a 15-minute period, the radio station permitting a spontaneous question and answer period.

Because of the conflict of election campaigns radio time was limited on the two stations. But time for spot announcements was given free on one station and on the other they had minute spots each day for a week preceding the meeting.

The day of the meeting, Albuquerque, noted for its sun and lack of blizzards, lay trapped in snow. Yet in spite of this handicap the telegraphed attendance numbered 125 twenty of whom were believers. The meeting was held in the hallroom of the Hilton hotel. The formally attired young women who acted as ushers added beauty to the scene. One notable point is that the ushers were also stationed in the hotel lobby, near the street entrance, to direct and escort the guests to the lecture room. One of the hotel guests in the lobby asked an usher what was happening. He said he had noticed the Negroes coming in and he would like to know what group of people had the courage to do such a fine thing in a place where prejudice was as tight as it is in Albuquerque.

The friends report that Dr. Rice-Wray's talk was very comprehensible and much appreciative comment about it was received; so in spite of the snow they feel the meeting had made the mark it was supposed to. Their follow-up work has been well planned and we feel that the evident unity of effort demonstrated by the Albuquerque Bahá'ís will bring rich results.

800 Attend Public Meeting in Urbana

Urbana's meeting on November 5th, was held in the University Auditorium, with Elsie Austin as speaker, Charles E. Zeleny, chairman, and Bruce Foote, radio artist as soloist. The audience numbered approximately 800.

Excellent publicity was obtained in the Daily Illini, (student newspaper of the University of Illinois), the Champaign News-Gazette, the Urbana Evening Courier and The Illinois Times. Sixty posters were placed on the University of Illinois bulletin boards in the various buildings and in the business houses of Champaign and Urbana. A temple model was attractively displayed in a local florist shop on the main street of the campus shopping district two weeks preceding the lecture. Posters of the lecture accompanied the display.

Radio time was secured over WDFX, the local Champaign News-Gazette station on the CBS network for three of the dramatic recordings supplied by the National Radio Committee, October 30th, 31st and November 4th, all at 6:30 P.M. Spot announcements, Sunday, November 3rd at 12:30 P.M. and Tuesday, November 5th at 5:20 P.M.

A Press Luncheon was held the noon of the lecture date with the editor of the Illinois Times and a reporter from the Daily Illini as guests.

The ushers at the public meeting were eleven young people of various races, representing students and local residents of Urbana and Champaign or students of the Bahá'í Faith.

A reception was held after the meeting at the Bahá'í Center, one half block from the Auditorium, to meet the speaker and get further information and literature. About 60 people visited the Center, many
signing their names and giving their addresses in the guest book.

Comments from friends were "A very unusual program; we know that Miss Austin is the first Bahá'í speaker to give a lecture from the platform of the Auditorium, and we think that she is the first colored woman to speak from there." From Miss Austin herself: "I think the Urbana meeting was most successful from two standpoints. It demonstrated the publicity work even a small community can do when it tackles a really large teaching project. It also presented the Faith in a setting which distinguishes it from the 'isms' and protest movements which are so numerous today. I think it will become more and more important to stress this distinction."

The Urbana Baha'is themselves, felt it was a highly successful meeting and excellent opportunities for much intensive work in the succeeding months.

Binghamton Public Meeting
Pleases Audience

Binghamton's meeting, held November 10th at 4 p.m., at the Arlington Hotel, was preceded by a luncheon conference held in the private dining room of the Hotel, with reporters from the Binghamton Press and Binghamton Sun, Business Manager of the radio station WNBF, an announcer from WING, meeting the speaker, Mr. Matthew Bullock; the chairman, Mrs. Terah Smith; and the local Public Meeting Committee members.

They had excellent publicity including radio broadcasts. The eight recordings of the National Radio Committee were broadcast each day for the eight days preceding the lecture. They also had spot announcements over the two Binghamton stations and the speaker, Mr. Matthew Bullock, was interviewed over WINR on the day of the meeting.

The public meeting was attended by 175 persons, 40 of whom were Baha'is from Binghamton and the surrounding communities of Penn Yan, Syracuse, and Scranton. About one third were of the Negro race. Violin selections were presented by Mr. Ralph Wade of Endicott, N.Y., with Mrs. Mary Morse Wade at the piano. The friends report that the talk of the evening was very well received by an attentive audience who later expressed their pleasure at having had the opportunity of listening to such a forceful speaker. Friends gathered that evening at the home of one of the believers for a social evening with informal discussion as the feature. Interesting follow-up work has been planned by the Binghamton Bahá'ís.

Winnipeg Public Meeting
Exceeds All Expectations

"The Public Meeting or perhaps we should say the Public Campaign from November 23rd to 25th was successful beyond our expectations," reports Winnipeg, Canada. "The entire three days and the period before and after the week-end opened new doors to the Faith and introduced it to so many people that we can certainly say with assurance that the foundation of the Faith has been consolidated in Winnipeg and the masses have been reached." Dr. Edris Rice-Wray and Emeric Sala were the Winnipeg speakers.

The Public Meeting Committee of Winnipeg were hosts to seventeen at a luncheon conference on November 23rd. The guests included representatives from newspapers and radio stations. Also included among the guests was the vice-president of the Spanish-American Club, who is also in charge of a coast-to-coast CBC Program. She has become much interested in the Faith. At the close of the luncheon both Edris Rice-Wray and Emeric Sala spoke briefly. A barrage of questions followed, "wonderful questions, the kind you always wish people would ask," according to Dr. Rice-Wray.

The public meeting held on Sunday afternoon, November 24th, was attended by approximately 400 people. The program went very smoothly with excellent music, efficient stage handling, artistic flower arrangements, and competent ushering. Comments about the talks given by Dr. Rice-Wray and Emeric Sala were highly complimentary. While some members of the community feel disappointed that there were not twice as many people present at the public meeting, we believe it can truly be said that the Faith has really been 'proclaimed' for the first time in Winnipeg."

Sunday evening, November 24th, a fireside meeting was held for interested seekers, and a young Japanese-Canadian girl afterwards declared her intention of becoming a Bahá'í.

Monday, November 25th, Dr. Rice-Wray addressed about 40 students at the University of Manitoba on the subject "Science and World Order." A study group of about 25 students is now meeting regularly once a week at the University, and the LSA has appointed a special University Teaching Committee consisting of four student Bahá'ís with Ross Woodman as chairman. The Winnipeg Bahá'ís hope that every speaker who comes to Winnipeg in the future will be prepared to speak to this University Group.

Monday evening, Emeric Sala spoke to 40 Spanish students and members of the Spanish American Club on the subject "Latin America Tomorrow." He was introduced as a Bahá'í and was able to make only brief reference to the Faith but handled his subject with such excellence and subtlety that a large number of these people, who have never heard of the Faith before, were interested to know what it was all about. He spoke in both Spanish and English. After the meeting about 15 people adjourned to the home of one of the Club members where the conversation almost entirely revolved around the Bahá'í Faith. An opening at this Club can be made for any future visiting Bahá'í teacher who speaks Spanish.

The Winnipeg report expresses great appreciation for the efforts of Audrey Robarts who assisted them a week prior to the public meeting, and through her wide acquaintance was able to bring many prominent people to the public meeting and to introduce the Faith briefly to the wife of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Manitoba at a luncheon in Government House at which Mrs. Robarts was the guest of honor.

Radio activity included a series of 42 spot announcements over stations CJOB and CKRC which familiarized the listening public with the name Bahá'í, the various principles and advertised the public meeting.

"From both radio stations we had excellent cooperation and indeed the continuity writers became so interested that they themselves gave signal service in the excellent composition of their scripts," Edris Rice-Wray was interviewed by Mrs. Eve Henderson on the Women's Hour program. Emeric Sala was given a five-minute interview on CJOB.
Our pre-meeting publicity had been supplied to both daily papers and, in addition, copies of Emeric Sala’s book, ‘This Earth One Country’ had been donated to the book editors for review. The Winnipeg Free Press gave us one short article on the meeting in their Saturday paper including Emeric’s picture, and the book editor published a good review of his book in the same edition. The Free Press also gave us a good write-up in their Monday paper following the meeting. The Winnipeg Tribune did not give us any advance publicity but their reporter, who attended both the special luncheon and the public meeting, wrote an excellent article which was published in full in the Monday paper following the meeting.

“The most exciting publicity we received resulted from a series of articles on the Faith, written by Ross Woodman, which began about 10 days prior to the meeting and has appeared in two editions of the University paper The Manitoban.” Subsequent articles are yet to appear. As this paper is distributed free to 8000 students at the University of Manitoba there is hardly anyone at the University who has not now had an opportunity of learning something about the Faith. A very large number of the papers get into the homes of the students and are read by their parents. The editors of The Manitoban included an article on the public meeting in their last issue prior to the meeting with pictures of Edris Rice-Wray and Emeric Sala.

“The Winnipeg Bahá’í community recognizes this campaign both as a demonstration of capacity for cooperation amongst the local friends, and as a thrilling indication of the opportunities opening for the Faith in this city. It seemed as though we had only to think of a new door which might open for the Faith and it sprung wide at our touch.”

International Relief

The National Spiritual Assembly has voted that relief to Bahá’ís in war-devastated countries shall be handled by individuals in the American communities, rather than by organized local committees for international relief. This is to prevent an organized response from the American communities exceeding the Guardian’s directions.

From the friends in Austria comes news that packages from CARE have been received with much appreciation. The Bahá’ís in Stuttgart, Germany received packages from CARE on Labor Day and were most grateful.

The evidences so far indicate that this winter in Europe will be very severe. The Bahá’í friends there are praying the American believers through their generosity will help to alleviate the suffering. Food and warm clothing are still the most needed items.

Another name and address of a Bahá’í in Germany has been received: Miss Ursula Harte, Os-Kart 22, Grosshessen, Frankfort, a Main, Germany, A. Zone.

Prerequisites for Bahá’í Living

(A Compilation based on Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá’u’lláh)

Consort in amity and concord (page 315):

Overlook each other’s faults for Bahá’u’lláh’s sake (315). Unite in friendliness and fellowship (315, 289).

Be concerned to rescue the fallen and help him (316).

Avoid dissension and strife, contention, estrangement and apathy among the loved ones of God (9).

Do not shed the blood of any one (277).

Show forbearance and benevolence in your attitude one to another (5).

Be worthy of your neighbor’s trust and confidence (278, 285).

Love one another (318).

Endeavor to establish the unity of all mankind (203): Be equitable; do pure and holy deeds (206).

Show no animosity toward your fellow man (287).

Be a home for the stranger, a guiding light to the erring (285).

Defend and uphold the victim of oppression (285).

Cheer and refresh the downcast through love and fellowship, through friendliness and charity (7).

Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity (285).

Let truthfulness and courtesy be your adorning (305).

Fear God (104, 277):

Do nothing that will dishonor the Cause (277).

Seek God’s grace, His mercy, His help (104).

Put your whole trust in God (251, 264).

Be truly thankful and give praise to God (276).

Never exalt yourself over anyone, wash away every trace of pride and vainglory (284).

Cling to patience and resignation (265).

Observe silence; refrain from idle talk (265).

Show in your attitude toward God, humility and submissiveness (7).

Do not belittle the tokens of God’s grace; do not forfeit God’s bounty to you (320).

Let your heart be afraid of none except God (325).

Be selfless (316):

Enjoy the good things and bounties which God has allowed you, but be detached from all earthly things (276).

Do not allow self to keep God out of your heart (322).

Show goodwill and be virtuous (94).

Cling to righteousness (94).

Be fair in judgment; be guarded in speech (285).

Surrender self to God (337-338).

Attain knowledge (265):

Teach your own self first (277).

Do not give counsel to others unless you yourself live this counsel (277).

Be charitable, teach through kindness, be fair, show justice through deeds (287).

Cleanse your heart of all acquired knowledge, from satanic fancy and of every defilement (264).

Let nothing grieve you (303).

Supplicate for confirmation and understanding of the Teachings (323-324).

Search your heart, that you may attain the goal (to be drawn nigh unto Bahá’u’lláh) (186, 323).

Cleanse your mind from all man-made limitations (279).

Proclaim the Message of Bahá’u’lláh (273):

Be kindled with the fire of His love (335).

Be ablaze, and as untrammeled as the breeze (322, 338).

Strive for the betterment of the world and the education of the people (270).

With the hands of renunciation take from the Teachings and give to all created things (279).
How to Contribute to the Fund

Dear Bahá’í Friends:

Your Treasurer would like to ask your cooperation in several matters.

No. 1. I would like to call to the attention of the believers the fact that, if accurate records of their contributions are to be kept, the Treasurer’s office must receive with each contribution an explanation as to whether it represents a contribution from a group, an Assembly, or an individual. Several Assemblies have complained during the last few months that on the list of Assemblies and groups that were supporting financially the Second Seven Year Plan their name did not appear. This may be due to the fact that there was no accompanying note with the contribution, or the contribution was received after our books were closed for the month. I might add that many contributions come in to the Treasurer’s office with just a name, no address, no indication as to whom it is to be credited. This means that the Treasurer’s office has to spend hours of time going through old receipts in an endeavor to trace back where the contribution came from. Please do not send cash. All checks should be made payable to the National Bahá’í Fund.

No. 2. Our Budget for the period May 1st to October 31st, 1946, was $125,000.00. Total contributions received was $127,818.53. This shows a balance of $2,818.53 in the black and for the first time this year we do not show a deficit in meeting our Budget.

This black figure is due to the fact that we had this month a contribution of $25,000.00 from one believer, and, as explained in previous reports to the friends, there have been since the first of this Bahá’í year several non-recurring legacies. Had it not been for this $25,000.00 contribution which was for the interior decoration of the Temple, we would be over $22,182.00 short of meeting our goal.

The Treasurer cannot emphasize too strongly the fact that if the work, as outlined by the Guardian for the Second Seven Year Plan, is to go forward as scheduled, contributions must come in to the National Fund in amounts commensurate with the demands of the fund.

Your National Assembly instructed the Treasurer this year to earmark $6,250.00 each month for the interior decoration of the Temple. This could not be done because sufficient money has not been available in the general Fund.

In the most recent communication from the Guardian there is the following sentence: “A more liberal allocation of funds for furtherance of the most vital objective is indispensable.”

Faithfully yours,

Philip G. Sprague, Treasurer

Local Assemblies Sustaining the Seven Year Plan with Contributions to the National Fund During November, 1946

Arizona—E. Phoenix Rural; California—Albany, Berkeley, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Burlingame, Cloverdale Twp., Glendale, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Pasadena, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Diego, Santa Barbara; Canada—Halifax, Hamilton, Toronto, Montreal; Colorado—Colorado Springs, Denver; Connecticut—Hamden; Delaware—Wilmington, Florida—Jacksonville, Miami, H a w a i i — Honolulu, Maui; Georgia—Atlanta; Idaho—Boise; Illinois—Chicago, Danville, Elmhurst, Evanston, Oak Park, Peoria, Springfield, Urbana, Waukegan, Wilmette; Indiana—Ft. Wayne, Indianapolis, South Bend; Iowa—Cedar Rapids; Kansas—Topeka; Kentucky—Louisville; Maine—Elliott; Maryland—Baltimore, Massachusetts—Boston, Brockton, Worcester; Michigan—Ann Arbor, Detroit, Flint, Lansing, Muskegon, Roseville; Minnesota—Minneapolis; Mississippi—Jackson; Missouri—Independence, Kansas City, St. Louis; Montana—Butte, Helena; Nebraska—Omaha, Nebraska—Reno; New Jersey—Dumont; East Orange, Teaneck; New York—Jamestown, New York, Rochester, Yonkers; North Carolina—Greensboro; Ohio—Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Lima; Oregon—Portland; Pennsylvania—Philadelphia, Scranton, West Chester; Rhode Island—Providence; South Carolina—Greenville; South Dakota—Sioux Falls; Tennessee—Memphis; Utah—Salt Lake City; Vermont—Brattleboro; Virginia—Alexandria, Arlington, Washington—Richmond Highlands, Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma; West Virginia—Charleston; Wisconsin—Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, White Fish Bay; Wyoming—Laramie.

101 Assemblies contributed in November

37 Assemblies did not contribute

64 Groups contributed

195 Assemblies contributed.

O Son of Man!

Thou art My dominion and My dominion perisheth not, wherefore fearest thou thy perishing? Thou art My light and My light shall never be extinguished, why dost thou dread extinction? Thou art My glory and My glory fadeth not; thou art My robe and My robe shall never be outworn. Abide then in thine love for Me, that thou mayest find Me in the real of glory.

BAHÁ’U’LLÁH

New Policy for Bahá’í News

The National Spiritual Assembly has outlined the new editorial policy for Bahá’í News as follows: “While Assemblies and Committees are expected to continue reporting their plans, policies and activities in detail for the information and records of the N.S.A., the National Assembly in publishing Bahá’í News for the American Bahá’í community is responsible for presenting these news after selection and condensation for the sake of general reader interest, and this responsibility is vested in the Editorial Committee of Bahá’í News.”

This means that Bahá’í News is no longer the medium for ‘reports,’ but an organ for the publication of news items selected from reports and other communications received from month to month.

The attention of the friends is called again to the deadlines for Bahá’í News material:

Local news—the 10th of each month.

Regional news—the 20th of each month.

Address: Miss Garreta Busey, 503 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois.

Dayton Bahá’í picnic at McCoy’s farm, Waynesville, June 2, 1946.
Message from Shoghi Effendi

I recall with profound emotion, on the morrow of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's passing, the dramatic circumstances marking simultaneously the termination of the Heroic Age, and the commencement of the Formative Period, of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.

I acclaim with thankfulness, joy and pride the American Bahá'í community's manifold, incomparable services rendered the Faith at home and across the seas in the course of this quarter century.

I hail with particular satisfaction the consummation of the twin major tasks spontaneously undertaken and brilliantly discharged by the same community in both the administrative and missionary fields, constituting the greatest contribution ever made to the progress of the Faith by any corporate body at any time, in any continent, since the inception of the administrative order.

Nursed during its infancy by 'Abdu'l-Bahá's special care and unfailing solicitude; invested at a later stage with spiritual primacy through the symbolic acts associated with His historic visit to the North American continent; summoned subsequently to the challenge through the revelation of the epoch-making Tablets of the Divine Plan; launched on its career according to the directives of and through the propelling force generated by these same Tablets; utilizing with skill, resourcefulness and tenacity, for the purpose of executing its mission, the manifold agencies evolving within the administrative order, in the erection of whose fabric it has assumed it preponderating a share; emerging triumphantly from the arduous twofold campaign undertaken simultaneously in the homeland and in Latin America; this community now finds itself launched in both hemispheres on a second, incomparably more glorious stage, of the systematic crusade designed to culminate, in the course of successive epochs, in the spiritual conquest of the entire planet.

The task of this stern hour is challenging, its scale of operation continually widening, the races and nations to be contacted highly diversified, the forces of resistance more firmly entrenched, yet the prizes destined for the valiant conquerors are inestimably precious and the outstanding Grace of the Lord of Hosts promised to the executors of His mandate is indescribably potent.

The present European project heralding the spiritual regeneration of the entire continent is the pivot on which hinges the success of the second Seven Year Plan. I appeal to the national representatives of the community, in conjunction with the European Teaching Committee, to focus attention upon its immediate requirements. The dispatch of nine additional pioneers to facilitate the immediate formation of stable groups in the goal towns of the ten selected countries is imperative. The selection of suitable literature, its prompt translation into the languages required, its publication and wide dissemination, is essential. The visit of an ever-swelling number of itinerant teachers designed to foster the development of the groups is urgently required. A more liberal allocation of funds for the furtherance of the most vital objective is indispensable.

I entreat the entire community to arise, while time remains, contribute generously, volunteer its services and accelerate its momentum, to assure the total success of the first, most momentous collective enterprise launched by the American Bahá'í community beyond the barriers of the Western Hemisphere. Cablegram received (signed) Shoghi Effendi December 3, 1946.

State and Province Conventions

The State and Province Conventions will be held on the uniform date of February 9 throughout the United States and Canada. The hour and place of the meeting has been determined by the Election Committees appointed for that purpose.

Individual Bahá'ís of voting age will receive blank ballots and necessary information before February 1.

A special agenda will be sent the various Election Committees in time to take to the meeting.

National Spiritual Assembly

Bahá'í Bridgehead in Europe

Beloved friends:

Each American believer may well stop to think over the profound meaning of the present stage in the evolution of the Divine Plan.

After years of voluntary teaching work by individuals, who accomplished notable results in many countries, the American Bahá'ís now collectively have a bridgehead in Europe — the Geneva office established by the European Teaching Committee in connection with the International Bahá'í Bureau.

This is our advance post in the seven year effort to raise up a Spiritual Assembly in each of the ten designated countries. It is our pledge to the spiritually hungering masses of the continent that Bahá'u'lláh has brought the way from strife to peace, and has revealed in His new Revelation the inmost reality of man. Whoever attains that reality within himself is raised above the field of mental and material conflict. He becomes supranational, supraracial and supradenominational.

Examine the ten countries on a map and you will see that they form the Western Division of Europe. In that area the seeds of unity and brotherhood can produce a harvest by 1953, but the workers needed are many. With what grave emphasis the Guardian states the case in the cablegram published in the present issue of Bahá'í News! These workers exist, else the appeal would not have been made. They are among our local communities, groups and isolated believers. When the hour of decision comes to each, he will be transformed and confirmed in the destiny he must fulfill.

The bridgehead has been established to prepare the way for the army — the army of the Lord of Hosts, as the Master called those who attain. Whether we actually march forward in the ranks of pioneers or not, we all support the work and supply the material needs. Time flies with accelerating speed. We must keep pace with destiny. Passive awareness of a plan of campaign is
insufficient. The actual effort we make tells the size of our faith today.

The Assembly expresses deep appreciation of the response made by the Bahá'ís throughout the Southern States to the invitation to attend the teaching conference held December 8 in Foundation Hall. The results of that important meeting will be reported later. Meanwhile it is a privilege to list the names of the believers who signed the registry:


Those registered include in addition to the representatives sent by Assemblies and Regional Teaching Committees of the designated States, members of the National Race Unity Committee, the National Teaching Committee, the National Assembly, and believers of the Temple area.

**NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY**

**Baha'i News**

**Twenty-five Years of the Guardianship**

By Ruhiyyih Khânum

Twenty-five years ago the Bahá'í world was shaken by a great earthquake, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, the Center of the Covenant, the greatest Mystery of God, had suddenly passed away, with no premonitory illness to prepare his friends and followers for this tragic shock. Stunned, the Bahá'ís of East and West tried to rally their faculties. We knew great tasks lay ahead of us; we believed in this new Faith and its Manifestation and in the World Order that He had come to establish, but we felt terribly alone and the responsibility for the future lay heavily upon our already grief-filled hearts. Where was the shepherd? The familiar voice, that had spoken with an authority vested in it by the Prophet of God Himself, was stilled. We had the teachings; like a wonderful laboratory, equipped for every purpose, they were there—our priceless treasure. But where was the alchemist who transmuted base metals into gold? Where was the listener who answered our questions and guided us in the use of all that great laboratory possessed?

Then came the reading of the Master's Will, and with an infinite sense of relief we realized that, though the seas of tribulation and separation had risen about us, 'Abdu'l-Bahá had not left us alone. He had given us the mighty Ark of His own Covenant which we could enter into in peace secure. With what grateful hearts we turned to the youthful figure that had suddenly been revealed to us in that Will as our priceless legacy, described by 'Abdu'l-Bahá as the fruit of the Twin Lote Trees, the pearl of the Twin Surging Seas, this new creation, vested with a unique function, the hereditary office of Interpreter and Protector of the Faith and life-head of the International House of Justice. In many ways the Will of the Master completes and supplements the Aqdas; in it 'Abdu'l-Bahá lays down in considerable detail the manner of election and function of the International House of Justice, its powers and jurisdiction. He also fills in a remarkable gap in that mighty book of laws and one which any intelligent commentator on that document must be immediately struck by. Baha'u'llah established in His Most Holy Book a very unique voluntary form of tax, a source of revenue, the great importance of which He adequately defines by giving it the exalted title of “The Right of God” (Huququ'lláh) but He never states to whom this revenue is payable, and in view of the fact that the revenues of the International House of Justice are clearly stipulated and this Huququ'lláh is not included among them, the question naturally occurs—what person or institution is to receive it? 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Will elucidates this riddle and fills in the conspicuous blank left by Baha'u'lláh.

It is also interesting to realize that the provisions of the Will and Testament were not only contemplated by 'Abdu'l-Bahá long prior to His ascension, but also carried out. The Will is comprised of three separate documents, written at different times and all sealed and signed by the Master. In perhaps the most dangerous and difficult years of His ministry in 'Akka, when Shoghi Effendi was only a young boy, he was already appointed as the Successor of 'Abdu'l-Bahá in the first Will. This decision was later reaffirmed in the second and third Will, and the provisions of the Will and Testament were later ratified by the National Assembly.

Twenty-five years have since been made, with a very early date, but from the depths of His bitter experience over a period of sixty years. He kept his precious secret carefully guarded, even from His intended successor, and it was not until after His ascension that we began to appreciate the perfection of the system God has, in this most great cycle, given to mankind; a system which has the hand of God constantly laid on it from above in the form of a divinely-guarded
Guardianship directly descended from and related to the two Founders of the Faith and, at the same time, exalts the role of Man to a new height in that the freely-elected members of the International House of Justice are, when functioning as a body, promised the inspiration and protection of God upon their deliberations and decisions.

Let us go back for a moment and recall what we were and what Shoghi Effendi was when he first assumed his function as Guardian. Those who remember the passing of the Master and the terrible blow it was to them, the intense unbearable grief it caused them, can best grasp what his feelings were. At that time he was twenty-four years of age, studying at Oxford University in England in order to better prepare himself to serve ‘Abdu’l-Baha as an interpreter, and to translate some of the Bahá’í literature into English, when news of the ascension reached him. Broken-hearted, so weak from suffering he had to be practically lifted from the train, he returned to Haifa. Then the second blow, as unexpected and in many ways more cruel than the first, fell upon him. The Will and Testament of His Grandfather was read to him and for the first time in his life he became apprized of the Master’s great and well-guarded secret: That he, Shoghi Effendi, the beloved eldest grandson, was His successor and First Guardian of the Cause of God. Saddled with this great weight, crushed by this great blow, he turned his eyes to the Bahá’í world. He beheld a widely diversified, loosely organized community, scattered in various parts of the globe, and with members in about twenty countries. These people, loyal, devoted and sincere though they were, were still, to a great extent, living in their parent religion’s house, so to speak; there were Christian Bahá’ís, Jewish Bahá’ís, Muslim Bahá’ís and so on. They believed in the Bahá’í Faith but were intimately connected with their former churches. Like fruit on a tree, they were a new crop but still stuck to the old branch. This was true East and West alike. That was the point to which the Faith had evolved at the time of the Master’s ascension.

We, on our part, beheld a young man of only twenty-four standing at the helm of the Cause and some of the friends felt impelled to advise him about what it would be wise for him to do next. It was then that we began to know not only the nature of our first Guardian but the nature of the entire Institution of Guardianship, for we quickly discovered that Shoghi Effendi was “unreachable.” Neither relatives, old Bahá’ís or new Bahá’ís, well-wishers or ill-wishers could sway his judgment or influence his decisions. We quickly came to realize that he was not only divine but had been endowed by God with just those characteristics needed to build up the Administrative Order, unite the believers in common endeavor, and coordinate their world-wide activities. Shoghi Effendi immediately began to display a genius for organization, for the analysis of problems, for reducing a situation to its component parts and then giving a just and wise solution. He acted vigorously, with unflinching determination and unbounded zeal. Those who were privileged to meet him were immediately captivated by his eager, frank and cordial attitude, by his consideration, his innate modesty, his spontaneous kindness and charm.

The wheels of the Cause which had momentarily stood still at the Master’s passing, began to revolve again and at a higher tempo than ever before. Our Father, so patient, so constantly forgiving, whom we had tired and perhaps worried far more than we dreamed of, was gone, and in His stead stood our “true brother,” young, determined to see we at last got down to accomplishing the tasks set us by Bahá’u’lláh and the Master, and not willing to lose any time at all.

With the reading of the Will and the establishment of the Guardianship, came quite naturally and organically a new phase in the development of the Faith. This was typified by one of the first acts of the Guardian: Shoghi Effendi never set foot in the Mosque, whereas ‘Abdu’l-Bahá had attended it until the last Friday of His life. What local people had suspected—that the Bahá’í Cause was really something quite different—became blatantly clear: that which it would have been almost impossible for the Master to do, namely, to sever the intimate bonds which had bound him for so long to the Arab community, particularly the Muslim community, of Palestine during many years when it was forbidden to even mention the name Bahá’í, the Guardian now did over-night and began to encourage the Bahá’ís to likewise do in different parts of the world.

There were two major tasks that the Guardian set himself to accomplish immediately after the Master’s passing: One was to steer the believers all over the world into working through the newly organized administrative channels, as indicated by Bahá’u’lláh and defined by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and the other was to see that year by year they became more emancipated from the bonds of the past, whether those bonds were close identification with their former religious doctrines and organizations, or the following of the outworn and corrupt patterns of conduct current in the society of their various nations and alien to the new standards of conduct laid down by the Manifestation of God for the world in this new age.

Between 1923 and 1934, the Guardian, aided by the devoted response of the various Bahá’í communities, succeeded in establishing six new National Spiritual Assemblies with all their attendant funds, committees and institutions. Whereas, in the lifetime of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, only Persia and America had possessed such bodies and these had, for the most part, functioned more as central Committees, coordinating somewhat the national affairs of the Cause and, in the United States, convening the annual Convention and taking preliminary steps for the erection of the Mashriqí’í Adhikár, these new National Assemblies, one for the British Isles, one for Germany and Iraq respectively, one for Egypt and the Sudan, and one for Australia and New Zealand, now emerged on a sound footing and began, under the constant and direct tutelage of the Guardian, to vigorously administer the affairs of their ever-growing communities.

What the Guardian possesses to an outstanding degree (and no doubt is divinely endowed with) is the vision of the Cause. That which might seem essential to us he would see as a purely secondary issue and what might appear in our eyes as a trivial matter might to him be the pivot of far greater decisions. He is the balance of the Cause; he weighs and classifies the problems, the requirements, the tasks of the hour, and keeps the entire Faith in every part of the world functioning as efficiently and as satisfactorily as our
individual frailties and deficiencies will permit.

From the very beginning of his Ministry the Guardian began to correspond at length with the American National Spiritual Assembly as regards the handling of the affairs of the Cause of God in that country. These highly instructive letters were later published under the title of 'Bahá’í Administration' and formed the directive for all bodies administering the work of the Cause, whether in the East or in the West. He, in conjunction with this process of training us in how to function as a group and as individuals in a coordinated Bahá’í Society, also educated us in a concept of the Faith which was the logical conclusion to be drawn from not only statements made by the Bab and Bahá’u’lláh, but from the Tablets of the Divine Plan revealed for the American Bahá’ís by the master; namely, that whereas Persia cradled this new world religion in the 19th Century, North America was to cradle the Administrative Order which in turn would be the precursor of the new World Commonwealth. Patiently, untiringly, year after year, Shoghi Effendi has labored on the rearing of the Administrative Order, using the American Bahá’í Community as the arch-pattern to be followed by all other Bahá’í Communities. While the American believers struggled to learn what it really means to function as a member of an Order that has rules to be lived up to and not merely read about; while they tried to really submit their wills and conduct to the guidance of bodies conducting their affairs according to the will of the majority, the Guardian never for a moment lost sight of the purpose of his endless insistence on our following the Administrative Principles of our Faith; namely, to produce an instrument strong enough to enable us to fulfill one of the primary obligations of every believer—to teach the cause of God.

For sixteen years Shoghi Effendi never ceased to broaden our horizons and train us in Bahá’í Administration, whether local or National. After that, he suddenly opened a new door. He told us, so to speak, that we were now trained enough to use our laboriously erected Administrative System for a great joint effort, an effort to carry into effect the first stages of the Divine Plan. Prior to 1937 he had already been trying our metal to some extent, and disciplining us as good soldiers, through his repeated and successful appeals for the work of constructing our first Bahá’í Temple. This great enterprise we had ourselves inaugurated, encouraged by 'Abdu’l-Bahá, Who by His own hand, laid its dedication stone in 1912. But in spite of our good intentions, we had by 1921, only succeeded in producing something that resembled a subdued black oil tank, one story high, on the Temple grounds, and which looked so unprepossessing that the town authorities protested against it. Through the repeated appeals, the stimulation and encouragement of the Guardian and the sacrifice of the Bahá’ís, and after ten years during which we had been soundly berated for its appearance, we at last completed its superstructure and succeeded in silencing our critics. When the first Seven-Year Plan was given us in 1937 by the Guardian, in it was included, as one of our major tasks, the completing of the exterior ornamentation of the building which comprised the main story and steps, the rest having been laboriously carried out from 1931 to 1935.

In 1919, at the Annual Bahá’í Convention in New York, the Tablets revealed by 'Abdu’l-Bahá at a time when He was in great danger during the First World War and which have come to be known as the "Vehicles of the Divine Plan" and the "Spiritual Mandate," conferred by Him on the North American Community of Believers, were unveiled. We American Bahá’ís are all familiar with their remarkable and stirring contents. We were all immensely proud to receive them. No one, however, except Martha Root and a few other venturesome souls, felt moved to do anything drastic about carrying out the instructions contained in them prior to 1938-37. It was then that Shoghi Effendi's teaching inspiration and advice began to pour into the minds and hearts of the American Bahá’ís like an incoming tide. He called us to action. For eighteen years, we had basked happily and complacently in the praises and promises 'Abdu’l-Bahá had showered upon us in those Tablets, and in many other writings and statements. The Guardian, however, his fingers on our pulse, knew that we were now able to arise for pioneer work, and, through the instruments of the Administration he had so carefully assisted us in evolving, carry forward the frontiers of our achievements.

He was, thank God, not mistaken in the confidence and trust he reposed in us. He called and America responded. People from every walk of life, business men, stenographers, old ladies, young ladies, people with families, people often frail in health but iron in spirit, began to arise, and what may in future well be viewed as one of the greatest spiritual sagas of the American nation, began to take place. They were called pioneers, and into new cities, into the virgin States of the United States and the virgin Provinces of Canada—virgin as yet to Bahá’u’lláh’s light—these people began to move, at the cost of great personal sacrifice and inconvenience, inspired by nothing but faith and devotion and love for their fellowmen, they started to lay the foundations for new Bahá’í communities by establishing new Spiritual Assemblies as a result of their teaching activities.

Perhaps one of the most wonderful aspects of this first Seven-Year plan was the way the Bahá’ís responded to the Guardian's hope that centers would be established, 'ere its termination, in every single Latin-American Republic. The Guardian, always walking on before a few steps and then calling us over his shoulder to hurry up and follow, led us Seven Years down that mighty pioneer trail which wound over North America, into Alaska, down to Panama, all over Central and South America, across the Andes, and into the West Indies. And wherever his voice called, the Bahá’í followed. This first Seven-Year Plan is a very wonderful thing to contemplate. It was the first joint activity on a large scale, nationally organized and flowing into an international field, that the followers of Bahá’u’lláh had ever undertaken anywhere in the world. Truly formidable obstacles were overcome—obstacles of relatively small numbers of believers to draw upon; a community of very restricted financial means to back such activities (more especially so as the expensive work of completing the Temple ornamentation was steadily going on at the same time); a terrible, unprecedented World War, suddenly engulfing humanity with all its dangers, obligations and restrictions after only two and a half years of the Seven-Year Plan had run their
course. But all these barriers were hurdled or thrown down, for we had a prize dear to our hearts just in view, and we were determined to win it. The prize was to succeed in accomplishing all that the Guardian asked of us by May 23, 1944, at which time we were to celebrate our first Bahá'í Centennial.

At the Centenary Convention the Bahá'ís met, radiant with such victories as these: having completed the contracts for the exterior ornamentation of the Temple eighteen months ahead of time; having established Spiritual Assemblies in every single state and province of North America—thus doubling the number in seven years and bringing it up to 138; having not only brought into being a nucleus of the Faith in every Latin American Republic but of having established already in most of them flourishing Spiritual Assemblies and of having the joy of seeing many delegates from these Central and South American countries present at this first great All-America Convention. Beneath the dome of their great Mother Temple of the West, now complete except for its interior ornamentation, they tasted the sweetness of the good pleasure of God, for priceless gifts were given them on that occasion by the Guardian: a beautifully framed copy of the portrait of the Báb and a lock of His hair. So precious and well guarded is this likeness of Him that even the House in Shiráz, one of the two centers of pilgrimage established by Bahá'u'lláh, does not possess a copy.

Nor should we forget for a moment, in counting our achievements and our blessings, the recent inauguration of the second Seven-Year Plan which has already been enthusiastically embarked upon by the American Bahá'ís and which, in addition to increasing the number of National Spiritual Assemblies by three—one to be formed in Canada in 1948, and one for Central and one for South America in 1950—is aimed at carrying the Faith to the European Continent, as part of an organized activity, for the first time.

The vision of the future which Shoghi Effendi has revealed to us in his recent communications, is simply stupendous. Beyond each goal stretches another goal, tapering off into an era when we know the Faith will be emancipated and come into its own in the eyes of the whole world. Not only do our teaching activities during the next seven years carry us all over Northern, Western and Southern Europe, but we are given the challenging task of completing, at long last, the interior of our Temple. And of thus setting it before the eyes of the men as the first and greatest Bahá'í House of Worship in the West.

While the American Bahá'ís have been absorbed in the two-fold task of learning to understand the purpose of the Bahá'í administration, the way it functions and the uses to which it could be put, and in embarking on the first stages of the Divine Plan, their co-workers in other parts of the world were not idle. The progress achieved in the United States was outstanding, but not unique. The work of the Cause went ahead at a rapid pace in other countries in which the Bahá'ís labored, but under far greater handicaps; in Persia, where the government is the traditional enemy of the Faith; in Egypt, where the Sunni religious doctors have consistently opposed us, cast us out of their ranks and incited the populace against us; in Iraq where the Bahá'í Community was small and the native people fanatical and reactionary; in Germany, where the Nazi regime originally frowned upon us from the hour of its rise to power until it finally officially banned the Faith in 1937, confiscated its literature and archives and in a number of cases tried or persecuted its followers; in England, where the believers were few and scattered in an intensely conservative land of strong traditions; in India, where the relatively large Bahá'í community struggled against the multiplicity of prejudices and creeds—in all these lands where National Assemblies, firmly founded and buttressed by active committees and national funds, watched over the interests of the believers and worked under the constant guidance of the Guardian, the affairs of the Cause, far from declining, prospered as never before. This was also true in Australasia, which in its freedom from traditional forms and its tolerance, most closely resembles conditions found in North America.

It is hard to know what achievements to cite, so many spring to mind as one casts one's eye over the scene: the emancipation of the Cause from Islâm in Egypt, formally and forcibly pronounced a non-Muhammadan independent faith by the ecclesiastical authorities there, which in its turn greatly strengthened the Bahá'í claim to official recognition as a new and independent world religion in other lands, including the United States; the tremendous increase of Bahá'í properties the world over, including not only six National Headquarters but innumerable local headquarters, meeting halls, guest houses and even burial grounds, stretching from Persia through India, Iraq, the Holy Land, Egypt, across the seas to North and South America, and back across the Pacific to Australia, but also including the purchase, in the land of Bahá'u'lláh's birth, of most of the sacred and historic sites associated with the rise of the Faith there, as well as an extensive and beautiful property destined to be the site of the future Bahá'í Temple in that country; the increase in the number of Bahá'í summer schools, well organized and operating in Germany, India, Persia, England, Egypt, Argentine, New Zealand, Australia and four states of North America—namely, Maine, Michigan, Colorado and California; the rise of Bahá'í young people the world over to positions of importance in the Cause, as teachers, writers, administrators and pioneers, with well organized activities which include the training of children and adolescents; the truly remarkable output of Bahá'í literature with titles published in the United States alone running well over fifty, with a Publishing Trust established in England which gets out many volumes not only for use in the British Isles but also for export to other Bahá'í communities; the prewar publishing activities of the German believers who were very active in translating literature from the English, and also in issuing works written by Bahá'í authors in their own language; the role which India—mother land of so many hundreds of tongues and dialects—has played in this field and which has obliged her to already print editions in about fourteen native languages; the issuance of Bahá'í literature in many other countries, such as Switzerland, Argentine, Egypt, and so on; and the important fact that our Bahá'í text book “Bahá'u'lláh and The New Era” has now been printed in about forty-five languages; the legal incorporation of over sixty-five national and local Bahá'í Assemblies in countries all over the world; and, first and foremost, the most impres-
...sive and significant accomplishment of all, that whereas in the days of 'Abdu'l-Bahá the Faith had only spread to about 20 countries, its message has now been taken to over 70, and in the majority of these an administrative foundation of the Cause has already been firmly laid.

No appraisal of the wonderful work achieved by the Bahá'ís the world over during this period would be complete without mention of what the Guardian himself, singlehanded, has done at the world center of the Faith in Palestine. Aside from his constant and very heavy correspondence, with not only national and local Assemblies but with groups and individuals as well, aside from his cables and directives addressed to the Bahá'ís in different parts of the world, aside from the books he writes and the Bahá'í literature he translates so painstakingly and beautifully, he has aided the believers financially in all of their major undertakings, in the East or the West. Whether it was to assist the Bahá'í refugees from Russia, or those who had suffered local persecution in Persia, or to help build the various national Administrative Headquar-...
January, 1947

violently attacked.

As was to be expected, the very first charge came from the Covenant-breakers: Muhammad 'Ali, who had tried in vain to discredit 'Abdu'l-Bahá, disaffected the believers, corrupt certain writings of Bahá'u'lláh, and even had on more than one occasion sought to have the Master's life taken, revived his faded hopes when he beheld such a (as he thought) defenseless youth placed at the helm. His attack was disturbing, if somewhat ludicrous, for he chose to have one of his henchmen seize the sacred shrine of his father, Bahá'u'lláh, and rob the Bahá'í Keeper of the keys.

Distressing though the incident was, the case of the successor of 'Abdu'l-Bahá was so clear in the eyes of the British authorities, that in a short time he was obliged to return the keys to Shoghi Effendi's representative. This was the first, so to speak, crossing of swords with our appointed Guardian, and both the Bahá'ís and local observers, friend and foe alike, learned through it that we had an active and skilled Defender of the Faith!

In Egypt, a proud Armenian, blinded by vanity and ambition, waved his own little flag of rebellion and succeeded in drawing away from the Bahá'í community (at that time in the early stages of its own development) a number of his compatriots and other misguided souls. But the hand that waved the flag soon got tired, and became aware of the foolishness of trying to coax people out of such a water-tight ark as 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Covenant has proven itself to be. Gradually, over the years, those who after such a disillusioning and spiritually unhealthy experience, still possessed any vital spark of faith, returned to knock on the door they had left and were, whenever the sincerity of their intentions was proven, welcomed back into the now actively working and expanding Egyptian Bahá'í community.

An American woman, Mrs. Ruth White, suffering from a truly remarkable form of delusion—namely, that the Will and Testament of the Master is a forgery—spent a great deal of time, money and energy on exposing her views. The document in question, its handwriting, text and style, seals and history is so obviously protected from this accusation that her violent agitation had no effect on the body of the Bahá'ís, with the exception of a few simple souls in Germany. Most of these (who remained devoted to the Faith but confused on this point) have now expressed their deep remorse over these deluded and wasted years they spent outside the Bahá'í community, and have re-entered it in Germany and are among its most active workers.

In Persia Avaríh, at one time a very active Bahá'í teacher, developed what must seem to any sane person, a sort of spiritual hydrophobia. He not only attacked the Guardian exhaustively and fantastically in about ten volumes, but turned against both Bahá'u'lláh and the Master as well. His statements, unbalanced, compounded of such a high percentage of lies that even an intelligent and sincere enemy of the Faith would recognize them as such, have poured forth in the cheap press of Persia for practically decades. But the results have been very dishheartening from his standpoint, for he neither gathered unto himself a following, nor has he been able to disrupt the affairs of the large, devoted and loyal community of believers in Bahá'u'lláh's native land.

Ahmad Sohrab, a former secretary of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, largely thanks to the generous support given him by a deluded woman, has been able to expend all his gifts of perversion on his favorite theme—a prolonged and windy attack on the Administrative Order of the Faith as it exists at the head, and soundly organized Assemblies cooperating with him throughout the world in spreading Bahá'u'lláh's message and building up His divinely ordained institutions. He holds the honor of being undoubtedly the most mischievous of the trouble makers that the Cause has raised up during this quarter of a century. Yes, the Cause of God has raised him up! For what beauty does not produce envy, and what purity does not produce slander, and what goodness does not challenge the evil hidden in an envious heart? This man, who received as charity—as we all do—some drops of God's overflowing bounty, could have done much to assist the Bahá'ís in carrying out the wishes of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and the plans of Bahá'u'lláh. But ambition proved too strong. In our Faith we must submit to having our personal desires and plans integrated into the plans for the whole, for unity is our watchword and we are not only propagating a new Faith with its new principles, but are building a divinely laid down system into society, and this requires the discipline of the personal ego to some extent, and the integration of all members of the community into a coherent pattern. To this Ahmad Sohrab would not submit, for it did not allow him the personal prominence he craved. The hot wind of his slander has blown upon us for some time now, and though it troubled and disaffected a few hearts, to the vast majority of believers it proved an irritating stimulant, which not only made them cherish more dearly the Master's Will and its provisions, but spurred them on to greater endeavor.

We Bahá'ís are neither afraid to, nor ashamed of, mentioning the names of these prominent backsliders. On the contrary, they represent to us what a soldier's ribbons do to him: they are the campaigns we have successfully fought and every one of them is dear to our hearts. The storms they have loosed upon us have not only driven the roots of our Faith in Bahá'u'lláh's system deeper, but have demonstrated to us that, for the first time in history, a religion has been given to men which cannot be split up into sects, for the two Wills—those of Bahá'u'lláh and the Master—are so strongly constructed and so authentic beyond a shadow of a doubt, that it is impossible to divorce the body of the teachings from their provision.

The principle of successorship, endowed with the right of Divine interpretation, is the very hub of the Cause into which its Doctrines and Laws fit like the spokes of a wheel—tear out the hub and you have to throw away the whole thing. This is why our enemies have, for a hundred years, failed to establish anything outside the Faith which could thrive or prosper.

As we look back over these twenty-five years, it is with feelings of profound contentment. We Bahá'ís have matured greatly. The little tragedies, the hot discussions, the rocking of the boat by various enemies, seem all far behind us now. We have grown up in the Will. We have stood close to that tree which overshadowed all mankind, and come to realize how live and great it is, how dense its foliage, how heavy its yield of fruits—the tree of our first Guardian, our Shoghi Effendi. Where first we looked to him with affection and
much pity for his youthfulness and the greatness of the task laid upon him, now we look to him eagerly, waiting each fresh counsel of his wise, and so well proven, leadership. With deep love and pride the Bahá’ís labor under his guidance, thanking God not only for this wonderful Divinely inspired institution of Guardianship, but also for this particular Guardian, who has steered the ship of the Cause through so many shoals and whose sure and patient hand is guiding it on to the great victories promised by Bahá’u’lláh for his Faith in this Century.

Shoghi Effendi’s services to the Cause of God are not yet known. How can they be? There is not yet the required perspective. Only gradually have we been grasping just Who and What the Bab and Bahá’u’lláh were; out of the mists of contemporary events they are now rising like giants on the horizon of Their Own Revelation. “God Passes By” has been the greatest single factor in our beginning to truly appreciate Their significance and station. But it is too early, and he is too close, for us to begin to properly evaluate our first Guardian. We can, however,—always remembering as he in his great modesty would wish us to—that he is guided by God, weigh up a little of what he has done. Let us begin with his presents to us, the dearest gifts he could make us, the translations: The Iqán, the Epistle to The Son of The Wolf, The Prayers and Meditations, The Gleanings, The Hidden Words, The Dawn-Breakers, and innumerable gems quoted in his own writings. What would our understanding of love and for the Cause be today without these glorious books? Then let us take his own works: The Bahá’í Administration, The wonderful World Order Letters, The Dispensation of Bahá’u’lláh, The Advent of Divine Justice, The Promised Day Is Come, the ten volumes of The Bahá’í World—child of his vision of the Cause and uniring perseverance and most valuable of all, God Passes By, that unique, exhaustive and marvellous review of the highlights of 100 years of Bahá’í history, in which every factor receives its due importance in relation to every other, a labor no one but the Guardian could ever be qualified to do. To the above must of course be added many important communications addressed to the Persian Bahá’ís in their own tongue.

Not one of our achievements during this quarter of a Century and briefly touched upon here, could have been made were it not for the untiring labor and patience of Shoghi Effendi. He has encouraged us when we were down-hearted, spurred us on when we decided to take a little inopportune rest, foreseen our needs and supplied us with the plans, the counsel, the passages from the writings, the answers to the questions, which we needed. How well we realize today what a sad state our Cause would have been in without him! So often we have seen his healing touch laid on dissections, on hurt feelings or wounded pride, always fertile sources of trouble in any community. So often his explanation and interpretation has made the way clear and once again gathered us in deep unity to serve our beloved Faith.

But we can be sure of one thing—all these services rendered us by the first Guardian have not been without cost. A loving and sensitive nature, openhearted and filled with a wonderful eagerness in his desire to serve the Master, and carry out his wishes, he has been assailed most viciously, most unjustly, most pitilessly by enemies both within and without. From the world, any righteous man expects little understanding and acclaim during his lifetime, but from those near in ties of friendship or of blood, he hopes for and expects to receive more. We might have thought that the great tidal waves of distress and calumny, the violent attacks, had subsided with the end of the Heroic Age of our Faith. But this evidently has not been the plan of God. Now we see our Guardian strong, wise, mature, stretching about us his iron arms to protect us in the sanctuary of the Divine Cause, but he himself is much scarred by the blows he has received these twenty-five years, more scarred than the Master surely ever dreamed he could be when he wrote “that no dust of despondency may stain his radiant nature,” indeed, snowed under sometimes with the problems this ever-expanding world Faith engenders in its forward march, and with the many cares and blows that have been his portion.

That which sustains the Guardian, now left so alone amidst his great responsibilities, is the work of the Cause. Good news is like the breath of life to him, and whenever some new goal is achieved, some problem solved, some new enterprise undertaken, his spirit is lightened, his mind freed for some new creative effort, his heart gladdened. So we see that just as we Bahá’ís the world over are his responsibility, given him by Almighty God, so is he our responsibility, likewise given us by Almighty God. Let us not take it lightly! In gratitude for both this mighty institution of Guardianship in which mankind has found a sure refuge in this new age, and in gratitude for this particular first Guardian, this Shoghi Effendi, let us resolve to rise to a truly higher plane of endeavor, and above all a higher plane of spiritual awareness, during these coming years. We must always remember that the only real limitations we suffer, are those within ourselves. Rallied closely about the center of the Cause, loving him and, in him, each other, we can, during the next quarter of a century double our record of achievement.

Every truth, every fact, has so many meanings and aspects. It may take a thousand years to correctly appraise the implications of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Will and Testament, but we—the first recipients of it—can, if we will, leave behind us the record of being the generation who made the greatest advances in understanding it and first helped release its wondrous powers upon the world, in history’s darkest years.

Haifa, Palestine
November, 1946

An Ever-Advancing Civilization

All men have been created to carry forward an ever-advancing civilization. The Almighty beareth Me witness: To act like the beasts of the field is unworthy of man. Those virtues that befit his dignity are forbearance, mercy, compassion and loving-kindness towards all the peoples and kindreds of the earth. Say: 0 friends! Drink your fill from this crystal stream that floweth through the heavenly grace of Him Who is the Lord of Names. Let others partake of its waters in My name, that the leaders of men in every land may fully recognize the purpose for which the Eternal Truth hath been revealed, and the reason for which they themselves have been created.
Discovering New Talent

The Regional Teaching Committee for Texas and Oklahoma has instituted a campaign for discovering the special talents of Baha'is in the region. It made a thorough canvas of its members, asking them if they could write, speak, open their homes to fireside groups, or if they belonged to clubs, etc. Some very worthwhile responses resulted from this. For instance Mrs. A. H. Rouse of Carrizo Springs, a school teacher, sent two well written manuscripts on “Education and Religion in the Public Schools,” one of which was forwarded to the National Reviewing Committee as it appeared in “The Texas Outlook,” published by the Texas State Teachers’ Association. Mrs. Rouse was then appointed Journalism Chairman of the Region. She will endeavor to place small inspirational columns in newspapers and magazines reaching the rural sections.

This is a long-range project which will be built on from year to year and will be helpful in utilizing every bit of Baha'i power which can be mustered for the Seven Year Plan.

O Son of Spirit!

My first counsel is this: Possess a pure, kindly and radiant heart, that thine may be a sovereignty ancient, impresshable and everlasting.

Baha’u’llah

Regional Youth Conference, Dayton, Ohio, July 6-7, 1946

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Col.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An Ever-advancing Civilization</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Son of Spirit! My first counsel is this</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Son of Man! Thou art My dominion</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Messages from the Guardian</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nine additional pioneers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. I. Entreat the Entire Community</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baha'i Bridgehead in Europe</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern States Teaching Conference</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer’s letter and report</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-five Years of the Guardianship</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruhiyih Khanum</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress of the Seven Year Plan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.T.C.—Seventh Pioneer</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>departs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I.A.C.—South American Conference</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations—“Pathfinder” article</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Meetings—Albuquerque</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urbana, Binghamton, Winnipeg</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Teaching (U.S.A.)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia and New Zealand</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Six Year Plan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuttgart Baha'i Kindles</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurmburg</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relief</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Aid—Prerequisites for</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baha'i Living</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baha'i News—New Policy</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovering New Talent</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State and Province Conventions</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendations of 1946</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Memoriam</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directory</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South American Conference</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dayton Baha'i Picnic</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter-community Conference at</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topeka, Kansas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BAHÁ'Í NEWS

NO. 192 FEBRUARY, 1947

YEAR 103 BAHÁ'Í ERA

Four More Pioneers Leave for Europe

The European Teaching Committee is happy to report the imminent departure for Europe of the following pioneers: Miss Madeline Humbert of the New York community, to Brussels, Belgium, January 29; Mrs. Alice Dudley of the San Francisco community, to Stockholm, Sweden, February 19; Mr. and Mrs. Ugo Glachery of the New York community, to Rome, Italy, February 9. Miss Honor Kemp was requested by the Guardian to remain one month in England to assist with the British teaching campaign before taking up her post in Luxembourg. This Miss Kemp has done and she will be at her post in Luxembourg on February 1. The committee feels sure that all the believers will join them in their prayers for the success and confirmation of the arduous task these dedicated pioneers are undertaking.

Frequent letters are being received from Mrs. Graeffe reporting on the consolidation of the work of the Geneva office of the European Teaching Committee. The close cooperation between the E.T.C. office and the International Bahá’í Bureau under Mrs. Anne Lynch is proving of great benefit and value to the overall European teaching work.

Pioneers already in the field in Europe send us very encouraging reports concerning their work. Mrs. Corbit in Oslo, Norway, writes that her fireside groups are proceeding satisfactorily and she is especially happy that such a large percentage of those attending are young people.

In accordance with the Guardian’s directions, this committee is now in the process of preparing to send itinerant teachers to Europe to assist our pioneers. One of the first to go in this capacity will be Mrs. Marion Little of the New Orleans community. Mrs. Little is eminently qualified by reason of much teaching experience, together with an ability to speak French fluently, to undertake this important mission. Others equally well qualified will follow her in the near future.

If any of the believers have family, friends or acquaintances residing in any of the goal countries who they think would be good Bahá’í composers...

Continued on page 2

Panama Conference to Open

Word has arrived that delegates from Guatemala, Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Colon and the Dominican Republic are now arriving in the City of Panama for the first official conference of the northern Latin American countries, that are to elect the second National Spiritual Assembly of Latin America in April, 1961. It is hoped that delegates from the other islands of the West Indies will arrive when the conference opens on January 19th. Charles Mason Remey is the distinguished visitor from North America to the Conference.

The traveling pioneers are represented by Mrs. Marcia Steward, who is doing a special project in the Central American; Artemus Lamb, who is bringing the inspiration of the Buenos Aires conference from the south, and Mrs. Gayle Woolson, who comes from a trip to Caracas, Venezuela, where she will return after the conference and after a visit to Miss. Lotus Peterson of Duluth, Minn., who has just arrived in Maracaibo, Venezuela.

Miss Peterson’s arrival is one of those small and great miracles of Bahá’ulláh, which are constantly seen and experienced by the believers who have had courage to give up their all and to hurl themselves upon His mercy and guidance in full service to Him. Lotus arrived in Chicago recently en route to take her boat at New Orleans for Maracaibo. She found unexpectedly that there are a thousand and one red tape details which usually impede the ob-

Continued on page 4

“Deeply Touched”


(signed) Shoghi

Ten Groups Reach Assembly Status

In a cable sent June 12, 1946, the Guardian pleaded for the speedy conversion of thirty groups to Assembly status and added, “Devoutly hoping, fervently praying number Assemblies functioning North America reach seventy-five ere expiry second year second stage Divine Plan.” That means that thirty groups should be ready for Assembly status as soon as possible and forty by April 21st, 1948.

Of this number, ten groups are assured of Assembly status by April, 1947, owing to the diligent work of Regional Teaching Committees and the Extension Teaching Committees of various Assemblies. Thirty-eight groups hold promise, and on these the concentrated attention of the National Teaching Committee is being focused.

These groups, each having six or more members, are: West Haven, Conn.; Buffalo, New York; Montclair, Bergenfield, Englewood, Jersey City, and Red Bank, New Jersey; Columbia and North Augusta, South Carolina; Knoxville, Tennessee; San Antonio, Texas; Toledo, Findlay, Granger Township, Hinckley Township, Urbana, and Lakewood, Ohio; Kalamazoo and Dearborn Township, Michigan; Champaign, Park Ridge, Limestone Township, and Winnetka, Illinois; Green Bay, Shorewood, and Somers Township (Kenosha), Wis.

Continued on page 2
Ten Groups Reach Assembly Status

Continued from page 1

contribution: Glenfield, North Dakota; North Albuquerque, New Mexico; Inglewood, El Monte Township, Arcadia, Monrovia Township, Monrovia, Pasadena Township, Southgate, and San Mateo, California; Monroe, and Kirkland, Washington.

Seventeen Settlers Urgently Needed

Nine Assemblies need reinforcement by April 21st or they will revert to group status. In order to prevent this seventeen settlers are needed. If you are free to move to one of these goal cities, please write to Mrs. Sarah S. Walrath, secretary of the National Teaching Committee, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago.

The first objective mentioned in the Guardian’s outline of the Second Seven Year Plan to the 1946 Convention was “consolidation of victories already won throughout the Americas, involving multiplication of Baha’i centers, bolder proclamation of the Faith to the masses.” In order to hold on to the victories won under the first Seven Year Plan, these seventeen settlers must be found.

Berkeley Holds Successful Public Meetings

The Berkeley Baha’is have held a series of three public meetings in order to present to the thinking people of the town and the University the broad scope of the Baha’i Faith. The first two meetings were held three weeks apart with excellent audiences and great interest.

On September 23 the Patio Room of the Women’s City Club was packed to overflowing with 125 people. Marilyn Zahl played selections from Chopin. Exceptionally fine talks were given by Marzieh Gail on “Headlines Tomorrow” and by Leroy Iosas on “The Basis of World Order.” The meeting was publicized by a good newspaper article with a photograph; by posters at the Public Library, International House, Berkeley Women’s City Club, etc.; and by the sending of printed postcards to contacts and friends. The book exhibit, the youth ushers, and the attractive surroundings, as well as the 30 Baha’is who came from nearby cities, contributed to the success of the meeting. Almost every one of the 75 non-Baha’i attendees signed the guest book and took literature. Later these individuals received the invitation and program for the succeeding meeting.

The meeting of October 16 was held in the spacious lounge of the College Women’s Club. This program featured a beautiful short concert by Walter Oltziki, Baha’i artist of the Metropolitan and the San Francisco Opera Companies, accompanied by Fritz Berens, and outstanding talks by Sally Sanor on “The Cause of Stife” and by Arthur L. Bahl, Jr. on “The Baha’i Contribution to World Peace.” Attractive invitation-programs were mailed to the “key list” of University and town people, as well as to interested contacts. Of the 175 people who attended, 125 were non-Baha’is, including school superintendents, teachers, past presidents of the College Women’s Club, the editor who handles the Baha’i publicity for the Berkeley Daily Gazette, graduate and undergraduate students, etc. The response from every quarter continues to be most enthusiastic.

The report of the third meeting, a youth program held on November 24, National Youth Day, at International House, states that more than fifty young people attended.

To Reach the Goal

175 functioning LSA’s “are expired second year second stage Divine Plan.”

135 LSA’s now established North America.

40 LSA’s to be established by 1948.

38 Groups hold promise of LSA status.

10 Groups now assured of LSA status April.

9 LSA’s in need of reinforcement by April.

17 Settlers needed to maintain present LSA’s.

Notice to Assemblies

The Regional Teaching Committees, through the National Teaching Committee, have been requested to render assistance to the smaller communities in their efforts to increase their numbers and preserve their Assembly status. Assemblies of the smaller Baha’i communities are free to request this assistance.

In order to enable traveling believers to make contact with the Baha’is of cities visited, the local Assemblies are advised to register their permanent address of their meeting place and their schedule of meetings with the local Chamber of Commerce. A telephone listing using the name “Baha’i” is also very important if it can be arranged.

Three More Pioneers Leave for Europe

Continued from page 1

contacts, please send their names and addresses to our chairman, Miss Edna True, 415 Forest Ave., Wilmette, Ill., so that she can forward them to the pioneers in the respective countries.

Baha’i Addresses


Treasurer’s Office: 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Baha’i Publishing Committee: 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

February, 1947
First Contacts With Japanese Bahá'ís

As soon as Michael Jamir, in the medical personnel of the U.S. Army, reached Japan in November, 1945, he began writing to friends in the U.S. for addresses of Japanese Bahá'ís. Following up these addresses he eventually met two Japanese Bahá'ís and had correspondence or news from three others. The first meeting was with Mr. H. S. Fujita. Mr. Fujita became a Bahá'í through Mrs. Corinne True when he came to this country as a student in 1905. Later he had the great experience of meeting 'Abdu'l-Bahá when he came to this country in 1912. In 1917 he accepted the invitation of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to go to Haifa. There he served 'Abdu'l-Bahá and Shoghi Effendi until, in 1936, on the advice of the Guardian, he left for his native land.

In May, 1946, Mr. Jamir visited Mr. Fujita at Yanai, where he found him working as interpreter at the railroad station. Here he comes in contact with many American, British, and New Zealand soldiers and nationals and makes use of frequent opportunities to spread the Bahá'í principles. His wish now is to go to a larger city where he can make his living and teach the Faith. "During the two days and night that I visited Mr. Fujita," writes Mr. Jamir, "I found him, at 61, youthful and vibrant in his work and enthusiastic in the Bahá'í Faith."

He brought out his address book... and we went over the names of his American Bahá'í friends to see what I could tell him about them and he wishes me to express his loving greetings to them."

From Yanai Mr. Jamir travelled to Kyoto to meet Mr. Torii, another Japanese Bahá'í. Mr. Torii has been a Bahá'í since 1918 and received two tablets from 'Abdu'l-Bahá. He is blind and teaches in the Kyotodai school for the blind. He invited Mr. Jamir to speak to the children of his class on the Bahá'í principles.

Continued on page 4

Increasing Growth in Latin America

Forty-nine new memberships have been received from Latin America in the past six weeks.

Word has just come from Medellin, Colombia, of the formation of a new Assembly, eight believers having been confirmed during the visit of Gayle Woolson in December. They have been studying for some time by correspondence and with the assistance of the one original Bahá'í, Sr. Francisco Restrepo. More are continuing to study. Six newspapers and the radio station collaborated in the series of outstanding meetings held there.

The group in Sucre, Bolivia, now has six members, Col. Arturo Cuel­lar, Yvonne de Cuellar, and Gwenne Sholtis are working there and expect to have a second Assembly for Bolivia before April. It is a university town, and many of the Bahá'ís students come from the university. Gwenne Sholtis has just returned to La Paz after a needed visit to the lowlands, where she helped Eve Nicklin with the new regional project in Callao, Peru. She reports that the Lima Community is growing wonderfully and is most active and happy under Eve's wise guidance.

Splendid news has come from Elena Marsella in Ciudad Trujillo. All six members of her study class signed up en masse as Bahá'ís, there being two adults and four declared youths. This gives Ciudad Trujillo fourteen adult members and four youths. Elena plans to accompany Dr. Malcolm King to Santiago, Dominican Republic, to start a regional project there. Dr. King will then go to visit the friends in Kingston, Jamaica, and help them to work out an extension project, before returning to Haiti.

Jean Silver reports a class of eighteen studying in the new Bahá'í Center in Cienfuegos, Cuba.

The Bahá'í Community newly formed in Rio de Janeiro in April of this year, has sent in its 18th registration card. Great plans are under way for expansion of teaching in Brazil, where Leonora Armstrong first carried the Cause some 20 years ago. Fifteen members are reported in Bahia and a group of five in the new goal city of Sao Paulo.

Reports from Louise Baker show that she is carrying a teaching circuit of four towns and cities in Mexico, teaching newly organized groups in each one. Her headquarters is in Vera Cruz. Her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Baker, plan to visit Mexico City in February.

From Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Venezuela come reports of the showers of inspiration, new knowledge, and light disseminated by Mason Remey and Emeric and Rosemary Sala on their teaching trip through the West Indies and Venezuela. Emeric and Rosemary have now returned northward through the islands, and Mr. Remey will come northward after the Panama Conference through the Central Americas and Mexico, visiting the various Bahá'í communities en route.

From Panama Marcia Seward will return to her project in San José, Costa Rica, for the present, and Artemus Lamb will visit Cali and Quito, and Guayaquil, Ecuador, and Lima, Peru, on his way back to his region, which includes Chile, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

Flora Hottes will leave Montevideo, Uruguay, early in February, visiting Buenos Aires; Asuncion, Paraguay; La Paz and Sucre, Bolivia; Lima and other points, on a trip back to the United States for rest and change after five years of constant service in Bolivia and Uruguay.

H. S. Fujita, Japanese Bahá'í who once served 'Abdu'l-Bahá in Haifa, working on his brother's farm in Yanai, Japan.
Japanese Bahá'ís
Continued from page 3

Mr. Torii acted as very able interpreter and the children listened eagerly. Mr. and Mrs. Torii spoke warmly of Miss Alexander, who had often been a guest in their homes.

Mr. Jamir had warm and enthusiastic letters from Mr. Tanaka and Mr. Inouye, both devoted Bahá'ís. Mr. Inouye would like to go to Tokyo to spread the Teachings, but military restrictions prevent this. He is doing his utmost to teach in Sapporo, Hokaido. He remembers Miss Root and her "gentle and full-of-love grace."

Mr. Tanaka, a Bahá'í of Honshu, called on Mr. Jamir and, finding him away, wrote him a letter. He has ten children; so Mr. Jamir included "The Bahá'í Child's ABC" with the literature he sent him.

Mrs. Yuri Furukawa, another Japanese Bahá'í, is now in Manchuria.

Panama Conference

Continued from page 1

taining of permission to enter another country in any guise other than as a tourist with a 90 day permit. She sat down and prayed with all her heart. Within an hour she was on her way with all that she required. The key that unlocked the door was, of course, her complete readiness to serve fully, plus the prayer, plus the need of a Bahá'í in that city where regional work is now to begin.

Persian Visitors Break into News

Firuz Kazamzadah, Amin Banani and Shidan Fat'he Aazam, Persian Bahá'ís on vacation from the California universities in which they are enrolled, were Phoenix visitors for the Christmas holidays and gave invaluable teaching assistance to that community and to extension teaching work during their stay. Firuz was speaker at three meetings, one in Tucson, another in East Phoenix rural community, both of which attracted a large number of non-Bahá'ís, and in Phoenix at a gathering for which special invitations had been issued to members of a local inter-racial fellowship organization. In addition to the meetings, which included also a number of informal youth gatherings, interesting contacts were arranged with the Dean of Phoenix Junior College, with a leading news commentator of radio station KTAR, local outlet for NBC, and with the Arizona Republic and Arizona Times, two major Phoenix newspapers. At the office of the Times the young men were interviewed by Associate Editor Mrs. Anna Roosevelt Boettiger and Managing Editor Dave Brinegar with the gratifying result that the following day Mr. Brinegar's column "The Times in Arizona" was entirely devoted to an account of the Persian visitors and their intense interest in spreading the Bahá'í Faith, "as having as its basic belief the proposition that revelations of God are progressive and not final..."

Attention G.I. Students

The "G. I. Bill of Rights" allows an ex-service man to take his training in a foreign university. If you are contemplating taking advantage of this or would consider it, you could contribute to the European Teaching Campaign by selecting a university in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, or Italy. Will anyone interested in doing this get in touch with the chairman of the European Teaching Committee, Miss Edna True, 418 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois?

The Temple Teaches the World

Almost four thousand people visited the Bahá'í House of Worship in October and November of this year. 2932 came in October and 1056 in November. Although this record is lower, by 549, than that of the same time last year, the difference is in part accounted for by the fact that week-day guiding was discontinued November 9th this year, instead of going on until Thanksgiving, as it did in 1945. Week-day guiding is discontinued each year when the weather becomes so cold that the guides' health is endangered.

During October this year, visitors came from thirty-eight states, the District of Columbia, and many foreign countries. Seventeen groups came from the Canadian Provinces of Ontario, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, and Manitoba. Three visitors came from Sweden; two from Turkey, Denmark, France, and England; one each from Cuba, the Philippines, the Netherlands, Australia, Palestine, India, Peru, Chile, Brazil, Mexico, and the Virgin Islands.

In November the people came from thirty-one states and the District of Columbia, and nine groups came from the Canadian Provinces of Ontario, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, and Alberta. Four groups came from England, two from Sweden and Brazil, one from Denmark, and one from Chile.

During this two-month period, the following organizations were guided through the Temple: Home Bureau, Lake County, Illinois, 30; Austin North End Women's Club, Chicago, 75; Cub Girl Scouts, Evanston, 23; Young People, Bethany Evangelical Church, Chicago, 32; Boy Scouts, Chicago, 15; S. S. Children, Jewish Synagogue, Glencoe, 65; Chicago Women's Club, 14.

Some of the remarks written in the register were: Very educational; Amazingly beautiful; Unusually interesting; Magnificent; Very convincing; Unconvincing; Very interesting, and will be helpful in living for Jesus; Something to be investigated; Enlightening and inspirational; Unique.

From the wide variety of the organizations that come to the Temple, from the numerous and widely distant states and countries represented by the visitors, and from the appreciative remarks that have been written in the register, it is evident that...
Temple guiding is reaching the masses and the leaders alike over the whole world. If contact were made with these people by Baha'is in their various localities, some of them would most surely be grateful.
The Guides Committee would like to be notified by believers or Assemblies of those who have become interested in studying the Faith after making their first contact with it by visiting the Temple.

State Fair Exhibits Attract the Masses

The Bahá'ís of Phoenix, with the valued assistance of the Bahá'ís of East Phoenix, were sponsors of an exhibit at the Arizona State Fair held in Phoenix from November 8 to 17. It was estimated by the State Fair commission that the Fair attracted some 200,000 visitors, of which it can be assured that a large number viewed the exhibit. Approximately 4,000 people stopped at the booth and 2,000 received pamphlet literature. Almost one hundred left their names to be informed of meetings; many took questionnaire cards and already at an early date the response through this medium has been gratifying.

The exhibit occupied a space 10x10 feet and featured in addition to the Temple model an automatic projector showing color slides of the Temple and world maps designating with colored flags the countries where the Faith is represented. Over these large maps appeared the caption: "The earth is but one country and mankind its citizens." Bahá'

"u'lláh."

Over the entrance to the booth in large letters were the words, "The Bahá'í World Faith." Literature and books illustrative of the teachings were available to inquirers. Especially noteworthy was the interest of youth among the visitors. On the two weekends at the opening and close of the Fair the Bahá'í youth were in charge of the booth. Interest in the display was demonstrated not alone by visitors, but also by the Fair management, who expressed their enthusiasm for the effectiveness of the exhibit and their cordial assurance that a desirable space would be available to the Bahá'ís at the State Fair next year.

From the State Fair at Springfield, Illinois (see Bahá'í News for November) the Regional Committee of that area reports further results. A member of the Senate asked Miss Basterbrook to come and speak of the Bahá'í Peace Plan before that body, remarking: "Those boys ought to hear of this." A geometry teacher from Princeville said that his attention had first been attracted to the Bahá'í Temple by his pupils. He asked to be given further information about the Faith.

Hunger Slows Teaching in Germany

Letters from leading German Bahá'ís written in late November show that the low food rations were telling on their physical endurance to an alarming degree. It seemed then that the winter teaching campaign could not be carried out. To quote from the letter of an ardent worker for the Faith: "So many dear friends, Edith Horn, Annamarie Schweizer, Hede Schubert, Heidi Koller-Jaeger, Fred Kohler, Paul Schreher, and Hermann Grossmann are in such extremely bad condition of physical weakness that to travel and teach (the very hardest kind of labor) seemed impossible. "There seemed danger that all we had won for the Faith in previous months of hard work, must come to an end." Lists of German addresses are published elsewhere in this issue.
"While There Is Yet Time"

O ye that are lying as dead on the couch of heedlessness!

Ages have passed and your precious lives are well-nigh ended, yet not a single breath of purity hath reached Our court of holiness from you. Though immersed in the ocean of misbelief, yet with your lips ye profess the one true faith of God. Him whom I abhor ye have loved, and of My foe ye have made a friend. Notwithstanding, ye walk on my earth complacent and self-satisfied, heedless that My earth is weary of you and everything within it shunneth you. Were ye but to open your eyes, ye would, in truth, prefer a myriad readers. While there is yet time, return, and lose not thy chance.

Say: Glory be to Thee Who hast caused all the holy Ones to confess their helplessness before the manifold revelations of Thy might, and every Prophet to acknowledge his nothingness at the effulgence of Thy abiding glory. I beseech Thee, by Thy name that hath unlocked the gates of Heaven and filled with ecstasy the Concourse on high, to enable me to serve Thee, in this Day, and to strengthen me to observe that which Thou didst prescribe in Thy Book. Thou knowest, O my Lord what is in me; but I know not what is in Thee. Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. —Baha'u'llah

O moving form of dust!
I desire communion with thee, but thou wouldst put no trust in Me.
The sword of thy rebellion hath felled the tree of thy hope. At all times I am near unto thee, but thou art ever far from Me. Imperishable glory have I chosen for thee, yet boundless shame thou hast chosen for thyself.

While there is yet time, return, and lose not thy chance.

"Thrilled by Generous Response"

Cables from the Guardian

From its December meeting the National Spiritual Assembly cabled Shoghi Effendi as follows: "Your cables message (i.e., on page 8, January Bahá'í News) fires enthusiasm, strengthens resolution, expands vision. We acclaim the fateful journey and remarkable achievements of the Chairman of European Teaching Committee, the establishment of an office in Geneva, the noble initiation of task by pioneers in the field, the mature, dedicated response of Southern delegates to the race unity conference, and the Bahá'í article in Pathfinder Magazine with one million readers. Seizing the decisive hour."

The Guardian's reply, received December 19: "Delighted at achievement of Chairman of European Teaching Committee, response of Southern delegates to race conference, publication of article in Pathfinder Magazine. Praying still greater victories in all three continents."

The final current message from Haifa is the cablegram received January 20 in reply to our cabled report to him of the total contributions which had come in up to January 6 for the special Temple fund: "Thrilled by generous response of believers to Temple Fund. Deeply touched. Hail latest striking evidence of the magnificent spirit, unshakeable solidarity and unflinching resolve of American Bahá'í community. Deepest loving gratitude."

Baha'i Marriage

The National Spiritual Assembly is delighted to be able to give the friends the following material concerning Bahá'í marriage, which deepens our understanding and prevents formal crystallization of unauthorized views.

The question of how to conduct a Bahá'í marriage, and what Tablets are to be read, was referred to Shoghi Effendi last summer and his reply came under date of October 5, 1946:

"Bahá'í marriages should at present not be pressed into any kind of a uniform mold. What is absolutely essential is what Bahá'u'lláh stipulates in the Aqdas: the friends can add to this selected writings if they please—but the so-called 'Marriage Tablet' (revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá) is not a necessary part of every Bahá'í marriage. In 'The Bahá'í World' is a prayer for marriage incorporated in either the Arabic or Persian text: he suggests Marzieh Gail translate this, and it can be made available to the friends, so that they can use it if they wish to."

What Bahá'u'lláh stipulates in the Aqdas is to be found on page 272 of "Bahá'í World Faith" in the form of a quotation made by 'Abdu'l-Bahá: "The bridegroom must, before the bridesman and a few others, say 'Verily, we are content with the Will of God' and the bride must rejoin, 'Verily, we are satisfied with the Desire of God.'"

The prayer for marriages referred to by the Guardian has been translated by Mrs. Marzieh Gail from the Marriage Certificate used by the Assemblies in Persia. The signature "'Ayn-'Ayn" is a signature

First Canadian Teaching Committee December 1946
Standing: Siegfried Schopflecher, John A. Robarts, A. Victor Davis, Bowland Estall, Emerie Sala; Sitting: (Mrs.) Laura R. Davis, (Mrs.) Doris Richardson.
used by the Master for a certain period. Her translation follows.

"He Is the Bestower, the Bounteous!"

"Praise be to God, the Ancient, the Ever-Abiding, the Changeless, the Eternal! He Who hath testified in His Own Being that verily He is the One, the Single, the Untrammelled, the Exalted. We bear witness that verily there is no God but Him; acknowledging His oneness, confessing His singleness. He hath ever dwelt in unapproachable heights, in the summits of His loftiness, sanctified from the mention of aught save Himself, free from the description of aught but Himself.

"And when He desired to manifest grace and beneficence to men, and to set the world in order, He revealed observances and created laws; among them He established the law of marriage, made it as a fortress for well-being and salvation, and enjoined it upon us in that which was sent down out of the heaven of sanctity in His Most Holy Book. He saith, great is His glory: 'Marry, O people, that from you may appear he who will remember Me amongst My servants; this is one of My commandments unto you; obey it as an assistance to yourselves.'

"And we greet and salute those of the Bayán who became the people of Bahá, those who expended their efforts for the upraising of this luminous Faith, and whom the blame of the blamer did not withhold from God. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds!

"He is God! O peerless Lord! In Thine almighty wisdom Thou hast enjoined marriage upon the peoples, that the generations of men may succeed one another in this contingent world, and that ever, so long as the world shall last, they may busy themselves at the Threshold of Thy oneness with service and worship, with salutation, adoration and praise. 'I have not created spirits and men, but that they should worship Me.' Wherefore, wed Thou in the heaven of Thy mercy these two birds of the nest of Thy love, and make them the means of attracting perpetual grace; that from the union of these two seas of love a wave of tenderness may surge and cast the pearls of pure and goodly issue on the shore of life. 'He hath let loose the two seas, that they may meet each other: Between them is a barrier which they overpass not. Which then of the bounties of your Lord will ye deny? From each He bringeth up greater and lesser pearls.'

O Thou kind Lord! Make Thou this marriage to bring forth coral and pearls. Thou art verily the All-Powerful, the Most Great, the Ever-Forgiving!" (signed) 'Ayn-'Ayn (signed) 'Ayn-

1Qur'án 51:56.

National Spiritual Assembly

Beloved friends:

In this issue we publish the cablegram which the Guardian sent after learning the results of the effort made by the believers to offer special contributions during the period set aside for meditation and prayer, culminating in the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Guardianship, January 6.

The total so received by the National Treasurer was $65,000. Placing this amount in the Temple Trustee construction fund produced a total of $103,000 available for completion of the interior as of January 6, nearly four months before the end of the first year of the new Seven Year Plan.

We may all feel an intense gratitude that so large a portion of the full cost of this vital project has already been received. It assures rapid prosecution of the task when the design and specifications are approved.

Under the schedule set up by the Temple Trustees, the studies and investigations initiated last spring are to be completed by the middle of March so that drawings and all necessary data may be transmitted to the Guardian in the hope that he may advise us of his approval and choice before the Convention.

The intention and hope is that a final drawing, approved by the Guardian, can be exhibited at the Convention, allowing all the friends to realize the beauty of the finished interior. Mr. Louis Bourgeois' original conception is being somewhat simplified as the Guardian directed.

The Trustees believe that actual work can begin this spring. A completed House of Worship will awaken wide interest in the Faith.

Last month's Bahá'í News presented to each Bahá'í the text of Ruḥíyyih Khánum's "Twenty-Five Years of the Guardianship." Nothing could be more inspiring and informative to the friends than her statement which in brief space summarized the meanings and events of the Bahá'í era since the Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. For the older believers it creates a pattern and framework for their personal experiences, activities and memories; for the new believers it offers a means of acquiring sound understanding and maturity as members of the Bahá'í community.

—National Spiritual Assembly

Speakers at public meeting at Louhelen. Left to right: Mr. Eason (non-Bahá'í, secretary of the Urban League at Flint), Mr. Ellsworth Blackwell (Bahá'í speaker) and Mr. Arthur Patterson (Bahá'í of Indianapolis, chairman).
New Questionnaire Cards

The Bahá’í Questionnaire Committee's files carry many letters which we would like to share with all Bahá’ís, but as space will not permit, we will quote from just one received by the chairman: "I received your questionnaire literature and I am sure you are making a very practical application of a very successful plan that has been used by Advertising Research and Industrial Manufacturing establishments in getting a cross section of information worth having that could not be had in any other way. I believe you are the first man who has applied this very practical plan to a Universal Religious Message. I can vision a great good to humanity by the information that will result to it..."

During the first seven months of the use of the questionnaire cards, requests have come from all but five states of the United States—namely: Colorado, Louisiana, Nevada, South Dakota and Wyoming. We urge the friends and regional teaching committees in these states to start distributing them as they are proving invaluable for teaching contacts. Signed cards have been received from a total of 366 different cities, towns and villages as well as from Alaska, Philippine Islands, Hawaii, Canada, Haiti, and South America. We wish we could list every city heard from.

Three cards, numbers 2, 3 and 5 are now available for inter-changeable use. They can be ordered in a combination package containing 100 each for $3.00 postpaid. Also available now is a new folding questionnaire card (F4) of unlimited possibilities for spreading the Bahá’í Message. It features new, timely and challenging questions of interest to people in all walks of life, promising not only to carry the Bahá’í Message to thousands of selected individuals for the first time but to locate and determine the subject of greatest interest to these potential Bahá’ís.

Outstanding features of this F4 new folding questionnaire card are:

1. It will comb any chosen locality or community for Bahá’í seekers. It is an excellent advance agent to a selected mailing list, to be followed a few weeks later with an announcement of a Public Meeting in their city.

2. It carries these thought-provoking questions directly to the individual in his office or home, where he may read and check them at leisure.

3. It will impress the recipient of the broad scope of subjects embraced by the Bahá’í Revelation.

4. It bears an introductory personal message direct from the friend who signs it.

5. It lends itself to use by any or all believers who may volunteer to address and mail these cards during spare time.

This new questionnaire service provides a golden opportunity for each and everyone of the "rank and file" to do our part in helping to complete the new Seven Year Plan. These New Folding Questionnaires (F4) are now ready for shipment to Assemblies groups or individual believers anywhere. They are priced at $9.00 per thousand or $1.00 per hundred. Address your order to:

The National Committee on Bahá’í Questionnaires, Box 1, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

Slides

SLIDES of the Temple, Haifa, the Schools, etc. may be purchased through the Bahá’í Sales Committee, Mr. H. E. Walrath, 4639 Beacon St., Chicago.

Radio Script Writing at Green Acre

A course in the writing of radio scripts was given last summer at the Green Acre Bahá’í School under the instruction of Marguerite Sears. The class was in session for three weeks, from August 13 to August 30. Eighteen students began the course and seven completed it. They were: Helen Campbell, Margaret Mills, Jetty Straub, Rita van Sombeek, Rene Welsh, Martha Kavelin, and Genevieve Coy.

The following is quoted from Mrs. Sears’ report on the course. “In addition to covering the fundamentals of radio writing, the class took an active part in the study of radio production. Each member of the class wrote a 5-minute continuity script on the Bahá’í Faith. One 15-minute script was written. The class received practical experience in the writing of a script for actual broadcast. The script was on the history of Green Acre, from the days of the early Indians, through Sarah Farmer’s early experiments in World Unity Conferences, on down through the present Bahá’í School, with glimpses of its hopes for the future.

“The entire class took part in necessary research to uncover accurate historical information. Then various members of the class were assigned to write sections of the script. One student did an over-all
Letters from the Guardian

The Archives Committee earnestly suggests for the benefit of future generations that all believers having letters from the Guardian give very serious consideration to placing them in the National Bahá’í Archives as soon as possible. Though it may seem to some of the friends that the messages contained therein are personal to a large extent, it may well be evident in the future that the application of many of these messages is more general than we now realize. Certainly the national archives with its specially constructed vault is the safest place to preserve these precious documents, so many of which have been lost by fire, flood or after the death of the recipients. A photostat may be obtained from the committee for about 15 or 18 cents a letter.

Bahá’í Lecture in Maui

On November 27 the Maui Bahá’í Community sponsored a lecture on “Foundations for World Unity” at which Mrs. Mabel Van Valkenburg spoke at the Baldwin High School Auditorium. Nine hundred invitations were sent out to Bahá’ís and non-Bahá’ís on all the Islands. Eighty-three were present at the lecture. This was considered a good showing, as it is rather difficult for business men and women to leave their jobs and travel from one Island to the other. Excellent newspaper articles preceded and followed the lecture. This was the first of a series of lectures under the directorship of Mrs. E. Sabin, chairman of the Honolulu Bahá’í Assembly, introduced Mrs. Valkenburg. The Honolulu Advertiser quoted the speaker as saying, along with other fine quotations, “Who can say there is anything more important than world unity, anything more important than turning darkness into light, blood-thirstiness into kindness, torment into bliss, hardship into ease, and enmity and hatred into fellowship and love?”

News from “The Speck”

Because Tasmania is the smallest of the Australian states, mainlanders often speak of it as “The Speck.” It has a very live group of Bahá’ís in Hobart, the capital city, and some in other parts of the island. They “plan as much as possible,” writes Miss Gretta Lampril, secretary of the Hobart group, “for state wide publicity.” Excerpts from “Appreciations” have been inserted in four daily papers. “We are, as are all

Continued on page 12

In Memoriam

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.

BÁHÁ’U’LLÁH

Mrs. Inga Ii Ilescas, Clovis, California, Nov. 1, 1946.

Miss A. Winifred Richards, Jacksonville, Florida, Jan. 4, 1947.

Mrs. Mary Dickerman, Kalama zoo, Michigan, December, 1946.
Local Assemblies Sustaining Financially The Seven Year Plan During December, 1946


197 Assemblies contributed in December.
31 Groups did not contribute.
72 Individuals and isolated Baha'is contributed in December.

Note: This list does not include contributions to the Special Fund Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Guardianship nor contributions reaching the Treasurer's office after December 31st. Contributions are credited to the month in which they were received.

International Relief Lists

Recent reports from Germany and Austria indicate that the health of the Baha'is in these countries is being seriously endangered by under-nourishment. American believers residing abroad confirm this and stress the necessity of greater aid by American believers. Among others, Manutchir Zabih, a Persian student in Germany, and John Eichenauer write of the hunger and cold facing the friends over there and appeal to us to aid more generously as our "sacred duty."

The quickest and most economical way to send a food package abroad is thru C.A.R.E., 50 Broad str., New York 4. They guarantee delivery, and every package is receipted which is returned to the sender.

Friends who themselves mail packages are asked to note this quotation from a letter from Germany:
"The long-lasting lack of sugar and fats in our food . . . produces everywhere very alarming and catastrophic effects."

Names of declared Baha'is in Germany follow:

American Zone
Distributing Centers

Frl. Anna Koestlin, Wehrneckarstr. 1, Esslingen, Wurttemberg.
Marta Weiss, Kesselwasen 4, Esslingen.

Esslingen
Herr Hugo Bender, Gellenstr. 67, Esslingen-Krommenecker, Wurttemberg (2 persons).
Frl. Marie Dittis, Bahnhofstr. 24, Esslingen, Wurttemberg.
Frl. Elsa Fischer, Zwingerstr. 2.
Herr Herrmann Geiger, Friedrichstr. 3 a.
Herr und Fr. Gustav Heckert, Bogengasse, Esslingen-Neckarhalde.
Frl. Marie Kaufmann, Breitestr. 7, Esslingen.
Frl. Winifrid Kuhler, Esslingen-Sersach.
Frl. Friedericka Reinerbusch, Fabrikstr. 17, Esslingen.
Frl. Marta Kurze, Schelztorstr. 10.
Frl. Helene Kurz, Neckarstr. 30.
Dr. Will Lenz, Blumenstr. 54.
Herr August Loffler, Fabrikstr. 17 (2 persons).
Herr Ernst Muller, Hohen Kreuzweg 20 (4 persons).
Frl. and Willy Munk, Strobr. 7.
Hildegard Neschi, Keplerstr. 10, Oberesslingen.
Frl. Hermann Rommel, Keplerstr. 10, Oberesslingen (2 persons).
Frl. Johanna Rastor, Olgast. 5, Esslingen.
Herr Hans Schaffer, Starenweg 10, Esslingen-Sirnau (2 persons).
Frl. Friderike Schmeller, Olgast. 6, Esslingen.

Heidelberg
Frl. Luise Bahn, Kirchstr. 2.
Herr Otto Liede, Franz Knaufstr. 32 (2 persons).
Frl. Carla Maccio, Oberfeldstr. 4, Heidelberg-Wieblingen (2 persons).
Frl. Elfie Schartinger, Mittelstrasse 8, Heidelberg-Schillerbach.
Frl. Maria Selts, Fischergasse 7, Heidelberg.
Herr Fritz Straus, Neckarquelle 16.
Frl. Luise Wolf, Blumenstr. 51.
Dr. Herrmann Grossmann, Fr. Eberstr. 39 (5 persons).

Heppenheim
Herr August Ehlers, Bergstr. Klingental (2 persons).
Herr Cajus Schmidt, Bergstr. Eisingkamp 17 (4 persons).

Darmstadt
Dr. Carl E. Claus, Wittmannstr. 45.
Frl. Millie Senker, Darmstadt II Land Kolonnle Trautheim.

Wiesbaden
Benita Hartung, Kochstrasse 2, Wiesbaden-Billig-Wolfgang.

Display in the window of the Wright-Wombly-Pitts Co. of High Point, North Carolina, which resulted in a request by the local newspaper for an interview with Mr. H. E. Broadhurst, a Baha'i of that city, and the publication of an article on the Faith and a picture of the Temple.
Books Placed in Ninety Libraries
Since its last report to the friends in Baha'i News, the Library Committee has placed books in ninety libraries. It is anxious to have these books actively circulated and asks the friends to check this library list closely and refer interested inquirers in these various cities to these libraries for further information.

One of our greatest drawbacks in trying to make library donations is that Baha'i literature and World Order magazine cannot secure favorable listing in certain standard reference works until public libraries include them in their reports of publications in frequent demand. Librarians often refuse our literature because it is not listed in these reference works consulted by them before acceptance of new books. It is most necessary that our books are used frequently and we should appreciate all efforts in bringing our literature to the attention of the public to create a demand and interest in it.

Books were placed in the Palmer and Valdez public libraries in Alaska and in ten Alaskan service libraries. Niels Poulson, Li. Col., Commanding Officer APO 986, wrote the following appreciative letter to the committee:“Your thoughtful contribution of a gift of a set of Baha'i books to this remote outpost is gratefully acknowledged. I am sure that these volumes will prove to be a source of enlightenment, solace and enjoyment to the men located here.”

A first donation (“Baha’ul-lah and the New Era”) has been made to each of the following libraries:


The following libraries accepted copies of “Baha'i Centenary, 1844-1944,” and “God Passes By”:
- Norfolk, Va.; Canton, O.; Montgomery, Ala.; Tampa, Fla.

Other public libraries given books were:
- Eliot, Me.; Western Springs, Ill.; Delmar, N.Y.; Petersburg, Va.; Hudson, N.Y.; Ashland, Ky.; Decatur, Ill.; Red Bank, N.J.; East Providence, R.I.; Portland, Me.; Knoxville, Tenn.

Middlesex University, Mass.; Howard University, Washington, D.C.; Rhode Island State College; Colby College, Maine, accepted books.

A Kit of Contacts, Publicity and Advertising Material
The Public Relations Committee has distributed a “Baha'i Public Relations Kit” to National Committees, Regional Teaching Committees and local Assemblies as an aid to their campaigns.

The kit marks the beginning of what will later become a handbook on public relations activities of Assemblies and committees, dealing with different aspects of contacts by distribution of literature, of local and national publicity, and of local and national advertising. It consists in this preliminary form of a statement of explanation, and a description of the material now available in the way of press releases and advertisements. Samples of nine different mailing pieces used by the Public Relations Committee and available are also included.

The Committee can provide only one kit per committee or Assembly, and hopes that the material will be kept for continuous reference. The kit has also been sent to the larger groups where Assemblies are to be established within two years.

New Publications
The Baha'i Publishing Committee is pleased to report two new titles.

The Renewal of Civilization, by David Hofman, a very interesting and helpful introductory work which the friends can enjoy for themselves and also use in spreading the Faith. An edition has been imported from England. Per copy, $1.50.

The Transformation of Human Society, A Baha'i Commentary on Current World Trends, From Writings of Shoghi Effendi. This is a 16-page pamphlet, letter head size, printed from typewritten copy by the planograph method. It was compiled by the Public Relations Committee to file with the Baha'i reference material in editorial offices, and to assist in making helpful contacts. Copies are made available through the Publishing Committee to use for study classes as well as local contacts work. Per copy, 25c.

World Order
February, 1946
World Peace Through World Religion—Helen Bishop
A Fresh Stream of Wisdom—Garreta Busey
Chasing a Hobgoblin—Duart Brown
Prayer, Poem—L. Kha
Arise and Teach—Hazel McCurdy
Song for a New Day, Poem—Silvia Margolis
Racial Unity, Editorial—Gertrude K. Hening
Baha'i Administration, Book Review—Horace Holley
Pioneer Journey—Ecuador—Virginia Orbison
With Our Readers

Calendar
Nineteen Day Feasts
February 7  March 2
Nineteen Day Fast
March 2nd through 20th
Nawruz—March 21st
National Assembly meeting
March 13, 14, 15 and 16
**February, 1947**

**International Relief Lists**

*Continued from page 10*

**Herr Paul Schreher, Nordrogerstr. 24, Wiesbaden.**

**Kreidach/Odenwald**

Herr Adolf Lorey, Am Bahnhof (2 persons).

**Schellbrunn/Odenwald**

Herr Eduard Braatz, Pfarrhaus (2 persons).

**Göppingen/Württemberg**

Herr Paul Häcker, Ulrichstr. 24. (2 persons).

Fr. Mathilde Brückner, Am Kelterkofp.

**Geilisigen**

Herr Georg Eckle, Geilisigen/Steige, Stuttgartertal 120 (2 persons).

Herr Hans Kraiss, Geilisigen/Steige, Altenstadt Oelweg 22, (2 persons).

**Ludwigsburg**

Herr Herman Küstner, Seestr. 13 (3 persons).

**Münchau/Obb.**

Fr. Margarete Walkerc, Kohlguberstr. 75 c (2 persons).

**Other Places**

Herr Albert Knolle, Steinachstr. 10, Neckarsulm, Würtg.


Herr Fritz Winter, Jägerstr. 23/26, Schöne, Vaihingen, Heisen.

Marie Knauss, Welzheimerstr., Steindorf/Krems Waiblingen.

Anne Lindner, Römerstr. 56, Lampertshausen.

**English Zone**


Herr Gunther Heyd, Glindew 24, Hamburg 24.

Herr Oskar Schmitt, Schielweg 14, French Zone

Herr Arno Knaue, Mühlbachstr. 22, Ueberlingen/Bodensee. (2 persons).

Fr. Lydia Ana-Theurier, Leonhardstr. 1, Pfungen.

Dr. Hedwig Müller, Kaiserstr. 25, Pfungen.

**Rhineland Zone**

**Leipzig**

Fr. Maria Schreiber, Plaussingerstr. 6 II. (2 persons).

Fr. Klara Manger, Telemannstr. 5 Hof.


**Rostock/Mecklenburg.**

Herr Wilhelm Jenzen, Massmannstr. 31, (3 persons).

**Berlin**

Herr Herr Ernst Diederich, Am Vogelherd 6 b. Schulz, Berlin-Grunewald (2 persons).

Dr. Dieferle, Goethestr. 81 v. IV 1, Berlin-Charlottenburg.


Fr. Elisabeth Ledermann, Eisenacherstr. 61 II, Berlin-Schöneberg.

Herr Wilhelm Leindinter, Wustermarkstr. 32 I 1, Berlin-Spandau.

**Darmstadt**

Fr. Charlotte Schröder, Personenbahnhof (2 persons).

**Schwerin/Mecklenburg.**

Fr. Martin Klingenfauth, Am Ziegeleispit.

Herr Karl Klling, Jungfernstieg 21, (2 persons).

Auerbach b. Zwickau

Fr. Else Becker, Ernst Thälmannstr. 84.

Addresses for German believers in Frankfort will be found in the September issue of Bahá'í News. One additional address is given here: Miss Ursula Harfe, Oskarstr. 22, Grosshesselohe, Frankfort a/Main, Germany, American Zone.

Addresses have been published in the July and August issues, but please note that those addresses were corrected in November and that further corrections are given here.

**Corrections**

Mr. Vuk Echtert does not work now for Bruckner and asks us not to address him there but at his home: Praba—Nord II, 738, Czechoslovakia.

Herr Franz Pfeiffer, Bücklinstrasse 4, Tur 15, Wien II, Austria.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Words of Bahá'u'lláh—"While there is Yet Time" .......... 6 1

Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá—"He Is the Restower of the Boundless" .... 7 1

Messages from the Guardian "Deeply Touched" .......... 3 1

Cables from the Guardian .......... 6 1

Bahá'í Marriage .......... 6 3

National Spiritual Assembly Letter to the believers .......... 7 2

Local Assemblies Sustaining the Seven Year Plan .......... 10 1

Progress of the Seven Year Plan Three More Pioneers for Europe .......... 1

Panama Conference to Open .......... 3 1

Increasing Growth in Latin America .......... 3 1

Ten Groups Reach Assembly Status .......... 1 3

Seventeen Settlers Urgently Needed .......... 2 1

To Reach the Goal .......... 2 2

Attention G. I. Students .......... 4 2

The Temple teaches the World .......... 8 1

New Questionnaire Cards .......... 1

Public Meetings Schedule .......... 9 1

Books Placed in Ninety Libraries .......... 11 1

A Kit of Material, Publicity and Advertising Material .......... 11 2

News of Other Lands Hunger Slows Teaching in Germany .......... 5 3

First Contacts with Japanese Bahá'ís .......... 3 1

News from "The Speck" .......... 9 3

Local Communities Berkeley Holds Public Meetings .......... 2 1

Persian Visitors in the News .......... 4

State Fair Exhibits .......... 5 1

Bahá'í Lecture in Malta .......... 9 2

Radio Script Writing at Green Acre .......... 8 3

Letters from the Guardian .......... 9 2

International Relief Lists .......... 10 2

World Order Subscriptions .......... 11 2

World Order, February .......... 11 3

New Publications .......... 12 1

Enrollments .......... 12 2

In Memoriam .......... 9 1

Calendar .......... 11 3

Directory .......... 12 1

**News from "The Speck"**

(Continued from page 9)

Báhá'í's, possessed of a divine restlessness to be continually on the wing, for we realize our glorious opportunities and our equally glorious responsibilities in propagating the Cause."

Miss Lampill conducted a teaching campaign last summer in Brisbane, Queensland. She made many personal contacts with those she met in trams, at cafes, at clubs and in homes, had interviews with prominent citizens, and from all these contacts made up a mailing list for the public meetings she conducted. As a result of these contacts and meetings a study group of nine was formed. This campaign, she writes, "was a glorious adventure. Above all I feel humble and reverent before Him, the Founder of the Faith, whose guidance and grace enabled me to overcome all difficulties and experience each day manifestations of His supreme power."

**Directory**

**Assemblies**

Greenville, S. C., Mrs. Rachel Motherill, Secretary, 438 N. Main Street. Wilmington, Del., Miss M. Newman, Secretary, 241 Market Street.

Albuquerque, New Mexico, Mrs. Mary Lou Ewing, Secretary, P.O. Box 1005.

Portland, Oregon, Mrs. Rachel Porter Foster, Secretary, 5544 N. Delaware, Portland, 11.

Maul, Hawaii, Mrs. Daisy E. Sabin, Acting-Secretary, P.O. Box 81, Pusene, Maul, T. I.

**National Committees**

Regional Teaching Committee for Brazil

Mr. Edmund Miessler of Sao Paulo, appointed.

Mr. A. Cooper of Rio de Janeiro, appointed.

**Enrollments by Assemblies**

Los Angeles 4, Columbus 5, Louisville 1, Passadena 2, 2 youth, New York 3, Indianapolis 1, 1 youth, Glendale 3, Anchorage 4, Detroit 1, Honolulu 1, Atlanta 1, San Francisco 3, Teaneck 1 youth, Chicago 2, Alhambra 1, Portland 1, Cleveland 1, Seattle 1, Albuquerque 2, Kansas City 1, West Chester 1, Wilmington 1, Fargo 1, Berkeley 1, Richmond Highlands 2, Santa Barbara 1.

Regional Teaching areas 32.
Panama Conference

"The Panama Conference was a tremendous success. The pervading spirit of fellowship and consecration and the marvellous triumphs which we achieved, inebriated with joy the delegates and the Bahá’í of Panama and have left us in raptures," writes Julie Regal from Panama City concerning the first congress of the Northern Latin Americas held January 19th to 25th. The purpose of the Conference, like that of Buenos Aires for South America in November, was to build a new consciousness of unity among the friends of Central America, Mexico and the West Indies, to serve as a foundation for the National Spiritual Assembly to be elected in the northern area in April, 1951. The splendid report sent by Sra. Natalia Chávez of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on the work and consultation of the delegates, including their recommendations for forwarding the Teachings, together with the fine over-all report of Mrs. Gayle Woolson, show that this objective was truly attained.

One of the high points of the congress was the inter-racial platform at the big public meeting in the Inter-American University. The first speaker was Dr. Tu Yuen-Tan, Minister of China to Panama; and those who followed included Sr. Jorge Corgas, an Indian from the San Blas Islands; Sr. Sidney A. Young, editor of the Panama Tribune and representative of the Negro race; Mr. Harold Sosted, Superintendent of Instruction of the Canal Zone schools; Sr. Isaza Calderón, professor at the University, and Mrs. Gayle Woolson, traveling pioneer. This combination of races was a proof of the power of the Faith, for in Panama there is as much racial prejudice as we find in our own southern states. Sr. Carlos Porras of Panama, formerly of Costa Rica, added to the pleasure of all with his beautiful songs. Next to the speakers' stand was an exquisite bust of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, made in honour of the occasion by Sr. Antonio del Villar of Caracas, Venezuela. Sr. del Villar, who knew the Master when he visited this country in 1912, has contributed the piece of sculpture to the Temple.

Delegates included Sr. Carlos Vergara, Mexico City; Sr. Alejandro Baidión, Guatemala City; Srita. Ofeelia Montalvo and Dr. David Escátera.

Continued on page 2

Many Volunteer for European Teaching

The most recent appeal of the Guardian to the American Bahá’í Community for an increase in the number of pioneers for Europe, has brought forth a magnificent response on the part of the believers. This response has been such that the E.T.C. will be able in the next few months to send abroad many new pioneers and settlers to reinforce those already in the field. This means that the number of teachers in each of the goal countries will be increased, and thus a strong nucleus will be set up everywhere to work toward the establishment of the "Spiritual Prizes" set forth in this second Seven Year Plan.

At the moment, arrangements for the departure abroad of this increased number of pioneers and settlers are being consummated, and the Committee will give names, places and definite dates in our next report. We wish to state that plans are also being made to send several wonderfully equipped itinerant teachers to the European field during this spring, summer and fall.

A great momentum has been set in motion; the response has been truly wonderful. Let us keep constantly in our minds and hearts the vital needs of this European Teaching Campaign as cherished by the Guardian, and do our utmost to ac-

“Bahá’u’lláh’s Resistless, World-Re redeeming Order”

Urgè stress for entire community extreme urgency to reinforce promptly, at whatever cost, however inadequate the instruments, the number of volunteers, both settlers and itinerant teachers, whom posterity will recognize as vanguard of torch-bearers of Bahá’u’lláh’s resistless, world-redeeming order to despairing millions of diversified races, conflicting nationalities, in darkest, most severely tested, spiritually-depleted continent of globe.

(signed) Snoop

From cablegram received January 30, 1947.

Bahá’í Statement Submitted to United Nations

A statement entitled "A Bahá’í Declaration of Human Obligations and Rights" has been submitted by the National Spiritual Assembly to the Human Rights Commission of the Economic and Social Council of United Nations. This Commission, headed by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, is engaged in the preparation of a world bill of rights which the United Nations will sponsor and endeavor to have adopted by the governments of the participating nations.

A copy of the statement, and a press release concerning it prepared by the Public Relations Committee, has been sent to the local Assemblies, Regional Teaching Committees, and the national committees which conduct campaigns.

The release was also sent direct to newspapers and magazines.

celebrate the tempo of this teaching work.

All offers for pioneering should be sent direct to the European Teaching Committee, 418 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.
Panama Conference
Continued from page 1

MARCH, 1947

Panama Conference
Continued from page 1

lante, San Salvador; Sra. Natalia Chávez, Tegucigalpa, Honduras; Dr. Antonio Bonilla and Dr. Robert M. Hooker, Managua, Nicaragua; Sra. Isabel Porras, San José, Costa Rica; Sr. James Facey, Colón, and Sra. Blanca de Campos, Panama; Sra. Mabel Schneider and Sr. Alfred Osborne, Canal Zone; Sr. Santos de la Torre, Havana, Cuba; and Sr. William Mitchell, Kingston, Jamaica. Visiting believers included Sr. Pablo Bonilla, Cali, Colombia; Sr. Antonio del Villar, Caracas, Venezuela; Mr. Charles Mason Remey, Washington, D.C.; Mr. Artemus Lamb, Santiago, Chile; Miss Evelyn Larson, now in Managua, Nicaragua, and Mrs. Woolson. Mrs. Marcia Stewart visited the Conference but was obliged to return to San José, Costa Rica, because of the pressing demands of the nationwide correspondence teaching campaign which she has recently initiated there, and which she reports is bringing very fine results.

Correspondence Teaching
in Latin America

As a part of the Guardian’s plan to carry the Faith to the masses, correspondence teaching is being gradually expanded until it will include all nineteen countries of Latin America. It was first applied to Bahá’í teaching in Colombia by Ger­rard Slater a little more than two years ago. His efforts resulted within a year’s time in the formation of a second Assembly in Mogotes, a group in Contratación, two Bahá’ís in Cartagena, one in Medellín and interested responses from half a dozen or more other cities. He was then obliged to return to Canada before the work could be carried further. At the present time 1800 of each lesson of the series for new contracts are being distributed from Cuba to Chile, and more requests are coming in daily. Two hundred and forty-four Masonic lodges have been circularized in Cuba, Venezuela and Ecuador at their own request. Letters are now beginning to come in from some of these lodges asking that copies of the lessons be sent to every member for their study. Col. Arturo and Sra. Yvonne de Cúdar of La Paz, Bolivia, are writing a part of this series.

Col. Cúdar is also assisting with translating by preparing “God Passes By” for publication in Spanish. He has also translated “Foundations of World Unity” and about half of “Gleanings,” which will be published later. Sra. Josefiná Piá de Campos is now translating “The Divine Art of Living” for immediate publication. She also did the new translation of “Some Answered Questions” which is going to press in Buenos Aires. Sra. de Cúdar is making a six weeks’ teaching trip to Sucre, goal city of Bolivia, and Col. Cúdar is assisting her there for two weeks, while convalescing from a serious illness.

Sra. M. C. Claudet, member of the Assembly of Guayaquil, Ecuador, is planning to take the Faith to French East Africa, where she will settle in Marrueco Frances. Sra. Chávez will assist Evelyn Larson for a few days in Nicaragua en route homeward from a second visit to Panama for a needed operation. She will then undertake to teach a new goal city in Honduras.

Colombian Village Eager for the Faith

Artemus Lamb describes his fascinating experience as the first Bahá’í ever to visit the remote, mountain town of Mogotes, Colombia, whose delegate to the Buenos Aires Conference was the first member of their Community ever to see a Bahá’í other than the members of their own group. Artemus describes the feudal conditions under which they live and some of their sufferings as well as their spiritual hunger. He writes, “It is in reality a little feudal village living the life of the Middle Ages. We are giving public lectures in my room in the hotel. As there are only three chairs, all stand, but everyone seems to be happy and to want more. At their urgent, almost tearful request I have agreed to stay until Tuesday.

“This has been a most remarkable experience. I feel as if I have seen a vision of a new world. We have met many new people, some of them the ‘big shots’ of Mogotes. Sunday night a conference was given in the theater as a result with a great many attending. The talk was on the New Era and such an attentive audience I have never before witnessed. The next morning we had another meeting to take photographs and ten new people, most of them young men, insisted upon signing cards of entrance to the Cause. I frankly did not know what to do. The members of the Assembly obtained these signatures and they are going to meet this week and pass on them. Obviously, these people still need to learn many of the things that we require, but it is also obvious that they have been completely prepared to be Bahá’ís. They know without any persuasion that the Cause of Bahá’ulláh is the only possible answer, when it is merely presented to them. They say that with another pioneer there for a while they could have a community of two hundred, and while it seems fantastic, after what I have experienced, I believe it.”

Bahá’í News

Bahá’í News is edited by the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá’í News Editorial Committee: Garrelta Busey, chairman, John Ashton, Alice Simmons Cox, Marleah Galt, Doris Holley Annamarie Rams Dohnald, Eleanor Sweney Hutchins, Mabel Hyde Faine, Margaret Swengel. Editorial office: Miss Garrelta Busey, 582 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois. Please report changes of address to which Bahá’í News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Bahá’í National Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.
Public Meeting at Baltimore

The Baltimore Public Meeting was held in the Rainbow Room of the Pythian Hall, on January 21st at 8 p.m. In spite of it being one of the coldest nights of the winter, the Baltimore friends report an attendance of 325.

The hall was beautifully decorated with flowers. Attractive displays were arranged with Temple pictures and literature. The speaker's fine compliment—"You are to be congratulated on the perfect coordination, the smooth production, and the perfect taste and surroundings in which it was held" express the result of the efforts of the Baltimore friends in a few words.

A four week radio program was used, on Sundays at 4:15 p.m., prior to the meeting. The transcriptions used were, "A New Interpretation of History," "Meet Mr. Justice," "Mr. Justice Returns," and "This is My Faith," over station WFBR. Spot announcements were also used.

Music was furnished by the Baltimore Fellowship Choir, an interracial group of soloists, singing the "Song of Peace" by Sibelius with solo numbers by two of its members. Further demonstrating "beauty in diversity" the ushers were composed of an interracial group.

Mr. and Mrs. Ugo Giachery, pioneers to Italy, sailing on the "Santoria" February 19, 1947, with a group of friends wishing them God-speed.

The public meeting on Monday evening was held at the Ladies Literary Club. A model of the Temple and literature display in the lobby, greeted the people coming to the meeting. Prominent people in the educational fields and all walks of life were present. The Governor, unable to attend, but mindful of his promise to do so, sent a delegate from his staff who said Mrs. Bishop...
New Braille Publications

In conformity with the theme of the whole public campaign of this year and with deep gratitude for the opportunities it conferred upon us, we are happy to advise the friends that the widely advertised booklets, World Order Through World Faith, and The World Faith of Bahá'ú'lláh. A Summary of Its Aims, Teachings, History and Administrative Order, are now available in braille grade 2, at the cost of $1.25 for the set.

We particularly call the attention of those undertaking publicity and teaching work to the increasing value of braille books for window displays, book exhibits, and informal Bahá'í gatherings; as well as to the fact that, as World Order Through World Faith has received and is receiving such nation-wide publicity, its presentation in braille is bound to be a matter of great public interest to both the sighted and the blind.

We have attempted to present this booklet in such a form as to make a most attractive and arresting display when shown with the ink-print copy.

Please send orders to Mrs. Amédée Gibson, 616 N. Oxford Avenue, Los Angeles 4, California.

A Bahá'í Talking Book is now being recorded in the studios of the American Foundation for the Blind, and should be available before the Convention.

This Talking Book presenting on the six sides of three records "World Order Through World Faith" and the "Summary," edition 1944, is to be offered to the twenty-seven libraries for the blind listed by The Library of Congress. Extra sets will be available for purchase by the friends.

Prayer Book in Braille. One hundred copies of Communion with God, in braille grade one and a half will be ready early in March. Due to the increasing demand for a prayer book in braille, we regret that it was not possible to have more copies of this prayer book printed in braille at this time.

Young Bahá'ís at Green Acre

The following account of the Youth Session at Green Acre comes to us from Harrison Langrell, one of the young Bahá'ís who was there:

"Hurry, Hurry, all Bahá'í Youth... meeting in the recreation hall right away!" That's how our vacation at Green Acre started last year. When Hormoz and Rusty had rounded us all up we were told that the Youth Week this year was to be run entirely by the Youth, and that in order to do this we must elect a Local Spiritual Assembly which would act as our governing body. Those of us who had come up for a vacation were in for a rude awakening, for from that time on we operated as a separate community from the older believers, and with the effort necessary for the operation of a community, together with the heavy class program cut out for us, our time for vacationing was cut to a minimum. However, this does not mean that we didn't have our fun. We did, and plenty of it. After the nightly meeting we had the rest of the night for dancing or whatever we wanted to do. The Youth Local Spiritual Assembly appointed a recreation committee to handle the recreation each night, and some of the programs planned were really wonderful. The two stunt nights, to which the entire school was invited, were howling successes, as well as the dances, trips to the beach and the flower picking expeditions in which some of the youth participated.

However, as was mentioned before, it was not all play by far. The day started at seven when one of the Youth had charge of devotions. Following this, breakfast. (It might be noted here that the Youth were always in the front of the chow line.

Star of the West

Believers who have copies of Star of the West please note that in volume three an error appears on page 2 in the caption under the photograph of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. This caption should read: "'Abdu'l-Bahá in Loring Park, Minneapolis, September 20, 1912."
at breakfast since they had devotions in the room where the line formed.) Then classes started. We had three classes each day, some of which were: Administration, Proofs of the Bahá'í Faith, Character and Personality, Interesting Angles of Bahá'í History, Questions and Answers, and then the nightly classes given by the Youth on the various religions of the world. The instructors gave their courses in such a manner that each individual got the most out of it, and since the courses were designed to appeal especially to the Youth, everyone thoroughly enjoyed each class.

"For the first week we had Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Simms as advisors, whose understanding and cooperation in all matters were sincerely appreciated by all. Mr. and Mrs. Clarance Lear acted as advisors the second week and I feel sure all the youth were appreciative of their kind consideration.

"Rustam Payman, nicknamed "the Boss" by the Youth, was a sort of youth representative to the school committee and his undying patience as well as his wonderful personality netted invaluable rewards in the smooth operation. His work was continued nobly by Jessica Perry the second week and none of the Youth minded the change of administration one little bit.

"The entire program was intense, active, and full of fun, and while those of us who came up for a vacation were surprised at first we will all agree that there could be no finer vacation than working for the Kingdom of God on earth. Each youth took back with him a clearer idea of the individual's part in the gigantic task before the world community today, as well as a little practical experience in the operation of the administrative order of Bahá'u'lláh. I feel safe in saying that the words of Jessica Perry express the feelings of each youth who attended what was without a doubt the best youth session at Green Acre, when she says, 'The unity and joy surpasses any experience most of us had known. Green Acre is more than a Summer School, it is an experience which affected each of our lives with a positive charge.'"

Classes for the younger children at Green Acre are now a well-established part of the program. School for children from three to fourteen opens every day, except Sunday, at the Arts and Crafts Studio, at 9:30 a.m., and continues until lunch time.

Last summer attendance was very good, particularly in the three-to-six and in the seven-to-eleven age-groups. The children had a short devotional period each morning, followed by a lesson from the Bahá'í teachings. Then came some handwork, and finally recreation, with the teacher still in charge. Recreation included walks in the woods, baseball, swimming, digging clay for modeling, singing, and other delightful activities.

There were two programs given by the children at the Arts and Crafts Studio—one at the end of July, the other at the end of August. A little play was given, prayers and "Hidden Words" were recited, and clay modeling, woodwork, painting, and drawing were exhibited.

A new feature added to the Green Acre School program this summer will be a 'Junior Youth Week,' for children from twelve to fifteen. The dates will be given on the program.
“Plead Ponder Afresh”

Cablegram from the
Guardian

Acclaim with grateful heart evidences of steadily accelerating movement of pioneers, multiplication of conferences, consolidation of activities of national committees, progress in preliminaries of internal ornamentation of Temple, and formulation teaching policy southern states. Overwhelmed by tributes paid my own humble efforts by stalwart company whose championship of Faith of Bahá’u’lláh during last quarter century provided greatest support and solace enabling me to sustain the weight of cares and responsibilities of Guardianship. Impelled plead afresh to ponder responsibilities incurred in transatlantic field of service. Time is flying. First year of second Seven Year Plan is drawing to a close. Shadow of war’s tragic aftermath is deepening. Initial stage of colossal task undertaken in European continent still in balance. Urge stress for entire community extreme urgency to reinforce promptly, at whatever cost, however inadequate the instruments, the number of volunteers, both settlers and itinerant teachers, whom posterity will rightly recognize as vanguard of torch-bearers of Bahá’u’lláh’s resistless, world-redeeming order to despairing millions of diversified races, conflicting nationalities in darkest, most severely tested, spiritually-depleted continent of globe. Prayerfully awaiting response by all ranks of community to supreme call to fuller participation in glorious enterprise. 

Received January 30, 1947

Shoghi

National Spiritual Assembly

The National Budget

At the beginning of this Bahá’í year, when plans were being made to set in motion the Guardian’s four objectives of the second Seven Year Plan, a budget of $250,000 was adopted. The definite allocation of funds to each project was decided, and the itemized budget published in the pamphlet which carried the details of the work to be accomplished this year.

The budget amounted to double the average budgets in recent years, calling for an increase in the average donation made by every Bahá’í.

Now the scope of the work laid down by the Guardian’s cable to the 1946 Convention, particularly in relation to the settlement of pioneers in the European countries, has been enlarged. To meet this intensified national effort, the annual budget will not only have to be met in full but a surplus of some $10,000 may be required. The enlarged schedule represents our duty to humanity, as only the Guardian can define it and put it into deeds. The National Assembly, therefore, appeals for a great response from now until the Convention begins. The special contributions to the Temple Fund made in honor of the Guardianship were a magnificent token of loving devotion.

The matter of housing still continues to be the most difficult problem. The Housing Committee will do its utmost to meet requests for accommodations in homes or hotels. Write the committee as soon as possible, state your needs clearly, and try and give the committee an alternative arrangement if the accommodations you wish cannot be supplied. Believers who receive accommodations are expected and urged to notify the committee if plans are changed and the accommodations are cancelled.

Convention Housing Committee — Mrs. Mineola Hannen, Chairman, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill., Mrs. May Scheffer, Secretary, Mrs. Mary Haggard, Mrs. Edna Colman, Mrs. Parepa Franklin.

Convention agendas will be sent to the delegates with ballots and other information early in April. Brief annual reports prepared by national committees will also be supplied to delegates before the Convention dates. The usual complete Annual Reports will be printed and mailed to all the believers after the end of the administrative year, April 30.

In Memoriam

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It besometh joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life. — Bahá’u’lláh


Miss May Williams, Geneva, N. Y., May 15, 1946.


Mrs. Mary Kluge, Chicago, Ill., December 13, 1946.

Glimpses of Bahá’í Life

From a Persian Pioneer

(Some months ago the following story was received from one of the young Persians pioneering in an Eastern country. “I have often thought,” she writes in an enclosed letter, “that our dear brothers and sisters in the West would be interested to know how the Message of Bahá’u’lláh is being taken to virgin territories in the East and to get some idea of pioneering work in these parts.” She asks that her name be withheld, as well as the name of the city mentioned, in order not to endanger the friends there.)

The sun had just set, and I was preparing the tea, which is so welcome after a day’s fasting, when I heard a knock on the front door. My husband does not usually knock, and I wondered who it could be. I asked who it was before opening the door (as is the custom here), and a stranger’s voice answered in an undertone, just loud enough for me to hear, that he had come from our friends in...

We had stopped all correspondence with these pioneers ever since we ourselves had been known as Bahá’ís here, for we knew what it would mean if they were discovered to be friends of ours; and, after a rumor had reached us that we were sus-
"Wholly for Thy Sake"

Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! I beseech Thee by this Revelation whereby darkness hath been turned into light, through which the Frequented Fane hath been built, and the Written Tablet revealed, and the Outspread Roll uncovered, to send down upon me and upon them who are in my company that which will enable us to soar into the heav- ens of Thy transcendent glory, and will wash us from the stain of such doubts as have hindered the sus- picious from entering into the taber- nacle of Thy unity.

I am the one, O my Lord, who hath held fast the cord of Thy loving-kindness, and clung to the hem of Thy mercy and favors. Do Thou or-

I prayed over and over again, "Please, God don't let him ask any more questions." He seemed greatly surprised. "But surely," he said, "you must know them too. A . . . and M . . . and K . . .?" All that I knew of the merits of truthfulness rushed to my mind, yet I had not the courage to speak out the truth, for I knew that if this was not a friend, one word from me might cost the Bahá'í in . . . their lives.

He next told me that the friends in . . . had heard of the difficulties we had been confronted with and were very anxious about us, especially as they had not received any news from us for such a long time. I was only too eager to avoid any more questions and started to relate in full all that had happened here when people came to know of our Faith.

I was half through when I heard my husband open the front door. I went out to meet him and told him...
in a few hurried words that some one had come from... who claimed to be a Bahá'í but I had not confessed that I knew anyone there. Our guest rose up as soon as my husband entered the room and embraced him so tenderly that I felt ashamed of having doubted his sincerity; yet my husband too, was in no hurry to disclose his friendship with anyone in... until he had asked our guest to introduce himself. (In the East people do not introduce themselves until asked to do so, and it is not polite to ask anyone to introduce himself immediately after greetings.) I did not have the slightest hope that knowing the name of this stranger would help us in any way to tell whether he was indeed a friend, and our joy can be imagined when my husband knew him as the son of an old Bahá'í who had settled in... in the days of the Ancient Beauty!

There was one amongst us, however, who had known the stranger as a friend from the very beginning. My two-year-old daughter had silently crept onto his lap almost immediately after his arrival and there she sat all this while, as happy as could be, playing with the golden threads that hung from his shoulder. Her little heart had known no doubt, and now, when we too at last had found in him a dear friend, I noticed through my tears of joy, that she was kissing the palm of his hand.

I was not slow in asking him to forgive me for all the precautions I had taken against him, but he assured me that, coming from... he realized only too well how necessary it was for us to be careful in speaking to strangers, if we wished the safety of our friends.

We had many questions to ask and he had a great deal to tell. The happiest news he brought was that the Guardian had sent a letter to the pioneers in... telling them that the time had come for them to start teaching our beloved Cause there, but of course with great wisdom. The hours thus passed with the first Bahá'í we had met for a long time, except our own little group, were the happiest we had known in years. We begged our friend to come again, but he said that the fact that we were known as Bahá'ís here, made it difficult for him to do so. Yet if he was lucky enough to get away from those who had accompanied him from...

he would come to see us once more when the call for the early morning prayers was raised.

It is past midnight already, and in a few more hours our friend may be coming.

Bahá'í Census

The following figures describe the make-up of the Bahá'í Community of the United States and Canada as of February 20, 1947.

1. Adult voting Bahá'ís of the United States 5,174
2. Adult voting Bahá'ís of Alaska, Hawaii, Canal Zone and Puerto Rico 97
3. American pioneers in Latin America 21
4. American pioneers in Europe 12
5. Adult voting Bahá'ís of Canada 270
6. Bahá'í youth 147

Total Bahá'í Community 5,720

Of the voting believers of the United States, 3,239 are members of communities; 843 are in groups; 871 are isolated; 221 are in transit (present address unknown).

Of the voting believers in Canada, 182 are in Communities; 42 are in groups; 46 are isolated.

Of Bahá'í youth, 79 are in Communities; 35 in groups; 33 isolated.

The largest number of believers in one state, California, is 885; the smallest number, 12, is in West Virginia.

There is less than one enrolled youth per local community in North America. While we are striving to increase the number of Assemblies, we should strive not less efficiently to create a much larger body of enrolled youth.

Deepening in the Cause

To deepen in the Cause means to read the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh and the Master so thoroughly as to be able to give it to others in its pure form. There are many who have some superficial idea of what the Cause stands for. They, therefore, present it together with all sorts of ideas that are their own. As the Cause is still in its early days we must be most careful lest we fall into this error and injure the Movement we so much adore. There is no limit to the study of the Cause. The more we read the Writings, the more truths we can find in Them, the more we will see that our previous notions were erroneous.

Correction

In our December issue we stated that the Guardian had sent 10,000 pounds to be devoted to relief, teaching work, expansion of literature and renting or purchasing of an adequate house for a National Hašírat'ul-Quds in Frankfurt, Germany. This statement was based on the cable sent by the Guardian to the German NSA just after its election. The exact statement about the money was, "Will transmit 10,000 pounds collected for national fund (for relief, teaching work etc.) as soon as possible. In all probability, the 10,000 pounds has not yet been transmitted on account of international political barriers.

Sacrifice and Growth in India

"Is it ought but the love of God that can cause a man to sell a flourishing business, wander for months without an income, draw on his limited resources to maintain a large family, be buffeted here and there, and finally transfer his home, at the NSA's request, from a locality famed as a health resort to one which for almost half the year has an unbearable climate?..."
A Word for Local News Reporters

The Bahá’í News Committee has been gratified to receive so many fine reports from local news reporters. A considerable amount of this material has been edited, but, much to our regret, even some of that has had to be omitted in the end because of lack of space. We ask that news reporters send in only the most important news, such as the most outstanding events, new or unusual teaching techniques and reactions of the public. Please bear in mind that we want news and not reports.

Houston World Fellowship Meetings

The Houston Bahá’ís report a successful series of World Fellowship meetings. “Our policy has been to interest as many people of different backgrounds as possible—and by asking a speaker from a minority group, it has been possible for us to increase our contacts—because invariably the speaker will bring a friend or two. The Bahá’í chairman speaks briefly on a point nearest the subject of the speaker.

“It may appear that this is not the time for indirect teachings. Yet, in Houston—with our particular community, it is helping us to get the name “Bahá’í” before the public. During January we received nine notices of our meetings in three different newspapers, and spot notices on the radio. There were twenty-four people who were inquirers that came to the meetings.

Some Bahá’í Marriages

Dr. Mary E. Coffin of Pittsburg and Mr. C. W. Ketcham of Miami were united in Bahá’í marriage at the Bahá’í Center, Miami, Florida, on December 19, 1946. The wedding was Miami’s first performed without civil observation and the many non-Bahá’ís attending found the ceremony decidedly impressive.

Mr. Reginald King and Martha Jane Ladson were married November 29 in the second Bahá’í wedding to take place in Boston under the new Massachusetts ruling.

Miss Elva Wilson of the Pawtucket group and Mr. Donald Lister were married Nov. 23.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Irving Frederic were married on September 7 in Toronto. After the church ceremony, necessary as Toronto has not yet obtained legal status for such ceremonies, a Bahá’í wedding took place in the Bahá’í Center.

Mrs. Dorothy Stotts of Lima and Frederick D. Hoffman of Brattleboro, Vt. were united in marriage at the Lima Bahá’í Center on Jan-

Dorothy Stotts and Frederick Hoffman at the time of their marriage in the Lima Bahá’í Center. With them are David Wolf and Mrs. Marjorie Brown, chairman and secretary of the Lima Assembly.

uary 18. David Wolf, chairman of the local Bahá’í Spiritual Assembly, read the service. The Bahá’í marriage tablet was read by Mrs. Marjorie Brown, Assembly secretary.

The first Bahá’í marriage to be solemnized under the new marriage amendment of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was that of Miss Mary Corea of Woburn and Mr. John Neilson of Boston, Massachusetts, September 1. Mr. Charles Krug, chairman of the Boston Assembly, presided at the ceremony.

Funerals of Bahá’ís Interest Inquirers

The Los Angeles Bahá’í Journal tells of the passing of Mrs. Inga Illescas on November 1, 1946. The Bahá’í ceremony was of such a nature that some of the persons who attended the funeral who before were only curious, and others who were decidedly against the Faith, have become interested inquirers. The words Mrs. Illescas said to her husband on the morning of the day she departed are such as to inspire us all: “Octavi—all for the Cause—don’t mourn—don’t tarry—carry on the work—I from there—you from here—till we meet again.”

From Butte we learn of the passing, on Mr. Matthew Caldwell, one of the first Bahá’ís in Montana, on November 30, 1946. Mr. Caldwell had previously written down the services that he desired to have. This included a prayer for guidance for all his friends gathered on the occasion. He desired the nine pointed star in white flowers and no others. His ceremony was so beautiful that several service men and other non-Bahá’ís who had not heard of the Faith before were sufficiently impressed to call the chairman and ask about the Bahá’í Message.

Chicago Inter-Race Symposium

The Chicago Bahá’í Assembly sponsored a symposium on The Future of Race Relations, January 23, at their Center, 116 S. Michigan Ave. The speakers were John Yancy, a national representative of the C.I.O., Madeleine Morgan Stratton, well known authority in the field of public education, Russell E. Babcock, Director of Public Information and Education for the Mayor’s Commission on Human Relations, Dr. Homer S. Jack, Executive Secretary of the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination, and Horace Holley, Secretary of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada, an eminent authority in the field of the religions of the world and the high ideals expounded by them.

Growing Interest Shown in Winnetka

The Winnetka (Ill.) Group reports great success from a Bahá’í display and booth during the annual three hour reception for newcomers to this village of 14,000 population. The annual event which is sponsored by civic, club and educational groups held on Sunday, November 24th, in the village community house drew an attendance of a few thousand besides the hundred or more persons manning the exhibits. It is estimated that, while most visitors saw the Bahá’í display in passing, at least 10% stopped to read the Bahá’í posters and to view the two large photographs of the Bahá’í House of Wor-
ship. So many walked into the booth to ask questions on the Faith that for periods groups were kept waiting.

Notes from Local Reports

The Indianapolis Bahá'í Spiritual Assembly has planned a series of public lectures for fall and spring, which will take place on the second Sunday of each month. The Sunday following each meeting a follow-up gathering is held in the home of one of the Bahá'ís to which the visitors of the previous public meeting are invited. Classes for beginners and “for deepening in the Bahá'í Cause” are also being conducted. A youth program has been inaugurated with a party at which views of the Bahá'í House of Worship were shown to a decidedly interested group of eight youngsters, ranging from eight to sixteen years of age.

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Dorothy Baker gave an ad lib broadcast on New World Order points in October. This was really quite a departure in local radio station policy and the idea was not at first enthusiastically received by the owner, but afterwards brought fine comment from him. His wife too liked it and made it a point to call the station immediately to tell Mrs. Baker so. It is another real indication of the relationship of trust that has been established between the Bahá'ís as a group and the station. Beginning November 28 the Assembly has been sponsoring a series of nine firesides on topics from The Divine Art of Living.

The Houston Post of November 1 printed a four-inch notice about plans of the Bahá'ís for a work-shop for writing, speaking and radio. The friends of Houston have placed listings of their activities with both the Better Business Bureau and the Chamber of Commerce. They were able to get a listing with the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for an additional $2.50, plus tax, per month, obtained by one of the members releasing her contract with the telephone company in favor of the LSA and requesting an additional listing for herself. This was the only way in which the Houston LSA could get a listing, and they were most grateful for the permission to do this.

The Columbus Community was host to the Rainbow group of the Theosophical Society on November 12. Members of this group presented the history, goal and summary of their belief, and the Bahá'í chairman spoke on the Manifestation of this Day. A class for the study of the Fundamentals for Bahá'í Membership was held with four new applicants. In November again 50 Temple reprints were mailed out to artists and civic leaders of the city.

In Muskegon, Michigan, classes are being held once a month. In Little Rock, Arkansas, a forum on “Can the United Nations Organization Build a World Federation?” was conducted with Mr. Will G. Akers, prominent local attorney, and Mrs. Alvin Blum, Bahá'í, participating. Mr. Akers dealt with the legal and historical angle while Mrs. Blum approached the subject from a moral and spiritual viewpoint. The Boise Community was able to secure time for a regular radio program with the opening of a new station, KGEM. The use of the series of transcripts obtained through the National Radio Committee has been of invaluable assistance in providing program material, and the program director at the station spoke of it as “high quality material.”

Charleston was delighted with a response from the article on the Faith which appeared in the December 18 issue of the Pathfinder. (This article, which includes pictures of the Temple and of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, was prepared by one of its editors from material supplied by the Public Relations Committee.) A couple appeared at a Sunday Public Meeting, having seen the article. The woman said, “I cannot imagine anyone reading that article and not taking every step to investigate the Faith immediately.” Mind Digest has accepted an article on “Wise Be Your Choice” by Marian C. Lippitt. Several allusions to the Faith are contained therein. The article was reviewed and approved by the local Assembly.

Honolulu reports the Second Annual Summer Session of Bahá'ís of Honolulu which was held in August with as many as thirty-two at one session. The friends in this city would be most happy to receive copies of talks given on the mainland, which they feel would be of invaluable help to them for perusal and discussion. Their isolation on the Islands prevents their close contact with other Bahá'ís.

On January 12 the Bahá'ís of Greater Milwaukee gave a Bahá'í Radio Broadcast, the fourth appearance within fifteen months on the Inter-Faith Hour in which participants included more than twenty of the largest Protestant faiths, Catholics, Jews, Bahá'ís and the Salvation Army.

In Greensboro a series of meetings has been planned to which outside speakers are being invited. Mr. Victor Serunian was the first such speaker at the Bahá'í Center on January 17. He was born of Christian Armenian parents (his father is a Presbyterian minister), who had lived in Persia many years. He spoke on the culture and religion of modern Persia. He said, “In all the years that there have been Christian missionaries in Iran, probably not more than fifty Mohammedans have become Christians. Today there are more than a million Bahá'ís in Persia (in not much longer time)—there must be something in Bahá'í—if that many Mohammedans have become Bahá'ís!”

The Cleveland Spiritual Assembly enjoyed the unique pleasure of voting into membership at one meeting six applicants. Stepping stones leading to this happy accomplishment were the regular Public Lectures, the completion of a systematic course of study in a fireside study class which met weekly for ten weeks, and the inspiring fellowship with the local Bahá'ís.

On January 26, Mrs. Charles Reed Bishop spoke to a capacity audience of 180 persons in the Round-up Room of Hotel Adams in Phoenix. Recorded instrumental music accompanied the seating of the guests and provided a dignified prelude to the program. Mrs. Bishop spoke on “The Meaning of Crisis.” Memo cards were placed on all seats announcing the question-answer meeting to be held the following evening. Thirty-five inquirers attended, along with twenty Bahá'ís. For a week Mrs. Bishop did much teaching work, which included speaking to forty students in a class in International Relations at Phoenix Junior College. A study class was begun after her intensive work.

In Moncton meetings combining Esperanto lessons and Bahá'í fireside discussions have been held. Children's Classes have taken place after school on Friday afternoons. The youngsters purchased two pairs of
new shoes from their weekly collections to be sent with a box of used children's clothing to the Philippines. Mr. and Mrs. Irving Geary spoke jointly at a meeting on "The Need for a Fresh Revelation." It was felt that their working as a team would enable them to make further valuable contributions to the Faith.

In Chicago we now have a Bahá'í University Fellowship Committee. Weekly meetings are held in Room 206, Swift Hall at the University of Chicago. This group has been formed around a nucleus of three Bahá'ís now at the University in response to a growing demand for an opportunity to learn more about the Bahá'í Faith.

In Santa Barbara, Mr. J. V. Matteson, retired architect's draftsman, has built himself a house, almost entirely with only his own two hands. This house is dedicated to the teaching work and the Assembly meets there. A newspaper clipping shows the Greatest Name above a charming fireplace.

Lima wants the friends to know that for the last two years during the summer months Sunday morning prayer services were held on the bank of a scenic lake in a beautiful local park. Each person attending read a prayer. Light breakfasts followed the services. These have proved so successful that the friends wanted to pass the idea along.

Los Angeles scheduled a training class for chairmen at public meetings, which must have proved most helpful.

Several Bahá'í children in Montreal, Canada, obtained special leave of absence from school on November 12 in order to observe the birthday of Bahá'u'lláh. As part of their commemoration the children prepared and presented small gifts personally to the Children's Memorial Hospital.

**British Bahá'ís Summoned to Pioneer**

"More believers must arise and, putting their trust in Bahá'u'lláh, do their duty to the Faith they believe in and love so dearly. The consummation of their present task will signalize the inauguration of a great epoch in the history of the Faith in their land. In the future we may well look back upon these present days and see that in them lay our greatest chance to build for the future and to call the people to the Faith while they were still deeply impressed with the tragedy and futility of war, and before they became too engulfed in post-war problems, or too bitterly disillusioned by trend of world affairs to even seek a solution."

With such words the Guardian summons the British Bahá'ís to pioneering, telling them that "the only hope for a stable world is in the spread of the Cause." Spurred by this challenge the call goes out in the January Bahá'í Journal (British) for more and more pioneers. Already, between January and December 1946 the total number of Bahá'ís in their goal towns has doubled. The Guardian now urges them to focus their attention, after the attainment of their present goal, which is the doubling of the number of Spiritual Assemblies in the British Isles, on Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

**Young Chinese Enthusiastic Over the Faith**

Bernice Wood, who has been working in China under UNRRA, has interested several Young Chinese in the Faith. Seven were meeting together in Shanghai in August, and she has sent literature to interested people in Hangchou, Nanking and Hankou. Bernice writes, "Captain Chu and Lieutenant Chou have lots of enthusiasm and that's what it takes."

Bernice expects to return from China in the spring when UNRRA
is over and will travel via the Middle East. Mrs. Hansen, Secretary of the Arlington, Va., Assembly, has sent us this news and has asked the NSA to give Bernice addresses of Bahá'ís in India, Iran, Iraq and Egypt and has suggested she ask for permission to visit Haifa on her return trip.

Brief Notes from Other Lands

In Germany an exceptionally fruitful, deeply spiritual Bahá'í youth gathering took place in December at Neckargemünd. 53 believers were present, representing twelve cities.

A Teaching Conference dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Guardianship was held in Manchester, January 5. This was followed by an intensive four evenings’ teaching Seminar in Leeds.

Miss Marion Jack, pioneer in Sofia, Bulgaria, would like French and German translations of selections from the Bahá'í writings or articles on religious or philosophical topics to give to those whom she is attracting to the Faith. (There is no Bahá'í literature in Bulgarian available.) This is a suggestion for those who may be tied at home and yet desire to assist in field work. Miss Jack’s address is 25 Boulevard Tzar, Osvooboditch 25, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Mrs. Prudence George has come from Canada to assist in the teaching work in England. Miss Isabel Locke from California is to help in establishing a nucleus in Scotland. Both Mrs. George and Miss Locke have the Guardian’s approval of their visit.

The Bahá'í community at Hamburg, Germany, was re-established last summer. It has sixteen declared believers and is, so far, the only community in the British Zone.

The NSA of Iran has started a vast teaching campaign embracing the neighboring countries of Afghanistan, Baluchistan, Iraq and India.

Australia and New Zealand have issued their first youth bulletin. Write for it to Mr. Stanley Bolton, Bolton Place, Yerrinbool, NSW, Australia.

Copies of “God Passes By” with “Appreciations of the Bahá’í Faith” were sent to the Bishops and Archbishops of the Anglican Church in Australia, twelve of whom sent acknowledgments.

The Frankfurt, Germany, community was started by Edith Horn in 1935. It now numbers 35 declared believers. Edith Horn had lived many years in the U.S.A. when ‘Abdu’l-Bahá told her to return to Germany to work for the Faith. She is now 67 and suffers from gout and “from the coarse food,” but is still active in Bahá’í work. She writes, “Believe me, we are all very appreciative of what the American and Persian believers are doing for us. We are glad to have Bruce Davison with us as he has helped us a great deal.”

Directory

Assemblies

Boston, Mass. Miss Natalie Anderson, Secretary, P.O. Box 261, Back Bay Annex P.O., Boston, 15

East Orange, N. J., Mrs. Paul Wright, Secretary, 105 Leslie Street, Wilmette, Illinois.

Dr. Otto Zenskal, Secretary, 105 Sixth Street, Arlington, Virginia.

Mrs. Marion Compton, Secretary, 1414 N. Vermont Street, Laramie, Wyoming.

Mrs. Raphael Lillywhite, Secretary, P.O. Box 112

National Committees

Archives and History: Mrs. Nella Heath appointed. Mr. M. D. Roach appointed.

Bahá'í Service for the Blind: Mrs. Clyde S. Longyear appointed.

Public Relations: Mr. Paul E. Haney appointed.

Regional Teaching Committees

Michigan: Mr. Gordon A. Frazer appointed. Mrs. Helen Thompson appointed.

Alaska: Mr. Jocelyn Gordon appointed.

Tennessee and Alabama: Mrs. Homer Dyer, Secretary, Rt. 5, Box 463, Birmingham, 6 Alabama.

Mrs. Rosed Brown, retired.

Ohio and Western Penna.: Mrs. Florence M. Reeb, Chairman.

Mrs. Gladys Lemmon, Secretary, 2583 Wexford Road, Upper Arlington, Ohio.

Dr. Mary Coffin Ketcham, retired.

Miss Nell Payne, retired.

Committee on Teaching Equipment for Temple Building

Miss Edna M. True, Chairman, 418 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Horace Holley, Mrs. Dorothy Baker, Mrs. J. M. Haggard, Mrs. J. P. McCormick, Dr. Otto Zenskal.

Temple Teaching Committee

Miss Edna M. True, Chairman, 418 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Mrs. Clarice Ullrich, Dr. Otto Zenskal, Mrs. E. W. Mattone, Mrs. J. P. McCormick, Mrs. Richard McUrury, Mrs. J. M. Haggard.

Maintenace Committee for Quebec Property

Mr. Emerie Sala, Chairman.

Mr. Siegfried Schopflescher, Vice-Chairman.

Mrs. Adlene Lohse, Secretary, 3580 Ridgewood Avenue, Montreal, P.Q., Canada.

March, 1947

Mr. Ernest Sala, Mr. John de Mille, Mrs. E. N. Reed, Mr. Wm. Suter, Mr. Robert Tate.

Calendar

Nineteen Day Fast (from sunrise to sunset) March 2 through March 20.

Nawruz—March 21st.

Nineteen Day Feasts

April 9

April 28

National Assembly Meeting

March 14, 15, 16, 17.

National Convention

May 1, 2, 3, 4.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page Col.

Words of Bahá’u’lláh

“Wholly for Thy Sake” ..... 7 2

Words of the Guardian

“Bahá’u’lláh’s Resistless World-Redeeming Order” ..... 1 3

“Plead Ponder Afresh” ..... 6 1

Deepening in the Cause” ..... 8 3

National Spiritual Assembly

The National Budget ..... 6 1

Annual Convention ..... 6 2

Bahá’í Census ..... 8 2

Progress of the Seven Year Plan

Panama Conference

Demonstrates Unity ..... 1 1

Correspondence Teaching in Latin America ..... 2 1

Columbian Village Eager for the Faith ..... 2 2

Many Volunteer for European Teaching” ..... 1 1

Public Meeting at Baltimore, 3 1

Public Meeting at Salt Lake City ..... 3 3

New Braille Publications ..... 4 2

Young Bahá’ís at Green Acre ..... 4 3

News of Other Lands

Glimpses of Bahá’í Life—

From a Persian Pioneer ..... 6 2

Sacrifice and Growth in India..... 8 2

British Bahá’ís Summoned to Pioneer ..... 11 1

Young Chinese Enthusiastic ..... 11 3

Brief Notes from Other Lands ..... 12 1

Correction ..... 8 3

News from Communities and Groups

Houston World Fellowship Meetings ..... 9 1

Some Bahá’í Marriages ..... 9 1

Bahá’í Funerals Interest Inquirers ..... 9 2

Chicago Inter-Race Symposium ..... 9 3

Growing Interest Shown in Winnieka..... 9 3

Notes from Local Reports ..... 10 1

Bahá’í Addresses ..... 2 1

Star of the West ..... 4 1

A Word for Local News Reporters ..... 9 1

In Memoriam ..... 6 3

Enrollments ..... 8 2

Directory ..... 12 2
“The Handwriting Is On the Wall”

That the Seven-Year Plan is seriously imperiled is to be seen in the following letter from the National Treasurer:
Dear Bahá’í friends:
I want to draw your attention to several matters which are of vital importance to every believer and which cannot go by unnoticed if we are to continue at our present pace in the development of the Second Seven Year Plan.
During the special effort which the friends made from November 28th to January 6th, commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Guardianship, contributions were received amounting to $65,000.00. This represented $40,000.00 from the general body of the believers and a special contribution of one friend in the amount of $25,000.
This brought the Special earmarked Temple Trustees Account up to $103,000.00 on January 6th.
I should like to draw your attention to the fact that this Special Temple Trustees Account is a frozen account, which is earmarked especially for the interior decoration of the Temple and that current bills may not be paid out of this account, other than those associated with the architectural work.
A superb effort was made by the friends during this period from November 28th to January 6th. In a cable received by the National Spiritual Assembly from the Guardian he said “he was deeply touched and thrilled by the generous response of the believers to the Temple Fund.”
The alarming thing is that in the Weekly Report received by the National Spiritual Assembly from the Treasurer February 22nd, contributions for the month of February to that date totaled only $9,029.46. This included nearly $1,000.00 which we received from Persia and 'Iraq for relief, and also a special contribution of $1,000.00 received from one believer. Disbursements up to the 22nd of February were $27,032.48. In other words, expenditures have been over.

Ten More Pioneers for Europe

On March 12, five pioneers sailed from New York on the steamer “Veendam” for Holland. John Carré from the Los Angeles community, will reinforce the pioneers in Holland. Anita Joas and Sally Sanor of the San Francisco community, will go to Luxembourg, to work with Honor Kempton who is already established there. John and Eunice Shurecliff, with their small daughter Frances, eight months old, recently of the Tacoma community, will take up residence in Brussels, Belgium, to work with Madeline Humbert, who is already in Brussels. The Committee is indeed proud of these young pioneers who are starting out with such devotion to dedicate themselves to this new and most difficult enterprise, that of establishing the Faith in Europe.

On March 14, Mrs. Jennie Anderson, recently of the St. Louis community, sailed on the “Gripsholm” to reinforce Alice Dudley in the pioneer work in Sweden.
On the night of March 11, the New York Bahá’í community, gave a reception for all of these departing pioneers and all of the reports of this party indicate that there was a wonderful spirit there which expressed the warmest kind of bon voyage.

On March 26, Miss Elsa Steinmetz and her sister, Mrs. Fritzi Shaver, of the Sioux Falls community, and Miss Charlotte Stirratt, of the Houston community, will sail on the SS “Westerdam” for Europe. Miss Steinmetz and Mrs. Shaver will go to Berne, Switzerland, to begin the pioneer work where they will later be joined by Mrs. Anna Kunz of Urbana, Illinois. Miss Stirratt will go to Holland. With the three native Dutch Bahá’ís, reinforced by John Carré and Charlotte Stirratt.

United Nations Acknowledges Bahá’í Declaration of Human Obligations and Rights

Under date of March 20, 1947, the United Nations has written the National Spiritual Assembly as follows:
“I am directed to acknowledge your letter of February 28th, addressed to the Secretary-General. “A copy of ‘A Bahá’í Declaration of Human Obligations and Rights’ has been passed to the Division of
Notice to Convention Delegates

Since every delegate must be a resident of the state, province or electoral district he or she represents, change of residence outside the state, province or electoral district at any time between the date of election of delegates, February 9, and the opening of Convention, May 1, means loss of delegate status. The Bahá'í next highest in the election returns becomes delegate in his or her place. Up to April 1, when ballots are mailed out, residence of delegates can be checked in the National Office. Thereafter any delegate undergoing change of residence should report by air-mail or telegram, to give opportunity to place a ballot in the hands of the believer who attains delegate status.

The purpose of this compilation is to prepare believers to deal accurately with the many and varied questions asked by Temple visitors. Its sections include: History of the Cause, the Temple, Essential Teachings, Guiding Technique, Additional References for Deepening in the Faith, with questions often asked Guides and their answers. Mimeographed, $0.75.

Bahá'í Principles—a Course for the child of intermediate age, approved by Child Education Committee. It contains: suggestion for teachers, and class discussion material on each of twelve principles. A special feature is set of twelve full page, loose leaf illustrations of the principles, suitable for coloring. Mimeographed, 8½ by 11 inches. 19 pages with cover, plus twelve pictures. Per copy, $0.40.

Order from Bahá'í Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

In Memoriam

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life—Bahá'ú'lláh to Mr. Eugene H. Hamilton, Chicago, III., March 4, 1947.

Miss Louise Mayer, Chicago, Illinois.

Advertising Campaign Brings Inquiries from Other Lands

The Public Relations Committee reports that requests for literature are beginning to come from readers of American magazines who reside in other countries. South America, England, Holland and Turkey are so far represented in the list of countries where individuals have noted the offer of Bahá'í literature.

Handwriting on the Wall

(Continued from page 1)

$27,000.00 and we have received in contributions only about $8,000.00. You might ask, where has all this money gone? Well, here is part of the detail:

European Teaching Committee

Public Meetings . . . .over $5,000.00
Radio Committee . . . . 1,000.00
Paper for Germany

over $1,600.00

The Inter-America Committee had an unusually heavy withdrawal during February, and there were a number of additional expenses for new committees recently formed.

The National Spiritual Assembly will be meeting March 14, 15, 16 and 17. At this meeting many plans for the months ahead will be drawn up. If the funds continue to come in at the rate that we received them during February, the “handwriting on the wall”—no more pioneers to Europe, no more public meetings, no more radio transcriptions and broadcasts.

In other words, the program built up by the Guardian during this current year will be brought to a standstill, and the foundation of a permanent peaceful world imperilled. Faithfully

PHILIP G. SPRAGUE, Treasurer

Bahá'í News

Bahá'í News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá'í News Editorial Committee: Garreta Busey, chairman, John Ashton, Alice Simmons Cox, Marshell Galt, Doris Holley Annamarie Kunz Hennold, Eleanor Sweeny Hughes, Mailys Hyde Paine, Margaret Swengel. Editorial office: Miss Garreta Busey, 503 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois.

Please report changes of address to which Bahá'í News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Bahá'í National Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

Bahá'í Addresses

Treasurer's Office: 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.
Bahá'í Publishing Committee: 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

In Memoriam

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Miss Louise Mayer, Chicago, Illinois.
Traveling Teachers in North America

During the past few months fine reports have reached the National Teaching Committee of the work that is being done by groups in an effort to build up the local membership to nine. The Regional Committees are bending every effort to assist, and many Extension Teaching Committees are also lending their aid. Inter-regional circuits have provided teaching help from outside the region and various National Committees have likewise provided assistance in these teaching activities.

The New England Regional Committee reports one of its most successful meetings this year was planned and executed by the Greenwich, Conn., group. The meeting was held at the local YMCA early in December with Mr. Borah Kavelin and Mrs. Harry Ford the speakers on the subject “World Unity Through a Common Faith.” Fine newspaper publicity, three free spot announcements besides three paid spot announcements and a 15-minute broadcast using record No. 3 of the Bahá’í World Faith series, announcements mailed to a list of 500 persons, 40 posters and 5 newspaper advertisements marked the preparation for the meeting.

Mrs. Clarence Welch, the group correspondent, writes that “a minister of Greenwich, a very independent, fine man and greatly respected, offered to help us let the people know about the meeting. He had met ‘Abdu’l-Bahá as a boy in Tiberias, loves Him, and has great respect for the Bahá’ís. The meeting was a great success we felt. There were fifty-five people there, forty non-Bahá’ís,—more than we had ever hoped for.”

Late in January the group arranged a second meeting at which Mr. Emeric Sala of Montreal spoke on “Economic Security Through a World Faith,” which was equally well attended. To follow up on the interest that has been aroused the group is having regular Friday meetings in a smaller room of the YMCA. In this activity the group has also had the help of New York and New Jersey believers with an anonymous contribution of $200 toward the expenses.

The Buffalo, N.Y. group has had the reinforcement of Miss Margaret Mills of Waterloo, N.Y., and Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Wooster of James-town, N.Y. The RTC held a Fellowship Supper in Buffalo on January 25th, and forty-two attended. In Albany, N.Y. a similar supper was planned and twenty-eight attended with the result that a study class was formed.

In New Jersey-Delaware & Eastern Penna. RTC has provided teaching help to a circuit during the past three months covering: Dumont, Englewood, Montclair, East Orange and Newark, New Jersey. To strengthen the Scranton Assembly a conference was planned to include a public meeting, at which an audience of forty-two is reported, and regular Sunday afternoon meetings are being held.

A Seminar was given by Mrs. Ruth Moffett in Toledo, O. from Jan 20th to February 6th to assist the efforts of the group. Mrs. Hazel McCurdy of Lima, O., is following up this effort by going up for meetings every other week, and Mrs. Lynette Storm will also have meetings in her home. The Lima community supported the work in Findley, and Mrs. Moffett reports that four inquirers are ready to declare themselves.

Mrs. Moffett is now in Columbus, S.C., endeavoring to get a nucleus of interested people organized to study the teachings; and in San Antonio, Texas, the RTC reports that Lt. Anselm Schurgast and Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Bishop have assisted with the meetings of this active group. A new enrolment is reported in the Dallas, Texas, group following the visit of Mrs. Loulie Mathews and Miss Ophelia Crum. The group at St. Joseph, Mo. has had the help of Mrs. Anna W. Howard of Independence, Mo. and Mrs. Olivia Kelsey of Kansas City in an effort to get a study class organized.

Following a circuit through the Southern States in January, Mr. Philip Marangella spent a few days in Knoxville, Tenn., where a meeting was arranged at a local hotel, and the following day Mr. Marangella addressed several hundred students at Knoxville College. In San Mateo, Calif. the group conducts a weekly study class and has elected officers and appointed committees to serve until the Spiritual Assembly is formed on April 21st, and the RTC reports that teaching activities are also going forward in the Fresno and Carmel groups.

The Logan, Utah group has had most unusual success with its public meetings this year. During a recent visit by Mrs. Mary Collison of Geyersville, Calif. in February Mr. Leslie Hawthorn, the group correspondent, reports, she spoke before forty students of the political economy class at the Utah State Agricultural College on the “Bahá’í Peace Plan,” and at the LDS Institute students studying Mormon doctrines listened attentively to the Bahá’í idea of immortality, salvation, God, and the nature and progress of the soul. The public meeting was announced in the local “News Round Up” and the transcription “A New Interpretation of History” was broadcast. An audience of twenty-eight persons heard Mrs. Collison speak on “The Challenge of this New Age,” and many intimate fireside meetings were also formed, one of which was a supper for seven Persian students—all Moslems.

Mrs. Collison’s circuit also included visits to Reno, Nevada; Boise, Idaho; and Salt Lake City, Utah and a fireside meeting was also arranged in Ogden, Utah. In writing of her trip Mrs. Collison commented that during her stay in Logan she spoke to 141 persons, and that “one couple drove 65 miles to the meetings which they had seen advertised in the newspaper.”

Mr. William Lacey of Madison, Wis., covered a circuit visiting
April, 1947

Duluth, St. Paul, and Minneapolis, Minn., Fargo, N.D. and Sioux Falls, S.D., the latter he reports had the largest meeting, with forty in attendance, despite the fact that two members of the community, Miss Elsa Steinmetz and Mrs. Fritz Shaver, were making preparations to leave for Europe shortly. Efforts are now being made to replace these pioneers so that Sioux Falls need not revert to group status on April 21st. Mrs. Nellie Fenton, formerly of Mansfield, O., plans to move to Sioux Falls and it is hoped that other settlers will be available.

Mr. Philip Marangella of McLean, Virginia, made a circuit in January through the Southern States covering Greensboro, N.C., Greenville, S. C., Augusta, Ga., Birmingham, Ala., New Orleans, La., and Knoxville, Tenn., and in cooperation with the Public Meetings Committee arrangements were made to have Mr. Ober make stop-overs in the goal cities of the South enroute to Miami, Birmingham and Nashville where meetings were scheduled.

Many stop-overs have been made by Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Bishop of Pasadena, Calif., on their way to the Southeastern states where they plan to settle in a city favorable to the needs of the new Plan. Reports of well attended meetings have been received from Phoenix, Arizona, San Antonio, and Houston, Texas.

Mr. Charles Mason Remey of Washington, D.C., on his way home from Central America visited New Orleans, La., Jackson, Miss., Birmingham, Ala., Memphis, Tenn., and Louisville, Ky., early in March and Mrs. Louise Mathews and Miss Ophelia Crum enroute to New York from New Orleans plan to stop over in Birmingham, Atlanta, Greenville, and other points along their route.

Reports from Regional Committees in the South indicate that visiting Bahá’ís have provided fine teaching help in the various centers during the winter months. The National Teaching Committee is now endeavoring to arrange for stop-overs with teachers who are planning to attend the Convention.

New Assemblies and Groups in Latin America

Activity is mounting to a crescendo on the part of the pioneers, the native Latin American teachers, and the believers in general in the sixteen goal cities of the Central and South American areas, as all unite to bring to consummation as many as possible of the new spiritual Assemblies planned for this year, in order to help broaden the basis of representation for the two National Assemblies to be elected as a part of the Guardian’s second seven-year plan. There is high activity also among the twenty new groups that have come into being this year, some of which hope to attain Assembly status within the next twelve months. A total of forty-three new Bahá’ís has been reported in Latin America this month.

The native Assemblies are taking an important part in this work. For instance, the Assembly in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, has just given an intensive teaching course to their recording secretary, Sr. Hipolito Laboriel, and supplied him with literature, and he is spending his vacation teaching in Trujillo, Honduras. Sra. Natalia Chávez, corresponding secretary of the same Assembly, will continue this work for an additional month upon her return from Panama. The Assembly of Valparaiso, Chile, sent Sra. Rosy Vodanovic to Viña del Mar to present radio programs and teach in that city, where a group is now forming. San Salvador has been doing extension teaching in Santa Ana.

The Assembly of Guayaquil, Ecuador, as well as the local believers, have been of great assistance to Hascle Cornbleth in Quito, where a group of eleven registered believers expect to elect their Assembly April 20th. Col. Arturo and Sra. Yvonne Ciellar of La Paz have been combining with Gwennet Sholtis and Flore Hotte, the latter now visiting in Bolivia, to bring to completion the Assembly of Sucre, their goal city, and work has also been begun in Cochabamba. Mr. and Mrs. Antronik Neworkian of the Buenos Aires Assembly are the nucleus about which the new community in La Plata, Argentina, is forming. Two new believers are reported there this month. The Assembly of Lima, Peru, is collaborating with Eve Nicklin in the teaching in Callao, where a group of five is trying to grow to Assembly status. The Assembly of Panama City is assisting Mrs. Louise Caswell and James Facey in Caion, where a group of six and a number of others studying are reported.

Miss Louise Baker of Lima, Ohio, who has been pioneering in Mexico, has sent in six memberships for Puebla and six for Coatepec. These goal cities are trying for Assembly status this year. Mrs. Dorothy Baker has just returned from Mexico, where she visited the new communities in these two cities and also the one in Mexico City, her stay coinciding with that of Charles Mason Remey in the capital. Mexico City has also sent in six new memberships, making a total increase for Mexico of eighteen memberships this month.

Gayle Woolson has been visiting in Caracas and Maracay, Venezuela. Maracay has been opened as the goal city of that country and a group of 15 is studying there, one of them being the master of the Masons. Yolanda de Stronach, former chairman of the Assembly in Caracas, who is teaching at a school in nearby Turmero, will visit the group once a week and assist them. Mrs. Sheila Rice-Wray, who left February 25th to pioneer in Latin America, has been working with Miss Jean Silver in Cienfuegos, Cuba’s goal city. She is now leaving for brief visits in Ciudad Trujillo and San Juan, will visit Caracas for a few days, and will then settle in Maracay for two months to help in teaching the student group there.

Columbia has reported two new communities ready to elect their Assemblies: Cali and Medellin, with memberships of nineteen and nine respectively, while Contratación with seven is hoping to make the required nine also. There are three smaller groups as well as the two established Assemblies. Miss Elena Marsella of Ciudad Trujillo is en route to Santiago, Dominican Republic, to follow up the many contacts which she and Dr. Malcolm King made in that city during a recent regional trip. She will help later in Sánchez, which has a small group of four. Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Miessler are working hard in Sao Paulo, Brazil, to bring their group of six to Assembly status. They report that 52 persons have attended their classes.
Convention Attendance
Limited to Baha'is

The Annual Convention, year by year, deals with plans and issues of far-reaching, worldwide import requiring the utmost concentration by delegates and members of the NSA. In view of this fact, the believers are requested not to bring with them, or invite attendance by, non-Baha'is or even interested and prospective believers. The policy adopted by the NSA is that only delegates and accredited believers may attend the consultative sessions of the Convention.

The Public Bahá'í Congress to be held Sunday evening, May 4, welcomes attendance by all. This is our means of contact with non-Baha'is.*

Unity Feast: July 5. In order to enable the largest possible number of the Bahá'ís to participate in this joyful event, the Unity Feast will be held on the middle Sunday of the school session, July 6th. All who are interested in seeing the school and the Bahá'ís in action are cordially invited to attend.

Program: In accordance with the Guardian’s message to the Geyserville school last year, a large part of the program will be devoted to the needs and activities of the Seven Year Plan. The workshop method which proved so successful during the third week last year will be employed throughout the entire 1947 session. There will be provision also for lectures, round table discussions, public meetings, study classes and various other activities, all of which will be announced in detail at an early date. Further announcements will also include information about the children’s program.

Reservations: Because of the limited housing facilities, reservations will be accepted on the first come first served basis, and no accommodations can be assured if made later than June 10. Reservations which will include meals served on the campus should be made through Mr. Alfred Zahl, Secretary of the Maintenance Committee, 826 W. Grant Place, San Mateo, California. The rates will be announced at an early date.

Important: Please give wide circulation to the above announcements. The necessity for early reservations should be stressed so that the Maintenance Committee will be able to provide the best possible accommodations and make adequate plans for meals.

GEYSERVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Temerity Ranch

The first summer school session for the Central American area is planned for the last week in November in Vera Cruz, Mexico. Temerity Ranch at Colorado Springs will be operated for the first time this year directly by the National Spiritual Assembly as a school to prepare pioneers for Latin America and Europe. The Latin American session is planned for the last week in June and will cover techniques in presenting the Cause to the masses, Latin American cultures and psychologies, experiences in the fields of radio, publicity, conferences, study groups and administrative problems. Applications to attend should be sent to the Inter-America Committee, Miss Elizabeth H. Cheney, secretary, 4500 Magnolia Ave., Chicago 40, III. The number of students that can be accommodated is limited, so that applications should be sent as early as possible, in order to avoid possible disappointment.

Study Aids

Response to the Study Aid on the Administrative Order has been good, and the Committee has requested Assembly secretaries to let us know the extent to which this study has been undertaken in the various communities so that a complete report may be made at the Convention. Have you started a study class in your community? This is one very good way to help the Guardian in the wider sharing of the responsibilities which he has now placed on our shoulders.

BAHA'I STUDY AIDS COMMITTEE
Box 302, Winnetka, Illinois

Enrollments by Assemblies

St. Louis 1, New York 2 and 1 youth, Tacoma 2, Charleston 1 youth, Chicago 2, Berkeley 1, Wauwatosa 1, St. Paul 1, Evanston 1, Hamilton 1.

February — Enrollments in regional areas, 12.
Words of the Guardian

"The Secret of Right Living"

Each and every believer, un-daunted by the uncertainties, the perils and the financial stringency afflicting the nation, must arise and insure, to the full measure of his or her capacity, that continuous and abundant flow of funds into the national Treasury, on which the successful prosecution of the Plan must chiefly depend.

He wishes you particularly to impress the believers with the necessity of maintaining the flow of their contributions to the Temple, and also to stress the importance of the institution of the National Bahá’í Fund which, in these early days of the administrative development of the Faith, is the indispensable medium for the growth and expansion of the Movement. Contributions to this fund constitute, in addition, a practical and effective way whereby every believer can test the measure and character of his faith, and to prove in deeds the intensity of his devotion and attachment to the Cause.

We must be like the fountain or spring that is continually emptying itself of all that it has and is continually being refilled from an invisible source. To be continually giving out for the good of our fellows undeterred by the fear of poverty and reliant on the unfailing bounty of the Source of all wealth and all good—this is the secret of right living.

—Shoghi Effendi From Bahá’í Administration.

National Spiritual Assembly

Beloved friends:

The Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh is the spiritual world of light, of truth, of justice and of love. Therein exists no shadow of doubt, no ambiguity, no furtive gloom beneath which superstition can flourish and scatter its evil seeds to the wind. Therein exists no love which is not just, and no justice which is not loving. Man’s assurance, his security and his life and welfare stand upon the foundation laid in that heavenly world.

In these days of strife and confusion, the loyalty of every Bahá’í is directed to the realities found in the Revelation. The virtue of toleration is not for believers a license to mingle error with truth, but the confidence that the erring soul can eventually abandon whatever is not confirmed by the Manifestation of God. Affection which makes no distinction in a person’s service or disservice to the Faith is something other than true love. It contains the alloy of fear or self-pity which can destroy love if not remedied.

The world at the time of the renewal of religion is full of pseudo-mystical and pseudo-scientific practices. These are not merely fallacious and impotent to do good—they are harmful in that they foster the taste for adulteration and substitute, and introduce into the Bahá’í community elements making for disunity since they enter not by Revelation but by human insistence.

Consider such practices as spirit-

ism, palm-reading, numerology, dietary fadism, astrology and the substitution of “direct guidance” for the collective consciousness of an authoritative Bahá’í institution and for the authenticity of the Bahá’í teachings. We must be clear about these matters. Nothing which cannot be authenticated in the teachings should be incorporated as Bahá’í teaching in public, fireside or other presentations of the Faith. They have no claim to philosophy or science of social value unless they are confirmed in the Sacred Writings. Community consultation will enable us to discriminate and protect the precincts of truth from sacrilege.

European Survey

Because of the difficulty of getting exact and definite information about believers and Bahá’í literature in the different countries included in the European teaching project, the European Teaching Committee felt that a personal survey would be of great benefit to them in the launching of this campaign. It was therefore decided that Mrs. Etty Graeffe, who had been placed in charge of the European Teaching Committee office in Geneva, and the Committee Chairman, Miss Edna M. True, should visit as many of the goal countries as possible on their way to Geneva, Switzerland.

Mrs. Graeffe arrived in Norway with the pioneer to that country, Mrs. Solveig Corbit, on September 17. She joined Miss True in Holland on October 8.

The following report is their survey.

Because of its historical import, the National Spiritual Assembly wishes to share it with the friends through publication in Bahá’í News.

Norway

A. Pioneer: Mrs. Solveig Corbit.

B. Bahá’ís: 1. Miss Johanna Schubarth, who has carried on her self-less service to the Cause through all the war years, devoting most of her time and often her very limited funds to translations and pub-
The cornerstone of the religion of God is the acquisition of the Divine perfections and the sharing in his manifold bestowals. The essential purpose of Faith and belief is to ennoble the inner being of man with the outpourings of grace from on high. If this be not attained, it is indeed deprivation itself. It is the torment of infernal fire.

Wherefore it is incumbent upon allBahá‘ís to ponder this very delicate and vital matter in their hearts, that, unlike other religions, they may not content themselves with the noise, the clamor, the hollowness of religious doctrine. Nay, rather, they should exemplify in every as-

pect of their lives those attributes and virtues that are born of God and should arise to distinguish themselves by their godly behavior. They should justify their claim to be Bahá‘ís by deeds and not by name. He is a true Bahá‘í who strives by day and by night to progress and advance along the path of human endeavor, whose most cherished desire is so to live and act as to enrich and illuminate the world, whose source of inspiration is the essence of Divine virtue, whose aim in life is so to conduct himself as to be the cause of infinite progress. Only when he attains unto such perfect gifts can it be said of him that he is a true Bahá‘í—'ANúmero-Bahá‘í-

lished: Bahá‘u’lláh and His Message, by Esslemont; Hidden Words (Miss Sundquist reported that this was being translated by Mr. Per Hallsten in Seattle, Washington). 3. Bahá‘í books in libraries: In the Statsbibliotek—New Era (English), New Era (Swedish), Iqán (Swedish), Bahá‘u’lláh and His Message (Esperanto) 1926, two copies of the special European Teaching Pamphlet. (This library will gladly accept English Bahá‘í Books.) In the Kungl. Biblioteket—New Era (Swedish), Iqán (Swedish), two copies of the European Teaching Pamphlet.

D. Contacts: Many excellent non-Bahá‘í contacts were made and developed by Mrs. Graefee and are now being followed by Mrs. Corbit and Miss Schubarth. These contacts were made through a public meeting before the Esperantists and in a fire-

side gathering at Miss Schubarth’s.

Sweden
Mrs. Graefee visited Stockholm from September 24 to October 2.
A. Pioneer: Post not yet filled.
B. Bahá‘ís: The only Bahá‘í Mrs. Graefee found in Stockholm was Mr. Gustav Sundquist. He is a devoted, faithful soul who is greatly in need of assistance in promoting the Faith in Sweden.

C. Literature: 1. Published: New Era, Iqán, What is the Bahá‘í Movement?, Special European Teaching pamphlet. 2. Translated but not pub-

lished: Bahá‘u’lláh and His Message, by Esselemont; Hidden Words (Miss Sundquist reported that this was being translated by Mr. Per Hallsten in Seattle, Washington). 3. Bahá‘í books in libraries: In the Statsbibliotek—New Era (English), New Era (Swedish), Iqán (Swedish), Bahá‘u’lláh and His Message (Esperanto) 1926, two copies of the special European Teaching Pamphlet. (This library will gladly accept English Bahá‘í Books.) In the Kungl. Biblioteket—New Era (Swedish), Iqán (Swedish), two copies of the European Teaching Pamphlet.

D. Contacts: Mrs. Graefee spoke to about thirty people at the Esperanto Club and was interviewed publicly at an Esperanto rally where there were about seventy people present. She also submitted material for write-ups in three of the Swedish papers.

Denmark
Mrs. Graefee spent October 3 in Copenhagen and October 5 and 6 with Johanna Hoeg in Jerslev.
A. Pioneers: Mr. and Mrs. Anders Nielsen arrived in Copenhagen October 16.
B. Bahá‘ís: Mrs. Johanna Sorensen Hoeg, a well grounded, intelligent Bahá‘í who has served the Cause in Denmark faithfully through the war years.
C. Literature: 1. Published: New Era, What is the Bahá‘í Movement?, Bahá‘u’lláh and His Message, Special European Teaching Pamphlet. 2. Translated but not ready for publication: Iqán (in process of being translated directly from the Persian by a

Headquarters of European Teaching Committee and Bahá‘í International Bureau. The window at the extreme right is that of the International Bureau. The next two are of the salon, and the fourth window, that before which two figures are standing, is that of the E.T.C. office. One of the bedroom windows is obscured by the tree.
professor of Persian at the University of Copenhagen), Hidden Words (translated from the Arabic by the above-mentioned professor), Three Obligatory Prayers (translated from the English also by Prof. Magister Kaz Bart). 3. Bahá’í books libraries: In det Kongelige Bibliotek, Copenhagen—New Era (English); New Era (Danish); Promulgation of Universal Peace; Divine Art of Living; Iqán, Divine Philosophy; Bahá’í Year Book (1925-26); Bahá’í World, Vols II, III, IV, V; Wisdom of ‘Abdu’ll-Bahá; Three Tablets of Bahá’u’lláh; Bahá’u’lláh and His Message; God and His Manifestations; Some Answered Questions; Mysterious Forces of Civilization; Dispensation of Bahá’u’lláh; Hidden Words (Russian); Pamphlets (The Bahá’í Movement, and Dawn of a New Day); Iqán (Persian); four Or­ientalske Boeger. In Københavns Kommunebiblioteket (St. Nikolai Plads)—New Era (English), New Era (Danish).

D. Contacts: Mrs. Graeffe made contacts with some Esperantists in Copenhagen. She particularly mentioned Miss Maghrete Noll, a prominent elderly Theosophist devoted to Martha Root. Miss Noll and a picture of the Temple and one of ‘Abdu’ll-Bahá in her room.

Holland

Miss True arrived in Holland on October 4 and was joined by Mrs. Graeffe in Rotterdam on October 8.

A. Pioneers: The two pioneers, Rita Van Sombeek and Jetty Straub, arrived with the European Teaching Committee—Chairman on October 4.

B. Bahá’ís: Arnold van Ogtrop, resident of Bussum, was the only Bahá’í we could find in Holland. He is a young, deeply devoted believer, who had recently returned from the summer school in England, where he had enjoyed an inspiring course on Administration under Marion Hoffman. Mrs. Graeffe and Miss True consulted with the two pioneers and Mr. van Ogtrop during the afternoon and evening of October 8 on general conditions in Holland and on the plans for promoting the teaching work.

C. Literature: The two pioneers and Mr. van Ogtrop have a variety of English Bahá’í books. The two pioneers are devoting ten to twelve hours a day to a new translation of the New Era. They are using their supply of special European Teaching Pamphlets for free distribution.

Belgium

Mrs. Graeffe and Miss True were in Brussels from October 9 to midnight of October 11. There are no Bahá’ís in Brussels. All of their time was spent on non-Bahá’í contacts: Mrs. Graeffe, with members of her family, and Miss True with fellow-passengers on her steamer from the United States to Holland. As result of these visits there seem to be at least five ready for the pioneer to Belgium to begin her teaching work.

Switzerland

Mrs. Graeffe and Miss True arrived in Geneva on October 12. Their first objective was to find a new location for the International Bureau and to set up as an adjunct to this, the European office of the European Teaching Committee.

A. Geneva: After an intensive survey during October 14, 15, 16, which brought them into consultation with the best sources of information, it was decided unanimously by Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Graeffe and Miss True, to take a furnished apartment at 6 Cours des Saints. This apartment is one of the most desirable sections of Geneva. It has six rooms which will be used as follows: an office for the International Bureau; an office for the European Teaching Committee; a work room containing the mimeograph machine for both offices; a bedroom each for Mrs. Lynch and Mrs. Graeffe and a very attractive salon large enough for gatherings of from fifty to sixty people. The apartment is on the first floor and attractive metal name plates have been placed at the street entrance and above the bell of the entrance door to the apartment. Arrangements were made for the tele­graphic code name of “Bahá’í” to be used by both offices.

During the survey for proper location Mrs. Graeffe and Miss True contacted the following key people:

Mr. Guillaume Fatio, called the “first citizen of Geneva,” the one who is responsible for the first League of Nations being set up in Geneva, and considered the most important person in international affairs there.

Mr. H. Blanc, secretary of the Geneva University.

Mr. Laszlo Hamori, head of the Quaker Bureau and Secretary General of the Federation des Organization Internationales.

Mr. Brasier, publisher of a paper devoted to “Peace,” who apparently knows everyone in Geneva and will be of great assistance in future publicity and contacts.

Bahá’ís in Geneva: Besides Mrs. Graeffe and Mrs. Lynch, the Bahá’ís in Geneva consist of Miss Alice Semle, daughter of Herr Semle, Chairman of the Swiss group in Zurich. Two Persian students in the University recently arrived from Persia.

B. Zurich: Mrs. Graeffe and Miss True spent the week-end of November 2 in Zurich, celebrating the Feast of Power with the friends there.

Bahá’ís: Mme. Vautier, a cultured elderly English woman, widow of a native Swiss, very understanding and sympathetic and largely responsible for having held this group together during the war.

Mr. Leo Bernhard, faithful, devoted believer eighty years old, printer by trade, takes care of publicity, active and courageous.

Mr. Leuthold, old school gentleman, very poor, engraver, who became a Bahá’í through Mr. Bernhard. He is acting secretary of this group. (The above three are the only ones who live in Zurich)

Mr. Semle, Mrs. Semle, his wife, a former Christian Scientist, and definitely the most active and capable of the friends of this group. Mr. Semle is of German extraction.

Fritz Semle, twenty-one year old son of Herr Semle, a very awakened, radiant young man. Would be excellent for starting Youth work.

Alice Semle, now studying in Geneva, the daughter of Herr Semle, very loyal and courageous, well aware of her lack of knowledge of the Faith.

Herr Spiess, an upright, deeply devoted Bahá’í, about forty years old, who works for Mr. Semle.

Mr. and Mrs. Frischmann, Hungarian refugees. Mrs. Frischmann’s sister, Frau Lappinger, was the principal Bahá’í in Vienna.

The four Semles and Mr. Spiess all live at Walfhalden, two and a half hours distance from Zurich by auto.

In addition to the above Mrs. Ragnar Mattson of Montreal, Canada, is spending the winter in Zurich, and has graciously offered her services to the European Teach-
ing Committee. As she is fluent in German and is an exceptionally well informed Bahá’í, she will undoubtedly be of great assistance to the European Teaching work and will be able to carry on there until the pioneer for Switzerland, Mrs. Anna Kunz, arrives. Mrs. Mattson and Mme. Vautier have already started weekly fireside groups in Zurich. When special speakers can be furnished public meetings will be arranged with proper publicity.

Non-Bahá’í contacts: Mrs. Graefte, Mrs. Mattson and Miss True had dinner and spent the evening of November 3 with Dr. Karl Wilczynski, a prominent journalist in Zurich, and his nephew, Sammy Schmitt, a deeply and sincerely spiritual soul, a young man in his twenties, who has recently published an outstanding book on his war experiences. Dr. Wilczynski seemed very attracted to the Faith and will undoubtedly be very cooperative in regard to any publicity the Zurich friends may need.

Sammy Schmitt is the better prospect for becoming a Bahá’í and would be a tremendous asset in Bahá’í Youth work, should he embrace the Cause.

Princess Wittelsbach of Bavaria, a charming, intellectually minded lady of about forty, and her cousin, Countess Reglevich of Austria, a younger woman, bread minded, but very sceptical, joined the group Sunday evening.

Dr. Wilczynski and his nephew were contacted at the express request of Mr. Alexander of Paris. The two ladies were friends of Dr. Wilczynski.

**Literature Published: New Era (German), Dispensation (German), Guardian’s letters up to 1336 (one),** Set of bound copies of “Sonnen der Wahrheit,” Small supply of pamphlet “Dem Neuen Zeitalter Entgegen,” Pamphlet “Die Neue Weltordnung.”

**Italy**

From Zurich Miss True proceeded to Italy, visiting Milan and Florence, November 4 through 8. In Milan, the only Bahá’í at present is Hedara Hayim, a Turk who was brought into the Faith in Sofia by Marion Jack. He is a devoted, well grounded believer, but unable to spread the Faith because of being an alien refugee and still under constant observation.

There are no Bahá’ís at present in Florence. Generale Piole Casselli and his daughter Mary, whom Mrs. French has been attracting to the Bahá’í Faith through correspondence, live at Serravalle about 150 kilometers from Florence. Miss True visited this family and found them reading the Italian Esslemont and eager to know more about the Faith. The General is, she feels, a Bahá’í in his heart, and his daughter is deeply attracted. They are excellent prospects and will be great assets should they become believers.

There are two others who have heard of the Cause—Mr. and Mrs. Giorgio Abetti, living at Arcetri, near Florence. Their son is at present attending the University of Chicago.

**France**

Miss True was in Paris from November 11 to November 16. As France is not one of the countries under the European Teaching Committee, only her consultation in regard to publications was reported.

The French New Era has been revised and corrected according to the last edition brought out in the United States and is now ready for final review by experts before being published.

In the Paris community there are two journalists and publishers—M. Pierre Marie and M. Albrecht Alexander. Both men are being asked to do the investigating in regard to the printing, etc., and seem especially fitted to review the quality of any translation, assist with publishing and to write certain types of articles such as those on the New World Order.

“Dispensation,” “Gleanings” and “Portals to Freedom” have been translated and are ready to publish.

The San Francisco Peace Program has been translated and recently published, and is a very attractive and effective piece of literature. A supply of these is to be sent to the European Teaching Committee Geneva office to be mailed out to a carefully compiled list of key people in the international field there.

The friends in Paris showed great interest in the European Teaching work and offered their full assistance and cooperation. They hope that the European Teaching Committee traveling teachers and pioneers will plan to visit them whenever possible and they will appreciate our letting them know of any such visitors in order that they can utilize these contacts to the fullest in their own teaching efforts and publicity.

**England**

Miss True spent the period from November 16 to 22 in England and was accorded every courtesy by the British National Spiritual Assembly. Sunday morning, November 17, was devoted to consultation with eight members of the National Spiritual Assembly regarding ways and means of fullest possible coordination and cooperation between the British teaching effort and the European Teaching Committee projects. The British National Spiritual Assembly hopes that the European Teaching Committee will utilize its summer school as a possible international congress to which some of the pioneers and residents of the different countries could come, participating in the program and exchanging experiences and teaching methods. The British National Spiritual Assembly would like to have from our National Spiritual Assembly a copy of Ruhiyyih Khanum’s tribute to the Guardianship. They also hope that our itinerant teachers and pioneers will visit England en route to European posts. The afternoon of November 17 was devoted to consultation with the British Publishing Trust. Again all possible help and cooperation were offered to the European Teaching Committee and the possibility of our publications in all languages being handled by them was thoroughly discussed. The British Publishing Trust is to submit estimates on the printing of the French New Era to be compared to those secured by the Paris friends.

A set of recent publications brought out by the British Publishing Trust was presented to the European Teaching Committee. Among the publications contemplated are the Iqán, the section from “Some Answered Questions” entitled “Some Christian Subjects,” “Procedure” and “Divine Wisdom.”

**Dr. Townsend’s Work**

The 1946 Convention wished the National Assembly to invite Dr. George Townsend, the internationally known Bahá’í author, to visit America and carry out a special teaching program for us.
The matter was referred to the Guardian, as an international Bahá’í action, and the Assembly has been informed that Dr. Townshend is much needed where he is in order to carry on his own work.

Ten More Pioneers
(Continued from page 1)
we will immediately have a nucleus of five Bahá’ís toward the first Spiritual Assembly in Holland. Several other pioneers are in the process of procuring their passports and transportation and the Committee hopes to get them into their respective fields in the very near future.

This report demonstrates the wonderful response on the part of the believers to the urgent call of the Guardian and the Committee asks the Bahá’ís to join them in their prayers for the success and the protection of these courageous and self-sacrificing souls.

American Bahá’í
Goes to Haifa
At the express invitation of Ruhiyih Khanum, Miss Gladys Anderson, who has been a pioneer in the Brattleboro community, has gone to Haifa to spend some time in the Guardian’s household. After years of separation from the Shrines, the Bahá’í World Center and the Guardian, this invitation links us once again with the object of Bahá’í devotion and pilgrimage.

Two Successful Meetings
in New York City
The Pan-America Committee of New York City gave another in a series of evenings devoted to bringing the Message to the Spanish-speaking people of New York on January 10. The guest entertainer at this meeting held at the Center was Miss Margarita Madrigal, author, lecturer and guitarist. This was a return engagement by popular request, as Miss Madrigal presented a very successful program nearly three years ago. A capacity audience filled the Center owing to advertisements in the Spanish press and invitations broadcast over two local Spanish-speaking radio stations.

On February 6 the New York City Bahá’í Community held the second in a series of three public meetings at the Henry Hudson Hotel. The Bahá’í communities of Metropolitan New York combined their efforts to stimulate attendance. Miss Hilda Yen of the United Nations Secretariat gave a most excellent talk on the timely subject of the present United Nations as compared to the Bahá’í Peace Plan. The piano selections rendered by Mr. Bruce Wendell, concert pianist, were thoroughly appreciated by the music lovers in the audience. Mr. Robert W. McLaughlin, Jr., proved an efficient chairman. Over 300 persons attended and 40 cards requesting information regarding future meetings were returned to the ushers.

Dumont Bahá’ís Hold
Brotherhood Meeting
The Bahá’ís of Dumont, New Jersey held a “Brotherhood Meeting” in keeping with the spirit of Brotherhood Week on February 26 at the Masonic Hall in the heart of Dumont. The speakers were Rabbi Nathan H. Wadler, Spiritual Leader, Bergenfield-Dumont Jewish Community Center; Rev. B. DeFrees Brien, Vicar, St. Luke’s Episcopal Chapel; and Rustam Payman, Secretary, New York Bahá’í Assembly. William DeForge of Teaneck was the chairman.

Music was provided by the “Dumont Mothersingers,” a group of about sixteen ladies, who heard the Message for almost the first time. Present were 30 Bahá’ís and 23 non-Bahá’ís, the largest number yet at a meeting for the public in Dumont. Good publicity was obtained both before and after the meeting in two papers. (The “Times-Review” of February 20 carried the picture of the New Jersey delegates—three columns wide.)

Books for Green Acre
The buildings of Green Acre have been made more practical, comfortable, and attractive by the many, always appreciated, gifts of the friends. Now the Program Committee wishes to make known that the Library is greatly in need of books. Recent books on world problems, philosophy and psychology. Modern books on economics. Books dealing with problems of social welfare, science and writing. Books of standard fiction and stories, history and children’s books.

If you can supply any, the Committee will gladly pay the postage. They should be sent to Mr. Emanuel Reimer, c/o The Green Acre Bahá’í School, Eliot, Maine.

April, 1947

Youth Day Programs
Reports have been received of two International Bahá’í Youth Day programs held on February 23, one in Philadelphia and one in San Francisco. In the former city the local Bahá’í Youth Committee sponsored a symposium on the subject of “Education for a World Commonwealth.” The topics and speakers were as follows: 1. “A School in Switzerland”—Jules Rind (non-Bahá’í), News Commentator of WPEN. 2. “Youth Looks Ahead”—William Sears, Jr., President of the 6th Grade Class, Bala School. 3. “Universal Aspect”—Haroun Shamaí, President of Middle East Club of International House. 4. “Education, the Bahá’í Viewpoint”—Edith Segen, chairman of the Philadelphia Bahá’í Youth Committee. Henry Tellerman, youthful member of the Local Spiritual Assembly, served as chairman. Many non-Bahá’í friends from the International House and the radio station attended this successful meeting.

In San Francisco the Youth Group presented a fine program to an inter-racial and international audience. Four nationalities, five races and a number of religious backgrounds, among them Mohammedan and Zoroastrian, were represented. The music, contralto solos by Mrs. Barletra Jordan, a Bahá’í youth from Portland, Oregon, accompanied at the piano by Miss Marilyn Zahl of San Mateo, was excellent. The talks, one given by a youth of sixteen, one by a Bahá’í of just three months standing and a third by a young woman who was to leave in February for her pioneer post in Luxembourg were well presented and well received. The audience of 61 people included 16 non-Bahá’ís, several of whom have indicated a real desire to investigate the Faith more deeply.

German Bahá’í Youth
A highly successful youth conference was held Feb. 1 in Stuttgart with 200 in attendance.

Ilsarose Heyd is one of three young Bahá’ís in Hamburg. She writes charmingly, in English, of their weekly Bahá’í meetings held with the older Bahá’ís, of reading and talking with her father, chairman of the Hamburg Bahá’í Assembly and of how eager the three girls were to attend the German Bahá’í Youth Conference held at Heidelberg during the Christmas holidays. Only one
of them could go, as suitable clothes for three were lacking. The lot fell on Helga, and Ilsarose and Renate "waited feverishly at home" for news from Heidelberg. Later Ilsarose wrote of meeting with Helga one evening to hear about the conference and their "dear young friends..." Though they had no light except a dim candle" and had to keep warm with tea they stayed until eleven. "We read in 'The Hidden Words' again and again and exchanged our thoughts about these wonderful Words... Oh, we've had a feeling of deep, deep thankfulness, knowing Bahá'u'lláh's Rule."

Ilsarose and Renate would like to correspond with some young American Bahá'ís. Their address is, Ilsarose and Renate Heyd, Hamburg 39, Glindweg 24, Germany, British Zone.

The three young Hamburg Bahá'ís walked to the Summer School in Esslingen. It took them four weeks.

New Developments in Packages for Europe

C.A.R.E. advertises a new, improved food package containing 21 pounds (40,953 calories). One who has sent many packages to Europe writes that this is the best package she can find in any agency. C.A.R.E. also advertises a blanket package. Address: C.A.R.E., 50 Broad Street, New York, N. Y.

Non-commercial printed matter may now be sent German civilians as gift. Label it "Gift Package." 4 pounds, 6 ounces allowed in one package.

Local Items

In February Charleston inaugurated a series of four meetings dedicated purely to those interested in investigating The Bahá'í World Faith. The following phases were to be investigated on successive dates: "Its Identity with and Distinction from Other Religions;" "Its History and Aims;" "Its Proofs of Authority;" and "Its Individual Offering to You."

In August permission was obtained to place literature in the Union Station Depot and in the Greyhound Bus Station.

A branch of the Vancouver Public Library recently accepted Bahá'í books and gave permission to the Bahá'ís to put copies of "World Order" magazine in the magazine tray.

The Montreal Public Meeting was held on February 5th, in the Church of the Messiah. "Standing in the pulpit of the beautiful church that was designed by Sutherland Maxwell and where 'Abdu'l-Bahá spoke on September 1, 1912, Horace Holley gave a lecture that was filled with power and dignity. The chairman, Rosemary Sala, created an atmosphere of quiet charm. The ushers were four young women wearing their Easter European native dress. Prelude organ music of meditative selections was provided by the well known church organist, Phillips Motley. The audience, although small in comparison to those reported in other centers, numbered about 150 and was representative of many nationalities, and could be called a fine cross section of this cosmopolitan city."

In addition to the publicity obtained through the mailing of 5,000 programs, the masses were further reached, before and after the meeting, through newspaper publicity as a result of the press luncheon conference and a subsequent personal interview by press reporters with Mr. Holley. Montreal feels that the services of a paid newspaper man did much in assisting them with the press and radio.

The Vancouver Bahá'ís have started a special collection to send at least one parcel through C.A.R.E. each month to believers in Germany and Austria.

Managers of the radio station frankly stated, in rejecting the Bahá'ís offer to be the Bahá'ís on the air, that they could not afford to antagonize the Catholic church of Quebec. The only radio publicity the friends were able to obtain, was a series of 15 spot announcements over CKVL, a new station. However, the regular 11 p.m. news report of Montreal's two major radio stations broadcast a story that was phoned to them the night before the lecture, by their paid newspaper man. This news item was picked up by Reuters, which requested that they be supplied with additional material for broadcasting for England.

Space will not permit us to enumerate the varied activities of the friends who worked so efficiently in putting on Montreal's Public Meeting and its subsequent follow-up work, but we believe it can be said, in the few words of their speaker, Mr. Holley, that "they have a very capable group of workers."

The month of March has been heavily scheduled with Public Meetings—Miami on the 7th, Birmingham the 16th, Nashville the 18th, Cleveland the 27th, Pittsburgh and San Francisco on the 29th.

The reports of last year Key Cities, who have held like meetings this year, are not all in. A request for these reports has gone forth and these meetings will be reported in their entirety in our annual report.

They are listed as follows:

Meetings already held were in Washington, D.C., Boston, New York City, New Orleans, Toronto, Atlanta, Portland and Chicago. Meetings yet to be held are Los Angeles, March 21st and Detroit on the 27th.

The Bahá'ís of Kenosha, Wisconsin, though not included in the panel of Key City meetings, are joining in this effort to present the Cause to the masses by sponsoring a like meeting at the Elks Club House on March 25th, using the Key City theme, "World Order Through World Faith," with Dr. Edris Rice-Wray as speaker and follow-up teacher.

The Atlanta Community greatly enjoyed the visit of Miss Elsie Austin, who had been invited to be the principal speaker at the Phyllis Wheatley Y.W.C.A. Annual dinner,
which was attended by over 500 persons. Miss Austin gave a very uplifting and inspiring talk on the subject "One World Under God" to a mixed audience.

Sustaining the Seven Year Plan

The following are the Assemblies which contributed to the National Fund during January and February:

January


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page Col.

Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá—
"Live So As To Enrich the World" .... 7

Words of the Guardian

"Praying for the Heroism" .... 3
"The Secret of Right Living" .... 6
Membership in Other Religious Organizations .... 3

National Spiritual Assemblies

Letter to the Believers .... 6
"The Handwriting is on the Wall" .... 1

Sustaining the Seven Year Plan .... 12
Notice to Convention Delegates .... 2
Convention Attendance Limited to Bahá'ís .... 5
Progress of the Seven Year Plan .... 2
Ten More Pioneers for Europe .... 1
European Survey .... 6
United Nations Acknowledges Bahá'í Declaration of Human Obligations and Rights .... 1
Advertising Brings Inquiries .... 2
Traveling Teachers in North America .... 3
New Assemblies and Groups in Latin America .... 4
Montreal National Public Meeting .... 1
Publishing Announcements .... 2
Geyserville Bahá'í Books for Green Acre .... 5
Temerity Ranch .... 3
Study Aids .... 5
Local Groups and Communities—Two Successful Meetings in New York City .... 1
Dunham Bahá'í Hold Brotherhood Meeting .... 10
Local Items .... 11
German Bahá'í Youth .... 10
New Developments in Packages for Europe .... 11
American Bahá'í Goes to Haifa .... 10
Bahá'í Addresses .... 2
In Memoriam .... 2
Calendar .... 12
Directory .... 12
Photographs—
Mrs. Alice Dudley, pioneer to Sweden .... 3
Headquarters for Bahá'í Teaching Committee and International Bureau .... 7
Speakers at Philadelphia Youth Symposium .... 11

Directory

Assemblies

Reno, Nevada
Mr. Richard Guy Walton, Secretary, P.O. Box 2967
Lansing, Michigan
Mrs. Kenneth Christian, Secretary, 1001 West Genesee Street
Newark, New Jersey
Miss Marianne Relyea, Secretary, 864 Broad Street
Providence, Rhode Island
Mrs. Edith Davis, Secretary, 545 Potters Avenue
Houston, Texas
Miss Dorothy Sligh, secretary, 435 West 21st Street
National Committee
National Teaching Committee
Mrs. Monroe Ios. resigned.
Regional Teaching Committee for Brazil
Mrs. Edward Ecke, Rio de Janeiro, appointed.
Mr. Hilda Roche Santos, Rio de Janeiro, appointed.
Portuguese Bulletin Committee
Dr. Orlando Freitas, Secretary, R. Voluntários de Patria No. 83, Cascais, Cavala de Janeiro, Brazil.
Mr. Frithiof Will, Rio de Janeiro, appointed.
Calendar

Nineteen Day Feast
April 9
April 28
May 17
Feast of Ridván (Declaration of Bahá'u'lláh)
April 21—May 2, 1863

Bahá'í Holy Days on which work should be suspended
First Day of Ridván, April 21 (celebrated about 3 P.M. if feasible)
Ninth day of Ridván, April 29
Twelfth day of Ridván, May 2
National Spiritual Assembly Meeting
April 30
May 5th and following days (not decided)
Convention
May 1, 2 and 3 and 4.
Bahá'í Congress (Public meeting)
Sunday evening, May 4th.

February

First European Believer Under the Seven Year Plan

On April 18, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Marangella sailed for Italy where they will go to Rome to join Mr. and Mrs. Ugo Giachery, to further the work in that city. On April 25, Miss Dagmar Dole, who has been serving as pioneer in Alaska, sailed with Mrs. Elinor Gregory of the San Diego Community, on the Drottingholm. Miss Dole goes to Denmark to work with Mr. and Mrs. Anders Nielsen in Copenhagen and Mrs. Gregory goes to Oslo, Norway, to reinforce our pioneer there, Mrs. Solveig Corbit.

On March 15, the European Teaching Committee received the joyful news that the first native believer under this new Seven Year Plan, had declared himself. He is Signor Augusto Salvetti of Italy. Signor Salvetti heard of the Faith from a Persian believer while he was a prisoner of war in India. After returning to his native Italy, Signor Salvetti corresponded with the European Teaching Committee in Geneva. Since he was living in one of our “goal” countries, Mrs. Graefte put him in touch with our pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. Ugo Giachery. After some wonderful personal interviews with the Giacherys, Signor Salvetti became confirmed and when signing his application card wrote to Mr. Giachery the following:

“My heart had an upsurge when I started to speak with you. The holiness of your principles, the wisdom of your words, the beauty of Baha'u'llah's teachings, were expressed by you with words so simple, but so beautiful and touching, that I had the sensation that a light from heaven had touched me.” These wonderful words of Signor Salvetti give us a glimpse of what the Bahá’í Faith will bring to the suffering peoples of Europe and they make us further understand the Guardian’s statement that now is the time to bring the Message of Baha'u'llah to this distressed continent.

The Committee is assured that before very long they will be able to report similar news from our other goal countries, as all of our Pioneers are writing that there are some individuals who are very close to the Faith in each country.

On the Eve of the Election in Latin America

As this article goes to press, pioneers are working feverishly in 12 of Latin America’s 37 goal cities, striving to bring them to Assembly status before election night; Assembly status based upon fully instructed, deeply confirmed and truly devoted Bahá’ís. The 19 cities are those which have been chosen by the friends out of Latin America’s 37 groups, as the most likely to attain sufficient numbers for an Assembly within the first two years of the beloved Guardian’s second Seven Year plan. Of the 37 groups 22 are new this year and indicate the fervor with which the native believers and teachers have united with the North American pioneers in striving to greatly extend the basis of Bahá’í representation in preparation for the election of their two National Assemblies four years from now.

Mr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Miessler, assisted by Dr. Thomas Sanchez de Egas, report that they feel assured of their nine in Sao Paulo, which would give Brazil a third Assembly. They write that they have met some of the most delightful scientific and artistic people, as well as business men, in that thriving metropolis, and that some of these will be included in their new Assembly. Among their students is the author of the new grand opera based upon the life history of the Jewish people. He has asked permission to write an opera based upon some of the early episodes of the Bahá’í Faith.

Gayle Woolson reports from Colombia that Cali, with an adult membership of 29 and 2 youths, will elect its first Assembly, and that Medellin is striving to do the same. Cartagena and Contratacement are runners-up, while three other groups are showing growth. Cali will make the third Colombian Assembly. It includes among its members scientific and business people of importance.

Hasle Cornbleth sends word from Quito that this first Ecuadorian group founded by John Stearns, has now grown to the point where it expects to elect its Assembly and be-
come the second organized community in that country.

Louise Baker in Mexico is praying that Puebla may reach Assembly strength in time to organize as a complete community. During the seven months that she has been teaching in Puebla and Coatepec, six believers have been confirmed in Coatepec and 6 new members have come in, in Puebla. There is one mother Assembly in Mexico City. The Coatepec group centers about a young teacher, Sra. Victoria Mendi
dez, whose body is paralyzed, but whose mind and spirit are so awake and active, that she quickly recognized Bahá'u'lláh, and helped to draw others together to study. The class meets at her bedside, since Sra. Victoria cannot go elsewhere to be with them.

With seven believers almost ready and two more assured within a short time, Louise Caswell and James Facey are striving to bring through Colón, goal city of Panama. An immense amount of fine work has been done here under some unusual difficulties.

Gwenne Shollis is laboring confidently and prayerfully in Sucre. This group has contributed members to four other Bolivian cities and has now brought its own membership back up to 6. It is striving to confirm at least three more of its students.

Eve Nicklin and the Assembly of Lima, Peru, are working against time in Callao. They have a foundation of 5 members and have built up a large class of students. Eve reported that 100 attended their last public meeting. They are trying out the plan of visiting the various lodges, especially the workmen's lodges, and offering a speaker on any cultural topic which may be selected by the lodge. This topic is then presented from the Bahá'í point of view, without being a direct Bahá'í talk. At the close, the members are invited to come to the Bahá'í Center to hear the "real stuff."

Jean Silver has sent in her first four membership cards from Cienfuegos, Cuba. No one in that city had ever heard of the Faith prior to the first visit Jean made accompanied by Josephine Kruka last summer. One of the four is a man of much capacity, a former clergyman of the Liberal Catholic church.

Six are assured for Argentina's new goal city of La Plata, Shirley Warde writes us. Mary and Antorik Kevorkian are helping there, under conditions which are very difficult. A group is also growing in Rosario.

Marcia Steward reports 10 new Bahá'ís in Costa Rica and sends us a description of an interesting correspondence campaign carried on there by the teaching committee of San José including Sr. Gerardo Vega, Sr. Oscar Castro and herself. Their method was to run a 2 by 5 advertisement in the principal papers of some of the larger cities, stating frankly: "We are seeking people of good will to organize a Center of Study and Teaching founded on the following principles": following with the 12 Bahá'í principles, then continuing: "This movement already has affiliated groups established in all the major countries of the world, which function by means of the collective consultation of all their members. Without obligation, you may ask for literature and every kind of information by writing to Post Office Box 854, San José, Costa Rica."

Forty-five replies came in. Each letter of inquiry was answered individually, enclosing two pamphlets, one dealing with the Bahá'í peace plan, and the other a general pamphlet. When a second letter came, pains were taken to answer all questions individually, and the inquirer was asked if he would like to establish a study class and receive Bahá'í books. Then, writes Marcia, "When he has again replied, we send them the books, 'The New Era', 'Wisdom of 'Abdu'l-Bahá' and 'Some Answered Questions'. After he has acknowledged and studied these, we send the Bahá'í Administration. When, as in all the cases to date, he becomes more and more interested and has established his group of friends, we send him the 'Dispensation'. If he can take this, then we send him the 'Will and Testament' with a detailed letter explaining clearly its importance. Then we send him a registration card. When he has returned this signed, as has for example Sr. Noé Cordero of Barba de Heredia, we shall send him credentials, authorized by our teaching committee, to form a group. The case of Sr. Cordero is a proof of the efficacy of this system. We went to see him and he is marvelous." Quepos, which is fast approaching Assembly strength, Limón, Turrialba and San Carlos, as well as Barba de Heredia, were first organized in this way.

Artemus Lamb is completing his survey of the 10 new groups in southern Chile and plans to return to the United States in time to assist at the Latin American session at Colorado Springs International School scheduled for June 18th to 27th inclusive.

The Inter-America Committee asks that all those planning to attend the Latin American session at the International school, will please notify the Committee secretary, Miss Elisabeth H. Cheney, 4500 Magnolia Ave., Chicago 40, Ill., since accommodations are limited to 24 students and the Committee is anxious that all those deeply interested should have an opportunity to take the practical pioneering course.

Bahá'í News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Bahá'í Community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924.

On April 18, 1925, the Guardian wrote: "The News Letter which you have lately inherited fulfills a very vital function... I would urge you to enlarge its scope... that in time it may devote a special section to every phase of your activities, administrative, devotional, humanitarian, financial, educational and otherwise... "It should become a great factor in promoting understanding, providing information on Bahá'í activity, both local and foreign, in stimulating interest, in combating evil influences, and in upholding and safeguarding the institutions of the Cause."

Bahá'í News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada by the Bahá'í News Editorial Committee: Garetta Busey, chairman, John Ashton, Alice Simmons Cox, Marzieh Ghail, Doris Helley, Anasma Elana Reynolds, Eleanor Swenson Hutchens, Mabel Hyde Paine, Margaret Sweged. Editorial office: Miss Garetta Busey, 503 West Elm Street, Urbana, Illinois.

Please report changes of address to the Bahá'í News for distribution to this office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.
International

School Opens

Two practical pioneering courses will be given this year at the International Bahá’í School at Colorado Springs. The school has been placed by Mrs. Loulie Matthews under the direct supervision of the National Spiritual Assembly, and will be used especially to help prepare those, who wish to teach in Latin America or Europe. The Latin American session will be given June 18 to 27 inclusive, the European session from July 1st to 10th inclusive.

Mornings will be devoted to deepening in the Faith, including a study of “Dispensation” and “Advent of Divine Justice,” and some of the more personal teachings such as prayer, moral attitudes, personal problems, etc. Four sheets of quotations useful for different types of addresses, will be prepared by the students, so that they may have readily available in brief and exact form excerpts from the direct Word usable for six diverse topics. These will be prepared in both English and Spanish during the first session. Mrs. Matthews will have charge of the morning classes.

Afternoons from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. will be devoted to a practical workshop during the Latin American session, in which students will have an opportunity to practise teaching, the audience representing the various types of backgrounds found in the 22 countries now being opened to the Cause. They will learn the Latin American psychologies and customs, how to approach these people with understanding and obtain their cooperation, how to open up cities and how to deepen and stabilize communities already established. Those assisting the students will include Artemus Lamb, who has now visited and taught in 8 Latin American countries, and Elisabeth H. Cheney, who has visited and taught in 14 countries. An effort will be made to help those interested to prepare themselves for actual service in the 12 countries which urgently need pioneers.

Five evenings will be devoted to public meetings, including a musical and two lectures in the town and two Latin American evenings at the school, when Artemus and Elisabeth will describe some of the unique experiences which come the way of the pioneer. Five evenings will be left open for relaxation and for study.

The European Teaching Committee has announced that their session will follow approximately the same type of curriculum, their afternoon session teachers to be announced a little later.

Those desiring to attend either session, are requested to please write as quickly as possible to Miss Elisabeth H. Cheney, 4500 Magnolia Ave., Chicago 40, Ill., for the Latin American session, June 18 to 27, or to Miss Edna True, 418 Forest Ave., Wilmette, Ill., for the European session, July 1 to 10.

Geyersville — The 1947 Program

The Geyersville Bahá’í School session will extend over six weeks this year—June 23 to August 2. Each course is planned for a two weeks’ period, and each will be repeated with such variation as is desirable and practical for the students who plan to remain longer than two weeks.

In accordance with the expressed wish of the Guardian and the National Spiritual Assembly, the needs of the Seven Year Plan and the training of Bahá’í teachers and workers have been kept clearly in mind by the committee in developing the program, and in order to enable every student to engage in intensive research and training in an area of the Faith of special interest to him, the following courses or “workshops” are being offered:

A. Research in the Spiritual Teachings of the Faith. A course for those...
who wish to gain a deeper and more practical knowledge of Bahá'í teachings on the spiritual life of man.

B. The Planning and Delivery of Bahá'í Talks. This workshop will provide opportunity for the enrollees to gain new knowledge and skills for presenting the teachings of the Faith.

C. Building the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh. The objective of this course is to enable each student to gain a deeper appreciation of his place in the greatest spiritual conquest of the ages. It will include a study of the origin and early beginnings of the Divine Plan, the unfoldment of America's spiritual mission during the past fifty years, and a review of the spread of the Faith throughout the world, with special consideration to the needs of the current Seven Year Plan.

D. Effective Teaching Methods. This workshop will consist of study, discussion and demonstrations of individual and group teaching techniques, and the application of these techniques to at least one public meeting in each two weeks' period. The use of current teaching materials will be emphasized and demonstrated.

E. Fundamental Teachings of the Bahá'í Faith. A course designed for non-Bahá'ís attending the Summer School, for the purpose of assisting them to develop a clear understanding of the tenets of the Faith.

F. Laboratory on Bahá'í Administration. This daily afternoon session will offer opportunity for the Bahá'ís to discuss the principles of Bahá'í administration and procedure and their application to numerous activities such as Bahá'í elections, committee meetings, and general problems which arise from time to time in Bahá'í communities.

Each student will enroll in two courses of his choice, within each of which he may select one or more subjects, projects or problems on which to concentrate his major attention for the two weeks' period. In addition to individual study and research, each course or workshop will include a number of lectures and much group discussion. General assemblies and demonstrations will be held from time to time in order that the entire student body may benefit from the work and study of all the groups.

The Children's Program. Organized classes for children will be conducted during the period, July 7 to 20, only. There will be five groupings, each with its special program, as follows:

- Junior Youth—12 to 15 years
- High Intermediate—10 to 12 years
- Low Intermediate—9 to 10 years
- Primary—6 to 8 years
- Pre-school—children under six years

On Sundays the school will hold "open house" with programs and demonstrations planned to interest visiting Bahá'ís and non-Bahá'ís. The evenings will be devoted to recreation, entertainment and cultural activities.

There will be no separate program for youth members, but young people will be included in all courses and activities and may, if they wish, undertake certain projects of special interest to themselves.

Wanted for Louhelen

WANTED: Voluntary services of a Bahá'í to act as Registrar for the 1947 Sessions of Louhelen Summer School. Duties: assign rooms, collect fees, keep accurate account of all money collected, notify supervisor of number of guests for each meal. Board and room will be furnished in exchange for above services. (Attendance at some of the classes will be possible).

Adult Study at Green Acre

The past two summers at the Green Acre Summer School have been characterized by a marked increase in the amount of study carried on by adult students. Much of this work had been done in the Research Seminar, a course which continues throughout the season. The School has been fortunate in having as leader of this course Professor Glenn Shook, whose many-sided interests and knowledge make him particularly valuable in guiding research on a variety of topics.

Each student in the course chooses a topic on which he wishes to do research, and for five sessions each week he pursues this study in the library. This time will be given to individual conferences with Professor Shook, to reading, and to the organization of the results of study. On Saturday mornings all the students meet as a group, and two or three report on their findings. Professor and Mrs. Shook serve coffee and cookies at the beginning of this Saturday conference, and this adds to the social atmosphere of the sharing of the results of research.

Some students work in the Seminar for only a week or two, and complete a comparatively simple piece of research in a limited area. Others may work for five or six weeks in a complex area, and pursue studies which are of graduate college level. The research completed during the summer of 1946 included work on the following topics: The Life of Buddha (to assist in teaching the Bahá'í Faith to Buddhists); The Influence of Religion on Civilization (resulting in a 17-page typed report); an article for a non-Bahá'í magazine on "The Marriage of Religion and Science"; a course of study for Bahá'í children, arranged for three age groups; The Bahá'í Teachings on Social Justice; A Study of the Bahá'í Writings about Prayer.

Three other Workshop classes offer students the opportunity to do intensive study on some aspect of the work. Those in the Workshop in Effective Speech prepare material on a great variety of topics.
for the talks they give in the course. Students in the Workshop in Administration look up on points on which there may have been some question in their discussions and demonstrations. Gathering material to use in radio scripts sends members of a third Workshop to use the Bahá'í and non-Bahá'í books in the library.

During the summer of 1947 two other Workshops will be added to the program:— (1) a course in Public Relations, which will include arranging for, and presenting, public Bahá'í programs in nearby towns; (2) a Workshop for teachers in Bahá'í children's classes, which will provide opportunity to observe and do practice teaching in the Green Acre Children's School, as well as a study of principles of child psychology and education.

National Public Meeting Campaign

Miami

The Miami Public Meeting was held in the Y M C A, Friday March 7th at 8:30 p.m. The attendance is reported as between 120 to 125. Being in the deep south, the friends were well pleased to see a representation of both races. The Program Committee mailed out 550 invitations.

"The House Committee responsible for decoration of the hall, did a beautiful job. On the right of the stage was the Temple Model framed in palms. On the left of the stage, on top of the piano, was a plaque with the Greatest Name, surrounded by pink begonias. On the center wall of the platform, was a gold leaf plaque with the Statue of Liberty in bas-relief, and above this in the shape of an arc, were the flags of all Nations, surrounded by palms. The palms were donated by T. R. Baumgartner, an isolated believer of North Miami Beach. A stranger in the audience asked 'Who was the Florist responsible for the lovely decorations?' Usherettes, representing the variegated garden of humanity, were selected from the Inter-racial Youth Group. Each was dressed formally and wore a wrist corsage."

A book display of various Bahá'í books also included the Bible, the Qur'an, and the Light of Asia, which is a good idea for all Bahá'ís to adopt in book displays.

A half hour of preludial piano music preceded the lecture with a vocal solo before and after the address. A buffet luncheon for Press and Radio Representatives was held at the Center on March 7th, but they were conspicuous by their absence. In spite of this and a curtailment of publicity because of paper shortage, five papers carried from three to five ads apiece, over a period of one week, preceding the meeting. Three hundred window posters were distributed throughout the City, and two displays of the picture of the Temple were obtained in local shops.

Radio time was bought over WQAM on Sunday March 2nd at 1:45 p.m., at which time the radio transcription "A New Interpretation of History" was used. Three spot announcements were also made from this station, WQAM of Miami. Time was also bought from WKAT at Miami Beach for two evening programs and the transcriptions used were, "Meet Mr. Justice" and "World Language." The station WKAT then offered the friends a 15 minute free program and Mr. Ober spoke on "An Answer to the Atomic Bomb." This script was supplied the friends by the National Public Meetings Committee.

Harlan Ober’s talk "World Order Through World Faith," was very well received by his audience, as was shown by the willingness of so many people to remain for further informal discussion. After the address, the chairman announced that anyone wearing a pink flower, was a Bahá'í delegated to answer questions to the enquirer. This was to replace an Open Forum, so as to make individual contacts. A good idea that we can all copy.

With the Miami, Birmingham and Nashville meetings an attempt was made for better coordinated effort between the work of the National Teaching and the Public Meetings committees, which we hope was the harbinger of greater coordinated effort in future work.

Birmingham

The Birmingham Public Meeting was preceded by a luncheon on March 13th, in the Tutwiler Hotel, attended by fifteen leading representatives of the Press and Radio. The chairman, Mr. John Inglis, introduced the speaker, Harlan Ober, and stated the purpose of the luncheon conference. Mr. Ober spoke briefly and very much to the point, and as a result many intelligent and interesting questions were asked. Two young men, one a radio announcer and the other a reporter, lingered long after the luncheon was over to ask more about the Faith. The result was excellent publicity the next day with a full half-column write-up on Mr. Ober's speech. The Birmingham friends feel that the luncheon conference was very successful.

On Friday, March 14th, Mr. Ober spoke to the gentlemen of the Civitan Club, 125 leading business and pro-

Continued on page 8
May, 1947

The Guardian’s Message to the Thirty-Ninth Annual Bahá’í Convention

My heart is filled with delight, wonder, pride and gratitude in contemplation of the peace-time exploits, in both hemispheres, of the world community of the followers of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh, triumphantly emerging from the crucible of global war and moving irresistibly into the second epoch of the Formative Age of the Bahá’í Dispensation.

The opening years of the second century of the Bahá’í Era, synchronizing with concluding stage of the memorable quarter-century clapsed since the termination of the Heroic Age of the Faith, have been distinguished by a compelling demonstration by the entire body of believers, headed by the valorous American Bahá’í community, of solidarity, resolve and self-sacrifice as well as by a magnificent record of systematic, worldwide achievements.

The three years since the celebration of the Centenary have been characterized by a simultaneous process of internal consolidation and steady enlargement of the orbit of a fast-evolving administrative order.

These years witnessed, first, the astounding resurgence of war-devastated Bahá’í community of Central Europe, the rehabilitation of the communities in Southeast Asia, the Pacific Islands and the Far East; second, the inauguration of a new Seven Year Plan by the American Bahá’í community destined to culminate with the Centenary of the Birth of Bahá’u’lláh’s Prophetic Mission, aiming at the formation of three National Assemblies in Latin America and the Dominion of Canada, at completion of the holiest House of Worship in the Bahá’í world, and at the erection of the structure of the administrative order in ten sovereign States of the European continent; and third, the formulation by the British, the Indian and the Persian National Assemblies of Six Year, Four and One-Half Year, and Forty-Five Month Plans respectively, culminating with the Centenary of the Báb’s Martyrdom and pledged to establish nineteen Spiritual Assemblies in the British Isles, double the number of Assemblies in the Indian sub-continent; establish ninety-five new centers of the Faith in Persia, convert the groups in Bahrain, Mecca and Kabul into Assemblies and plant the banner of the Faith in the Arabian territories of Yemen, Oman, Ahsa and Kuwaiit.

Moreover, the number of countries opened to the onsweping Faith, and the number of languages in which its literature has been translated and printed, is now raised to eighty-three and forty-seven, respectively. Four additional countries are in process of enrollment. Translations into fifteen other languages are being undertaken. No less than seventeen thousand pounds have accumulated for the international relief of war-afflicted Bahá’í communities of East and West. The Bahá’í endowments on the North American continent have now passed the two million dollar mark. The value of the endowments recently acquired at the World Center of the Faith, dedicated to the Shrines, are estimated at thirty-five thousand pounds. Bahá’í literature has been disseminated as far north as Upernavik, Greenland, above the Arctic circle. The Bahá’í message has been broadcast by radio as far South as Magellan. A large area of land dedicated to the Mashíquí’l Adhkár of Persia has increased by almost a quarter-million square metres. The number of localities in the Antipodes where Bahá’ís reside has been raised to thirty-five spread over Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania. Twenty-seven Assemblies are functioning in Latin America. In over a hundred localities Bahá’ís are resident in Central and South America, almost double the localities at opening of the first Seven Year Plan. Historic Latin American conferences have been held in Buenos Aires and Panama. Summer Schools are established in Argentina and Chile. Land has been offered in Chile for site of the first Mashíquí’l Adhkár of Latin America. Additional Assemblies have been incorporated in Paraguay and Colombia. Seven others are in process of incorporation. A notable impetus has been lent this world-redeeming Message through the concerted measures devised by the American National Assembly designed to proclaim the Faith to the masses through public conferences, press and radio.

Such remarkable multiplication of dynamic institutions, such thrilling deployment of world-regenerating forces, North, South, East and West, endow the preeminent goal of second Seven Year Plan in Europe with extraordinary urgency and peculiar significance. I am impelled to appeal to all American believers possessing independent means to arise and supplement the course of the second year of the second Seven Year Plan through personal participation or appointment of deputies, the superb exertions of the heroic vanguard of the hosts destined, through successive decades, to achieve the spiritual conquest of the continent unconquered by Isám, rightly regarded as the mother of Christendom, the fountainhead of American culture, the mainspring of western civilization, and the recipient of the unique honor of two successive visits to its shores by the Center of Bahá’u’lláh’s Covenant.

Cablegram received April 28, 1947.

National Spiritual Assembly

The New Assemblies
Beloved friends:

The formation of new Spiritual Assemblies in North America on April 21, 1947 and April 21, 1948 is a sacred mission laid upon every believer, and a tremendous responsibility assigned to the National and Regional Teaching Committees.

To arrive at a total of 175 Assemblies by election time, 1948, the American believers must attain a powerful surging movement concentrating the forces entrusted to every soul and the well-directed facilities of every administrative body. It has been estimated that seventeen Assemblies might be formed this year, counting the restoration of some Assemblies which had lost their status. Two or three of these will form part of the Canadian Bahá’í community which in another year will hold its own annual convention and elect its own National Spiritual Assembly. Since the formation of a national Bahá’í com-
munity is among our greatest achievements, on account of its importance as one of the electoral bodies which will create the first Universal House of Justice, the year 1948 will mark one of the great dates signaling the progress of the present Seven Year Plan.

Let us ponder for a moment what a local Spiritual Assembly means to a new Baha'i community.

It is a foundation stone on which the House of Justice must find secure support. It is the God-given agency for unification of believers in an organic social body, successor to priests and preachers of former dispensations. It is the magnet which alone can attract into active demonstration the new qualities conferred by the Holy Spirit for realizing the oneness of mankind. It is the vehicle by which personal opinion can be transmuted into authoritative decision, and personal feeling flower into the glory of justice.

No wonder that every local Assembly, especially in its formative years, seems to be plunged into an ocean of trials and tribulations. The responsibility of its members often seems too heavy to be borne or too complicated to be fulfilled. Problems involving teaching policy, family unhappiness, mental aberration, financial budgets, committee personnel and functions, internal strain and external pressure — the catalog of tests is far from brief, but the effect is a mighty blessing for all who survive.

Why should it be simple and easy? The path trodden by Assembly members is the path leading upward through new spiritual realms, where the reins of option are held by a higher Power.

The Master, and later the Guardian, showered most ardent love and affection upon the new and inexperienced Assemblies. Perhaps some of the members of these newly formed bodies would like to stand in the light and warmth of that paradise. If so, let them read the Tablets published on pages 400 to 410 of Baha'i World Faith; and then turn to the letters written by the Guardian to America during the first two or three years following the Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Baha.

Imbued with that new spirit, the Assembly can begin its historic mission with mature faith and radiant vision, knowing that every test is a blessing, every trial a sign of the nearness of the Holy Spirit.

The names of the new Assemblies will be published as soon as election reports are available.

National Spiritual Assembly

Treasurer's Report

In the last Baha'i News your Treasurer brought to your attention the fact that during the month of February we spent almost three times more than we took into the National Fund during that month.

Disbursements up to March 29th totalled $13,400.12 and receipts from March 1st to March 29th totalled $18,409.12. This means that we spent $2,008.98 more than we received.

Glorified art Thou, O my Lord! Thou beholdest my tribulations and all that hath befallen me at the hands of such of Thy servants as keep company with me, who have disbelieved in Thy most resplendent signs, and turned back from Thy most effulgent Beauty. I swear by Thy glory! Such are the troubles that vex me, that no pen in the entire creation can either reckon or describe them.

I implore Thee, O Thou Who are the King of names and the Creator of earth and heaven, so to assist me by Thy strengthening grace that nothing whatsoever will have the power to hinder me from remembering Thee, or celebrating Thy praise, or to keep me back from observing what thou hast prescribed unto me in Thy Tablets, that I may so arise to serve Thee that with bared head I will hasten forth from my habitation, cry out Thy name amidst Thy creatures, and proclaim Thy virtues among Thy servants. Having accomplished what Thou hast decreed, and delivered the thing Thou hast written down, the wicked doers among Thy people would, then, compass me about and would do with me in Thy path as would please them.

In the love I bear to Thee, O my Lord, my heart longeth for Thee with a longing such as no heart hath known. Here am I with my body between Thy hands, and my spirit before Thy face. Do with them as it may please Thee, for the exaltation of Thy word and the revelation of what hath been enshrined within the treasuries of Thy knowledge.

Potent art Thou to do what Thou willest, and able to ordain what Thou pleasest.

—BAHA'U'LLAH

Prayers and Meditations, p. 242

Miss Charlotte Stirrett, Mrs. Fritzi Shaver, and Miss Elsa Steinmetz, sailing on the Westerdam, March 26, 1947
Much of the money which comes into the Fund is earmarked, particularly for the interior decoration of the Temple and these earmarked funds are not available to the Treasurer for general expenses.

On April 1st we had twenty-one pioneers in the European field. Transportation expenses for these pioneers are expensive and, due to conditions beyond their control and ours, employment is not open to them. In fact, guarantees have had to be given that they will not become charges of the government under which they will live. By the first of May, twenty-five pioneers will be in the European field, and the Guardian has cabled the National Spiritual Assembly that ten more are to leave during the next six months.

All that your Treasurer can do is to bring these matters to your attention. If the work is to go forward at its present rate, more money will have to come into the general Fund.

Faithfully,

PHILIP G. SPRAGUE, Treasurer

National Bahá’í Records

The membership Bahá’í list maintained by the National Spiritual Assembly is the most important record in the files of the National Office. This list has grown and developed throughout the years, and the work involved in making the necessary additions and revisions has become a matter of daily routine.

In mailing out to individual believers their personal copy of "A God-Given Mandate" the National Assembly learned that much information concerning changes of address and other data had not been supplied. The need of a permanent master alphabetical list, and several lists classifying the names under different arrangements, became apparent, and action has been taken, with the efficient and devoted assistance of Mr. Clarence Niss, to set up a permanent organization of the membership records.

The constant vigilance and cooperation of local Assemblies, group correspondents, Regional Teaching Committees, and individual Bahá’ís is indispensable, as the records of the National Office can only reflect changes and developments of the Bahá’í community duly reported from day to day. An urgent and loving appeal is made at this time for action on the part of all concerned, to report each and every change of membership, as follows: new enrollments by local Assemblies, new enrollments by Regional Teaching Committees, changes of residence either within the city or from one city to another, changes of name, as by marriage or court authority, deaths, withdrawals from the Bahá’í community, etc. Since every Bahá’í of twenty-one years and more is now a voter at the state elections, and every enrolled Bahá’í youth receives his or her personal copy of Bahá’í News and whatever else may be issued from the National Office, it is apparent that the National Spiritual Assembly has a deep spiritual as well as legal responsibility to maintain a full and accurate membership list of American Bahá’ís. Please help the members in their effort to strive for the utmost degree of perfection in these unique records.

From time to time some local Assembly inquires what to do in the case of the names of believers who remain inactive, not attending meetings, not taking part in Bahá’í elections, nor contributing to the fund, nor joining the Bahá’í community for the celebration of the great Anniversaries of the Faith, nor associating with the Bahá’ís even outside the regular meetings. Since this question is very important, the National Assembly has consulted about it and offers the following simple statement of principle in the hope that it will guide the Assemblies and also the Regional Teaching Committees whenever they are called upon to compile the membership list of their city or area.

1. Inactivity alone is not a cause for removing a believer from the Bahá’í membership list. Removal can be done only when the believer himself withdraws from the Faith or is removed from the list of voting members by formal administrative action.

2. There is a twilight zone of inactivity where the believer gives no evidence of faith in Bahá’u’lláh but does not serve notice of abandonment of the Cause. This twilight zone is the greatest challenge to the Assemblies themselves. The inactivity of a few believers can only continue year after year because the Assembly is equally inactive as far as such believers are concerned. The National Spiritual Assembly wishes this twilight zone of passivity and inaction to be illuminated by the full light of ardent fellowship from the Assembly. Let special committees be appointed, or individual representatives selected, to make direct and friendly contact with all inactive Bahá’ís, urge them to take part in the Bahá’í work, offer help and assistance if they are in difficulty, and if the effort proves fruitless, to ask such Bahá’ís whether they themselves wish to be retained on the membership list. When the reply definitely indicates abandonment of the Faith and desire not to be regarded as a Bahá’í, the matter is to be reported to the National Assembly for final action.

Whenever the contact cannot be made personally by local Assembly members, a letter should be written by the Assembly to the inactive believer, requesting him or her to advise the Assembly whether he wishes to be retained on the membership list. All replies indicating abandonment are to be reported to the National Assembly, and if there is no reply within thirty days the Assembly is to report the case to the National Assembly for decision.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

National Public Meetings

Continued from page 5

Further men being present. They proved to be a most receptive audience.

At 4:00 p.m. Sunday, March 16th, the Public Meeting was held in the main studio of station WTBN, a beautiful auditorium that had once been a ballroom. The Birmingham friends, armed with the knowledge that a beautiful setting means very much in the south and their own desire to present the Cause, "the most beautiful thing in the world today" in a setting commensurate with its beauty and dignity, decorated the front of the room with smilax, ferns, palms and tall vases of peach gladioli. Two large pictures of the Temple were displayed amidst the greenery, with the words "BAHÁ’Í WORLD FAITH" in block letters along the white railing directly behind the speaker.

Mrs. Cora Dyer was chairman, and the following will be of special interest to those who know the race
and prejudice of the south: "The musicians were especially well received and we had almost held our breath on this one point alone, for they were both colored! One lady remarked on Mrs. Dyer's addressing them as 'Mrs.' as that is unheard of in this part of the country, but Mrs. Dyer, as is usual with her, gave a most fitting and gracious response, and the lady left feeling very much enlightened over her experience. She said it was the first time in all her years of life in the South that she had attended a meeting where both races participated! Many remarks were made on the beauty and dignity of the meeting."

Harlan Ober's presentation of the subject "World Order Through World Faith" the friends feel was masterfully done. The first half hour of the program was recorded and rebroadcast that evening at 6:30.

Outstanding were the radio broadcasts achieved by the Birmingham Baha'i's. The recorded transcriptions issued by the National Radio Committee were broadcast March 8th, 9th, 12th, 15th, 16th, 15th and 16th. An interview with Mr. Ober was broadcast at 13:30 p.m. the day of the Public Meeting, and the first half hour of the Public Meeting program was broadcast at 6:30 that evening.

While the friends were rather discouraged that their audience only numbered around seventy people, still a vast unseen audience was reached by their many broadcasts. They state that the eight recordings broadcast brought glowing reports from listeners. "They are the most wonderful presentation of the Faith we have heard. They are so entertaining and present the Message so painlessly, to the heedless ones in our midst." Congratulations and appreciation to all the Birmingham friends who worked so ceaselessly to make their meeting a success!

**Nashville**

The Nashville Public meeting was held at the YMHA on March 23rd with Harlan Ober as speaker. Taking advantage of the fact that Mr. Ober was able to be with them for the Naw-Ruz Feast, the friends arranged for their Naw-Ruz Feast at the International Student Center at Fisk University, with Mr. Ober as speaker. There were about fifty present, mostly students, white and colored, one a young woman from Algiers. Many in the group were highly orthodox, and so the discussion was quite lively at times.

Preliminary work for their Public Meeting consisted in mailing out 500 of the printed invitations, which elicited much praise for their beauty and dignity. They were displayed on the bulletin boards of most of the chief schools of Nashville. The secretary received one letter of inquiry from this source.

One hundred very attractive posters containing a large picture of the Baha'i House of Worship, were distributed in the uptown area, and in several suburban shopping districts. These brought very favorable comments. Effort made to obtain radio time was unsuccessful.

Marion Little, of New Orleans, president as chairman. The music was provided by Burney Morris, vocalist, with Claire Jones at the piano. The Nashville friends report that Mr. Morris had made Baha'i contacts while in the army, which guided him in his musical selections. In their titles one can read the message to God: "The Pilgrim's Song by Tschaikowsky, "By a Lonely Forest Pathway" by Griffes and, after the talk, "My Journey's End" by Foster.

About seventy-five attended the Public Meeting, with white, Negro and Jewish people present. Mr. Ober gave a most excellent presentation of his subject to a highly appreciative and attentive audience. Many intelligent and earnest questions were asked by the audience after the close of the meeting.

The National Public Meetings Committee feels that Nashville is an outstanding evidence of how in this day when one arises to herald the Kingdom of God, a magnetic power is produced which attracts the rays of confirmation to the one who is sincere, and makes him victorious." In the beginning they felt they just couldn't put on a Public Meeting because of a lack of workers familiar with this type of work—but they did, and admirably. One hundred and twenty-five people and more, now know something about the Baha'i Faith through their efforts.

To Marion Little, who assisted them in every way, they feel greatly indebted; also to Hart Friedland of Atlanta, Georgia, who came over and nobly assisted them; last but not least, to Nellie Roche, who as chairman of the local public meetings committee, carried the heaviest part of the load by reason of her mature experience, and to her assistants who served at the Naw-Ruz Feast, arranged book and photograph displays and helped to design posters — a grateful "thanks" goes forth from this committee.

**Pittsburgh**

The Pittsburgh Public Meeting was held Saturday evening, March 29th, in the Auditorium of the Stephen Foster Memorial on the University of Pittsburgh Campus.

The lecture by Kenneth Christian on the theme of "World Order Through World Faith" was attentively listened to by an audience of 150 people. Musical selections opened and closed the meeting.

"Publicity for the meeting was de-
Annual Reports

This year there are two forms of Annual Reports from National Committees:

Condensed reports sent to Convention delegates early in April, and the full reports which should be brought up to April 30 and sent to the National Spiritual Assembly for publication in printed form for distribution to all believers.

Local Assemblies are reminded that Annual Reports are requested of their community activities, covering the year April 21, 1946—April 20, 1947.

World Faith” was ably given by Dr. Edris Rice-Wray, with Albert Windust of Chicago presiding as chairman. Music was furnished by George Tozzi, baritone with the Chicago Theater of the Air. Inclement weather, with slippery streets, tested the earnestness of Kenosha people in their search for this truth, but about 100 people, including the Baha’is from surrounding communities, attended this meeting. Well planned follow-up lectures were arranged and advertised.

Truly, the Kenosha Baha’is have arisen courageously to do their part in bringing the Cause to the masses, and they feel “it is the beginning of a new spiritual growth in Kenosha.”

Reinforcement of Weaker Assemblies

The reinforcement and strengthening of the weaker Assemblies has been the focus of the attention of the National and Regional Teaching Committees during the months of March and April to insure the maintenance of the Assemblies on April 21st. Despite these efforts it appears that four or five Assemblies may have to revert to group status because the loss of members through transfer has been too large to warrant replacements. Five of the “spiritual prizes,” however, that were endangered, have been held intact through the settlement of believers to replace those who have transferred to other countries and communities.

These settlers are: Mrs. Robbie Wilson, who moved to Little Rock; Mr. Frank Ashton, who moved to Laramie; Mrs. Pearl Bagge and Mrs. Vera Esinhart, who have settled in Sioux Falls; Mr. Robert Imagine, who has transferred to Reno; Miss Carol Nunn and Mr. and Mrs. Pennington Lewis, to Providence, R.I.

Owing to the great effort that has been put forth to strengthen and reinforce the smaller Assemblies, the National Teaching Committee feels that not more than four or five will revert to group status; and with the hope for increase in new Assemblies on April 21st it is expected that there will be one hundred fifty Assemblies in North America as the second year of the Second Seven Year Plan opens with twenty-five new Assemblies to be won by 1948 to achieve the Guardian’s goal of one hundred seventy-five.

Response to Request for The Guardian’s Letters

The Archives and History Committee wishes to express their deep appreciation of the response which the friends have made to the committee’s request for letters of the Guardian to be placed in the National Archives. There have been about 230 letters received this year, a large proportion being those sent since the request made at the time of the Anniversary of the Guardianship.

World Fellowship in Anchorage

The Anchorage Assembly sponsored a World Fellowship Dinner at the log-cabin USO on December 6. Although this event came during a very cold spell, with the temperature between 20° and 30° below zero, nearly 60 people attended. Among them were representatives of the following minority groups: Negro, American-Japanese, Alaskan Native, Mexican; natives of Ireland, Scotland and England were also present. Mrs. Frances Wells served as chairman. Short talks were given by Mrs. Eloise Hirt and Loyd Cleaves of the USO staff; Father Warren Penn of the local Episcopal Church; Major David Hamilton, who is in charge of a Negro squadron in Alaska; Corp. Arnold Simmel, refugee from Germany; Mr. Zelmar Lawrence, Negro representative; and Miss Dagmar Dole, Chairman of the Anchorage Baha’i Assembly. Mrs. Wells asked...
for volunteers to form a committee to arrange similar world fellowship dinners and it was gratifying to note that four members of the audience (three non-Bahá'ís) signified their intention of joining this committee. The program was concluded with the reading by Mrs. Helen Robinson of the Prayer of All Nations, which had been printed and distributed at each place at the table.

Six Bahá'ís attended the Jewish Feast of Hanukkah, which was held on December 18 at the USO. The public was invited to this Feast, but aside from USO staff members and one other, the Bahá'ís were the only non-Jews in attendance.

The Anchorage Bahá'ís are proud that Donna Robinson, the first Alaskan Bahá'í Youth, is setting a worthy example in the community by her friendliness toward youth of minority races. She entertained an Eskimo in her home on Christmas Eve, and was invited for Christmas dinner to the home of the only Japanese family there.

Anniversary of the Guardianship in New York

The celebration of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Guardianship on January 6 in New York was beautiful—dignified and at the same time happy—one of the most outstanding events ever held in the City of the Covenant. It was planned by Rafi Mottahedeh, assisted by an able committee. Special invitations were sent to each believer, so that attendance was exceptionally good. The hall was decorated with looped garlands of greens. A large copy of The Greatest Name, done in Persia, hung over the platform with beautiful spring flowers on a table beneath it. On each side of the platform tall crystal floor chandeliers with crystal hurricane shades held lighted candles. The edge of the platform was garlanded with greens. At the door each believer was given a boutonniere to wear. The program consisted of beautiful music by Bruce Wendell, followed by readings from “The Will and Testament” of ‘Abdu'l-Bahá and from the Guardian’s Letters; singing of the Twenty-Fourth and Twenty-third Psalms by Walter Olitzki, set to music by Safa Kinney; and readings woven together by short narrations by Helen Campbell, some of which were quoted from Ruhíyyih Khanúm’s article, “Twenty-five Years of Guardianship.” Every individual present signed an illuminated letter to the Guardian from the Community done on a parchment scroll. A cablegram was sent to the Guardian, photographs were taken, and dainty refreshments were served.

In Memoriam

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.— Bahá'u'lláh

Mrs. Harriet Beauchamp, Lima, Ohio.
Mr. Nicholas Herman, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. March 26, 1947.
Mr. Sol Flaumenbaum, Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Charles H. Hache, Riverside, California. April 19, 1947.
Miss Lydia Wentworth, Brookline, Massachusetts. March 19, 1947.

News from Australia

On November 28th, 1946, the marriage of Miss Hilda Brooks to Mr. Ewart Thomas was celebrated at Adelaide, South Australia. Bahá'ís from the world over will join the Australian friends in thanking Mrs. Thomas for the outstanding service she has given to the Cause and in praying that she may continue this service with the loving help of her husband, who has been a devoted follower of Bahá'u'lláh for many years.

The Australian Bahá'ís quarterly, “Herald of the South,” corresponding to our “World Order” magazine, is seeking more subscribers. It is a valuable teaching medium, frequently having features which will interest inquirers. A subscription may be secured by writing to the Treasurer, N.S.A., Hazírat'ul Quds, 2 Lang Road, Centennial Park, Paddington, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, enclosing international money order for 5 shillings. The Bahá'í group of Bahrain, Persian Gulf, in renewing...
May, 1947

their subscription, write that the Australian publications with their "love and enthusiasm for the Cause, so beautifully and amply radiated are continual sources of our happiness."

European Relief

The German friends are in great need of clothing, particularly underwear and stockings. Dresses and coats, of light weight now, and heavier for fall and winter, would also be acceptable. See April Bahá’í News for a description of the new CARE packages.

We need to remember that, although our international relief fund sent 200 CARE packages these will not last long.

Food and clothing can now be safely sent to Hungary. A believer of long standing in Budapest wrote February 7: "Our home was completely destroyed, the whole district where we lived is a heap of ruins... Our Bahá’í community has dwindled to nine members. All of us are in a very bad situation... No Bahá’í literature and no relief has reached us as yet... All of us are in need of clothing and shoes. Is it not possible to send food to our small community?" Address Mrs. Renee Szanto-Felbermann, Hidökluti ut. 31/a, Budapest II.

Marion Jack Teaching in Bulgaria

A Bulgarian Bahá’í who visited Sofia last December found Miss Marion Jack, known to her nearer friends as "Jackie," living "in a very small room without any comfort. She has to do everything for herself." She still teaches the Cause, holding three gatherings a week, one for English speaking, one for French speaking and one for those who speak only Bulgarian. Any friends of Miss Jack who would like to give something for her comfort may send their small contributions to Mrs. Etty Graeffe, 6, Cours des Bastions, Geneva, Switzerland or, as the Geneva News Exchange suggests, to Miss Edna True, 418 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois, who will forward them to Mrs. Graeffe.

Enrollments by Assemblies

Peoria 1, Halifax 1, East Orange 1, Los Angeles 2, San Francisco 1, New York 2, 2 youth, Minneapolis 2, Winnipeg 1, Sacramento 3, Wauwatosa 1, Montreal 1, Teaneck 1, Dumont 1, Albuquerque 2, Butte 1, Helena 1, Chicago 1, Muskegon 1, South Bend 1, Providence 1, 1 youth, St. Lambert 1 youth, Ann Arbor 1, 1 youth, Lansing 1.

Regional areas, March, 7 adults, 3 youth.

Calendar

Nineteen Day Feast
May 17
June 5
June 24

Anniversaries
May 2nd—the twelfth day of Ridván.
May 23rd—Declaration of the Báb, at about two hours after sunset.
May 29—Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh, at three A.M.

National Bahá’í Convention
May 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Directory Changes

Assemblies
Regina, Saskatchewan, Miss Edith S. McComb, Secretary, P.O. Box 264.
Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Mrs. Ayned McComb, Secretary, P.O. Box 524.
Committees
Regional Teaching Committee for Alaska. Miss Dagmar Dole resigned.

List of Assemblies Contributing to National Fund for March, 1947


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page Col.
Words of Bahá’u’lláh—“Assist Me” 7 2
Words of Bahá’u’lláh—“Personal Participation of Appointment of Deputies” 1 3
The Guardian’s Message to the Thirty-Ninth Annual Convention 6 1
National Spiritual Assembly The New Assemblies 6 2
Election Report 1947 Annual Convention 3 3
Treasurer’s Report 7 3
List of Assemblies Contributing to the National Fund 12 2
National Bahá’í Records 8 2
Progress of the Seven Year Plan 1
First European Believer under the Seven Year Plan 1 1
On the Eve of the Election in Latin America 1 1
National Public Meetings Miami 5 1
Birmingham 2 3
Nashville 9 1
Pittsburgh 9 3
Kenosha 10 1
Reinforcement of Weaker Assemblies 10 2
Summer Schools
International School Opens 3 2
Geneva—B. E. 1947 Program 3 2
Registrar Wanted for Louhelen 4 2
Adult Study at Green Acre 4 3
Response to Request for the Guardian’s Letters 10 3
News from Local Communities World Fellowship in Anchorage 10 3
Anniversary of the Guardian’s Visit to America 11 1
News from Other Lands
News from Australia 11 3
European Relief 12 1
Marion Jack Teaching in Bulgaria 12 1
In Memoriam 11 2
Enrollments 12 1
Calendar 12 2
Directory 12 2
Bahá’í Addresses 2 1
Photographs
Pioneers Sailing to Europe March 12 3
Miss Jennie Anderson, sailing to Sweden 4
Los Angeles Meetings 5
Pioneers sailing to Europe March 26 7
New Rdz Feast in Butte 9
Miss Dagmar Dole in Anchorage 10
Speakers Platform Celebration of 25th Anniversary of the Guardian’s Visit to New York 11
Wilmette Letter: 1947

MANCHEE GAEL, Convention Reporter

We aimed at Chicago and missed. The bottom had fallen out of the ceiling. They sent us to Moline and we slept on the ground in the darkened plane. Toward dawn we aimed at Chicago again; the brownish rocks in the white lake below us were skyscraper tops; we circled five times and missed. We went to South Bend. Then it was morning; we aimed at Chicago; we were sick, and ten hours late. We made it. At last we saw the last of the tinfoil mainliner from San Francisco.

Wilmette. The Temple comes through the trees and everything changes; you have a quicker heartbeat and sudden knowledge of mourning doves and warm air in the branches. I had already had one spring in San Francisco—now here was another.

You are ashamed, somehow, to enter the Temple, but you do, because it does not let you go. Everything new was business-like. I filled out a registration card and got my badge: blue ribbon for delegates, red for visitors; my name and address were typed on a card and slipped into a frame on the badge. (I noticed afterward that people were annoyed if you read their badges.)

Foundation Hall was full. George Latimer (Oregon) was speaking over a microphone, on Baha’i trusteeships. He said that when you elect the NSA you are also voting for trustees of six different legal bodies: of the Temple, Green Acre, and Wilhelm, Bosch, Wilson and Mathews properties. He praised the Geyserville Maintenance Committee for its hard work. He told us the Baltimore LSA gave $2,000 to the Green Acre Maintenance Committee, and that the Temple trustees had received a gift endowment from Amelia Collins (Arizona)—a building and property near the Temple. Estimated at $45,500.

THE INVASION OF EUROPE
Pioneers stood out in the audience. Edna True told us 10 more settlers will complete the quota (35) for this year. Besides, itinerants will leave: Mildred Mottahedeh (So. New York); Marion Little; Mason Remcy. And further volunteers. Books are a must: ETC spreads them in nine languages. You can help in three ways: volunteer to support yourself or a deputy over there; give more to the NSA Fund; build a strong home front. New European believers are pitifully grateful: "A light from heaven had touched me," wrote an Italian... Someone wanted to know if an LSA could support a pioneer as its project. Consensus: if it's done in addition to, not instead of, your NSA contribution.... Relief for Europe came up: Keep on sending packages—the sky is the limit, Philip Sprague (So. New York) said.... Don't burden the pioneers with requests for letters, Archie Tichenor (New Jersey) said. They're busy. Be satisfied with round robins.... Archie photographs departing pioneers; asked at one sailing why he snapped these unknowns, instead of some available maharajahs, Archie replied: "Maharajahs are made by history; these people are making history."

THE BIG MEETINGS
Nina Mathiesen told us how to put on a big public meeting: you start three months in advance with "prayer squads"; get a mailing list from each believer; rent a dignified, accessible hall; hire a public relations counsel; mail out questionnaire cards; get glossies of the Temple; visit editors, radio stations; invite the press to meet your speaker at lunch; hire the best music (Los Angeles secured 32 members of a university glee club); arrange Temple

Cables from the Guardian

To the Convention
Greatly touched by noble sentiments of delegates. Profoundly grateful, deepest love, ardent prayers.

Received May 4, 1947.

To the Canadian Baha’is
Share joys and hopes of dearly beloved members of Canadian Baha’i community; urge redouble efforts as hour of triumph approaches. Loving fervent prayers.

Received May 7, 1947.

To the National Spiritual Assembly
Deeply appreciate newly elected Assembly's noble determination. Praying for Baha’u’llah's guidance, sustaining grace and richest blessings for manifold, weighty tasks shouldered by its consecrated, privileged, resolute members. Deepest love.

Received May 8, 1947.

Continued on page 2

The first two native Italian believers enrolled under the Seven Year Plan: Sr. Rudolfo Salvetti, extreme left, and Sr. Augusto Salvetti, right. Mrs. Phillip Marengella, pioneers to Italy, are with them.
and book displays. Your chairman must be good in an emergency; he and the speaker must be emotionally stable. Choose simple readings; explain the names “Baha’u’llah” and “Baha’i”; avoid too many names; avoid being too universal, as people want to know: ‘What's this for me?’ Plan your follow-up before you plan your meeting. Horace Holley (No. Illinois): Have the audience write their questions, give them to the ushers. Bohor Kavelin (So. New York): Get a non-Baha’i “name” speaker to attract a large audience; (New York City will feature Ruth Bryan Owen). John Inglis (Alabama): It cost $500 to reach 75 people in Birmingham, but publicity, study classes, resulted. Consensus: Two years of big meetings haven't reached many additional people. Some people would not have been reached through publicity and advertising that is corollary to paid, has many actual enrollments. Two years of big meetings haven't brought in many actual enrollments—have placed us before the public and trained us.

One long-suffering delegate said of small communities: I'll travel hundreds of miles to address them, but at least they could guarantee me some non-Baha’i listeners. (Amen). BAHA’I RADIO IS POPULAR

You can send in for any of 13 professionally-written-and-acted recordings on the Faith. They’re dramatic style and the stations like them. 104 LSA’s—about 40 more last year—reported radio programs; Mildred Mottaheh reported the Committee's tackling the problem of home recordings for first time. They desperately need a National Radio Office, full-time. Cost: $15,000 a year. There were 776 Bahá’ís broadcasts this year, only 52 in 1944.

OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS

A man from Korea, two from Holland, one from Istanbul, are among those who made special stopovers at the Temple after seeing our publicity, Horace Holley (No. Illinois) said. Some two million readers have been reached through publicity and advertising this year—learned the name “Baha’i” and built up favorable associations to it. Free publicity is corollary to paid, has reached many additional people.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

The Convention isn’t only what happens on Convention floor. Between sessions, you meet the believers. Here are some of the things they are saying: Carol Hautz: “The Germans have the teachers; it's up to us to keep the teachers alive.” . . . Peggy True (Michigan): The whole convention is thrilled with how things are moving. But we want to balance the budget. We’re in the red. We have to evaluate each committee with relation to the budget . . . We need more teachers . . . People want to know: What will this faith do for me? They aren’t thinking about the atomic bomb or world peace—they feel that’s out of their hands. Carol Hautz: We wrote to every family in Whitefish Bay—3,000 families, 9,000 people—and sent each one a letter, pamphlet on principles, and questionnaire card. One town got the questionnaire card printed in the newspaper: readers could cut it out and mail it . . . Sara Kenny (So. California): I never felt such an impetus in the Cause before; I was never so aware of the “waiting servants,” the people of prepared consciousness . . . Fannie Jupnik (Wisconsin) on the NAS’s Declaration of Human Rights: It shows that man is primarily a spiritual being, and has both rights and responsibilities based on this fact . . . Allan Raynor of Toronto: We’ve got to have glossaries; terms like Sadratu’l-Muntahá are familiar to us, but non-Baha’is get impatient . . . Winifred Harvey, young Ottawa career woman in employment and payroll statistics: Voting on the basis of character and ability will be incorporated into the mores so that it will be a sin to cast a vote for any other motive. This is a new addition to morality; it was never revealed before, so that Baha’is are not fully trained in it, non-Baha’is not aware of it at all . . . Jameson Bond of Toronto: The Layman’s Movement for a Christian World had a “prayer vigil” at Paris Conference, prays for labor-management meetings, wants recognition of God in public schools . . . Marie Fingerlin showed me some Sioux Falls advertising: $5 ads are headed “Baha’i World Faith,” have quote from Teachings, address, phone of Community; they are popular . . . Mark Tobey (Washington, from floor): The LSA’s don’t spend enough time on their subjective side. If man always takes his consciousness and throws it out on the objective world, he may be quite efficient but he can’t open to the spiritual world. I’m tired of communities that have no beauty, no atmosphere, but a great deal of activity.

DECORATING THE INNER TEMPLE

Our outer Temple structure is now raised; the inner ornamentation is beginning. Perhaps our inner lives are about to develop, like the inner life of the Temple.

“You have come to this Convention at a crucial moment . . . at the perfect moment,” the Convention Chairman (Dorothy Baker, Ohio) said. We learned from Paul Haney that the two groups had been put to work on Temple plans. Exports had been hired at remarkably low cost. One man who probably gets $100 a day contributed his entire services for $400. Total work on plans cost about $6,334; an engineer told me $25,000 would not have been excessive. The two plans have become familiar to us as the McDaniel and the Reed plans. (Allen McDaniels, was supervising engineer of Temple construction 1929-43) . . . Some highlights: Reed plan would have elim-

Louhelen a capella choir singing at the Ridyán Feast during the Annual Convention in the House of Worship, May 2, 1947.
inared perforated dome, for technical reasons; McDaniel plan had seats on one level, capacity 1668 persons. Reed plan offered a bowl arrangement—sloping, banked seats. A national acoustics authority offers a satisfactory, although not a perfect, solution to sound problems... Both plans were submitted to the Guardian, and his answering letter was placed in our hands. Every believer should read it; the work concerns all of us, and we are literally building for the ages. (The letter will be in the "Annual Reports—Messages from the Guardian.")

Delegates felt as if the Guardian had been in the Temple, his instructions are so definite: The work is to cost not more than $550,000; the McDaniel plan is favored (perforated dome, etc.) with Reed incorporations if feasible. There will be no elevator in the Temple; Foundation Hall will remain as it is—some day a National Administrative Headquarters will fulfill its purpose. Devotional part of Feasts will be held in auditorium (upstairs); the rest downstairs. No permanent reading desk—this "savors of a pulpit"; a portable one may be used...

Other discussion highlights: Original Bourgeois design will be modified, just as the Master instructed the size be modified. The Guardian favors elimination of the original eight upper rooms. Center seats in auditorium will face East. A 6-months study of lighting has already been undertaken.

Continued on page 5

“European Teaching Lies Close to the Hearts..." Now that a number of pioneers to the European field have reached their destinations, the European Teaching Committee is receiving notice that Bahá’í groups are being formed in the several countries. Thus the Administrative Order is being set up, and the systematic basis for the European campaign is being laid in conformity with the Guardian’s express wishes. Surely this nucleus of devoted workers will prove a magnet in every country to draw to them the power and the confirmations which will enable them to establish an Assembly in the near future.

On May 9th, Mrs. Elinor Hollbough of the Glendale California Community sailed on the "Drottningholm" to join the Anders Nielsens and Dagmar Dole in Copenhagen, Denmark. Mr. Mason Remey is making his final preparations to go to Europe (about May 25th) as our first itinerant teacher. Mr. Remey plans to visit every one of our "goal" countries during this trip, and we know that this visit will be of the greatest assistance to the work everywhere.

Mrs. Mildred Mottehedeh left for Europe directly after the Convention, and through her U.N. connections will be able to open up a great number of valuable and interesting contacts for our pioneers.

We are delighted to report that the second native Italian believer is now enrolled. He is Rudolfo, the brother of Sr. Augusto Salvetti, our first Italian believer. These two brothers are aflame with the Faith, and the Maringellas report that they are interesting many of their relatives and friends.

Through consultation at the Convention and through conferences with the different friends attending the Convention, the E.T.C. is cognizant of the fact that the European teaching campaign lies close to the hearts of all the North American believers. This is a great source of gratitude and re-inforcement to the committee. The task of furthering this teaching work and of maintaining the pioneers in the field is going to be a prodigious one during the coming year, and the Committee will need the co-operation and the prayers of the entire Bahá’í Community.

SPECIAL NOTICE
Green Acre Bahá’í School opens June 23rd and closes Sept. 6, 1947. To stimulate early attendance a special 10% discount will be allowed on all WEEKLY RATES from June 23rd to July 15th. This discount does not apply to daily or week end rates. The management would appreciate early reservations.
Mrs. Flora Valentine, Manager
National Spiritual Assembly

"TO HOLD OPEN THE DOORS . . ."

Beloved Friends:

The National Spiritual Assembly has sent a letter of greeting and announcement of plans and policies to every individual member of the American Bahá’í community. The aim of that message was to contribute to the spiritual solidarity and resolve of the entire Bahá’í body at the beginning of the second year of the second Seven Year Plan.

The tasks allotted to us need the full awareness and conscientious effort of all. We are all alike, the trustees designated by the Master for the fulfillment of the Divine Plan.

Among the principal points to note this year are:

1. The National Budget calls for a total income through contributions of $300,000.00, an increase of $50,000 over the Budget adopted last year. Two projects alone call for funds equal to the entire Budget—Temple interior ornamentation and European teaching, whose combined appropriations are $150,000.00.

2. The National Assembly is withdrawing as rapidly as possible its members from work on National Committees, in order to maintain the Assembly as an administrative rather than executive body, develop its own collective capacity and preserve clear vision for the whole area of Bahá’í activity in North America.

3. National Committee functions have in several cases been redefined as opportunity for better coordination of the work became apparent.

4. As far as possible, National Committee appointments have been made on the basis of service on only one Committee.

5. The NSA has adopted a schedule of monthly meetings, as published on another page. In addition, consultation will be provided to National Committees between the monthly meetings, thus making for a more continuous contact with the different phases of the national work and better coordination of effort.

6. The national campaign in North America includes the formation of a National Spiritual Assembly in Canada in 1948; the formation of a total of 175 local Assemblies in the United States and Canada by April 21, 1948; the beginning of work on the Temple interior this calendar year; and a bolder proclamation of the Faith to the masses.

7. Thirty-five pioneers are to be maintained in Europe, requiring the dispatch of eight or nine new workers during the next few months.

8. Continuance of intensive work in Central and South America, where two National Assemblies are to be formed in 1951.

The pamphlet issued last year on the four objectives of the Seven Year Plan continues to be a source of information on the main features of our work.

The world around us is losing heart. The way ahead seems overshadowed to the non-believer. The momentum of the negative forces is accelerated.

This is the mission of faith in Bahá’u’lláh: to create assurance, reveal the light of the Sun of Truth, unveil the mysteries of the inner life, and hold open the doors to the unification of mankind by the new world order of Bahá’u’lláh.

The Convention accepted the responsibility of this crucial year. It generated the power to galvanize the whole community: As we individually strive to serve, the unmeasurable resources of the Kingdom will come to our aid.

Devotedly, your fellow-workers,
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Excerpts from "Geneva Exchange"

Austria: The Bahá’í Spiritual Assembly of Vienna has been reconstituted . . . and are in close touch with the Geneva Bureau. They are translating “Bahá’í Procedure” . . . have an active children’s group, ages ranging from 7 to 20.

Czechoslovakia: “The Czech Friends of the Bahá’í Cause” gathered for the Naw-Rúz celebration . . . sent greetings over twelve signatures. A newly declared believer in Prague has held the Fast.

France: The Paris friends have asked for close communication with the Geneva Bureau and hope that it will be possible to route some of the French-speaking pioneers and itinerant teachers through France. . . . The matter will be brought up for consultation at the Swiss Bahá’í Convention in Zurich.

Poland: Another request for two New Eras in Polish for the Warsaw University has been met.

Turkey: From Iskenderun (formerly Alexandretta) a believer who had in the past been in touch with the Geneva Bureau has written again. French literature is needed there.

Yugoslavia: A letter from Heidelberg, Germany, requested that a
"New Era" be sent to a German prisoner of war in Yugoslavia...
The book reached him quickly and he has written asking for a study book in Esperanto in order to give a course in his camp...

India: There are seventy-one Bahá'í centers in this country. Their 18th Annual Convention was held April 27 to May 1.

Switzerland: Our two pioneers, Elsa Steinmetz and Fritzi Shaver, are at their posts in Berne...
The community now has five members...

Loving Bahá'í greetings to the friends in all lands...

NOTE: The British, according to their physicians, are now in danger of loss of health through inadequate diet. For British Bahá'í addresses, see "BAHÁ'Í NEWS" for November, 1946, p. 15.

Wilmette Letter

(Continued from page 3)

made. One delegate suggested ramps instead of stairs, another asked about construction materials, another about colors, another advised study of latest techniques used in UN installations, another recommended consultation with Bahá'í artists...

This work will now begin. We must finish it by 1953—50th anniversary of inception of the Temple project. This means an extra $100,000 to the National fund every year for six years. We can do it.

SOMETHING NEW IS ADDED

Many of us never experienced real mass consultation before. Promptness was new. So was frankness without hard feelings. Consultation was assembly-line in the good sense: we felt like producers. We had the kind of consultation the Guardian describes: "dispassionate, anxious, and cordial." There were 3 reasons for this: excellent agenda; expert chairmanship; more maturity. (We suggest importing this convention type of consultation into 19-day Feasts: why not a timed agenda, distributed in advance?)

MAKE YOUR COMMUNITY GROW

Charlotte Linfoot (No. Calif.): Our publicity attracts the masses: What have we to show them? They must find us strong, vigorous. LSA must judge itself in relation to whole world community; know, use its local talent; appoint only necessary committee, check on them; learn how to use the 19-day Feast...

Mildred Mottahedeh (So. New York): Bahá'ís having mutual financial dealings might work through the LSA, thus avoid future disaffection...

Charles Krug (Mass.): I defy an Assembly to get into trouble if they will read Promulgation I, 69...

Charles read a letter from the Guardian regarding some trouble which had occurred that we should forget the past; that the more people dwell on differences, shortcomings, failures the more discouraged, negative they become; it is better to get busy on constructive plans...

Larry Hautz (Wisconsin): At present a few are worked to death, others not used.

We need a national census to screen out abilities, talents...

Marvin Newport (No. Illinois): Train prospective believers carefully, or you harm the community...

Allah Kalantar (New Jersey): Listen to people without prejudice; don't say "He is old—he is young, etc." but "What is he saying?"

Rafi Mottahedeh (So. New York): Start a community project e.g., help a minority group—the purpose being not to teach but to live the life...

Charles Payman (So. New York): We need strong LSA's with full attendance...

Rustam Payman (So. New York): We need a coordinating committee made up of all committee chairmen...

Rafi Mottahedeh (So. New York): Don't neglect those who fail to attend meetings; give them special care...

Emeric Sala (Quebec): Start a community project e.g., help a minority group—the purpose being...

Philip Sprague (So. New York): Our problems reflect lack of knowledge of the Teachings; the Word of the Manifestation is identical with the power of the Manifestation...

Terah Smith (No. New York) on fund contributions: Dwell on the theme "He is the All Bountiful." Learn the law of giving. The world has tried to establish an economics on the principle of scarcity...

Annie Remer (So. Carolina): How conspicuous we are in new areas. People point us out, say "That's a Bahá'í. I don't know what it is...."

Joseph Noyes (No. New York): We need time-economy. LSA could consolidate its work...

Florence Reeb (Ohio): We meet after every large meeting, to evaluate its strong, weak points.

YOUTH ON THE MARCH

Under the clarified youth status, said Charles Ioas (Chairman, Youth) every youth of fifteen or more is a member of the Community. Bahá'ís youth have contacted other organizations in schools; helped with large scale meetings in universities (700 people at University of Illinois); are doing regional circuit, national and international work; have their vacation-intensives to contribute. Commit-

Continued on page 6

Principal speakers at Youth Banquet, Georgian Hotel, Evanston, during Annual Convention. Left to right Annamarie Malloch, Henry Jarvis who plans to return to Heidelberg, Germany where he served as a captain in the U. S. Army; Louise Baker recently returned from pioneer work in Puebla and Coatepec, Mexico; and Stanley Bolton just lately from Sydney, Australia who served as chairman of the banquet.
Twenty-nine new students came to hear Emeric Sala in the Bahá'í Center in the new goal city of Cienfuegos, Cuba. The picture shows Emeric and his wife, Rosemary, center, with Jean Silver, pioneer, just behind them, surrounded by some of the students of the Faith as they came out of the Center during the Salas' visit there in January.

About Bahá'í Children

Child training was never discussed with such fervor before. Annamarie Mattoon of Wilmette recommended the Brattleboro, Vt. plan for children's meetings: a child prays; 2 or 3 principles are read to children from "A Bahá'í Child's ABC," and they discuss the reading; art work; closing prayer; refreshments. They also collect a fund for NSA. She suggested using children in Bahá'í activities: to open door, serve guests, pray—but don't force them. A children's meeting could be held to coincide with the regional meeting. More literature coming soon. Delegates' suggestions: Train your children as Bahá'ís; make them proud they're Bahá'ís; if there's one child in a community, have a child's class; if children can't come to class, send class to them; parents' education is the real problem; Louhelen summer school holds Bahá'í Parents' Conferences with leading educators.

Neighbors to the South

Louise Baker brought the first contribution from the Mexican provinces to our fund: A gold piece one of the new Mexican believers received as a child from her mother . . . Emeric Sala and Dr. Malcolm King reported Latin America has been growing faster than we, might surpass us. Octavio Illescas believes "Latin America will burn with the joy of the Bahá'í Faith." Sr. Carlos Vergara, early Mexican believer, Chairman Mexico City LSA, greeted us. A Brazilian assistant consul and a Bogotá believer, were among those invited to platform by spokesman Elizabeth Cheney, (pioneer, Paraguay). Edwin Mattoon, Wilmette, told us visual aids are widely used in teaching there; we were shown about 35 slides of Latin-American believers, conferences. Latin America wants pioneers—especially men.

"Thirty-Four by Forty-Eight"

"More" is the word for North
BAHÁ’I NEWS

“Consultation Is of Vital Importance”

“In this Cause, consultation is of vital importance; but spiritual conference and not mere voicing of personal views is intended. . . . The purpose is to emphasize the statement that consultation must have for its object the investigation of truth. He who expresses an opinion should not voice it as correct and right but set it forth as a contribution to the consensus of opinion; for the light of reality becomes apparent when two opinions coincide. . . . Man should weigh his opinions with the utmost sincerity, calmness and composure. Before expressing his own views he should carefully consider the views already advanced by others. If he finds that a previously expressed opinion is more true and worthy, he should accept it immediately and not willingly hold to an opinion of his own. . . . Therefore true consultation is spiritual conference in the attitude and atmosphere of love. Members must love each other in the spirit of fellowship in order that good results be forthcoming. Love and fellowship are the foundation.”

—'ABBÁ’L-BÁHÁ

NEW IDEA AT THE TEMPLE

A projector, turntables and screen have been installed in Foundation Hall. Every half hour, visitors will be shown a 15-minute illustrated talk here: slides showing Temple’s growth, meaning, with music, professional voice-recording. We hope this feature will be made available for sale to communities: it’s new, appealing.

VOTING WAS EASY

There seemed less tension, more ease, at this voting than ever before. The balloting became one phase of many activities, instead of the star event.

BAHÁ’I SCHOOLS

After Marguerite Sears spoke for Green Acre—where Eliot mothers gladly send their non-Bahá’í children to junior classes, youth have a four weeks session, adults praise the intellectual fare—I wondered how the other spokesman could compete; they did well, however: Louheilen (W. Foster) has separate sessions for juniors (16-14 years) and seniors (15-22 years), besides Parents’ Conference and general sessions; famed for new ideas, new talent, this School is now working on a complete Bahá’í curriculum for all. (The Egglestons have just given the School and immediate land, about 9½ acres, to the Faith). The International School (Ophelia Crum) trains pioneers for Europe, Latin America. Geyserville (Arthur Dahl) in the California vineyards, stresses workshop techniques. When Canada was asked to report on its school, John Robarts, Toronto, said, Which one? We have five, adding he didn’t wish to seem competitive, but all are outstanding. One, newly given to the Faith, is in the Laurentian Mountains, north of Montreal . . . .

Encouraged to add to the agenda, delegates suggested about 15 more topics. Among these: National fund; European relief; race unity; policy-statement on Communism; state conventions; religious instruction in public schools; universal script; wire recorders; county fairs; national talent census; action with State Boards of Education regarding Bahá’í holidays.

HAVE YOU INDEPENDENT MEANS?

Saturday morning we studied prayerfully the Guardian’s Convention cable. The Guardian asks for pioneering or deputizing in Europe by “all American believers possessing independent means . . . .” Most persons decided they had independent means, whatever their financial condition. Mamie Seto (No. Calif.) said: We are not limited by our independent means. We are limited by our love. A believer made a large contribution; people said, he has much money; I said no, he has much love . . . . Non-contributing Assemblies were frequently mentioned; these, it seems, are not always the same Assemblies; to many, it was incredible that any LSA would neglect its National contribution.

Continued on page 8
TEACHING BY AIR

William Sears emceed some of the National radio shows for us. These include twenty spot announcements, present the Cause in striking new ways, allow tieups with local activities, are available on loan from the National Radio Committee.

THE BIG MEETINGS AGAIN

It costs about $600 to $1000 to present a large public meeting. Re-budgeting of activities was stressed. Other topics discussed: Teaching by mailing out literature (Peggy True); value of public relations counsel (William C. Henning); request that NSA ask neighboring restaurants to remove racial barriers during Convention.

THE HOLY PORTRAIT OF THE Báb

When a special meeting, the NSA voted to permit viewing of the Báb's Portrait. One reason: This is the last Convention the Canadian Baha'ís will share with us... Viewing the holy Portrait went forward with dignity and silence. A prayer was read by Pari Zia-Walizadeh; Rustam Payman chanted in Persian; Edwin Mattoon quietly directed us as to procedure. The Portrait was unwrapped from a white silk cloth with large blue-purple designs; it was set between vases of white and pink flowers; we saw again, as at the Centenary, the gold frame, the green mat with rays of gold light through it, the slight, seated figure of the Báb; His grave eyes looked at each of us as we paused briefly before it. (You thought for a moment of the sun flashing on Him and His band of heroes, riding through Persia in the morning of the Cause and heard the battle music in the air). Only for Baha'is, the viewing took about 35 minutes.

AMONG THE PIONEERS

I chatted with some pioneers: Bob and Margot Miessler leave for Sao Paulo; Amelia Bowman for Scandinavia; the Alvin Blums for New Zealand with their baby daughter. Jean Gates (Colorado) has confirmed several Chinese officers, college students, leaves for China this fall, plans to open a Baha'i cooperative in Hong Kong; Robert Imagire (Nevada) leaves at the Guardian's direction for Japan. Dr. Malcolm King, just back from Haiti, Domini ca, Jamaica, showed me a letter from Elena Marsella, Boston pioneer to Dominica; excerpt: "I never felt things so completely out of my hands. All I did was talk, and people just flowed to me."

MAGIC, 1947 MODEL

John Allen of Burlingame, California, presented a Police Wire Recorder to the Temple. Sunday the machine introduced itself: "I am a wire recorder... to record all the business of the beloved Faith of Baha'u'llah..." George True explained revolutionary uses of the hair-thin wire: it reproduces sound accurately and permanently; records meetings; keeps historical records; is erasable; can be used by public speakers to rehearse. (My guess: it will make all permanently guarded in our speech). We understand it recorded No. California delegate Ali Yazdi's Ridvan address; Esther Wilson's Louhelen a capella Baha'i Choir, also featured on Ridvan program; the public Temple talk given Sunday evening by William Sears.

GOODBYE TO CANADA

Meanwhile 26 Canadians met at the Hazratu'l-Quds, cabled the Guardian, appointed a secretary, Laura Davis, previewed their first Convention. It looks as if the United States will be in for strong spiritual competition from both Latin America and Canada.

SEND MORE PACKAGES

Henry Jarvis left Germany two months ago. He told us: The German friends, out of touch for ten years, want personal contact with believers everywhere — especially the U.S. and Canada, because they're interested in Baha'i Administration as developed here. Keep on sending packages. A gift, small here, looks big there. They need strength to teach.

TOWARD THE CLOSE

Sunday we had more reports, comments; they went fast, because we were moving along on the dot. Examples: Beatrice Ashton, for Study Aids: Every community that is growing is a community that is studying... Kenneth Christian (Michigan), on Pamphlet Literature: We need both intellectual and popular material. Pamphlets must be simple, attractive, cheap. Temple visitors are given a pearl-gray pamphlet, containing Temple picture suitable for framing. This new pamphlet has been written for readability, using formula of Rudolph Flesch in "The Art of Plain Talk."... College Speakers Bureau: This agency makes college contacts for speakers... Ross Woodman (instructor, University of Manitoba) on work at his University: 7,000 students aware of the Faith; thriving Baha'i group; goal: permanent campus Baha'i Office... Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick (Michigan) on World Order Magazine: It has 2,500 subscribers. Conensus: direct the Magazine toward the general public... Edwin Mattoon, on National Archives: The Guardian has said certain Tablets, Relics, are the American believers' "most precious possessions." We
have no writings of the Báb; 7 Tablets of Bahá’u’lláh; about 2,000 of the Master, 1,000 of the Guardian. Send these precious belongings to the Archives; otherwise they may be destroyed, or lost by non-Bahá’í relatives. They are carefully indexed, photostated ... Voted: Request NSA to find the gold trowel with which the Master first broke Temple earth ... Adopted: A Convention resolution for release to press, on behalf of 898 Bahá’ís registered at Convention ... Library Committee: Keep the books circulating; keep them up-to-date; include Bahá’í World and World Order Magazine. Questionnaire Committee — Nina Matthisen: We now know what interests people most (themselves); public response gratifying; their money donations invariably returned, with thanks; use the F4 card, and forthcoming youth card; they’ve good advance agents for public meetings. Of Ward (Chairman) and Sylvia Calhoon: “Literature is carried out of their house literally in bushel baskets.” ... Amédee Gibson (So. Calif.) on Service to the Blind: Reach the blind through the sighted. For each blind individual she has contacted hundreds of sighted. Embossed Temple picture, talking book, prayer book, etc., already or soon available ... David Earl: World Language Committee will help you study Esperanto, meet Esperantists, translate your Esperanto correspondence to and from abroad. Include an Esperanto letter in your relief package. Take no sides on any proposed world language ... Visual Education: Marion Longyear (So. Calif.) described Visual Aids and their present wide use in teaching the Faith, urged Summer Schools develop photographers, script writers, machine operators. Excellent graphics by Arthur Patterson demonstrated ... John Clifford (Oregon) introduced proposed world script: “Ispo”—short for “International Steno-Pigailaphy.” ... Recommended to NSA Present Bahá’í Teachings to Education Boards as material to be taught in public schools; ask that Bahá’í pupils be excused from school for religious study ... Race relations were ably presented. The South had such spokesmen as A. Louise Taylor (Georgia) and Olive Alexander (Florida). On April 29 the Ku Klux Klan broke up an interracial Bahá’í meeting in Atlanta. Louise Taylor: Negroes have no guarantee of safety. When an invasion occurs, it’s too late to get help. We must obtain pre-guarantees, develop the local status, prestige of the Faith ... Olive Alexander: Mix with other progressive groups; be united, sure of yourselves, before you act ... Elsie Austin: We must formally protest such actions to the authorities; mixed religious groups are meeting in the South today; Bahá’í meeting places must be carefully selected; “plant where the flower can grow.” It’s not enough to have a few members of other races on Administrative bodies: we need overall programming; a long-range viewing of these things not as a race but as a human problem ... It was recommended to discontinue the Race Unity Committee.

The National Treasurer — who makes our hopes realities—reminded us again that in addition to national contributions of $250,000 (as of last year) we must provide an extra $100,000 this year, to decorate the interior of the Temple ... “He is the All-Bountiful.”

THE SUMMING UP

Even with expert management, there was not enough time. The activities are too rich and varied, the problems too complex, even for four streamlined days. Here were the main features: The European, North and South American teaching campaigns; inception of Temple decoration; the farewell to Canada; nature consultation; widespread use of modern mechanical and visual teaching techniques. Transcending all, the fact that this is the 25th anniversary of the Guardianship, and that we saw the Portrait of the Báb.

AFTER WORD

That’s how the Convention looked to me. I know there were as many Conventions there as there were people, and that much was said and done, ever so valuable, which I have not reported. It’s always a big, confusing experience to see the Convention—you catch what you can of it.

That last night we walked round and round the top steps. Each time around we’d walk right into the moon; way to the south, Chicago stained the sky winecolored. The Temple glistened in the cold moonlight. It kept drawing us round and round again. I kept thinking of all the generations who will circumambulate this “Place of the Mention of God” long after we are gone; and of an old Negro folk song that goes: “Meetin’ at the Buildin’ soon be over, soon be over, soon be over . . .”
Louhelen Bahá’í School Summer Program 1947

Junior Youth Session
Ages, 10 to 14, Inclusive
June 30-July 11, Inclusive
BAHÁ'í PRINCIPLES—Peggy True
BUILDING CHARACTER — Paul Becker
HISTORY OF THE BAHÁ'Í FAITH—Annamarie Mattoon
NATURE, ARTS AND CRAFTS—STUDY PERIOD
RECREATION AND INFORMAL PROGRAMS
Counsellors—The Faculty
"You must demonstrate, by your high moral standards, your courtesy, your integrity and nobility, that our Faith is not one of words but truly changes the heart and conduct of its adherents." Guardian's message to the Junior Youth, September 1946.

Workshop Session
July 14-25, Inclusive
BAHÁ'í SOCIAL SCIENCE — Florence Reeb.
Significance of the "Oneness of Mankind"; Word of God, the integrating force; Justice, an expression of collective conscience; social aspects of Religion.
MODERN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND TRENDS—George R. True
The light of the Bahá’í teachings brought to bear upon modern social trends.
PSYCHOLOGY OF TEACHING — Elizabeth Cheney
Study and discussion of psychological principles, mediums and techniques useful in teaching the Bahá’í Faith; practice in teaching.
Varied evening programs — Lawrence Hautz

Conference of Bahá’í Parents
July 26-27
Consultation on how to meet the special problems of Bahá’í parents.
Sylvia Paine Parmelee M.A., Rexford C. Parmelee, Ph.D., Directors.

Mid-Summer Session
July 23-August 1, Inclusive
NEW HORIZONS FOR THE CHILD
A combination workshop and lecture approach to child problems presented by Bahá’i and non-Bahá’i specialists. — Sylvia and Rexford Parmelee, Directors.

Laboratory Session
August 4-15 Inclusive
BAHÁ'í COMMONWEALTH—Archie Tichenor
Bahá’í administrative plan and institutions; Bahá’í Community; scope of Universal Peace.
UNDERSTANDING THE PURPOSE OF LIFE—Gretchen Westervelt
The reality and value of Religion; elements of spiritual growth.
HUMAN RELATIONS — Mathew Bullock
Study and discussion of interracial work, including political, economic and psychological conditions.
VARIED EVENING PROGRAMS—Bertha Kirkpartick

Senior Youth Session
Ages, 15 to 24, Inclusive
August 16-29, Inclusive
SOCIAL ASPECTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL LIFE—Lou Henlen
Elements of spiritual growth; personal living; family relationships.
MODERN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND TRENDS—William Sears
The light of the Bahá’í teachings brought to bear upon modern social trends.

HOW TO TEACH—Elizabeth Cheney
Psychology of Teaching mediums and techniques; subject matter.
COURSE ON DISPLAYS AND EXHIBITS—Arthur Patterson
Illustrated lectures on theory of colors, arrangements and materials, followed by class work. To provide elementary training in presenting the Cause through use of displays and exhibits.
BAHÁ'í FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES—Helene Patterson
Introductory Course.
VARIED EVENING PROGRAMS.
Counsellors—Edith McLaren and Albert Segen.

Rates and Reservations
Rates—For room and meals, per day, per person.
Adults: Single room $3.00
Double room 2.50
Dormitory 2.00
Youth 1.75
(Note: Above rate applies only for Youth in attendance at regular Youth Sessions)
Single meals for visitors not in regular attendance:
Breakfast 40c
Lunch 60c
Dinner 85c
Reservations should designate:
1. Session in which you wish to enroll.
2. Type of accommodations preferred, and, if you wish transportation from Flint or Davison, the exact date, time and place of your expected arrival.
Please make reservations by mail as early as possible to:
LOUHELEN BAHÁ'Í SCHOOL
3208 South State Road
Davison, Michigan

Glimpsing Local Communities
Dumont, N. J.
A highlight of the teaching efforts was the public presentation of the Bahá’í Faith at the Parent-Teachers Association open meeting at the Washington School. At this time the Cause was for the first time presented in Dumont publicly under non-Bahá’í auspices. The Bahá’ís had sent a form letter to different local organizations, offering free speakers on timely subjects. As a result Allah K. Kalantar was invited to speak on "Brotherhood" from the Bahá’í point of view, with a Rabbi, a local Lutheran minister and a
Laurentian Bahá’í School
Inaugural Session
At Beau lac, Que., Canada
July 26-August 2, 1947
Opening: Saturday, July 26, 8 p.m.
Open House: Sunday, July 27th, 8:30 p.m.
Rates: Room with meals $21.00 per week; $3.25 per day. (Single meals: Luncheon 80c, Dinner $1.25)
Reservations: Apply to Mrs. Carl Lohse (Atlantic 7217), 3500 Ridge
wood Ave., Apt. 17, Montreal.
Limited accommodation make early reservations necessary.

Bahá’í Youth and Children will, we hope, attend Youth Week, August 9th to 16th. If, however, some parents cannot attend the general session without their children, the Maintenance Committee will try to accommodate them by special arrangement.

Beaulac is 9 miles north from Rawdon on the road to St. Donat. Take bus to Rawdon and there transfer to the St. Donat bus. By car drive 42 miles north of Montreal on Route 18; turn left at the filling station one mile before reaching Rawdon and drive another 8 miles to Beaulac on St. Donat Highway No. 18.

The Laurentian Bahá’í Farm is open for the friends all year round. It is situated in good skiing country. Should you wish to spend your summer or winter vacation there, please write to William Suter, Beau lac, Que., for further information.

Youth Weeks at Green Acre

The Green Acre Youth Committee has been diligently working all spring, trying to arrange four weeks of study, play and fellowship for this summer. We have been fortunate in securing such excellent teachers as Mrs. Marguerite Sears, Dr. Genevieve Coy, Mr. Borah Kavelin, Mrs. Ellen Sims: we have arranged interesting courses: "God Passes By," "Blueprint for Unity," "Self-Improvement," "Workshop in Teaching," and many others; we've made plans for fun-producing extra-curricular activities — dances, weiner roasts, ocean swimming, stunt night, etc. Now the success of the four weeks is up to the Youth themselves.

We would like to encourage Youth from all over the country to come to Green Acre this summer. We want to know the Youth from Chicago, from Georgia, from California, from Texas, as well as the ones from Maine, New Jersey and Maryland. We want to work and play together and to truly put into practice the principles of "living together" that our wonderful Faith teaches us.

Come for one or for all four of the Youth weeks this summer. The dates are: July 6-12, July 13-19, Aug. 17-23, Aug. 24-30.

—GREEN ACRE YOUTH COMMITTEE

Green Acre Needs Furniture

Communities or groups interested in having a share in furnishing bedrooms at the Green Acre Dormitory, in consultation with the Management, kindly write Mrs. Flora Valentine, Mgr., Green Acre, Eliot, Maine.

Green Acre Youth Committee. From left to right: Mary Jane Langrall, Jessica Perry, Edith Seger, June Sims, Clarence Langrall. Not appearing in picture: Harrison Langrall.

A Junior’s Book of Religion

Have you and your children read "A Junior’s Book of Religion" written by Marguerite True and approved by the Child Education Committee?

Mrs. True has divided the booklet into three parts. Part I tells of the prophets from Adam through Bahá’u’lláh. In Part II there is a description of the World of Tomorrow under the headings "The New Laws for the Nations" and the "Laws for the People of the World." In Part III fundamental questions which children ask about the Faith are answered.

The book, which costs twenty cents (20c), may be ordered from the Bahá’í Publications at 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.
musical program and heard Mr. Anthony Y. Seto, chairman of the San Francisco Baha'i Assembly give the talk of the evening. Mr. Seto praised the Cosmos Club for its outstanding effort in the promotion of good-will and understanding between the races and outlined the Baha'i belief whom were several college professors and served by the friends. The program included readings from the Writings, prayers and excerpts from articles on the subject of Naw-Ruz, the Baha'i calendar, etc. The full attendance numbered 56, including 30 non-Baha'is. The invited guests, amongst whom were several college professors and their wives, teachers from other local schools and others prominent in education, expressed appreciation for a most wonderful evening.

Boise, Idaho

As always, Naw-Ruz was a most happy celebration in Baha'i communities throughout the land. In Boise, Idaho this special event was held in the Recreation Lounges of the Boise Junior College. A delightful buffet supper was prepared and served by the friends. The program included readings from the Writings, prayers and excerpts from articles on the subject of Naw-Ruz, the Baha'i calendar, etc. The full attendance numbered 56, including 30 non-Baha'is. The invited guests, amongst whom were several college professors and their wives, teachers from other local schools and others prominent in education, expressed appreciation for a most wonderful evening.

Honolulu

The Honolulu Baha'is celebrated Naw-Ruz at the Baha'i Center with a most beautifully planned affair. Decorations consisted of potted palms, rare ferns and flowers. Huge bouquets of 'cup-of-gold' filled the air with exotic scent and emphasized the idea of spring and the New Year. In back of the table was placed a plaque of chartreuse on which the Greatest Name was outlined in fresh miniature lavender daisies. A stand with a candelabrum containing seven candles, was placed to the right of the speaker, and during the reading of 'Abdu'l-Baha's "Seven Lights of Unity" the electric lights were dimmed. As the meaning of the seven candles was read, each of the candles was in turn lighted. The program included talks and music and refreshments were served at tables set out on the lawn. The Center was filled to capacity, with many extra chairs added to accommodate the unusual number attending.

Charlottetown, P.E.I.

From Charlottetown, P.E.I. comes a long newspaper article on "Why a New Religion?" placed in the Public Forum column of the "Charlottetown Guardian." This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest.

Greensboro, N.C.

Twenty-four people attended the Regional Teaching Conference held in Greensboro, N.C. on April 5-6. The theme of the conference was "Answering the Guardian's Call." Each speaker from within the re-selected prayers and readings beautifully presented. Annie Roman in reviewing the "God-Given Mandate" opened with the stirring words spoken by Siyyid Kasim to Mullá Husayn as he bade him go forth on his quest, "I declare you equal to the task." Space does not permit us to report all details, but we wish to share a few of the highlights with our readers. "The Individual's Role" in the Guardian's Plan was discussed. Mrs. Margaret Ruhe pointed out that each Baha'i should evaluate his own assets and talents, and make sure that he is using and developing every possible skill for the good of the Faith. Helen Bishop spoke about prayer and stated that "we show the degree of our attachment to the Faith by our use of prayers." She continued, "If we love God, we mention Him; we cannot help it. We pray because love of God is in us; prayer shows our degree of attachment to God. When we pray, we become instruments of God's purpose. Through prayer the inner hearing is quickened."

Katherine McPhee stated that we can aid the world objectives by contributing to the National Fund. She quoted the following words of Shoghi Effendi: "We must be like the fountain or spring that is continually emptying itself of all that it has and is continually being refilled from an invisible source." Mr. Paul Haney in speaking of the Guardian's guidance said, "The Guardian walks a step ahead of us in all our Baha'i service."

There was an excellent spirit of fellowship and unity throughout the conference. The hospitality of the Greensboro friends was great. Margaret Ruhe, chairman of the Regional Teaching Committee of Ga., S.C. and N.C., closes her report by saying, "There is something electric when Baha'is come together and all of us felt impelled to re dedicate ourselves to the great work that is ours."

Butte, Montana

Classes have been held for teaching each Tuesday evening, on Wednesdays for Procedure and Administration, Thursdays, open forums are held, and on Fridays a prayer meeting.

Public meetings have been held each month all year. Three outside speakers have visited and also Baha'i speakers from within the region. Forty-five new contacts have shown definite interest during this time. During the year, two new believers were welcomed.

Evanston, Ill.

A talk on "The Baha'i Faith" by Carl Scheffler was presented as one of six talks in an interest group on Comparative Religions at the First Presbyterian Church in Evanston, Illinois. On other evenings guest teachers spoke about the Jews, the Quakers, the Unitarians, the Hindus and the Presbyterians.

On April 10th, the Evanston Baha'i Community conducted a public forum at Northwestern University in the chapel of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. Those taking part were: Miss Betty Pace of World Republic, Inc., a national-wide student movement for world government Continued on page 14
## National Budget for Second Year Of Second Seven Year Plan

### OBJECTIVES ONE AND THREE

#### A. Consolidation — Formation of New National Assemblies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>National and Regional Teaching Committees</td>
<td>$18,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Inter-American Committee</td>
<td>$28,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Canadian National and Regional Teaching Committees</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Youth Activities Committee</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Bahá’í Schools</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Study Aids</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### B. Proclamation of Faith to the Masses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Public Relations Committee</td>
<td>$15,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Radio Committee</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Temple Teaching Committee</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>World Order Magazine Committee</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Visual Education Committee</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Questionnaire Committee</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Service to the Blind Committee</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Library Committee</td>
<td>$750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Teaching Literature (NSA)</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
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### OBJECTIVE TWO

- Temple Construction (Second Year of Plan) | $100,000.00

### OBJECTIVE FOUR

Initiation of Systematic Teaching Activity in Europe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>European Teaching Committee</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
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**Total for Seven Year Plan** | $229,675.00

### SERVICE COMMITTEES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Publishing Committee</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Bahá’í News Committee</td>
<td>$3,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Bahá’í World Editorial Committee (Operating Expense)</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>International Expense</td>
<td>$3,810.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Child Education Committee</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Archives Committee</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Committee on American Memorial to ‘Abdu’l-Bahá</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
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</table>

**Total for Service Committees** | $7,810.00

**BAHÁ’Í WORLD CENTER**

- Bahá’í World Center — Annual Contribution | $3,600.00

**THE BAHÁ’Í WORLD**

- Printing cost, Bahá’í World, Volume X | $5,000.00

### MAINTENANCE OF PROPERTIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Temple</td>
<td>$12,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Other Trustee Properties</td>
<td>$5,800.00</td>
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**Total for Properties Maintenance** | $17,500.00

### ADMINISTRATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Expense of Annual Convention, State and Province Conventions</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>General Administrative Expenses</td>
<td>$6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Secretary’s Office</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Treasurer’s Office</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total for Administration** | $20,500.00

**RESERVE** | $15,915.00

**TOTAL NATIONAL BAHÁ’Í BUDGET FOR 1947-48** | $300,000.00

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### Publishing Announcements

- Present-Day Administration of the Bahá’í Faith—a clear, concise statement on the Administrative Order of the Bahá’í Faith by Horace Holley, reprinted from Bahá’í World. Subject headings: The Guardian, the Local Community, the Spiritual Assembly, the National Spiritual Assembly, the Annual Convention and the House of Justice. Pamphlet, self-cover 18 pp. Price 10 copies $1.00

- Faith for Freedom—pamphlet 22 pp. with illustration of the Bahá’í House of Worship on cover. Excerpts from Bahá’í Writings including the Principles, Steps to World Order, Character, Life Beyond Death, Seven Candles of Unity and Prayers; also “Headlines Tomorrow” by Marzieh Gall. Price 20 copies $1.00

- Bahá’í World Faith, Centennial edition—bound flexible red leather, gold lettering and top. Copies still available. This edition should be in every Bahá’í individual or Assembly library. Price $5.00

- Appreciations of the Bahá’í Faith—a new edition containing over sixty letters of appreciation from prominent people from all parts of the world. This book is invaluable in teaching and publicity work. Price per copy .25

### The Thirty-fifth Annual Gathering Commemorating 'Abdu’l-Bahá’s Visit to America

**June 25, 1947—West Englewood, N.J.**

- Picnic 12 noon to 3 P.M. (Bring Basket Lunch; Cake and Beverages served).

**PROGRAM—3-5 P.M.**

- **THE SPIRITUAL FOUNDATIONS FOR WORLD CITIZENSHIP**

  **Opening Prayer and Address of Welcome.**

  **Chairman, Wm. deForge**

- **Music** ............ Gladys Childress

- **Vocal Duet** .... June & Carol Kelsey

- **'Abdu'l-Bahá's Address at First Unity Feast in 1912** ............ Reader, Pearl Hafezi

- **SPEAKERS**

  - The Emergence of a World Community .......... Matthew Bullock
  - The Consciousness of World Citizenship .......... Terah Smith
  - The Founding of a World Civilization and Culture .......... Reginald King

- **Prayers at the Grove**: 5 P.M.

  - Mrs. Carrie Kinney
  - Mrs. Maude Gaudreaux
originating at Northwestern University; Dr. James C. McLeod, chief-chaplain at the University; Mr. Charles M. Ioas, Northwestern student and chairman of the National Bahá’í Youth Committee, and Dr. Edris Rice-Wray, Bahá’í teacher and Evanston physician. Mr. Harlan Scheffler was chairman of the program and music was supplied by Miss Mary Elizabeth Moore, soprano and Bahá’í student. Refreshments were served at the close of the program.

There were about 150 present, many of them Northwestern students and a beautiful atmosphere prevailed throughout the evening. Although a great many more invitations were sent out than the number attending, it was felt to be of considerable value since the programs were sent so as to reach the 10,000 persons on the campus and they carried excerpts from the Teachings. It was gratifying to receive a letter of congratulation and best wishes from one of the most prominent faculty members and department heads at the University. The meeting received widespread publicity and the Evans­ton believers feel that it was an excellent fore-runner for many more such occasions on the campus.

Berkeley, Calif.

The Bahá’ís of Berkeley entertained friends and neighboring Bahá’ís at the Naw-Rúz Feast on the evening of March 28 at the Y.M.C.A. Hospitality House. One hundred and eighty were in attendance. The program was arranged to interest Bahá’ís and non-Bahá’ís alike.

Dr. Eugene Staley, executive director of the San Francisco Area division of the American Institute of Peace Relations, spoke on “Report from Lake Success.” Dr. Staley had just returned from Lake Success, where he had assisted in the drafting of the United Nations’ report on economic reconstruction in Asia and the Far East. Mrs. Marzieh Gail presented the Bahá’í teachings in an excellent talk entitled, “New Day.” Arthur L. Dahl, Jr., who acted as chairman, showed clearly the relationship between the efforts of the United Nations and the Teachings of Bahá’u’lláh.

Miss Elsie Austin was received with great enthusiasm as the guest speaker at a special luncheon of the

Interalational Relations group of the University of California Y.W.C.A. on March 28. The luncheon was arranged by Mrs. E. T. Grether, wife of the Dean of the School of Business Administration at the University of California; and Miss Sally Eastfield, chairman of the student group. Present were seventy-five students, as well as sponsors of the Y.W.C.A., wives of well-known pro­fessors, and leading citizens.

Miss Austin in speaking on “Peace—an Adventure in Human Relations,” referred to the Bahá’í Faith only once at the beginning of her talk when she said her remarks would be based on the principles of the Bahá’í Faith. Her talk was followed by long applause, and immediately both students and adults took up the word “Bahá’í” and asked directly and eagerly for more and more information. The Berkeley Bahá’ís who were present appreciated the abundant goodwill for the Faith which had been aroused.

Latin America Has Arisen With a Will

Latin America, cooperating with the pioneers, has arisen with a will to fulfill the beloved Guardian’s new Seven Year Plan, according to the results which have been coming in by cable and letter. Eleven goal cities reported assembly status. These include Vina del Mar, Chile; Sao Paulo, Brazil; Sucre, Bolivia; Quito, Ecuador; Cali, Medellín, Cartagena and Contratación, Colombia; Puebla and Coatepec, Mexico, and Quépos, Costa Rica.

Mexico is the first Latin American country to report two new assemblies in one year and Colombia is the first to report four new ones. Colombia now leads in number of assemblies with a total of six, while Brazil and Mexico are tied with three each. Bolivia, Ecuador and Costa Rica have two each, while the fifteen remaining countries have one assembly each. The general activity is shown by the fact that forty new groups were formed during the first year of the new Seven Year Plan. Eight of these are included among the new assemblies and seven more are approaching assembly strength. Every assembly has attempted to adopt a goal city as its extension teaching project. During the year a total of 224 new believers have been reported in Latin America, making an increase in the total number of believers of approximately fifty.

The Guardian has now announced that he will begin to send a “Haifa letter” to the leading centers of each Latin country, thus linking them directly with him. The Convention had the joy of greeting Sr. Carlos Vergara, his charming wife and family of Mexico City, accompanied by a new believer from that city, Sr. Fritz Aguilar of Lima, Peru; Sr. Alvaro Lievano of Bogotá, Colombia; Sr. Pedro De LaCruz, formerly of Puerto Rico; Mr. and Mrs. Emeric Sala and Mr. Charles Mason Remey, who recently returned from visits to Latin America; Miss Louise Baker, just returned from Mexico after working with the friends in the formation of the two new assemblies there; Sr. Octavio Illescas, just back from a visit to Havana and Cienfuegos, Cuba, and Dr. Malcolm King, just returned after spending a year in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Dr. King also helped in the establishment of regional work in the Dominican Republic and Jamaica.

New plans are going into effect this year to enable the Latin American friends who have attained maturity in the Faith, to take over to an increasing extent, the responsibil-
ity for and direction of teaching in their various countries, for the experiences of the past year have shown that they are now ready for this. International teaching committees are being formed, one for South America and one for the northern zone, including Mexico, Central America and the West Indies. As in the case of national committees in the United States, a quorum will be established of members within easy reach of one another, so that consultation can be readily held. All but one member of each of these committees, are native Latin Americans. The South American Teaching Committee will include Sra. Esteban Canale, chairman; Mr. Artemus Lamb, secretary; Sr. Hugo Agabert, Sra. Betty Rowe and Sra. Rosi Vodanovic. Inter-regional teachers and special consultants for this committee are Mrs. Gayle Woolson, Mrs. Gwenne Sholtis and Mrs. Shirley Warde. The Central American Teaching Committee will include Sr. Jose Antonio Bonilla, chairman; Mrs. Marcia Steward, secretary; Sra. Natalia Chavez, Sr. Gerardo Vega and Sr. Oscar Castro. Inter-national teachers and consultants include Sra. Chavez, Mrs. Sheila Rice-Wray and Sr. Octavio Illescas. The panel of all Latin American teachers, recently approved by the National Spiritual Assembly, will be used in connection with projects in the various countries.

Regional Committees, each one confined within its own country, will cooperate with the international committees and also with the assemblies in connection with their extension teaching work. To stimulate new and also mature communities, experienced teachers will be exchanged between neighboring countries from time to time. Plans are being made to try out the novel correspondence teaching plan. worked out in San Jose, Costa Rica, in other countries, and also to perfect and extend the general correspondence teaching work for new contacts and friendly groups.

All of those interested in teaching or pioneering in either North or South America, are invited to send in their applications for the Latin American session, June 18 to 27th inclusive, at the Bahá'í International School, Colorado Springs. There will be a deepening course and also teaching practice for all students, with stress on applied psychology and finding the most attractive methods of presenting the Faith, so that new contacts may come to comprehend its true significance with as much help and as few obstacles as possible, and so that the desire of every sincere Bahá'í to share his great gift with his world, may be more readily fulfilled. These principles will be applicable to teaching in either the north or the south.

It is not obligatory in any way for students at the Latin American session of the International School to volunteer for pioneer service. We can teach our Latin American friends here at home through contacting Pan-American organizations and being kind and hospitable to Latin friends from the various countries. In many large cities and especially in the southwest, Latin Americans will be found, who will be eager to learn, if we know how to approach them. Our exchange of teaching methods and experience will also be helpful in contacting and teaching our northern friends. Those free and willing to volunteer as pioneers to Latin America, will, of course, be extremely welcome, for there are still twelve countries without a single pioneer settler. Only ten are receiving pioneer help at the present time.

Some Bahá'í Marriages
A Bahá'í marriage was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sigfried John-son at 175 First St., Batavia, Illinois on Sunday, April 13, after a civil ceremony had united the former Miss Carol Nunn and Mr. Gus Tunkin. The young couple will make their future home in Providence, Rhode Island.

On Saturday, Feb. 22, a Bahá'í marriage service was read for Mr. Rouholah Zargarpur of Teheran, Iran, and Miss Alice Schneider of Chicago at the bride's home.

Friday evening, March 21, at the Chi­cago Bahá'í Center, the wedding of Mr. Edwin Koyl of Chicago and Miss Marion Elizabeth Clark of Independence, Mo. and lately of Chicago, took place with a Bahá'í marriage service.

Elena Marsella's study class in Ciudad Trujillo, including the entire Rodriguez family, pictured above, enrolled as Bahá'ís a short time after the visit to that city of Emeric and Rosemary Sela in Jan. 1947. Elena wrote: "The one at the left with the buttons is me." A large group of eager hearts are awaiting Elena's return to Santiago in the Dominican Republic. Sheila Rice-Wray of Chicago has just arrived there to help her.
Two National Public Meetings Attract Large Audiences

San Francisco, Calif.

The San Francisco Public Meeting was held in the auditorium of the California Club the evening of March 26th, 1947, with Elsie Austin, chairman. Although a heavy rain fell throughout the day and there were several major attractions taking place the same night, there was an attendance of about 370 people, including many of the Negro race.

Two days before the meeting, Miss Austin was interviewed by representatives of the press at a luncheon which lasted almost two hours, during which time members of the various newspapers asked many pertinent questions concerning the aims and objectives of the Bahá’í Faith. The day before the meeting Miss Austin was interviewed over the air by Anne Holden on her popular program. Advertisements appeared in three of our daily newspapers, with articles appearing well in advance of the meeting and continuing through the week of the meeting.

The talk of the evening, "World Order Through World Faith" was well received by an attentive audience, many of whom later expressed their pleasure at having the opportunity of listening to such a clear, practical and thought-provoking address.

Colorful posters were placed in various districts of the city, on bulletin boards, in churches and windows of business establishments. In mailing their invitations entirely new organizations and groups were contacted. Their report states: "Many indeed were the complimentary remarks heard about the very beautiful invitations used on this occasion, many declaring that they were the most beautiful they had ever seen."

Cleveland, Ohio

The Cleveland Public Meeting was held on March 27th in the Crystal Ball Room of the Tudor Arms Hotel. Dorothy Baker was the speaker with Lawrence LeRocque presiding as chairman. The estimated attendance at this meeting was 600 with about two-thirds white and the other third colored. About 100 people stayed to ask questions at the close of the meeting, 40 of whom were men. These people were given a special invitation to attend the local fireside groups.

The Cleveland friends feel that their very successful meeting was due in part to the efforts of a professional publicity agent whom they engaged and who secured very fine free publicity for them. A fifteen minute radio talk was given over station WHK by Mrs. Baker. In the five days Mrs. Baker was in Cleveland, she spoke at twelve separate meetings. In these additional meetings about 600 more people heard of the Cause.

"It is our fervent prayer," state the Cleveland friends, "that very tangible results will be forthcoming. The Cleveland Bahá’ís probably profited the most from the ennobling experience of uniting their individual efforts with those of other devoted Bahá’ís in this world-wide crusade of spreading the sacred teaching of Bahá’u’lláh. We are all very grateful for the opportunity which the nationally sponsored Public Meeting brought to our doors."

In Memoriam

Death profferseth unto every confidant believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.

—BAHÁ’U’LLÁH

Mr. Christ Olsen, Racine, Wisconsin, April 22, 1947.
Mr. Hiram Bolton, Ashuelt, N.H., May 1, 1947.
Mr. Charles H. Hache, Arlington, California, April 19, 1947.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bahá’í Addresses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer’s Office: 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahá’í Publishing Committee: 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrollments by Assemblies

- Washington, D.C.: 1
- Wilmington, 2
- Toronto 4, Independence 2, Urbana 1
- Seattle 1, Chicago 3, Miami 4, Philadelphia 1, Dayton 1, Providence 1
- Los Angeles 2, St. Lambert 1
- New York 1
- Regional enrollments: 2 adults, 2 youth.

Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts
- June 5
- June 24
- July 13
- The anniversary of the Martyrdom of the Báb. July 9 (about noon)
- National Assembly Meeting — July 3, 4, 5, and 6

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page Col.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'Abdu'l-Bahá—Excerpts on Consultation 7 . . . . 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addresses 16 . . . . 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahá’í News, Editorial Office 3 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British, loss of health 5 . . . . 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cables from Guardians 1 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Convention 1 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Canadian Bahá’ís 1 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To National Spiritual Assembly 1 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar 16 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Teaching 3 . . . . 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments and transfers 16 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geneve News, excerpts 4 . . . . 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glimpsing Local Communities 10 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Acre Youth Weeks 11 . . . . 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture 11 . . . . 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniors’ Book of Religion 11 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America Has Arisen 14 . . . . 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurentian Bahá’í Summer School 11 . . . . 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louhelen Summer School Program 10 . . . . 1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Public Meetings 15 . . . . 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly Budget for Year 13 . . . . 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directory 14 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questions will be answered 14 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule of Meetings 12 . . . . 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“To Hold Open the Doors” 4 . . . . 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictures 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahá’í Youth at Convention 3 . . . . 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahá’í Youth Banquet 5 . . . . 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackwell Party for Miessiers 11 . . . . 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadians at Convention 6 . . . . 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ciudad Trujillo Study Class 15 . . . . 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuban Students of the Faith 6 . . . . 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Bahá’í Youth Group 9 . . . . 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Acre Youth Committee 11 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fargo, N.D., Nav-Ruz Banquet 10 . . . . 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian Bahá’ís and Pioneers 1 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurentian Summer School Property 7 . . . . 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louhelen Choir at Convention 2 . . . . 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monument for Mirza Abul-Fadl and Luisa Get-Singer 8 . . . . 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pioneer—Elinor Holsbrough 4 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing Announcements 13 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Souvenir Feast (Thirty-Fifth Gathering) 13 . . . . 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour

A Letter from the Guardian
Under date of June 5, 1947, the Guardian has addressed a communication of vital import to the Bahá'ís of North and South America, and to the American Bahá'ís serving the Faith in Europe. It has been printed as a 36-page booklet, and a copy mailed direct to all the individual believers.

Last year the new Seven Year Plan was inaugurated and given force by Shoghi Effendi's letter "A God-Given Mandate." Now the actual working out of the Plan in relation to the four major objectives is illuminated for us by this latest creative expression of the Guardian's vision. To the individual Bahá'í it brings the bounty of new courage and understanding; to the Committee it supplies directives; to the community and group it offers a blessed occasion for the rededication to the work of the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh.

Excerpts from the Guardian's Letter

The Bahá'í World Commonwealth

"During this Formative Age of the Faith, and in the course of present and succeeding epochs, the last and crowning stage in the erection of the framework of the Administrative Order of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh—the election of the Universal House of Justice—will have been completed, the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, the Mother-Book of His Revelation, will have been codified and its laws promulgated, the Lesser Peace will have been established, the unity of mankind will have been achieved and its maturity attained, the Plan conceived by 'Abdu'l-Bahá will have been executed, the emancipation of the Faith from the fetters of religious orthodoxy will have been effected, and its independent religious status will have been universally recognized, whilst in the course of the Golden Age, destined to consummate the Dispensation itself, the Barner of the Most Great Peace, promised by its Author, will have been unfurled, the World Bahá'í Commonwealth will have emerged in the plentitude of its power and splendor, and the birth and efflorescence of a world civilization, the child of that Peace, will have conferred its inestimable blessings upon all mankind."

A Rededication to the Tasks

"The fourfold objective, which the prosecutors of the Plan, in the present early stage of its development, are now pursuing, and which is designed to stimulate the dual process initiated during the opening phase of the Formative Age of the Faith, must be strenuously and unalteringly pursued. The second year of the Seven Year Plan must witness, on all fronts, on the part of young and old alike, rich and poor, colored and white, neophyte and veteran, a rededication to the tasks undertaken and an intensification of effort for their furtherance wholly unparalleled in the annals of American Bahá'í history. In every state of the United States, in every province of the Dominion of Canada, in every republic of Central and South America, in each of the ten selected sovereign states of the European continent, the ever-swelling legions of Bahá'u'lláh's steadily advancing army, obeying the Mandate of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, launched on the second stage of their world-wide crusade, deriving fresh courage from the exploits that have

(Continued on page 2)
given them. Mason Remey left by plane on May 29 to visit the pioneers in every one of our ten countries and enthusiastic accounts have already arrived about his stay in Norway and Sweden. Eva Mae Barrow from Cleveland, sailed on June 10 to spend her Summer holiday working with the pioneers in Berne, Luxembourg and Brussels. The Bishop Browns who are to be in Sweden on official business, will assist the pioneers in Stockholm and Copenhagen. On June 18, Marion Little (see picture) from the New Orleans Community, sailed on the S.S. America, to spend from six months to a year in Europe, making substantial visits to all of the Centers in the European field.

In spite of the difficult shipping conditions, reservations have been made for the remaining seven which the Committee hopes to have in the field to meet the Guardian's desire for thirty-five pioneer teachers in Europe by October 1.

European Relief

In the May issue of the News, it was stated that 200 CARE packages had been sent to Europe. Word comes from the European Relief Committee of the New York Community that since December of last year, 680 such packages have been sent, of which 610 went to Germany. Many more communities and individuals throughout the country have sent packages of both clothing and food and we now know that the receipt of these gifts has greatly bolstered the morale of the friends in other lands.

Bahá’í Receives National Recognition

One of our Bahá’ís received a signal honor this spring, mention of which is made in columnist John Temple Graves department of The Birmingham Post (Alabama), which follows in its entirety. “Robert Durr, editor of the Birmingham Weekly Review (for Negroes), will receive from President Truman in Washington this week the Wendell L. Willkie Honorary Mention Award for Negro Journalism. This is an honor indeed, and all of us who know and like Editor Durr must be happy not only that he has won it but in terms that give him the good will of both races at home. That is a test of successful Negro journalism in the Deep South.” Dated February 24, 1947.

distincted the opening phase of the present stage of their enterprise, must strain every nerve to scale loftier heights of heroism, and deploy, over a wider range, their divinely sustained forces, as their present Plan unfolds and moves towards a climax.”

The Community Must Arise

“Invested, among its sister communities in East and West, with the primacy conferred upon it by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Divine Plan; armed with the mandatory provisions of His momentous Tablets; equipped with the agencies of a quarter century old Administrative Order, whose fabric it has reared and consolidated; encouraged by the marvelous success achieved by its daughter communities throughout the Americas, a success which has sealed the triumph of the first stage of that Plan; launched on a campaign of vaster dimensions, of superior merit, of weightier potentialities, than any it has hitherto initiated, a campaign destined to multiply its spiritual progeny in distant lands and amidst divers races, the community of the Most Great Name in the North American continent must arise, as it has never before in its history, and demonstrate anew its capacity to perform such deeds as are worthy of its high calling. Its members, the executors of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Plan, the champion-builders of Bahá’u’lláh’s embryonic Order, the torchbearers of a world-girdling civilization, must, in the years immediately ahead, bestrim themselves, and, as bidden by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, ‘increase’ their exertions ‘a thousand-fold’, lay bare further vistas in the range of their ‘future achievements’ and of their ‘unspeakably glorious’ mission, and hasten the day when, as prophesied by Him, their community will ‘find itself securely established upon the throne of an everlasting dominion’, when ‘the whole earth’ will be stirred and shaken by the results of its ‘achievements’ and ‘resound with the praises of its majesty and greatness’, when America will ‘evolve into a center from which waves of spiritual power will emanate, and the throne of the Kingdom of God will, in the plenitude of its majesty and glory be firmly established.”

That Great Republic, Undivided and Undefeatable

“Many and divers are the setbacks and reverses which this nation, exulted so highly by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and occupying at present so unique a position among its fellow nations, must, alas, suffer. The road leading to its destiny is long, thorny and tortuous. The impact of various forces upon the structure and polity of that nation will be tremendous. Tribulations, on a scale unprecedented in its history, and calculated to purge its institutions, to purify the hearts of its people, to fuse its constituent elements, and to weld into one entity with its sister nations in both hemispheres, are inevitable.

Dinner in honor of Mrs. Marion M. Little (extreme right) in New Orleans, prior to her departure, June 18th, for Europe as an itinerant teacher.
‘In one of the most remarkable Tablets revealed by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, passages of which have already been quoted on previous occasions, written in the evening of His life, soon after the termination of the first world war, He anticipates, in succinct and ominous sentences, the successive ebullitions which must afflict humanity, and whose full force the American nation must, if her destiny is to be accomplished, inevitably experience. ‘The ills from which the world now suffers,’ He wrote, ‘will multiply; the gloom which envelops it will deepen. The Balkans will remain discontented. Its restlessmess will increase. The vanquished powers will continue to agitate. They will resort to every measure that may rekindle the flame of war. Movements, newly-born and world-wide in their range, will exert their utmost effort for the advancement of their designs. The Movement of the Left will acquire great importance. Its influence will spread.’

‘The agitation in the Balkan Peninsula; the feverish activity in which Germany and Italy played a disastrous role, culminating in the outbreak of the second world war; the rise of the Fascist and Nazi movements, which spread their ramifications to distant parts of the globe; the spread of communism, which as a result of the victory of Soviet Russia in that same war, has been greatly accelerated—all these happenings, some unequivocally, others in veiled language, have been forecast in this Tablet, the full force of whose implications are as yet undisclosed, and which, we may well anticipate, the American nation, as yet insufficiently schooled by adversity, must sooner or later experience.

‘Whatever the Hand of a beneficent and inscrutable Destiny has reserved for this youthful, this virile, this spiritually blessed and enviable nation, however severe the storms which may buffet it in the days to come in either hemisphere, however sweeping the changes which the impact of cataclysmic forces from without, and the stirrings of a Divine embryonic Order from within, will effect in its structure and life, we may, confident in the words uttered by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, feel assured that that great Republic—the shell that enshrines so precious a member of the world community of followers of His Father—will continue to evolve, undivided and unfeated, until the sum total of its contribution to the birth, the rise and the fruition of that world civilization, the child of the Most Great Peace and hall-mark of the Golden Age of the Dispensation of Bahá’ulláh will have been made, and its last task discharged.’

Latin American Administration Develops

Latin American Bahá’ís are moving definitely toward the goal of two National Assemblies by 1953. Central America and South America have now each its own National Teaching Committee and each country in these areas has its own Regional Teaching Committee located in a single city. For the first time the Latin friends will be directing things for themselves with only one North American pioneer on each National Teaching Committee, serving as its secretary and, in most cases, none at all of the North Americans on the regional committees. Pioneers, both North American and Latin American, are voluntarily giving up the authority and special prerogatives which they have had in the past in order that Latin American administration may take hold of these matters and develop to the point where it can continue uninterrupted when the National Spiritual Assemblies are elected. It is a transition year of great importance in the accomplishment of the Guardian’s objectives.

Central America

Marcia Steward is serving as secretary of the Central American Teaching Committee with headquarters at San José, Costa Rica. This committee is planning a Spanish news bulletin for Central America, Mexico and the islands. This will contain news, suggestions for teaching and a special article on some phase of the Teachings written by one of the better known Bahá’ís of the area. Sr. Guillermo Arias has been appointed secretary of the new bulletin committee in San Jose.

The Central America Teaching Committee plans to use the new correspondence teaching plan tried out successfully in Costa Rica last year wherever there are believers able to write good letters in answer to questions about the Faith. Difficult questions will be referred to the National Teaching Committee at San José. (For details of this correspondence plan see Bahá’í News for May, 1947, page 2.)

South America

Artemus Lamb has recently been to Chicago to consult with the Inter-America Committee about the plans of the South American Teaching Committee. These plans include an experiment in a city where a strong local assembly is already established. This assembly would put on a week’s series of public meetings presented by the Latin friends themselves and coordinated with radio and press publicity and visual displays such as posters, pictures of the Temple and displays of Bahá’í books in store windows. Prior to opening the series of meetings the chosen community will have intensive study of how to carry through adequate classes for those who become interested during the public meetings. The purpose of the experiment is to show the assemblies that they are capable of carrying on public teaching with a proper follow-through resulting in community activity and the addition of new members.

The South American Spanish bulletin plans to carry an article about the Teachings to stimulate knowledge and activity as well as news.

A Week of “Teacher Training”

The National Teaching Committee felt that the inspiring spirit of the convention was carried over into the Teacher Training Techniques Course held under their direction in Chicago from May 5th through May 9th. Forty-seven Regional Teaching Committee members, representing twenty-five states remained over for these classes. The sessions were also open to any Bahá’í interested in unique teaching techniques and attendance at each session averaged approximately forty-seven.

The various sessions were conducted by teachers qualified in their particular field. The first session was devoted to the study of the “God-Given Mandate” by Mrs. Florence Reeb. Mrs. Reeb has been teaching this course for the past year and emphasized the need for careful analytical study and discussion of the Mandate in every community.

Mr. Leroy Ios has presented the very important subject of Fireside Teaching. Mr. Ios pointed out that the fundamental point around which the success of this next year is going to revolve is going to be the Fireside meeting. He emphasized the
National Spiritual Assembly

A Teaching Year

Beloved friends:

This is a teaching year. The American Bahá'ís, confronting the second year of the new Seven Year Plan, are called upon to teach through all our institutions, in all our communities, and by all our believers. Of first importance is the generation of the spirit of progress and achievement, a determination seizing upon us all, like one light igniting many candles. Next come plans and programs, to unify and coordinate the common effort. Finally we must apply rigorous tests of actual accomplishment to measure from time to time the product of our effort.

To assist the general effort, the National Spiritual Assembly has adopted certain policies and outlined certain tasks.

1. In a letter to every believer in June, the NSA requested each Bahá'í to accept the Master's challenge to confirm one soul each year, and resolve to bring in at least one new Bahá'í before April 21, 1948. "It is known and clear," 'Abdu'l-Bahá wrote many years ago, "that today the unseen divine assistance encompasseth those who deliver the Message. And if the work of delivering the Message be neglected, the assistance shall be entirely cut off . . . If every one of the friends were to establish relations of friendship and right dealings with one of the negligent souls, associate and live with him with perfect kindness, and meanwhile through good conduct and moral behavior lead him to divine instruction, to heavenly advice and teachings, he would gradually arouse that negligent person and would change his ignorance into knowledge . . . If by this method every one of the friends of God were to try to lead one soul to the right path, the number of believers would be doubled every year."

The mighty assurance revealed by Bahá'u'lláh: "Whosoever quickeneth one soul in this Cause is like unto one quickening all the servants and the Lord shall bring him forth in the day of resurrection into the Rídvan of oneness, adorned with the Mantle of Himself, the protector, the mighty, the generous!"

2. The smaller and less experienced Assemblies have been informed that the National Teaching Committee has been authorized to assist them in their teaching work, and to provide them with all possible assistance this year.

3. The larger Assemblies have received a letter urging them to accept the challenge of this teaching year by developing one group to Assembly status before April 21, 1948. Likewise the Assemblies and groups have been informed of the teaching call directed to individual Bahá'ís, and each Assembly and group has been urged to dedicate its collective effort to the great mission of attracting, teaching and confirming individuals, so that its number of members can be doubled.

4. The Guardian last year cabled that the National Teaching Committee was to establish new Assemblies to the number needed to produce a total of one hundred seventy-five local Spiritual Assemblies by April 21, 1948. This is a tremendous task and one requiring effort all along the line. In support of this task the National Assembly is holding special conferences with many Committees and coordinating as much as possible their services for the development of full capacity in areas where the greatest number of potential Assemblies are located. The policy adopted has been recorded as follows—"that in the consolidation of the Bahá'í community throughout the United States this year, coordinated campaigns will be conducted, combining public meetings, circuits, fireside meetings, publicity, radio broadcasts and other teaching aids."

5. A national Teaching Theme will soon be announced which can be developed through a series of four public meetings by National Committees and local Assemblies.

The Guardian's inspiring letter of June 5, announced in a special statement, focuses our attention upon the work to be done: "Ours . . . the task to cast our eyes upon, and bend our energies to meet, the challenging requirements of the present hour. Labors of an urgent and sacred character, claim insistently our undivided attention during the coming years of this new epoch which we have entered. . . . It is a Second Seven Year Plan . . . now entering its second year, and must, as it operates in three continents, be productive of results outshining any as yet achieved since the Divine Plan itself was set in motion during the concluding years of the first Bahá'í century."

National Spiritual Assembly

Schedule of NSA Meetings

The current schedule of meetings has been revised by addition of an extra day to the June meeting. The August meeting dates are to be from 9:00 a.m., August 2 to noon of Tuesday, August 5.

Organization Meeting of Local Assembly

Difficulties have arisen in a number of Assemblies this year concerning the proper application of Article VII of the By-laws of a local Spiritual Assembly. "... The officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the entire membership of the Assembly taken by secret ballot."

The problem is whether an election of officers can be held if only one or more members of the newly elected Assembly are absent from the city, ill or otherwise unavailable in person.

The interpretation given this By-law by the National Spiritual Assembly is that it requires opportunity to be given to all nine members to vote, and any absent member can vote by mail or telegram. Such a ballot makes the member constructively present at the organization meeting.

Were the provision to be taken literally as meaning that all nine members must be personally present before the Assembly can organize, it would open up the possibility of a delay of weeks or even months under certain circumstances before the Assembly could start its work. It would even enable one member to prevent the Assembly from being organized merely by staying away from the meeting. Balancing the rights of the individual member with the power and responsibility of the institution, the NSA declares that the member must be notified and given due right to vote for the officers, but that the Assembly must after this opportunity has been given proceed with the discharge of its duties. An absent member who does not vote after having the opportunity to do so may not invalidate the election by the others. His reason for not voting should be explained after he returns.
Our Measure of Speed
Dear Bahá'í friends:

Your Treasurer has been trying to bring to your attention each month the status of the Bahá'í Fund and the problems with which we are faced in our effort to support the four objectives of the Second Seven Year Plan.

In a letter dated May 9th from Haifa and signed by our Guardian in which he emphasized the need for speed in carrying out the initial steps required before work on the Temple can begin, he made a very significant statement and one which I think we all should ponder with great seriousness. He said "as all kinds of unforeseen complications may arise before the interior is completed, the sooner the first contracts are placed and work actually started, the better." Those of us who were associated with the Faith during the first Seven Year Plan realize that had it not been for the frequent admonitions of the Guardian from time to time we would never have been able to have completed the exterior of the Temple before the Centenary.

A word of warning comes to us at this time which carries with it the significance of the times which are ahead.

Receipts during the month of May amounted to $16,896.98. Our Budget calls for $25,000 per month, which means that we fell short in our contribution by $8,101.02.

As was brought out at the Convention much of the monies which are in the Bahá'í Fund at this time are earmarked and can be used only for specific purposes. In spite of the contributions given at the Convention which amounted to over $5,000.00 we are still using earmarked funds to the extent of $3,954.98, as of the report to the N.S.A. of week ending June 6, 1947.

The time is not far off when the Temple construction will actually begin. Funds must be put aside each month out of the general contributions to take care of the interior decoration, the European work, the National Teaching Committee work and the Inter-America work, which are still going forward. Pioneers have to be supported, their checks have to go out regularly.

Your Treasurer would like to emphasize again that the speed with which the Second Seven Year Plan goes forward is measured by our ability to support financially the four objectives.

Faithfully

PHILIP G. SPRAGUE, Treasurer

New Assemblies
As of April 21, 1947, the following new local Spiritual Assemblies have been established:
- California — Carmel, Inglewood, Monrovia, San Mateo, Illinois — Champaign, Limestone Township,
- New Jersey — Montclair (restored), Red Bank,
- New Mexico — North Albuquerque,
- Washington — Monroe (restored),
- British Columbia — Vernon,
- Ontario — Scarboro.

Expulsion of Two Bahá'ís
The National Assembly informs the believers that the Guardian has expelled from the Bahá'í community Dr. Abdullah Baher of New York with his mother Touty Baher who has recently left New York after a stay during which time she did not present credentials nor affiliate with the local community. The Guardian’s cable stated that they had "flagrantly disobeyed instructions."

In that same message the Guardian advised the NSA:— "Owing arrival of disloyal so-called Bahá'ís your Assembly’s control of credentials should be strictly exercised, otherwise corruptive influences will spread and injure the magnificent services being achieved by the American Bahá’í community.”

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. . The Key That Unlocketh the Hearts . .

Say: This is the Day when every ear must needs be attentive to His voice. Hearken ye to the call of this wronged One, and magnify ye the name of the one true God, and adorn yourselves with the ornament of His remembrance, and illumine your hearts with the light of His love. This is the key that unlocketh the hearts of men, the burnish that shall cleanse the souls of all beings. He that is careless of what hath poured out from the finger of the Will of God liveth in manifest error. Amity and rectitude of conduct, rather than dissension and mischief, are the marks of true faith.

· Proclaim unto men what He, Who speaketh the truth and is the Bearer of the Trust of God, hath bidden thee observe. My glory be with thee. O thou that callest upon My name, whose eyes are directed towards My court, and whose tongue uttereth the praise of thy Lord, the Beneficient.

Quetta, India — View of the Hazirat’ul-Quds with dual language inscription over door.
Letters from the Guardian

To Individuals

The following excerpts from letters written by the Guardian to individual believers are published with the Guardian's consent.

Use of Allâh-u-Abhâ

The use of “Allâh-u-Abhâ” in the East is, generally speaking, confined to a greeting. It is not said at the end of prayers and the Guardian feels that the less it is used freely in public by the Bahá'ís in the West (before strangers) the better, as it gives a very peculiar impression of us, and makes us seem like some strange Oriental sect.

Obligatory Prayers

As obligatory prayers require either genuflection or ablution and orienting toward Bahá, they cannot truly be said by one person for a group of people without it being in effect a form of congregational prayer, so he thinks it better to avoid it.

Peace Predictions

It is far too early to make any predictions about peace of any sort, judging by the ebullitions of the world's affairs these days! ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, in His Tablets, connects the prophecy of Daniel (587) with the proclamation and spread of the Cause. Other references regarding this date must be considered as hearsay.” —To Robert L. Gulick, July 3, 1946.

Future Guardians

“Future Guardians ... cannot 'abrogate' the interpretations of former Guardians, as this would imply not only lack of guidance but mistakes in making them; however, they can elaborate and elucidate former interpretations, and can certainly abrogate some former ruling laid down as a temporary necessity by a former Guardian.” —To Emérica Sala, February 19, 1947.

Anchorage, Alaska

The Public Meetings on Wednesday evening at the Anchorage Hotel were as follows for the month of May:

May 7—Vern Huffman reviewed “This Earth, One Country” by Emérica Sala.

May 14—Capt. S. A. Pelle—“The Need for the Bahá’í Faith”.

May 21—Betty Becker—“The Anniversary of the Báb”.

May 28—Capt. S. A. Pelle—“Science and Religion”.

To the National Spiritual Assembly

Assistance to Philippine Bahá'ís

He is not in favor, as he already wrote you, of sending the Philippine friends any other assistance than food parcels and some Bahá'í literature, and he does not want money forwarded to them, as the American believers have already a very heavy program to carry out, in connection with their present Seven Year Plan, and can not afford to dissipate their resources.—Shoghi Effendi, through his Secretary, May 9, 1947.

Warning About Orientals

As to your question as to what races should be regarded as coming under the heading of “Orientals” in connection with ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s warnings: there is no doubt He was primarily thinking of the Near Eastern races of Islamic extraction, who have every reason to look upon the Faith either with contempt as a mere heresy within, or sect of Islam, or with hatred as a potential threat to the supremacy of their religion. Likewise, it is these Near Eastern races, particularly the Persian, who have been most persistently exposed to the propaganda and bad example of the Covenant-breakers, old and new, and from whose ranks these very Covenant-breakers have sprung. These circumstances, combined with the fact that, like his Prophetic Fore­bears, Bahá’u’lláh appeared amongst the people most in need of enlightenment—and hence at their lowest ebb morally—are the reasons for not only ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s and his own (i.e., the Guardian’s) repeated warnings concerning Orientals, but also for the conduct, so often demonstrated, unfortunately, by these same Orientals, and which amply justifies our attitude of great precaution and wariness concerning receiving them in the Palace.
our midst and believing their declarations to be sincere. Shoghi Effendi also feels that the Moslems of India should likewise be included in this category, owing to their respective religious and racial background.

If any credentials your Assembly receives, issued by other National Assemblies, are ambiguous in tone, you should write the body in question and request them to clarify the matter, and be more specific in the future. At present the Guardian does not want to introduce any set international form of credentials.—Shoghi Effendi, through His Secretary, May 9, 1947.

Note: The National Spiritual Assembly is issuing to local Assemblies, and to National Committees and Regional Teaching Committees, a bulletin on the reception of Orientals. The principle to be understood by all the friends is that every Oriental must have credentials before his Baha'i status can be recognized; and that credentials of believers from other countries are to be transmitted to the NSA. When accepted, new credentials are issued to those believers by the NSA, for their use while in America.

Baha'i Association with United Nations

He feels the friends should bear in mind that he is encouraging Baha'is' association with the United Nations to give the Cause due publicity as an agency working for and firmly believing in the unification of the human family and permanent peace, and not because he believes that we are present in a position to shape or influence directly the course of human affairs! Also, he feels this association will afford the believers an opportunity of contacting prominent and progressive-minded people from different countries and calling the Faith and its principles to their attention. We should associate ourselves in every way with all movements of UN which are in accordance with our principles and objectives; but we should not seek to take the initiative or . . . focus a glare of publicity and public attention on a very wide scale, upon ourselves which might prove very detrimental to our interests. He considered, for instance, the “Baha'i Declaration of Human Obligations and Rights” appropriate and believes this type of action to be wise and suitable.—Shoghi Effendi, through his Secretary, May 9, 1947.

Note: Baha'i association with United Nations is maintained by the National Spiritual Assembly through an appointed special committee.

The Importance of Direct Baha'i Activity

He cannot urge upon you all sufficiently, and through you the American believers, the importance of Baha'is realizing that direct, concentrated and efficiently carried out Baha'i work is not only their supreme duty but the best way they can serve the interests of humanity and hasten the day when at least the Lesser Peace will become a reality. We must always bear in mind that Baha'u'llah's Order is the sovereign remedy, and all other measures, inaugurated by the United Nations or various governments, are in the nature of palliatives, however sound and progressive they may be. We must concentrate on perfecting our characters as individual Baha'is and on maturing our still embryonic, and as yet imperfectly understood Divine Plan; and on building a tightly-knit, world-wide Baha'i community. We are relatively few in numbers, and have such a precious, unique and responsible task to carry out we must concentrate our full forces upon it. — Shoghi Effendi, through his Secretary, May 9, 1947.

Begin Temple Work this Year

The way the European teaching work is forging ahead and the number of pioneers being sent (and already settled abroad) greatly encourages him. It now remains for your Assembly to forge ahead with equal speed in carrying out the initial steps required before work on the Temple in situ can be begun. As all kinds of unforeseen complications may arise before the interior is completed, the sooner the first contracts are placed and work actually started, the better. As you know, he is very anxious to have work actually begun on the site this year, and he urges you to press the matter as much as possible.—Shoghi Effendi, through his Secretary, May 9, 1947.

Two Sisters Pioneer

The departure of two pioneers served as occasion for good Baha'i publicity in Peoria, Ill., papers and on the radio.

Miss Elinor Gregory, recently of San Diego, sailed in April for Scandinavia. She is a Baha'i pioneer to Oslo, Norway. About two months before this, her sister, Mrs. Lorraine Wright, arrived in Japan where she will pioneer. Since Japan is not in the Seven Year Plan, Mrs. Wright is not an “official” pioneer, but went to join her husband. Both sisters received the Baha'i teachings in Peoria, and both have been active in teaching the Faith.

A good story headed “Baha'i Pioneer Goes to Japan” was in Peoria papers and the same day Mrs. Wright was interviewed on the radio.

Even greater publicity came with Miss Gregory’s departure, for she too came to Peoria, her old home, before leaving for Norway. Peoria papers carried several stories concerning a Baha’i Community party held in her honor. Station WMMJ broadcast on its “Personality Parade” the story of Elinor’s teaching mission through the question and answer method with a wind-up by Elinor giving a splendid survey of the Faith. Our correspondent says: “Baha'i hearts in Peoria go with these sisters around the globe. It is as if part of our community had expanded to reach Japan and Norway.”
Canada Prepares the Way

The main work of the past year has been the planning and carrying out of teaching circuits. Willard McKay visited sixteen Bahá’í Communities, and spoke to more than thirty audiences ranging from small groups to more than one hundred people. McKay did wonderful work in meeting with the Bahá’ís themselves, encouraging them, and stimulating them through stressing the great need for pioneers.

John A. Roberts made two trips to the Eastern Coast, speaking to Halifax, Moncton and Charlottetown on the first visit and to Moncton and Charlottetown on the second. Emeric Sala made a Western tour, addressing large audiences in Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver and Victoria, with an aggregate audience of more than 1,000 people attending 21 meetings.

Others who have done inter-regional work are: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bishop of Pasadena, Cal. who visited Vernon, Victoria and Vancouver, B.C.; Rowland Estall to Victoria and Vancouver; Doris Richardson, who attended the Maritime Summer School as visiting teacher; Harlan Ober and Elizabeth Ober who held meetings in the various Maritime communities; Audrey Robarts who visited Winnipeg, and assisted in contact work for the Public Meeting there; Duncan McAlear who spoke in the Maritime cities; Dorothy Baker, who gave several seminars in Montreal en route; Harry Ford, of Little Falls, N.Y. who addressed audiences in Hamilton and Toronto last November, and again, with Bahijiyih Ford, attending a Regional Conference in Montreal; Mrs. Robert Lee Moffett of Chicago, who has just given an Educational Seminar in Moncton, with meetings in Montreal and Toronto; Laura R. Davis who spoke in the Bahá’í Centre of Montreal.

Four bulletins have been mailed to our entire Canadian membership, telling of our plans and achievements, and urging all Canadian Bahá’ís to greater efforts in all teaching fields.

The first Nationally owned Summer School is a gift from Quebec Bahá’ís, and is situated at Beauval, Quebec, a beautiful spot in the Laurentian Mountains, fifty miles north of Montreal.

Summer Schools held during the past year have been under the direction of the Regional Teaching Committees, and are reported under their headings.

The Maritime Regional Committee is assisting the three Eastern Assemblies. Regional work, as such, is not yet developed. Each of these Assemblies has an ambitious extension project. Halifax is working in Dartmouth; Moncton has undertaken the opening up of Saint John; and Charlottetown is working toward an Assembly in Vernon, P.E.I. The Summer School was held at Keppock Beach, P.E.I. with visitors from each of the three Maritime Provinces. Doris Richardson of Toronto was the visiting teacher.

Radio has been used in Charlottetown, Moncton and Halifax. Firesides are flourishing, children’s classes in Moncton are well attended. New members have been enrolled but are in Assembly areas. An interesting Bulletin has been published by this committee.

Quebec Regional Teaching Committee. Here too the work has largely been in giving assistance to Assemblies within the Region. Regular meetings have been held, and two very fine conferences have been held. A successful dinner was arranged at the Montreal Centre when the Bahá’ís were hosts to many interested friends. Four bulletins have been issued giving news of activities and plans to all within the region. Assistance was given for the public meeting in Montreal. The committee is also working in conjunction with the Montreal Assembly in an extension project of great importance, that of opening up the city of Quebec to the Faith. This is both important and difficult as Quebec lies in the heart of French Catholic Canada.

Ontario Regional Teaching Committee has met regularly, and has sponsored a number of projects. Ottawa, the capital of Canada, was visited monthly for public meetings, and a Fireside maintained by the Ottawa friends. In Forest Hill Village a Discussion Group and Fireside have been conducted. In Brampton Sunday Evening Firesides have been held regularly. Scarboro has been very active, holding a large Fireside every Saturday evening, a study class every Monday evening.

Feasts have been held in the community and used as a means of attraction to those interested in the Faith. A Regional member, F. St. G. Spendlove, has held a class in advanced teaching at the Toronto Centre every Tuesday evening, and many from Toronto and vicinity have attended. The radio project, a series of 26 broadcasts over station CHUM each Sunday morning, was initiated by the Toronto L.S.A. and was assisted, both financially and by members taking part in the program, by Hamilton L.S.A. and the Regional Teaching Committee. Two Teaching Conferences were held at the Toronto centre under regional arrangement, and the Guardian’s “Mandate” was carefully studied, as well as consultation taking place on teaching and pioneering. Other methods such as pamphlet distribution and fireside work were discussed at length. Two teaching bulletins have been issued. An International Picnic was held at Queenston Heights Park, Niagara, where some of our American friends met with many Canadians. The sixth Summer School was held at Rice Lake with Mrs. Marzieh Gull, and Mrs. Harriet Pettibone as Teachers. Emeric and Rosemary Sala, and Robert Gulick taking a number of valuable sessions. Ottawa meetings have been addressed by F. St. G. Spendlove, Doris Richardson, Craig Weaver, John Roberts, Laura Davis, all of Toronto, and by Albert Rakovsky of Montreal. Many Toronto speakers have taken meetings in Hamilton during the year.
**Conduct of Bahá’í Marriage Service in the Hazíratú’l-Quds**

The National Assembly has decided that Bahá’í marriage ceremonies are not to be conducted in the Hazíratú’l-Quds, for the simple reason that the performance of a legal Bahá’í marriage is a function of the incorporated local Assembly and therefore should be conducted under the direct auspices of the local Assembly. The facilities of the National Office, moreover, are required for national Bahá’í matters.

Believers not resident in a city having a local Assembly qualified to conduct a legal marriage service may apply to any local Assembly which has been authorized to conduct the service by the civil authorities.

**Anniversary of The Martyrdom of The Báb**

July 9 (at about noon)
(Work should be suspended this day if possible)

**News from Many Lands**

**India and Burma:** A cablegram from Shoghi Effendi to the NSA of India and Burma urged united action in taking immediate steps for the purchase of a building in Delhi for a national Hazíratú’l-Quds. Shoghi Effendi sent 1000 pounds as his contribution for “this vital urgent need of the Faith in this present hour.” The Guardian says that the hour has struck when the Indian and Burmese community must take a great stride forward.

**Bahá’ís in disturbed areas have not been harmed.** We quote from the India and Burma News Bulletin: “During the recent riot, life and property of all were in danger but it is a miracle that we all were saved through a mutual understanding of our street community; otherwise we all would have met with the same fate as our other fellow citizens.”

**Iran:** This 45 month (October, 1946- July, 1950) plan calls for 62 reestablished spiritual assemblies and 95 new centers in different parts of Persia. The plan also includes definite aims in Arabia, Afghanistan, India, Iraq and Beluchistan. Not less than 45 families will leave Tihrayn to help establish new centers.

**Italy, Florence:** Teresina Gasperi Campagni has written to Mrs. Bolles in response with Mr. Giachery and Mr. Marangella, both of whom are now in Italy. She also expressed deep gratitude for the many packages she had received from Bahá’ís in America and other countries and wished this gratitude to be expressed in the Bahá’ís News, although she has written to each one.

**Bulgaria, Sofia:** Miss Marion Jack writes, “Work for the Cause goes on quietly, but surely; the only possible way under present circumstances. . . . All our printed Bulgarian matter was destroyed when one of our best and dearest Bahá’ís was crushed beneath her home. It is not possible to replace those precious Esslemonts just now, but here’s hoping! I have made it my business to make little compilations in note and copy books in English and French and as it is a joy to make these copies I can easily afford to let them linger among those who express interest in the Cause. . . . One dear dame comes once a week to read God Passes By or Gleanings, both of which she thoroughly enjoys.”

**Germany:** Word comes that “due to the wonderful help of our beloved friends in Persia and the United States we all are getting better again. . . . We even begin to increase a little (Continued on page 10)
in weight... We are all conscious that the strength... means for us a high responsibility to dedicate this strength wholly to our work in His Holy Vineyard." Translation of books and pamphlets into German is going on. The Guardian urges especially the translation of God Passes By and this is being done.

The number of declared Bahá'ís has greatly increased in Germany during the past year. When the Faith was officially re-established in May, 1946, there were four local spiritual assemblies in Germany. A year later the number of assemblies has increased to 11, including the Local Spiritual Assembly of Vienna. In March the Youth Committee published the first issue of the Bahá'í Jugendbrief (Bahá'í Youth Letter). There are now eight Bahá'í Youth groups which meet often at regional meetings.

**Wanted — Temple Guides**

This year the National Spiritual Assembly has combined three committees into one—the Temple Program, Temple Guides and Temple Teaching—to be known as the TEMPLE TEACHING COMMITTEE.

This is a call to Bahá'ís far and near to help in the Guide work, as guide, host or hostess. Increasingly we all realize that the Temple Guide work is our outstanding way of reaching people from all parts of the world. Thus, it becomes the glorious task of the Temple guides to take the casually interested visitors and curiosity seekers and ignite in their hearts the fire of search during their tour of the Temple.

This year we have the added feature of the new temple slides, to aid us in our work and make it more exciting. This does not mean that less guides will be needed on the days the film-strip is used—on the contrary more will be needed, for the personal contact is very important and must be maintained.

Our Beloved Guardian is calling for a total of 175 Assemblies by election time of 1948. Those who take part in the guide work at the Temple are doing their part in that sacred mission.

May we suggest that you immediately drop a card to the chairman of the Guide department of this committee, Mrs. Harriet Hilpert, 924 Judson Ave., Evanston, Illinois—and reserve your day or hours of guiding.

**A Letter from Shanghai, China**

Dear Friends:

I have felt for a long time I should take a few minutes and write you regarding our group here in Shanghai—always the Bahá'í News carries news items about other communities and we would like our friends all over the world to know about us too.

Up until the arrival, a few months ago, of three boys in the Chinese Air Force who just returned from the States and who became Bahá'ís while training in Denver, we were unable to make much progress due to the lack of any Chinese in our group. Now, however, with the enthusiastic help of these boys, we are beginning to make some headway. On May 23rd we had a very nice evening; true, with only one guest, but he since has spread the word among some of his friends and despite the many present day handicaps in money-mad, disunited Shanghai, we are more encouraged now than at any time since the war and we are looking forward with great hope and plans for the future.

Much credit for the progress of the Faith in China must go to Mrs. Gates of Denver who herself is planning to come here in December. Through her untiring efforts and devotion to the Cause, these boys have returned here fired with the kind of enthusiasm it takes to be successful.

At the present time there are eight of us, Mr. Ouskouli, Mr. and Mrs. S. Suleimani, Mr. Touty (Iranians), Lt. Jimmy Chow, Lt. Wang Lee, Capt. Chu and myself. We hope soon it will be more.

We are now receiving the Bahá'í News quite regularly and appreciate it very much.

Sincerely yours,

Bernice Wood
United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration
Embankment Building
Shanghai, China

**National Appointment Tendered to Boston Bahá’ís**

Mr. Matthew W. Bullock, who has been Chairman of the Massachusetts Parole Board, has recently been elected to the National Probation Association Board in recognition of his services and capacity. Mr. Bullock is a member of the Spiritual Assembly of Boston.
Sunshine Teaching — The Regional Teaching Committee of Southern California and Arizona illustrates a newly stressed technique for summertime teaching, through picnics and outdoor gatherings at various points in the region. This is at the home of Mrs. K. W. Steinhauser, Escondido, California. The group is about equally composed of Baha'is and interested friends.

Sunshine Teaching

Once again nature is providing a perfect setting for presenting the Message of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. Vacation time — summer — rather than being a time to let down and relax in our teaching efforts, is the ideal time to tell our friends about the Faith. People want to get away from the routine, the usual, the grind of work and home. Everyone longs to get out into the sunshine and open air. Inviting our friends to a planned picnic, garden party, weiner roast or dawn worship out of doors is a natural thing to do. Having a few of the beautiful passages from the Teachings read and giving a short, simple and sincere talk about the Faith, then, becomes a summertime name for "Fireside Teaching," and activities of this nature have already begun:

In the Southern California and Arizona Region, a new impetus has been given to the teaching work through picnic gatherings promoted in various points in the area, and scaled to strengthen and encourage the local believers, and to interest their friends in the Teachings, while establishing ties of fellowship and friendship. So far, two have been held in Oceanside; one in Escondido (see picture); one in Southgate. Dates are arranged for San Diego and for Rainbow Valley. Those held so far have been attended by approximately forty. The general pattern of these meetings has been: Bahá'í prayers, luncheon (with all guests bringing their own, coffee or other drink provided by the hosts), a short talk by a Bahá'í on some phase of the Teachings, and then general informal discussion among the group. Even the friends of the participating Bahá'ís have clapped for further meetings, and have offered the hospitality of their grounds. Bahá'ís and friends together vote for the location of the forthcoming meetings.

The Miami, Florida, community held a garden party during the Feast of Ridván. It was a lovely sunny afternoon and there were about forty-five present, including Bahá'ís, youth, children and non-Baha'i guests. The Bahá'ís from Ft. Lauderdale were also present. One of the youth opened the meeting with a prayer, then a short explanation of the Ridván Feast was given, especially emphasizing the Holy Days. A youth next read an account of the Ridván from "The Chosen Highway" and another read "The Seven Candles of Unity." Games and a supper concluded the celebration.

In Memoriam

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlast- ing life.

BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

Mr. Harry Grafton, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, May 14, 1947
Mr. Hans P. Hansen, Racine, Wisconsin, May 7, 1947
Dr. Charles S. Frink, Minneapolis, Minnesota, May 18, 1947
Mr. W. E. Lund, Shorewood, Wisconsin
Mrs. Cecilia W. Glenn, Columbia, S. C., March 24, 1947 (erroneously listed in May as Mrs. Weston)
Mr. Bob Roberts, Seattle, Washington, June 1, 1947

Ruth Bryan Owen Speaks for Bahá'ís

The New York Bahá'ís have been taking advantage of the proximity of the United Nations by securing speakers from that organization to speak on a Bahá'í platform along the principles of the Bahá'í Faith. At the same time, the chairman gives a brief presentation of the Faith. The meetings have been very successful and, it is felt, of great value in acquainting the public with the striking parallels between our Faith and the highest political organization for world government.

On April 9th, Mr. Gerald L. Carnes, Liaison Officer between the Department of Public Information of the U.N. and the United National Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) spoke at the Bahá'í Center on the educational aims of UNESCO. There was a brief discussion period following his talk. Approximately 150 people attended.

On May 8th was held the third and last in a series of public meetings to be given at the Henry Hudson Hotel. The speaker was Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen, author, lecturer, former Minister to Denmark, and daughter of the late William Jennings Bryan. Her topic was "The Force of Public Opinion" and her eloquence stimulated the audience to frequent spontaneous applause. The attendance was estimated at 450.

On May 25th, Mr. Raoul Aglon, author, lecturer, and now Official Adviser to the Secretary General of the U.N. spoke on "Ethical Principles of the United Nations." About 125 people attended.

Contents of July World Order

One Moral Order or Anarchy

G. A. Shook

A World Educator

Louise A. Groger

Abdul-Bahá in Budapest

Rustem Vambry

A New Race of Men, Editorial

Gertrude K. Henning

Táhirih

Beatrice Ashton

The Song of Táhirih, Poem

Nancy Douglas Bowditch

The Advent of Divine Justice

Book Review

Charlotte M. Linfoot

The Mature Man

Baha'i Words for Meditation

With Our Readers
Publishing Announcements

The Baha'i World, Volumes I to IX (with the exception of Volume VII, of which stock is exhausted) are available, and should be included in every Baha'i library. The historical value of these books is immeasurable. Beginning with Volume I, April 1925-1926, they bring to the reader the early history of the Faith, plans for the building of the Masjirqul-Adhkar, and progress through the years; the passing of Abdu'l-Baha in 1921; and continuing on biannually to the present volume IX, give a continuous account of Baha'i activities and development.

Volume X, now in process of making, will contain graphic accounts of the Baha'i Centennial in the United States and Canada and in other parts of the world.

The supply of these volumes is limited, and as noted before, stock of Volume VII is exhausted, so we urge the friends to acquire them while they are obtainable.

Prices
Volume I $.75 Volume VI $2.50
Volume II 1.50 Volume VII 3.00
Volume III 2.50 Volume VIII 5.00
Volume IV 2.50 Volume IX 10.00

Baha'i Publishing Committee
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois

Gifts of Equipment

The National Assembly has received a projector from Mr. Clarence Niss for use in connection with audio-visual or visual presentations in Temple Foundation Hall. Mr. Niss has also equipped the National Office with valuable equipment for maintaining its lists on address stencils and for addressing envelopes.

Another donation of equipment made to the National Assembly is the Wire Recorder which Mr. John Allen brought to the Convention.

Baha'i News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Baha'i Community. The first issue appeared in December, 1925.

On April 10, 1925, the Guardian wrote: "The News Letter which you have lately initiated fulfills a very vital function...I would urge you to enlarge its scope...that in time it may devote a special section to every phase of your activities, administrative, devotional, humanitarian, financial, educational and otherwise.

"It should become a great factor in promoting understanding, providing information on Baha'i activity, both local and foreign, in stimulating interest, in combating evil influences, and in uplifting and safeguarding the institutions of the Cause."

Baha'i News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Baha'i News Editorial Committee: Roberta Christian, Chairman; Bertha Kirkpatrick, Gordon Fraser. Editorial office: 1101 West Genesee St., Lansing, Mich.

Please report changes of address to which Baha'i News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Baha'i National Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

Radio Script Writing

At Green Acre

Burt Lowell Johnson, instructor in Radio Script Writing at Syracuse University will teach a course in this subject at Green Acre during Workshop Session, July 7 through August 16. This is an opportunity to learn how to do this vital work from an expert, and the friends are urged to take advantage of it.

Baha'i Around the World

News comes from our "Baha'i Service for the Blind" that the pioneers to New Zealand and to China have taken Baha'i literature in Braille with them. This means that, counting the United States, thirteen countries now have our Baha'i publications.

Braille Around the World

Treasurer's Office: 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.
Baha'i Publishing Committee: 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Prior to the translation, the following items are worth noting:

- The subject at Green Acre during Workshop Session, July 7 through August 16. This is an opportunity to learn how to do this vital work from an expert, and the friends are urged to take advantage of it.
- News comes from our "Baha'i Service for the Blind" that the pioneers to New Zealand and to China have taken Baha'i literature in Braille with them. This means that, counting the United States, thirteen countries now have our Baha'i publications.

TAHLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Col</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addresses</td>
<td>12 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage, Alaska</td>
<td>6 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anniversary of Bahis Holy Day</td>
<td>9 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>4 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Preaches the Way</td>
<td>8 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments</td>
<td>1 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Given</td>
<td>12 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Relief</td>
<td>2 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Teaching</td>
<td>1 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groups of Five or More</td>
<td>12 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian, The</td>
<td>1101 West Genesee St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Challenge Requirement</td>
<td>1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expulsion of Two Bahais</td>
<td>5 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters to Individuals</td>
<td>2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters to NSA</td>
<td>7 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>11 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key That Unlocks the Heart</td>
<td>5 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>3 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Recognition</td>
<td>10 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durr, Robert</td>
<td>2 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly</td>
<td>9 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Assemblies</td>
<td>5 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule of Meetings</td>
<td>4 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Teaching Year&quot; Letter</td>
<td>11 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer's Statement</td>
<td>5 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News From Marylands</td>
<td>9 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization Meetings of LSA</td>
<td>4 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owen, Ruth Bryan</td>
<td>11 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictures</td>
<td>3 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Children</td>
<td>8 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Children of the First Century</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pioneer-Eduardo Gonzalez</td>
<td>1 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quetta, India, Hazratul Qudas</td>
<td>5 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sucre, Bolivia Assembly</td>
<td>10 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Sunrise Teaching&quot;</td>
<td>11 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing Announcement</td>
<td>12 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio Script Writing</td>
<td>10 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisters Pioneer</td>
<td>7 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shangai Letter</td>
<td>10 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunshine Teaching</td>
<td>11 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple Guides Wanted</td>
<td>3 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Order Magazine: July</td>
<td>10 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contents</td>
<td>11 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bahá'í Directory
United States and Canada
1947-1948

National Bahá'í Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois;
Office of the Treasurer, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois;
Office of Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

I
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Mrs. Dorothy Beecher Baker, Chairman
Mr. Paul Haney, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Horace Holley, Secretary
Mr. Philip G. Sprague, Treasurer

Miss Edna M. True, Recording Secretary
Mr. Kenneth Christian
Miss Elsie Austin
Mrs. Amelia E. Collins

Mr. George O. Latimer

II
NATIONAL COMMITTEES

American Memorial to 'Abdu'l-Bahá
Functions: To conduct the annual gathering commemorating the Unity Feast given by 'Abdu'l-Bahá at West Englewood, N. J., in 1912; to maintain in Evergreen Cabin such exhibits and activities as will prepare the way for the permanent memorial to the Master to be constructed on this property.
Mrs. Edith Inglis, Chairman, 474 W. 238th St., Riverdale House, Fieldstone, N. Y.
Mrs. Harriet Kelsey
Mr. Roy C. Wilhelm
Mrs. Amy Rashitschek
Mrs. Carrie Kinney
Miss Doris Raymond
Mr. Walter Goodfellow
Miss Ethel Revell
Mr. Ben Dacus
Mr. Emerson Walker
Mr. Borah Kavelin
Dr. Roberts E. Fuller

Archives and History
Functions: To maintain the National Archives and organize its contents; to receive Tablets and other materials suitable for the National Archives; to obtain and organize historical data on special subjects as may be required from time to time.
Dr. Otto Zmeskal, Chairman
Mrs. Gertrude Struven, Secretary, 714 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, Ill.
Mrs. Corinne True
Miss Ruth Dasher
Dr. Khan Zia
Mrs. Nelle Heath

Bahá'í News
Functions: To edit and issue Bahá'í News for the National Spiritual Assembly in accordance with the principles defined by Shoghi Effendi.
Mrs. Roberta Christian, Chairman, 1001 W. Genesee St., Lansing, Mich.
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick
Mr. Gordon Fraser

Sales
Functions: To conduct the sale of literature in the Bahá'í Temple; to sell Bahá'í photographs, ring stones, slides, transcriptions, displays and other Bahá'í material designated by the National Assembly from time to time.
Mr. Harry E. Walrath, Chairman, 4639 Beacon St., Chicago 40, Ill.
Mr. Marshall Tyler
Miss Agnes Mitchell
Mr. M. D. Rosch

Service to the Blind
Functions: To prepare and distribute Bahá'í teaching material for the blind, including Braille transcriptions and talking books.
Mrs. Amidée Gibson, Chairman, 616 N. Oxford St., Los Angeles 4, Cal.
Mrs. Louise K. Sayward
Miss Adah Schott
Miss Mary Elizabeth Moore
Miss Margaret Schneider

Transcribers
Miss Ella Quant
Mrs. Gertrude Schurgast
Mrs. Salome Engelder
Mrs. Mayme Jackson
Mrs. Mabel Perry
Miss Sophia Eiseger
Mrs. Melba Call King

Bahá'í World Editorial (Vol. XI, 1946-1948)
Functions: To obtain material from all parts of the Bahá'í world community, including reports, articles, historical data and illustrations and to submit this to the Guardian.
Mr. Ali Yazdi, Chairman
Mrs. Marion Yazdi, Secretary, 2019 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, Calif.
Mrs. Marion Longyear, Photograph Editor
Mr. Robert Gulick
Mrs. Sarah Eason Pereira
Mrs. Marjorie Gail
Miss Christine Leftledt
Mrs. Mariam Haney
Mr. Victor Alexander
Mr. Harold Gail
Mr. Matthew Bullock
Mr. George O. Latimer
Miss Virginia Orbison, Foreign Correspondent
Child Education
Functions: To compile the Bahá’í teachings on the subject of child education; to prepare lessons suitable for classes of children; to cooperate with child education activities maintained in local communities; parent education; to further such book projects as are now in progress and to compile stories related to the Foundations and heroes of the Cause now in print in authentic source material.
Mrs. Anna Marie Honnold, Chairman
Mrs. Sylvia Parmeleo, Secretary, 4700 47th St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
Miss Gretchen Westervelt

European Teaching
Functions: To initiate and supervise teaching activities in ten countries of western Europe in cooperation with existing Bahá’í administrative agencies by sending pioneers and settlers; by supervising the translation and printing of necessary foreign language texts; to maintain an auxiliary office in Geneva, Switzerland, in conjunction with the International Bahá’í Bureau.
Miss Edna True, Chairman.
Mrs. Julia Shows, Secretary, 4034 N. Keystone Ave., Chicago 41, Ill.
Mrs. Sylvia Joas
Mrs. Mary Sprague
Mrs. Clara Wood
Mrs. Nellie French
Mr. Leroy Joas
Mrs. Mary Barton

Inter-America
Functions: To plan and supervise teaching activities throughout Central and South America; to assist the pioneers; to encourage the formation of local communities and guide their development in administrative practice, in preparation for the formation of two National Spiritual Assemblies; to supervise the translation and printing of foreign language texts.
Mr. E. W. Mattoon, Chairman.
Miss Elizabeth Cheney, Secretary, 4500 Magnolia Ave.,
Chicago 40, Ill.
Mr. Charles Joas
Mrs. Louise Mathews
Miss Muriel Stilson
Miss Flora Holley
Mrs. Dorothy Beecher Baker
Miss Cynthia Hastings

International Relief
Functions: To supply the National Spiritual Assembly with all possible information related to the relief needs of Bahá’ís in Europe and the Philippines.
Mrs. Beatrice Ashton, P. O. Box 302, Winnetka, Ill.

Library
Functions: To place literature in public and university libraries; to encourage local Assemblies to provide books for local libraries; to maintain a record of all Bahá’í literature in public libraries as far as can be determined.
Mrs. Ellen Sims, Chairman, Leroy Apts., Red Bank, N. J.
Miss Helen Reynolds
Mrs. Dorothy Fisher
Mr. Duncan McAleer
Miss Elizabeth Hopper

National Teaching
Functions: To increase the number of local Assemblies; to stimulate enrollment of new believers by public meetings, college teaching campaigns, fireside groups, regional teaching conferences; maintenance of circuits for teaching and administrative development; to advise on the use of different types of teaching material; to supervise Regional Teaching Committees and the placing of pioneers and settlers.
Dr. Katherine True, Chairman
Mrs. Margery McCormick, Secretary, 294 Judson Ave., Evanston, Ill.
Mrs. Sarah Walrath, Public Meetings Secretary, 4639 Beacon St., Chicago 40, Ill.
Miss Parz Zin-Walrath
Mr. Carl Scheffler
Mrs. May Scheffler
Mrs. Florence Reed
Mrs. Gertrude Henning
Mr. James Hammond
Mr. Monroe Joas
Mrs. Amelia E. Collins

Public Relations
Functions: To conduct publicity and advertising campaigns to bring the Faith to the attention of leaders and masses; to deal with public issues which tend to create misunderstanding or prejudice about the Bahá’í Faith; to advise local Assemblies in matters pertaining to such issues; to open opportunities for Bahá’í material in encyclopedias and reference books; to develop a national mailing list for the public teaching bulletin and to assist local Assemblies in teaching by mail; to carry out such projects as are assigned by the National Spiritual Assembly from time to time.
Mr. Richard McCurdy, Chairman
Miss Virginia Russell, Secretary, 410 Linden Ave., Wilmette, Ill.
Mr. William Henning
Mr. Clarence Niss
Mr. William Lacey
Mrs. Marguerite True
Mr. Bishop Brown
Mrs. Doris Holley
Mr. Horace Holley

Publishing
Functions: To print and sell the literature approved and authorized by the National Spiritual Assembly. Mrs. Clara Wood, Manager, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.

Questionnaires
Functions: To produce public teaching material in questionnaire form, with the Bahá’í answers to the questions.
Mr. Ward Calhoon, Chairman.
Mrs. Sylvia Calhoon, Secretary, R. R. 1, Box 1, New Smo- voc, Wis.
Mr. Herbert Suhrn
Mrs. Robert Lewis
Mrs. James Lewis
Mrs. Herbert Suhrn
Mrs. Barbara PerBerg
Dr. Jean Hohn
Miss Ruth Schultz

Radio
Functions: To make available approved radio scripts on a variety of Bahá’í subjects; to conduct radio campaigns; to stimulate the use of radio for teaching.
Mr. Russell Goudy, Chairman, 63-43 118th St., Kew Gardens, L. I., N. Y.
Mr. Wm. Sears
Mrs. Marguerite Sears
Mr. Rinaldo Quigley
5. Laurentian
Mrs. Shirley Quigley
Mr. Samuel Fox
Mr. Rati Motahadeh
Miss Isabel Silk

Reviewing
Functions: To pass upon the accuracy of Bahá’í manuscripts intended for publication and use as recognized Bahá’í literature.
Mrs. Marguerite Firooz, Chairman, R. D. 2, Geneva, N. Y.
Miss Elizabeth Brooks
Mrs. Marian Mills

Study Aids
Functions: To compile and approve study aids for teachers and study groups.
Miss Charlotte Linfoot, Chairman, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.
Mrs. Mary Collison
Miss Nellie Roche
Miss Burniece Brophy

Schools (1947 Summer Sessions)
Functions: To provide instruction and study courses; to train teachers; to conduct the school program; to encourage attendance at the school.
1. Geyserville
Mr. Arthur Dahl, Chairman
Miss Gladys Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.
Mrs. Mary Collison
Mrs. Louise Groger
Dr. Mildred Nichols
Miss Charlotte Linfoot
Mrs. Arna Perron
Miss Jessie Vanderford
Miss Sally Sanor
Miss Anita Ioas

2. Green Acre
Mrs. Marguerite Sears, Chairman
Mrs. Dorothy Fisher, Secretary, 713 Bryan Street, Philadelphia 10, Pa.
Dr. Genevieve L. Coy
Dr. Glenn A. Shock
Mrs. Renee Welsh
Mr. David Neil Blackmer
Mr. George Goodman
Mr. Harrison Langrall

3. International
Mrs. Louise Mathews, Chairman
Miss Opheida B. Crum, Secretary, P. O. Box 1064, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Mrs. Bahiyyih Randall Ford, Program Director
Mr. Harry E. Ford, Business Manager
Mrs. Amelia E. Collins
Mr. George O. Latimer
Mrs. Gladys Roberts
Mrs. Marion Little
Mrs. George N. Clark

4. Laurencian
Mr. Emeric Sala, Chairman
Mr. John DeMille, Secretary, 465 St. John Street, Montreal, P. Q.
Mr. Norman Reed
Mr. Albert Rokovsky

5. Loubelen
Mr. Winnie Foster, Chairman
Mrs. Helen Eggleston, Secretary, 3206 S. State Road, Davison, Mich.
Mr. Arnold Kettels
Mr. Albert Segen
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirparkhick
Mr. Paul Petit
Mrs. Rebecca L. Wideman
Mr. L. W. Eggleston
Mr. Laurence Hautz

Temple Program
Functions: To develop and coordinate plans for teaching the Faith in the Temple by public meetings, by reception and guiding of visitors and by the use of visual and audio teaching material; to conduct designated anniversaries.
Mrs. Margarite Ulrich, Chairman
Mrs. Nina Matthisen, Secretary, R. F. D. 1, Box 240, Bristol, Wis.
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Mr. Clarence Suhm
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Mrs. Mineda Hannen
Mrs. Mary Rodman
Mrs. Edna Coleman
Mr. Louis Voelz
Mrs. Genevieve Voelz
Mrs. Harriet Hilkert
Mr. Harian Scheffler

Visual Education
Functions: To apply scientific methods of audio-visual education to the development of Bahá’í display and promotion material.
Mr. Charles Wolcott, Chairman
Mrs. Marion Longyear, Secretary, 456 S. Bedford Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif.
Mrs. Charles Wolcott
Dr. Clyde Longyear
Mrs. Donald B. Keyes
Mr. Arthur Patterson
Dr. David Ruhe

World Order Magazine
Functions: To edit World Order Magazine, the official publication of the American Bahá’í community.
Miss Garreta Busey, Editor, 503 W. Elm St., Urbana, Ill.
Mrs. Mabel Paine, Associate Editor
Mrs. Eleanor Hutchens, Associate Editor
Mr. Clarence Ulrich, Photograph Editor

Youth Activities
Functions: To establish and conduct a national program of activities and training of Bahá’í Youth throughout the country; to promote a wider participation of Bahá’í Youth in community life; to issue bulletins of suggestions, plans and news of Youth activities; to increase observance of the annual World Youth Day; to arrange National Youth Conferences in connection with the annual Bahá’í Convention.
Mr. Laurence Hautz, Chairman
Miss Annamarie Mattoon, Secretary, 105 6th St., Wilmette, Illinois.
Mr. Marvin Newport
Dr. Edna Rice-Wray
Mr. Rodney Warren
Mrs. A. Louise Taylor
Mr. Chas. McAllister
Mr. Ross Woodman
Miss Warrine Kluge
Miss Cynthia Hastings
Mr. Lawrence Suhm
Miss Helen Blohm
Miss Ramona Sattes
Mr. Javid Farhang
Miss Happy Niss

Legal
Functions: To advise the National Spiritual Assembly in legal matters arising in connection with incorporation of local Assemblies, testamentary questions, endowments, etc.
Mr. George O. Latimer, Chairman, 1927 N. E. 40th Ave., Portland 13, Ore.
Mr. Horace Holley
Miss Elsie Austin
III

REGIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES

Functions: To stimulate and guide the teaching activities of isolated believers and local groups; to certify enrollment of believers outside the jurisdiction of local Spiritual Assemblies; to issue regional teaching news bulletins; to assist groups and prepare them for the formation of Spiritual Assemblies under the supervision of the National Teaching Committee.

New England: (Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont)
Mr. Charles Krug
Mrs. Alice Bacon, Secretary, Palmer Road, Monson, Mass.
Mr. Rex King
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Mrs. Miriam Lippitt
Mrs. J. E. Rice
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Mr. Wm. B. Patzer

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Mrs. Ethel Crane, Secretary, 106 Prospect Ave., Hacken­
sack, N. J.
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Mrs. Alice Morse
Mr. Archie Tichenor
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Mrs. Ida Ruff
Miss Jessie Revell
Mrs. Marguerite Bowers
Mr. Michael Jamieson
Mrs. Anna Mihurska

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Mrs. Gladys Lemmon, Secretary, 2583 Wexford Rd., Upper
dArlington, O.
Miss Charlotte Lindenberg
Mrs. Albert Segen
Mrs. Mary Elmore
Mr. Thomas H. Sauter
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Mrs. Berdie Cunningham, Secretary, 1262 Euclid Ave.,
N. E., Atlanta, Ga.
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Mrs. A. Louise Taylor
Miss Betty Spook
Mrs. Emma Lawrence
Mrs. Esther Sego

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Mrs. Catherine Whitmore, Secretary, 2206 Finecrest Rd.,
Greensboro, N. C.
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Mrs. Mary Edmondston
Mrs. Annie Romer
Mrs. Naomi Simmons

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Miss Kathryn Vernon
Dr. Edward Wilber
Miss Olive Alexander
Miss Mae Tutchener

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Mrs. Arthur Patterson, Secretary, 2725 Station St., Indian­
apolis, Ind.
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Mrs. Chalmers Gruber
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Mrs. Kathryn Frankland
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Mrs. Dorothy Hugus

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Ill.
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Mrs. Winnie Foster
Mrs. Margaret Johnson
Miss Luella Balsiger
Mr. Larry Kramer
Miss Betty Scheffler

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Miss Clara Edge
Mrs. Elsa Blakeley
Mr. Harry Whang
Mr. L. W. Eggleston
Mr. David Earl
Mrs. Adeline Duff
Mrs. Zoelona Thompson

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Mr. Herbert Suhm, Chairman
Mrs. Edna Voigt, Secretary, 1918 HiMount Blvd., Milwau­
kee, 8, Wis.
Mrs. Ida Suhm
Mrs. Beulah Brown
Mr. Charles Reimer
Mrs. Marie Teta
Mrs. Marguerite Bruegger
Mrs. Pearl Bagge
Mr. Robert Lewis

Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska
Mrs. Mary Brown, Chairman
Mrs. Opal Winans, Secretary, 421 N. Spring St., Independ­
ence, Mo.
Mrs. Bertha Campbell
Mrs. Cora Schulte
Mr. Lloyd Sherrill
Mrs. Velma Sherrill
Mr. Claude Winans
Mrs. Anna Howard
Mrs. Dorene N. Holliday
Mrs. Madeon Becktel

Alabama, Tennessee
Mr. Homer Dyer, Chairman
Mrs. Homer Dyer, Secretary, Rt. 5, Box 443, Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. Robert Durr
Miss Martha Fettig
Mrs. Mary Roche Watkins
Mrs. Betty Arrants
Mr. Albert James

Mrs. Anna Howard
Mrs. Doreene N. Holliday
Mrs. Madelon Becktel

Mrs. Velma Sherrill

Miss Reszi Sunshine
Mrs. Verney Thompson
Miss Idabel Slie

Mrs. Esther Little
Miss Ethelyn Campbell
Mrs. Dorothy Campbell

Northern California, Nevada
Dr. Mildred Nichols, Chairman
Miss Gladys Linfoot, Secretary, 156 Nova Dr., Piedmont, Calif.
Mrs. Jessie Vanderford
Miss Farrukh Ioas
Mrs. Mamie Seto
Miss Catherine Parr
Mrs. Valeria Allen
Miss Nina Howard
Mr. Alex Holcombe
Mrs. Alex Holcombe
Miss Charlotte Linfoot
Mrs. Carol Holcombe
Mrs. Alex Holcombe

Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico
Mr. George Clark, Chairman
Mrs. Clair Gillespie Schneider, Secretary
Mr. E. Lenore Morris
Mrs. Mildred Clark
Mr. Raphael Lillywhite
Mr. John Surbeek
Mrs. John Surbeek
Mrs. Beulah Williams

Idaho, Montana, Utah
Mrs. Ona Ault, Chairman
Miss Elizabeth Adelman, Secretary, 906 E. State St., Boise, Idaho
Mrs. Genevieve Ingham
Mrs. Bertha Adelman
Mrs. J. K. Saunders
Mrs. Ethel Thompson
Mr. Leslie Hawthorne

Washington, Oregon
Mr. George Washington, Chairman
Mrs. Helen Wilks, Secretary, 8535 36th St., N. W., Seattle 7, Washington
Mrs. Marjorie Taylor
Mrs. Gladys Beasley
Mr. Frederick Laws
Mr. John M. Clifford
Mrs. Clara B. Haley
Mrs. Dorothy Wilson
Mr. John Stroessler
Mrs. Alice Elmdendorf

Mrs. Marjorie Taylor
Mrs. Frances Wells, Secretary, Box 45, Anchorage, Alaska
Mrs. Vern Huffman
Mrs. Janet Stout
Mr. Jocelyn Gordon
Mr. Arthur Gregory
Mr. Robbie Robinson
Capt. Salvatore Pelle

IRE

IV

CANADIAN TEACHING COMMITTEES

National Teaching
Functions: To prepare teaching material; to provide settlers and pioneer teachers; to plan and supervise inter-regional activities; to supervise the Regional Teaching Committees.
Mr. John Robarts Chairman
Mrs. Laura Davis, Secretary, 44 Chestnut Park Rd., Toronto, Ont.
Mrs. Doris Richardson
Mr. Roland Estall
Mr. Emeric Sala
Mr. Siegfried Schopfeder
Mr. Victor Davis

Radio
Mr. Lloyd Gardner, Chairman
Mrs. Audrey Westheuser, Secretary, 6 Parker Ave., Scarboro, Toronto 13, Ont.
Mr. Alan Raynor

Regional Teaching
Functions: To stimulate and guide the teaching activities of isolated believers and local groups; to certify enrollment of believers outside the jurisdiction of local Spiritual Assemblies; to issue regional teaching new bulletins; to assist groups and prepare them for the formation of Spiritual Assemblies under the supervision of the National Teaching Committee.

Quebec
Mr. Emeric Sala, Chairman
Mrs. Adline Lohse, Secretary, 3369 Ridgwood Ave., Apt. 17, Montreal, P. Q.
Mrs. Rosemary Sala

Mrs. Ethel Thompson
Mr. Leslie Hawthorne
DIRECTORY

Ontario
Mrs. Audrey Robarts, Chairman
Miss Muriel Wells, Secretary, 120 Fallingbrook Rd., Searborough G.P., Toronto 13, Ont.
Mr. Geo. Sperdlove
Mr. Craig Weaver
Miss Winifred Harvey
Mrs. Maude Weaver
Mrs. Noreen Keith-Battey
Prairie (Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta)
Mr. Roland Estall, Chairman
Miss Elizabeth Brookes, Secretary, Box 121, Winnipeg, Man.
Miss Shirley Nicholson
Mr. Ross Woodman
Miss Lulu Barr
Miss Doris Skinner
Mrs. Ann McGee

British Columbia
Mr. Harold Moscrop, Chairman
Mrs. Katherine Moscrop, Secretary, 1473 22nd St., Hollyburn, B.C.
Mr. Bruce Hogg
Miss Mac McKenna
Mr. Austin Collin
Mrs. Blanche Liddell
Mr. John Dixon

Maritimes (Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick)
Miss Christine McKay, Chairman
Miss Helen Gidden, Secretary, Connaught Apts., Charlotte-town, Prince Edward Island.

Miss Shirley Nicholson
Mr. Ross Woodman
Miss Lulu Barr
Miss Doris Skinner
Mrs. Ann McGee

TRUSTEE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEES
Properties Representative, George O. Latimer

Bosch
Maintenance Committee for Geyserville School Property
Mr. Ted Groger, Chairman
Mr. Fred Babo, vice-chairman
Mr. Alfred Zahn, Secretary, 528 W. Grant Place, San Mateo, California
Mrs. Louise Bosch
Mr. L. Wyatt Cooper
Mr. Rex Collison
Mr. John Allen
Mr. Tom Liota
Mr. Anthony Y. Soto
Mr. Harmon Jones

Eggleston
Maintenance Committee for Louheleu School Property
Mr. Edwin H. Eardley, Chairman
Mrs. Beatrice Eardley, Secretary, 2890 Woodstock Drive, Detroit 3, Mich.
Mr. L. W. Eggleston
Mrs. L. W. Eggleston
Mr. Clinton Wideman
Mr. Laurence Hautz

Green Acre
Maintenance Committee for Green Acre School Property
Mrs. Flora Valentine, Chairman
Miss Roushan Wilkinson, Secretary, R.F.D. 190, North Attleboro, Mass.
Mrs. Emily Pearsall
Mr. E. Wendell Bacon

Laurentian
Maintenance Committee for Laurentian School Property
Mr. Wm. Suter, Chairman, Beaulac, Montcalm, P. Q.
Mr. Ernest Sala
Mr. Siegfried Schopflecher
Mrs. Adline Lohse
Mrs. Rosemary Sala

Temple
Maintenance Committee for Temple Property
Mr. Robert S. Hammond, Chairman, 1217 Asbury Avenue, Winnetka, Illinois
Mr. Clarence Ulrich
Mr. Lloyd Robinson

Wilson
Maintenance Committee for Maria Wilson House
Mr. Carl Krug, Chairman, 274 Brookline Avenue, Boston 15, Mass.
Mr. Victor Archambault

Wilhelm
Maintenance Committee for West Englewood Property
Mr. Curtis Kelsey, Chairman, 503 Grenville Avenue, West Englewood, N. J.
Mr. Amy Rabitschek
Mr. Roy C. Wilhelm
Mr. Walter Goodfellow

VI
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Alaska:
Anchorage: Mrs. Evelyn Huffman, Sec., Box 837, Anchorage, Alaska.

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Phoenix: Mrs. Miriam Bugbee, Sec., 1738 W. Van Buren St., Phoenix, Ariz.

Arkansas:
Little Rock: Mrs. Lucy Hawkins, Sec., 1418 Louisiana St., Little Rock, Ark.

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Berkeley: Mrs. Helen B. Rutledge, Sec., 2811 Regent St., Berkeley, Calif.

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Saskatchewan:
Regina: Miss Edith Slack, Sec., Box 264, Regina, Sask.
Decision Nears on Temple Construction

The three meetings of the Temple Trustees held since the Convention have recorded exceedingly important steps taken in the great project of completing the interior ornamentation of the “holiest House of Worship ever to be constructed in the Bahá’í world.”

The Bahá’ís who attended the Convention will recall that the Guardian had examined two studies and treatments of the modification of the Bourgeois design, and expressed his preference for Allen B. McDaniel’s sketches, with certain further modifications.

After consultation with experts it became apparent that the bowl seating arrangement could not be included within the financial limitation definitely set, and a seating arrangement prepared by Mr. Clarence Ulrich was adopted. Mr. McDaniel was commissioned to prepare an interior design embodying the Guardian’s directives as understood by the Trustees after consultation.

A Temple Construction Committee was appointed consisting of Paul E. Honey, Chairman, Mrs. Amelia E. Collin, Earsly Edna M. True, and Mr. Philip G. Sprague, for study and recommendation on technical, architectural and financial elements involved in placing contracts for the work.

A Temple Technical Committee was also appointed with the following members: Mr. Allen B. McDaniel, Mr. Robert McLaughlin, Mr. Edwin Eardley.

Both these committees combined in a meeting at Washington which examined the final design and prepared recommendations on selection of an architect, supervision of construction, costs, etc.

At the July meeting the Trustees recorded approval and acceptance of Mr. McDaniel’s revised plans as the final modification of the Bourgeois design. This action was taken with conscientious and prayerful regard to the three vital factors of architectural excellence, cost of production, and the time required for the construction work. The Temple Trustees realize that the completed interior will be even more important than the exterior, for it will be the scene of the meetings of sacred worship for which the Temple was conceived.

At the July meeting also the qualifications of a number of architectural firms were considered, and it is confidently expected that next month the Trustees can report the placing of contracts for working drawings and specifications, and arrangements for starting the actual construction work this year.

One word must be added. The progress of the Temple work from now on will call for the expenditure of some $90,000 a year for six years on an average. This in turn requires an average monthly donation for this project alone of between $7,000 and $8,000. At no lesser sacrifice may we deserve the supreme privilege of raising Bahá’u’lláh’s Temple in the heart of the Western Hemisphere at such a crucial hour in the history of mankind.

Assemblies Accept Challenge

Nineteen Local Assemblies have notified the National Office of their acceptance of the challenge issued by the NSA to establish another Local Assembly before April 21, 1948. In the order of response, the Assemblies are: Chicago, Philadelphia, West Chester, St. Paul, Detroit, New York City, Lima, Urbana, Los Angeles, Eliot, Teaneck, Boston, Milwaukee, Evanston, Long Beach, Baltimore, Peoria, Columbus, Pasadena.

In a letter to Local Assemblies having twenty or more enrolled believers, the National Assembly wrote: “In the light of these “challenging requirements” (set forth by the Guardian), the National Assembly asks you to accept a great challenge: no less than responsibility for bringing one group to Assembly status before April 21, 1948. By that date there must be 175 local Assemblies; and without the determined action of our stronger Assemblies this goal cannot be obtained! Prayerful consideration is called for.”
European Enrollments Now Five

The ETC shares with the Friends the news of the declaration of three more believers in Europe. There are now five souls who have arisen, in the course of a few months, from the ranks of a sorely stricken continent, to accept the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. Many fine reports are coming from Europe of the public meetings, teas and firesides which have been arranged for the first of the itinerant teachers who are assisting in Europe this summer, Mason Remey and Mildred Motahedeh. The surprisingly large attendance at these meetings shows the broad scope of contact work being done by our pioneers.

The Committee is happy that it is possible for the chairman, Miss Edna True, to make a trip to Europe at this time. She will visit each of the European pioneer posts. Thus she will be able to give first hand aid to the pioneers, will survey the results of the teaching efforts of the first year and bring back valuable information to the committee on which future plans may be built. She will strengthen the efforts of the European teaching office and see in what manner our European teaching representative can assist in the plans now being made by the Swiss believers for their first summer school to be held in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1948.

Shoghi Effendi has given permission to hold a European Teaching Conference in the late spring of 1948. The ETC has tentatively planned that it be held May 22nd to 26th, 1948. The chairman will review this with the pioneers, so that plans for, and location of, the Conference can be determined.

On this trip Miss True will be accompanied by her mother and Dr. Katherine True. Mrs. True and Katherine will visit Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg and Switzerland while Miss Edna True will make her circuit of the pioneer outposts. The Trues will sail on July 23rd on the S. S. "Noordam."

Sailing on July 25th, on the "Stavangerfjord," will be the 29th European pioneer, Mrs. Anna Kunz, member of the Urbana Community, who will visit the Scandinavian countries en route to her post in Berne, Switzerland. On this same ship will be Mrs. Beatrice Ashton of the Winnetka group, who will assist as itinerant teacher in the Scandinavian countries, Switzerland and possibly Germany. She will be abroad until September 23rd.

The committee hopes the believers will send in names and addresses of contacts which they may have in any of the ten goal countries and continue to pray for the success of the European phase of the Second Seven Year Plan.

You Are Earnestly Requested Not to Read the Following IF

You are fully satisfied with the NEWS as it now is.

If, however, you think the publication shows room for improvement we suggest that

1. You read the NEWS carefully each issue and
2. Let us know exactly how you would improve it and
3. Send us glossy photographs and news items (no returns, please!) for possible use.

Be as frank as you wish—we welcome criticism and ask only one favor: make it helpful.

You see, the NEWS has two jobs on its hands: we have to deliver to you all communications from the Guardian and the National Spiritual Assembly. We bring you these without changing them in any way. They are vital, and generally speaking you can find them only in the NEWS—because we are the only published medium of communication between the National Spiritual Assembly and yourselves.

Our other job is to let you know what your fellow believers are doing, and to tell them about you. This is where you come in. We can use criticisms, suggestions, news items, photographs, teaching ideas. We should like to hear from minorities and majorities, young and old, isolated Bahá'ís and communities—anyone who reads the NEWS.

As a matter of fact, if you care to discuss the NEWS at the next 19-Day Feast and let us know the results, we would be delighted.

Yours ever,

THE BAHÁ'Í NEWS
Editorial Office
1001 West Genesee St., Lansing Mich.

Kiwanis Magazine Reports Faith

An article about the Bahá'í Faith entitled "The Willkie of Baghdad" appeared on page 8 of the June 1947 issue of Kiwanis Magazine, which is published by the well-known international service organization.

The article which is illustrated with three photographs begins, "The atomic bomb has sealed a new state of world affairs. Sink or swim, we have to stay together. The United Nations, however infantile it may appear at the moment, is our only hope. Whether it is built more on the weakness of fear or the strength of common principle remains to be seen. But at least we have a new faith—that we must become citizens of the world first of all, citizens of a particular nation second.

"But is this a new faith? Well, a man of whom few of us have read was teaching it and trying to be heard by heads of governments nearly a century ago. He believed so passionately in world unity, world government and world citizenship that he made them his religion, or rather, he believed them because they were the essence of his faith..."

The appearance of this unsolicited article is another evidence of the rapidly growing public interest in the Faith.
Messages from the Guardian

“Unprecedented Blessings”

Rejoice evidences continued vigorous activity. Renew plea to have the independent status for believers possessing independent means volunteer European pioneeers and also itinerant teachers. Eagerly awaiting response Convention Message. Praying placing Temple contract before termination current year. Ardently supplicating unprecedented blessings manifold meritorious services. Deepest love.

SHOGHII EFFENDI through his secretary, July 7, 1947

Cremation

He feels that, in view of what 'Abdu'l-Bahá has said against cremation, the believers should be strongly urged, as an act of faith, to make provisions against their remains being cremated. Bahá'u'lláh has laid down as a law, in the Aqdas, the manner of Bahá'í burial, and it is so beautiful, befitting and dignified, that no believer should deprive himself of it.

SHOGHII EFFENDI through his secretary, July 7, 1947

Nine Holy Days

He wishes also to stress the fact that, according to our Bahá'í laws, work is forbidden on our 9 Holy Days. Believers who have independent businesses or shops should refrain from working on these days. Those who are in government employ should, on religious grounds, make an effort to be excused from work; all believers, whoever their employers, should do likewise. If the government, or other employers refuse to grant them these days off, they are not required to forfeit their employment, but they should make every effort to have the independent status of their Faith recognized and their right to hold their own religious Holy Days acknowledged.

SHOGHII EFFENDI through his secretary, July 7, 1947

Statement on Orientals

The statement regarding Orientals he considers very well selected, and feels that it will be an added protection to the believers, especially those newly enrolled in the Faith.

SHOGHII EFFENDI through his secretary, July 7, 1947

Freedom of Appointment

The following statement was written to the N.S.A. by the Guardian through his secretary in a letter dated June 15, 1947:

“In going over the Minutes of your recent N.S.A. meeting he noticed that you had decided to try as far as possible to eliminate N.S.A. members from the national committees. Although he fully realizes your reasons for taking this decision, he feels it infringes on one of the fundamental principles of our administrative order which is freedom of choice—freedom of voters to elect anyone they please to local or national bodies, and freedom of the members of these bodies to appoint any Bahá'í, who seems best qualified for the work, to function on committees.

“The first consideration must always be the person best qualified for a job, and National Assembly members should in such matters not be either discriminated against, or in favor of, because of the position they occupy on the national body.”

New Believer Translates “Hidden Words”

The secretary of the Seattle, Washington, Assembly writes that a new believer there, Mr. Per Hallsten, has just translated “Hidden Words” into beautiful Swedish. They believe that this translation has been sent to Sweden for printing. Thus, individual believers everywhere, “new” and “old” serve the Faith, each according to his own ability or talent, and “The Word” envelopes the world.

“Blessings”

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“The Year 1335”

On page 38 of the Guardian’s letter (“The Challenging Requirements . . .”) the friends will note with interest his brief reference to the prophecy of Daniel: “It must reach the end of the first epoch in its evolution with the fulfillment of the prophecy mentioned by Daniel in the last chapter of His Book, related to the year 1335, and associated by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá with the world triumph of His Father.”

The words of Daniel are: “Blessed is he that waiteth and cometh to the thousand, three hundred and fifty and thirty days!” (Some Answered Questions, p. 52)

The Master’s interpretation in Some Answered Questions states that “The beginning of his lunar reckoning is from the day of the proclamation of the prophethood of Muhammad in the country of Hijaz; and that was three years after His mission; because in the beginning the prophethood of Muhammad was kept secret . . . And Bahá’u’lláh in the year 1290 from the proclamation of the mission of Muhammad caused His Manifestation to be known.”

The year 1290 by lunar reckoning is therefore the year 1963 A.D.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá in other connections has used solar reckoning; and the general understanding of the believers has been that the year “1335” corresponds to 1957 A.D.

Let us recall that the Guardian, in the last paragraph of “The Goal of a New World Order” (The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh, page 48) identifies the year 1963, the one hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of Bahá’u’lláh with the condition of public recognition and widespread Bahá’í influence.

“... that He may hasten the approach of the realization of that Wondrous Vision which constitutes the brightest emanation of His Mind and the fairest fruit of the fairest civilization the world has yet seen.

Might not the hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh mark the inauguration of so vast an era in human history?”

Again, we have the Guardian’s statement to an American believer recently published in Bahá’í News: “It is far too early to make any predictions about peace of any sort, judging by the ebullitions of the world’s affairs these days!” ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, in His Tablets, connects the

(Continued on page 6)
These Challenging Requirements

Dear Bahá‘í Friends:

The attention of the friends is directed by the National Spiritual Assembly to a number of passages in the Guardian’s message dated June 5. First, the reference to the American Bahá‘í community found on pages 28 and 29 of the booklet edition. How can a believer over-emphasize this remarkable statement: “In every state of the United States, in every province of the Dominion of Canada, in every republic of Latin America, in each of the ten European countries to which its inescapable responsibilities are insistently calling it, this community, so blessed in the past, so promising at present, so dazzling in its future destiny, must, if it would guard its priceless birthright and enhance its heritage, forge ahead with equal zeal, with unrelaxing vigilance, with indomitable courage, with tireless energy, until the present stage of its mission is triumphantly concluded.”

Here is a divine blessing such as the Old Testament recorded for the Jewish people—a mission which under the divine will must needs be fulfilled. A divine blessing brings with it guidance and energy, but these gifts are matched by the responsibility laid upon the community and its individual members. It becomes essential that we spur ourselves onward to the goal, and not merely accept passively the impetus furnished by other workers. A spiritual bounty is a task, not an assured income enabling us to live without effort.

Let us ponder frequently these words from the message:

“Its Capacity to Perform”

“Invested, among its sister communities in East and West, with the primacy conferred upon it by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Divine Plan; armed with the mandatory provision of His momentous Gifts; equipped with the agencies of a quarter-century-old Administrative Order, whose fabric it has reared and consolidated; encouraged by the marvelous success achieved by its daugther communities throughout the Americas, a success which has sealed the triumph of the first stage of that Plan; launched on a campaign of vaster dimensions, of superior merit, of weightier potentialities, than any it has hitherto initiated, a campaign destined to multiply its spiritual pro-
geneyy in distant lands and amidst divers races, the community of the Most Great Name in the North American continent must arise, as it has never before in its history, and demonstrate anew its capacity to perform such deeds as are worthy of its high calling. Its members, the executors of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Plan, the champions of Bahá’, u’lláh’s embryonic Order, the torch-bearers of a world-girdling civilization, must, in the years immediately ahead, bestir themselves, and, as bidden by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, ‘increase their exertions a thousandfold’, lay bare further vistas in the ‘range’ of their ‘future achievements’ and of their ‘unspeakably glorious’ mission, and hasten the day when, as prophesied by His forerunner, their communities will finally and securely established upon the throne of an everlasting dominion, when the ‘whole earth’ will be stirred and shaken by the results of their ‘achievements’ and ‘resound with the praises of majesty and greatness’, when America will ‘evolve into a center from which waves of spiritual power will emanate, and the throne of the Kingdom of God will, in the plenitude of its majesty and glory, be firmly established.”

Another passage is the one on pages 23 and 24 which directs the European pioneers how to deliver the message. This direction applies also to each of us in North America. It reinforces our response to the Master’s challenge that we each conform our soul to the right attitude and the successful method: “How To Teach”

“They must be neither provocative nor supine, neither fanatical nor excessively liberal, in their exposition of the fundamental and distinguishing features of their Faith. They must be either wary or bold, they must act swiftly or mark time, they must use the direct or indirect method, they must be challenging or conciliatory, in strict accordance with the spiritual receptivity of the soul with whom they come in contact, whether he be a nobleman or a commoner, a northerner or a southerner, a layman or a priest, a capitalist or a socialist, a statesman or a prince, an artisan or a beggar. In their presentation of the Message of Baha’ulláh they must neither hesitate nor falter. They must be neither contempluous of the poor nor timid before the great. In their exposition of its verities they must neither overstress nor whittle down the truth which they champion, whether their hearer belong to royalty, or be a prince of the church; or a politician, or a tradesman, or a man of the street. To all alike, high or low, rich or poor, they must proffer, with open hands, ‘a radiant heat, with an eloquent tongue, with infinite patience, with uncompromising loyalty, with great wisdom, with unshakable courage the Cup of Salvation...’”

Of special import to local Assemblies is the Guardian’s passage on local incorporation and local endowments found on pages 7 and 8. Here the Guardian clearly gives urgent priority to the National Fund over local projects throughout the new Seven Year Plan. The National Assembly admires and appreciates the zeal with which local Assemblies might now initiate the collection of funds for local purposes in the field of teaching, publicity and headquarters space and equipment. But the Temple as it will be completed by 1953 is the first endowment of every American Bahá‘í. Nothing can exceed in scope the needs of Temple completion. There is a vital and necessary program of activity for every local community to maintain, but projects which need capital funds are depriving the National Fund of resources should be deferred. Bahá‘ís have perfect right to provide bequests to their local Assemblies for the creation of endowments. The point stressed here does not question that right, but makes a distinction between bequests and the diversion of current income by a local Assembly for local activities to a degree which removes the community support from the National Fund. The four great goals of the Seven Year Plan are goals set for every believer, and the local Assembly can do much to strengthen the connection between the community and the Guardian’s plan for America. As Shoghi Effendi says:

“The Process of Incorporation”

“The process of incorporation of properly functioning spiritual assemblies must be simultaneously and vigorously carried out. The forty-five assemblies now incorporated are the first fruits of an enterprise of great significance, which must rapidly develop in the days to come, as an essential preliminary to the establishment, and the extension of the scope, of Bahá‘í local endowments, as soon as the financial obligations incurred in connection with the completion of the Temple have been discharged.”

AUGUST, 1947
God Loveth Those Who Work in Groups

O ye friends of God! Today is the day of union and this age is the age of harmony in the world of existence. "Verily, God loveth those who are working in His path in groups, for they are a solid foundation." Consider ye that he says "in groups," united and bound together, supporting one another.

"To work," mentioned in this holy verse, does not mean, in this greatest age, to perform it with swords, spears, shafts and arrows, but rather with sincere intentions, good designs, useful advice, divine moralities, beautiful actions, spiritual qualities, educating the public, guiding the souls of mankind, diffusing spiritual fragrances, explaining divine illustrations, showing convincing proofs and doing charitable deeds. When the holy souls, through the angelic power, will arise to show forth these celestial characteristics, establishing a band of harmony, each of these souls shall be regarded as one thousand persons and the waves of this greatest ocean shall be considered as the army of the hosts of the Supreme Concourse.

What a great blessing it is when the torrents, streams, currents, tides, and drops are all gathered in one place! They will form a great ocean and the real harmony shall overcome and reign in such a manner that all rules, laws, distinctions and differences of the imaginations of these souls shall disappear and vanish like little drops and shall be submerged in the ocean of spiritual unity. By the Ancient Beauty, in this case and condition, the blessings of the great ocean will overflow and canals shall become as spacious as an endless ocean and each drop shall become as a boundless sea!

O ye friends of God! Strive to attain to this high and sublime station and show forth such a brightness in these days that its radiance may appear from the eternal horizons. This is the real foundation of the Cause of God; this is the essence of the divine doctrine; this is the cause of the revelation of the heavenly Scriptures; this is the means of the appearance of the Sun of the divine world; this is the way of the establishment of God upon the bodily throne.

'ABDU'L-BAHÁ

In Memoriam

Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life. Miss Minnie D. Moore, Huntsville, Ala., June 13, 1947.

Correction: In the annual Schedule of N.S.A. meetings, page 12 of the June issue of Bahá’í News, the meetings of July 3, 4, 5, 6, 1947 were omitted.
"The Year 1935" (Continued from page 3)

prophecy of Daniel (1957) with the proclamation and spread of the Cause. Other references to this date must be considered as hearsay."

In God Passes By the Guardian associates the year 1935 with the Centenary of Bahá'u'lláh's mystical experience: "The year 1935 ushers in the blissful culmination of the words of Daniel: Blessed is he that waiteth and cometh to the end of the one thousand three hundred and five and thirty days."

Dr. Esslemont, as one notes in Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, page 303, received the impression at Haifa during the first months of the Year 1947-1948 that 1957 is the date foretold by Daniel. This is interesting in the light of many Assemblies' overemphasis on local needs today.

On page 7 he states "The forty-five Assemblies now incorporated are the first fruits of an enterprise of great significance, which must rapidly develop in the days to come as an essential preliminary for the establishment and the extension of the scope of Bahá'í local endowments, as soon as the financial obligations incurred in connection with the completion of the Temple have been discharged." He lays emphasis again upon the fact that our local activities must be partially subordinated to the needs of the Four Objectives and particularly the completion of the Temple. This is interesting in the light of many Assemblies' overemphasis on local needs today.

If the friends could translate the sentence "supporting the National Fund" to "supporting the Four Objectives of the second Seven Year Plan," I think we would develop a new attitude towards the National Fund; because certainly the degree to which we support the National Fund measures the progress which we are able to make towards the achievement of the Four Objectives of the second Seven Year Plan.

Our Budget set up this year by the National Spiritual Assembly was $25,000.00 a month, or $300,000.00 for this year. During the month of May and June we received only $37,000.00, which means that we were $13,000.00 short of meeting our requirements.

During July the Treasurer's Weekly Report to the N.S.A. showed contributions of $8,619.21 and disbursements for the same period of $11,605.46; and also showed an overdraft of earmarked funds of $5,780.45. Which means that in order to keep activities of the Faith going we had to draw upon earmarked funds to this extent, with the permission of the donors.

With the Guardian emphasizing the need for starting the inner ornamentation of the Temple before the end of this Bahá'í year, this picture looms up as a serious one. Because just as soon as building activities are started the demands on the Fund will be very great and it would be a great pity if the work, during this second Seven Year Plan, on the Temple had to be brought to a stop or delayed because of lack of funds to complete the project.

Faithfully, PHILIP G. SPRAGUE

Supporting the Four Objectives

Dear Bahá'í friends:

By this time every declared believer in the United States has received the Guardian's most recent letter "The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour."

In this wonderful document he has outlined every phase of our Bahá'í activity for the balance of the second Seven Year Plan, even to the point of our attitude towards local endowments.

On page 7 he states "The forty-five Assemblies now incorporated are the first fruits of an enterprise of great significance, which must rapidly develop in the days to come as an essential preliminary for the establishment and the extension of the scope of Bahá'í local endowments, as soon as the financial obligations incurred in connection with the completion of the Temple have been discharged." He lays emphasis again upon the fact that our local activities must be partially subordinated to the needs of the Four Objectives and particularly the completion of the Temple. This is interesting in the light of many Assemblies' overemphasis on local needs today.

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Bahá'í Service for the Blind

Following the interest shown by the friends during Convention, the first months of the Year 1947-1948 have brought increasing inquiries and demands for literature for the blind.

We have available at present:

I. Braille publications, Grade Two
   1. Kitáb-i-Idqán, Two (2) Volumes $6.00
   2. The Hidden Words, One Volume $2.50
   3. World Order Through World Faith and The World Faith of Bahá'u'lláh: Summary, sold as a set of two pamphlets $1.25

II. Braille publications, Grade One and one-half
   1. Principles of the Bahá'í Faith $ .75
   2. Conversation With God $ .50
   3. The Words of Bahá'u'lláh, inscribed over the Nine Entrances to the Bahá'í House of Worship (Nine Inscription Booklet) $ .15

III. Talking Book

The Bahá'í Talking Book, consisting of three double-faced records, presents the World Order Through World Faith and The World Faith of Bahá'u'lláh: Summary. This Talking Book was recorded in the studios of the American Foundation for the Blind for presentation to the Library of Congress and its Distributing Libraries for the Blind.

This distribution should proceed within the next few weeks. Additional copies of the Talking Book may be purchased by the friends at a price of $3.50. Supply is limited.

Please send orders and inquiries to Bahá'í Service for the Blind, 616 North Oxford Avenue, Los Angeles 4, California.

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International School Marks Latin American Progress

Three of the pioneers who attended the first Latin American session at the new Bahá'í International School in Colorado Springs, are leaving to perform projects in various Latin American countries. Charles Loas of Chicago left at once to visit Mexico City, then to assist the two new Mexican Assemblies in Puebla and Coatepec in their study and practice of administration, and later to visit Vera Cruz, where he will teach a new group and also lay the groundwork for the first Central American Bahá'í Summer School session, which will be held in that city December 5 to 10.

Miss R. Katharine Meyer of Washington is preparing to leave for Caracas, Venezuela, where she will assist the friends of that city and also the recently established student group in the nearby city of Maracay. Miss Mary Louise Kelsey of West Englewood, N.J., is leaving this month for Buenos Aires, Argentina, where she will aid the over-burdened Bahá'í Publishing Committee. Miss Kelsey will visit San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Bahia, Brazil, en route to her post, while Miss Meyer will do travel teaching down through the West Indies, visiting especially the new goal cities in Cienfuegos, Cuba; Santiago, Dominican Republic, and Spanish Town, Jamaica, en route to her objective.

Artemus Lamb, one of the teachers at the session, is doing travel teaching down through Central and South America as he returns to his post in Santiago, Chile. The International School is the gift of Mrs. Loulie Matthews of Colorado Springs. Mr. and Mrs. Matthews have turned over their beautiful summer home for the school sessions, which are conducted under the auspices of the National Spiritual Assembly.

The teaching classes were conducted under the direction of the practice assembly elected by the students, and programs were put on in dramatic form by the students themselves, the imaginary locale being Santiago, Chile. In this way they obtained actual practice in Latin American teaching. The practice assembly voted to recommend to the school committee and the National Spiritual Assembly that the school be made a Bahá’í Normal School, equipped to prepare teachers for service anywhere on the planet; a place where teachers from all countries can exchange experience and become enriched thereby; a place where the notable exponents of the culture of every nation will be invited to visit and to share this culture with the Bahá’ís.

Pioneering by native Latin American teachers in other Latin countries is getting under way. Sra. Natalia Chávez of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, has recently gone to Guatemala City, where she is assisting in the consolidation of that Community, and where she will help the friends in establishing their first goal city. Sra. Yvonne de Cuéllar of La Paz, Bolivia, will assist Gwenne Sholtis in opening up Cochabamba and Potosí to the Faith this year. Sr. Emilio Barros and Sr. Salvador Tormo and his wife, Adela, of Buenos Aires, are helping Shirley Warde in teaching the new student group in Rosario.

Marcia Steward is visiting and helping in the consolidation of the new Costa Rican assembly in Quépos, and the further instruction of several new groups formed in that country through use of the new correspondence teaching plan.

Gayle Woolson is visiting Medellín, Cartagena, Barranquilla, Bucaramanga and Mogotes, Colombia. Barranquilla and Bucaramanga are goal cities for this year. The regional teaching committee headed by Dr. Saul Hernández of Bogotá, hopes to reach its goal of eight assemblies by April, 1948. Colombia now has six assemblies. Colombia is also planning the first Bahá’í Conference and School Session for the northern countries of South America, to be held in Bogotá in December during the Pan-American Conference in that city. Measures are being concerted to draw the attention of all Pan-American delegates to the Bahá’í Faith.

Directory Corrections
Regional Committee for Md., Va. and W. Va. Mrs. Gene W. Christ (Not Evelin)
Mrs. Marion C. Littitt (Not Mariam)
American Memorial to Abdu’l-Baha
Mr. H. Borrah Kavelin (Not Borrah with one r)
Local Assembly, Charleston, W. Va.
Mrs. Helen S. Anderson (Not Miss Helen)

Sunshine Teaching Continues

The Charleston, West Virginia community says, “With warm weather descending, it was decided to substitute picnics Saturday evenings for the social gatherings. The first, held on June 14th, was a great success, with nine Bahá’ís and twelve non-Bahá’ís attending.”

In New England, the Springfield, Mass., community held its annual meeting and picnic at the Skate House on Porter Lake, June 22nd. This was an all-day affair, the friends supplying their own picnic lunches. In Norwich, Conn., the annual picnic was held July 13th. A picnic lunch was served at noon and a Bahá’í speaker presented afterward. In spite of an all-day downpour of rain on June 8th, the Greenwich, Conn., picnic took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Welsh. Friends from New York, New Jersey and New England attended so that there were 50 present. Rustam Payman of New York City was the speaker in the afternoon and several informal talks followed the planned program. Many non-Bahá’ís heard the talks and enjoyed the Bahá’í fellowship.
II. Consolidation

1. National and Regional Teaching Committees to increase Assemblies to 175 this year
2. Reinforce the 80 newer Assemblies
3. Develop the 218 groups
4. Raise over 900 isolated believers to group status

III. Proclamation

National Spiritual Assembly aided by Public Relations, Race Unity, Public Meetings, Visual Education, College Speakers Bureau and Radio Committees
1. Reinforce proclamation of verities to masses through press and radio
2. Make closer contact with leaders of public thought, with colleges and universities, with newspaper and magazine editors
3. Further develop national advertising and publicity
4. Maintain contact with 750 newspapers, magazines and trade papers
5. Amplify Public Relations programs
6. Stimulate association, not affiliation, without participation in political matters, with the organs, leaders and representatives of United Stations and kindred organizations, to give greater publicity to Bahá’í aims and purposes and eventually convert capable and receptive souls

IV. Assembly Incorporation

Carry out incorporation of properly functioning Assemblies for establishment of local endowments after Temple needs are met

V. Summer Schools, Youth Activity

Expand institutions of the Summer Schools and utilize them as agencies for furtherance of the Seven Year Plan

VI. Service Committees


VII. Alaska

1. Maintain and consolidate the Anchorage Assembly
2. Multiply Bahá’í centers
3. Promote teaching among Eskimos
4. Translate and publish texts in Eskimo
5. Extend northern limits of Faith beyond Fairbanks

VIII. Canada

1. Maintain and fortify the 13 Assemblies
2. Establish Assemblies in the most promising of the groups
3. Establish first Canadian Summer School
4. Incorporate firmly grounded Assemblies, to prepare for local and national endowments
5. Develop institution of the local Fund
6. Encourage holding of conferences
7. Broadcast Message through press and radio to masses and leaders
8. Increase number of French-speaking Bahá’ís

IX. Latin America

1. The Latin American communities to bestir themselves for collective, historic and gigantic tasks culminating on the formation of two National Assemblies
2. The constitution of two independent, duly elected National Assemblies is one of the most vital objectives of the second Seven Year Plan
3. The believers to close their ranks, reinforce the bonds of unity, of solidarity and cooperation, rededicate themselves to the task of teaching, deepen their knowledge of the Bahá’í History and fundamentals, step themselves in the spirit and love of the teachings, and acquire special training for future pioneer activities
4. Multiply the number of Assemblies
5. Local incorporations to be effected as preliminary to incorporation of future National Assemblies
6. Begin to establish local Funds for pioneer activity, dissemination of literature, maintenance of local headquarters and gradual initiation of Bahá’í endowments, for publicity agencies, summer schools and youth activities.
7. Support the activities begun by native traveling teachers
8. Take advantage of practical workshop courses in pioneering at the International School
9. Utilize the two schools in Azeiza and Santiago, and the school to be conducted in Vera Cruz, for
1. The Punta Arenas Assembly is only a prelude to the work of consolidation to be carried out in conjunction with the activities of the Assemblies of Santiago, Valparaiso and Vina del Mar, and the groups in Puerto Montt, Valdivia, Quillay, Temuco, Sewell, Chorrillos, Mulchen and other groups, as well as the isolated believers to hasten the formation of the first independent National Spiritual Assembly to be formed by any Latin American nation.

X. Europe

1. The ten countries must evolve into strongholds from which the Faith can be diffused into neighboring territories.

2. The nuclei and new groups must be reinforced by more pioneers and visits of traveling teachers, and by development of the teaching work the pioneers must start among the native populations.

3. Local Assemblies composed of settlers from abroad are artificial and temporary.

4. The 25 pioneers already in the field are to be reinforced this year by as many additional pioneers as possible, particularly by those of independent means who can go themselves or send appointed deputies.

5. Translate, publish and disseminate leaflets, pamphlets or books in the nine selected languages.

6. Distribute literature to the public free on certain occasions and present it to leaders of public thought and to the numerous libraries.

7. Make immediate contact with the press and other agencies.

8. Use every opportunity to state the aims and teachings when attacked by its enemies.

9. Associate the Faith, but not affiliate it, with progressive, non-political, non-ecclesiastical institutions, social, educational or charitable.

10. Attend congresses and conferences, use contacts with colleges and universities, to spread the teachings.

11. If personally able, pioneers should attend either the British or German Summer School and make such connections as will help them do their work and also set up other summer schools under the auspices of the European Teaching Committee, to prepare the way for the schools that will be founded by the future assemblies in the ten countries.

12. Welcome and utilize any assistance which the British and German National Assemblies, and their committees, especially their Publishing Committees can extend, until the institutions to be founded in these countries can conduct their affairs independently.


14. Reinforce contact with each other through the European Office of the European Teaching Committee, by conferences on their plans, problems and activities, and concert measures for spread of the Faith in Europe, and prepare for the future formation of regional National Spiritual Assemblies which will precede the establishment of independent separate National Spiritual Assemblies.

15. Begin to establish administrative headquarters for the communities and future Assemblies in the various capital cities, through rental of suitable quarters, leading later to a national Hazíratul-Quds in each country.

16. In addition to the Assembly to be formed in each country, groups, even though small and weak, should be started in other cities.

17. The basic condition for successful teaching is for the pioneers to adapt the fundamental teachings to the cultural and religious backgrounds, ideologies and temperament of the different races and nations.

18. Pioneers must neither antagonize people nor compromise essential Bahá'í principles; they must be neither provocative nor supine, fanatic nor too liberal; they are to be direct or indirect in accordance with the receptivity of the person contacted; they must neither overstress nor whittle down the Bahá'í truths.

NATIONAL BAHÁ'Í OFFICE
June 27, 1947
News From Other Lands

From Czechoslovakia. The following message to American friends was signed by nine believers in Prague: "Loving Baha'i greetings from Czech friends of the Holy teachings from their celebration of the Feast of Naw-Ruz, 194." Correspondence may be addressed to Vuk Echtner, Prague, Nusle II, 739, Czechoslovakia.

Hungary. News comes slowly but in April some relief packages had reached believers in Budapest and requests were being acted upon. "We had a beautiful Naw-Ruz meeting with four interested guests" writes Renee Szanto-Felbermann (Hidieg-Kutri-up 31/a, Budapest II).

Poland. Requests continue coming for literature and information on the Faith from people who have seen the Baha'i Esperanto bulletin.

Morocco. Madame Marie Claudet, former member of the Baha'i Assembly of Guayaquil (Ecuador) was reported in May to be on route to join her parents in French Morocco where she expected to pioneer for the Faith.

Switzerland. On Sunday, April 27, in the heart of the Bidvan season, all the Baha'is of Switzerland met together in Zurich. Among the 18 friends gathered around the conference table, Persia, England, Germany, Austria, Hungary, and the United States were represented.

Mr. Robert Gulick, of Berkeley, California, arrived in Geneva April 25th. His visit was in connection with the international trade conference going on at the United Nations Palace. From there he flew to Cairo, at the time the National Baha'i Convention of Egypt was gathered there. He expected to be back in Geneva in June after visiting Iran.

Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh was in Geneva from May 18 to 22. She was the first traveling teacher to visit European pioneers under the auspices of the United Nations' Committee. Since she is also the secretary of the Speakers' Research Committee for the United Nations, Mrs. Mottahedeh was able to make valuable contacts at the UNO. From Geneva she flew to Germany and also Austria.

Austria. Baha'is in Vienna were expecting a reply from the American military authorities concerning their application for permission to carry on Spiritual activities. They feel that their Children's work is very worthwhile.

From German Baha'i Youth Bulletin

Germany. A most interesting official report of Baha'i Youth activities in Germany gives us the following: The first great boom in youth work was in the first months of 1946. Young friends who were disillusioned and striving for better human relations joined the Baha'i Youth and are now studying and working for the Cause. There are now about 120 members in eight groups. The main activity is in the United States zone and Hamburg in the British Zone with promise of work in the French Zone. They have weekly meetings for study and discussion and arrange small parties for visiting cultural performances or other outings. Several groups may spend a Sunday together.

The first Youth Summer School ever held in Germany was the great turning point of last year as it was of outstanding importance in promoting unity among the youth and spurring them to deepen in the Faith. Some of the Youth Groups had been formed in places where there was no Assembly to take care of their needs and direct them. Therefore the National Youth Committee was formed and entrusted with the planning, execution and direction of measures which make for more efficient cooperation and coordination of youth activities throughout Germany.

Lack of literature prompted the friends to prepare and distribute a 93 page compilation of excerpts on Baha'i history and teachings. Further compilations are being made. Another feature is the Baha'i Youth Letter, issued quarterly with a circulation of 100 copies. On the International Symposium Day a representative of Baha'i Youth gave a broadcast of seven minutes on the origin, aims and development of the Faith. The lack of literature handicaps the work greatly. Youth activities are also hindered by lack of printing paper and difficulty in obtaining printing licenses.

Correction. We are sorry that in our January Baha'i News there was an overstatement of the progress of the Faith in Nurnberg. Herr Fred Kohler, secretary of the NSA of Germany, writes: "The National Spiritual Assembly has to date (May 8, 1947) not found it possible to regard the interested individuals as believers, as the requirements have not been met. It is hoped, however, that there will soon be a larger group or even an assembly in Nurnberg."

From India and Burma News Letter:

The NSA of India and Burma expected to move its headquarters from Poona to Delhi, the capital of India, during the month of May. They would occupy temporary quarters until they could find a suitable building to purchase. The Guardian has contributed £1000 towards the purchase of a permanent Quds.

Youth are reported active and enthusiastic in these countries. They have a National Youth Bulletin and
have held their first National Youth Conference. In two or three cases a young believer has accompanied a veteran Bahá'í on a teaching tour.

Seven new assemblies were reported in April with the probability of two more.

The success of their summer school in India made the NSA determine to have a winter school also. In carrying out this plan many difficulties were encountered due to strikes going on in the community where it was held. Twenty-one students in addition to local Bahá'ís attended.

The Kolhapur Assembly arranged for the friends to go over to the Polish Refugee Camp on the outskirts of the city. Permission was given to speak to the inmates on the Cause. Two talks were given and translated into Polish which were so well received that the speakers were asked to speak a second time. The Bahá'ís gave gifts to the children and sick patients in the camp. A Polish translation of the New Era was placed in the camp library.

From India and Burma
Annual Report:

The annual report of the NSA of India and Burma reveals great activity and growth in those countries. In reading it one realizes what a great burden the many languages add to spreading the Faith. We quote: "India is a land of contrasts and disparities. If language be the basis of demarcating the limits of a country, India is not one but at least 33 countries. The task of our institution whose sole object is to make people realize the fact of the unity of mankind, is therefore, not an easy one. The difference does not exist only in language but the climates of the different provinces of this country differ greatly and with the climate the disparities in ideas and thoughts loom out and keep these parts apart from each other." Dr. Esslemont's book has already been translated and printed in thirteen languages besides English with translations in six other languages on the press. English is understood by the educated classes all over India.

Calendar

Nineteen Day Feasts:

September 8—'Izzat—Might
September 27—Maghribiyat—Will.

The Burmese Bahá'ís suffered greatly during the war. The NSA appointed two Bahá'ís to visit Bahá'í centers in Burma and find out conditions and needs. "As a result the distressed Bahá'ís have been taken care of, their wants supplied, those who were out of occupation for lack of means reinstated in business." Steps were taken to repair damaged headquarters and to reestablish teaching work. A further bit from the report helps us to understand some of the difficulties which our Burmese friends are meeting: "The friends in Mandalay are engaged in wresting from the illegal occupants a property belonging to the Cause and in getting the supplementary passages of the New Era translated into Burmese and the entire book revised." The Guardian sent word that "He was particularly happy to see how active the beloved Burmese friends are."

Enrollments and Transfers

New York City, 5; Milwaukee, Wisc., 3; Chicago, Ill., 2; Sacramento, Calif., 1; Boston, Mass., 1; Seattle, Wash., 1; Worcester, Mass., 1.

Others:

Marysville, Mich., 1; San Antonio, Texas, 2; Elsinore, Calif., 1; Denver, Colo., 1.

Guest speakers at 35th annual Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, June 28, 1947 at West Englewood, N. J., Mr. Matthew Bullock of Boston, Mrs. Terah Smith of Binghamton, and at right Mr. Wm. DeForge, chairman.

Publishing Announcements

THE OPEN DOOR — A New compilation on immortality from the words of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá. The pamphlet is attractively designed in blue and white and is most appealing in both appearance and content. It is especially recommended for giving to bereaved friends. Price, 10 copies ....... $ .50

CHICAGO TRIBUNE REPRINTS

— These are still in demand, useful for display and for distribution at Bahá'í gatherings.

Price, 20 copies ...... $1.00

Baha'i News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Bahá'í Community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924.

Baha'i News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá'í News Editorial Committee: Mrs. Roberta Christian, chairman; Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mr. Gordon A. Fraser, Editorial office: Mrs. Roberta Christian, 1001 West Guesanee St., Lansing, Mich.

Please report changes of address to which Bahá'í News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Bahá'í National Office, 356 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.
“How Do We Train Our Children the Bahá’í Way?”

This question, in one way or another, has been repeatedly asked of the Child Education Committee by Bahá’í parents. Since present day psychologists tend to differ from the Bahá’í teachings in many aspects of their child training programs, the Committee referred the problem to Dr. Stanwood Cobb, eminent director of the Chevy Chase Country School, and long a Bahá’í educator.

Dr. Cobb’s qualified answer is as follows:

“In regard to any conflict between modern psychology and Bahá’í ideals or ideas, the modern psychology should be completely disregarded. It is based on an almost blasphemously false premise, that the child has no soul. How and why should we harmonize with such a pagan ideology? Insist at every turn upon what you here are: modern psychology and Bahá’í soul. How and why should we believe to be best for the child as a Bahá’í.

“The trouble is, we lack Bahá’í scientists and psychologists—but we must not hesitate to use what vision we have, even as lay thinkers, and insist on giving the child what we, as Bahá’ís, think it needs.

“Some of the things we try to do here are:

1. To surround the child with love, so that if not already expressive and radiant, it becomes so. The vibrations from the Bahá’í Kingdom enable Bahá’ís to stimulate children with the most wonderful love that has ever come to earth. Christian love can’t equal it. So this is a great opportunity for Bahá’ís.

“2. To establish an atmosphere of peace and security. We do not here permit children to ‘fight it out’, to learn by the give and take of aggression—as some nursery schools do. We try to anticipate all troubles and frictions and prevent any manifestation of quarrelsomeness . . .

“We believe here that while children should as much as possible be given choices, and be treated with courtesy which we expect from others, there are plenty of occasions when they must obey without discussion, delay, or quarrelsomeness. We insist on a sweet obedience, when needed.”

Character building is the greatest need of our training today. Shoghi Effendi, in a reply to Mrs. Ruth Moffett (March 12, 1944), writes: “. . . Prayer is only one factor in this (character building); they must learn to live up to the ethical teachings of the Faith . . . Once young people become convinced of the existence of the soul they should not need much convincing that material training and material progress are not sufficient. The soul needs training and help also.”

A Bahá’í Marriage

A Bahá’í Marriage took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George N. Clark in Denver, Colorado to unite Mrs. Clair Dano Gillespie of Cheyenne, Wyoming, formerly of Chicago, and Mr. Clarence Dyck Schneider of Denver, formerly of Richmond Highlands, Washington, on Saturday, April 26, 1947.

69 attend 1947 Naw-Ruz celebration of communities of Burbank and Glendale, California. There were 41 guests and 19 Bahá’ís present.

San Mateo, California, Local Spiritual Assembly formed April 21, 1947.
CRISIS

The American Believers must face the fact that the national fund is dangerously low. The monthly budget set for general expenses and the Temple construction is $25,000 each month. The NSA has a total deficit of $40,000 since the convention.

Unless this condition is remedied, drastic effects upon our efforts toward the goals of the Second Seven Year plan will result!

Pioneers so desperately needed for the work in Europe and Latin America must be recalled!

The important work of promulgation to the masses so emphasized by our Guardian must be suspended!

Funds for radio, national program, public relations and other vital service committees which have so broadened interest and information on the Faith must be curtailed!

The first Temple contract has been let. Tight market conditions for both labor and materials will not admit of any delay or tardiness in construction. The work of the Temple must go forward on schedule.

Our Guardian has set before us a stirring challenge. By Assembly and Individual response we have assured him of our readiness to achieve the victories desired. Talks and promises are not enough for this. Only well rounded and sustained action and support can accomplish the task. First things must come first.

In an age of dunning solicitation, raffles and benefits which bribe contribution by the promise of self-enrichment, our Faith has initiated and held to a standard of maturity in its emphasis upon financial support. It does not separate the devotion of contribution from the devotion of prayer. Both have the same dignity and the same obligation.

WHAT IS THE MEASURE OF YOUR DEVOTION?

Message Sent to World Esperanto Congress

The following message was cabled to the World Esperanto Congress while meeting in the city of Berne, Switzerland, July 28 to August 1, 1947:

"American Bahá'ís send cordial greeting, devoted best wishes, (to) Thirty-second World Congress; sharing your conviction (that) supreme goal (of) world unity calls for one auxiliary international language and script to provide unrestricted communication for union (and) cooperation (of) all nations (and) peoples. Our prayers appeal (to the) Divine Father (for) help (and) guidance (for) your important deliberations."

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

First Bahá'í Endowment in 'Akká

The National Spiritual Assembly has received from the Guardian the certificate of registration of a piece of property located in 'Akká consisting of a shop and land, donated to the Faith by an old and devoted believer of 'Akká, Mr. Qazim Toza. The registration has been entered by Shoghi Effendi in the name of the Palestine Branch of the American National Spiritual Assembly. This endowment is of historic significance inasmuch as it represents the first Bahá'í endowment in that city so intimately associated with the exile and imprisonment of Bahá'u'lláh.

The believers will recall how the Guardian established the Palestine Branch of the NSA a number of years ago as a religious body having legal status in Palestine and capable of holding title to religious property. The first properties transferred to the Palestine Branch were those areas on Mount Carmel purchased by American Bahá'ís in order to protect the Shrine of the Báb.
First Temple Contract Signed by Trustees

At 12 o'clock noon, August 4, the Temple Trustees signed the first contract for construction of the Temple interior. Meeting in the spacious living room of the Fellowship House at Green Acre, the Trustees opened the active phase leading to construction work.

Mr. Alfred P. Shaw of Chicago is the architect selected to carry forward the remaining stage of Temple construction. Mr. Shaw has been responsible for the architectural work on many widely-known buildings in Chicago, including the Field Building, the Museum of Science and Industry, and the Merchandise Mart.

In the months following the Annual Convention, the Temple Trustees’ Construction Committee made a very thorough investigation of architectural firms in the Chicago area. The members were especially interested in the record of work done and the quality of specialized technical personnel able to carry forward the theme of the Bourgeois design into the finished interior. They investigated more than a dozen individual architects and architectural firms, and their survey resulted in the choice of Mr. Shaw.

Negotiations with Mr. Shaw were initiated early in July, and a formal contract with Mr. Shaw and his firm for architectural services was presented to the Trustees at the August meeting. This contract has been reviewed by specialized legal counsel, as well as by the Baha’i Technical Advisory Board consisting of Mr. Allen B. McDaniel, Mr. Robert McLaughlin and Mr. Edwin Eardley. Upon recommendation by the Trustees’ Construction Committee and the Technical Board, the Trustees signed the contract with Mr. Shaw on August 4. He and his associates are now engaged in the preparation of working drawings and plans and specifications for the Temple interior construction work.

Preliminary Studies Completed

As announced in the August Baha’i News, the Temple Trustees in July approved the revised plans for the interior submitted by Mr. Allen B. McDaniel. The treatment of the interior embodied in his plans followed the specific instructions of the Guardian. This approval marked the end of preliminary studies of modification of the original Bourgeois design.

Mr. Bourgeois, before his death, completed small-scale drawings of his concept of the interior ornamentation, but did not complete working drawings and full-scale renderings. Mr. McDaniel modified these designs and adapted them to the Baha’i form of worship to be used in the Temple. With the approval of Mr. McDaniel’s modification, the Trustees faced the problem of securing the services of a Chicago architect qualified to assume responsibility for seeing the project through to completion.

Forward to Construction

The next step is the preparation of detailed drawings and specifications, and the full-scale drawings necessary for the letting of contracts and the start of actual construction work in the interior. Mr. Shaw and his associates have started this.

The Trustees hope that preliminary contracts for the new stairway system, required by the modified plans, can be let before the end of the current calendar year. The working drawings for the completed interior will be ready early in 1948, at which time contracts for the interior ornamentation can be placed.

The contract with Mr. Shaw provides that final architectural and engineering decisions are to be made jointly by the architect and the Baha’i Technical Advisory Board, subject to subsequent confirmation by the Temple Trustees. This insures that the project will be carried out strictly in accordance with the wishes of the Guardian and within the spirit of the original Bourgeois design.

A panel of Baha’i experts in specialized fields, such as color, lighting, etc., has been set up. The Technical Advisory Board will seek the opinions of those Baha’is who are qualified by training and experience to offer helpful ideas in connection with carrying out the Temple project.

These Are Historic Days

The few early believers who caught the vision of the Temple as a symbol of the coming Kingdom of God have given us a heritage of sacrifice and patient devotion. To them ‘Abdu’l-Baha wrote: “When the Mashriqu’l-Adhkár is accomplished, when the lights are emanating therefrom, the righteous ones are presenting themselves therein, the prayers are performed with supplication towards the

Pioneer to Norway, Mildred Clark, sailed June 27, 1947 on the S. S. Stavangerfjord.

More Assemblies Accept Challenge

To the list of Assemblies which have agreed to foster the formation of a new Assembly in one or more nearby groups, published in the August issue, the National Spiritual Assembly is happy to add the Assemblies which reported later: Oklahoma City, Cleveland, Wilmette, Miami, Portland, Racine, Albuquerque.
Relationship of Bahá’í Faith to Palestine

Shoghi Effendi Makes Statement to United Nations Special Committee on Palestine
(Note: The Guardian has sent to the National Spiritual Assembly a copy of a communication he addressed to the Chairman of United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, meeting in Jerusalem, in reply to the latter's request for an expression of the religious interests of the Bahá’ís in Palestine. The text of the Guardian’s letter is reproduced in Bahá’í News for the information of the believers.)

Mr. Justice Emil Sandstrom,
Chairman,
United Nations Special Committee on Palestine.

Sir:

Your kind letter of July 9th reached me and I wish to thank you for affording me the opportunity of presenting to you and your esteemed colleagues a statement of the relationship which the Bahá’í Faith has to Palestine and our attitude towards any future changes in the status of this sacred and much disputed land.

I am enclosing with this letter, for your information, a brief sketch of the history, aims and significance of the Bahá’í Faith, as well as a small pamphlet setting forth its views towards the present state of the world and the lines on which we hope and believe it must and will develop.

The position of the Bahá’ís in this country is in a certain measure unique: whereas Jerusalem is the spiritual center of Christendom it is not the administrative center of either the Church of Rome or any other Christian denomination. Likewise although it is regarded by Moslems as the spot where one of its most sacred shrines is situated, the Holy Sites of the Muhammadan Faith, and the center of its pilgrimages, are to be found in Arabia, not in Palestine. The Jews alone offer somewhat of a parallel to the attachment which the Bahá’ís have for this country inasmuch as Jerusalem holds the remains of their Holy Temple and was the seat of both the religious and political institutions associated with their past history. But even their case differs in one respect from that of the Bahá’ís, for it is in the soil of Palestine that the three central Figures of our religion are buried, and it is not only the center of Bahá’í pilgrimages from all over the world but also the permanent seat of our Administrative Order, of which I have the honor to be the Head.

The Bahá’í Faith is entirely non-political and we neither take sides in the present tragic dispute going on over the future of the Holy Land and its peoples nor have we any statement to make or advice to give as to what the nature of the political future of this country should be. Our aim is the establishment of universal peace in this world and our desire to see justice prevail in every domain of human society, including the domain of politics. As many of the adherents of our Faith are of Jewish and Moslem extraction we have no prejudice towards either of these groups and are most anxious to reconcile them for their mutual benefit and for the good of the country.

What does concern us, however, in any decisions made affecting the future of Palestine, is that the fact be recognized by whoever exercises sovereignty over Haifa and Acre, that within this area exists the spiritual and administrative center of a world Faith, and that the independence of that Faith, its right to manage its international affairs from this source, the right of Bahá’ís from any and every country of the globe to visit it as pilgrims (enjoying the same privilege in this respect as Jews, Moslems and Christians do in regard to visiting Jerusalem), be acknowledged and permanently safeguarded. The Guardian’s statement on the Faith will appear in an early issue of World Order Magazine, and reprints of it will be made available through the Publishing Committee.

The Sepulchre of the Bab on Mt. Carmel, the Tomb of ‘Abdul-Bahá in that same spot, the Pilgrim Hostel for oriental Bahá’ís in its vicinity, the large gardens and terraces which surround these places, all of which are open to visits by the public of all denominations, the Pilgrim Hostel for western Bahá’ís at the foot of Mt. Carmel, the residence of the Head of the Community, various houses and gardens in Acre and its vicinity associated with Báb’s incarceration in that city, His Holy Tomb at Bahji, near Acre, with His Mansion which is now preserved as a historic site and a museum (both likewise accessible to the public of all denominations), as well as holdings in the plain of Acre—all these comprise the bulk of Bahá’í properties in the Holy Land. It should also be noted that practically all of these properties have been exempted from both Government and Municipal taxes owing to their religious nature. Some of these extensive holdings are the property of the Palestine Branch of the National Spiritual Assembly of the United States and Canada, incorporated as a religious society according to the laws of the country. In future various other Bahá’í National Assemblies will hold, through their Palestine Branches, part of the International Endowments of the Faith in the Holy Land.

In view of the above information I would request you and the members of your Committee to take into consideration the safeguarding of Bahá’í rights in any recommendation which you may make to the United Nations concerning the future of Palestine.

May I take this opportunity of assuring you of my deep appreciation of the spirit in which you and your colleagues have conducted your investigations into the troubled conditions of this Sacred Land. I trust and pray that the outcome of your deliberations will produce an equitable and speedy solution of the very thorny problems which have arisen in Palestine.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) SHOGHI RABBANI
Haifa, Palestine
July 14, 1947

Corrections

We beg your pardon for the following errors:

AUGUST, 1947 ISSUE:
Pg. 5, picture: The first line for the caption under this picture was mistakenly placed under the picture on pg. 12. It is "San Mateo, California, Local Spiritual Assembly formed April 21, 1947, Standing.""
Pg. 6, heading: "The Year 1935" should be "The Year 1936."
Pg. 7, Directory Corrections: Mrs. Gene W. Christ should be Mrs. Gene W. Oritz; Mrs. Marian C. Lippit should be Mrs. Marian C. Lippit.

JULY, 1947 ISSUE:
Pg. 12, Publishing Announcements: The listing of available volumes of Bahá’í World should be as follows:
Vol. I 1.50 Vol. VI 3.00
Vol. II 1.50 Vol. VII 5.00
Vol. III 2.50 Vol. VIII 6.00
Vol. IV 2.50 Vol. IX 10.00
National Bahá’í Program

Beloved friends:

Step by step there has developed for the American believers this year the policies and plans needed for a sound National teaching effort. First, each individual Bahá’í received an appeal to do his utmost to confirm one new believer before April 21, 1948. Second, the groups were urged to create the spiritual conditions of growth and to realize their responsibility in striving to attain Assembly status next April. Third, the smaller communities were encouraged to double their membership during the year. The help of the Regional Teaching Committees has been offered them. Fourth, the larger communities were challenged to adopt one or more nearby groups and help bring it or them to Assembly status.

Fifth, the Guardian’s powerful communication, “The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour” was printed and circulated to all the friends.

Sixth, the National Assembly selected a theme and four subjects explaining it as the basis of the national campaign. Local Assemblies conducting their own series of meetings are free to employ the theme in their meetings, their publicity and their advertising work. “World Faith for World Freedom” is the general theme. The four subjects suggested for a series of four public meetings are: “The Search for Faith,” “The Search for Freedom,” “Credo for a World Community,” and “Bahá’í—A World Program.”

Seventh, the NSA has held conferences with each of the several national committees directly concerned in a coordinated national teaching campaign, and also has conducted joint conferences with them together. Out of these discussions has been welded a new conception of how several national committees can work together for a common purpose under the general supervision of the NSA. What has been the cause of this particular evolution of method?

—The Guardian’s call for a total of 175 local Spiritual Assemblies in North America by April 21, 1947. This call came last year. It produced a great intensification of effort along the teaching lines followed in the past, but the result indicated that the Guardian’s goal would not be attained through the effort of any one national committee alone.

For example—there were 138 Assemblies listed in the Bahá’í Directory dated July, 1946, and 142 (with one doubtful) in the Directory dated July, 1947—a net gain of only four or five Assemblies in half the allotted time. The Guardian’s call means that 32 or 33 new Assemblies must be elected on April 21, 1948.

Eighth, the key to a more powerful, a more broadly conceived and a more continuous attack on the problem of bringing 32 or more groups to Assembly status between September, 1947 and April, 1948, was found in the conception of a general designation for a coordinated campaign which would not indicate that any one committee was conducting the campaign when actually four committees might be involved. The National Assembly therefore adopts the title “National Bahá’í Program” and wishes it used in connection with all the coordinated work entered into this particular campaign. This designation can only be employed by committees specifically empowered by the National Spiritual Assembly. The committees so empowered, those participating in the coordinated public campaign, are: National Teaching Committee, Visual Education Committee, Radio Program Committee, and Public Relations Committee.

The Campaign

The teaching campaign which this year is known as “National Bahá’í Program” is based on intensive and progressive work in three areas which include the largest number of large groups: Southern California, Illinois-Wisconsin, and New Jersey-Connecticut.

In each of these three areas four towns have been selected because in them are groups which with the right kind of help can be brought to Assembly status this year. Subject to some correction, the towns are: California—Inglewood, Burbank; Illinois—Park Ridge, Winnetka, La Grange; Wisconsin—Shorewood; New Jersey—Englewood, Jersey City, Newark; Connecticut-Westport.

The teaching method combines advance publicity and advertising; advance radio announcements and programs; public display material—all aimed at creating interest in two (Continued on page 6)
"The Secret of Right Living"

Dear friends:

The Báb said: "You are the bearers of the Name of God in this Day." From the time He uttered those words to the Letters of the Living, many men and women have walked the path of sacrifice as the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh has been unfolded and spread throughout the world.

Looking back through the years we can see the inspiring and flaming heritage which has come to us through the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá. It is a heritage of service and love and sacrifice. The men and women who have responded to the call of God have lived by faith, trusting in Bahá'u'lláh to guide and sustain them. Through unity and faith, the humble have become spiritually mighty, and the few have been able to erect the structure of the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh.

The Guardian has reminded us: "We must be like the fountain or spring that is continually emptying itself of all that it has and is continually being refilled from an invisible source. To be continually giving out for the good of our fellows undeterred by the fear of poverty and reliant on the unfailing bounty of the source of all wealth and all good. This is the secret of right living."

Can we hesitate when confusion and chaos increase around us? Can we not sacrifice physical luxuries in order to give spiritual necessities to the people of the world?

The National Fund is our constant way of advancing the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh. From the farm, from the factory, from the office, from the home—wherever we are and however we work—through the National Fund we serve the four immediate objectives of our Faith.

1. Completing the interior of our Temple—the first contract has been signed and work will soon be starting.

2. Creating three new National Spiritual Assemblies—the Canadian friends will elect their NSA next spring. Our teaching assistance to our Latin American brethren goes forward steadily as they strengthen the foundations for their National Assemblies.

3. Creating centers in ten European countries — enrollments of European believers are beginning to come in. Our pioneers there face tremendous problems in a continent whose civilization is shattered. We must continually assist them in their heroic efforts.

4. Proclamation and consolidation of the Faith in this country—a National Bahá'í Campaign is being worked out to be started this fall.

These four objectives you and I support with every contribution we send to the National Fund. But receipts for the first three months since Convention have been almost $25,000 short of our goal for that period. We, who have been called "the bearers of the Name of God in this Day," cannot slacken in our strides forward. Let us show the measure of our faith!

It costs $1,500 a year to maintain a pioneer in Europe, plus transportation which is between $275 and $325, according to available accommodations. But these pioneers represent us. They go with our prayers and labor in our stead, in a spiritually sick and devastated continent.

One of our assemblies recently reviewed its obligations to the Faith and determined that its contributions to the National Fund this year must equal and exceed that of last year. This is a small assembly, the members of which far surpassed their usual contributions in celebration of the Anniversary of the Guardianship. Yet the members reckoned what the minimum must be each month if before next Convention they are to surpass their contributions of last year. Such planning and such steady resolve will enable us to meet our larger budget of this year... What will the response of your Assembly be? What will your personal response be?

Faithfully yours,

Philip Sprague, Treas.
National Bahá’í Program

The work of the participating committees—National Teaching Committee, Visual Education, Radio and Public Relations Committees is not restricted to the operation of the Public Bahá’í Campaign described above. Each has its separate and distinct functions over and above those which enter into the coordinated effort. But the objective of 175 Assemblies this year is one of our weighty tasks under the new Seven Year Plan. Whatever can be done by any individual, group, community or committee to help attain the great goal will be a blessed work meriting the gratitude of all American Bahá’ís.

Why 175 Assemblies? Because no lesser number will create here in North America the strength needed to achieve the full purpose of the Divine Plan by 1953 in South America, in Europe and in completion of Temples interior. The formation of new Assemblies is therefore of crucial importance.

Nineteen New Believers in Europe

(Notes from European Teaching Committee)

We share the good news that there are nineteen new confirmed believers in Europe. These are in Italy, Sweden, Spain, Denmark, Holland and Belgium. Four more pioneers sail August 27: Mildred Elmer of Baltimore to Berne, Switzerland; Doris Lohse of Washington, D.C. to Belgium; David Reed Blackmer of Syracuse, N.Y. to Luxemburg; and Valeria Lamb Nichols of Los Angeles to assist in six of the goal countries.

In addition many itinerant teachers have been assisting in teaching. Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh spoke in eight of the goal cities; her business also took her to England, France, Germany and Austria where she was able to serve the believers. Mr. Charles Mason Remey not only assisted the pioneers in the goal countries but made many trips to outlying points to visit isolated believers and those who had previous knowledge of the Faith. Mrs. Eva Mae Barrow spent two months in Europe assisting in several goal countries. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop Brown while on a business trip to Sweden visited the Scandinavian countries and greatly assisted the pioneers there. Mrs. Marion Littel who expects to be in Europe six months to a year has already aided three of our goal cities.

Anna Kuns sailed for Berne, Switzerland, on July 22, 1947 via Norway, to pioneer.
ies mimeographed. Personal teaching continues in several instances and work with the interested people in Bussum continues.

Two groups heard Mr. Remy, one at a private home and the other over the dinner table with excellent contacts at both occasions.

A letter from one friend tells how much he desires to learn enough of the Faith to become a Bahá’í in order to teach the beloved Truth to all who will listen. Another letter from one who was leaving for the Dutch East Indies says that he wishes to keep in touch with Bahá’ís wherever he goes.

Sweden: "We had a fireside in my home the evening that the Mottahedehs arrived. Thirteen arrived including a man from South Africa who had heard of the Cause three years ago. He was so impressed that when he called me later to thank me for the evening he said it was the most wonderful evening he had spent in Sweden and he could not find words to express his feelings. He is reading and wishes to buy books to read to his family. He took names of Bahá’ís in Pretoria, South Africa, where he expects to return.

"Mrs. Anderson had a fine fireside with eighteen or nineteen present. A young reporter who interviewed Mrs. Mottahedeh and me became interested in the Faith and asked for literature and invitations to meetings.

"We have had a wonderful Bahá’í meeting at the Esperanto Club. We are invited to put on another program this fall when the club resumes activities again."

Among those present at a tea given in honor of one of our pioneers in Stockholm were a young lawyer who had visited the shrines in Haifa and a woman who had heard about the Faith about twenty years ago, probably from Martha Root. A talk was given and literature distributed at this tea.

Again we quote: "I received a call from Bishop Brown just after I had finished reading The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour. I was so stirred by the Guardian’s Message that when the phone rang and a voice said Alláh-u-Abhá I could hardly speak."

Three firesides were arranged for the Browns for three different groups. Among the many present were a woman who had heard of the Cause through Sir Francis Younghusband and another who said she would invite people to her home in the autumn to hear about the Faith. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and Mr. Buffa of South Africa had heard of the Faith years ago.

"We were all extremely happy over the firesides, especially since I had gotten them up on the spur of the moment. The physical exhaustion of cleaning the house, cooking for over forty people and writing and telephoning to over fifty people was a small price to pay for the interest shown in the Faith."

Norway: Mrs. Wang, the Chinese secretary at the Chinese embassy, is very eager to learn about the Bahá’í Faith so that she can teach the Bahá’í message to her people when she goes back to China. Mrs. Wang took literature in French because Mr. Wang was educated in Paris and Brussels and knows French well.

Luxembourg: A fireside of young people was held at the home of Honor Kempton one evening when Johnny Eichenauer, Ted Weiss and the Davidsons drove to Luxembourg from Germany. Fourteen in all were present. Johnny spoke of the friends in Germany and the Bahá’í work they are doing. He spoke simply but so sincerely, touched on his work in Central America, then told of the privileges and responsibilities of being a Bahá’í. Bruce Davidson quietly told the group that he wanted to feel when he passed on that he had helped toward building a better world and that the only way to accomplish this goal was through the Bahá’í Faith. Ted also spoke with utter sincerity. It showed the difference between those boys with a "Cause" in their lives and those that had no aim. Mr. and Mrs. Davidson also spoke a few words.

Mr. Remy’s visit followed directly after that of this group from Germany. Fruitful contacts were made at a tea at the American Legion and the next day at luncheon a gentleman from New York became vitally interested in the Faith.

Rome: "Miss Del Buono is June’s (Marangella) Italian teacher, a woman of fine background and culture, with excellent connections and contacts among whom she has already started to propagate the Faith. . Her courage and fortitude in adversity, her vitality and brilliant mind, together with her gentleness of spirit, combine to make her worthy of the distinction as the first new believer in Rome."

Denmark: An informal social gathering arranged for Mrs. Little resulted (of course) in a real Bahá’í discussion. A good piece of publicity prominently placed in one of the Copenhagen papers proved of great service in opening the subject for conversation even though the interview was somewhat inaccurate. The Nielsens helped greatly in clarifying points in Danish.

Mrs. Little writes: "I am delighted with Denmark and I feel that things will soon begin to happen there, with our seasoned pioneers at the wheel."

Switzerland: Mrs. Eva Mae Barrow writes that in Berne she had ‘entrée’ into the University because she was collecting catalogues for the Institute of International Education. Dr. Marie Renfer, in charge of the library showed great interest in the Faith. Our pioneers ran an ad in the paper indicating that Mrs. Barrow would answer questions about the Faith at her hotel at certain hours. Nine persons called and all wanted literature and stayed the full time. It appeared that many read the advertisement with interest.

Mrs. Barrow also tells of talking with twenty-eight persons on the steamer about the Faith. Many were given very detailed information. Some took what they called "lessons" lasting an hour and a half daily in the last few days. One group of nine in a class heard about the Administration and asked penetrating questions.

England: Mrs. Little visited six goal cities in England and writes that she is thrilled at the work and accomplishments of the British Isles. Under such difficult conditions they are forging ahead. There is evidence everywhere of spiritual rebirth. "Amid the ruins of the cities the spring winds have sown seeds. To me it seemed a symbol of what is happening to the spirit of its people."
We Can Learn from Latin America

The march of native pioneers in Latin America continues with the going soon of Sr. Esteban Canales Leyton of Valparaiso, Chile, to Ecuador, where he will assist in the further consolidation and growth of the assemblies in Guayaquil and Quito, and help them to establish a new goal city for this year. Sr. Canales will work with the Ecuadorian Regional Committee in the new city to be chosen. He also plans to visit Lima, Peru; La Paz, Bolivia, and two cities in northern Chile, where interested groups are forming. Sr. Canales has already assisted with the formation of three Chilean assemblies, those of Punta Arenas, Valparaiso and Vina del Mar. He is chairman of the South American Teaching Committee.

Additional native teachers being placed upon the panel for national and international work under the direction of their committees, include Sr. Alberto Lovatón of Lima, Peru; Antronik Kevorkian of LaPlata, Argentina; Sr. Toni Fillon of Loncoche and Sr. Carlos Bulling Petersen of Vina del Mar, Chile.

Sr. Natalia Chávez of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, has been richly rewarded in Guatemala, where her teaching has greatly assisted in the consolidation and growth of the mother assembly in Guatemala City, and in the establishment of a group of students in the new goal city of Chichicastenango. Natalia has found that a question and answer type of program is helpful. She bases the lesson to be given upon a series of questions relating to a particular topic. Then from the Báb's books, she writes the answers on slips of paper, assigning one slip to each student. The teacher asks the questions and each student reads his answer as his turn comes. Then the class discusses the answer. In this way everyone takes part and interest is materially increased.

Sr. José Antonio Bonilla of Managua, Nicaragua, well known in his country as the author of a number of books and articles, has been appointed as the new chairman of the Central American Teaching Committee, serving the northern Latin American countries, where the Cause has been established. Sr. Natalia Chávez will serve this committee as general secretary of correspondence, and Marcia Steward is executive secretary-treasurer of the committee.

A mass of wonderful publicity has just been received from Gayle Woolson, who received an ovation in Bucaramanga, Colombia, where the newspapers published 15 articles during her week's visit, and two papers offered to publish any articles she might send them at any time. The radio also broadcast material on the Báb's Faith. The Masonic Lodge opened its doors for a public meeting and voted to have all its members study the Faith by correspondence, when no teacher is present, and directly whenever a teacher can be sent. Public talks were arranged in the Municipal Library, the Club Campesino and the Club Unión. Two Bábí-study groups were formed, one of which is in charge of two of the most prominent men of the city, Dr. Gustavo Wilches and Sr. Christian Clausen.

Srta. Leonor Porras of Bogotá dedicated her 20-day vacation to assisting Gayle in Bucaramanga, San Gil and Mogotes. In San Gil the Lions and Rotary Clubs entertained the two girls and put on a joint public meeting for them. Both clubs voted to study the Faith by correspondence and 122 individuals in the two cities registered for the correspondence course. The Bucaramanga students are hopeful of being able to organize an assembly by April.

Gayle has been working with the new assembly in Medellín, the group in Barranquilla and the new assembly in Cartagena. She will leave September first for Venezuela, where she will assist the Caracas Community and then work in cooperation with the Venezuelan Regional Committee, in Maracay, Valencia and Barquisimeto. Sr. Fernando D'Leon and his wife, active Bahá'ís of Barranquilla, are transferring to Caracas, where they will be of much help to that community. Miss R. Katharine Meyer of Washington will join Gayle in Caracas after her trip down through the West Indies.

Marcia Steward is going to Nicaragua, where she will work with the friends for a while as they get the correspondence campaign under way. Mrs. Louise Carroll of Colon, Panama, has gone to Guatemala, where she is helping in the goal city of Chichicas tenango. She will go next to El Salvador and assist their re-

Suggested Daily Readings for October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oct.</th>
<th>1 Gl. (p. 239-241)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>2 Gl. (p. 234-235)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>3 Gl. (p. 232-233)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>4 Gl. (p. 214)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>5 Gl. (p. 205-206)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>6 Gl. (p. 7-8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>7 Gl. (p. 38)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The World Ready for Teaching

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oct.</th>
<th>8 Gl. (p. 39-49)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>9 Gl. (p. 40-41)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>10 Gl. (p. 43-46)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>11 Gl. (p. 183-184)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>12 Gl. (p. 195-197)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>13 Gl. (p. 276-279)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>14 Gl. (p. 278-281)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Words of the Báb and About the Báb

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oct.</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>The Báb's Address to the Letters of the Living, Dawn-Breakers, p. 92-94 or World Order magazine, May, 1944, p. 36. Also printed separately as a leaflet.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Babá'lláh’s Tribute to the Báb, Íqán, p. 230-236, or World Order magazine, May, 1944, p. 35.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gl. (p. 144-top p. 148)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Gl. (p. 101-102)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prerequisites for Teaching

| Oct. | 22 | Gl. (p. 200-202) |
| Oct. | 23 | Gl. (p. 315-316) |
| Oct. | 24 | Gl. (p. 315-317) |
| Oct. | 25 | Gl. (p. 322-323) |
| Oct. | 26 | Gl. (p. 322-326) |
| Oct. | 27 | Gl. (p. 322-329) |
| Oct. | 28 | Gl. (p. 329-330) |
| Oct. | 29 | Gl. (p. 320-321) |
| Oct. | 30 | Gl. (p. 329-332) |

Enrollments

regional in choosing and getting work under way in a goal city. Mrs. Cora Oliver and Mrs. Mabel Snyder of Panama City plan to spend their vacations assisting the various communities in the West Indies. Mrs. Snyder will give most of her time to Haiti, since she speaks French, and Cora will put the emphasis on Jamaica to help bring Spanish Town to assembly status and consolidate the work there.

Astorus Lamb has just completed a teaching trip which included the Central Americas, stopping for consultation with the northern Teaching Committee in San José, Costa Rica. From there he is visiting and consulting with the Regional Committees of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia en route to Santiago, Chile. He will leave the end of this month for Punta Arenas, visiting en route the various Chilean groups in the south.

Charles Ioas of Chicago is expected home in September after spending his vacation teaching in Puebla, Coatepec and Veracruz, Mexico. Miss Evelyn Larson of Chicago, who has been pioneering in Central America for the past two years, is now visiting in Mexico en route home-ward, where she expects to teach in the Chicago schools for a year before setting out again.

Miss Flora Hottes of Urbana, Ill., has returned after pioneering in Bolivia and Uruguay for the past five years. She is assisting the Inter-America Committee as a member and will help to review some of the new translations prior to their publication in Buenos Aires.

Active Young People constitute the new Columbian Assembly in Medellín.
There are 19 members in the community.

First Spiritual Assembly of Medellín, Colombia: Seated from left to right:
Francisco Orrego R., Bernardo Yepes, Margarita Caicedo, Hernando Jaramillo A. Standing: William Gómez M., Dario Echavarria, John Carder, Augusto Mora, José Ramos.

Preliminary Announcement
First National Bahá'í Convention of Canadian Bahá'ís
The present National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada has the function of convening the first Annual Convention of the Bahá'ís of Canada and of conducting the election of the first National Spiritual Assembly of the Dominion.
In order to enable the Canadian believers to arrange their affairs so as to assure a full attendance, it has been voted that the dates of the Convention will be April 24 and 25, 1948, and the city chosen will be Montreal, the city visited by 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 1912 and the place where the Faith was first established in the Dominion.

Once the Canadian NSA has been elected, it will become an independent administrative body acting directly under the Guardian, and will conduct the affairs of the Faith in Canada thereafter, including the selection of time and place for the Annual Convention.

Teaching Assistance for Smaller Communities
There are many Assemblies at present in Bahá'í communities ranging in number from nine to twenty, and the National Assembly has requested the Regional Teaching Committees to give assistance. This assistance is along teaching lines, for example in providing out-of-town believers for public meetings, etc. This relationship does not affect the administrative authority of the Assembly in its area of jurisdiction, but offers it the benefit of help frequently much needed for growth and even continued existence.

Our task in bringing the number of local Assemblies up to 175 this year would be much easier if every Assembly once established had survived. Due to death, removal of members to other cities and other reasons the dissolution of quite a number of Assemblies over a period of ten years or so has affected the number of Assemblies now in being.

The NSA urges the smaller Assemblies to request help, and not to continue depending on their own resources where the accustomed methods have not brought in new members. The spirit of growth is here, but we must spread our sails aloft if we are to catch the favoring breeze.
Publishing Announcements

Bahá’í Answers — Compiled by Olivia Kelsey. This book has been compiled for the convenience of Bahá’í teachers, students and seekers for a broader knowledge of the Bahá’í Faith. The material is from the writings of Bahá’u’lláh, the Bab, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and Shoghi Effendi, and gives enlightenment on many questions noted in the extensive literature of the Faith. 258 pages bound in fabricoid. Price, each $2.00.

Stars of the West—Copies of volume V to XXV still available with a few exceptions. Price each 10c, postage additional.

Directory Additions and Changes

REGIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES:

Appointments and withdrawals were recorded by the N.S.A. at its August meeting as follows:

So. Calif. & Ariz.: Mrs. Edna Johnson added
Ml. Va. & W. Va.: Joel Marengelli appointed chairman in place of Raymond C. Rouse
Del. & Eastern Pa.: Mrs. Miriam Newman added
Mrs. Jean Sharpless, Chairman
619 W. Miner St.
West Chester, Pa.

Western Pa. & Ohio:

Mrs. Sally McDermott added;
Miss Betty Scheffler, secretary
1821 Lincoln St.
Evanston, Ill.

To replace Mrs. Barbara McCurdy

George Terry, Mrs. Harriet Terry and Victor Arayo added

Okla. & Ark.:

Mrs. Roberta Wilson, Secretary
P.O. Box 1208
Little Rock, Ark.

Ontario, Canada:

Mr. Walter Craig Weaver
44 Lorne Ave.,
Brampton, Ont., Canada.

Connecticut has been transferred from the New England to the New York area.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES:

Temple Program Comm.: Miss Arabella Haywood added

World Order magazine: Miss Flora Hottes appointed an associate editor

United Nations Comm.: Prof. George Sombeck added. (Transferred from U. N. advisory panel.)

Canadian Radio Comm.: Albert Rakovsky and Ross Woodman added

LOUSEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR 1948:

Mrs. Geo. R. True, Chairman; Mrs. L. W. Eggleston, Secretary, Mrs. Rebecca Wideman, Librarian, Paul Pettit, Arnold Ketels, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, David Earl, Robert Gaines, Mrs. Addie Miller, Miss Phyllis Hall

Louvien School Maintenance Committee for 1948:

Edwin Eardley, Chairman, Clinton Wideman, Oscar Ketels, Stanley Bagley, J. Murdoch Eaton.

Green Acre School Committee for 1948:

Mrs. Marguerite Sears, Chairman; Mrs. Dorothy Fisher, Secretary; Dr. Genevieve Coy, Program Director; Dr. Glen Shook, Rustam Payman, Clarence Welch, Lucien McCombs, Harrison Langstaff, Mrs. Edith Segan, Mrs. Rene Welch.

Youth Activities Comm.: Mrs. Hildegard M. Lewis unable to serve

Questionnaire Comm.: Mrs. Cynthia Hastings unable to serve

LOCAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIES:

Binghamton, N. Y.:

Mr. Joseph McK. Noyes
43 Davis St.

Augusta, Ga.:

Miss Betty Shook
P. 0. Box 2004, Hill Station

Scarboro, Ont., Can.:

Miss Muriel Wells
9 Blantyre Ave.

Deaver, Colo.:

Mrs. Joyce C. Laurent
Roslyn Hotel, 607 14th St.

Wilmington, Del.:

Miss Muriel Newman
101 W. 6th St.

Edmonton, Alberta, Can.:

Mrs. Lyde C. Roche
9745 88th Ave.

4,000,000 Readers See Bahá’í Ads

One year ago this month a Bahá’í advertisement appeared in Newsweek magazine. It was the modest beginning of a nation-wide campaign to publicize the challenging truths of the Faith. Reported the advertising journal Tide at that time:

"Although other religions have taken similar steps in the past, perhaps none has expressed so succinctly its reason for so doing. Last week's announcement simply read: 'The promotion of any general truth or spiritual ideal can and should command the best available professional experience and skill for the employment of the great modern mediums of public influence.'"

As the first year's campaign comes to a close, Bahá’ís across the country can well be encouraged by the results. Letters and cards have been received by Bahá’í Public Relations from every state in the union, as well as from eight nations of the world. Thousands of pieces of literature have been sent in reply to these requests. This includes the regular mailing of the familiar "World Religion" bulletin. Persons from all walks of life have responded, including businessmen, editors, government officials, soldiers, housewives, church leaders, etc.

Through the mediums of Newsweek, World Report, and United Nations World, the Bahá’í message reaches a total readership of nearly 4,000,000 of the nation's most discriminating and influential readers every other month.

A large photo of the House of Worship was used by the Portland Concrete Association in an advertisement appearing in August 25 issue of Time. This carried the word "Bahá’í!" to many additional thousands of readers.

The current advertising schedule is as follows:

Newsweek
September 15
United Nations World
October 1
World Report
October 14

A series of trade paper advertisements is placed monthly in Editor & Publisher, Broadcasting, Publishers' Auxiliary and Canadian Weekly Editor, in order to influence those people in best positions to influence others.

Local assemblies and groups can tie in with the national advertising — as some already have. This is an opportunity to take advantage of the publicity which has been given. The Public Relations committee will make available, at a small cost, mats designed to help carry on local advertising programs. Space is allotted for the name, address and telephone number of the local assemblies. In all cases of advertising and publicity, use the name of the local assembly or group and not the general name, "Bahá’í Public Relations." This latter practice results in a confusion of local advertising with the national campaign.
Anchorage, Alaska

This month the Anchorage Bahá’í Assembly voted to incorporate so that it could receive title to five acres of land being given to it in Homer, and to be ready to accept further responsibilities in the future.

Another Alaskan “first” was recorded this month when Lea and Howard J. Brown became the first Alaska couple to become Bahá’ís at the same time. They have two small children and have a business in Anchorage so are permanent residents. Their membership gives great added strength to the Anchorage Community.

The minister of the Church of Christ church here inquired of several local Bahá’ís about the Teachings, and made an appointment to discuss the Bahá’í Faith. He then invited us to his church to see pictures on Palestine.

Advertisements are now being placed in the Classified Columns giving the Bahá’í Principles and “Appreciations of the Bahá’í Faith” by well-known people.

Libraries Receive Bahá’í Books

Since the Annual Report, Bahá’í books have been donated to the following libraries:

Public Libraries

California: El Monte; Illinois: Danville; Maine: Portland; Missouri: Independence; Lees Summit; Oak Grove. College and University Libraries

California: Pomona College; District of Columbia: American University; Florida: Southern University; Illinois: James Millikin University; Kentucky: Louisville University; Pennsylvania: Bucknell University; Texas: University of Houston.

Books were also donated to the Urban League Library in Gary, Indiana.

Will the friends try to get the above donations into circulation?

Will the Assemblies, especially in the very large cities of the country, try to give a copy of Bahá’í World, Volume IX, to their Main Public Libraries? This book is not being given by our committee. Therefore, the responsibility to get this important volume in large libraries lies with the Assemblies.

Bahá’í Addresses

National Office:
536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.
Treasurer’s Office:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.
Bahá’í Publishing Committee:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Bahá’ís and friends of Viña del Mar, Chile. Pioneer teacher Artemus Lamb, seated third from right.

Open Letter

to Spiritual Assemblies, Groups and Individual Believers

from The Bahá’í World

How often you have been faced with this question: “What are you Bahá’ís doing about all this?”

The Bahá’í World is the answer to this question. It gives in a concise, well-organized and interesting manner a picture of the manifold and widespread activities of the Cause throughout the world. It also includes timely discussions of the important issues of the period in the light of the Bahá’í Teachings, as well as a direct statement of our aims and purposes. In one volume it presents a record of what we stand for, and what we are doing.

Volume X of The Bahá’í World is being printed and will soon be out. Material for Volume XI is now being collected from practically every country of the globe. Here is an opportunity to join efforts with us and to take part in building up this world-organ of our Faith by contributing news items, stories, articles, photographs. Specifically we need:

Reports of important activities and significant developments.
Brief stories about new centers, headquarters, etc.
Human interest stories encountered or experienced in the course of teaching the Cause.

Articles on current problems from the Bahá’í point of view.
Photographs of general Bahá’í interest (institutions, events, groups in action, etc.) or to illustrate an article. Good, clear photographs that tell a story and show dash and imagination.

New ideas and suggestions to make The Bahá’í World more interesting and more effective as a teaching medium.

All material must be for the period beginning April 1946, and should be in the hands of The Bahá’í World Committee not later than Nov. 15 of this year, earlier if possible.

The Guardian attaches great importance to The Bahá’í World, and has urged our Committee “to make the responsible Bahá’í bodies, and the believers, more Bahá’í World conscious!”

Remember The Bahá’í World

The world-organ of our Faith.

International School — 1947

The first Sessions of the International School under the National Spiritual Assembly were crowned with success. The school was directed by Bahjiyih Ford with her husband, Harry, as business manager. The morning class was directed by Loulie Mathews, studying "The Advent of Divine Justice," and for the second Session "The Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh." Artemus Lamb and Elizabeth Cheney took charge of the Latin-American teaching, including a work-shop of Bahá'í Procedure and using the remarkable slides brought from South America by Mr. Lamb to show the progress of the Faith and the remote localities to which it had penetrated. On a 19-Day Feast Miss Cheney showed pictures of the gardens of the Holy Land. The second Session, from July 1st to July 10th, was devoted to European teaching under the direction of Mary Keene Sprague. In a class of twelve, four wrote the European Teaching Committee to volunteer for European pioneering, Valeria Nichols sailing August 27th, Jean Gates leaving for China in the Autumn under the direction of the Guardian and Nancy Gates sailing for Sweden on October 3rd. On Regional Day, when the Bahá'ís of three states gather to spend a day together, we had a Bahá'í wedding. The bride, a professional musician, graduated from Juilliard School of Music this June, and has been a believer for a number of years; while the bridegroom, Jack Terry of Los Angeles, entered the faith during the Session. The bride had as a guard of honor several Chinese aviators, all interested in the Bahá'í teachings and hoping to carry the Faith to China when they return.

The marriage ceremony was read by Loulie Mathews. In the evening Bahjiyih Ford told stories of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's visit to America. Four Bahá'í talks were given in Colorado Springs and two musicals. Our program was announced over the radio twice daily, the morning and evening papers carried splendid advertisements of all our activities. We had the great pleasure of receiving into the Faith a brilliant woman student whose talents and accomplishments will be henceforth devoted to this Cause.

Resolutions of the 1947 Convention

The list of recommendations and other votes passed by the delegates this year, as recorded iconographically by three Bahá'ís, included some matters pertaining to the Convention itself, on which no later action by the National Spiritual Assembly was required. The Assembly has acted on the definite recommendations, as follows:

1. That the Convention Chairman make a resume of the teaching points she brought out in the opening session of the Convention for the information of all delegates.

2. That relief assistance be set up under the European Teaching Committee in the ten countries under its supervision.

3. That a study be made of the seating and lighting facilities adopted by UN headquarters for their possible value in connection with the completion of the Temple interior.

4. That time be arranged at future Conventions for a joint meeting of the members of the Summer School committees.

5. That the Summer School Committees be invited to meet with the NSA at some convenient period during the year.

6. That funds be so allocated to the NTC as to assist them in the best possible manner in the special campaigns outlined by the Committee.

Voted to refer this resolution to the Temple Construction Committee of the Temple Trustees, which is engaged in making a thorough study of these technical matters for the Temple.

Voted to approve this recommendation and direct the Convention Planning Committee to include in their agenda a conference of summer school committee members with one representative of the NSA.

Voted to refer this convention resolution to the Guardian and inquire whether the American believers should be given opportunity to assist the European pioneers in their work by shipments of food and clothing.

This action was taken after review of the Guardian's instructions and the method of operation of the International Fund.
7. That additional powers be granted to the NTC to give them authority to carry forward the teaching campaigns with more coordination and efficiency.

Voted to record the fact that a coordinated campaign under the title “National Baha’i Program” has been arranged, and the NSA has held meetings with representatives of the participating committees.

8. That arrangements be made prior to the 1948 Convention to approach hotels of the Temple area in an effort to obtain special Convention room prices, with breakfast wherever possible.

Voted to record the view of the NSA that under present hotel and housing limitations, the proposed plan is not feasible.

9. That because of the universal character of the Faith an effort be made to induce hotels and restaurants in the Temple area to extend their hospitality to Baha’is of all nations and races attending the Convention.

Voted to approve this recommendation and inform the friends that the NSA is taking all possible steps in this direction.


Voted to refer this matter to the Public Relations Committee for investigation and report.

11. That a correspondence teaching course be issued for use in North America.

Voted to refer this recommendation to the NTC for an advisory opinion.

12. That the National Public meetings be placed under the National Teaching Committee.

Voted to record the fact that this was done in coordinating the work of a number of committees after the convention.

13. That in accordance with the resolution presented by the Race Unity Committee, the Race Unity Committee to be discontinued.

Voted to record the fact that for the sake of better coordination the Race Unity function has been vested in the NTC; moreover, one of the four public themes adopted for the National Baha’i Program this year, entitled “Credo—for A World Commun-

itv,“ emphasizes the Race Unity theme.

14. That heads of public school education be approached for the purpose of placing in their hands for school use some usable portions of the Baha’i writings.

Voted to explain to the friends that the professional ethics controlling the public school system prevents the use of religious doctrines in public schools.

15. That request be made for observance of Baha’i holy days by all Baha’i students in the public schools.

Voted to record the fact that the NSA sent a representative to the United States office of Education in Washington and the information was obtained that religious holidays are determined locally although in some cases there are set regulations which apply to all local schools in the state. The Guardian is being consulted as to the procedure to follow in carrying out this convention resolution.

16. That World Order Magazine Editorial Committee be advised to lay emphasis on the interests of the non-Baha’i reader.

Voted to record the fact, first, that the present committee has been encouraged to use the right type of non-Baha’i contribution, and second, that Baha’i contributors are requested to prepare their material for the non-Baha’i reader, and third, that general newspaper circulation is not yet possible.

17. That the Convention adopt this statement expressing the Baha’i attitude on the current social problem:

“Spiritual and social crisis has overtaken the world. This condition results from failure to respond to the needs of a new era. The focal point of evolution divinely ordained in this age is recognition of the oneness of mankind and creation of a world order based upon the common citizenship and equal rights of all peoples. World citizenship calls for the abandonment of all barriers arbitrarily dividing humanity, whether social, racial, economic, political or sectarian. These barriers are the illusions and superstitions blinding men to the light of truth given to the world by Baha’u’llah for human guidance today.”

Voted to record the fact that this resolution was included by the Public Relations Committee in a press release reporting Convention activities.

...!

One of the North American teaching periods brought out a number of constructive suggestions from the delegates at our recent convention. A brief resume, as requested, follows.

Public Programming
1. Professional assistance for advance radio and newspaper publicity.
2. The use of speakers, Baha’i and non-Baha’i, with publicity value.
3. Maintaining balance through strong chairmanship.
4. Recognition of the wide variety of minds and temperaments in selection of material.
5. World Order topics, with due recognition of needed emotional values.
6. A theme for the year, for coordinated use by committees and assemblies.

Classes
1. Constant reference to the Word, as the basis of study.
2. Avoidance of undue repetition in study selection.
3. Constant student participation in (1) reading well selected passages, (2) discussion and analysis, (3) assignment of lesson presentation if feasible, (4) telling of applications of the lesson material in daily life or in the current events of the world.
4. Supplementary activities outside of class.
5. Friendly calls when advisable, and occasional giving of lessons in the homes (as in the case of illness, etc.)
6. Ample training for life in a Baha’i community before entrance.

Teaching Attitudes
1. Honoring the views of others.
2. Finding the points of agreement when possible.
3. Keeping fluid and cultivating the practice of listening.
4. A relaxed spirit, as intensity is often unwelcome. (Baha’i stories often relieve tension and lift the spirit).
5. Avoidance of argument.
6. Inner prayerfulness, as God is more aware of needs than the teacher.
7. The spirit of love and graciousness at all times.
Milestones at Louhelen

Until this summer Louhelen Bahá’í School had been a Bahá’í National Institution held in privately owned buildings on privately owned grounds. Our other Bahá’í schools in the United States started in the same way. Just as the names of Miss Sarah Farmer; the Bosches, the Mathews, will always be connected with Green Acre, Geyserville and Temerity Ranch, respectively, so the Eggleston name will always be connected with Louhelen.

This year the buildings, except the home, and nine and a half acres of land have been legally transferred to the trusteeship of the NSA by Lou and Helen Eggleston. A milestone has been reached. From the beginning this transfer has been the purpose of the Egglestons.

Some of us who were there remember the happy beginning in August, 1931, when about twenty friends, mostly Bahá’ís, came to the farm at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Eggleston to deepen in the teachings and to let others know about them. The modest plan for a nine day school had been endorsed by Shoghi Effendi and the NSA. It was a real school from the beginning with teachers and students. Mabel and Howard Ives and Grace and Harlan Ober were there as teachers. Dorothy Baker and Fanny Knobloch did much to make that first session a success as did many others. All the classes were held on the cabin porch in the glen. In Harlan Ober’s class we learned about the social and economic phases of the Bahá’í teachings. Howard Ives dwelt upon the more purely spiritual teachings, especially the Hidden Words. Mabel Ives drilled us in the public presentation of the Faith. This writer will remember being called on to give briefly the logical or scientific proofs of the existence of God! There were informal and intimate hours when Grace Ober and Dorothy and Fanny told us some of their memories of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and their own experiences in teaching the Faith. Efforts were made to reach the public. One clergyman from a nearby community came daily to Harlan’s class. We found later that his parishioners did not approve. One friend came from Tennessee and a group from near Pittsburgh, but most were from nearer places. Some were there for only a day or two or just for one talk. All told, about ninety souls shared in the bounties of those nine days.

By the next summer the school was a definite Bahá’í institution under the direction of a program committee appointed by the NSA and in more ample accommodations provided by Mr. and Mrs. Eggleston. Year by year saw additional buildings to accommodate the increasing number of students. Barns were made into dormitories and assembly rooms. One barn that did not adapt itself to remodeling was conveniently blown down in a tornado. Then the boards and timbers were reassembled into a comfortable assembly room and dormitories. Dining porches were added and the kitchen enlarged; washrooms and cottages were built. For a number of years the school was known as The Central States Bahá’í School. But no Bahá’í institution can be limited to a region and like other schools, Louhelen has drawn students from all over the country and from Latin American countries so the name was changed.

1932 was outstanding for all Bahá’ís for it saw the publication of The Dawn-Breakers and we dipped into it at the school, but both preparation time and time at the school were too short to do more. Yet this does make 1932 at the school stand out in memory.
of the Dawn-Breaker heroes.

1934 marks, too, the first separate youth session. The young people insisted that they would learn more and grow faster if they had real responsibility. Were they right? At any rate youth sessions at Louhelen increased rapidly in numbers during the next few years, drawing students from a wide area.

In 1935 the first course of lessons on Islam was given by Stanwood Cobb. In making this plan the committee was following the suggestion of the Guardian whose counsel was sought each year before the committee planned the program.

The large number of young people attending their sessions (90 in 1936 and 90 in 1937) seemed to necessitate a change. So 1938 stands out with two innovations: two youth sessions and the change of one of the general adult sessions into a laboratory session. This name, meaning a session of real work and practice, was suggested by Marion Holley (now Mrs. David Hofman) the summer before when she had had charge of a course and when some of the committee had consulted with her on how to carry out more fully the wishes of the Guardian that we should continually strive to raise the standards of the school and to help people to deepen in the Faith. The first Laboratory session was truly a work session. Mrs. Emogene Hoagg's course demanded deep study and research into the meaning of the "Three Worlds;" Kenneth Christian helped students to work out Baha'i definitions. Marguerite Reimer (now Mrs. Wm. Sears) organized and directed field work in neighboring towns and cities.

Then came 1939, the summer when the library building was ready for use. How happy and proud we all were! Gifts from Mrs. Millie Collins and Mrs. Dorothy Graf, gifts of labor and materials from Lou and George Eggleston and other loving gifts made the building possible. Gifts of books came pouring in, too, both Baha'i and general, so that now more shelf room is needed. The fact that this building could be heated as could also Pullman Lodge, made a winter session possible, the second highlight of 1939.

The next marked innovation was in 1945 when the Midsummer Week developed definitely into a session aimed to attract non-Baha'is, especially parents and educators, as well as young Baha'i parents. It is carried on under Baha'i leadership. Educators from over the state are invited to give talks on child development and teachings.

We have spoken largely of the outer changes at Louhelen, the development of the plant, increase in classes, sessions and attendance; for these can be seen and measured. None of us can measure or estimate the power of spiritual forces which have already radiated from this or any Baha'i institution. We think of the group of Filipino students who were there two days one summer; of the professors and educators from Latin American and Near East countries who came from an international meeting of educators at Ann Arbor; of the many public meetings and picnics which have attracted people from surrounding communities; of the Flint Baha'i community which was started by teachers from Louhelen; of the men's clubs and other groups which have been addressed by speakers from Louhelen; of lives that have been changed through acceptance of the Faith; of real knowledge gained and inspiration to study and teach that has come each summer to those present at the school; of the satisfying experiences of living together as one family regardless of race or nationality.

While the transfer of ownership of property is a milestone in Louhelen history it does not mean any sudden change in plan and policy. Those attending classes this summer have felt the same friendly atmosphere, the same incentive to deepen in the teachings and to teach that the coming together at Louhelen and all Baha'i schools always gives. The Eggleston home and the Egglestones are there, the campus and buildings and the "swimming hole" are there. Perhaps most of all the students and teachers are there, for after all it is their cooperation and spirit which make the school. This cooperation will continue and the school will constantly grow until it fulfills the hope expressed by Shoghi Effendi that it and other Baha'i schools "will become powerful and well-established organizations that will train innumerable men and women to go out into the world and spread the Message of Baha'u'llah.

_Baha'u'llah_
A believer in Poland expresses gratitude for the New Era in Polish and begs for the continuation of the Bahá’í bulletin in Esperanto.

A German prisoner of war in Egypt writes that it is not permitted to send literature there from the United States but asks for printed matter from the Geneva Bureau in English or Esperanto or French or Italian or any language. "We need a textbook, too, or a course in Esperanto. All this would keep us from stagnation in the Egyptian desert and would be a link with the throbbing pulse of the cultural and spiritual life in the world. My thoughts and feelings are with you and your friends."

Mr. Mason Remey has visited England and Ireland, Oslo and Stockholm and Copenhagen and at last account was on his way to other countries and expects to remain in Europe six countries. Mrs. Marion Little is visiting months.

Geneva and Zurich, Switzerland, both report meetings with traveling teachers from England, America and Persia. A new Persian Bahá’í student, Mr. C. G. Ghaznavi, is spending his summer in Geneva before entering the University of Zurich next October. Mr. Robert Gulick’s official position gives him opportunity to meet various key people in the international world at Geneva.

Australia

The Australian NSA publishes a Bahá’í Quarterly or News Letter and a Bahá’í Quarterly magazine, The Herald of the South. The latest issue of the News Quarterly reports the election of the new NSA, the progress and development of the administrative order during the twenty-five years of the Guardianship and the determination to go forward both in teaching and in further development of administration. "In gratitude for both this mighty institution of the Guardianship in which mankind has found a sure refuge in this new age, and in gratitude for this particular first Guardian, this Shoghi Effendi, let us rise to a truly higher plane of endeavor, and above all to a higher plane of spiritual awareness, during these coming years."

India and Burma

The NSA of India and Burma, carrying out instructions of the Guardian, has effected a deal for their National Administrative Headquarters in New Delhi, the capital of India. It is a two story structure set amidst some three acres of beautiful grounds, in one of the most exclusive quarters of the capital. About half of the payment was made in cash and the remainder must be made promptly. The Guardian has written that "great confirmations" will come when the purchase is completed.

At present the NSA is in temporary headquarters in New Delhi and headquarters of the various committees are being moved there as rapidly as possible.

O ye people of the world! The virtue of this Most Great Manifestation is that we have effaced from the Book whatever was the cause of difference, corruption and discord, and recorded therein that which leads to unity, harmony and accord. Joy unto those who practice!

—Báhu’lláh

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Col.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Akká First Endowment</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anchorages, Alaska</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies Accepting</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance for Small Communities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahá’í World, Open Letter</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention Resolution</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrections</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRISIS</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directory Changes</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European News</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Million Readers See Ads</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund, National</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies Contributing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graph</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer’s Letter</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian’s Statement to U. N.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International School</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin American News</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries Receive Books</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memoriam</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milestones at Louhelen</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message to Esperanto</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Program</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News from Other Lands</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictures</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark, Mildred</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International School</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kunz, Anna</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louhelen, Then and Now</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medellin, Columbia Assembly</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thírán, Hazíratu’l-Quds</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viña del Mar, Chile</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing Announcements</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggested Daily</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple Contract</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Order, Contents</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Publicity Under Way on Temple Interior

The most widespread and intensive publicity plan yet undertaken by American Bahá'ís has been initiated by the Public Relations Committee in a national press and magazine campaign devoted to the design for the Temple interior recently approved by the Temple Trustees under the Guardian's authorization.

The campaign is based upon the two sketch views of the interior design which have been reproduced as inserts to this issue of Bahá'í News, and announces the early beginning of work to complete the House of Worship.

After a careful and expert survey of the press and magazine field, the committee adopted a mailing list for its releases and illustrations totaling 1,482 different publications and news agencies. This number includes: daily papers in towns with 25,000 or more population; dailies in towns with a population between 10,000 and 25,000; dailies in towns of less than 10,000 population; race and foreign language papers; architectural and builders magazines; news and general magazines; religious magazines; magazines devoted to education; and encyclopedias and books of reference.

These publications have been divided into two classes — those which make their own halftone illustrations or mats from photographs supplied, and those which can only use mats furnished them. The mailing, therefore, consists of two different sets of material. The magazines and better-equipped papers receive a mimeographed release stating the basic facts concerning the interior design and the building plans, with paragraphs explaining the general aims of the Faith, a photograph of the Temple as it now stands, with completed superstructure and exterior ornamentation, a photograph of the sketch of the central domed auditorium, and a photograph of the sketch of one of the arched alcoves or bays. To each of these photographs is attached a separate piece of copy describing the picture, from which captions and comments can be prepared for each illustration selected for use. To the smaller papers is sent a mailing consisting of the mimeographed general release already mentioned and a mat combining the sketch of the auditorium with a picture of the building. The mat carries a caption or comment announcing the selection of the interior design and the building plans.

In planning this material, the committee aimed at the accomplishment of three purposes: to tell the editors the story of the Temple, backed by three pictures of unusual beauty and impressiveness; to provide material for a feature article filling up to a full newspaper page or several magazine pages; to provide material for a minimum story using one or two pictures with brief comment.

The campaign, however, is not limited to the 1,482 papers and magazines classified above. If the budget allows, another mailing is to go to 4,000 weekly newspapers. This supplementary list would not receive photographs or mats but a photo-offset announcement carrying text and illustrations with an offer to send mats or photographs on request. This method has proven to be both effective and inexpensive.

For the Bahá'ís themselves, the committee has planned to mail more than 400 copies of the general release.

(Continued on page 2)
Special Supplement

Sketches of Temple Interior

The National Assembly has authorized the Bahá’í News Editorial Committee to include in this issue a special supplement for the friends. This supplement consists of halftone reproductions of two sketch renderings of views of the Temple interior visualized from the modified Bourgeois design recently approved by the Temple Trustees.

By making these reproductions separate inserts on good quality paper the friends have these new Temple views in a form suitable for framing or preserving in some manner. They afford us glimpses into that longed-for completed interior wherein services of Bahá’í worship can at last be held in a House of Worship destined to become one of the most renowned and influential structures in the world.

Bahá’í Pilgrimage

In the course of the spring and summer of this year, Robert L. Gulick, Jr. visited our co-workers in England, France, Spain, Switzerland, Egypt, Iraq and Iran. He celebrated the Feast of Ridván in Paris and on the 9th of Ridván addressed the friends at the Haṣíratu’l-Ḡuds in Cairo. He was in Spain on June 24th when the first two believers enrolled in that land. He made the pilgrimage both to the House of Bahá’u’lláh in Baghádád and to the House of the Báb in Shiráz; he was the first Bahá’í from the west to be present in the Holy House in Shiráz on the anniversary of the Báb’s Declaration, May 22nd. From Cairo, he had telephone conversations with Rúḥíyyih Khánum before and after traveling to Persia.

With Oriental believers, he placed flowers on the tomb of the “immortal Lu’a” and Mirzá Abú’l-Fadl in Cairo and on the grave of Keith Ransom-Kehler in “far-away Isfahán.” In Baghádád, friends guided him to what was the Garden of Ridván and they crossed the Tigris River and paused at the old mosque which has not been changed in the eighty-four years that have elapsed since Bahá’u’lláh used to rest there; it was in these hallowed precincts that the Blessed Beauty composed the Hidden Words. Mr. Gulick gave lectures on three continents before audiences ranging in size up to 3,000 persons.

The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Persia has written (3 Núr, 104) as follows about Mr. Gulick’s visit to the birthplace of our Faith:

“His account of the spiritual services of the trusted American friends, of the advance of the Cause of God in that spacious land, of the fact that the beloved of God are exhilarated with the breaths of the Spirit, overwhelmed us all in a sea of real joy. . . .”

In a very large gathering, composed of great number of Tíbríz Bahá’ís and held in the main auditorium of the National Headquarters, he delighted the eager believers of Tíbríz with good news of the Faith. Afterward, he went on a journey to Shiráz, in order to make his pilgrimage to the Holy House, meeting the friends in Isfahán, Najafábád, Dih-Šíld, and Abádíh . . . . In truth, the radiance and spiritually of this honored person affected everyone, and all have asked and continue to ask on behalf of this illustrious soul, Divine confirmations in ever-increasing measure from the holy presence of the powerful Lord, may our lives be a sacrifice to His grace. “It is our hope that in future the eyes of the Bahá’ís of Persia will continue to
be brightened with looking on the comely faces of the well-loved believers from the West.”

The following is Mr. Gulick’s own account of his visit to Shiráz:

Cradle of a World Faith

Americans are inclined to picture most of Persia as a desert. This is a most inadequate conception, as a good deal of the empty space is merely dry land that requires only water for abundant production. But greater by far is the need for that Water of Life which was brought to humanity in Shiráz.

It was my inestimable bounty to be the first pilgrim from the West to enter the new Mecca, the Blessed House of the Báb, on the anniversary of His inauguration of the new faith which holds out to mankind the promise of a peaceful world of freedom, justice, and happiness. I have often visited the beautiful Bahá’í Temple in Illinois and it has been my privilege to be in the precincts of the Holy House of Bahá’u’lláh in Baghdád, not to mention Kázimayn and other shrines of Islam and such Christian cathedrals as Notre Dame de Paris. But in the Holy House in Shiráz, I found a spiritual atmosphere more exalted than I had experienced elsewhere. Even persons of other faiths and of no religion comment on their feeling that the Declaration Chamber is in reality an “upper room.” The French ambassador on the occasion of his visit to the House gave vent to similar sentiments.

The way to the House, past bazaars and through winding, noisome alleys, was anything but promising. Inside the portal, however, was another world. The Persian friends and I performed our ablutions with water from the same well that the Báb had used. It is virtually unchanged and the water is cold and refreshing. Next to it is the sour orange tree planted by the Báb and nearby is a small pool bordered by flowers. The pilgrims remove their shoes before entering this tiny courtyard. The crossing of each threshold, the ascending of each step, is an occasion for prayer and demonstrations of devotion. After placing our lips and our foreheads on the steps leading into the House, we entered a chamber on the main floor and Hadrát-i-Afnán, the third cousin of the Báb, poured rosewater into our hands so that we might anoint our heads before climbing the eight steps leading to the floor above. I do not care to introduce interpretations but it interested me to note that the Báb’s Declaration inaugurated the eighth of the world’s established religions.

The friends asked me to chant in Persian and Arabic and I felt highly honored to participate in the praying in such a wondrously holy spot. In my prayers, I remembered many friends in various part of the world and also the National Spiritual Assemblies of Persia and America.

I also thought of that model American teacher, Martha Root, who touched her forehead to the sacred Threshold and wept and wept. That such a great Cause, that a Messenger of God, should have come from such a small House filled her heart with sadness. The House seemed to me to be a gem, just the right size. In the future when vast multitudes make the pilgrimage to this place, it will not be possible for the friends to enter the House.

Finally, we assembled in the room where the glorious Youth of 25 years had bidden His friend, Mullá Husayn, to enter—a hundred and three years ago. Rare tablets were framed and placed on the walls. A magnificent rug, donated by Shoghi Effendi at the time of the Centenary, covered the floor. The room has five windows which face the garden. We turned toward the corner near the first window where a lamp marked the place where the Báb sat as He gave the glad-tidings of the birth of a wondrous, world-embracing Cause. He had truly prophesied at that immortal time: “This night, this very hour will in the days to come, be celebrated as one of the greatest and most significant of festivals.”

Later, we went to the house of Hadrát-i-Afnán and he showed us relics of the Báb, Bahá’u’lláh, and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. There were garments worn by the Báb when He went to Mecca; we were surprised to see how small that precious Being must have been, although He was of about the average height of the Shirázis of that day, and that very smallness enhanced our appreciation of His grandeur. We saw a ring on which the Greatest Name was cut and we learned that it had been worn by Bahá’u’lláh. Space does not permit

(Continued on page 6)
This World Freedom

Beloved friends:

As national committees, regional committees, and communities throughout the world join in a grand public campaign on the theme of World Faith for World Freedom, it would be well for us to bear in mind the words of the 9th World Power to Bahá'ís everywhere: “There is no compulsion in religion. Verily, the way of Bahá ‘u’lláh is the straight path, nor maintain an empire's economy, nor re-apply an extinct religion, nor seize from us by a world of distraction without or a world of distraction within.

Our responsibility is to conduct a campaign on the theme of World Faith for World Freedom which will be as great as our will and our intention. Its renewal is as close to us as the words of the nearest open Bahá’í book.

Therefore from every local Bahá’í community there should come evidences of great undertakings and continuous spiritual achievement. Others are enchaincd by fears, oppressed by problems and burdened by cares. But Bahá’ís may we demonstrate what freedom God has given us—freedom to abandon a dead past, freedom to live and act in the new Dispensation! The greater our faith, the clearer we see that societies perish because they come to deal with imaginary forces, immersed in shadows who forsok the Light.

Great events are upon us—let us be great of soul so that the event can be made to reflect the Bahá’í Faith to masses who lose hope and direction.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Abiding Gratitude

Message from the Guardian

Greatly welcome evidences of a notable expansion of activities and increased intensification of efforts for publicity. I urge believers and local Assemblies to redouble their efforts in support of vital National Fund. Praying ardently for realization of your highest hopes. Appreciate action (for preservation of) Keith’s grave. Do not advise you transmit further funds to Persia for the grave. I appeal to North American believers to exert their utmost to ensure the formation of required number of Assemblies by next April. Further sacrifices demanded, rich reward assured. May entire body of American believers arise to fulfill their glorious destiny. Abiding gratitude, deepest love.

(signed)
SHOGIH

Received September 10, 1947

Baha’i Greeting to Annual Congress Esperanto Association of North America

Through the kindness of Miss Roan Orloff, chairman of the World Language Committee serving last year, the message written by the National Spiritual Assembly to the Annual Congress, Esperanto Association of North America, was delivered in person. She has reported that the Baha’i greeting was well received.

"On behalf of the members of the Baha’i Faith throughout North America we send a cordial greeting and best wishes to the Esperantists assembled in their Annual Congress. It is our hope that your sessions will bring a great reinforcement to the movement for a World Language the outcome of which is so vital to the attainment of World Peace and that ultimate World Civilization which has today become the radiant and visible goal of human evolution."

"Language, that divine instrument for the mutual association of human beings in the world of truth and law, has too long been a king in exile, an innocent being condemned to participation of races, classes, nations and creeds in their struggles for victory over the other."

"Baha’is share your longing that language may soon be freed from those fetters and manifest its destiny as unifier of all whose minds and hearts recognize the oneness of God. Baha’is are grateful to you for your unique service to the common goal."

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

More Assemblies

Sponsor a Group

To the list of Local Spiritual Assemblies already published, the National Assembly is happy to add the following: Phoenix, Minneapolis, Berkeley, Oakland, Seattle, Washington, D. C., Flint. About 40 Assemblies have now pledged their help in bringing at least one group to Assembly status by April, 1948. Their concentrated effort is sorely needed to assure success in meeting the goal of a total of 175 Assemblies this year.

Enrollments

Toledo, Ohio, 1; Findlay, Ohio, 2; Niles, Mich., 1; San Rafael, Cal., 2; Marin City, Cal., 2; Oakland, Cal., 2; Canada, 1; Riverdale N.J., 1; Seattle, Wash., 1; Cleveland, Ohio, 1; Chicago, Ill., 2; Little Rock, Ark., 1; Greensboro, N.C., 1; West Chester, Pa., 1; No. Albuquerque, N.M., 3; Sioux Falls, S.D., 1; Boston, Mass., 1; Philadelphia, Pa., 1; Burlingame, Cal., 4; Spokane, Wash., 1; Youth, 2.

Statement to United Nations Commission on Women’s Rights

The National Spiritual Assembly, through its United Nations Committee, has submitted a statement on the Baha’i conception of the rights of women to a UN Commission compiling material for a world code. The text is reproduced in World Order Magazine, October issue.
An Appeal From
World Order Magazine

One of the expressed wishes of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá during His American tour in 1912 was that the magazine then entitled, STAR OF THE WEST, the first issue of which had been published March 21, 1910, should be maintained... How well that expressed wish has been observed is evidenced by WORLD ORDER MAGAZINE, the present-day title under which the magazine is known after 37 years of uninterrupted publication.

Reflecting the history, activities and development of the Bahá’í Faith, WORLD ORDER MAGAZINE has become a powerful teaching medium in addition to its interest stimulating appeal to Bahá’í Believers.

A few months ago, the continuous increasing cost of printing the magazine made it necessary to increase the yearly subscription rate, and commencing with the April 1947 issue the price was advanced from $1.50 to $2.00 yearly. Before the May 1947 issue was published our printers imposed a further increase to be immediately effective... We are seeking by every means available to avoid making a further increase in the subscription rate and this is a CALL FOR HELP from our Bahá’í Friends.

1,000 new subscriptions at the present yearly rate of $2.00 will insure the magazine being on a self-supporting basis... CAN THIS BE ACCOMPLISHED... YES! - If only 1,000 of our present subscribers will each donate one GIFT subscription, the problem will be solved... A years subscription to a friend may mean a NEW BELIEVER, or there are 1,000 PUBLIC and UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES where a years subscription may result in arousing considerable interest in THE BAHÁ’Í FAITH. If your own local Library is already receiving the magazine, each $2.00 donated to THE WORLD ORDER LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION FUND will record a years subscription to a library not on present on our list, with the name and address of donator given to the selected library.

Address subscription orders or donations to WORLD ORDER LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION FUND to World Order, 110 Linden Ave., Wilmette, Ill.

Assemblies Contributing to the National Fund, Aug. 1947

Arkansas—Little Rock. California—Albany, Berkeley, Beverly Hills; Burbank; Burlingame; Carmel; Clovisdale Twp.; Glendale; Inglewood; Long Beach; Los Angeles; Monrovia; Oakland; Pasadena; Sacramento; San Francisco; San Diego; Santa Barbara; San Mateo.
Canada—Edmonton; Vancouver; Hamilton; Vernon. Colorado—Colorado Springs; Denver. Connecticut—New Haven. District of Columbia—Washington, Florida—Jacksonville; Miami, Hawaii—Honolulu; Maui. Georgia—Atlanta; Augusta, Idaho—Boise, Illinois—Chicago; Danville; Elmhurst; Evanston; Maywood; Oak Park; Peoria; Springfield; Urbana; Wilmette; Champaign; Limestone Twp.

FINANCIAL BUDGET 1947-1948

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where We Are</th>
<th>1948</th>
<th>Where We Ought to Be</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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Assembly News

Baha'i Addresses

National Office:
536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

Treasurer's Office:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Baha'i Publishing Committee:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Baha'i News Editorial Office:
1001 W. Genesee St., Lansing, Michigan.
Bahá'í Pilgrimage  
(Continued from page 2) more than a glimpse of the wonders in store for the pilgrim to Shíráz.

Shíráz is famed for nightingales, roses, lovers—and poets to write about them. Some Bahá'ís who operate a bus service placed a vehicle at our disposal and we first went to the tomb of Hájí, a poet who was greater than 'Umar Kháyyám but one who lacked a Fitzgerald. On another occasion, we visited the grave of Sa'dí, perhaps even more admired by the Persians than Hájí, and we noticed with interest that some of the inscriptions on the walls surrounding the tomb were verses from theblind Bahá’í poet, Shúri’dih, whose own grave is in another room not far distant.

Much could be related about our departure from the Tibrán Airport and the many friends who came to bid us au revoir. Of interest was the comment of a wealthy non-Bahá’í who was going on the same plane: see how much love these Bahá’ís show toward each other; nobody cares very much whether we go or stay. It was exciting to see the friends of Isfahán rushing to the plane during the brief stop in that delightful city; they brought flowers and candy, especially gaz for which the place is famous, and also books to meet the requirements of their co-workers.

One of my most thrilling experiences in Iran was an appearance before an assemblage of 340 Bahá’í children in Shíráz. I urged them to store up in their minds those verbal treasures which are to be discovered in the Hidden Words and other Bahá’í books and I referred to the tablet revealed by the Master when Shoghi Effendi, as a small boy, told Him of a dream in which he saw the Báb. I was followed on the program by Jínábi-Samandari, an extremely capable and devoted believer, who on the spot—without advance warning as to what I would speak about—described the circumstances of the dream of that marvelous figure who is now our guardian, produced the text of the tablet, and also quoted the affirmative words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá to an American woman who had inquired as to whether the Guardian had yet been born.

In the footsteps of Martha Root, we also visited Persepolis, Takht-e-Jamshid, that enduring testimonial of Iran’s past greatness. Sixty years ago the Master described various articles at Persepolis; the discoveries occurred a half-century afterward. A few miles from there is Takht-i-Távús, a holy place of the Zoroastrians where are to be found inscriptions in Pahlavi and Latin. Shíráz fills the receptive soul with wonderment. Yes, the skies are bluer and the stars much brighter than in California, and there is an air of peace and repose. In that blessed city we acquired—even if only for the time being—some of the priceless possessions of the people of Paradise and we sensed in a measure the experience of the gate of the Gate of God: “Methinks I was in a place of which it could be truly said: ‘Therein no toil shall reach us’; ‘No vain discourse shall they hear there-in, nor any falsehood, but only the cry, Peace! Peace!’’”

Publishing Announcements

Bahá’í Writings — Prayers of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu’l-Bahá and excerpts from the Bahá’í Writings, which has been out of stock for some time is again available. Bound in red paper

| Each                                      | 50c 
|-------------------------------------------|------
| Introduction to the Bahá’í Teachings by  | $1.00
| Marjie L. Seat. Reference books required | $2.00
| Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, Selected     | $2.00
| Writings (the little library of three    | $2.00
| books, Bahá'u'lláh, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and      | $2.00
| Shoghi Effendi) The National Teaching     | $2.00
| Committee especially recommend this      | $2.00
| outline with accompanying books for      | $2.00
| study groups or for individual believers  | $2.00

Outline with books $0.75

Albuquerque Sponsors Conference

The gales of God seemed to blow with unusual and terrific force stirring up the dust of the ages in the great desert plateau of New Mexico. That was the night of the inception of the plan sponsored by the North Albuquerque Assembly, in which a majority of the believers of the entire region joined in an effort to carry the beloved Faith to the masses in accord with the Guardian’s Seven Year Plan. Those who had braved the stinging sand of the whirling dust storm, after full and free discussion, voted unanimously to have a Bahá’í Conference to begin July 4th. It was then the night of July 1st. There was no place, no money, and there had been no previous arrangements. Bahá'u'lláh, however, opened doors in an amazing way. Through a non-Bahá’í friend, the Girl Reserve Camp, 7000 feet high in the Sandia mountains, accommodating 40 to 50 overnight guests, was obtained; with the opportunity to purchase supplies through their office: It was a well-equipped camp that would put to shame similar camps costing $150 to $200 per week. It was arranged to be used by the Bahá'ís and their friends for 10 days at the low rental of $15.00!

Courses were given on: “The Advent of Divine Justice,” “Fundamentals,” “ Bahá’í Keys to Bible Prophecy,” and “The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour.”

The Dawn-Breakers, p. 61.

The Dawn-Breakers, p. 62.
Commemoration of the Anniversary of the Martyrdom of the Báb and the Feast of Kilimat were particularly beautiful. Cooperative voluntary help served in shifts, taking care of meals and household chores.

The climax of the Conference was an Interracial Program and Dinner given in Albuquerque on July 26th. Seventy attended including 2 Chinese, 7 Indians, 9 Negros, 2 Jews and the remainder Whites, some with Spanish background. Four speakers, an Indian, a Negro, a Jew, and the Conference director, Ruth Moffett, made this, many said, one of the finest and most successful Bahá'í programs ever given in the state of New Mexico.

The results were amazing for so short a period and with so little preparation. This experiment of the North Albuquerque Assembly shows what a small community can accomplish when it calls in its Bahá'í brothers and works together day by day. There was a unifying of all those in attendance when it calls in its Bahá'í brothers and serves God in this great Day.

Are You A Nurse?

If you are a graduate nurse, there is a splendid opportunity for you to pioneer in Alaska. There is an Alaska Native Service whose function it is to look after the health and welfare of the Natives and who employ nurses. These nurses are required to live among the natives and are furnished living quarters and other necessities. Thus a pioneer, in such a position, would have the chance to serve native Alaskans in a very practical way, combining in one effort a physical and a spiritual service. If you are interested, write either to the National Teaching Committee in care of Mrs. Margery McCormick, 924 Judson Ave., Evanston, Ill., or to Mrs. Frances Wells, Box 45, Anchorage, Alaska.

Suggestions for Daily Readings

| NOVEMBER |
|------------------|------------------|
| The Nearness and Presence of God |
| Nov. 2. Gl, p. 70-73.  |
| Nov. 4. Gl, p. 325-326.  |
| Nov. 5. Arabic Hidden Words, 34-35, 58, 59, 60. Persian Hidden Words, 21, 22, 46.  |
| Nov. 6. Gl, p. 159-160.  |
| Life and Sacrifice of Bahá'u'lláh |
| Nov. 10. Bahá'í World Faith, p. 31-32.  |
| Nov. 11. Bahá'í World Faith, p. 33; 55.  |
| Detachment and Sacrifice |
| Nov. 15. Bahá'í World Faith, p. 141 (Essence of Detachment); 68.  |
| Nov. 16. Bahá'í World Faith, p. 105-106.  |
| Nov. 18. Gl., p. 275-276.  |
| Nov. 20. Arabic Hidden Words, 7, 59; Persian Hidden Words, 39, 40.  |
| Life, Station, and Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá |
| Nov. 27. Bahá'í World Faith, p. 447-448.  |
| The Mashriqu'l-Adhkar. |
| Nov. 29-30 Bahá'í World Faith, p. 414-419.  |

Youth Registration

The friends are requested to bear in mind the fact that every Bahá'í youth, on becoming twenty-one years of age, whether isolated, a member of a group or member of an organized community, is expected to see that he or she is definitely listed as a voting Bahá'í.

In the National Office, and also in the records of local Assemblies and of Regional Teaching Committees, Bahá'í youth are classified as such and do not appear on the list of voting Bahá'ís until their classification is changed.

The friends are also reminded that when confirmed as a Bahá'í, the youth of between fifteen and twenty-one years of age should sign the Youth Registration enrollment card which is transmitted to the National Office, whereupon the name and address are duly recorded.

It is very important to have a complete record of Bahá'í youth, including their changes of address in the city or transfer to another city. The National Office needs the information, and all youth data received is reported to the National Youth Committee.

Winter Session at Louhelen

The Louhelen Program Committee is making plans for a winter session December 26 through January 1, with a special Youth Day December 28. Subjects of the two courses are: Inner Strength to Meet Today's Challenge and What Do You Know about the Bahá'í Faith? Rates Dormitory, $2 per day per person, Single room, $3 per day per person. This session is open to youth and adults alike. (Plans are subject to approval by the NSA.)

Calendar

Feasts:
Nov. 4—Qudrat—Power
Nov. 23—Qawl—Speech

Anniversaries:
Nov. 12—Birth of Bahá'u'lláh Suspend Work
26—Day of Covenant
28—Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá—Observe at 1 A.M.

NSA Meeting:
Nov. 7, 8, 9.
Latin American News

Plans for Congresses

This year the National Teaching Committees of the two great zones in Latin America, the northern and the southern, in consultation with the Inter-America Teaching Committee decided that hereafter the meeting places of the annual Congresses should be awarded on a merit basis. The accessibility of the place to a majority of assemblies must also be taken into account. It was agreed, too, that the Congresses should be followed by sessions of the first international Baha’i schools. This plan was approved by the National Spiritual Assembly and by the Guardian.

Among the northern Latin American (the six Central American countries, Mexico and the West Indies) Mexico and Coast Rica had shown the greatest advances. Mexico has gained two new assemblies and Costa Rica has initiated and tested a new type of teaching by intensive correspondence. (For details of this plan see Baha’i News, May, 1947, page 2.) This resulted in the new assembly of Quepos, now a community of sixteen active members and five new small groups. The choice for the congress has gone to Mexico and it will be held in Vera Cruz, a beautiful city by the sea and one of the two goal cities for Mexico this year.

Of the South American countries, it was recognized that Columbia, Chile and Brazil had made the greatest advances. Colombia led with four new assemblies, making a total of six in all, plus four new groups. Great advances have been made in carrying the Faith to large, organized groups such as the Masons, Lions and Rotarian clubs, Cultural Centers and Theosophical Societies. The Masons added especially in the organizing of public meetings and helped, individually, to form the new Baha’i communities. Colombia had clearly won the honor of the next Congress, but was so remote in point of travel and expense from a majority of the other South American Assemblies, that it was reluctantly passed by.

Chile came second with one new assembly and ten small groups. Chile has four assemblies in all, the second largest number in a single South American country. Santiago and Valparaiso are easily accessible to a majority of the South American communities and Santiago was finally chosen for this year by the South American Teaching committee and this choice was confirmed. The Congresses and Bahá’i schools will probably be held in January and the exact date will be announced later.

Intensive Teaching Campaign Initiated

Charles Ions of Chicago has returned from Mexico after spending his summer vacation assisting the new assemblies in Pueblo and Coatepec and making preliminary preparations for the coming Congress. The Regional Teaching Committee of Mexico gives highest praise for this brilliant young pioneer.

Octavio Flores of Clovis, California, leaves early in October for Mexico. It will be his task to give deep confirming classes in “The Reality of the Divine Manifestation” for the strengthening of the new communities in Pueblo and Coatepec, to carry through the group in Vera Cruz to confirmation, complete preparations for the Congress, and, if possible, remain as special representative of the Inter-America Committee at the Congress, and teach a deepening class during the International School session.

Campaigns are under way in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. Panama is carrying the Faith to Santiago, Panama, as a new goal city, now that an assembly is assured in Colon. Mrs. Viva Lismore writes that she loves the people and finds the Brazilians very open to the Cause. Mr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Miessler report twenty-two eager new students in Sao Paulo. Ten are now studying “The Dispensation.” Mr. and Mrs. Bode report Rio Janeiro as being very open to the Cause. Special Bahá’í meetings were synchronized with the holding of the Pan American Conference near that city.

Colombia plans a three country regional conference when the Pan American conference meets in Bogotá in January. Venezuelan and Ecuadorian Bahá’ís are being invited to participate with representatives from the six Colombia Assemblies and various groups.

The incorporation of the Panama City Spiritual Assembly makes the second Central American country to have an assembly incorporated. Panama is the fourth country in Latin America where an assembly has
Mildred Mottahedeh
Visits Ten European Countries
(A condensation of Mrs. Mottahedeh’s report)

In England I visited a small fireside group at the home of the Balyuzis. The English friends are working very hard and making good progress on their Six Year Plan. Still much remains to be done. The fewness of their numbers and the time consuming business of getting the bare necessities of life have made the going slow but the pace is steadily accelerating and success seems sure and close. All over the British Isles the work proceeds through the sacrifice of the friends.

In France I met with many of the friends individually and then spoke to them as a group at a reception they gave for me. The Paris friends were pleased and amazed to hear about the Convention. They had not realized the manifold activities of the Faith in the United States. The Guardian has given them a Five Year Plan but the only beginning they are making is to publish new translations of the Guardian’s letters in French. They are somewhat at a loss as to how to begin their work due to the fewness of their numbers and the advanced age of many in their group.

The progress of the work in Germany is phenomenal under the present difficult conditions. It was actually received its decree of incorporation. Several other assemblies have their applications pending.

The Radio Committee has translated into Spanish the script now used with special slides in the Temple, and is making disc presentations of this script for use with the pictures throughout Latin America.

All these plans for spreading the Faith in Latin America are being initiated or approved by the National Teaching Committees of the two zones. All members of these committees with the exception of one secretary, are native Latin Americans. These committees, too, will have direct charge of the annual Congresses and International Schools. In this way the Latin Americans are taking up the reins of their own Bahá’í Administration in preparation for the fulfillment of the Guardian’s second Seven Year Plan.

heartening to see the warmth of their affection for the believers of other countries. Like a phoenix, the Faith is rising from the ruins and starvation of Germany.

A Nineteen Day Feast was held in Vienna and it was their first meeting with a Bahá’í from another country in ten years. The Vienna group has lost over three-fourths of their number during the war because of the extermination of the Jewish Bahá’ís. Their plight is indeed sad. Only thirteen are left of a group that formerly numbered more than sixty. Hunger is their constant companion and if it were not for their faith and the food sent to them, their condition would be even more desperate. Both in Austria and Germany, food, clothing, and Bahá’í literature are essential for the progress of their work and for life itself.

In Switzerland two meetings were held at the International Bureau in Geneva and contacts were made with university teachers and artists in Zurich. The friends in Switzerland are ceaselessly striving to establish new assemblies and good progress is being made.

In Sweden five meetings were held. The pioneers in Stockholm have numerous contacts and seem to be able to produce a really interested audience of thirty or more at a few hours notice. Through the letter of introduction from the United Nations an opportunity was afforded to meet the Chief of Foreign Affairs of the Swedish government and a newspaper story followed. After it appeared several persons wrote and telephoned. All the contacts were turned over to the pioneers.

The pioneers in Copenhagen were newly established but their few contacts were all good prospects for the Faith. At a small tea party held at the apartment of Dagmar Dole and Eleanor Hollibaugh, our guests amazed us by their readiness to accept the Faith. It was as though they were awaiting the moment of the arrival of the Good Tidings.

In Holland meetings were held in Rotterdam and Amsterdam. A conference with officials of various organizations in the Hague was a result of the United Nations connection and served to open new doors for the friends in Holland. Holland was one of the most interesting of the ten countries I visited. The plea of the audience is for spiritual talks. The Dutch people have a highly evolved culture, little religious or race prejudice, and a deep interest in spiritual matters.

Two meetings were held in Luxembourg. The pioneers are well liked and widely respected and the spirit they evince has been felt by all whom they have contacted.

At a public meeting in Brussels the question and answer period showed that many of those present were really interested. Belgium has special problems. Part of the country speaks French and the other part a form of Dutch. There is one Bahá’í in the Dutch speaking area. Belgium is one of the few prosperous countries in present day Europe and the gloom of economic problems does not press heavily upon them. The people in Brussels seem very cosmopolitan and the friends hope that it will prove the fertile soil that will bring an assembly in one or two years.

The American friends would be happy indeed if they could see for themselves the devotion and progress of the pioneers in the goal countries. Their open loving hearts have made it easy for them to adapt themselves to their new homes and to be received by the people. They are truly citizens of the world and this lack of national prejudice has been a cause for wonder among the Europeans. As the Guardian reminds us, they are the redemption of Europe.

Non-Bahá’í Books
Referring to the Faith

The NSA would like to ask the friends to send in to the National Archives Committee the title, publication date and publisher, of non-Bahá’í books which contain anything like an extensive reference to the Faith, whether favorable or non-favorable. The purpose is to enable the Assembly to develop a complete National Bahá’í Library, so that all such references will be available when needed—in meeting attacks, etc.
News From Other Lands

Geneva Bureau News Exchange

Baha'is in Hamburg in the British Zone in Germany experienced hardships in getting meetings and teaching work started. An attempt was made in 1945 but with no post, no trains in the evening it became too difficult. When the Baha'i heard of progress in Southern Germany they got in touch with the friends there at the Nineteen Day Feasts. Their own regular weekly meetings began with the Unity Feast September 8, 1946. It has been impossible to find all who belonged to the community previously. There are now seventeen. During the severe winter there were great hardships. It was not always possible to get a heated room for meetings, often they sat in the dark, nevertheless there were always at least ten present and the three young people did not miss a meeting. Now there is an ever larger number at the public lectures on the first Sunday of each month. The friends are doing much translation from English pamphlets. One friend is compiling a Baha'i Lexicon which will be a reference book giving information on suggestions that concern the Baha'i Faith. It is not expected that this will be completed before several years, but an abridged form will be issued as soon as possible.

Three Baha'i Summer Schools were held in Germany, one for youth, followed by two for adults.

Remarkable spiritual power was evident at the annual convention of the Baha'is of India and Burma.

"The afternoon session of the 30th of April witnessed such moving scenes of love and unity and sacrifice as will never be forgotten by those present." The matter of the National Haziratu'l-Quds furnished an outlet for expressing this love in sacrifice. A large sum of money was necessary to make the first payment on the building and site which it had been decided to purchase. "One Assembly offered to bear the total cost of the next convention and later accepted the suggestion to divert this sum to the National Haziratu'l-Quds fund." Many other gifts were made. "Children brought in their gifts to be sold and dedicated to the National Headquarters Fund. So intense was the enthusiasm and love and unity that animated the delegates that a three hour session almost doubled itself without the friends being aware of it or yet prepared to leave!"

The NSA of Iran announces the plan to publish "Baha'i News and Reviews" in English and the first copy dated April, 1947, has been received. It tells of cruel persecutions and martyrdoms in 1943-4 which accompanied the launching of their teaching plan, and of renewal of plans in 1946. The new Plan covers a period of 45 months and ends July 9th, 1950, the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the Bab. It has definite goals as to number of new assemblies, reinstatement of old ones and other aims. In Tehran alone 262 teaching meetings have been organized and work is going on all over the country. Reports indicate that 192 new believers have been registered.

At the time of writing the Baha'is of Switzerland were earnestly preparing for the 32nd World Esperanto Congress held in Berne the last of July. An imposing exhibit of Baha'i literature, large Temple posters, etc., was being arranged and a special Baha'i session being planned.

Italy

(Condensation of a letter from Rome by Ugo Gianferri)

After weeks of search yesterday afternoon we had a most wonderful Baha'i meeting with Signora Verena Venturini, who had known of the Cause from her sister and had had two talks with Mary Hanford Ford; two talks on the Baha'i Faith which she had never forgotten. That was in 1910! Her sister Mrs. Max Schobermet abstract-Baha'i in 1912 and asked Him to pray for her sister Verena and her husband, at the time very ill. The Master said that He would pray for them. Shortly after Signor Venturini passed away and the two sisters went to America and lived for a while in Berkeley, California, where they met many of the old believers. Later Verena and her daughter returned to Italy. During the war her home was occupied by the German army. Once when speaking to one of the officers, an interpreter, she said that the Baha'i Faith was dear to her heart. Immediately he said, "I too know of the Baha'i religion." After that he greeted her with "Allah-u'Abha."

We had some wonderful hours together for she had not seen or heard from any Baha'i for many years. Signora Venturini is now a declared believer, firm in her faith and will do her utmost for our Cause.

Anchorage, Alaska

A special meeting of the Anchorage Community was held for consultation on the Guardian's latest message, "The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour."

Special consultation was also held on how to reach the Eskimos in accordance with the Guardian's instructions. Recommendations were made to the Alaska Regional Teaching Committee to forward.

Incorporation of the Anchorage Assembly has been started.

The weekly radio talks and newspaper advertising continue. "Readers," or statements about the Baha'i Faith in the news columns, are now being used, as well as news comments on the public meetings.

Public meetings were held during August.

Hawaii

The Maui radio station K. M. V. I. opened their new station on March 16, 1947. The Maui Baha'is have a recording of six Baha'i prayers. This radio station opens each morning's broadcast with a prayer from various churches on this Island. On the morning of June 5, 1947, through the program director's own planning, the station opened with a Baha'i prayer. We Baha'is felt this significant, as it was a day for our Nineteen Day Feast. A Baha'i prayer is used at 6:00 A.M. two and three mornings a month over this station.

The Maui Baha'is have sponsored a thirteen week radio program, presenting the transcriptions sent us by the National Radio Committee. We have also been able to announce our regular monthly public lectures over this station. Whenever we have our lectures, we are also given publicity by the Maui Drug Co., at 9:40 P. M. on Thursdays, the owner, Mr. Carl Nato has offered to do this for us. Our lectures are also announced over K. G. U. in Honolulu, on their fifteen-minute weekly broadcasts. The Maui Baha'is have sent $5.00 every month for the past four years to help with the Honolulu Baha'i radio expense, as well.

Mr. Richard Mawson, the manager of the Maui radio station, has made some very favorable comments about the transcription material. Our weekly radio broadcast on
K. M. V. I. costs us $11.40 for fifteen minutes. It has been interesting to note the favorable comments of the people, in regard to these transcriptions. As soon as the radio committee have more transcriptions available, we intend to sponsor another series given over the Maui station by Mrs. Mabel Van Valkenburg. Her topics will be, "Beauty and Harmony in Diversity," and "The Law of Love."

(These selections from Martha Root's diaries and letters have been prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Ford of Little Falls, N.Y., and are to be continued.)

The Baha'i world is in its first year of a Second intensive Seven Year Plan to carry the Faith of Baha'u'llah to the people of all countries. As we study the task, make our plans, and send the first teachers abroad, we turn in our minds and hearts to the archetype of a Bahá'í itinerant teacher, Martha Root.

She it is who traveled continuously for twenty years, four times around the globe, teaching, ever teaching. Tens of thousands heard her call, from royalty to peasants. Embarking with unswerving resolve and a spirit of sublime detachment, she went her way across the earth. Age, ill health, meager resources, extremes of climate or great dangers, did not restrain her efforts.

Dear, indomitable Martha, with her seventeen suitcases containing all her belongings, struggling forward, writing, lecturing, denying herself every comfort, even adequate food and rest. Physically small, frail of body, plain of feature, unassuming in her appearance, with none of the talents the world thinks one must have for greatness; she had the courage of a lion, the strength and "staying powers" of a Gibralter, a will which defied and won over all obstacles, and a love that warmed hearts as the spring sun melts March snows. She became a spiritually dynamic and saintly woman who rendered manifold services to humanity. How gloriously she attained her goal of spreading the Bahá'í Faith!

The example of her life never leaves us; she is a continuing inspiration. In the task ahead of us, we need her guidance. What does she say to us?

From South American 1919 (Shipboard Going Down)

After real illness...I did not try to solve the problem of giving the Message for two days, my vivid thought was that I of all people was least fitted to meet such a group. I was not well, did not dance or play cards, nor was I an enthusiastic sportswoman. Still, reading the Creative Word, every line that seemed to spring up from the pages was a path for me to follow: "Let not conventionality cause you to seem cold and unsympathetic when you meet strange people from other countries. — Be kind to the strangers — help them to feel at home — ask if you may render them any service; try to make their lives a little happier. Let those who meet you know without your proclaiming the fact that you are indeed a Bahá'í."

Again, "If we are true Bahá'ís speech is not needed. Our actions will help on the world, will spread civilization, will help the progress of science and cause the arts to develop. — It is not through lip service that the Elect of God have attained to Holiness, but by patient lives of active service they have brought the Light into the World."

Serving everybody and praying for more capacity to serve intelligently and lovingly, I received my first opportunity. All the men had given money to buy prizes for sports. I took the best small article of my apparel, did it up as nearly as I could in the artistic fashion in which the Japanese present a gift and took it to the sports committee to be used as a prize. (It was the only woman's gift). I explained that I did not know much about sports, but to join in the "family party" I was going to go in for all except the heavy weight contests.

The next day being the first Sunday at sea I asked the Captain's permission to speak in the evening on the Bahá'í Cause. The purser put up a large notice on the bulletin board. No person aboard had ever heard of the Bahá'í Movement. The men of the sports committee were the first ones to enter the music room; they helped to make the meeting popular. The Captain, purser and several officers came to the talk. The ship pitched so that I had to hold on to a pillar with one hand while speaking. After the talk of over an hour, the purser made a little speech of thanks. Then after dismissal a Bishop took the floor and spoke against the Bahá'í Cause. Not that he had ever heard of it before but he said one could never be a Christian and believe in these other religions too. I replied to him point by point and from that evening we have been friendly, his very arguments against the Movement later made friends for it.
Baha'i News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'i's of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Baha'i Community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924.

Baha'i News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Baha'i News Editorial Committee: Mrs. Roberta Christian, chairman, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Gordon A. Fraser, editorial office: Mrs. Roberta Christian, 1001 West Genesee St., Lansing, Mich.

Please report changes of address to which Baha'i News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Baha'i National Office, 533 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page Col.</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 3</td>
<td>Addresses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 1</td>
<td>Alaska, Nurse Wanted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 3</td>
<td>Albuquerque Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 2</td>
<td>Assemblies Sponsor Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>&quot;Baha'i Pilgrimage&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 3</td>
<td>Calendar</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 2</td>
<td>Daily Readings</td>
</tr>
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<td>4 2</td>
<td>Enrollments</td>
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<td>5 2</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 1</td>
<td>&quot;Where We Are&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 1</td>
<td>Guardian, Message</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Latin America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 3</td>
<td>Loukelen, Winter Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 2</td>
<td>Memorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 1</td>
<td>Mildred Mottahedeh in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Greeting American Esperantists</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Letter, &quot;This World Freedom&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 3</td>
<td>Women's Rights Statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 1</td>
<td>News from Other Lands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pictures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 2</td>
<td>Albuquerque Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 3</td>
<td>Garner, Ralph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shiraz Group with Robert Gilick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>&quot;Pioneer&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Quiet Servant, A&quot;</td>
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<td>Root, Martha</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Supplement, Temple Interior</td>
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<td>Sketches</td>
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<td>Notices of Local Meetings</td>
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<td>Sketches of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>World Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 1</td>
<td>Contents, October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 1</td>
<td>Special Appeal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Youth Registration</td>
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The Bahá’í Community

Beloved friends:

A brief manual has been published on the nature and functioning of the basic Bahá’í institutions, with statements on the stations of the Báb, Bahá'u'lláh, ‘Abdu'l-Bahá and the Guardianship, and expressions of the Bahá’í attitude and policy with respect to association with non-Bahá’í organizations.

This reference book replaces the compilations on Bahá’í procedure issued on two occasions during the past ten years. The present work, entitled The Bahá’í Community has been approved by the Guardian in its form and scope. Its distinctive character consists in its concentration on presentation of the nature of the permanent institutions of the Faith and its omission of secondary matters subject to more or less frequent change. The intention has been to give the new believers throughout North America, South America and Europe an outline of the Guardian's attitude and policy with respect to association with non-Bahá’í organizations.

When any organism has become developed, its right to exist depends upon its capacity to fulfil its special purpose. The Bahá’í Community was evolved by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá with infinite love and patience, and trained by Shoghi Effendi to carry out a unique world mission. Bahá’ís are neither passive worshippers of an unknown God or radical revolutionists imprisoned within the cage of materialism. Their faith and their action operate as one harmonious scheme of spiritual and social reality.

From the Bahá’í point of view, modern civilization consists of powerful but defective organisms, unfinished patterns of existence and institutions which have outlived their historic purpose. Because these organisms command immense energies they give the semblance of usefulness and progressive development. The energies of humanity, as Bahá’í know, can never be consummated through a wholesome community, since the operative organisms are fatally defective and misuse the energies they control.

In the Bahá’í Community the individual is neither exploited nor suppressed. His organic rights coincide with the best interests of the community, and the best interests of the community offer the individual his true consummation of experience in this world. The Bahá’í Community orchestrates the special aptitudes and training of its individual members, because the Bahá’í Community alone has been given the orchestral score and theme revealed by the Divine Musician.

Our theme, our task, is the Divine Plan, which by its very nature is a work of unity like a great symphony. Blessed is he who has learned today not merely to play the instrument entrusted to his spirit, but to play it in harmony with the orchestra of the will of God! Blessed is he whose personal emotion is enhanced by, and not in conflict with, the movement of the whole Bahá’í Community as it progresses in the path of the Divine Plan!

The mystery which interpenetrates the institutions and organic gatherings of the Bahá’í Community is profound. It is neither mysticism nor effort nor knowledge alone, but a blend of these three elements within the protection of the Holy Spirit. We may attain glimpses of this mystery by pondering those Tablets the Master revealed over a long period to American Assemblies and believers as He removed the veil between us and the promised Kingdom. Many of these Tablets were gathered together in chapter nine of Bahá’í World Faith, arrayed in an order showing the gradual unfoldment of the Bahá’í society, from the quickening of the individual spirit to the formation of the House of Justice. Knowing the whole purpose in advance, the Master revealed it part by part as the Bahá’ís made progress in truth and in love.

"O ye cohorts of God! Today in the present world each community is wandering in a wilderness, moving in accord with some passion and desire, and running to and fro in pursuance of its own imagination. Among the Communities of the world, this Community of the 'Most Great Name' is free from every thought, keeping aloof from every project and scheme, arising with the purest designs and institutions, and striving with the utmost hope to live in accordance with the divine teachings . . ." And again: "By heavenly armies those souls are intended who are entirely freed from the human world, transferred into celestial spirits and have become blessed angels. Such souls are the rays of the Sun of Truth who will illumine all the continents."

When the Guardian summons us to meet the urgent requirements of the present hour, he endows us with our collective aim and inspires in us the attributes and possibilities which the Master assured to every true believer reborn in the Day of Bahá'u'lláh.

"NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY
27 Native European Believers

The chairman of the E.T.C. who returned from Europe on Oct. 3 has brought a heartening and inspiring report on the progress being made by the valiant pioneers in the E.T.C. goal cities. From Norway to Sweden, Denmark and Holland; thru Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland and to Italy and Spain—there now extends an unbroken chain of strong groups of enthusiastic and dedicated pioneers who have initiated and are coordinating this teaching project in a most impressive way. Everywhere regular weekly Firesides are being held as well as similarly frequent classes for the pioneers and group members themselves with special emphasis being given to the study of Administration. The pioneers are exploiting every possible means for publicity and contacts with unusual initiative and foresight. Public meetings are being given whenever an opportunity is offered. For these suitable rooms in hotels or clubs where the public can meet on neutral grounds, are being used. The Chairman was greatly heartened, encouraged and inspired by the miraculous progress which has been made in the European teaching project since she reported her first survey of the field less than ten months ago. Many of the pioneers have been at their posts only five or six months and yet she found in each goal city well-organized groups with definite plans and projects for the promotion of their vital tasks and giving every indication that the work is going forward with vigor and real promise.

The newly declared believers now number 27 and in at least two of the goal cities there are enough native believers to guarantee the formation of a Spiritual Assembly on next April 21.

The E.T.C. wishes to gratefully acknowledge the invaluable assistance rendered by the itinerant teachers who visited the different goal cities during the summer months. These include Mildred Mottahedeh, Mr. and Mrs. Bishop Brown, Mason Remey, Marion Little, Eva Mae Barrow, Beatrice Ashton, Mrs. Corinne True; and Dr. Katherine K. True. Mrs. Little has remained to continue her unique and outstanding contribution to this teaching project.

With the departure of Amelia Bowman and Nancy Gates on the “Gripsholm” Oct. 3, within a year 30 pioneers and nine itinerant teachers
News from Other Lands

The need is still great in Germany and other European countries. We are told on good authority that only Sweden and Switzerland have sufficient food for their people. The following bits from letters show the sincere gratitude and joy for gifts: "Your wonderful gift parcels came to us and I wish you can see the faces of the friends as I divided your parcels. Oh and oh! And they put on the stockings and shoes and the dresses and they go home with them from their sisters in America! I thank you especially for the literature and our youth will help translate... And we thank you for the nourishment—I give to a sick child and to the Assembly which is weekly in my house, for 'Abdu'l-Bahá said to me, 'You cannot give the Holy Teachings to a hungry man.'"

Addresses of German believers were given in the February Bahá’í News. The address of CARE was also given there. Another reliable agency is American Committee for the Relief of German Needy, 220 East 23rd St. New York 10, N.Y. They have several different food packages and reach all German zones and Austria.

A happy occasion for German Bahá’ís was the wedding of Johnny Eichenauer and Gisela Walcker. Mrs. Graefee, the mother of Etty Graefee, the mother of Etty Graefee, who is present and wrote: "The hall was beautifully decorated with laurel and flowers. In the middle was the table with nine candlelights, all surrounded with flowers. The bride was in white satin and Johnny in uniform... After the beautiful service all went back to the bride's home and about seventy guests had supper and afterwards coffee and cake. The young people danced afterwards and sang... It was such a ray of sunshine for all present, and Johnny had provided so much that everybody was charmed."

From the Geneva Bureau News Exchange

Austria

Sixty were present at an evening reception given by a prominent Vienna artist who had arranged that the first part of the program should be a Bahá’í talk by Dr. Erdman. Musical selections followed. The Bahá’ís were guests at this reception and it was the means of winning several friends for our beloved Cause.

The passing of one of the oldest of Vienna believers, Frau Julia Schwartz, is recorded with great sorrow. The funeral was the first Bahá’í funeral service in Vienna. "In the presence of a large number of non-Bahá’ís we read Bahá’u’lláh’s prayer for the departed, with its wonderful refrain of the Greatest Name and the words repeated by the whole congregation.”

Poland

There are nine people in Poland who are studying the Bahá’í Faith through correspondence; all but one are using Esperanto. One of these is he who offered to hide Lydia Zamo­enhof in his house just before she was sent to the extermination camp. He quoted her last words to him at that time: "Do not think of putting yourself in danger; I know that I must die, but I feel it my duty to stay with my people. God grant that out of our sufferings a better world may emerge. I believe in God, I am a Bahá’í and will die a Bahá’í. Everything is in His Hands.”

German P.O.W. in France

Reinhold Leidinger still in a French prison camp uses every opportunity to speak of the Faith. His mother writes: "His former camp chaplain just returned from captivity is interested in the Faith which he had often discussed with Reinhold. 'You have in me a warm friend of the Bahá’í religion,' he said.”

It was probably also through Reinhold’s influence that a young German Cultural Officer in France wrote to the Geneva Bureau asking for Dr. Esselmont’s book that he might use it in instructing his fellow prisoners.

Bahá’ís in Copenhagen, Denmark, L. to r.—Anders Nielsen, Marian Little, Earl Nielsen, Elmoer Hollinbaugh, Dagmar Dele, and Helga Nielsen.
Latin American Congress and School

The second annual Congress and the first International School sessions of the 12 Caribbean countries will take place in Mexico City, January 8th through the 18th. The Congress will open with a reception the evening of the 8th and will continue through four days highlighted by a public meeting on the evening of the 11th. Guests from the United States who plan to be present include Mrs. Louie Mathews of Colorado Springs and Mr. Octavio Illescas who is contributing his services for a special teaching project. Mrs. Mathews will represent the Inter-America Committee at the Congress.

The International Bahá’í School will open on the morning of January 13th and close with a public meeting the evening of the 18th. Mr. Illescas will conduct a class for spiritual deepening under the subject “The Reality of the Divine Manifestation.” Classes in “Bahá’í Administration,” “How to Teach” stressing bridges of understanding and approach to the Catholics, the Masons and other groups, and “The Influence of Islam on Latin America via Spain,” are being planned. Teachers will include Sra. Chávez and Mrs. Marcia Steward.

The National Teaching Committee of the Caribbean countries has recognized the financial crisis being faced by the believers in the United States and has opened a drive to establish a national fund to which all 12 countries will contribute. The first use of this fund will be to help with expenses of the Congress and School. It is hoped it may be possible to offer scholarships or partial assistance to delegates especially capable of both contributing to and benefiting by the Congress and School.

Mrs. Gayle Woolson was warmly received in Cartagena, Colombia. She spoke at the Rotary Club dinner, addressed the Masonic Lodge and the Lions Club sponsored a Bahá’í radio program. She was also invited to speak daily over the radio. Sr. Ernesto Flores, chairman of the Spiritual Assembly of Cartagena, reports that some of the finest people in the city are members of the Bahá’í community.

Mrs. Cora Oliver of Panama stopped in Cuba on her way to Jamaica where she plans to spend about seven weeks in teaching and helping to open up a new goal city, since Spanish Town has already reached assembly status.

Miss Katherine Meyer, on her way to Venezuela, stopped in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and spent about a month in Puerto Rico.

Mrs. Amelia Bates, her husband and family and Mrs. Vivian McBean are working for the Faith in Haiti. Mrs. Sheila Rice-Wray, who is teaching at the Cultural Institute in Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic, is making Bahá’í contacts, teaching a Bahá’í class and writes with appreciation of the steadfastness and spiritual quality of the Bahá’í friends there.

In the goal city of Santiago, Panama, 500 teachers and students in the Normal School heard talks about the Faith given in the school auditorium by Sr. Angel Beauchamp and Miss Julie Regal.

Brazil

Mrs. Helen Shearer, a temporary pioneer in Brazil is reported as doing splendid work for the Faith. A group of five are studying regularly and three fine homes are open for meetings in Santos, the big port city. Half a dozen more persons are interested and have expressed a desire to study. One enthusiastic student is the manager of the principle hotel. A group of students has also been established in Campinas through Mrs. Shearer’s efforts.

Some Answered Questions is now coming off the press in Rio. Mrs. Leonora Armstrong translated it into Portuguese. She is now reviewing the new translation into Portuguese of excerpts from God Passes By.

Fine publicity is being given the Faith in Colombia, Argentina and El Salvador. A two page article on the Faith was published in Raza, a magazine similar to Life with general circulation throughout Colombia. It includes pictures of the Temple and of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. Numerous newspaper clippings from other places in Colombia have also been sent in.

A fine two page interview on the Faith with Shirley Warde is published in Estampa, an Argentine magazine for women and the home, and publicity clippings are coming in from Rosario, Argentina’s goal city.

In Santa Ana, goal city of El Salvador, fine articles about the Faith have been published through the efforts of Mrs. Louise Caswell who has established a study class of fine young people in that city.

News from Japan

Miss Agnes Alexander writes that she has been corresponding with the friends in Japan and gives news of them and of Robert Imagire. She also sends copies of letters from two Japanese believers.

Mr. Tokujirō Torii, who is blind, wrote: “Thank God, your heavenly presents, two packages reached me safely. Opening the sugar sack, Mrs. Torii doubted her eyes; at first she could not know what the white thing was and she tasted it, how sweet it was! We have never seen so much sugar for a long time. Thank you so much for your hearty kindness. We will share it among Bahá’í friends to make them happy . . .”

Mr. S. Fujita, who is well known among several American believers, wrote: “. . . It is wonderful to think we are permitted to communicate with you all freely from now on. . . . I am anticipating to hear from you often, also you may inform the friends. I have started a Bahá’í Center here at Yanai. I need your prayer and support. The living condition is very hard at present—everything so sky high and scarce. Please give my warm greeting to all friends . . .” Fujita’s address is: Mr. S. Fujita, P. O. Box 26, Yanai, Yamaguchi Ken, Japan.

The good news of Robert Imagire, who is in Japan by the wish of the Guardian, is that he now has a permanent job. He works at an art job in the Mitsubushi Shoji Building, which is the very heart of Tokyo. His letter says “. . . You may know that the Bahá’í noonday prayer ascends from the heart of Japan . . .”

Bahá’í Addresses

National Office:
538 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.
Treasurer’s Office:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.
Bahá’í Publishing Committee:
110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.
Bahá’í News Editorial Office:
1001 W. Genesee St.
Lansing, Mich.
"It's the Little Things That Count!"

Little stitches make lovely cloth. Little pennies make great wealth. Little "things" can build a Temple. Old newspapers sell for fifty cents a hundred pounds. Discarded magazines sell for sixty cents. Corrugated paper and rags net one dollar for one hundred pounds. Grocery stores and such pay good money to get rid of these things. If each Baha'i would sell these items our Temple Fund would not have a deficit.

All of us possess clothing we no longer wear, and furniture we no longer use. How about inserting an "ad" in the local newspaper? Let's build our Temple!

There's always a demand for "baby sitters". Nice money too!

No need to drain the pay-check. LET'S BUILD OUR TEMPLE with "THE LITTLE THINGS THAT COUNT"!

Assemblies Contributing to Fund for September, 1947

Alabama — Birmingham; Alaska — Anchorage; Arizona—Phoenix; Arkansas—Little Rock; California — Alhambra, Berkeley, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Burlingame, Carmel, Cloverdale Twp., Garden Grove, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Monrovia, Oakland, Pasadena, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Diego, Santa Barbara, San Mateo; Canada—Edmonton, Jasper, Edmonton, Hamilton, Montreal, Vernon; Colorado—Colorado Springs, Denver; Connecticut—New Haven; Delaware—Wilmington; Dist. of Columbia—Washington; Florida—Jacksonville, Miami; Hawaii—Honolulu; Idaho—Boise; Illinois—Chicago, Danville, Elmhurst, Evanston, Maywood, Oak Park, Des Plaines, Springfield, Urbana; Illinois—Wilmington, Champaign, Limestone Twp.; Indiana—Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, South Bend; Iowa—Cedar Rapids; Kansas—Topeka; Kentucky—Louisville, New Orleans—New Orleans; Maryland—Baltimore; Massachusetts—Beverly, Boston, Brookline, Springfield, Worcester; Michigan—Ann Arbor, Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon, Roseville; Minnesota—Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Paul; Mississippi—Jackson, Meridian, Independence; Missouri—Kansas City, St. Louis; Montana—Butte, Helena; Nebraska—Omaha; Nevada—Carson City, Reno; New Hampshire—Portsmouth; New Jersey—Dumont, Montclair, Red Bank, Totowa; New Mexico—Albuquerque, North Albuquerque; New York—Binghamton, Buffalo, Jamestown, New York, Rochester, Yonkers; North Carolina—Greensboro; North Dakota—Fargo; Ohio—Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Lima; Oklahoma—Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Ardmore, Ponca City, Enid, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Pennsylvania—Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Scranton, West Chester, Tennessee—Knoxville, Nashville, Chattanooga; Texas—Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, Brownsville; Utah—Salt Lake City; Vermont—Burlington, Lebanon, Virginia—Alexandria, Arlington; Washington—Richmond Highlands, Langley, Woodbridge, Falls Church; West Virginia—Charleston, Huntington, Wheeling; Wisconsin—Kenosha, Madison, Milwaukee, Racine, Waukesha; Wyoming—Cheyenne, Laramie, Casper.

FINANCIAL BUDGET 1947-1948

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For thousands of years the human race has been at war. It is enough. Now let mankind for a time at least, consort in amity and peace. Enmity and hatred have ruled. Let the world for a period, exercise love.

—Abdu’l-Baha
New Publications

The Bahá’í Community—A Summmary of its Foundation and Organization. This little compact book taking the place of Bahá’í Procedure has been approved by the Guardian and fills a real need for individual believers, groups, assemblies and the National and Regional Committees. 70 pages paper bound, price each $.65.

Study Aid on the Essential Varieties of the Bahá’í Faith compiled by the Study Aid Committee. This is a most comprehensive outline and is truly essential. Can be studied in 12 lessons or more intensively in 24. Mimeographed 28 pages, price per copy $.35.

World Order Magazine, bound, is now available, Volumes I to XII, price per volume $3.00, postage $2.00, postage additional.

Star of the West, unbound copies only, first four volumes incomplete, but Volumes V to XXV with a few exceptions, price per copy $.10, postage additional.

Special Publishing Announcement

The Bahá’í House of Worship—a most attractive six page folder with beautiful illustration of the Temple. 10 copies $ .50

Pioneer

Excerpts from the letters and diaries of Marsha Root (Cont'd from last month)

Sailing out of Seattle, Washington, Mar. 23, 1923, on the steamship "Kaga Maru".

"China! China! China! Chinaward the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh must march!”

Words of 'Abdu’l-Bahá.

Mar. 29. Mrs. Ocean does not mollycoddle her travelers or play “I am better than thou” favorites. After people come innocently aboard the Kaga Maru, the much lauded Mrs. Ocean (who calls herself “Pacific,” what a misnomer!) begins and shakes them hard in a four day roughness of weather. In no uncertain terms she commands, “Let your heads and stomachs learn to adjust themselves or croak! Do not whine to me! ADJUST! I tell you, ADJUST!”

And behold it comes to pass after four days of stubbornness the most un-governable head and stomach begin to sit up and take notice that they were CONQUERED. Then Mrs. Ocean takes a breathing spell herself and for one day folds her ample waves upon her still more ample breast.

During the four days a few things happen. The Japanese stewardess, polite and smiling, brings tea in a dainty white and blue teapot, and she is thoughtful enough to cut off a little layer from the half grapefruit end so that it will stand steady on the plate.

Do I learn Japanese? Yes, I learn a few words each day. I sit beside the Captain and he teaches me. I also learn that the Japanese people are very good and kind. I can eat rice with chopsticks. The Captain taught me. He does not use chopsticks but he says it is well to learn the customs of all countries.

April 3. Mrs. Ocean evidently didn’t like what I wrote about her the other day, for after the one day of being civil and calm, she has raged continuously, culminating in a howling four-day storm. She was so angry she tore the side of my ship railing near my cabin.

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The inner, spiritual journey has been something quite different. I have had the blessed leisure to read carefully 'Abdu’l-Bahá’s addresses in America, in Paris and London. (The Captain had a special light put into my cabin so that I could read.) It has been marvelous to study again how 'Abdu’l-Bahá spoke: His love, His simplicity; His clearness; His penetration and Vision. He said “When you speak, speak as I spoke when in this country, speak on the Principles.” “The Promulgation of Universal Peace” is a text book which, if followed, would make a thousand teachers in the United States in one year. ‘Abdu’l-Bahá also said: "The principles of the Teachings of Bahá’u’lláh should be carefully studied, one by one until they are realized by heart and mind—so will you become strong followers of the Light, truly spiritual, heavenly soldiers of God, acquiring and spreading true civilization.”

There has been time on this voyage to think what hard journeys 'Abdu’l-Bahá and Bahá’u’lláh endured—and how 'Abdu’l-Bahá waited for forty years to bring the Light to us in America—how He longed to go to China—how in England, Paris and the United States He taught us just how to attract souls through the universal principles. He came and went, “The few days passed away but their import shall be remembered by God’s friends in all ages in all lands.”

Everyone who ever met Him loved Him so! He sent back such messages of love: "Though I go away, I shall always be present with you." What a wonderful Friend to come! If He was ill He did not speak of it. Today as the storm is still beating fiercely and another chill sends me back again to bed, I am just wishing that on the Kaga Maru and in China I could live even a little as 'Abdu’l-Bahá lived. He said: "Take courage! God never forsakes His children who strive and work and pray!”
April 7. Am very well, very happy and we are gradually nearing Yokohama. The weather continues bad, snow and huge icicles today. We are nearly three days late, but very thankful to come safely. I feel most sorry for the Japanese crew, they have only about ten hours in their homes, then they go on. Mrs. Ocean has not treated them very courteously—she could profit with study of “Manners” from the Japanese.

It has been too pitching to balance the lantern for our stereopticon slides, but the Captain thinks that by tomorrow night we can have our Baha’i party.

I forgot to tell you my compliment. The night the flood poured into my room and about 8 A.M. when the cabin boy had everything dried and my bed and room in beautiful order, I thanked him in Japanese. He replied smiling: “Every day, every time, your Japanese language improving itself.” He never heard of Coué either! Honesty, though, compels me to add that my Japanese language is monosyllabic. Everybody laughs at it, I do too—but it helps to make us friends. Jenabe Fazel’s trying at once to speak English pleased us, you know it did.

What has impressed me most on this trip is this: my cabin was underneath the bridge. Day and night, in sunshine ? ? ? or in the most great storm, always, always was heard the tread of the man walking up and down WATCHING. There was an intelligence that was directing the man at the bridge and every other movement of this ship. Had it not been for the Captain we should have been engulfed in mountain waves and lost.

So in our spiritual lives, always the Cohorts of angels are on the lookout bridge watching ahead of us. The Divine Intelligence of all the universe is bringing us safely into the Life Eternal. This is a voluntary journey we are taking. No one is forced “to be born again” and travel the mystic way of the spirit. Be he who has arisen and embarked will sail safely into the harbor of Heaven. Then the accidents of chill, of pain, of any hardship will seem as nothing. There one will only remember the fragrant heavenly qualities of the earth plane — qualities found in others and developed in one’s self. These qualities are a knowledge of God, radiant acquiescence, patience, wisdom, faithfulness, love. These are all we take with us into the world of Light. But he who has traveled with the Holy Spirit, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá says: “Can in his turn educate others in the same spirit.”

In closing I wish to say again: my friends I love you! I pray for you constantly! You are all going to China—it is not just one going! And I shall be with you, in spirit, in your work.

P.S. The lantern slide entertainment was a wonderful success. Mrs. Ocean calmed down on the afternoon of April 8th. The engineer set up the lantern and ran the slides. The Captain and I stood on the stage. He has read the blue booklet carefully and most of “Divine Philosophy.” So he explained the Baha’i Cause first and he interpreted as I spoke. The talk lasted one hour and everybody cheered the pictures. There are thirty-five boys and girls in the Third Class and I’m sure they will never forget who ‘Abdu’l-Bahá is. More than one hundred were present, almost everyone came except the man at the bridge and the sleeping babies...

I realized how significant these slides are for foreign countries. The Oriental people love pictures, and with slides I could make them understand the life of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and Bahá’u’lláh.

You think it is a miracle that in Bible times the sea could divide and people pass across—well, it was just like Providence that this stormy sea became calm for just one night for truly there has been no other night that the lantern would have stayed on the table steady enough to have a picture talk. By midnight the storm had begun again and the people were again ill, but that evening EVERYONE had a happy time. All came dressed in their best as if it were a festival. It was the only gathering we had during the voyage. Members of the crew were all permitted to come.

From China. Shanghai 1924

There is no end to China! When I finish I shall have carried the Message to nineteen of the important cities of China. My part is only to raise the Call in China and write back to you the opportunities here. I know of no country in the world where the people are so READY and where the opportunities are so vast. Through becoming friends with the Chinese at home (Continued on page 8)
you can prepare souls who can come back and do marvelous work here. It is a favor and bounty of God to have the privilege to do anything for China.

If any of you took those trips, you would be just as likely to be ill as I. I have not spent the money to go first class and to stay in steam-heated, expensive foreign hotels. I have gone as economically as possible, for I have very far to go! It was the worst season of the year to go to central China but none of us ever stop for weather. All are ill sometimes and nothing matters if in time we are well, we have faithfully sowed the seeds for a divine civilization.

I should like to take a position in Hong Kong and earn the money to buy my ticket to Australia, and I shall try to get a position as nurse for children or companion to someone traveling to Australia and try to earn the passage in that way. Also, I wish to remain long enough in Hong Kong, Kowloon, and Canton to do some good Bahá’í work. Then I shall feel I have done what ‘Abdu’l-Bahá wished, and when you come over you will find some beautiful friends. How you will love these people!

(To be continued)

Unity of Effort

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes gratefully to express its very deep appreciation of the prompt and heartening responses which are coming from so many of the believers during these days of financial crisis. Even from the pioneers serving so selflessly in the field have been received requests to curtail their living budgets. These communications carry evidence of fresh dedication and of greater willingness to sacrifice toward fulfilling the “Challenging Requirements” of this critical hour.

It is only through our complete unity of effort—in the continued and greater sacrifice of every believer—that the spiritual and material resources will be found to achieve the vital and urgent tasks entrusted to us by our Guardian. Not through curtailing our activities, but rather by increasing our capacities to serve and to give shall we succeed in attaining the goals which have been set.

Let us remember that in planning the regularity of our contributions the Nineteen-Day Feast and not the calendar month should be considered.

The Guardian, in a cable to the National Spiritual Assembly on September 10, said: “I urge the believers and local Assemblies to double their efforts in support of the vital National Fund... Further sacrifices are demanded; rich rewards are assured. May the entire body of the American believers arise to fulfill their glorious destiny. Abiding gratitude; deepest love.” (signed) Smooch

National Spiritual Assembly

Enrollments

Community:
- New York, 7; Washington, D.C., 2;
- Little Rock, Ark., 2; Chicago, Ill., 8; San Francisco, Calif., 6; Beverly, Mass., 1;
- Augusta, Ga., 1; Long Beach, Calif., 4;
- Milwaukee, Wis.; Helena, Mont., 2;
- Minneapolis, Minn., 1; Boise, Idaho, 1;
- Champaign, Ill., 3; Los Angeles, Calif., 4;
- Detroit, Mich., 2; Portland, Ore., 1;
- Seattle, Wash., 1; Berkeley, Calif., 1;
- Inglewood, Calif., 1; Racine, Wis., 1;
- Nashville, Tenn., 2; Providence, R.I., 1;
- Urbana, Ill., 1; Lansing, Mich., 1;
- Springfield, Mass., 1; San Mateo, Calif., 1;
- Kansas City, Mo., 1; Winnetka, Ill., 1;
- Toronto, Ont., Can., 4; Hamilton, Ont., Can., 3; St. Lambert P.Q., Can., 1;
- Youth—9.

Isolated:
New enrollments and transfers 40 adult and 1 youth.
Total—113 and 6 youth.

In Memoriam

Mrs. Elizabeth Wheeler
541 5th St., Sto.
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Miss Christine Andrews
569 Lincoln Place
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Mrs. Ruth Dietel
1426 W. Wildwood
St. Wayne, Ind.

Mrs. Elizabeth Nourse
547 Laurel Ave.
Los Angeles, Calif.

Miss Besse Archer
1494 12th Ave.
Los Angeles, Calif.

Mrs. Adelaide Baker
(Formerly of East Cleveland, Ohio.
Date of death not reported)

Suggested Daily Readings for December

Proofs and Assurance
Dec. 1. B.W.F. p. 32
Dec. 2. B.W.F. p. 33-34
Dec. 3. B.W.F. p. 35
Dec. 4. B.W.F. p. 118-119
Dec. 5. B.W.F. p. 58-59
Dec. 6. B.W.F. p. 59-61
Dec. 7-8. B.W.F. p. 61-64

Severance from “The World”
Dec. 9-10. B.W.F. p. 64-66
Dec. 11. B.W.F. p. 134 (Whole page)
Dec. 12. B.W.F. p. 139-140
Dec. 13. B.W.F. p. 129
7, 8, 15, 16, 17, 18

Law, Liberty and Obedience
Dec. 18. Gl. p. 98-99
Dec. 20. Gl. p. 123-125
Dec. 23. Gl. p. 310-312
Dec. 25. Gl. p. 335-336
Dec. 27. Gl. p. 315-316
Dec. 29. Gl. p. 86-87
Dec. 30. Gl. p. 207-209
Dec. 31. Gl p. 5-7 (II, III, IV)

CORRECTION

Louhelen Winter Session

Dates:
Dec. 26-Jan. 1 incl.

Rates:
Single room: $3.50 per day
Dormitory: $3.00 per day

Courses:
Inner Strength To Meet Today’s Challenge—Curtis Kelsey
What Do You Know About The Bahá’í Faith?—Donald Corbin

Reservations:
Mrs. Helen Eggleston, 3028 So.
State Rd., Davison, Mich.

Calendar

Feasts:
Nov. 4—Quadrat—Power
Nov. 23—Qawl—Speech

Aniversaries:
Nov. 12—Birth of Bahá’u’lláh
Nov. 26—Day of the Covenant
Nov. 28—Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá
1:00 a.m.

National Assembly meetings: Dec. 5, 6, 7
The Home Front

(Because of space limitations, and the flood of exciting news from our pioneer fields, "The Home Front" is too often neglected in these pages. However, each month your editors have discussed ways and means of getting "local" news into the News Letter. We decided to try gleaning some highlights from the many interesting items which come into the editorial office. We regret the physical impossibility of printing all of your news and will try our best to be fair in our selections. We are very grateful for your cooperation, and hope that the absence of your news will not discourage you from continuing to submit it.)

GREENSBORO, N. C.

An inter-regional conference met August 31st and Sept. 1st at "Marastone," a mountain retreat 12 miles from Asheville, N. C. The keynote of the conference was "The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour" and a letter of rededication to our tasks was sent to the Guardian. Fifteen adults and 3 youth attended. A youth group was formed as a nucleus of what the South hopes to attain for the youth.

MICHIGAN STATE FAIR

Free space for a large booth and exhibit was obtained at the Michigan State Fair in Detroit. About 75,000 people at least saw the booth and the large printed quotations from the Bahá'í writings, 5,750 copies of literature were distributed, 3,000 invitations to the next large public meeting in Detroit were given out, 750 people stopped and asked questions and showed some degree of interest beyond mere curiosity and 49 people gave their names and addresses to be notified of future meetings.

ELMHURST, ILL.

Elmhurst has been maintaining a varied and active program. Excellent publicity, both free and paid for, has been obtained, so that questions as to the nature of the Bahá'í Faith are becoming common. On a Sunday in August, the members of this community took their "interested" friends on a "pilgrimage" to the Temple and served a picnic lunch in a nearby park on Lake Michigan. The whole group took a guided tour through the Temple and had such a thoroughly pleasant day that they were reluctant to go home.

In September, contact was made with the local Kiwanis Club (through the article which appeared in their magazine) and an invitation to speak at their luncheon meeting was accepted. One of the members was the editor of a local paper, and a fine write-up of the talk appeared, describing the Temple and stating the principles.

SPokane, WASHINGTON

The believers in Spokane are trying a new method of attracting contacts. Their experience has proven to them that real attraction to the Faith more often than not is through individuals and so they have started a series of meetings beginning with purely social gatherings, at which real friendliness and hospitality are emphasized. The first of these parties was held at the Center. It was a "Hard Luck" party and the invitations said to come and "bring a friend." The Center was packed and the guests thoroughly enjoyed a program of stunts and games. It was clearly demonstrated that the wearing of amusing costumes and the hilarity of the program soon made friends of former strangers. If, after attending some of the parties, no desire to investigate the Faith is shown, these people are not invited again.

The first test of this method of attracting people came when a believer came from out of town to speak informally at a fireside meeting. Four of the people who had been party guests were so interested in his presentation of the Faith that they have been asking questions ever since.

Also, this community finds that an unusual heading for newspaper publicity is likely to catch the eye of an editor and thus get into the paper. The account of the Hard Luck Party, for instance, appeared under the heading "30-Year Old Costumes Worn."

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

A very successful picnic was held in Philadelphia, with 65 people attending, many of whom were not Bahá'ís. In the evening, movies highlighted the gathering with a film of a 22,000 mile trip through the East by a famous explorer.

On Sept. 23rd almost all of the believers gathered to read together "The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour." Members of the teaching committee shared in reading aloud and all attending brought their own copies. There was a determined seriousness in this single project for the evening as the letter was read from beginning to end.

On the morning of that same day, the Children's Class was begun for the year, with five children of local Bahá'ís. In addition to the lesson, they rehearsed songs which they will sing at the Center on Bahá'u'lláh's birthday and they also made drawings for that occasion.

The Township of Upper Darby was chosen as a goal for a new assembly by next April. The whole Philadelphia community has constituted itself a "prayer squad" using the Báb's prayer for the removal of difficulties at least three times daily. So far, in this goal town, a meeting place has been secured and the good will of a local editor established.

NEW YORK STATE

A weekend teaching conference held in Geneva and sponsored by the Upper New York Regional Teaching Committee was attended by believers from New York City, Rochester, Binghamton, Syracuse, Niagara Falls, Hamburg, Waterloo, Seneca Town, Pen Yan, Jamestown, Victor and Brighton.

On Friday afternoon, a Community club heard a talk on "A New Focus in History" at the home of two of the Bahá'ís who are members of the Club. Saturday night a group of 45 young people were entertained at a corn roast by Miss Nancy Gates, who has since left to pioneer in Sweden. Sunday afternoon a public meeting was attended by over 80 people. Following the meeting a large group gathered at a Bahá'í home and over cups of tea heard Miss Cora Oliver, pioneer in Panama, talk of her experiences. Monday evening, the Pen Yan group and their friends heard a talk on "The You in the United Nations." It was a full weekend!

WILMINGTON, DEL.

A public meeting recently attracted many people and it was felt to be the most successful ever held in Wilmington. A team of speakers discussed the practical and the spiritual aspects of the Bahá'í Faith as related to peace and justice for all the world.
World Esperanto Congress

The first post-war World Esperanto Congress was held in Berne, Switzerland, July 26-August 2nd. Greeting telegrams and letters were sent to the Congress by the Guardian, National and Local Spiritual Assemblies and were read at the opening session. An outstanding and impressive Baha'í exhibit drew the attention of hundreds who passed it daily. One table of this exhibit was devoted to 49 translations of Dr. Esslemont's book, each marked with the name of its language. Again and again visitors praised this beautiful exhibit and took home with them pamphlets. Over 500 pamphlets were given out personally. Nine Baha'ís were present representing 9 countries.

The special Baha'í session was well received and in spite of great heat and an unfavorable hour was attended by 35 persons of 13 nationalities. Mr. Vuk Echtner of Prague gave a brilliant talk, "Does a Universal Language Guarantee World Peace?" The discussion which followed was lively and lasted over an hour.

The crowning event of the happy week was when one of the Czech delegates who had been studying with Vuk Echtner for a year declared her acceptance of the Faith. She said: "I have accepted the Teachings long ago and recognized their beauty and necessity, but I had never met any Baha'ís except Vuk. Now I have seen that they are all as kind and warmhearted as he from whichever country they come. I am convinced of the power of this glorious Faith and am happy to belong to the great loving family of Baha'ís."

A total of 9 newspaper stories and 3 radio listings were obtained without cost. Two sets of individual letters, one to a list of 100, another to a list of 160, were mailed a week in advance and posters were placed in prominent windows about town. Slides of the House of Worship were shown at two fireside meetings which followed the public meeting, and a youth fireside, an adult fireside and a study class are working faithfully toward the goal of "double the number."

BUTTE, MONTANA

Enthusiasm is high in Montana. A conference was held in Helena recently and about 7 of the believers from Butte were able to attend. The report of the conference states "It was a marvelous conference and...the greatest thing that has happened to Montana. These people have never met many outside Baha'ís."

The Butte program committee has initiated a new policy of using non-Baha'i friends on their programs for music, prayers, readings, etc. The friends are hard at work sending invitations to meetings to "everyone in the telephone book." Their report says... "We are still in the B's... but when we finish, everyone will have at least heard the word!"

The Masonic Male Chorus sang for one of the meetings, and then stayed to hear the speaker! For one meeting, a large window display was arranged in a local gift shop. A photographer reported that it took him over a half hour to get the picture because people kept gathering around it so much that he had to drive them away. One night one of the believers kept track of the time and watched the window, and in 15 minutes, 30 people had stopped to look at it and read its various placards and signs.

The report ends with the expressed belief that at last they have "smashed Butte wide open" and the happy report of 3 new declarations of faith, and 2 more friends who have indicated their readiness to declare themselves.

Canada's First Baha'i School

Among the rolling Laurentian hills in Canada, the first Canadian Baha'i Summer School was born. Forty-five people attended the session, with most of the friends staying from one to several days. Sleeping accommodations were limited to 24.

Each day began with communal devotion periods. Those who rose earlier, repeated the Dawn prayer, with the rays of the rising sun greeting them. Most of the study courses were held outside under the trees. A panel discussion, "In Search of Maturity," was supplemented by reference material which could be used for further study at home. This panel was conducted by Adeline Lohse and Rosemary and Emeric Sala. Ross Woodman, stopping on his cross-Canada lecture tour, presented a course on "Religion and Society."

Music formed an integral part of each day. A tour of the property showed the great possibilities for future development. The sense of ownership—the feeling that this ground
was Bahá’í property—brought forth many suggestions and ideas.

The farm work was novel and unfamiliar to the city folk. The early morning milking of cow and goats; “Jo” the rooster, with his cockiness when the pullets laid their first eggs—all proved of great interest to the community. Haying on such hilly ground was precarious, but as a community project, several loads were put into the barn. An old shed was torn down. The outside of the house was given a new trim by willing hands wielding paint brushes.

An excellent cuisine was provided by the cook, who spoke no English, but who knew the way to the hearts.

The evening workshops were informative and enjoyable. A practice L.S.A. was formed at the beginning of the week. The election of the Assembly was new to those who had lived only in small groups. There were discussions on administration, radio, publicity, visual aids to teaching, firesides, etc. One evening, the community developed an outline for a fifteen-minute radio talk for Ross Woodman to give in the Maritimes. Everyone contributed to this outline.

Out under the trees for late sessions around a campfire there were many happy hours of discussion, singing and fellowship. Some of these evenings ended with the chanting of prayers with a choral background. One session was devoted to “The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour.” The arrangement of the program was especially suited to the Farm at this stage of development. It was most effective in creating a joyous spirit of unity culminating in a broader spiritual growth. Laughter accompanying work and play, balanced the seriousness with which everyone attended the study courses.

Two winter sessions are planned, the schedules of which, and information about which are here given:

First Winter Session: Dec. 25 to Jan 4 (11 days)
Second Winter Session: Feb. 22 to 28, 1948 (7 days)

When making your reservations please indicate the subjects on which you could participate or lead in panel discussions.

Rates for Winter Sessions: $3.50 per day, or $21.00 per week, or $33.00 for the eleven day session, including meals.

Recreation: Skiing, Ski Instruction, Snowshowing and Horseback Riding.

Information Please

The current Child Education Committee is eager to survey the field of our children. We will be most grateful if the assemblies, groups and isolated friends will submit to our secretary, Mrs. Sylvia Parmelee, 4700 47th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., the following information:

- Number of children you work with.
- Their ages.
- Names of teachers.
- Do you hold classes?
- In what other ways do you work with them?
- What available materials for children do you find most helpful?
- Have you any good courses or other materials to submit which might be of value to others?
- What kind of materials would you like to have?
- What other suggestions do you have on how we can be of service to you?
- Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Child Education Committee

Reservations should be made as soon as possible to Mrs. E. Sala, 423 Riverside Drive, St. Lambert, Que., Canada, with a deposit payment of $5.00 refundable against cancellations made not later than 1 week prior to opening.

“We Will Wait for You”

At 4:20 p.m. the tingle of the telephone was heard resounding through the lower floor of the Bahá’í House of Worship.

“What time do you close?” was the query on the other end of the line.

“We will close in ten minutes,” was the reply.

“Oh!” was the disappointed rejoinder. “I am in Evanston and want to see the Bahá’í House of Worship, but I must see it tonight as I am leaving town. Will you wait if I take a cab right out?”

So, the Bahá’í, after a full day of guiding at the Temple, replied, “Yes, we will wait for you.”

In less than ten minutes the cab drew up to the entrance and not one, but six young men from India got out, one of them having been the spokesman for the crowd.

How tragic if we had had to turn these boys away! But many times we do have to refuse visitors admittance as there are not enough Bahá’ís acting as guides to keep the Temple open as long as it should be.

What a fine way to spread the message, for not only from India do they come, but from all parts of the world.

Wouldn’t you like to be a guide at the Bahá’í House of Worship and give the message to many people daily?

So Great the Glory

“Say: So great is the glory of the Cause of God that even the blind can perceive it, how much more they whose sight is sharp, whose vision is pure.”

—BAHÁ’U’LLÁH

Nancy Gates, pioneer to Denmark: Antonio Boca, who sailed to visit his family in the Balearic Islands; and Amelia Bowman, pioneer to Sweden.
Radio Script Writing

Courses in Radio script writing are available at nearly every university in the country, the Radio Committee reports. Bahá’ís interested in radio writing should investigate such courses. In applying for entrance to classes of this nature, it is a good idea to submit samples of your writing, whether the sample scripts have or have not been broadcast.

All Bahá’ís who served in the armed forces have these university classes open to them under the GI Bill of Rights. For those who are interested, there is an excellent text book entitled “Handbook of Radio Broadcasting” published by McGraw-Hill.

Directory Additions and Changes

Assembly Secretaries:
New Orleans, La.: Mrs. Esther Little
3905 N. Claiborne Ave., Z. 17

Duluth, Minn.: Mrs. Mary Bauer, Secretary, pro tem
634 Arlington Ave.

Chicago, Ill.: Mr. I. W. Stevens
7934 S. Escanaba Ave., Z. 17

Charleston, W. Va.: Mrs. Helen Anderson
Rm. 201, Payne Bldg.
511 Lee St.

Augusta, Ga.: Miss Betty Shook
1110 Emmett St.

Group Correspondents:
Harvey (Markham), Ill.: Miss Allie M. Lyon
15309 S. St. Louis Ave.
Rt. 1, Harvey, Ill.

Hinsdale, N. Hampshire: Mrs. Hazel Owens
Hinsdale, N. H.

Newcastle, Penna.: Miss Edel M. Kelley
320 Reis St.

New Groups Formed:
Bakersfield, Calif.: Mrs. Hugh Rouse, Corres.
(re-established)
605 El Prado Dr.

Whittier Township:
Mrs. Anne Gordon, Corres.
2180 Lincoln Ave., Rt. 3

Norfolk, Mass.: Mrs. Lilian J. Carter
Norfolk, Mass.

El Conquistador Hotel
Lincoln Rd.

Changes in KTC Committees:
Delaware & E. Penna.: Mrs. Cynthia Olson, Secy., 203 B. Mayfair Apts.,
1390 Harrison St., Wilmington, Del.

New England:
Mrs. Emma Rice, Mrs. Ben Weedon, Miss Mary Bower to replace Messrs. Toward, Goodman, and Isaacs.

Mr. Wendell Bacon added.

New Jersey:
Mr. Bernard Gottlieb added

Kansas, Mo., Nebr.: Mr. H. Friedlander added

Revised Committee for Geyersville School:
Mr. Alfred Dahl, Chairman, Mrs. Louise Groger, Secretary, 64 Aqua Way, San Francisco 16, Calif.; Miss Gladys Linfoot, Mrs. Mary Collison, Dr. Mildred Nichols, Mrs. Anna Peronn, Miss Charlotte Linfoot, Mrs. Mildred Zahl, Prof. N. F. Ward, Mrs. Jessie Vanderford, Mr. Gustav Lowe, Mr. Paul Jones, Mrs. Jesma Herbert, Mrs. Helen Wilks, Mr. John Stroessler, Mrs. Bernice Stroessler, Miss Blossom Hay.

Laurelton School Committee:
Mrs. May Ethel Day, Secretary, 232 St. James St., Longueuil, P. Q., Can.

Mr. Lloyd Garner added

Mr. E. Norman Reed unable to serve

Youth Activities Committee
Mr. Rodney Warren unable to serve

Mr. Rustam Payman added

National Radio Committee:
Mrs. Marian Goldstein added

World Order

Table of Contents November, 1947

1. A Gift to the World
Gertrude W. Robinson

2. To Know and Worship God
Horace Holley

World Religion
Charles S. Krug

New Lights in Architecture, Editorial
Flora Hottes

Perilous Peace
Floyd H. Munson

Shaykh Ahmad

Alice Bacon

Highlights of the Newer Testament, A Compilation
Marion C. Lippitt

With Our Readers

Special Feature: Photographs and drawings of the Temple.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

'Sab'ul Bahá, quotation 5 2
Addis Ababa, greeting 7 3
Addresses 4 3
Calendar 8 3
Canada's First Baha'i School 10 3
Directory Changes 12 1
Enrollments 8 1
European News 4 3
New Believers 2 2
Pioneer Training 3 1
Fund
Assemblies contributing . 5 1
"Where We Are" 5 2
Letters of Interest 5 1
Little Things That Count 5 1
Guardian, cable (See "Unity of Effort") 8 1
"Home Front" 9 1
Information - Child, Educ. Comm. 11 1
Japan, News From 4 3
Latin America 4 1
Loulouen Winter Session 3 3
Memorandum 8 2
National Spiritual Assembly Letter, "The Baha'i Community" 1 1
Unity of Effort 8 1
News From Other Lands 3 2
Pictures
Ashton, Beatrice 2 1
Belgium's First Believer 6 1
Blackmer, David N. 2 3
Bowman, Amelia 11 3
Copenhagan Bahá'ís 3 3
Edson, Richard 3 3
Elmer, Mildred 2 3
Gates, Nancy 11 3
Jarvis, Henry 2 1
Laws, Fred. & Eliz. 11 2
Lohse, Doris 3 2
Nichola, Valeria 2 1
Panama City Community 10 2
Roca, Antonio 11 3
Stirrett, Charlotte 7 3
"Pioneer" 6 2
Publishing Announcements 6 1
Radio Script Writing 12 1
Suggested Daily Readings 8 3
"Where We Are" (Thermometer) 5 2
World Esperanto Congress 10 1
World Order Contents 12 3
Contract Awarded for New Temple Interior Stairway

The Temple Trustees have awarded a contract to the George A. Fuller Construction Company for building a new stairway system inside the Temple. The stairway is required by the modified interior design. The contract was signed last week in November, and the Trustees hope that actual construction work will get under way this month.

The Fuller Company estimates that the cost of this installation will be approximately $4500, plus the contractor’s fee of 7%, which is much lower than the average fee for this type of job. Competitive bids were sought for this work, and the next figure to the estimate submitted by the George A. Fuller Company was an estimate of $5500, plus contractor’s fee.

The proposal of the Fuller Company was accepted by the Temple Trustees on the joint recommendation of Shaw, Metz and Dollo, the architects for the Temple, and the Baha’i Technical Advisory Board, after approval of the architect’s plans by the Technical Board.

The new stairway system, which will replace the present stairs on the west side of the building, will be enclosed, and will extend from the basement to the main floor of the building, on the east side of the structure. These stairs will be back of the proposed location of the reader’s stand.

Elimination of the present stairway system is necessary to make the ninth alcove available for seating, in accordance with the plans approved by the Guardian for unifying the main auditorium space in the completed interior. The present stairway will be left in place while the interior ornamentation work is being done, but will be removed before the completion of this work.

It is estimated that approximately two months’ construction time will be required for the erection of the new stairway system. Mr. Shaw, the architect, and the Baha’i Technical Board jointly recommended that this project be completed before work starts on the interior ornamentation. The Trustees hope to be able to let the first contract for the interior ornamental work sometime in the spring of 1948. The beginning of this work will depend upon the time required by the architect to complete the necessary detailed working drawings.

“The second year of the second Seven Year Plan must witness, on all fronts, on the part of young and old alike, rich and poor, colored and white, neophyte and veteran, a rededication to the tasks undertaken. The utmost effort by the National Teaching Committee and its auxiliary Regional Teaching Committees, aimed at raising the number of spiritual assemblies in the North American continent to no less than one hundred and seventy-five, ere the expiry of the current year, should be exerted”

SHOGHIL EFFENDI

This is the midpoint of our Baha’i Year in the second year of the Second Seven Year Plan. Let us stop and analyze what we have accomplished—every community of twenty or more—your project of a new community—every individual Baha’i—your goal of bringing one person into the Baha’i Faith. There are only six months left.

THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE.
Baha’i Marriage

There is no objection to performing a Baha’i marriage for two non-Baha’is, if they desire to have our simple ceremony. This, on the contrary, is yet another way of demonstrating our liberality.

Baha’u’llah has clearly stated the consent of all living parents is required for a Baha’i marriage. This applies whether the parents are Baha’is or non-Baha’is, divorced for years, or not. This great law He has laid down to strengthen the social fabric, to knit closer the ties of the home, to place a certain gratitude and respect in the hearts of children for those who have given them life and sent their souls out on the eternal journey towards their Creator. We Baha’is must realize that in present-day society the exact opposite process is taking place: young people care less and less for their parents’ wishes, divorce is considered a natural right, and obtained on the flimsiest and most unwarrantable and shabby pretexts. People separated from each other, especially if one of them has had full custody of the children, are only too willing to belittle the importance of the partner in marriage also responsible as a parent for bringing those children into this world. The Baha’is must, through rigid adherence to the Baha’i laws and teachings, combat those corrosive forces which are so rapidly destroying home life and the beauty of family relationships, and tearing down the moral structure of society.

Long Healing Prayer

The long Healing Prayer translated by Dr. Khan and his daughter is authentic. As it is one which, when rendered into English, loses much of its rich imagery, he does not feel it is suitable at present for inclusion in a prayer book, as non-Baha’is might find it rather strange —Shoghi Effendi, through his secretary, in letter to the NSA dated October 25, 1947.

Relief to European Pioneers

If any of the European pioneers are really in need of relief parcels for their personal use, there is certainly no objection to sending them some. However, he certainly would not send relief for those whom they are teaching or contacting, as this would seem in the nature of either a reward or an enticement for those attracted to the Faith. —Shoghi Effendi, through his secretary, in letter to the NSA dated October 25, 1947.

*This statement from Hafis was written in response to the question raised at the last National Conference as to whether relief packages should be sent to the European pioneers for distribution to needy non-believers in their vicinity.

-message from the Guardian
Responsibilities of Bahá’í Children

Regarding children: at fifteen a Bahá’í is of age as far as keeping the laws of the Aqdas is concerned—prayer, fasting, etc. But children under fifteen should certainly observe the Bahá’í Holy Days, and not go to school, if this can be arranged, on these nine days.—Shoghi Effendi, through his secretary, in letter to NSA dated October 25, 1947.

Status of Local Assemblies

A spiritual Assembly can only exist where there are nine or more adult declared Bahá’ís in a specific area, who hold a proper election or constitute themselves an Assembly properly. There is nothing vague about it, and no departure can be made from the accepted procedure.—Shoghi Effendi, through his secretary, in letter to NSA dated October 25, 1947.

Reference to Year 1335

In the August issue of Bahá’í News there is a statement about the year 1335 and a reference to “God Passes By” in which it gives the impression that in that book the Guardian associates the fulfillment of Daniel’s prophecy with one hundred years after Bahá’u’lláh’s mystic experience. He wishes me to point out that this is inaccurate as on page 151 of “God Passes By,” in the reference to His Declaration, the Guardian clearly states that with this declaration the “hundred lunar years” had commenced. The mystic experience of Bahá’u’lláh was in the Síyáh Chál and has nothing to do with Daniel’s prophecy.

This statement of the Guardian is itself based on extracts from two of the Master’s Tablets which are published in “The Passing of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.” —Shoghi Effendi, through his secretary, in letter to NSA dated October 25, 1947.

Bahá’í Infallibility, Voting, and Chastity

The following excerpts from the Guardian’s letter to John Bernard Corne dated October 19, 1947 are published with Shoghi Effendi’s explicit approval.

Regarding your questions: There are only two institutions which are infallible, one is the guardianship, the other the International House of Justice. What the Master desired to protect the friends against was continual bickering and opinionatedness. A believer can ask the Assembly why they made a certain decision and politely request them to reconsider. But then he must leave it at that, and not go on disrupting local affairs through insisting on his own views. This applies to an Assembly member as well. We all have a right to our opinions, we are bound to think differently; but a Bahá’í must accept the majority decision of his Assembly, realizing that acceptance and harmony—even if a mistake has been made—are the really important things, and when we serve the Cause properly, in the Bahá’í way, God will right any wrongs done in the end.

Bahá’ís are not required to vote on an Assembly against their consciences. It is better if they submit to the majority view and make it unanimous. But they are not forced to. What they must do, however, is to abide by the majority decision, as this is what becomes effective. They must not go around undermining the Assembly by saying they disagreed with the majority. In other words, they must put the Cause first and not their own opinions.

He, (an S. A. member) can ask the Assembly to reconsider a matter, but he has no right to force them or create inharmony because they won’t change. Unanimous votes are preferable, but certainly cannot be forced upon Assembly members by artificial methods such as are used by other societies.

What Bahá’u’lláh means by chastity certainly does not include the kissing that goes on in modern society. It is detrimental to the morals of young people, and often leads them to go too far, or arouses appetites which they cannot perhaps at the time satisfy legitimately through marriage, and the suppression of which is a strain on them.

The Bahá’í standard is very high, more particularly when compared with the thoroughly rotten morals of the present world. But this standard of ours will produce healthier, happier, nobler people, and induce stabler marriages.

Address Correction

The correct address of the Radio Committee is: Bahá’í National Radio Committee, Room 637, 225 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.

Overjoyed Recent Victories

Overjoyed at recent victories, achievements... Praying for continual extension in range of magnificent accomplishments by divinely-guided, much beloved, highly admired American Bahá’í community.—Cable from the Guardian, November 15, 1947.

Teaching Obligations in North America

Beloved friends:

Refer back to your copy of Bahá’í News dated July, 1946, issued during the early, planning months of the second Seven Year Plan. You will find listed sixty-three groups in the United States and Canada which as of then had each five or more declared Bahá’ís.

Since to form an Assembly there must be nine or more believers, we need a minimum of 567 declared Bahá’ís to produce sixty-three new local Spiritual Assemblies.

The list of sixty-three groups gives the number of Bahá’ís in each group as of the time the data was compiled in the National Office. Counting up the total number of the Bahá’ís who were members of those groups we can make this interesting table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE I</th>
<th>63 Assemblies, Bahá’ís needed</th>
<th>567</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>63 groups, July 1946, total members</td>
<td>398</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>169</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Total new enrollments required</td>
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Baha'i News

"Overjoyed Recent Victories"

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This gives us something to take hold of and examine in terms of planned action. It brings the task down from the stratosphere of sentiment to the level of our daily lives. What plans have been developed and put into operation to accomplish this specific task?

1. An appeal from the NSA to the groups to redouble their teaching efforts and lay the spiritual foundation of unity essential to our great aim.

2. An appeal from the NSA to local Assemblies to sponsor one or more groups and extend special teaching aid in order to bring the group up to Assembly status. Thirty-six Assemblies or more have accepted this challenge.

3. A "National Baha'i Program" evolved under which the National Teaching Committee conducts public meetings and discussions in selected group cities, with publicity material and help from a number of participating committees, including Radio, Visual Education, and Public Relations. The idea is to concentrate all available energy upon the following process:

A. Publicize the city, attract attention.
B. Create an audience.
C. Develop a group for discussion.
D. From those interested form a study class.
E. Confirm and enroll.

In addition, to arouse a more intense zeal for spreading the Faith, and regenerate the forces of the Baha'i community, the National Assembly has appealed to Assemblies to try and double the size of the community this year, and to individual believers, each to confirm at least one new soul.

This year is decisive in the evolution of the Baha'i community as it is in the history of the world. Let us serve the Faith. If anyone feels he does not know how to serve, let him serve and learn how by serving.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Letters from the Guardian

The National Spiritual Assembly urgently requests that all National Committees go through their files and send to the National Archives for preservation any original letters from the Guardian which they may have. The secretary of this Committee is: Mrs. Gertrude Struven, 714 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Ill.

December, 1947

Are YOU Teaching?

An analysis of the current seven Year Plan clearly indicated that its success depends upon a greatly increased Baha'i membership. The confirmation and training of these souls, once we have found them, becomes the work largely of individual Bahá'ís.

The achievement of the other goals calling for the multiplication of Assemblies and groups demands the actual enrollment of many new and active workers. Thus these two tasks are but parts of one major goal—to increase the army of Bahá'u'lláh and broaden the base of His Administrative Order.

In the past we have relied upon a relatively few Bahá'ís to carry forward the local and national teaching programs, but now the task has become so large that each of us is face to face with his individual responsibility for promoting the Faith.

Why are so many of us still inactive in the teaching field? This question is the concern of every thoughtful Bahá'í. The answers most frequently given are: I do not have the courage or the experience to make new contacts. "I lack the necessary knowledge of the Teachings, or training as a speaker or a teacher." And so we wait. For what?

None but the Bahá'ís can establish the Faith or do our work. The very needs of humanity today at home and abroad are presenting us with opportunities that are straining the teaching personnel of the National Teaching Committee, the Regional Committees and Local Assemblies. We have reached a crisis. Whether we succeed or fail in achieving the tasks to which we have set our hands depends squarely upon the degree to which each of us assumes our full responsibility. Lack of education and experience is no longer a valid excuse for inactivity. In His Will and Testament, 'Abdu'l-Bahá says: "all the friends and loved ones, one and all!" must teach "His Cause and promote His Faith." And in GLEANINGS, Bahá'u'lláh says: "The understanding of His Words and comprehension of the Utterances of the Birds of Heaven are in no wise dependent upon human learning. They depend solely upon purity of heart, chastity of soul and freedom of spirit." The writings abound in promises of Divine assistance if we but make the effort. The first step in preparing ourselves for service to the Faith, therefore, is to adopt a positive attitude, to say and believe "I can."

It is the belief of the Study Aids Committee that there are tremendous potentials for service in even the present Bahá'í membership and that they can be developed through study and training programs. Local Spiritual Assemblies and Bahá'í groups have a responsibility for providing classes for the believers and encouraging individual study, and yet a survey conducted by the Study Aids Committee last year among 138 Assemblies revealed that only 25 (less than one in five) communities had classes of any kind for Bahá'ís. If this is truly representative of the country, then it is obvious that vast resources for workers in the Faith are not being explored. It is exceedingly important that Local Assemblies and groups give this matter their immediate attention and that every individual Bahá'í, no matter how old or young or how isolated, should begin at once to study with a purpose. Every effort should also be made by all of the friends to attend the Bahá'í summer schools where intensive instruction and training in study and teaching methods are available.

In succeeding issues of Bahá'í News the Study Aids Committee will review for the friends the numerous resources at their command for individual and group study and will also suggest methods for acquiring habits of study and experience in teaching. The Committee is very eager to be of utmost service and herewith invites individuals, Assemblies and groups to call upon it for suggestions, materials and assistance with study problems. It is grateful for the material and suggestions that it has already received from the friends and will welcome copies of study outlines, materials and reports of study classes and training techniques that have been used successfully by any individual group or community. Address communications to Study Aids Committee, Miss Charlotte Lenfoot, Sec'y, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif.
In Memoriam

Mr. Nick Poulsen, Racine, Wis., May 25, 1947
Mr. Anton Zoul, Long Beach, Calif., Oct. 7, 1947
Miss Marion Russell, Beverly, Mass., (no date given—reported 10-25-47)
Mrs. Desuria Fulley, Chicago, Ill., Oct. 22, 1947
Mr. L. E. Lee, West Chester, Pa., Nov. 1, 1947
Mr. Will Bowen, Riverton, N.J. (no date given—reported by RTC 11-5-47)

Correction: Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Rich both passed away last April. Through an oversight, the death of Mr. Rich was never reported here. Mrs. Rich’s death was reported in the October issue.

Enrollments

North Albuquerque, N.M., 1; Butte, Mont., 2; Helena, Mont., 4; Birmingham, Ala., 1; Cleveland, Ohio, 1; New York, N.Y., 3; West Chester, Pa., 1; Alhambra, Calif., 1; Los Angeles, Calif., 1; Worcester, Mass., 1; Boise, Idaho, 2; Hackensack, N.J., 1; Rose Valley, Pa., 1; Lewisburg, Pa., 1; Pentwater, Mich., 1; Toledo, Ohio, 2; Normandy, Mo., 1; Montreal, P.Q., 1; Winnipeg, Man., 1; Total: 27 and 5 youth.

Correction: October issue erroneously reported 1 enrollment for Niles, Mich. This should have been 2.

November issue erroneously reported 1 enrollment for Lansing, Mich.

Photographs of Temple Interior Designs

Those desiring photographs of the two Temple interior designs may order them from Bahá’í Sales Committee through Mr. H.E. Walrath, 4839 Beacon Street, Chicago, 46, Ill., at the rate of the set of two for 75c.

Lack of space prevents running “Pioneer” (Martha Root diaries) this month. The next installment will appear in January.

--- EDITOR ---

Budgets 1947-1948

Where We Are

CONVENTION 1948

May 1, 1948
April 1, 1948
Mar. 1948
Feb. 1, 1948
Jan. 1, 1948
Dec. 1, 1947
Nov. 1, 1947
Oct. 1, 1947
Sept. 1, 1947
Aug. 1, 1947
July 1, 1947
June 1, 1947

$300,000
275,000
250,000
225,000
200,000
175,000
150,000
125,000
100,000
75,000
50,000
25,000

Where We Ought to Be

FINANCIAL BUDGET 1947-1948

Assemblies Contributing to Fund, October, 1947


Minnesota, Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Mississippi, Jackson, Missouri, Independence, Kansas City, St. Louis, Montana, Butte, Helena, Nebraska, Omaha, New Hampshire, Portsmouth, New Jersey, Dumont, East Orange, Red Bank, Teaneck.

New Mexico, Albuquerque, North Albuquerque, New York, Birmingham, Buffalo, Jamestown, New York, Rochester, Yonkers, North Carolina, Greensboro, North Dakota, Fargo, Ohio, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Lima.

Oregon, Portland, Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Scranton, West Chester, Rhodes Island, Providence, South Carolina, Greenville, South Dakota, Sioux Falls, Tennessee, Memphis.

Texas, Houston, Utah, Salt Lake City.


Assemblies contributing in Oct. 1.,

Number of Assemblies not contributing 126
Individuals contributing 150
Groups contributing 76

Calendar

Dec. 12, Masá’il—Questions
Dec. 31—Sharaf—Honor

National Assembly Meeting: Jan. 1, 2, 3, 4.
European Work Advances

The European Teaching Committee rejoices to report the new believer in Rome, Signor Fernando Morosi. The first declared Bahá’í in Brussels under the second Seven Year Plan, Madame Lea Nys, is already a very valuable and active member of the group.

The whole European teaching project seems to have taken on a new impetus and momentum and from each of the Centers are coming heartening reports of the wonderful progress of the work. The Committee members are impressed by the number of those attending study classes regularly and by the unusual contacts which are miraculously opening for the pioneers. Much of this new development, the Committee feels, is due to the assistance given by the itinerant teachers and by the widespread interest in the Faith which they developed during their stays in the different goal cities. Henry Jarvis and Marion Little are still continuing in the field. Henry has been concentrating on the three Scandinavian goal cities. In each of these Centers he has contributed invaluably by helping with the newly interested believers, by his excellent public talks and through his many meetings with new contacts. Marion Little has just finished her stay in Luxembourg and after a visit to Brussels plans to join the group in Rome.

I remembered that Paul Van de Brook was to come at two o’clock and meet Jean. So I showed him the clock and pointed to the hour of two and asked him if he could come back. He understood and left. At two o’clock exactly he returned and Paul came in a few moments later. I told Paul the story and Paul went in and spoke to him. His story is interesting. He lives in the Moselle Valley on the border of Germany. He is a Catholic but has no faith or interest in the ritual, dogma of the Church or any liking for the Priests. He was told recently that at 21 Rue Elisabeth Luxembourg-Ville there were people speaking of an honest religion and that he could not wait for anything until he had heard of it. He has been seeking for just such a religion and on reading the Revelation of St. John knew that this was the time for it to appear—according to the prophecies. He asked very humbly if there was a system in the religion because he was a working man—he worked “with his hands and was simple.” It was quite thrilling to hear Paul tell him that this religion was for all—the highest and the lowest, the working man and the King. His face lighted up and he expressed his pleasure volubly. His wife, he explained, felt just as he did and he knew she would be overjoyed to know what he had found and they would read the book together. He asked Paul to ask me “how he could join.” So we told him that he would have to study the teachings and creative word of Baha’u’llah and to read of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, of the Guardian and of the Bab. All of which he was eager to do. He will return tomorrow night and bring his wife with him. Will ask Miss Hipp to come and interpret because she speaks good German and also English and it will be an experience for her. As far as I can make out Madam Greich was visiting the Moselle Valley last month and she must have spoken of the Faith to someone at that time and he in turn passed it on to this man. How strange that my little landlady should be an instrument for Baha’u’llah. Will let you know how it progresses.

This experience makes me think of the early days of the Christians when the word passed around by mouth “end they came seeking.”
“Co-Workers and Associates”

The Guardian has named the Latin American friends "co-workers and associates" of the "prosecutors of the Divine Plan." This title is given to them in "The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour."

That the Latin friends have done something to deserve this honor is shown by the rapid growth of the Faith in the 22 countries served by the Inter-America Committee in South American, Central America, Mexico and the West Indies. In April, 1944, there were 14 assemblies and 13 groups in these sister Americas. In April, 1946, during the two-year interim between the first and Second Year Plans, this number had grown to 27 assemblies and 9 groups. In April, 1947, at the close of the first year of the Second Seven Year Plan, assemblies had increased to 37 and there are now reported 51 groups throughout the Latin Americas.

Sincere hearts of all classes have caught the fire of the love of God through the Message of Bahá'u'lláh, and have responded to His call. A judge of the supreme court, professors in the universities, many teachers, business men, newspaper and radio men, writers, actors, musicians, artists, physicians, attorneys and simpler folk are included in the ranks of the Bahá'ís in these countries.

Many of the Bahá'í friends are very poor, for most of the Latin American countries have been suffering from increasingly severe economic crises and the great majority of the people live below the poverty line. Their sincerity, however, is demonstrated in a little story sent by Sheila Rice-Wray from Ciudad Trujillo. Sheila had been explaining the importance of the national fund which the friends are trying to establish to help with teaching projects. One very poor man, the father of an all-Bahá'í family of five, drew out of his pocket all of the little that he had and placed it in the fund. He went home that night not knowing where the next meal for his family would come from. A day or two later he came to see Sheila and told her that now he had better work. His family would be able to eat and he could also give something to the fund. Out of such faith and sacrifice a new spiritual order can be built in the world.

Procedure on Bahá'í Photographs

As there are many uses for Bahá'í photographs, the National Assembly has adopted a simple method of coordination:

1. Pictures which are sent to Bahá'í News are to be turned over to the National Office after the halftone cuts are made, unless the sender wishes its return.

2. The Bahá'í World Editorial Committee is to notify the National Office once a month of the subjects of the pictures they have received for publication.

3. The National Office, from all available information, will compile a list of pictures each month and send copies of the list to Bahá'í News Editorial Committee, The Bahá'í World Editorial Committee, Public Relations Committee, and Visual Education Committee.

Chile is pleading for new pioneer teachers to help them with the task of adequately teaching some ten new groups scattered along the tremendous length of the Chilean seaboard. In Colombia and Venezuela Rotary and Lions' Clubs open their doors to Bahá'í teachers and some of them are studying the Faith at their meetings. A typical letter has just come in from the grand master of the Masonic lodge in La Guaira, Venezuela, thanking the committee for pamphlets and correspondence articles furnished, and stating that all members of the lodge are studying these and are deeply interested. The latest issue of "Estrella," Masonic magazine in Latin America, has just come in carrying a Bahá'í article by Gayle Woolson.

Louise Caswell is en route to Panama to initiate a correspondence teaching campaign in that country after spending the past three months in El Salvador where she established an active study group in Santa Ana and assisted the Regional Teaching Committee in opening a correspondence teaching campaign.
News from Other Lands

AUSTRALIA. Encouraged by the Guardian the NSA of Australia and New Zealand are inaugurating a six-year plan to terminate, like the seven-year plan in the United States, in 1953. The plan will include, as at present outlined, the development of groups into assemblies in Brisbane, Melbourne, Hobart, Perth and Port Adelaide. The local assembly of Adelaide has decided on twelve goal towns in South Australia. The Sydney and Hobart friends have also named goal towns. The NSA has appointed an “Employment for Settlers” committee to help would-be settlers find employment in goal towns. The national headquarters is in Sydney. The Annual report shows 181 voting members in Australia and New Zealand and tells of activity in the way of radio talks, public lectures, use of slides, press publicity, spreading literature in libraries, youth groups, fireside and study groups. The friends are planning a summer school for the first eleven days of January.

In his letter to the Australian and New Zealand NSA urging this plan the Guardian writes: “I fully realize how small are your numbers, how circumscribed are your means, how vast the distances that separate the centers already established. But I firmly believe that the initiation of a Plan to remedy the very deficiencies from which the infant Administrative Order is now suffering, and a firm resolve to carry out its provisions, as well as a sustained effort to make the necessary sacrifices for its consumption, will set in motion forces of such magnitude, and draw upon both communities blessings of such potency, as shall excite the wonder of the believers themselves, and cause their Faith to enter an era of unprecedented expansion and marvelous and fruitful development.”

Our prayers join those of our friends in these far-away countries for the glorious success of their Six-Year Plan.

PERSEA. The June issue of the Persian “Baha’i News and Reviews,” now published in English, tells of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Tihran Spiritual Assembly covering five days, May 1-5. We quote from the “News”:

“The community was divided into five groups and on each day one of the groups was invited to take part in the celebration. Sponsored by the Tihran Spiritual Assembly five glorious meetings were held during the evenings in the newly built auditorium at the National Bahá’í Headquarters. Apart from their historic aspect, the meetings were so glorious, so solemn, so spectacular in their simplicity that Tihran can hardly remember to have witnessed anything of its kind. The main floor of the auditorium was packed to capacity with many standing. A conservative estimate puts the average number present at each meeting at no less than 2000.” The program each evening consisted of addresses and music, both vocal and instrumental.

The paper contains an interesting account of Robert Gulick’s visit to Tihran and other Persian cities. (See our October issue for Mr. Gulick’s own account of this visit). He was received most enthusiastically at a meeting in the National Headquarters arranged in his honor and at which he spoke through an interpreter to an audience of over 2000. “Every single foot of sitting or standing space on the main floor of the auditorium and in the surrounding galleries was filled.” There was “a terrific burst of cheer and acclamation” when the western brother stepped upon the platform.

A fine report of the valuable work of their Relief Commission shows that from March 22 to May 22, $1000 was sent by the Persian NSA to the United States NSA for relief work in Germany, besides $5000 specially contributed by the Persian friends. Also 671 parcels of food and other necessities were sent directly to friends in 14 different European countries.

The following letter from an eleven year old boy in Germany to a Persian boy of the same age is typical of the gratitude expressed in the many letters received by the Persian donors: “My dear young brother of the East: You are so very kind and generous indeed. I must have been very lucky to receive your lovely gift of cloth which you had spared from yourself. It did not only serve my needs so well but proved a veritable bridge connecting East and West so strongly that no earthly power can ever undermine this union. I will be thinking of you each night when I go to bed praying that God may help me to follow in your steps. I shall tell other German children all about this so that . . . it may banish every trace of hatred from their hearts and give way to peace and love instead. . . . We are not disheartened on account of the present hardships and deprivations. These serve to bring us bright hopes for the future.”

The Shah of Iran, his majesty Pahalvi, is presenting a medal to the two graduates of the University of Tihran who have had the highest scholastic averages. Both are Baha’is. Miss Soraj Shadai majored in foreign languages, and Mr. Kiamar Eshadi received his degree in Architectural Engineering.

Annual Reports

In view of the great expense involved in printing the 1946-1947 Annual Reports for free distribution to individual believers, the National Assembly has adopted the following plan:—To send complimentary copies to the Guardian, the various NSA’s, National and Regional Committees of North America, local Assemblies and groups. Those desiring an individual copy may order it from the National Office at 25c each, post-paid.

Baha’i Talking Book

We are happy to share with the friends the good news of the successful distribution of the Baha’i Talking Book, WORLD ORDER THROUGH WORLD FAITH.

Through the co-operation of the American Foundation for the Blind, the September issue of “Talking Book Topics” gave to the blind, who have a talking book machine, full details regarding release and forthcoming distribution. In many instances, inquiries were received before distribution could take place.

This Talking Book, mentioned in Baha’i News of August 1947, is now available to the blind in the United States and its Territories through the facilities of the Distributing Libraries for the blind listed by the Library of Congress, Canada, it may be obtained from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, in Toronto.
The Home Front

AUGUSTA, GA. A chaplain at Oliver General Hospital in this city regularly broadcasts—and identifies—Bahá'í prayers from the hospital radio station. The friends here have also placed literature in the bus and train stations. One of the friends is complying with the request of a breakfast club by sending postcards with cheery greetings to various hospitals and children's homes, using the Temple postcards. Attention is directed to the beauty of the Temple and the hope that they will see it some time is expressed.

The Regional Bulletin of Georgia carried a "Question Box" on the last page, where one question pertaining to the Faith is printed together with pertinent quotations from the Teachings. Perhaps a regional bulletin is a more appropriate place for such a feature than the BAHÁ'Í NEWS as has been suggested.

HOUSTON, TEXAS—A professor at the University of Houston assigned "The Bahá'í Faith" among others appearing in the book They Have Found a Faith by Marcus Bach, to one of his students for her term theme paper. The student looked up the secretary of the regional teaching committee and did the research work at her home. In a manner of reciprocity, this student appealed that the University of Houston stock Bahá'í reference books in its library, and a request for them was obtained for our National Library Committee, which will place the books promptly in this new, large and richly endowed southern university.

MAYWOOD, ILL. The Maywood Bahá'ís are 100 percent subscribed to World Order magazine, and have presented three gift subscriptions to their public library and two hospitals.

YONKERS, N.Y. A Fellowship meeting at the Yonkers Y.W.C.A. held recently was attended by about 40 people. As non-Bahá'í guest speaker, Colonel Douglas R. Crier, President of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People attracted many negro listeners. Miss Dorothy Champ, a Bahá'í from New York City, spoke, and the meeting resulted in the making of several excellent contacts.

DAYTON, OHIO. The Dayton Community, like so many others, found summer "Sunshine Teaching" a grand way to reach seekers. On Labor Day, a picnic was held at the home of the McCoys in Waynesville, Ohio. The McCoys left the Dayton community several years ago . . . bought a farm, and have since been actively engaged in spreading the Teachings in this small farming community. Years of patient labor with apparent indifference by the people there are now slowly beginning to bear fruit. With this picnic and sunshine teaching medium, 39 people were gathered, 11 of whom were not Bahá'ís—as many seekers as a whole year of public meetings had attracted . . . A second informal gathering was held on October 26th with 5 inquirers present, all showing considerable interest. The McCoys are now planning, with the nucleus of these seekers to hold a study and discussion class every other Sunday evening . . . The Dayton assembly will assist, as the Wayne Township Group hopes to become an Assembly by next April.

SIOUX FALLS, S.DAK. An extremely successful Children's Class is flowering here. There are nine children attending, ranging in age from 5½ to 9 years. They are divided into two groups for comfort in teaching and enjoyment. . . Classes meet every Saturday afternoon at 2:30 and music is stressed throughout the class. Both groups gather together in the beginning, for memorized prayers. This is followed by singing and sometimes selection of appropriate and simple symphony music on records. The children are taught to appreciate lovely music as part of their regular work in the class.

At present the study outline "To Live the Life" is being used; some of the children have colored notebooks with pictures of flowers pasted on the outside cover. A Bahá'í Child's ABC is used, and at present the children are preparing a program which will be given for their parents and friends.

Five of these children have Moslem parents, and three are Christians, the ninth being the child of Bahá'ís.

The report received states "the children are all so enthusiastic, and love it." And this report closes with the words:"... no special talents, but all are working hard and it is surprising what comes forth."

FAIR EXHIBITS. We find it impossible to include all the reports from everywhere about the splendid exhibits which have been held at County and State Fairs this year. Neither can we estimate hundreds of thousands of people who have thus first seen the word "Bahá'í" and received some knowledge, at least of its meaning. Many reports were accompanied by lovely pictures which limitations of space prohibited using. Regretfully, we must be content with mentioning just a few of the places from which we received thrilling reports of these exhibits: Kitsap County Fair, Bremerton, Washington; Mineral County Fair, Long Island, N.Y.; Snohomish County Fair, Monroe, Washington; County of Maui, Territory of Hawaii; and many others. And we all realize and appreciate the long hours of faithful service rendered by the countless friends who served at these booths answering questions and giving out literature.

Criterion for Achievement

"The first condition is firmness in the Covenant of God . . .

The second condition: Fellowship and love amongst the believers . . .

The third condition: Teachers must continually travel to all parts of the continent, nay, rather, to all parts of the world, but they must travel like 'Abdu'l-Bahá, who journeyed throughout the cities of America. He was sanctified and free from every attachment and in the utmost severance . . .

The aim is this: The intention of the teacher must be pure, his heart independent, his spirit attracted, his thought at peace, his resolution firm, his magnanimity exalted and in the love of God a shining torch.

Should he become as such, his sanctified breath will even effect the rock; otherwise there will be no result whatsoever . . ."

'Abdu'l-Bahá
CHARLESTON, W. VA. Mrs. Ethel Stephens of Newport News spent a few days in Charleston in October. She addressed the student body at the West Virginia State College on the subject, "Education at the Adult Level for the New Age." Moving pictures, in color, of her biracial children's project in Newport News were shown at a fireside gathering and at the Bahá'í Center at a public meeting; and the newspaper writeups of these activities resulted in an invitation to speak and show the pictures at a meeting of the Charleston and Kanawha County Women's Federated Clubs (Negro). It offered a splendid introduction of the Faith to this organization.

Charleston has instituted a weekly "BAHÁ'I INFORMATION PLEASE" Hour in a sort of game form using "True" or "False" statements prepared from material in BAHÁ'U'LLAH AND THE NEW ERA: The questions, in card form, are given by Bahá'ís in succession and voted on as to their truth or falsity by the guests, are interspersed with questions addressed to Bahá'ís by their guests as to what Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá said on various subjects: with the actual quotations, also taken from the book, to check the Bahá'ís' answers. The result is to concentrate thoughtful attention of non-Bahá'ís on each statement of the text. The method is proving so popular and successful as a means of teaching that the material is being offered to the National Study Aids Committee.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. An interesting story comes from the friends in Indianapolis: "... We had a civil engineer from northern India who attended our public meeting in the afternoon and spent a pleasant evening" with several Bahá'ís in a friend's home. He had been forced to stop off in this city because of illness, while touring in the United States with the Indian Embassy in the interest of Public Works. Two of the Bahá'ís heard of him and visited him in the hospital. They recited healing prayers for him and invited him to visit after he was better. While in the Bahá'í home he glanced through a volume of THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD and noted that of the twelve cities in his district, ten had Bahá'í communities. Before leaving, he remarked significantly that he had been brought up in a religious environment, having been a Moslem, but "While in college, got away from it..." "How strange and remarkable that I should take sick in this city and learn about religion in a new light through the Bahá'ís."

FALLSINGTON, PENNA. "More Guests Than Teacups" titled an amusing story sent in. A Regional Committee meeting was taking place recently, and the members were attending in the giving of a tea to attract new people. Before the tea, the deliberations of the Regional Committee were very discouraging because efforts for teaching had apparently been thwarted at every turn. A prayer for guidance and success for the planned tea was made at the close of the meeting and the members enjoyed a brief recess. Soon after the time set for the tea, guests began to come and now the hostess began to wonder how she was going to meet the tea cup shortage. Soon they began to come and now the committee members enjoyed a brief recess. Soon after the time set for the tea, guests began to come and now the hostess began to wonder how she was going to meet the tea cup shortage. There were 8 committee members there. Twenty-two guests in all and only 15 teacups! The problem was solved by confiscating the cups of the committee guests and not asking them if they would like a second cup! The wonderful spirit of cordiality and interest in the presentation of the Cause was beyond the fondest hopes of the Bahá'ís... The wonder of the success of this tea in such a small town (only 200 population) and the wording of the telephone invitations given by the hostess might be tried elsewhere. She said, in effect, that she was having a Committee Meeting, and was giving a tea in the afternoon so that these friends might have the opportunity "to meet some of the worthwhile people of Fallsington. We do hope you can come..." Who could resist such an invitation?

**Baha'i News** is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada as the official letter of the Bahá'í Community. The first issue appeared in December, 1954. Baha'i News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá'í News Editorial Committee: Mrs. Roberta Christian, chairman, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mr. Gordon A. Fraser, Editorial editors; Mrs. Roberta Christian, 1901 West Genessee St., Lansing, Mich. Please report changes of address to which Bahá'í News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Bahá'í National Office, 538 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

**Goal Cities**

All our teaching efforts should be concentrated on confirming new believers and establishing new assemblies to reach our goal of 175 assemblies by next April.

The National Teaching Committee is sponsoring a special campaign in the following eight cities: (The Assembly or R.T.C. responsible is given in parenthesis) Winnetka and Park Ridge, Ill., (sponsored by Wilmette Assembly); LaGrange, Ill., (Illinois R.T.C. responsible); Shorewood, Wis.; Milwaukee; Burbank, Cal., (Los Angeles); Huntington Park, Monrovia, and Inglewood, Cal., (So. Cal. and Ariz. R.T.C.).

Local Assemblies are sponsoring the following groups: San Raphael (San Francisco); Alameda (Oakland); Likely (Sacramento); Arcadia (Los Angeles); San Marino (Pasadena); Compton (Long Beach); Tucson (Phoenix); Syracuse (Binghamton); Glenview (Evanston); Phoenix and Harvey (Chicago); Quincy (Peoria); Waterloo (Cedar Rapids); Cambridge (Boston); Portland (Eliot); Jersey City (New York City); Upper Darby (Philadelphia); Toledo and Findlay (Lima); E. Cleveland and Rocky River (Cleveland); Mobile (Birmingham); Gulfport (New Orleans); San Antonio (Houston); Sorens Township (Kenosha); Duluth (Minnesota); Highland Park (Detroit); Kirkland (Seattle); and Webster Groves (St. Louis).
Regional Teaching Committees are sponsoring the following: Fresno and Palo Alto (Cal.); Monrovia Twp., Southgate, Pasadena Twp., Big Bear Lake, Santa Monica, Glendale Twp., (So. Cal. and Ariz.); Markham, Melrose Twp., (Ill. and Iowa); Palmer, Dover, Brookline (New England); Newark, Bergenfield, Englewood (New Jersey); Granger Twp., Hinkley Twp., Lakewood (Ohio and W. Penna.); Columbia (N. and S. Car.); N. Augusta (Georgia); Pinecastle, North Miami (Florida); Knoxville (Tenn.); Madison, Wis.; Parkersburg, Green Bay, Glenfield (Wisc., Minn. and Neb.); Pikeville, Johnson City, Kalamazoo (Michigan); Tulsa (Ark. and Okla.).

**Temple Visitors**

Temple Visitors of various countries, in addition to the many from the United States and Canada Dec. 30, 1946—Oct. 26, 1947: (As names of cities were not always legible the number is sometimes indicated after the country.)

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| Total Visitors from foreign countries for same period | 277 |

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**Suggested Daily Readings**

**January**

"Immerse Yourselves in the Ocean of My Words."

**Love**

**Kinds of Love**

1. Wisd. of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, p. 163-164.

**The Cause of Existence**


**God's Love For Us**

4. Arabic Hid. Words, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

**5. Arabic Hid. Words, 10, 12, 15, 18, 48, 49.**

**6. Persian Hid. Words, 4, 34, 52.**


**Fire of God’s Love**


**Our Love For God and Man**


**Love and Unity**


29. Gleanings, p. 139-140.


*If you are one who finds these suggestions helpful will you not let us know by writing to the editor of Baha’i News?*
Green Acre's First Winter Session

DATES: December 27 to January 2, 1947-48

CLASSES: Will be held at Lucas Cottage and will be Round Table Discussion Type.

Content will be planned to meet the needs of those who register for the session. Send your suggestions on your registration blank. From these suggestions, the committee will plan the material for study. This will be an opportunity for intensive study and for deepening spiritual understanding of the Faith.

Books from the Green Acre library will be available. Classes begin after lunch Sat., Dec. 27 and close late Fri. afternoon, Jan. 2.

HOUSING: Lucas Cottage and Rogers Cottage (home of Reimer's) and homes of Elliott Bahá'ís.

ROOM to be shared by two persons.

COST: $20.00 per person per week.

REGISTRATION: Cannot exceed a total of 25 persons.

Please do not expect to do laundry or pressing.

A small charge will be made for meals. However, you will want to bring warm clothing.

Please do not expect to do laundry or pressing.

A small charge will be made for transportation of Dover or Portsmouth. Try to come in groups.

Classes will be planned by Dec. 1; by Dec. 15 registered students will receive a statement of the work planned.

Registration for Green Acre School Winter Session

Saturday, Dec. 27, 1947 through Friday, Jan. 2, 1948

NAME ____________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________

I should like to share a room with ____________________________

I shall probably arrive on __________, and shall remain until __________. (Exact hour of arrival may be sent later).

The following are my suggestions as to content of courses:

I enclose $5.00 deposit, to be credited toward the $20.00 fee for the week.

Signed ____________________________

Mail to Genevieve L. Coy, 10 Patchin Place, New York City 11.

---

Directory

Additions and Changes

New Groups

Lakewood, N.Y., Mr. Herbert F. Kent, Corres.
12 Vista Way

Kansas City, Kansas

Mrs. Olivia Kelsey, Corres.
2520 W. 47th Terrace

Signal Hill Twp.

Mrs. Helen S. Becker, Corres.
6018 Autry Ave., Bellflower, Calif.

Local Spiritual Assembly Secretaries

Birmingham, Ala., Mrs. Verna Inglis, P.O. Box 1721

Louisville, Ky., Miss Gertrude Eisenberg,
2215 Bonnycastle Ave.

Omaha, Nebr., Mrs. Josephine Jones,
7714 Lake St., Zone 4

Houston, Texas, Miss Dorothea Slicht,
401 West 23rd St., Zone 8

Changes in Group Correspondents

Southgate, Calif., Mrs. Rose West, 9705 Truba St.

Ingleswood Twp., Calif., Mrs. Frank Heywood, 2618 19th St., Inglewood

Regional Teaching Committees

Appointments & withdrawals were recorded by the N.S.A. at its Nov. meeting as follows:

New York-Conn.: Mrs. Aline Cowan, Mrs. Lucien McComb, Sr. added

No. & So. Carolina: Mrs. Christine Bidwell added

Mich.: Mrs. Doris Corbin, Sec'y. 4620 Cass Ave., Suite 1, Detroit 1

Maratimes: Mrs. Doris McKay, Sec'y. 270 Richmond St., Charlottown, P. E. I.

Quebec: Mrs. May E. Day added

National Committees

Temple Program, Mrs. Nina Matthiessen, Sec'y. 77 E. Cedar, Chicago, Ill.
Dear friends:

Because our national and international Bahá'í activities have become so pressing, and the time factor has paramount importance, the N.S.A. has decided to present to the community a summary of the actions taken during the first half of the current year. The following record is based on the Minutes and does not include Committee reports which have been made available in bulletins or through Bahá'í News.

This is the second year of the second Seven Year Plan, the four objectives of which were defined at the 1948 Convention and general plans for their attainment adopted last year. The situation now is no longer discussion of aims but more and more intense effort to speed the work already outlined.

1. The members elected to the National Spiritual Assembly at the 1947 Convention were the same persons who served last year, and they organized with a continuance of the same officers. The schedule of meetings adopted called for sixteen meetings, with a total of forty-one days in session. For handling the presentation of correspondence and reports at the successive meetings the items are classified and various classifications assigned to different members. Each attends the meeting prepared with a digest of the matters requiring consultation, action or information.

2. In appointing Committees and defining their functions, effort was made to distribute the memberships more widely and to effect greater concentration upon the task of forming new Assemblies.

3. A budget of $300,000 was adopted in order to sustain and further develop the work of Temple construction, European teaching, Latin American teaching, Assembly development in North America and general advertising and publicity. (Bahá'í News, June, page 13).

4. The publication of messages from the Guardian — cables, postscripts and longer communications — has been effected with all possible speed. Shoghi Effendi's complete analysis of the activities and methods to pursue in presenting the new Seven Year Plan came in the letter published under title of "The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour", and a copy mailed to every individual believer.

Here is the list of the successive messages we have received from Haifa so far this year: Convention Message, Bahá'í News, May, page 6. Three cables as published, June, page 1; excerpts from letter expelling a Persian believer resident in New York, July, page 5; excerpts from letters written through his secretary, July, pages 6 and 7; cable, and excerpts from letters, August, page 3; text of letter written to UN Special Committee on Palestine, September, page 3; cablegram dated September 10, October, page 4.

5. The Guardian's statement on the Faith, prepared for the UN Committee, appeared in October issue of World Order, and the N.S.A. authorized a pamphlet edition through the Publishing Committee. The volume reprinting letters and cables received from 1932 to 1946, prepared last year was not received from the press until recently. A revised and simplified work on procedure, also compiled before the Convention, has now appeared under title "The Bahá'í Community", consisting for the most part of passages from the Guardian's writings. Another pamphlet authorized was the concluding passages of "Challenging Requirements" pertaining to American destiny.

6. Communications issued in mimeographed form: A two-page letter to individual believers was mailed out soon after the Convention to report the Guardian’s Convention message (Continued on page 2)

ATTENTION

Urgent message from the Guardian to all believers. Special insert this issue.

"In Recognition of Preeminent Services"

A Message from the Guardian

Highly gratified at unceasing, compelling evidences of exalted spirit of Bahá'í stewardship animating American Bahá'í Community, as attested by the alacrity of its national representatives in executing the first Temple contract, their promptitude in extending effective assistance to their Persian brethren, their vigilance in safeguarding integrity of the Faith in the City of the Covenant, and their vigor in prosecuting the national campaign of publicity. In recognition of preeminent services continually enriching the record of achievements associated with preeminent community of the Bahá'í world, I am arranging transfer of extensive, valuable property acquired in precincts of Shrines on Mount Carmel to name of Palestine Branch of American Assembly. Happy announce completion of plans and specifications for erection of arcade surrounding the Báb's Sepulchre, constituting first step in process destined to culminate in construction of the Dome anticipated by 'Abdu'l-Bahá and marking consummation of enterprise initiated by Him fifty years ago according to instructions given Him by Bahá'u'lláh.

Shoghi
Cablegram received December 15, 1947.
and outline the major plans for this year. On June 27 the "Challenging Requirements" was mailed with a covering letter in which the N.S.A. appealed to each believer to try and confirm one new soul this year. On June 30 a letter went to the Assemblies in smaller communities appealing for concentration of their full force on teaching work. A letter was sent to Assemblies in larger communities on the same day asking them to accept the challenge of bringing one group to Assembly status by April 21st. A letter also went to groups on June 30 pointing out their vital importance in the campaign. On August 28 the N.S.A. addressed all Assemblies urging prayerful consideration of the condition of the National Fund. On September 16 a bulletin on "The National Teaching Campaign" was mailed pointing in the hope of the united effort for the year, four subjects for meetings, and references to the teachings on these topics. On the same day another bulletin went to the larger communities reporting that thirty-three Assemblies had agreed to work with a group, and explaining the general method to use in this extension teaching work.

7. Turning to the successive letters prepared by the N.S.A. for publication in Bahá'í News we find exposition of these subjects: May - the great task of attaining 175 local Assemblies by April 21, 1948; June—eight principal points to note in national policy this year; July—a summary of the five aspects of teaching effort; August—references to a number of passing in the Guardian's message dated June 5; September—The "National Bahá'í Program", the term designating the coordinated teaching campaign aimed at developing new Assemblies; October—"the blessed spiritual freedom possessed by believers to serve the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.

8. The Temple construction plans have been reported in detail from month to month in Bahá'í News. The chief points are—selection of architect, steps in preparation of working drawings, and placing of first contract for work.

9. Great progress has been made in the Latin-American and European teaching fields, as reported by the Committees directing these important projects of the Seven Year Plan. In Latin America the work is being done in an increasing extent by the Assemblies now existing in all countries, and by Regional and National Teaching Committees supervised by the Inter-America Committee. In Europe the branch office of the European Teaching Committee has been well organized, Miss True, Chairman of the Committee, has made a visit to the various centers, and enrollment of new believers is proceeding very rapidly.

10. Authorization has been given the Public Relations Committee to maintain its advertising campaign in several magazines and in trade papers, and to develop its publicity and its mailings of the public teaching bulletin, as well as conduct a special campaign on the Temple interior plans. These activities have been reported from time to time.

11. The National Teaching Committee by October 30 had conducted the plans and methods for groups in the Southern California and Illinois-Wisconsin areas. This campaign represents the most determined effort yet made to organize the teaching methods needed for producing study and fireside meetings in towns having groups of five to seven or eight believers. The results have been very encouraging.

12. More frequent conferences with responsible Committees have been held, including conferences held during the interval between N.S.A. meetings. These latter conferences were for clarification of points requiring decision and for coordinating the plans and methods of the Committees participating in the National Bahá'í Program.

13. Intensive study has been made of the needs of certain national Committees for office space and working facilities in the Temple area. The caretaker's cottage at 112 Linden Avenue is to be made available for Committee officers and meetings as soon as Mr. Stewart can move his family into new quarters being provided across Linden Avenue. By Convention time, 1948, more or less permanent facilities will have been arranged for the European Teaching, Inter-America Teaching, National Teaching and Public Relations Committees and the various offices of the N.S.A. This step reflects the great increase in the work during recent years.

14. The N.S.A. has set up a number of temporary special Committees of its own body to make study and recommendations on various matters, and this system has greatly increased the Assembly's power to consult effectively and to act promptly, as preliminary work is done in between meetings.

15. The decision to the Davison School property, except for their family residence, have been transferred to Bahá'í Trustees Mr. and Mrs. Eggleston, a truly munificent endowment both of property and facilities for the conduct of one of the leading Bahá'í Schools. This transfer created a new legal body, "Eggleston Trustees for the Benefit of the National Spiritual Assembly of the U.S. and Canada" operating under the trust deed these devoted believers executed, and similar in function to the trusteeships already established for the Temple, Green Acre, and others property at Englewood, Geyer ville School, the Wilson house at Malvern, Mass., and the International School in Colorado. Preliminary steps have been taken to purchase the Eggleston residence, so that the school property and facilities may be operated as an organic unit. The believers can be exceedingly grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Eggleston for their donation.

16. In the Bahá'í Directory inserted in Bahá'í News for July, the friends noted some changes in national Committee functions, all aimed at a better coordination of activity and more concentration of resources.

17. At the Guardian's request, the following information was carried in May 22: There are 136 Assemblies, 212 groups and 906 isolated believers in Canada. Later he was informed, that there were 45 incorporated Assemblies in the United States.

18. Under date of June 4 a bulletin was issued for the permanent records of the local Assemblies on the subject of the "Reception and enrollment of Orientals."

19. Bahá'í greeting was sent to the International Esperanto Congress at Berne, Switzerland, and to the National Congress of the Esperanto Association of North America.

20. The steps to be taken for the formation of a National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Canada have been studied and outlined, and preliminary actions taken. The Province elections to be held February 1, 1948 will choose nineteen delegates to represent the believers of Canada at the First Annual Convention.

21. A statement on the Bahá'í teachings concerning the status of women.
was submitted to United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in August. The text of this statement was published in World Order Magazine for October.

22. Through the kindness of Mrs. J. C. Davenport the Assembly has received a framed picture of the Parliament of Religion held at Chicago in 1893, and a copy of the two-volume record of the proceedings of the Parliament at which the Bahá’í Faith was mentioned publicly for the first time in America. The picture has been photographed and prints sent to the Guardian.

23. On receipt of two renderings of details of the modified Temple interior design which had been prepared under Mr. Allen B. McDaniel’s supervision for publicity purposes, action was taken to have reproductions made and inserted in Bahá’í News for every believer.

24. The Bahá’í Declaration of Human Obligations and Rights submitted to United Nations in February having been ratified and endorsed by all other existing National Spiritual Assemblies, a new edition has been prepared through the Public Relations Committees with a note of such ratification. As far as is known this makes the declaration the first public international Bahá’í document. The constitution and by-laws of the National Spiritual Assembly and the by-laws of a local Assembly were the first documents of an international character to be prepared and adopted by Bahá’ís.

From the records it would appear that the first international document to emanate from the members of the Bahá’í community was the constitution and by-laws of the National Spiritual Assembly, since adopted by the other NSA’s; and the by-laws of a local Assembly have also become a world document. The Bahá’í Declaration appears to be the first international document of the community directed to a public agency.

25. The Temple Program Committee has been authorized to conduct a weekly Children’s Hour on Sunday afternoon.

26. The resolutions and suggestions made at the 1947 Convention, and a record of the NSA actions taken after consulting on them, have been published in Bahá’í News.

27. An NSA representative called at the U. S. Office of Education in Washington and reported that from information received it appears that religious holidays are determined locally, though in some states there are set regulations applying to all public schools in the state.

28. The smaller Assemblies have been advised to request aid of the Regional Teaching Committees for the further development of their teaching work.

29. The Guardian has given his consent to the use of his letter to the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine for publicity purposes, and the text of his general statement on the Faith accompanying that letter has been published in World Order. Its publication in pamphlet form was ordered.

30. An experienced believer, Mrs. Cynthia Olson, was requested to prepare a questionnaire which could be sent to every American believer in order to provide the NSA with data about the kinds of training, experience and talents and capacities available in the community.

31. The Radio Committee has been authorized to prepare a brochure for the information of Assemblies, groups and isolated believers.

32. At the urgent request of the NSA of Persia, representations have been made to the State Department and to the American Ambassador in Tihran, appealing for their assistance to protect the grave of Keith Ransom-Kehler in Isfahán, the Persian civil authorities having adopted plans for constructing a new bridge which if carried out would run a highroad directly through the site of the memorial.

33. A firm of certified accountants have examined the NSA financial records and assisted the treasurer’s office in setting up a new and better system of accounts.

34. A committee has been appointed to recommend a form of plaque to be placed in Temple Foundation commemorating the Master’s visit to the site on May 1, 1912.

35. The European Teaching Committee has taken new offices at 37 Qual Wilson, Geneva, in the Geneva International Center, considered to be an ideal location.

36. An NSA representative was appointed to supervise the enrollment of a group of American Indians who had been attracted and taught by Mrs. Stevison on their reservation near Omaha. These new friends not only signed the enrollment cards but sent a joint letter to the Guardian asserting their faith. The importance of this teaching work is made plain by the Master in the Tablets of the Divine Plan.

38. A number of statements of policy have been adopted for publication in Bahá’í News: that marriage services will not be conducted at the National Office; that in the consolidation of the Bahá’í community this year co-ordinated campaigns will be conducted, combining public meetings, circuits, fireside meetings, radio broadcasts and other teaching aids; on election of officers by local Assemblies; that a local Assembly should not incur an obligation of political activity or economic liability involved by joining community projects aiming at legislative enactments; on local Bahá’í endowments; that the NSA does not approve the holding of dinners or other entertainments for the purpose of raising funds from non-Bahá’ís; that a Bahá’í youth of less than twenty-one years of age is not qualified to serve as group correspondent (group secretary) as this is an administrative post.
Januarv, 1948


New European Believers

It is with heartfelt gratitude that the European Teaching Committee announces six more declared believers since the last issue of Baha’i News, making 33 now in all of the European goal countries. The new members of the world-wide Baha’i community are:

Copenhagen:
Miss May Marit Vestby, Mr. Palle Benemann Bischoff

Rome:
Signor and Signora Fernando Morosi, Signorina Elisabetta Cofman, Signora Marianna Del Buono-Ved- Gasterini.

Already the joy and bounty of being a part of an ever-widening Baha’i community has been experienced by one of the new Danish believers in his recent visit to Stockholm. The Correspondent of the Stockholm group reporting on their celebration of the Feast of Questions on December 12, writes: “Palle Bischoff, visitor from Copenhagen and a recent Baha’i, made the occasion a very happy one. Palle expressed his joy in becoming a Baha’i and to be able to visit Baha’is in other communities in his travels.”

This issue also announces the opening of the last of the E.T.C. goal countries. Valeria Nichols is already at this post and will be reinforced in January by Louise Baker.

The valiant pioneers are being greatly assisted by the invaluable services of Marion Little and Henry Jarvis who are serving, so effectively, as itinerant pioneers. Marion has been recently in Luxembourg, Amsterdam and Brussels while Henry has been devoting his efforts to the Scandinavian groups. However, he is, at present, visiting in Amsterdam.

The Committee is very grateful, indeed, to report the forthcoming visit to all of our pioneer posts of Dorothy Baker, who leaves by plane from New York on January 12. Public meetings, special Firesides and social occasions, as well as openings in Universities are being arranged for her by the pioneers and the Committee feels confident that the results from this strenuous undertaking by Mrs. Baker will be very rich, indeed.

Translations and publications in the nine different languages involved present one of the major tasks in the European teaching work but encouraging progress is being made in these undertakings. “Baha’u’llah and the New Era” already exists in all of the different tongues. Soon the “Will and Testament” “Dispensation,” the special introductory pamphlet and the new “Baha’i Community” will be completed in every language. In most of the Centers, selections of the Prayers and “Hidden Words” have been brought out in an attractive mimeographed form pending the printing of these in larger volumes.

Baha’i Public Relations

The Faith reaped good coverage last month on the pages of the national press. Biggest Baha’i news: To all newspapers using AP’s Wide World service went a four-picture spread on “The Temple of World Religion,” including both interior and exterior views. Already has appeared in such major papers as the Cleveland “Plain Dealer” (in Sunday rotogravure, 427,077 readers), the St. Louis “Globe-Democrat” (across top of page two, 344,914), and the Toledo “Blade” (featured in “Peach” section, popular news-photo supplement, 174,789). Other publicity developments: Release on Temple interior construction has now reached an audience across the country in more than 50 newspapers and magazines. Clippings from assembly-cities include: Chicago, Wilmette Evanston, New York City, Glendale, Calif.; Milwaukee, Wis., Alhambra and Los Angeles, Calif.; Racine, Wis.; West Chester, Pa.; Elmhurst, Ill.; Brattleboro, Vt.; Buffalo, N. Y. If your city is not listed, write PR for a discussion of your problem. Coming up: (1) A revised booklet on how to do Baha’i publicity is scheduled for a late January release. (2) New copy for national ad campaign will appear in February 17 “World Report.” Because of growing demand for local ad tie-in, mats and cards will again be made available this month at cost. Assemblies and groups will be notified. (3) Annual press book for the Guardian is now in preparation. (So that Shoghi Effendi and the NSA may have a complete story on the proclamation of the Faith, all Baha’is are requested to please send clippings and references about the Faith to PR as soon as possible after publication.) Notes of interest: From the “National Geographic” last month came an interesting reference to the Faith. Wrote Dr. Nelson Glueck, president of Cincinnati’s Hebrew Union college, “... exquisite Baha’i gardens in Haifa.” Also of note: “A World Religion?” by Dane Rudhyar in January’s “Horoscope” magazine.

At this time when the European teaching project is entering into reality a new phase, the Committee wishes to voice its very deep admiration and humble appreciation of the tireless, selfless and devoted efforts of its valiant and dedicated pioneers.
Assemblies Contributing to Fund, November 1947

Alabama—Birmingham, Alaska—Anchorage. Arizona—Phoenix. Arkansas—Little Rock. California—Alhambra; Berkeley; Beverly Hills; Burbank; Burlingame; Carmel; Clovisdale; Glendale; Inglewood; Los Angeles; Monterey; Oakland; Pasadena; Sacramento; San Francisco; San Diego; Santa Barbara; San Jose.

Canada—Edmonton; Vancouver; Winners; Moncton; Halifax; Hamilton; Toronto; St. Lambert; Scarborough; Vernon.


Georgia—Augusta; Idaho—Boise.

Illinois—Chicago; Danville; Elmhurst; Evanston; Oak Park; Peoria; Springfield; Urbana; Wilmette; Champaign; Limestone Township; Indiana—Fort Wayne; Indianapolis; South Bend; Iowa—Cedar Rapids. Kansas—Topeka. Kentucky—Louisville, Louisville—New Orleans. Maine—Elliot, Maryland—Baltimore; Massachussetts—Beverly; Boston; Springfield; Worcester.

Michigan—Ann Arbor; Detroit; Flint; Grand Rapids; Lansing; Muskegon; Roseville; Minneapolis—Duluth; Minneapolis; St. Paul; Missouri—Independence; Kansas City; St. Louis; Montana—Butte; Helena; Nebraska—Omaha; Nevada—Reno; New Hampshire—Portsmouth. New Jersey—Dumont; Montclair; Red Bank; Teaneck.

New Mexico—Albuquerque; North Albuquerque; New York—Binghamton; Buffalo; Jamestown; New York; Rochester; Yonkers. North Carolina—Greensboro. North Dakota—Fargo. Ohio—Cincinnati; Cleveland; Columbus; Dayton; Lima; Oklahoma—Oklahoma City. Oregon—Portland. Pennsylvania—Philadelphia; Pittsburgh; Scranton; West Chester.


Number of Assemblies contributing 130
Number of Individuals contributing 128
Groups contributing 69

Baha’i Addresses


Treasurer’s Office: 118 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Baha’i Publishing Committee: 118 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.


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For Economy in Distribution of Bahá’i News

Each year the local Assemblies in reporting their annual election give the number of copies of Bahá’i News needed for the community. To make for due and justifiable economy, the Assemblies are requested to make a survey and advise the NSA of the number now needed, as in many cases where there are two or more believers in a family, one copy might suffice. If the present supply is the minimum which can serve, the Assembly need submit no report. The aim should be to give thoughtful consideration to whatever economies can be effected without decreasing the capacity of the community to serve.

Moreover, the Assembly is expected to make every possible effort to distribute Bahá’i News to the entire membership and not confine distribution to those who attend the next Nineteen Day Feast. Regard the News as a link which connects the believer with the Bahá’í activities of the world community; a link which becomes all the more important when illness or other condition produces infrequent local attendance. If necessary, mail the copies. A minimum of one per family is desired.

FINANCIAL BUDGET 1947-1948

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Enrollments

Albuquerque, N.M., 1; Detroit, Mich., 1; Sioux Falls, S.D., 1; Boise, Idaho, 2; Los Angeles, Calif., 1; Spokane, Wash., 2; Kansas City, Mo., 2; New York City, 3; Rochester, N.Y., 1; Dayton, Ohio, 1; Indianapolis, Ind., 1; Wauwatosa, Wis., 2; Colorado Springs, Colo., 1; San Diego, Calif., 2; Chicago, Ill., 3; Yonkers, N.Y., 1; Lima, Ohio, 1; Washington, D.C., 1; Sierra Madre, Calif., 1; Rockville, Ind., 1; Manchester, N.H., 1; Waterloo, 1; Spokane (rural) Wash., 2; Phoenix, Ariz. (outside) 1; Green Meadows, Md., 2; Marysville, Wash., 2; Harrison, Ark., 3; Newport News, Va., 1; Brewer, Me., 3; So. Brewer, Me., 1; Beryvn, Ill., 2; St. Charles, Ill., 1; Quincy, III., 1; Kirkland, Wash., 1; Wyandotte, Mich., 1; Halifax, N.S., Can., 1; Montreal P.Q., Can., 1; Honolulu, Hawaii, 1; Total 55 and 8 youth.

Baha’i News
Representation at Public Conferences and Conventions

The National Assembly has come to realize that in certain cases it might be desirable to have Bahá'í representation at public conferences and conventions sponsored by a non-Bahá'í body which fosters principles conforming to Bahá'í teachings and has a non-political and non-radical character. Steps have therefore been taken to provide for action covering representation at such conferences in various parts of the country.

In future, when the National Assembly is informed that a non-Bahá'í conference is to be held, authority exists to request a local Assembly or some well qualified individual Bahá'í to represent the NSA by attendance and participation. This attendance and participation, however, is not to be considered as affiliation with the organization nor does it commit the Bahá'í community to any specific program or policy adopted at the conference.

The purpose of Bahá'í representation would be in part to provide an observer to report on the proceedings, to make contacts, to explain the Bahá'í teaching and attitude, to correct any erroneous and misleading references to the Faith, and to make recommendations to the NSA on future participation.

Opportunity for Education in Foreign Lands

The NSA has been informed that under the terms of the Fulbright Scholarship Act of Congress, certain funds are set aside for subsidizing American students for education in a number of countries including Italy, Netherlands, Belgium, and Denmark. Grants are made under specified conditions; for example, preference will be given to veterans of the armed forces. The first group of students may go abroad at the start of the 1948-1949 school year.

For definite information, apply to Department of State, Attention: Division of International Exchange of Persons, Washington 25, D.C. If there are American believers who can qualify, the Fulbright Scholarship Act will assist them to serve the Faith in another country under very favorable circumstances.

Pioneer

(Cont'd from last month)

"Australia. Perth, July 1924

The ocean trip from Hongkong to Melbourne, twenty-three days, not very good, was ill and the weather was very stormy . . . All troubles were left on the ship and the most wonderful welcome awaited me in Australia—can never express it. Dozens of bouquets of beautiful flowers and fruits and gifts and the Melbourne Bahá'ís entertained me as if—well as if I were like the Dunns. New souls in Perth invited me west and sent the money for my carfare! I came from Melbourne to Perth, five day railway trip as soon as I had rested two days in Melbourne and met the friends. Mr. and Mrs. Dunn are in Perth . . . Such a welcome! It is heaven. My room filled with the most exquisite bouquets, fifteen friends brought them, a bottle of perfume, an exquisite rosary necklace . . . I have the parlor in a beautiful home. Reporters came, friends came. At night Clara Dunn massaged my back and they do everything for my health. Such wonderful souls in Australia. It seems like a miracle all Mr. and Mrs. Dunn have accomplished. No need to ask what kind of teachers they are . . . one only needs to look at their confirmed radiant Bahá'í children . . . The days are filled to the brim, speaking, writing, it is one big intensive campaign just as in America . . . Isn't it heaven to be able to serve the Cause of God!

On board ship to South Africa. Nov. 1924.

One has much time to think on board this ship . . . After a cracker would stay on my stomach I bolstered up my pillows and read four books on South Africa . . . I am loaning Bahá'í books around. The Bishop and the hypnotist are such strong reincarnationists . . . I have looked over their books and I have a splendid compilation on the Bahá'í viewpoint of reincarnation, we have spent hours discussing it, it has taught me a lot. I do not believe in arguing or criticising, but it is very important for every Bahá'í teacher to know his subject WELL . . .

Sometimes I am sad that I do not pray more and study more (I get so busy), and am ashamed of the mistakes I am always making, but today I feel wonderfully happy. It is so glorious that a Manifestation has come with the WORD that is going to bring the Most Great Peace and a new divine civilization . . . I couldn't imagine a happier life than being a disciple in this Day of God . . . the confirmations pour down, the doors open and the souls of the whole world are ready!

South Africa.

I arrived in Capetown on the eighth of December and remained there in the same house with Fanny Knoblock until the tenth of January . . . I gave over thirty lectures, four were broadcast . . . There is a wonderful spirit in Capetown.

Reached Johannesburg, in the Transvaal, on the twelfth of January. This is the center of South Africa. Every door opened . . . have spoken twice a day, sometimes three times . . . The newspapers always give good write ups. Four have been broadcast. A bare recital of lectures does not give you much idea of the beautiful souls touched, but Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdùl-Bahá did everything and it was a constant astonishment to see how wonderfully it all worked out—people seemed just waiting to hear! Each day letters come from the "listeners-In" after the lecture broadcasts. One has just come now thanking me in the name of the "Voortrekkers" (farmers) of South Africa . . . The altitude in Johannesburg was so high, it was so difficult to breathe that after a lecture I used to sit for two hours, too tired to move. I thought I was passing out one night and I prayed to live till I took the Bahá'í Message to every country.

Durban. Shall I tell you the bitter with the sweet? Some one wrote an awful article against the Bahá'í Cause, just as I arrived. It came out in the leading paper. It made me sick. But I decided to ignore it, not to mention it for maybe not everybody read it. You see it really did not make any difference, for all the press are my friends and
Durban has opened every door! . . . Also a man wrote the American Consul and enclosed a letter urging me to speak in his home. I went the first evening. The man is insane. There were nine fine people in his house and the nine were much interested, so good came of it . . . I do not allow myself to be afraid of anyone.

I leave here on the sixth of February. The boat stops nineteen places. I shall reach Port Said, stop over one boat, and then go to Haifa.

**Going up the Red Sea towards Port Said. March 1925**

This wonderful and very hot voyage up the East Coast of Africa is drawing to a close. It has been possible to give the message in several cities where it has never been heard before. It has been such a great opportunity in every way. There are six hundred people on this ship now . . . Although I am in the third class, fifteen people in the first class (all important people including the wife of the chief justice of South Africa) have called on me and invited me to the first class—today five came over to hear about the Bahá’í Faith . . . It has been arranged that I am to speak tomorrow afternoon, on the deck to both the first and third class passengers — it took courage to ask the Captain to lecture to his first class people, but he was lovely and arranged it immediately . . . In Zanzibar I took the booklets to the Sultan of Zanzibar and also to Sir Aga Khan, a descendant of Mohammed . . . I have been very busy in the different ports and the days between were few. I have studied Esperanto and made considerable progress.

Ten years ago this month I moved heaven and earth and could not get from Port Said to Haifa. Now ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, my mother and father, have passed to the Kingdom of Light, and I, a pilgrim, feel I am going “home” in going there. It will be so sweet to see the Greatest Holy Leaf and the Holy Family and so glorious to confer with Shoghi Effendi. It will be joy and health and inspiration for the years still ahead.

**England. London 1926.**

It has rained every day since I came to London and always we carry the umbrella. I was amused when Claudia Coles assured me this is London’s dry season. I wonder what the other seasons can be, but I liked London immensely. When the English get these teachings they will take them to China and other lands with the same calibre, stick-to-it-iveness and efficiency with which they have taken Christianity.”

—To be Continued—

**Correction — Paris**

As many of the friends who have been Bahá’ís for some time will remember, the Paris community is believed to be the oldest Bahá’í group on the continent of Europe. It was established over fifty years ago and has functioned uninterruptedly ever since. Despite the fact that the group has lost several members through bombing, deportation, and privations the meetings were never interrupted even through the perilous days of the invasion. The Guardian has written to them praising their steadfastness.

Literature published in France on the Faith has been placed by the Paris friends in State and Municipal Libraries and in Universities. It has also been sent to hundreds of people who are considered leaders in thought and welfare.

With regard to the teaching plan which the Guardian gave them in a letter dated February 25th, the Paris friends have already succeeded in enrolling new believers in Lyons and they feel that it is probable that the Lyons assembly will be re-established there by the coming April.

In referring to the publication of French Bahá’í literature, I stated that they were beginning new publications of the Guardian’s letters. In stating this, it was not my intention to convey the idea that these were the first publications. Those of us who have seen previous publications of French Bahá’í literature have realized the efforts of the Paris friends in this regard. The pioneers who are in countries where French is spoken have been greatly indebted to the Paris friends for the tremendous strides that have been made in translation and publications of Bahá’í literature in that language.

In completing this brief survey of the work of the Paris Bahá’ís, I should like to say that many of the American Bahá’ís who have done outstanding work for the Faith in this country were confirmed in Paris.

—Mildred Mottahedeh

**Error in Bahá’í Pamphlet**

The believers are requested to note that there is a typographical error in the recently issued pamphlet “The Bahá’í Community.” A line has been omitted on page 38. Under “Election of Convention Delegates,” after “wishes to stress the” the following words should be added: “importance of reminding the believers that they should make every”.

A display of Bahá’í publications in Braille prepared by our Bahá’í Service for the Blind.
Have you decided to prepare yourself for more effective participation in the Seven Year Plan? Let the history and teachings of your own Faith be your first objective. Do you know them thoroughly? Are there blank spots in your knowledge?

Although the 10-lesson study course is only "An Introduction to the Bahá’í Teachings" (15c), the questions in this and other general courses will help you to diagnose your own knowledge, find its weak points, and to decide your first study project. Get out that old "Bahá’í Study Course" (50c) of 36 lessons and use its questions to test yourself on a more inclusive and detailed basis. Try the true-false tests and the multiple-choice tests following the "Study Outline on the Dispensation of Bahá’u’lláh." (15c). It’s fun and you needn’t divulge your "marks" to anyone. We almost invariably give "Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era," our textbook of the Faith, to any inquirer interested enough to read more than a pamphlet. But do you know all the information that is in it? Look through the "Course of Study Based on Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era" (25c) and find out. Perhaps you studied "Fundamentals of Bahá’í Membership" (20c) before coming a Bahá’í, but we do forget facts, though we may grow in understanding. This outline will test your knowledge of Bahá’í Administration as none of the above courses will.

These general outlines are designed for classes of inquirers or new believers and you may think it a waste of time to use them merely to measure your knowledge. We challenge you, however, to do as suggested without looking up many, many references to verify or add to your store of information. If you find yourself lazy about the various aspects of administration, "An Aid to the Study of the Administrative Order of the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh" (15c) draws together many sources and shows the relationship of each detail to the whole.

If history is your weak spot, "God Passes By" with its study outline (10c) is the answer. It "combines and correlates exposition of the Teachings, summary of the historical events, presentation of the Persons of the Báb, Bahá’u’lláh and 'Abdu’l-Bahá in their spiritual significance, and statements on their principle Tablets and Works."

"Essential Verities of the Bahá’í Faith" (35c) brings additional references to the Bahá’í Principles — still our most recent bridge to the public — and familiarizes us with 'Abdu’l-Bahá’s matchless technique in approaching the American public of 35 years ago.

Since world events demand increased understanding of the Guardian’s letters, "Study Outlines and Aids for World Order Letters of Shoghi Effendi" (50c) will be found especially helpful to Bahá’í students. They simplify and clarify the mass of timely information and interpretation contained in the letters as well as making suggestions for the most effective use of the outline. Another approach to the same source material is made in "The World Order of Bahá’u’lláh — A Study Outline" (10c) which follows six major themes through all of the Guardian’s letters published under this title.

The basic spiritual truths of our Faith can be mastered with the aid of study outlines for "The Dispensation of Bahá’u’lláh" (15c) and "The Kitáb-i-Iqán" (20c). The first emphasizes primarily the spiritual station of the Báb, of Bahá’u’lláh, and of 'Abdu’l-Bahá, and the authority and goal of the Bahá’í administrative order. The second reveals this preeminent book of Bahá’u’lláh as the key to progressive revelation and the study of comparative religion.

Although the general courses first referred to were intended for group study, most of the study aids can be adapted to individual, or group study, or used as classified references. They should be found in every Bahá’í library — community or personal.

Next month we will share with you some study suggestions that have been found helpful. In the meantime, let’s begin to study systematically and regularly. If you are not thoroughly acquainted with "The Advent of Divine Justice," read it over again ("Study Outline and Aids for the Advent of Divine Justice," 35c) that the vision of the world-embracing campaign in which you have enlisted may keep you steadfast in your purpose. Incidentally, it contains excellent teaching suggestions and methods.

—Study Aids Committee

Suggested Daily Readings

February

In connection with the readings outlined for February we suggest that each one read again the letter from the National Spiritual Assembly to the Bahá’í Community on page one of the November issue of Bahá’í News. The letter says in part: "The mystery which interpenetrates the institutions and organic gatherings of the Bahá’í Community is profound ... We may attain glimpses of this mystery by pondering those Tablets the Master revealed over a long period to the American Assemblies. ... Many of these Tablets were gathered together in chapter nine of Bahá’í World Faith." This is why the readings this month are taken from chapter nine of Bahá’í World Faith.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>400-401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2</td>
<td>401-402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 3</td>
<td>402-404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 4</td>
<td>404-406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 5</td>
<td>406-408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 6</td>
<td>408-409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 7</td>
<td>409-412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>412-414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 9</td>
<td>414-419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>419-423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>423-428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 12</td>
<td>429-438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 13</td>
<td>438-449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 14</td>
<td>449-454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>454-459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>459-464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 17</td>
<td>464-469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td>469-474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 19</td>
<td>474-479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>479-484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td>484-489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>489-494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>494-499</td>
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<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>499-504</td>
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<td>Feb. 25</td>
<td>504-509</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 26</td>
<td>509-514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 27</td>
<td>514-519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 28</td>
<td>519-524</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Louhelen Bahá’í Summer School Sessions

June 28 – July 9, incl.

First General Adult Session
July 11 – July 23, incl.

Second Adult Session
July 25 – July 30, incl.

Third Adult Session
Aug. 1 – Aug. 15, incl.

Junior Youth Session
Aug. 15 – Aug. 27, incl.

Young Adult Session
Aug. 28 – Sept. 4, incl.

Louhelen Homecoming
Sept. 5, 6
The Home Front

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. On Sunday evening November 9th, 1947, Mr. Lawrence Hautz of the Milwaukee Bahá'í Assembly was a guest speaker at an organization of young people at Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church in our city. This organization "The University of Life" is the oldest Interdenominational Sunday Church program in the United States. Its registration to date has reached nearly 700 members.

Mr. Hautz spoke before the class of "Why Different Religions." This group consists of a membership of eighty students ranging from 18 to 35 years of age. Each Sunday they spend becoming better acquainted with other religions and denominations. Mr. Hautz' lecture before this group was very interesting and well received by the students, as was shown by the great interest in his lecture. The fact is that they kept him so late answering their questions that the group finally had to be asked to leave the church, and it was interesting to note that they kept answering their questions all the way up the stairs and out of the church.

We feel that this lecture by Mr. Hautz before this young student group is one of the outstanding Bahá'í events which has taken place in our city in a long period of time. The interest of this group is further indicated by the fact that they have made another request for a Bahá'í speaker for their February meeting.

BREWER, MAINE. Practically isolated from Bahá'í teachers or contacts, a believer here, herself a Bahá'í only a little more than a year, has taught a class from seven to ten people a year with the resulting enrollment of four.

FLINT, MICH. The International Institute of Flint was host to twenty Bahá'í youth and friends, Dec. 7th, for a discussion on "Public Speaking Techniques" led by Paul Pettit. Sample talks were given for critical analysis. Highlight was the talk given by a colored non-Bahá'í boy on racial oneness. Plans were crystallized for the next meeting Dec. 28th during winter session at Louhelen School.

The night before, 35 young people enjoyed a fellowship evening of games, music, and dancing in a Bahá'í home. By their own inquiry, a group formed upstairs around the fireplace to learn about the Bahá'í teaching on marriage and other specific subjects. Two out of town Bahá'í girls, overnight guests of a member of the community, attracted the hostess's disinterested son so much that he inquired about local youth meetings and Louhelen Winter Session to study. News items appeared in two local papers and the adult Bahá'ís cooperated splendidly with rooms and meals.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA. Needless to say, November was a very busy month for the Anchorage Bahá'ís. In addition to the regular radio broadcasts and newspaper publicity and public meetings, the Special Anniversaries were observed as follows:

Sun., Nov. 23rd—International Bahá'í Youth Day, in the Music Room of the Anchorage Hotel. Verne Stout
showed the 35 mm. slides of the Temple and Capt. S. A. Pelle gave a short inspiring talk to the Youth.

Wed., Nov. 12th — Bahá'u'lláh's Birthday, in the Music Room of the Anchorage Hotel. Capt. S. A. Pelle talked on the Bahá'í Teachings, and Betty Becker on Bahá'u'lláh. There were 25 present and the guests included a Negro soldier and two Eskimo ladies.

Wed., Nov. 26th—Day of the Covenant, in the Music Room of the Anchorage Hotel. Evelyn Huffman was chairman for the evening, and Verne Stout spoke on the Bahá'í Faith, and Frances Wells on 'Abdu'l-Bahá's visit to the United States in 1912."

Fri., Nov. 29th—Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá was observed at 1:00 a.m. by six of the believers at the home of Robbie and Helen Robinson. A recording of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's voice was heard.

As two of the above special meetings took place on the regular Wednesday evening public meeting night, they constituted the public meetings on those dates. The other two regularly scheduled meetings were as follows:

Wed., Nov. 5th—Capt. S. A. Pelle, "Education in the New Age."


Two new study classes continued in November: Tuesday afternoon and Friday evenings. The latter will be a public speaking class as well as a study class in the Bahá'í Teachings.

The Bahá'ís were also instrumental in two recent meetings of the Friendsships Unlimited Club at the USO. Capt. Pelle showed movies on Latin America, and Capt. Fowler (non-Bahá'í) at another meeting showed colored slides of India, China, the Near East, and the Alcan Highway to Alaska.

**Calendar**

Feasts:
- Jan. 10—Sultán—Sovereignty
- Feb. 7—Mulk—Dominion

**N.S.A. Meeting:**
- Feb. 13, 14, 15.

**Bahá'í News**

Bahá'í News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada as the official news-let-ter of the Bahá'í Community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924. Bahá'í News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá'í News Editorial Committee: Mrs. Roberta Christian, chairman, Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Mr. Gordon A. Fraser, Editorial office: Mrs. Roberta Christian, 1001 West Genesee st., Lansing, Mich.

Please report changes of address to which Bahá'í News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Bahá'í National Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

**Latin America**

This month of January is of great importance to Bahá'ís of Latin America, and therefore to all of us. Two congresses followed by two international school sessions are being held, the one in Mexico City for the Caribbean area; the other in Santiago, Chile, for South American believers. Among the teachers and lecturers at Mexico City are Marzieh Gall, Marcia Steward, Sra. Natalia de Chávez, Sr. Illescas and Sr. Castro. The congresses, like our convention, furnish opportunity for discussion, suggested plans, getting acquainted and uniting the hearts. Each one closes with a public meeting.

The schools give time for intensive study and deepening in the teachings. Courses include such subjects as: Bahá'í Bridges to Catholicism, Rosacruceanism, Masonry, etc.; laboratory practice in phases of Bahá'í Administration: Prayer as a motive power. The range of subjects and careful plans for these congresses and schools as well as actual achievements makes us ask—are our Latin American friends outstripping us in North America? Wonderful news has come from Venezuela. Two goal cities seem to have their assemblies assured for this year, one in Barquisimeto and one in Maracaibo. There are also two newly organized study groups in Venezuela. Gayle Woolson writes that the receptivity of Venezuela is very great and that the intelligent people of almost any city are ready to organize study groups if they have help in doing so. The accounts of radio programs, newspaper articles with photographs, invitations to address clubs and lodges, and great confirmations of the hearts which have greeted Gayle on her two and a half months trip through Venezuela, read like a pioneer's dream of bliss, but all these are real, every one. Gayle reports that Miss Katherine Meyer of Washington, who joined her in Maracay, is "wonderful" and well adapted to carry on the work in Venezuela.

Another cause of rejoicing is the going forth on their first pioneer journey of Dr. Edris Rice-Wray of Glenview, Illinois, and Miss Margaret Swengel of Wilmette. They will sail January 9th from New York for Puerto Rico, where Edris will serve as director of the T.B. Hospital in Guayama, second largest city of the island, and Margaret hopes for an appointment at the University. Both will live for the time being in the lovely apartment of Sra. Maria Teresa Martin de Lopez, which serves as the Bahá'í center in San Juan and is within driving distance of the centers that Edris will serve.

Mrs. Amelia Pumpeley Bates reports that the Bahá'í community in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, has its own center and that an enthusiastic group is studying the Faith.

Sr. Oscar Castro of San José, Costa Rica, has joined the march of native teachers. He is helping at the Congress and School in Mexico City and will then begin a three months' project assisting in the development of the Cause in Nicaragua through direct teaching and correspondence teaching.

Sra. Natalia de Chávez of Honduras has done splendid work in

**Geyserville Summer School 1948**

**DATE:** June 20 to August 1, inclusive.

UNITY FEAST: July 4, 1948.

SESSION to be divided into three two-week periods.

**ADULT COURSES FOR FULL SESSION**

-to include:
- Study of Spiritual Teachings of Faith
- Other May Passes
- History of Islam
- Comparative Religion
- Bahá'í Way of Living
- Bahá'í Administration
- General Teaching Methods
- Inquirers Classes.

**CHILDREN'S CLASSES ONLY** for period from June 20 to July 17.

**FOR RESERVATIONS address:**
- Mr. Alfred Zahl, 826 West Grant Place, San Mateo, California.

Further detailed announcements will follow.
helping the Community of Guatemala City to grow and reorganize and to incorporate the Faith in that country. She has also established a group in the goal city in that country. In El Salvador she has helped continue the work started by Louise Caswell.

Artemus Lamb reports his first contact with the Masons. He was invited by the Masons of Osorno, Chile, to speak at their lodge dinner on the Baha’i Faith. He writes: "It was a most tremendous event, with such interest as I have never witnessed. In the concluding talk of the chairman he was so moved his hands were shaking." The Rotary Club helped in forming a group in Osorno and in Valdivia. The correspondence teaching plan is being used successfully in Chile.

In Peru, too, people are learning of the teachings through correspondence. A high school teacher has interested a group in Oxapampa, while another high school teacher writes that he is "avidly reading" all he receives about the Faith and sharing with his friends. Others in Colombia and Ecuador express eagerness to know more through correspondence and literature.

The National Teaching Committee of South America has begun its publishing functions with the printing of three pamphlets at Santiago: "The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour," the revised edition of "Will and Testament" and the guide to administration which will be published shortly. A little later "God Passes By" will be published.

Bolivia has the honor of being the third country in South America to attain incorporation of the Faith and Venezuela is the fourth. Applications are pending in Chile and Peru. Panama has the honor of being the second to attain incorporation in Central America and Guatemala the third.

In Memoriam

Mrs. Beulah Stovers Lewis, Los Angeles, Calif. 11-9-47
Mrs. Wilhelmina Norlander, Kenosha, Wis. 11-5-47
Mr. S. S. Newby, Philadelphia, 11-10-47
Mr. Clifford Thompson, Eagle River, Wis. Sept.
Mrs. Jessie Fagan, Glendale, Calif. Date not reported
Mrs. Daisy V. Roberts, Los Angeles, Calif. 11-4-47
Mrs. Ida Buchanan, Pittsburgh, Pa. Date not reported
Mrs. Alice Cooper, Jackson, Miss. 11-20-47
Mrs. Beatrice Burner, Helena, Mont. 11-24-47

New Display Kits Ready

The first Kits of display aids we have prepared for help in setting up community displays, have been sent to the Baha’i Sales Committee, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, 40, Illinois, through whom they will be sold and distributed.

These first units are packaged separately, for convenience and economy of handling, but we hope you will use both of them. They are listed as Community Kit No. 1, and Map Kit No. 1.

Community Kit No. 1 contains the following items:
- 1 folding tripod lucite easel 12½ inches high
- 1 folding tripod lucite easel 8 inches high
- 3 lucite card holders
- 3 printed cards, describing literature
- 1 small photo of sample display

Map Kit No. 1 has the following contents:
- 1 Global Map, in color, 24 inches square
- 1 Instruction sheet for mounting Map
- 1 Printed banner to use across the Map—Baha’i WORLD FAITH
- The price of these two kits, combined, is $8.50, postpaid.

These Kits are intended to furnish basic display fixtures for arranging small window, counter and table displays. Additional "props," as you will see by the picture enclosed with the Kit, are books or pamphlets either available among the believers in a community or can be bought from the Baha’i Publishing Committee, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois. The Braille literature may be purchased from Mrs. Amedee Gibson, Baha’i Service for the Blind, 616 North Oxford Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif.

Although the picture necessarily includes the use of books relating to the types of Baha’i literature described on the printed cards, it is not suggested that all these items be used in one display.

A variety of attractive small displays may be set up using different arrangements of books, pamphlets, and literature texts, you may work out locally.

A series of small displays, appearing frequently, are successful promotional aids. They may be planned around one theme or topic, and tied in, by choice of literature and placards, to whatever local press publicity is also being carried out.

We shall welcome your suggestions regarding additional items for later Kits. Please send photographs of displays using these Kit materials, which may be shared with other communities, to the Visual Education Committee, Mrs. Marion Longyear, Sec., 456 Bedford Drive, Beverly Hills, Calif.
January, 1948

World Order—January, 1948

Table of Contents

Baha'u'llah’s Message and the Germans
Karl Schueck

Knowledge, Poem
Martha Boutwell Garvin

The Sun Illumines
‘Abdu’l-Baha

Panama, Crossroads of Destiny
Duart Vincent Brown

What is the Baha’i Faith?
W. M. Firooz

The Development of a World Society
Fannie Junius

Spirit of Faith
Floyd H. Munson

104 Anno Domini and 104 Baha’i Era, Editorial

Mabel R. Faine

The Fragrance of Letters
(Concluded)
Ruhlyyih Khanum

Highlights of the Newer Testament
A Compilation from the Baha’i Writings
Marion C. Lippitt

With Our Readers

What is the Baha’i Faith?—Trade Is One Thing—
By Harold Gall.

Directory

Additions and Changes

Local Spiritual Assembly Secretaries
Anchorage, Alaska
Mrs. Frances Wells, Box 45

Augusta, Ga.
Mrs. Wm. H. Richrds, 29 Broad St.
(This is Miss Betty Shook who was married at Christmas time)
Westchester, Pa.
Mrs. Marian R. Lee, 312 W. Miner St.

New Groups
District No. 9, Baltimore County
Mr. Fred Sudhop, Corres.

Sierra Madre, Calif.
Mrs. Hazel Pennington, Corres.

New Correspondents
Santa Monica, Calif.
Mrs. Mary Loper, 1303 Third St.

Cambridge, Mass.
Mr. Firuz Kazemzade, 1 Exeter Park

Groups Dissolved
Napa, Calif.

Baha’i Sales
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Niss—added

Youth Activity
Mr. Robert Lewis—added

Dr. Edris Rice-Wray—unable to serve

Robert Imagire, left, pioneer to Japan, met Naoki Yoshino, Tokyo’s only Baha’i youth at a Baha’i meeting on Sept. 28th. In the picture with Robert is Mr. Inoye, native Japanese believer.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Col.</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addresses</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directory</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education in Foreign Lands</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European News</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulbright Scholarship</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where We Are</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies Contributing</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geyserville, 1948</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian Publishing Announcement</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Recognition of Services”</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URGENT MESSAGE</td>
<td>Insert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Front</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louhelen, 1946</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“May-October, 1947”, NSA Summary</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memoriam</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly Distribution of BAHAI NEWS</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representative at Conferences, etc.</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement of Inactive Members</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary: May-October, 1947</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamphlet, error</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paris Correction</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictures</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker, Dorothy</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Braille Publications</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asheville, N. C.</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden, Pioneers</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Education Kit</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan—Robert Imagire</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pioneer, Martha Root</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing Announcement</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Aids Committee</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggested Daily Readings</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“We Do Forget Facts...”</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Order Contents</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Youth Day</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"Deeply Concerned at Critical Stage of Task"

The Guardian's Last Minute Appeal

I am deeply concerned at critical stage of task confronting North American Teaching Committee, constituting at this juncture the paramount objective of present Plan. Owing to urgent, overriding importance of Committee's responsibility and to swiftly approaching time limit fixed for attainment of the goal of one hundred seventy-five Assemblies, emergency measures carefully, promptly devised by national representatives of the community and wholeheartedly supported by entire mass of the believers of the North American continent, designed to safeguard the existing Assemblies and rapidly multiply their number, are imperative. The placing of further contract for Temple, the reinforcement of basis of forthcoming Canadian National Spiritual Assembly, the additional consolidation of the institutions of the Faith in Latin America, the wider proclamation of its message to the masses, even the multiplication of pioneers in the European field, should be unhesitatingly subordinated to demands of the one disconcerting aspect of an otherwise successfully conducted Plan. I address this last minute appeal to every single member of the community, the champion warriors in the army of Bahá'u'lláh, which since launching the Plan formulated by the Center of His Covenant never succumbed to defeat nor was thwarted in its purpose, to arise resolutely, volunteer instantly to fill the gap in the main defenses of the home front and register total victory ere the termination of the second year of the Second Seven Year Plan. Fervently praying instantaneous, decisive response.

Cablegram received January 10, 1948.

(signed) SHOGHI

The Gap in the Main Defenses

Beloved friends:

The Guardian's unprecedented appeal is in your hands. Let it enter your mind and heart, for issues greater than we can comprehend have impelled the Guardian to direct it to us. How are we as individual Bahá'ís to "arise resolutely" and "volunteer instantly to fill the gap in the main defenses"?

Here are the definite ways in which we can respond, and it is a matter of individual conscience and individual devotion which way is chosen.

1. Increase our personal contribution to the National Fund in January, February, March and April.

2. Volunteer for full time or part time teaching work under the direction of the National Teaching Committee. There is urgent need of more teachers who can go to a selected city and work there during a campaign period, or go there on briefer projects, or make regular weekly or monthly weekend visits. If this is your way to respond—report immediately to Mrs. Margery McCormick, Secretary of NTC, 924 Judson Ave., Evanston, Ill.; or to Mrs. Laura Davis, Secretary of Canadian NTC, 44 Chestnut Park Road, Toronto, Ont. (See list of cities on other side). In reporting, explain exactly what you are in a position to do both as regards time, distance you can go, what part of the expense you can meet, and your experience in fireside teaching and public talks.

3. Volunteer to go to some goal city and settle there long enough to assure retention of Assembly status. The formation of a new Assembly on April 21 is not actually consummated unless the community has nine or more members assured thereafter. The same applies in reinforcing a small community whose numbers have become depleted through moving away, death, etc. Here too it is essential for the Teaching Committees to know whether you can be self-sustaining or can settle if temporary financial help is given. Report at once to the U.S. or Canadian Teaching Committee, at address given above. (See list of cities on other side).

4. There are weighty responsibilities also in relation to the groups and small communities needing emergency help. Every type of teaching campaign, large or small, must rest upon the firm basis of unity and cooperation among the friends. New friends are attracted and held only as they encounter evidences of the Spirit. Consultation, not personality, is to adopt teaching plans and select the local teacher best fitted for the work. Wholehearted cooperation can alone assure success for the work, whether the teacher is local or one sent by the NTC.
5. There should be a weekly study class in every community and group, large or small. Continuous discussion of the teachings can make every believer an effective teacher for one kind of work or another. We have a twofold obligation to study: to become a better Bahá’í; to become an instrument for the spread of the Faith of Bahá’u'lláh.

6. All Assemblies and more than fifty groups in the U. S. and Canada have already received the Guardian’s cable and this NSA message in mimeographed form. Emergency conferences, immediate and frequent, should gather the friends together for facing the challenge and finding the way to meet it.

**List of Cities**

Here are the depleted Assemblies needing help to maintain their status beyond April 21, and the groups where Assemblies are to be formed. The number after each Assembly shows how many new believers must be enrolled or settlers transferred; after each group the number shows how many are there now.

United States—(Assemblies) Louisville, Ky., 3; Elmhurst, Ill., 3; Charleston, W. Va., 4; Duluth, Minn., 4; Pittsburgh, Pa., 4; Brattleboro, Vt., 2; Augusta, Ga., 1; South Bend, Ind., 4; Lansing, Mich., 1; Alexandria, Va., 1; Independence, Mo., 1; Red Bank, Dumont and Montclair, N. J., 2 each. (Groups) Calif., Knightsen, 5; Arcadia, 7; Bear Valley Township, 5; El Monte, 8; Elsinore Township, 2; Southgate, 8; El Monte, 10; Monrovia Township, 6; Pasadena Township, 5; San Marino, 6; Glendale Township, 6; Huntington Park, 5; Ariz., Tucson Township, 5; Conn., Greenwich, 5; Hartford, 6; West Haven, 7; Ill., Markham, 3; Phoenix, 5; LaGrange Park, 4; Park Ridge, 8; Meadrow Township, 4; Winnetka, 8; Iowa, Waterloo, 4; Maine, Brewer, 5; Portland, 6; Mass., Brookline, 11; North Dak., Glenfield, 7; Mich., Dearborn Township, 5; Davison, 8; Grosse Pointe Farms, 5; Kalamazoo, 5; Marysville, 5; Niles Township, 3; Ohio, Mansfield, 5; Toledo, 15; New Jersey, Bergenfield, 6; Jersey City, 8; Newark, 5; Englewood, 11; N. Y., Hamburg, 4; Penn Yan, 6; Geneva, 10; Seneca Township, 5; Syracuse, 6; Waterloo, 4; S. C., Columbia, 9; Tenn., Knoxville, 7; Texas, Dallas, 6; San Antonio, 7; Wisc., Green Bay, 5; Somers Township, 6; Whitefish Bay, 6; Wash., Bremerton, 6; Kirkland, 6.

Canada—Charlottetown, P. E. I., 8; Moncton, N. B., 1; Ottawa, Ont., 4; Scarborough, Ont., 1; North York, Ont., 6; St. Boniface, Man., 5; Vernon, B. C., 2; West Vancouver, B. C., 1; Victoria, B. C., 3. Total number needed: 31.

“Fervently praying instantaneous, decisive response,” the Guardian’s cable concludes. What will the National Assembly be able to tell him has been the response?

**National Spiritual Assembly**
Cablegram from Guardian
Received Feb. 1, 1948

The gravity of the emergency facing the North American believers is unprecedented since the initiation of the Divine Plan and unparalleled in the history of the American Bahá'í community since 'Abdu'l-Bahá's passing. No obstacle is insuperable, no sacrifice too great for attainment of supremely important objective. The eyes of her sister communities in every continent of the globe and of her daughter communities of Latin America, handicapped by a variety of adverse circumstances, are fixed upon the community of followers of Bahá'u'lláh in North American continent who are enjoying the blessings of internal peace, adequate resources, administrative experience and organizing ability for their Divinely-appointed mission, expecting them to arise and avert the reverse which would mar the splendor of their record of unexampled stewardship. I am moved to plead, at this eleventh hour, that the rank and file of the community, particularly the members resident in long-established leading strongholds of the Faith—New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington—issue forth unhesitatingly, determinedly, sacrifice every interest, assume positions in the forefront of the struggle and emulate in the course of the first decade of second Bahá'í Century, opening years of the second epoch of Formative Age of the Faith, exploits of their spiritual progenitors the dawn-breakers of the Heroic Age which immortalized the dawn of the first Bahá'í Century. The immediate fortunes of the Plan are precariously hanging in the balance. The three month's interval is swiftly running out. My heart aches at contemplation of the possibility of failure of the stalwart community to rise to the heights of the occasion. I refuse to believe that its members, invested with unique Apostolic Mission of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, will shrink from meeting the most challenging requirement of the present hour.

Shoghi
Arise Resolutely, Volunteer Instantly

Beloved friends:

Through many channels the Guardian’s cablegram of January 10 has been conveyed to your mind and heart—by the letter sent to Assemblies and Regional Committees January 12, by the insert added to the January Bahá’í News, by the consultation conducted at the State and Provincial Conventions on February 1, and perhaps also by special meetings of your local community or group.

The message has been delivered to the front door of your conscious spirit. Now it remains for you to determine whether the door has been opened from within and the message received and accepted as an ambas­sador sent you from the Head of the Bahá’í World Faith.

What does the Guardian’s ambassador say? That there is a critical stage in our teaching task; that emergency measures must be promptly and vigorously undertaken; that these must be supported by the entire mass of the believers, to safeguard the existing Assemblies and rapidly multiply their number; that further extension of other tasks must be subordinated; that Shoghi Effendi addresses you a last-minute appeal to arise resolutely and volunteer instantly to fill the gap.

If we make no response it means that we have barred the door and denied entrance to this messenger from the Holy Land. For if the messenger is admitted into the home we find that he brings in one hand a tremendous obligation but in the other hand a supreme blessing. This is a mystery of the spiritual life, but it must be experienced each for himself; that the thing to do and the power to do it are the two aspects of divine command. Crisis does not mean defeat but new growth. We are challenged to seize this precious opportunity to live more deeply in the realm of victory.

Can we realize the mandate given America to spread the Faith internationally and not see that the American community must be continually enlarged.

“So precious an opportunity, so rare a conjunction of favorable circumstances,” the Guardian cried out to us nearly ten years ago in The Advent of Divine Justice, “may never again recur. Now is the time, the appointed time, for the American believers, the vanguard of the hosts of the Most Great Name, to proclaim . . . their capacity and readiness to rescue a fallen and sorely tried generation . . .”

“Those who participate” he continued, “must know the history and teachings of the Faith, study its literature, assimilate its laws and principles, ponder its admonitions, tenets and purposes, commit to memory certain exhortations and prayers, know the essentials of administration, and keep up with its current affairs and developments.

In order to serve now on the deeper levels, each believer is asked to regard the period of the Fast, March 2 to March 20, as a blessed privilege for study as well as prayer. Set aside some one book for daily reading and meditation, whether the Gleanings, Divine Art of Living, Foundations of World Unity, or Dispensation. Devote a certain time day after day until the coals are fanned into intense flame.

In the realm of immediate action, the teaching needs are summarized as follows:

1. The goal to attain by April 21, 1948 is 175 local Assemblies in the United States and Canada.
2. That means 32 more Assemblies than were elected last year.
3. But of the 143 Assemblies elected last year at least 16 need settlers or new believers before April 21 or they will revert to group status.
4. There are thus 48 different cities calling for settlers and intensive teaching work. About 150 settlers, less the number of new believers enrolled before April 21, must be placed.
5. If you can move and settle in one of the 48 cities, notify the National Teaching Committee, or notify the Committee of your readiness to go out as a teacher for weekends, for circuits, or for periods up to two and three months.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Prayer for Building the Temple

“O Lord, make these holy souls who have arisen to build this Temple the dawning points of light and the manifestors of Thy signs. Make each a leading cornerstone in this great edifice, a pillar of its pillars, for Thou art the Helper, the Supporter, the Rewarder! These souls have arisen to serve Thee well, and have begun their servitude. Confirm, aid and encourage each by the promise of Thy divine favors and make them of the elect. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful, the Able, the Giver, the Shining, the Hearer and the Seer!”

“O God! O God! I implore Thee with throbbing heart and streaming tears, to aid each one who endeavors for the erection of the House of the Lord, the building wherein Thy Name is mentioned every morn and eve. Send down Thy benediction on whomsoever endeavors for the up­rising of this Edifice among the sects and religions, and confirm him in every good deed of mankind; open the doors of riches and wealth unto him and make him an inheritor of the treasures of the kingdom which perisheth not; make him the sign of giving among the peoples and re­inforce him by the sea of Thy generosity and bounty, which is surging with the waves of grace and favor. Verily, Thou art the Generous, the Merciful and the Bountiful!”

Star of the West, Vol. V, p. 68.

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes to publish this prayer revealed by the Master and commend its use by the friends. The Temple Prayer carries a two-fold blessing: first, in invoking divine assistance for the completion of the Sacred Edifice; and, second, in its assurance of blessings for those who assist in this work.

Extension Teaching Reports

Action has been taken by the NSA to feature the subject of extension teaching by local Assemblies in the Annual Report prepared by the NSA. Each Assembly carrying on teaching work to develop a group to Assembly status is urged to see that a comprehensive report covering this work is sent to the National Office by April 1, or that regular progress reports are submitted up to that date.

Extension Teaching

Literature for the Blind

The Committee on Bahá’í Service for the Blind announces the completion of a new braille pamphlet.

FAITH FOR FREEDOM is now available in braille grade 2. One hundred (100) copies have been completed. Copies of FAITH FOR FREEDOM may be purchased in braille for $1.25 a copy.
Bahá’í News

Annual Conventions

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The first Annual Convention of the Bahá’ís of Canada will be held in Montreal on April 24 and 25.

For hotel or room accommodations, write the Chairman of the Housing Committee, Mrs. Adline Lohse, 3360 Ridgewood Ave., Apt. 17, Montreal, P.Q., Canada.

The Annual Convention of the Bahá’ís of the United States will be held in Temple Foundation Hall, Wilmette, April 29 and 30, May 1 and 2, 1948.

For hotel or room accommodations, write Mrs. Mineola Hannen, 1416 Lee Street, Evanston, Ill.

The Canadian Convention Committee need advance notice of how many expect to attend the Convention. Canadian believers therefore should apply for accommodations as soon as possible, and if reservations are not needed, let the Montreal Assembly know that you expect to attend.

Reservations for the United States Convention should also be made as soon as possible.

Bahá’í Addresses


Treasurer’s Office: 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.

Bahá’í Publishing Committee: 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois.


Baha’í Sales Committee

Pictures of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Steel engraving—12x16, postpaid in U.S. $2.00

Paris photograph—1½x2—10c; 3½x4½—15c; 4½x6—25c

Covenant photograph—5x7—25c

Tablet photograph—4½x6½—25c

Photographs of Bahá’í House of Worship

Postcard size—Six different views 3 for 10c, no mail order for less than 50c

Seven different views—8x10—40c each

Two views of interior—50c each

Temple Displays

Reproduction of painting of Temple on linen—30x30—$5.00 postpaid in U.S.

Etching of pen and ink drawing—10x10—25c postpaid in U.S.

Audio Material

Centenary Records—6-12 in. double-face records

Visual Material

16 mm. color films of the Centenary consisting of two 400 ft. reels Cost $80.00 to $100.00

16 mm. black and white films of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in New York—300 feet. Cost $12.80 to $15.00

2x2 in. slides—24 slides each, color slides of the shrines and gardens, Halfa and ‘Akka. $6.00 postpaid in U.S.

Ring Stones

Stones come in ovals, oblongs, squares and round and are of different colors. Diagrams of shapes, sizes and colors will be supplied on request. Prices range from $4.00 up.

Harry E. Walrath

4639 Beacon Street

Chicago, Illinois

Identification of Bahá’í Group Photographs

The National Spiritual Assembly is informed that photographs of American Bahá’í communities, groups, School sessions, etc., as published in Bahá’í News from time to time, are not accepted as Bahá’í photographs by Oriental non-Bahá’ís to whom the pictures are shown if they have no evidence of Bahá’í identification.

Therefore the friends are requested to make clear the Bahá’í nature of group photographs by including a picture of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, the Temple or a symbol of the Greatest Name.

Dr. Edris Rice-Wray sailed Jan. 9, 1948 to Puerto Rico.

Publishing Announcements

This Earth One Country by Emeric Sala. This book which is such a good introduction to the Faith, especially for those deeply interested in the development of social justice and world order, is now available at a reduced price of $2.00 per copy. 186 pages bound in cloth.

The Bab’s Address to the Letters of the Living. This little pamphlet reproduced from hand letter copy of pages 92-94 of The Dawn-Breakers, is an ideal gift and especially for Naw-Rúz, price 10c but should be ordered in lots of five.

Chicago Sunday Tribune reprint article and illustrations of the Bahá’í House of Worship as flood-lighted during the Centenary celebrations published June 17, 1945. This is really an important pamphlet and should be used extensively for Public Meetings or publicity work of any kind. 20 copies $1.00.

Suggested Daily Readings for March

“Immerse Yourselves in the Ocean of God’s Word…”

Prayer, Fasting and Spiritual Growth

1. P&M. 65; B.W.F. 368

2. GL 336-338

3. P&M. 79-86

4. GL 299-302

5. P&M. 143-146

6. GL 264-270

7. P&M. 288-293

8. GL 279-285

9. GL 316-317

10. GL 294-301

11. GL 294-297

12. GL 143-144

13. GL 288-293

14. GL 279-285

15. GL 302-305

16. GL 312-314

17. GL 319-322

18. GL 177-179

19. P&M. 67-69

20. GL 315-317

21. GL 143-144

22. B.W.F. 368-369

23. B.W.F. 369-370

24. B.W.F. 370-371

25. B.W.F. 190-194

26. B.W.F. 139-140

(Ninth Glad Tidings.)

27. GL 270-272

28. GL 272-275

29. GL 43-44

30. GL 43-46

Study With A Purpose

"You must come into the knowledge of the divine manifestations and their teachings through proofs and evidences. You must unfold the mysteries of the supreme kingdom and become capable of discovering the inner realities of things. Then shall you be the manifestations of the mercy of God, and true believers, firm and steadfast in the Cause of God."—Abdu'l-Bahá.

Every Bahá’í has a sincere desire to know and understand the literature of our Faith, but few of us make study of it a regular habit, either because we do not feel that we are of the student type or because we do not know where to begin in the wealth of material available to us.

The following are a few suggestions that will be helpful in acquiring study habits.

1. Read and study with a purpose. Every Bahá’í devotes some time each day to the reading of the Holy Utterances. But instead of desultory readings, or in addition to it, select some aspect of the Faith or some subject about which you would like to be well informed. Reference to the article of the Study Aids Committee in January Bahá’í News will help you to choose an outline that may suit your immediate purpose.

In your reading at other times on other subjects you will frequently come across references that can be incorporated in the outline. Make a note of them for use when you come to that topic in the outline you have chosen.

Another method is to select a subject of special interest—the immortality of the soul, evolution, prayer, education, universal peace, or any subject which you have always wanted to study thoroughly. Look up all the references you can find in the various study outlines, in Bahá’í World Faith and the other Writings, in Bahá’í World and Bahá’í World Order Magazine. List them for your future use and if possible prepare a compilation of the most significant passages.

2. Concentrate on your chosen subject. Do not be tempted to pursue another subject that may attract your attention while you are looking up references. There is nothing wrong about this, of course, but if you want to study effectively you must confine the selection of your material to that which is useful to the subject on which you are working at the moment. Notes can be made of these interesting references or ideas for use and study at some other time. They may even suggest your next subject for intensive study.

Do not worry if you have trouble in concentrating. Everyone has this problem. The human mind is seldom capable of focusing on a given idea for more than a few seconds at a time, and so it becomes necessary to bring it back repeatedly to the central idea or theme. The more interesting the subject chosen, the easier it will be to concentrate on it. Therefore, until good habits of study have been developed, it is well to avoid subjects that are involved or too abstruse and to work on a few that are well defined. Here again the study outlines will help.

3. Other minor factors conducive to concentration are: a regular study period, daily if at all possible, with a minimum of external distraction; a satisfactory degree of physical comfort; having at hand before you begin all the books and other materials you will need so that your study period will not be interrupted by looking for another book or a pencil. Apply the methods you have found most effective in concentrating on other types of work or study. Bend all your efforts on increasing your own knowledge and disregard the other things for the time being. The idea of teaching lest your mind become concerned about the teaching problems involved.

4. Persevere. Remember that learning progresses, not steadily, but by degrees. You will find that you will progress quite easily to a certain point and then you will meet with difficulty and your interest will wane. But if you will persevere your understanding will suddenly clear and you will enjoy a sense of exhilaration and achievement.

5. Do not worry about what you consider a poor memory. It is only the habit of "remembering" that has not become well-established. Instead, strive to become thoroughly steeped in the subject and you will soon find yourself remembering exact words, phrases and sentences from the Writings which you will use in your discussions with other people.

6. Make constant use of your notebook. Often when you are traveling on a bus or street car, when you are eating alone, or when you are at work, etc., you may come across interesting references or ideas. You should jot them down at once and incorporate them in your study.

7. Write yourself a letter. This is a good way to test your understanding of the subject you are studying. Pretend that a non-Bahá’í friend has asked you a question related to your subject. Write the answer as you would give it in a letter. Put it away and read it a few days later to see whether you have anything to add or whether there are some points that should be clarified. This and other types of writing help to make the knowledge your own.

Follow some such plan as this consistently for a month or two and you will find that you have acquired a "certainty of knowledge" that is stimulating and gratifying.

"Praise be to God. You have heard the call of the kingdom. Day and night you must strive that you may attain to the significances of the heavenly kingdom, perceive the signs of divinity, acquire certainty of knowledge and realize that this world has a creator, a vivifier, a provider, and architect..."—Abdu'l-Bahá.

STUDY AIDS COMMITTEE

Bahá’í Vocational Survey

In order to compile the many different types of talent, training and experience possessed by members of the American Bahá’í community, the NSA has mailed a special survey form or questionnaire to every individual believer.

The friends are requested to take immediate action in filling the form out as fully as the facts indicate in each case and return it to the National Office.

The larger local communities might have need for similar data, and the local Assembly can use this form if it wishes as a basis for producing a local survey.

The data received will be compiled and indexed for reference. The aim is to provide the NSA with knowledge of the different types of capacity needed for service on national committees.
Decisions Must Be Made

It was at Green Acre during a session of the National Spiritual Assembly and one of the believers had just come back from Europe. She told us of the friends in several of the goal countries, of their sacrifices, their frugal meals and of their stunting to make ends meet; of their victories already won and of the problems ahead in each country. Then she spoke of Germany and of Austria, of difficulties among the friends, of the loss of lives of the believers, particularly in Austria, and of the handful left.

Suddenly I was struck with the tremendous weight the Guardian must be carrying and I felt that I had never had a problem, no, not in relation to his, for his problem is the whole world.

As we travel forward under the impetus of his, our Guardian's encouragement, I wonder if we stop for a split second to ponder how much of the weight we lift from his shoulders each day.

We know almost his only happiness lies in our victories for the Faith. We also know how he follows us all along the path of achievement and how at every step he encourages us and makes the impossible seem within grasp.

There in Haifa he toils from seven in the morning until two hours after midnight; he, who in the sight of God is the most precious being on earth, he who is the center of His Cause today, the one toward whom the Master said we should all turn.

Have we individually and collectively, as believers in this great Faith, done our share? Have we shouldered our portion of the weight which must rest so heavily on his precious shoulders? Have we guarded and protected our Guardian, this precious trust given to us, that "no dust of despondency shall mar his radiant nature"?

We have as believers just one life to live. All that pertains to life, our success, our contacts, our trips, our travels, should be to one end—service to His Faith. For this is all that is real, all we leave behind.

We are at the crossroads today—decisions must be made and made promptly. Budgets will have to be supported and teaching plans carried forward or we shall be forced to retrench.

Your support is the answer to these decisions. Eight months of this Baha'i year (Dec. 31, 1947) has brought into the Fund $146,818.55; $53,181.45 short of our goal. Contributions from January 1 to 17 have been $7,247.34.

Faithfully,

Philip G. Sesma, Treasurer

"The Life-Blood of These Nascent Institutions"

As the activities of the American Baha'i community expand, and its worldwide prestige correspondingly increases, the institution of the National Fund, the bedrock on which all other institutions must necessarily rest and be established, acquires added importance, and should be increasingly supported by the entire body of the believers, both in their individual capacities, and through their collective efforts, whether organized as groups or as local Assemblies. The supply of funds, in support of the National Treasury, constitutes, at the present time, the life-blood of these nascent institutions you are laboring to erect. Its importance cannot, surely, be overestimated. Untold blessings shall no doubt crown every effort directed to that end.

Shoghi Effendi
"First declared believer Luxembourg. Letter following." (Signed) Luxembourg Group.

The above cable, received December 21, 1947, brought the heart-warming news of another historical "first," this time, in Luxembourg where the valiant pioneers have been working with unusual consecration, unity and harmony. Miss Suzette Hipp is the new member and the group Correspondent wrote of her: "She is strong in her faith, steadfast and selfless." On the day Suzette declared her Faith, another of those who have been attending the study classes remarked to her: "You don't look the same anymore." This is typical of the beautiful testimonies the European Teaching Committee are constantly receiving, of the immediate and inspiring effect which the Teachings are having upon those who accept the Bahá'í Faith. The foundation of Bahá'u'lláh's Cause is, indeed, being laid on "an unassailable basis."

World has just been received of the declaration of Inga Ester Margareta Hokinson in Stockholm. We particularly rejoice over this new Bahá'í as she is the wife of Sigvard Hokinson, the second Bahá'í to declare himself in the Stockholm group, who first heard of the Faith from Martha Root in 1934.

The Committee also rejoices to report the third declared Bahá'í in Copenhagen — Gerhard Harry Andersen, a young medical student of 23 who, at his own request, has been attending study classes at least three times a week for the past two months.

Louise Baker, the latest pioneer, sailed on the Holland-America Liner "Nieuw Amsterdam," Tuesday, January 13 and plans to be at her post with Valeria Nichols about January 22. The last itinerant teacher to leave is Dorothy Baker who embarked on her historic journey by plane from New York, Monday, January 12. Mrs Baker will visit all of the goal countries and the pioneers are busy making plans for Public Meetings, informal Teas and Firesides and for Radio and Press publicity. Marion Little arrived in Rome on December 31 and Henry Jarvis returned to Stockholm at the Committee's request. Once again John Carré is back in Amsterdam and will now divide his time between Belgium and Holland.

Madeline Humbert, who has just completed about a year's service in the European teaching field, sailed for home on December 21, 1947. The European Teaching Committee wishes to record its heartfelt gratitude and appreciation of Madeleine's historic services as the First pioneer to Belgium. The Committee also regrets to report the return of Eduardo Gonzales from the European Teaching field. Eduardo intends to continue his pioneer services in Venezuela.

International Relief

The National Spiritual Assembly has worked out a plan whereby the friends can fulfill their desire to help the Bahá'ís in the needy countries of Europe, including Great Britain, within the limits of the Guardian's instructions. The primary objective of all Bahá'ís is teaching, and one cannot do a great deal of active teaching work when physically exhausted through lack of food or lack of warm clothing and shoes. The objective of our International Relief, therefore, is to help Bahá'ís during the present post-war emergency, in order that they may pursue their active teaching of the Faith. This objective is accomplished through two channels: (1) The sending of packages of food and clothing by individual Bahá'ís, Assemblies or groups and (2) the sending of CARE packages. Except as individual orders may be placed with CARE, the ordering of these packages is done by the National Spiritual Assembly at the explicit direction of the Guardian, who notifies our NSA when to do so and to what extent funds are being transferred for this purpose from the International Fund.

The sending of packages by individual Bahá'ís, Assemblies or Bahá'í groups is our means of expressing loving encouragement directly to our fellow Bahá'ís who are present and living under difficult circumstances. In order that there may be fair distribution of these packages, the following plan has been approved by the National Spiritual Assembly. When any of the friends or an Assembly or Bahá'í group wishes to send clothing or food to Bahá'ís abroad, please follow these steps:

1. Write to the International Relief Representative (a postal 'card will do) and state: (a) number of packages you wish to send, (b) nature of contents, whether children's clothing (approximate age of child), man's or woman's clothing, shoes, food, or both food and clothing, and (c) the choice of country if you have a preference. The National Spiritual Assembly's International Relief Representative is Mrs. Beatrice Ashton, Box 302, Winnetka, Illinois.

2. Prepare your package and hold it until you receive promptly from the International Relief Representative a correct address (or addresses) for your package (or packages).
With this information will come to you a postal for reply.

3. Mail this reply postal for return to the International Relief Representative when you mail your package to the address sent you, writing on the postal (a) name of person to whom your package is addressed (or persons if more than one package), (b) name of sender (individual, Assembly or group) and (c) date of mailing package.

4. Mail a note to the person or persons to whom your package is addressed, stating that you have that day sent a Baha'i gift parcel.

Instructions and customs tags for mailing packages may be obtained at your local Post Office. All packages should be securely tied and clearly addressed, and marked “Unsolicited Gift Parcel.” Strong, corrugated cartons should be used and the contents (no breakables, no cigarettes) should be solidly packed. As soon as possible the National Spiritual Assembly will issue a Bulletin on International Relief, giving lists of Baha'i addresses and general packaging and mailing instructions.

The National Spiritual Assembly approves the appointment of relief committees by the Local Spiritual Assembly to collect food and clothing and prepare the packages properly for mailing. Only used clothing that is clean and wearable should be sent. Duty is charged the person receiving a package, on any new garments in the package, declared or undclared. The needy countries are particularly Germany, Austria, France and Great Britain.

The friends are reminded of the Guardian’s instructions (Bahá’í News, Dec. 1947, p. 2, col. 3) that we are not to send relief to contacts, “as this would seem in the nature of either a reward or an enticement for those attracted to the Faith,” but that relief may be sent to a pioneer who is in need, for personal use.

Our National Spiritual Assembly has shipped 25 sacks of flour (100 lbs. each) to the NSA of England and the NSA of Germany and Austria.

A list of Baha’i children in the needy countries of Europe is being prepared. Notice will appear in a future issue of Bahá’í News as soon as copies are available for distribution.
Latin American Congresses Meet

Two highpoints in the hemispheric news this month are the gathering of delegates to two Latin American Bahá'í Congresses. Delegates from the Caribbean countries met at Mexico City, and the South American Congress was held at Santiago, Chile. Mrs. Marzieh Gail and Mrs. Loulie Matthews were among those present from the United States to assist in the program. (Next month's NEWS will carry a fuller report of the Congresses.)

Mrs. Loulie Matthews, of Colorado Springs, founder of the International Bahá'í School and member of the Inter-America Committee, gave the official message on behalf of the Committee at the Mexico City Congress and stayed for the inauguration of the first International School of the Caribbean countries, the sessions of which followed immediately after the Congress. She was accompanied by two of the Colorado Springs friends and plans to do travel teaching en route home.

A whirlwind of problems and difficulties had to be met and solved in the two Congress cities by the National Teaching Committees of the two great areas, whose members were in charge of all arrangements. The problems were compensated for, however, by the enthusiasm and cooperation of all the friends. "A most heavenly spirit of unity and cooperation has arrived, praise be to God!" wrote Artemus Lamb from Santiago. He is secretary of the South American Teaching Committee and Marcia Steward is executive secretary of the Committee of the Caribbean countries. Other officials of the South American Committee include Sr. Esteban Canales, chairman; Sra. Betty Rowe, assistant secretary; and Sra. Rosi Vodanovic, treasurer. Additional officers of the Caribbean countries committee include Sr. José Antonio Benilla of Nicaragua, chairman; and Sra. Natalia Chávez of Honduras, treasurer and general secretary. All members of both committees with the exception of the two secretaries, are native believers.

One of the great accomplishments of this year is the gradual development of the two National Teaching Committees and their arms, the Regionals, in each country. At first each national committee was just an embryo of the future, a small inexperienced committee functioning in San José, Costa Rica, in the north, and Santiago, Chile, in the south. Gradually the influence of the Caribbean committee began to spread up through the Central Americas. The work was consolidated in the existing communities, the friends became trained and stabilized, meeting their problems fearlessly and justly, working to develop native teachers of capacity, to start nuclei in new goal cities, and to bring a spirit of unity and cooperation that would join all of the countries in harmonious effort for the growth of the beloved Faith. This influence has now spread to the six Central Americas and stepped across into the great republic of the north, Mexico. Through the Congress, the Committee hopes to reach out its arms to the islands of the West Indies and to help to stimulate and coordinate their activities in a harmonious, over-all plan, the objective of which is to fulfill the Guardian's seven year Plan in Latin America.

At the same time, the National Committee in Santiago began to reach out to the neighboring countries of Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, and now to reach northward into the great country of Brazil and the ancient Bolivar countries of Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador. Through the Congress and school and teaching trips following these, it is the hope of the South American Committee to establish in that vast continent a harmonious, over-all plan of activity.

New native teachers who have been developed in South America include Sra. Leonor Porras and Sra. Inés Sarmineto of Bogotá, Colombia; Sr. Estéban Canales and Sr. Carlos Bulling of Valparaíso, Sra. Rosi Vodanovic of Santiago, and Sr. Toni Fillon of Lonconia, all of Chile, and Sr. Alberto Lovetón of Lima, Peru. New native teachers in the Caribbean countries include Sr. José Antonio Bonilla of Managua, Nicaragua; Sr. Oscar Castro of San José, Costa Rica; Sra. María Francisca Rivera and Sra. Natalia de Chávez of Tegucigalpa, Honduras; Sr. Carlos Vergara of Mexico City and Sra. Viva Lismore of Havana, Cuba.

Four months ago Gayle Woolson went to Venezuela for an intensive teaching trip. "I am simply thrilled and amazed at Venezuela," she wrote. "All the doors in all the cities seem open to the Message. The general spirit of the Venezuelans is broad and free of fanaticism, and they seem eager and waiting to hear of the Teachings. . . . Every city seems ready to form a study group."

During the trip, she visited nine cities, seven of them for the first time, and two that had been visited very briefly last January and where study groups had been formed at that time. These two cities, Maracay and Barquisimeto, became confirmed, one with nine registered members and the other with ten, besides classes of new students. In the other seven cities organized classes were formed of from 15 to 22 members, who promised to study hard to prepare themselves for assembly status later on. These nine cities are crying for further teachers to help them. The many other cities of this country are ready to arise and march in the spiritual vanguard of Bahá'u'lláh, if only they can be reached and taught.

Katharine Meyer, new pioneer to Venezuela, and the Regional Committee of that country will do all that is humanly possible for the new communities and groups.

Magnificent publicity was given Miss Woolson in each city as the "Ambassador of the Bahá'í Faith" and the "Bearer of the Bahá'í Message of Universal Peace and Brotherhood." Masonic Lodges, Lions and Rotary Clubs sponsored large public meetings. The Masonic Lodges publicly invited, through the newspapers and by word of mouth, leading people to hear the Message of Bahá'u'lláh. Governors of states, educators, writers, professional men, artists and business men were among the enthusiastic friends and voluntary students.

BAHA'I
A WORLD FAITH

The human heart has been ordained to live in a divinely-created world of love and truth. Entrance to that heavenly world is not by death of the body but by re-direction of the powers of the soul. Each man can attain peace and assurance as he turns to the revealed Word.

"God's purpose in sending His Prophets," the Baha'i sacred writings affirm, "is to liberate the children of men from the darkness of ignorance and guide them to the light of true understanding."

"The second is to insure the peace and tranquility of mankind, and provide all the means by which they can be established." 

Litterature sent free on request.

BAHA'I PUBLIC RELATIONS
536 Sheridan Road • Wilmette, Illinois

For community publicity programs this month, the second in the series of reprints of current national advertising (see cut), first to appear in "U.S. News-World Report" February 20, is now available. Offered at cost are postcards, 1c and newspaper mats, 12c. Same copy will also appear in "Newsweek" on March 12 and in April's "United Nations World."

The number of communities now using this opportunity to tie-in locally to the publicity prestige gained through the national campaign is now over 60, with 8,000 cards and mats distributed last month. Each mat has space for community name, address and telephone number.

Use of the ads, as part of a planned local campaign, aids to bring the Faith to the attention of those who would be influential friends, those who would on occasion say a good word for the Faith and lend their facilities for general publicity. In this way more people become acquainted with the Faith and acquire a sense of respect for the Faith through confidence in its aims and a gradual understanding of its teachings.

In Jerusalem, Palestine, last month the newspaper carried the story on the interior construction work in the Temple. From a series of releases distributed during the past two years, more than 1,000 newspaper clippings have been received. Add "Business Week" (Jan. 10, 1948) to the list of those magazines in which the Portland Cement Association's ad featuring the Baha'i Temple—"Beauty to the top of its gleaming white dome"—has appeared.

To each assembly and group now tottering but who must stay on the Baha'i map, PR last month sent a kit of materials to be used in the local campaign. It will be followed this month by a "ABC" bulletin on "Baha'i Public Relations."

The Home Front

PHILADELPHIA, PA. The week of November 16th, 1947 in Philadelphia was known as "EDUCATION WEEK," an invitation was extended to Jessie E. Revell to speak at the GEORGE R. SMITH PUBLIC SCHOOL at 15th & Wharton Streets.

An assembly of 35 children ranging from six to eight years sat on the floor of the assembly room for this special program. After a song by the whole assembly, a short recitation by one pupil, a song by another, Miss Revell was called upon to talk to the children. She began by telling them that they looked to her like a lovely garden of beautiful flowers, then she described a garden with different kinds of flowers and related the children to a human flower, garden of GOD, different in color, some black, some white, others yellow and red etc. but each one beautiful and because each one was beautiful it made the whole garden beautiful.

She emphasized that the deeds of children were like the perfume of the flowers, showing how everybody loves flowers with sweet perfume and if our deeds are kind and loving, and if we are peacemakers, then everybody will love us. At this point she spoke to the children a magnet—how it picked things up and these things were drawn close to the magnet, showing that we, too, could attract people to us by our kind actions, by our obedience to our parents and teachers, by being gentle in our conduct and speech.

Another object shown to the children was a lily bulb (not at all attractive); and also a picture of a beautiful lily. Miss Revell explained that the bulb has in it all the things to make a beautiful lily but it has to grow beautifully day by day to bring out the lily. In each one of us are the things to make us beautiful and each day if we practice good deeds, we will develop beautifully (like the lily). We practice our lessons in order to know them, so we must practice good deeds, we must be kind and gentle so that we may be beautiful flowers in GOD'S garden.

Miss Revell was invited by the Principal, Dr. George Lyle, to return to that school when he would like her to speak to the older children.

NEW YORK, CONNECTICUT and ONTARIO. At the suggestion of the Regional Teaching Committee of upper New York State and Connecticut, in collaboration with the Ontario R.T.C. a joint Teaching Conference was arranged for the friends at Niagara Falls, New York on Saturday and Sunday, October 11th and 12th.

On Saturday evening a public meeting was held at the Unitarian church in Niagara Falls under the chairmanship of Mrs. Terah Smith of Binghamton, New York with Mr. George Goodman of Hartford, Connecticut and Mr. John Roberts of Toronto as the speakers whose topics were "The Search for Faith" and
"Bahá’í—A World Program," respectively. Their excellent presentation of these subjects was so interesting that the Bahá’í literature table was well patronized and many discussion groups tarried long after the formal program was concluded.

Sunday noon, the Teaching Conference for Bahá’ís only, convened at a Bahá’í home in Youngstown, N.Y. Blest with warm and beautiful autumn weather the friends were able to make full use of the outdoor terrace and spacious grounds during the lunch hour.

Following refreshments the friends turned to God in prayer and devoted their time to the Theme of the Conference—"The Teaching Plan of 1947-48." Speakers from both sides of the invisible border took part in the agenda prepared by the National Teaching Committee. Ways and means to "redouble" our efforts in accordance with the Guardian’s plea were prayerfully and carefully considered and many helpful ideas and suggestions given such as:

1. "Each one teach one."
2. Teas—which could be a simple verbal invitation to one or more. Or—by written invitation worded "To introduce the Bahá’í Writings" and sent to special groups, culminating in a Fireside Group eventually.
3. Familiarize the locality with the Principles and verities of the Faith effectively and inexpensively by the following suggestion: Pay for space weekly in the local newspaper for a direct quote from the Bahá’í Writings to be used in conjunction with a picture of the Bahá’í House of Worship reduced to the size of one inch, since a picture attracts attention.
4. Increased contribution to the general fund through sacrifice. In discussing the individual believer’s role, the "controlling principle" of Bahá’í conduct, as set forth by the Guardian, was quoted:

"A chaste and holy life must be made the controlling principle in the behavior and conduct of all Bahá’ís."

Advent of Divine Justice, page 25.

Music and prayer concluded this memorable Conference, which coincided with the Canadian Thanksgiving Day and Columbus Day.

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. For five days, Monday through Friday, Nov. 10-14, inclusive, 9:45 to 10:00 a.m., National Bahá’í transcriptions were broadcast over radio station KIMO of Independence, Mo. In telephoning people on the mailing list to listen to the broadcast these interesting developments took place: One woman who answered a questionnaire ad in the newspaper about a year ago said she would like to read a book. A New Era was given her. One who formerly attended classes several years ago said she was on a PTA committee, and this committee, on Dec. 1st and continuing throughout the year, is arranging to have literature and magazines of all churches in independence in the high school and available as reading material for the students, and that she would like to have the Bahá’í Faith represented. A selection of pamphlets was given her, and a copy of the November number of the World Order Magazine was also included. Another said she had read the New Era which had been given her sometime ago and would like to read another book—Three persons at the radio station, the Chief Announcer, the Program Director, and the Assistant Program Director, have requested literature from one of the Assembly members who has a daily program at the station—they asked for the literature without solicitation—and one is reading a book. The Program Director was so well pleased with the quality of the transcriptions and the favorable comment he has received that he has scheduled five more of the transcriptions.

As a result of our first call, we have at this writing received one hundred and sixty of the desired number, and we are so happy to note that several letters accompanying the gifts and donations give assurance of further orders with promise of 100% of their local Assembly enrollment. All this is stimulating to our hopes that one thousand new subscriptions may be realized.

With renewed thanks to the friends who have already responded we trust this report will result in materially reducing the number still required to complete the full one thousand new subscriptions we need. A $2.00 subscription for a friend may mean a new Bahá’í or if your local library is already receiving the magazine, each $2.00 donated to the WORLD ORDER LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION FUND means the recording of a new subscription to another library, name and address of the donor being mailed to the librarian.

Address all gift subscriptions or Library Fund donations to WORLD ORDER, 100 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois. Make checks payable to World Order Magazine.
Clasification of Materials for Preservation in National and Local Baha'i Archives

This classification has been made in order to clarify the nature of the material to be preserved in the Archives, with a suitable distinction between that which should be sent to the National Archives and that which should enter into the Archives established by a local Spiritual Assembly.

I. Tablets and relics of Baha'u'llah and the Bab, whether original Tablets or photostatic reproductions. This material is essentially National in character.

II. Tablets and relics of 'Abdu'l-Baha. The Tablets should be original, signed Tablets, or authentic reproductions such as photostatic copies. Tablets should be accompanied by original translation if possible. All original Tablets should be preserved in the National Archives. Photostats of Tablets revealed to the Spiritual Assembly, or to individual believers, might well be placed in the local Archives. As regards the nature of relics, the Guardian has given the following explanation:

"The general principle should be that any object used by Him in person should be preserved for posterity, whether in the local or National Archives. It is the duty and responsibility of the Baha'i Assemblies to ascertain carefully whether such objects are genuine or not, and to exercise the utmost care and caution in the matter."

III. Letters of Shoghi Effendi. These are of three different classes—those written to the N.S.A. and the entire American Community; those written to local Assemblies; and those written to individual believers. Original letters to local Assemblies are for the most part not confidential and can be preserved in the National Archives, with photostats in the local Archives. Letters to individual believers can be sent to the National Archives and photostats obtained for the recipient and for the local Archives.

IV. National events and activities. Such events as 'Abdu'l-Baha's American journey, the founding of the Temple, early historical records of the Star of the West, Baha'i Publishing Committee, Green Acro, Geyserville, Tenerity, and Louhelen Ranch and other activities of more than local importance constitute an impressive aspect of Baha'i history, and all original documents and records should be turned over to the N.S.A. if not already done, for its examination and subsequent deposit in the National Archives.

V. Local records and activities. Records and documents pertaining to such activities are of two classes: the Minutes and correspondence of the Spiritual Assembly, which are preserved by the Assembly itself, and non-administrative material of historical interest and importance, such as programs, newspaper clippings, Historical Record Cards, etc. It is recommended that each Spiritual Assembly also provide a bound book in which its Archives Committee can keep a record of enrollments of new believers and also deaths or removals from the community.

VI. Baha'i publications: A complete file of all publications, such as books, pamphlets, and magazines, news letters, etc., of official Baha'i character is being developed in the National Archives, and the cooperation of the friends is requested to make this complete. Out-of-print Baha'i books and pamphlets will be appreciated.

VII. Individual records and papers. Families in possession of the papers belonging to such prominent workers as those named in "America and the Most Great Peace" will appreciate that such records are part of the history of the Cause and might well be turned over to the Archives and History Committee. Other personal records might similarly be turned over to the local Archives Committee.
February, 1948

In Memoriam

Miss Hanna Lohse—Chevy Chase, Md., Aug. 27, 1946.
Mrs. Leona Heyden—Green Bay, Wis., Nov. 27, 1947.
Mrs. Mary Caldwell—St. Augustine, Fla., Nov. 27, 1947.
Mr. Mason Riddle—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 31, 1947.

Enrollments

Enrollments reported by Local Spiritual Assemblies: Seattle, Wash., 2; Beverly, Mass., 1; San Francisco, Calif., 1; Moncton, N.B., Can., 1; Regina, Sask., Can., 1 youth, 2.

Enrollments reported by Regional Teaching Committees: NEW ENGLAND—1; WESTERN PA. & OHIO—1; ILL. & IOWA—2; PEO, MINN., NO. DAKOTA, S. DAKOTA—4; LA., MISS.—1; SO. CALIF. & ARIZ.—1; WASH., ORE.—1.

Table of Contents

Blind Literature for...
Calendar...
Conventions, Annual...
Directory...
Enrollments...
European News...
Fund...
Guardian...
Committee Responsibility...
Treasurer's Letter...
Home Front...
International Relief...
Latin America News...
National Spiritual Assembly...
Assemblies Contributing...
Committee 32...
Committee 4...
Arise Resolutely...
Group photograph identification...
Temple Survey...
Public Relations...
Publishing Announcements...
Sales Committee...
Study Aids Committee...
Suggested Daily Readings...
World Order Subscription Fund...
World Order Contents...

World Order

Table of Contents

February

Trade is One Thing

Horace Gallup

World Citizenship—a Moral Reality in the Bahá'í Teachings

Horace Holley

My Country, Poem

Robert Whittaker

What are the Bahá'ís Doing?

Editorial

Garretta Raby

Far-Away Isfahán

Robert L. Gulick, Jr.

By This Measure, Poem

Ida Elaine James

Siyyid Kā'im

Eleanor S. Hutchens

“Not Mine Till Shared,” Poem

Gertrude W. Robinson

The Development of a World Society, (Concluded)

Fannie Jupnik

Books, Poem

Martha Boutwell Garvin

High-Lights of the Newer Testament

A Compilation from the Bahá'í Writings

Marian C. Lippitt

With Our Readers

Memphis, Nashville, Texas—Houston.
South Dakota—Sioux Falls.
Tennessee—Nashville.
Utah—Salt Lake City.
Vermont—Brattleboro.
Virginia—Alexandria, Arlington.
Washington—Richmond, Virginia, Alexandria.
Washington—Richmond Highlands; Monroe, Seattle, Spokane.
West Virginia—Charleston.
Wisconsin—Kenosha, Madison, Milwaukee, Racine, Wauwatosa.

Individuals contributing 186
Groups contributing 74

127

Assembly members of Caracas, Venezuela, one of latest communities to be incorporated in Latin America.
Beloved friends:

In this issue of Bahá’í News we read the text of the Guardian’s third message since January 12 on the urgency of the teaching work in North America.

Shoghi Effendi makes us realize that the formation of one hundred seventy-five Assemblies in the United States and Canada this year is no artificial scheme and no wishful hope, but an essential part of a divine, a mandatory, plan.

When an engineer has the task of constructing a bridge across a wide river, he has to calculate the number of piers required to give it full support. From pier to pier the work advances. Not until the strength of the completed part is completely assured can he carry the structure forward toward the distant shore.

Greatest of All Engineers — ‘Abdu’l-Bahá!

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, witness to the first stages of that desperate destruction by which a doomed age tears down the structure of its own evil habitation, prophetic witness to its continuance in more revolution and more war,—‘Abdu’l-Bahá had to design a bridge that could rest upon foundations deeper and firmer than the power of nations, swing its arches high above the raging torrent of creedsal hatred and economic cruelty, and convey the life of this world from the past cycle to the new age.

The Tablets we call the “Divine Plan” or “America’s Spiritual Mission” are the designs and specifications of that bridge. No soul ever raised up on earth in any former Dispensation had so fateful a task. A world in process of self-destruction, like a witless drunkard sleeping in a house his own hand has set aflame, a handful of workers who could be induced to dig a few holes or care a few parts, or try and interest a few more workers to help—and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. Believers in many countries striving to serve, without clear realization of their own tottering world, the supernatural mysteries of a heavenly realm—and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

The first pier of this world-saving Plan was the Maqrib’ul-Adhkár. The second pier was an American Bahá’í community, unified, alert, a well of strength. The third pier was the establishment of Bahá’í communities throughout Latin-America. The fourth pier has been thrown out to western Europe—a land of desolation, devoid of faith as well as of physical means to life. Beyond, glimpsed in the half-light of imagination, other piers to be constructed in the future, that the bridge of security may serve all peoples and all lands.

Now warning comes! The second pier has not been sufficiently reinforced! Concentrate on this section of the Divine Plan—or jeopardize those sections which thrust from it farther out across the deep abyss! Thus may be grasped the significance of the one hundred seventy-five Assemblies to be formed April 21, this year. They represent what the Divine Plan needs for its fulfillment. Our effort and our sacrifice in this or that American town between now and April 21 contributes to a world mission. The Master cries to us through the Guardian to rush our forces to that point where the bridge is too weak. How weak? At the meeting of the National Assembly in February the members were informed that seventy-two individuals can bring the task to full completion—seventy-two, either as newly confirmed believers in designated towns, or Bahá’í settlers who go to these towns to live because they have heard the call!

Some can settle. Some can teach. All can contribute to the spiritual and to the material treasury.

What Is the Spiritual Treasure?

Bahá’u’lláh defines it: “O people of God! Be not occupied with your-
Grasping frankly with the problems and basic needs of the Cause in an atmosphere of enthusiastic study and self-preparation to help fill those needs, was the keynote of the South American Congress and International School sessions which recently closed in Santiago, according to reports just received. Each delegate regarded himself as a potential pioneer, and took account not only of what others should be assisted to do, but also of what he, himself, could contribute toward fulfilling the Guardian’s plan, as outlined in his cable to the Congress: “Advise Congress concentrate effective means ensure extension, consolidation foundations forthcoming National Assembly. Stop. Urge redouble effort teaching activity, stimulate pioneer work initiated native believers. Praying signal success. Deepest love. Shoghi.”

“La Colonia Bahá’í,” a beautiful home completely equipped with furnishings and two servants and reminiscent of the International School at Colorado Springs, provided a place where the delegates could live and work together as a spiritual family. During the school sessions the delegates studied the spiritual requisites for teaching as outlined by the Guardian in the “Advent of Divine Justice,” fundamental facts of the Faith such as its history, the stations of its principal figures and the Administrative Order. Each session was in charge of a different instructor, each delegate having his turn as a teacher and questioning the class as to their basic knowledge. Afternoon sessions were conducted on the laboratory plan, the students presenting a model feast, election, assembly meeting, interviews seeking publicity, and a public meeting. Two actual public meetings were promoted with great success in spite of the mid-summer vacation season: a reception at Colonia Bahá’í attended by forty of those prominent in the educational, artistic and newspaper life of the Chilean capital, and a public lecture given by Hugo Arteaga Beitia of Valparaiso in the large hall at the University of Santiago.

Results of the sessions were felt to be an increasing maturity and capacity to work, noted both in the delegates and the host community; a deeper understanding and cooperation with all of the Americas, including North America; the capacity for harmony in the midst of vigorous and frank discussion, which cleared up many points of teaching that had not been very clear to some; a firm determination to establish effective local and national funds in spite of the great economic difficulties; a growing sense of the urgent necessity for constant study, individually and in organized classes; a deep feeling of spiritual unity to be expressed in active service, especially in the teaching field. Official delegates attending included Sra. Yvonne de Cuellar, Bolivia; Athos Costas, Argentina; Gambetta Roldán, Uruguay; Centurión Miranda, Paraguay; Dr. Carlos Saul Hernández, Colombia; Sra. Mercedes Sánchez, Peru; Mrs. Margot Worley, Brazil, and Carlos Bulling, Chile. International visitors were Miss Eve Nicklin of Peru, two friends who accompanied Mrs. Worley from Bahía, Brazil; Oscar Aguirre of Buenos Aires and Miss Janice Ewing of Oak Park, III. Teachers in the school were the delegates themselves, Miss Nicklin and Artemus Lamb. A highlight of the closing session was the announcement of the engagement and approaching marriage on May 8th in Chicago of Miss Janice Ewing and Artemus Lamb.

Twenty-three approved native teachers are now working under the direction of the National Teaching Committees of Central and South America. All of these have passed the test of capacity for doing regional work at home or in other countries. Some are school teachers who dedicate their vacations to doing special projects. Others are friends who can dedicate two or three months to helping other countries. Eduardo González of Guayaquil, Ecuador, returned from Spain after helping to establish the new community in Madrid, is now assisting the two new communities in Venezuela to prepare for the elections, and also making teaching visits to the seven other organized study groups of that country.

Six new believers have sent in their registration cards from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and seven from Bucaramanga, Colombia. Fifty-one cards have been received recently from the various countries. National funds have been established under the care of the two
Delegates and international visitors to the second annual Congress of the Caribbean countries participated not only in the Congress but also in the first International Baha’i Summer School sessions recently held in Mexico City. Mrs. Loulie Matthews of Colorado Springs, (seated center) represented the Inter-America Committee. Mrs. Martich Galil of San Francisco, (standing at left) and Octavio Illescas of California (at right of Mrs. Matthews) taught courses in the school. Mrs. Marcia Steward (seated extreme right) and other members of the National Teaching Committee were in charge of the Congress and school.

The second annual Congress of the Caribbean countries is helping with national teaching committees. A report just received from the Central American committee, shows that a total of $727.50 has been contributed by ten countries in that area, a good beginning considering that a great majority of the people live below the poverty line.

Elena Marsella reports that she has just returned from Santiago, goal city of the Dominican Republic, where she found the entire city in mourning over the death in an airplane crash of their baseball team and other prominent persons. She said it seemed as if half the city came to ask her about immortality and finally she had to thin out the numbers by announcing that she could give time only to those prepared for serious study in order to become Baha’is. Native teachers from Ciudad Trujillo, Elena and Sheila Rice-Wray will continue the work with occasional week-end visits.

Sheila has returned from San Juan Puerto Rico, where she helped Dr. Edris Rice-Wray and Margaret Swenglie to get settled and meet the friends. A public meeting is being planned there.

Special goal city drives are being made by the Regionals with the help of Carlos Bulling in Quilpue and Puerto Montt, Chile; with Esteban Canales in Ambato, Ecuador; with Oscar Castro in Santa Ana, El Salvador; Gwennie Sholtis in Cochabamba, Bolivia; Louise Caswell in Santiago, Panama; Helen Shearer in Santos, Brazil; Jean Silver in Cienfuegos, Cuba; Natalia de Chávez in Jalapa, Mexico; Gayle Woolson in Barranquilla and Bucaramanga, Colombia.

Marcia Steward has returned to Central America after a short rest at home in Pasadena following the strenuous work of the Mexico City congress. Hascle Cornbleth has returned to the United States after two years in Ecuador and Panama and is helping with national teaching here. Julie Regal will come to Chicago in April after five years in Panama, and will serve as secretary of the Inter-America Committee next year.

(Ed. Note: "To give you a faint idea of economic conditions in Latin America. In Ecuador a high school teacher earns $25.00 per month. A university professor earns $35.00 to $50.00 per month. They have to support families on this and the cost of living is approximately the same as in the United States!")

Radio Transcriptions

Important Notice

The National Radio Committee is compelled to issue this special appeal to all the local Assemblies and groups where radio transcriptions have been sent on loan for local use.

Please note these two important points:

1. The transcriptions have been sent out with specific instructions that they are to be returned to the National Radio Committee as soon as they are broadcast. Due to the failure on the part of many communities and groups to abide by the terms on which the transcriptions are lent, the Committee has exhausted its available supply (50 copies of each program) and therefore cannot supply them to meet new requests.

2. Under the terms of the Committee’s arrangement with the American Federation of Radio Artists, none of these transcriptions can be played twice at the same station. It is therefore entirely unjustifiable for any committee to hang on to a set of transcriptions in the hope that sometime later they might be used again.

Remember: our services are public property which we operate in trust for the whole community. Our conditions imposed in meeting requests are reasonable. The services of all national Baha’i committees can expand only as fast as the friends learn that they have an obligation to return a loan.

—National Baha’i Radio Committee 225 Fifth Avenue, New York, 10, N. Y.
Kenosha Has A Birthday

The 50th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Kenosha Assembly of Baha’is was held at the community center at 5912-22nd Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin, on the evening of December 17, 1947.

A large number of Baha’is had gathered for the occasion and enjoyed the reminiscences of the experiences of this, one of the earliest Baha’i communities formed in the Western World. Guests included friends from neighboring communities and several former members of the community who now reside elsewhere.

The program was divided into three parts, representing the “Past, Present and Future,” symbolized by three candles placed on the festive board. Interesting and responsive remarks were made covering the Past by Louis Voelz, the Assembly Secretary, largely consisting of reading from the archives or history of the Assembly, and bringing out the fact that the Baha’i Faith was pioneered in Kenosha in 1897 by Byron Lane, and that since that year the Faith has continued to function in Kenosha. The portion representing the Present was covered by Jessie Halberstadt, and finally the Future was ably discussed by Horace Holley of Wilmette, our National Secretary.

A telegram of congratulations from the National Spiritual Assembly was read, and a copy of a cablegram which the National Spiritual Assembly had sent to Shoghi Effendi concerning the celebration was also read by Horace Holley.

Special recognition, with floral tributes, was given several of the older members of the community, some of whom were with the original group fifty years ago.

After the program a social hour was enjoyed, refreshments were served, with a huge specially decorated golden cake in the center of the birthday table, and thus this impressive celebration, which will long remain in our memory, was concluded.

Louhelen School Needs Supplies

In order to help out on expenses, the Dayton Community recently held a linen shower with good results for the benefit of the Louhelen School. Perhaps other communities and groups would like to hold similar showers for the school. The need is for single-size sheets, pillow cases, towels and washcloths.

—Louhelen School Maintenance Committee

Several days later the following congratulatory cablegram was received by the community from the Guardian.

December 29, 1947.
Kenosha Community.


Scho}
Local Assemblies Contributing to Fund January, 1948


Delaware—Wilmington; Dist. of Columbia—Washington; Florida—Jacksonville, Miami; Hawaii—Honolulu, Maui; Georgia—Atlanta, Augusta; Idaho—Boise; Illinois—Chicago, Danville, Elmhurst, Evanston, Maywood, Oak Park, Peoria, Springfield, Urbana, Waukegan, Wilmington, Champaign, Limestone Twp.; Indiana—Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, South Bend, Iowa—Cedar Rapids; Kansas—Topeka; Kentucky—Louisville; Louisiana—New Orleans;

Massachusetts—Beverly, Boston, Springfield, Worcester; Michigan—Ann Arbor, Flint, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon, Roseville, Minnesota—Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Paul; Mississippi—Jackson; Missouri—Independence, Kansas City, St. Louis; Montana—Butte, Helena; Nebraska—Omaha; Nevada—Reno; New Hampshire—Portsmouth; New Jersey—Dumont, East Orange, Montclair, Red Bank, Teaneck; New Mexico—Albuquerque, North Albuquerque; New York—Binghamton, Buffalo, Jamestown, New York, Rochester, Yonkers; North Carolina—Greensboro; North Dakota—Fargo; Ohio—Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Lima; Oklahoma—Oklahoma City; Oregon—Portland; Pennsylvania—Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Scranton, West Chester; Rhode Island—Providence; South Dakota—Sioux Falls; Tennessee—Memphis, Nashville; Texas—Houston, El Paso—Salt Lake City; Vermont—Brattleboro; Virginia—Alexandria, Arlington, Richmond, Highlands, Monroe, Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma; West Virginia—Charleston; Wisconsin—Kenosha, Madison, Milwaukee, Racine, Wauwatosa; Wyoming—Laramie.

"We Must Be Like The Fountain ..."

"We must be like the fountain or spring that is continually emptying itself of all that it has and is continually being refilled from an invisible source. To be continually giving out for the good of our fellows undeterred by fear of poverty and reliant on the unfailing bounty of the Source of all wealth and all good — this is the secret of right living.

—SHOGHI EFFENDI

WHERE WE ARE

May 1, 1948
April 1, 1948
Mar. 1, 1948
Feb. 1, 1948
Jan. 1, 1948
Dec. 1, 1947
Nov. 1, 1947
Oct. 1, 1947
Sept. 1, 1947
Aug. 1, 1947
July 1, 1947
June 1, 1947

CONVENTION 1948

$300,000
$275,000
$250,000
$225,000
$200,000
$175,000
$150,000
$125,000
$100,000
$75,000
$50,000
$25,000

WHERE WE OUGHT TO BE

FINANCIAL BUDGET 1947-1948

Convention Attendance

The believers are requested not to bring to the Convention any non-Bahá'ís, no matter how close to the Faith they may be. Only delegates and recognized enrolled believers will be admitted to the Convention session.

Delegates to the Annual Convention deal with issues and plans of far-reaching importance. The utmost concentration is required. This is the reason for limiting attendance at the sessions to Bahá'ís only.

The Baha'i Congress and the Naw-Ruz Feast are open to attendance by interested friends.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Have You Returned Your Questionnaire?

Last month each believer received a special survey form sent out from the National Office. This detailed questionnaire is an effort to discover the talents and experience possessed by members of the American Bahá'í community. Before Convention the N.S.A. would like this material filed to assist the incoming Assembly in its national committee appointments.

Please fill out, at once, your copy of the questionnaire and mail it to the National Office.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY
Birth of the Báb celebrated in Anchorage, Alaska, Oct. 19, 1947. Indicated by arrows are the hosts, the Robinsons.

The Home Front

Anchorage, Alaska: A gratifying piece of publicity on the ornamentation program for the Temple was secured in the Anchorage (Weekly) News for Dec. 13. A cut of the Temple exterior was used, and a news story based on the releases furnished them by the local publicity chairman. It is believed that this was the first time a feature news story has been published in Alaska on the Temple. Routine paid advertisements giving selections from the Teachings and weekly news items on the public meetings continued in the Anchorage Daily Times.

Flint, Michigan: The “World Day of Prayer” on Feb. 13 served as a point of contact with radio stations and the response was interesting. Four different stations were contacted. One station used the Prayer for All Nations at 6:55 A.M. This same prayer was incorporated by another station into one of its regular feature programs. A third station promised to work the prayer in somet ime during that day. Each of the stations was given a copy of the prayer, the Chicago Tribune picture of the Temple, the leaflet, “The World Faith of Bahá’u’lláh,” and “A Pattern for Future Society.” Thus the friends in Flint successfully “tied in” and took advantage of a current event to introduce the Faith to the local radio stations.

Minneapolis, Minn.: In the fall of 1947, the Bahá’í Community of Minneapolis received a request from the University of Life, of the Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church, for a Bahá’í speaker for Sunday evening, Nov. 9. The University of Life is the oldest international Sunday evening church program in the United States and its 700 members are divided into 17 different study groups. The group asking for a Bahá’í speaker was made up of University students and young business people, enrolled under the subject “Why Different Religions?” with Neil Swanson a Philosophy Instructor at the University of Minnesota, as their leader. The Minneapolis Bahá’ís sent an SOS to Lawrence Hautz of Milwaukee and he gave a talk to this group that is still remembered in this city of stately people. The Bahá’ís were especially thrilled because, even in the entertainment world, Minneapolis is considered a city of frozen people, sitting on their hands. It has been said that if anyone could “go over” in Minneapolis, they were “made” professionally.

In a few weeks, a call was received for another Bahá’í speaker for the high school group of the University of Life. This time, the local Spiritual Assembly met and decided that it was high time for them to stand on their own feet and not run for help every time the occasion arose to propagate the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh. It was decided that the chairman, Mrs. Helen Frink, should prepare a talk to be given before this youth group on Feb. 1. Four days later, a request was received for her to give two talks at Central High School and four personal interviews. These appointments were met. On Feb. 16, Mrs. Frink gave her talk on Progressive Revelation to the Senior and Sophomore classes at Central High School. The students begged their teacher to permit her to pass out the little blue cards containing the Bahá’í Principles but she could not permit this, as religious literature may not be distributed in a public school. They countered with, “Well, if she leaves them on the table, couldn’t we just help ourselves when she isn’t looking?” The teacher again had to refuse, but she told them that they could leave their names and addresses with Mrs. Frink and she would mail them copies. Never in the collective history of the Bahá’í Community of Minneapolis, with all the sincere effort and hard work put into it, had they ever received so much beautiful publicity through the spoken word of youth. The report received states “The Bahá’ís learned from their experience that the wilderness of teaching, which they had so feared to enter, was, through the efforts of one friend and one member, made into an arena of beauty and joy, and that Heaven, on this plane, has no back doors!”

Atlanta, Ga.: Following are the highlights of Mrs. Marzieh Gall’s five-day visit in Atlanta, on her return trip for the Caribbean Bahá’í Conference in Mexico City and travels, toward New York:

2. Dinner following the Church service, 30 people attended. Marzieh answered questions for 30 minutes.
3. Sunday night, Jan. 25, at the Bahá’í Center, “Persia As I Saw It.” 29 persons attending, several non-Bahá’ís present.
4. Monday, Jan. 26, 2 p.m.—Radio Interview, 7 minutes, Station WCON.
5. Monday, Jan. 26, 8 p.m.—Fire-side at the Ruhe home, 10 present.
6. Tuesday, Jan. 27, 1 p.m.—Luncheon with Liberal Club at YWCA, approximately 30 attended, with good response.
7. Marzieh then went to Atlanta University with Dr. Domas of the Unitarian Church and met several of the faculty of the School of Social Administration.
8. Afternoon Tea—at the Athletic Club upon invitation of Mrs. John Rockwood who is interested and studying the Faith.
9. Tuesday, Jan. 27th, 8 p.m. at the Bahai Center. "Faith for Freedom," 26 persons present. Many questions asked and lively discussion followed.

Also Tuesday night late visit with several Bahais to home of Dr. Domas for contact purposes.

10. Wednesday, Jan. 28, 12 noon. Lecture before 25 students in Comparative Religious Class at Agnes Scott College. Response was lively and prolonged.

11. Wednesday, Jan. 28, 8 p.m. — Bahai' Center, "Heralds of World Peace," 25 present. A Baha'i brought 5 young non-Baha'i high school students from Conyers, to hear this lecture. Good response.

12. Thursday, Jan. 29, 6 p.m. — Dinner with and Lecture before Pre-Theological Students Club at Emory University, many questions asked.

13. Thursday, Jan. 29th, 8 p.m. at the Bahai' Center, intimate talk with Baha'is about our Beloved Guardian, with one near-Bahai' present.

14. Friday, Jan. 30th 7 p.m. Mrs. Gail spoke at the Annual Dinner of the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA before 356 persons, both white and colored, on the subject "The Spirit of Change."

Peoria, Ill.: Peoria has a group of people from various religious groups who meet together from time to time to discuss ways of bringing about greater religious unity and harmony. Many members of the Bahai' community have attended from time to time with the result that the local churches are beginning to recognize the believers as followers of an independent religion. Recently a plan was developed to hold a series of radio programs on "What I Believe." A Baha'i was asked to meet with a representative of the Jewish, Catholic and Protestant groups at the local radio station; a plan was devised to have a thirty-minute program of questions and answers for thirteen consecutive Sundays, to begin on Jan. 26 and omitting Easter Sunday. There are to be four Catholic, two Jewish, and six Protestant programs and one Bahai'. The number of programs allowed each one was decided on the report of a religious survey of the city which gave the number of declared believers of each group. Naturally, since we had the least, we are happy indeed to have been given the one time on the air. The date for the Bahai' program was fixed at Feb. 8.

Texas: We quote directly from the regional bulletin for Texas (called "Bahai' Newsletter"). "On Friday" evening, Jan. 9, the SAN ANTONIO group presented Mr. Leroy Ioas at a public meeting in the East Wing of the Municipal Auditorium. Over 30 people attended and the response and attitude were good. Wednesday, Jan. 21, the first in a series of follow-up Bahai' classes was instigated by Miss Faruhk Ioas.

On Monday, Jan. 12, Mr. Ioas spoke before a meeting consisting of over 50 people at the Agricultural Hall in DALLAS. This is being followed up by Miss Ioas at weekly meetings on Tuesday evenings in the Jefferson hotel in Dallas. Miss Ioas will make this tour weekly for two months ending and headquartering in HOUSTON for the Sunday public meetings. Her spare time is well taken up in small special study classes, one on Fridays and one in CHANNELVIEW, just outside of Houston. These are small groups of business women or married couples living outside the immediate area, new inquirers into the Faith. A class in Administration for the believers may be conducted if there is enough demand. This is a rigid program for Faruhk Ioas, and all of the Bahai's are most thankful to her."

We quote interesting bits from regional bulletins:

Seattle, Washington group listens to Mr. Carl Nordquist speaking on the Faith, Feb. 6, 1948.
Broadcasting and Publishers' dramatizing the coming of world
liberator, Canadian

sold publisher, was the
these inserted, placed on a
story of the Faith to those in a
throughout the year

through a continuous effort to create publicity for

These insertions, placed on a

month in the present urgent campaign, the

To a list of nearly 5,000 selected

To a list of nearly 5,000 selected

the Future, the

(1) "The Histom of Religion," a
colorful graph of all religions, illustrat-
ing the evolution of mankind spiritually toward a oneness of God;

the ads, dramatizing the coming of world reli-

(1) "The Histom of Religion," a
colorful graph of all religions, illustrat-
ing the evolution of mankind spiritually toward a oneness of God;

United Nations World and U. S.

United Nations World and U. S.

Through the pages of Newsweek,

Pictured above are a few samples of more than 1,000 publicity clippings of the
Bahá'í Temple, which have been received by Public Relations as a result of re-
leases prepared by the committee. Thousands of inches of free publicity were gained
by the Faith during the past year. More important, however, than the amount of
publicity received and the monetary value in terms of paid space, is the fact that
gradually, through a consistent public relations program, more accurate interpre-
tation of the Faith and favorable impressions are being made.

Bahá'í Public Relations

For use by local communities and
groups Public Relations last month
released a new series of five news-
paper advertisements. Layouts and
suggestions on how to use the ma-
terial are included. Although
prepared initially as a contribution to
the present urgent campaign, the
ads are suitable for use in an As-
ssembly's regularly planned and con-
tinuous effort to create publicity for
and interest in the Faith. Another
series will be available soon.

Also available for community use
is a series of 12 advertisements used
throughout the year in the trade
press. These insertions, placed on a
monthly basis, told the step-by-step
story of the Faith to those in a posi-
tion to mold public opinions—the ed-
itor, feature writer, commentator,
and radio announcer. The ads,
dramatizing the coming of world re-
ligion, appeared in Editor & Pub-
lisher, Canadian Weekly Editor,
Broadcasting and Publishers' Auxil-

Along the Bahá'í bookshelf we find:
(1) "The Histom of Religion," a
colorful graph of all religions, illus-
trating the evolution of mankind spiritually toward a oneness of God;

(2) From the "Look at America"
series prepared by the editors of
LOOK magazine, "The Midwest"
carries a full-page picture of the
Temples; (3) Wrote Mary White
Ovington of 'Abdu'l-Bahá in "The

Walls Came Tumbling Down": "The
long years of contemplation and suf-
ferring had not led him to dwell on
the differences among men; rather
he saw and preached their common
brotherhood. As he talked, hurry and
tension left us, and we felt the har-
mony that he described." (4) In trav-
el sections, the Bahá'í Temple is
being accepted more each year in
new books and guides. References
can be found in the AAA "Guide to
America," WPA's "Illinois," and in
"This is Chicago," a handsome pic-
torial guidebook. Watch for an ar-
ticle on the Temple this spring in
"Where," a travelers' magazine.
(5) For references, check: NBC's
book of pronunciation, "World Al-
manac of 1948," "Religion in the
Twentieth Century," edited by Ver-
gil, published by Phos-
ophy Library, Inc., New York,
and "Religions of the World," a student
guide book by Gerald L. Berry for
the Everyday Handbook series.

Children’s Stories Now Ready

The Child Education Committee
wishes to announce that it is begin-
ing to issue story sheets for use
with children, Bahá’í stories will be
told in such a way as to be compre-
hensible to children. These will be
issued frequently and will be mailed
out on request free of charge. Write
to Mrs. Sylvia Parmelee, Secretary,
4700 47th Street, N.W., Washing-
ton, D.C. if you desire to receive copies.

The Guardian has written that it
will be permissible to collect stories
for children (about the Master) but
we must realize that such stories are
in the class of pilgrim's notes and
may not be the actual words of
'Abdu'l-Bahá, for instance. Eventu-
ally, it is hoped that these stories
will be published in book form.

We invite your cooperation. If you
know a good Bahá’í story and can
give us its source, won’t you please
send it in? It might concern the
Báb, Bahá’u’lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, the
Guardian, martyrs, pioneers, teachers
or it might be just an illustra-
tion of Bahá’í action. Your help will
be much appreciated. Please send
your stories to our secretary, name
and address mentioned above.

Be sure to state the source.

CHILD EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Bahá'í Workshop Produces Results

The Radio Script Writing Workshop at Green Acre last summer served as a chance for Bahá'ís to learn something about radio writing, and developed several unexpected but immensely valuable sidelines.

The original plan was to give Bahá'ís instruction in radio writing-dramatic scripts, spot announcements, and documentary scripts, and also the chance to participate in actual production on the air over the local station WHEB in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

The course was given in two week units, put on three broadcasts during the summer; a documentary-interview script on the purpose and activities of Green Acre, written cooperatively by the group; a biographical drama on Sarah Farmer presented the week of Miss Farmer's birthday with the Radio class participating as actors and a presentation of one of the series of twelve platters put out by the Bahá'í National Radio Committee.

This much alone would have been valuable, but much more came out of the group as the logical result of the discussion in class. It developed that many of the participants were members of local Radio Committees, and were anxious to learn more about radio, so that their approach to their local stations would be more intelligent and more effective. Radio contacts thus became an important part of the course, and the problems of radio production more understandable.

Add to all this the fact that Mr. Johnson instructor in the Radio Workshop at Syracuse University, and leader of the group, recently declared himself, and is working hard in the Syracuse community, and another non-Bahá'í member of the group became a Bahá'í at the end of the summer, and has been active with the National Radio Committee of the U.S., and it becomes apparent that the Bahá'í values were not forgotten. All in all the Workshop proved to be a sparkplug for increased activity in the radio field, and as one of the members of the group expressed it: "Good fun as well."

European Enrollments Increase

The thrilling and heartening news which the European Teaching Committee has to share with the Bahá'í friends, who are so valiantly supporting the European teaching project, is that of eight newly declared believers since our last report to them in Bahá'í News. These include another promising young member, a medical student in Copenhagen, Mr. Gerhard Anderson; the historic first four in Norway, Mrs. Inga Schonberg, Mr. Arne Tharaldsen; one in Italy, Signor Luigi Peveri; and another promising young member, Mr. Arne Tharaldsen; who was confirmed in the Faith in Rome but who is ardently working for the Cause in his home village Stora, in the Province of Fiorenza and two more in the Stockholm group, Miss Tora Persson and Eskil Lijungberg. This brings the total number of newly declared believers in all of our goal countries under the second Seven Year Plan to 43.

From Scandinavia, Holland and Belgium have come enthusiastic accounts of Dorothy Baker's visit to our Centers in these countries. Through the openings which our valiant pioneers made with outstanding clubs, Mrs. Baker was able to speak to audiences of from 75 to 199 persons as well as in firesides and more intimate meetings. She has been most enthusiastically received in each place; has created many promising contacts with which the pioneers are now busily engaged, in effective follow-up. The publicity accorded her by the press has also been very impressive. Most of all she has brought great encouragement and inspiration to our pioneers. It is through the visits of these itinerant teachers that the pioneers feel themselves once more in close touch with the Bahá'ís at home and are strengthened and resuscitated by the spirit that flows to them. The Committee rejoices that Dorothy Baker was present at the historic occasion in Oslo when four of a group who had been studying the Faith declared themselves and again in Stockholm when the last two new believers became members of that group.

Marion Little continues her invaluable work in Italy. After February 9 she visited Florence and Naples before proceeding to Switzerland to meet Dorothy Baker for a brief journey together to Paris and Lyon, France.

It is with deepest regret that the Committee reports the contemplated return to the United States of Henry Jarvis in February and Marion Little on March 20. The assistance which they have given to the European teaching project cannot be measured and the priceless contribution which they have made will continue to bear rich results long after their retirement from the European field.

"The World Is Being Prepared..."

During the last two years Charles Mason Remey, one of our earliest American believers, has visited Bahá'í communities and groups throughout Latin America and Europe. A few notes culled from his account written for the Bahá'í World help us to realize the eager devotion of pioneers and believers in these countries and the great physical difficulties and deprivation under which Bahá'í teaching is carried on in Europe. And yet he says: "Bahá'í work moves quickly in these days." We select particularly items about the countries which are not included in the European teaching plan for ten countries:

"In Dublin I was with the pioneer teachers at the first public meeting held in Ireland at which there was a good attendance and fine response on the part of the people. The Irish, who in the past played so important a part in the early spread of Christianity in Europe, now give promise (Continued on page 11)"
Pioneer

Excerpts from the letters and diaries of Martha Root

(Cont'd from last month)

March, 1948

Bulgaria, Plovdiv, Nov. 24, 1927

Am sending this letter so that it will surely reach you by Christmas Day. I shall be praying for you specially on the Holy Holidays and sending deep love to you. I shall be in Athens then. I do not know one soul in Greece, but God will be with me and He will be with you, and in spirit we shall be together! God bless you, my precious dear ones, and give you happiness and courage and inner peace to meet everything in this life and in the next! . . . In Bucharest, the great privilege was mine to visit her Majesty Queen Marie in her summer palace, "Pelesh", in Sinaia . . . It was all so beautiful! The Queen is so charming, so bright, so intuitive, and with such a comprehensive grasp of these great Teachings! She is a confirmed Bahá'í! and she studies the teachings.

I came to Bulgaria, October seventeenth, stopped in Rousse, the fourth largest city in Bulgaria, and on the Danube River. It is the frontier city just across from Rumania. I had stopped there three hours two years ago. This time I visited three of the largest educational institutions and talked with the Directors. One fine young Esperantist who works in a bank in Rousse said, "I am interested in the Bahá'í Cause, have been interested for two years; I want always to work for it, and please keep me in touch with any news about it." I try as much as possible to link the youth of one country with those of another . . . my visit to a country I hope, is only the beginning of spiritual events, the youth themselves are the ones who will carry it far, far!

Nov. 28.

Yesterday six of us went to Stanimaka for the day, went with two horses and a carriage, three hours ride. It was the first time an American had ever lectured in Stanimaka. The one hundred Esperantists are all very young. They arranged a big lecture on the Bahá'í Cause, the hall was so crowded, all stood that could get into the hall or listen outside and many, many went away. It was a tremendous success. They seemed very interested. The young girls brought me flowers and when we left in the evening, the Esperantists walked with us more than two miles, we all walked together and the carriage trailed empty behind.

I start for Constantinople now in two hours, only took the Turkish visa for one week . . . My work in the Balkan countries and in central Europe is so urgent, I cannot work much in Turkey until some year later. Constantinople is not much out of my way en route to Greece. Also, I shall pass through Adrianople. It gives me a thrill to think of going to the cities where Bahá'u'lláh was exiled and I long to meet the friends ih Constantinople. How much Bahá'u'lláh endured to give us these Teachings! And I see the New Day breaking! I see that the new divine civilization will bring again a great progress to all mankind. It is very blessed for us all to live in this day, to know and to serve — and courageously to go forward amidst difficulties and illness, for life is not easy for anyone. It was not easy for Bahá'u'lláh and His family, for those early believers, nor is it easy for you. "All suffer and yet no less bear up," and they are the radiant ones with shining eyes and when they speak one sees the Truth in their lives and actions! "And when they have passed, it seemed like the passing of the greatest man!" That is the way you live, each one of you to whom I send this letter of love.

Turkey, Constantinople, 1928

I have visited some of the Professors of Stamboul University, interviewed them about religion and have written it. Then I went to Angora, the Capital, for four days. I had an interview with the Minister of Foreign Affairs. He is certainly a great man. With him, too, I spoke about religion . . . I met the Directors of the press for Turkey, met the heads of Education, the heads of two libraries in Angora and some fine people from the Embassies. The Turks have given me a cordial invitation to return for October twenty-ninth, the greatest day in Turkey, for this is the anniversary date of the
founding of their Republic on October twenty-ninth, nineteen twenty-four.

I shall go a few days earlier and be a guest at two or three events and I have an invitation for the grand ball on October twenty-ninth, when I expect to meet the President of Turkey and the Prime Minister as well as others...

I shall have, taken third class trains in Turkey... You see I meet the highest and the humblest Turk... I have tried to make a careful study of Turkey and meet some of the molders of this new Turkey, for this country has infinite possibilities...

I am so sorry when my correspondence goes unanswered, but you see I am obliged to CONCENTRATE on my task and when once I begin there is never any place to stop until I leave one city and go on to the next and do my writing before I announce my arrival.

Czechoslovakia. Praha, Jan. 22, 1933.

Dear Friends: Do you feel as I do, that in teaching the Bahá’í Cause you are learning the most of anyone? Do you feel as I do, how often selfishness and “little” annoyances spring up and stare into your very soul reminding you how much there is to learn, really to become perfect? Also, do you sometimes catch the cosmic through glimpses, the high lights of the celestial and vision what life could be if we really were “all-conscious” all the time? Also do you think as I do, how much you wish to read and study MUCH MORE, but you read a little, pray a little, meditate a little, and most of the twenty-four hours submerge yourself in service? Is it not better to run with your torch to light the soul torches of all? And in doing that, the Words of Christ come true: “He that loses his life, shall save it.” In SERVICE to others, the soul draws near to God, does hear the Divine Guidance, does dream dreams, does see visions. Lastly, do you find, as I do, that when you have gone to the limit of human strength and the body says, “This is the last straw and it is going to break my back!” something so important comes into the horizon that, for the sake of humanity, you feel it should be carried, and you pick it up and bring it forward to its goal—and in doing this, Bahá’u’lláh gives a spiritual strength, a superhuman help, that brings you safely and with peace and thankfulness in your heart? How true the words that life, after all, is a one way street we are passing down, all we do, we must do it now for we come back this way...

I came to Praha early in May, arranged with Mrs. F. M.---- to translate Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era into Czech. One thousand copies came from the press December first. In the bookstore windows they are placarded “Something new”...

The Czechs have vision, Jan Hus did not die in vain: few nations in Europe are more liberal in thinking, more openminded, more seeking than this one. Blessed indeed are the Bahá’í teachers who can work in Czechoslovakia.

I wish I could go to fifty cities and towns in Czechoslovakia and speak in the English Clubs, the Sokol Clubs, and in their schools; for the word comes from different cities asking about the Bahá’í Movement.

I shall come again to this country, if it is possible—but to get the book (Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era) out in Hungarian, Rumanian, Serbian, Greek is also very important for the teachers who will come after. It is so much easier to work, and more rapid progress can be made when one has literature in the language of the country. When one sees the world outlook at this moment, it seems all the more necessary to get the books out, for in the time of cataclysm people will have the Teachings!

To be continued
Enrollments
Enrollments reported by Local Spiritual Assemblies:

Los Angeles, Calif. 1; Peoria, Ill. 2;
Inglewood, Calif. 1; New Orleans, La. 1;
New York City 1; Chicago, Ill. 1;
Montreal, P. Q. 1; 2 Youth.

Enrollments reported by Regional Teaching Committees

New York, Conn. 1: West Pa., Ohio 1;
Ky., Ind. 1; Ill., Iowa 1; Wis., Minn.,
No. Dakota. So. Dakota 2; So. Calif.
Ariz. 3; No. Calif., Nev. 1; Wash., Ore. 1.
Mich. 1 Youth.

Corrections: Kansas City, Mo.; Nov.
issue reported 1 enrollment. This should
have been 2.

RTC of New Jersey: In Dec. issue an
enrollment recorded for Hackensack
should have been for Bloomfield.

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS & CHANGES GROUPS

Local Spiritual Assembly Secretaries

COLUMBUS, OHIO
Mrs. Florence K. McRoberts
208 N. 22nd St.
ST. PAUL, MINN.
Miss Debora Alas
333 Fuller St.
ST. Paul, Minn.

New Groups

SAANICH MUNICIPALITY
Mrs. Lily Ann Irwin, Corres.
2844 Colquitz Ave.
Victoria, B.C., Can.

RIVERSIDE, ILL.
Mrs. Viola Enkle, Corres.
424 Selbourne Rd.
TERRE HAUTE, IND.
Mrs. Reginald King, Corres.
1518 S. Center St.

TUCSON, ARIZ.
Mrs. Isabelle Dodge, Corres.
2583 E. 2nd St.

RUDOLPH, WIS.
Mrs. Harold Schiller, Corres.
RT. 1

BROADVIEW, ILL.
Mr. James Robinson, Corres.
2106 S. 20th St.

Groups Dissolved

Norfolk, Mass.
Grosse Pointe City, Mich.
Rudolph Twp., Wis.
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Change of correspondent or address

KNOXVILLE, TENN.
Mrs. Ethel Gabbard, Corres.
132 Nicholson Ave.
LAGRANGE PARK, ILL.
Mrs. Charles Harris, Corres.
900 LeGrande Rd.
WHEAT RIDGE, COLO.
Mrs. Elizabeth C. Clark, Corres.
4307 W. 38th Ave.

RTC SECRETARIES

ALABAMA, TALL.
Mrs. Homer H. Dyer, Rt. 5, Box 888,
Birmingham 6, Ala.

Baha'i News is published by the
National Spiritual Assembly of the
Baha'is of the United States and
Canada as the official news-letter
of the Baha'i Community. The first
issue appeared in December, 1924.
Baha'i News is edited for the Na­tional
Spiritual Assembly by its
Baha'i News Editorial Committee:
Mrs. Robert Garfield, chairman,
Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick,
Mr. Gordon A. Fraser. Editorial
office: Mrs. Roberta Christian,
1001 West Genesee St., Lansing,
Mich.

Please report changes of address
to which Baha'i News is to be sent
and other matters pertaining
to its distribution to the Baha'i Na­tional
Office, 586 Sheridan Road,
Wilmette, Illinois.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Col.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addresses</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's Stories Ready</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention Attendance</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directory</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Enrollments</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund</td>
<td>&quot;Where We Are&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;We Must be like a fountain&quot;</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Acre Radio Workshop</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian</td>
<td>&quot;Hope is Wellng Up...&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Front</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenoa, Birthday</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louthen School</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorium</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly</td>
<td>Convention Attendance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;The Plan is a Divine Mandate&quot;</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictures</td>
<td>Anchorage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean Congress</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corbit, Mrs. Solveig</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenosha</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nichols, Valeria</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity Clippings</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santiago Summer School</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stirrat, Charlotte</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pionee r</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio Transcriptions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santiago Congress</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggested Daily Readings</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple Slides</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;World Is Being Prepared&quot;</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Temple Slides Available

The set of 70 film-slides of the
Temple, accompanied by a
10 page mimeographed script
may now be purchased through
Mr. Harry Walrath, 4039 No.
Beacon St., Chicago 40, Ill. A
check for $12.75, which includes
cost of mailing and insurance,
should be enclosed with each or­der.

This set includes 51 Kodachrome or color views and 19 views in black and white. The slides are the standard 2 x 2
inch size on 35 mm. film.
Beloved friends:

When this issue of Bahá'í News is mailed to the believers the Convention will be near at hand, marking the end of another Bahá'í year and the beginning of another administrative year for the American Bahá'ís.

The Convention for the first time will be made up only of Bahá'ís of the United States. The Convention of the Bahá'ís of Canada, composed of nineteen delegates assigned to the various Provinces, is to be held April 24 and 25 at the Maxwell home in Montreal. At that time a National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Canada will be established, forming one more pillar to support the future House of Justice. The National Spiritual Assemblies at present existing represent the believers of Persia, Iraq, Egypt and the Sudan, India, Pakistan and Burma, Australia and New Zealand, the British Isles, Germany and Austria, and the United States and Canada. Canada will have the ninth National Bahá'í community.

The establishment of this new community marks one definite achievement of the second Seven Year Plan. Before 1953 National bodies are to exist in South America and in Central America. As soon as possible thereafter there will be a National Assembly of Western Europe; and Austria, and through the Spiritual Assembly of Paris, to the members of their communities.

Glowing reports have continued to flow in from Luxembourg, Switzerland, Italy, Spain and Portugal as our latest itinerant teacher, Dorothy Baker, has pursued her way through the European Teaching goal countries. The repercussions of her heartening visits to our pioneers will continue long after her departure from the Continent and her contribution to the teaching project, as a whole, is genuinely and deeply appreciated.

Last, but certainly not least, is our news of seven newly declared believers, bringing the total in the goal countries to 50.

and eventually each independent nation of South and Central America and also of Europe will form its own administrative structure.

This development constitutes the fruit of all Bahá'í activity, for the enlargement of the area brought within the world order of Bahá'u'lláh marks the spiritual conquest of the chaos in which mankind has plunged. Not by spiritualized personalities alone, but by faithful Bahá'ís united in the administrative order over which the Guardian and the House of Justice are to preside, the essential purpose of the Faith is fulfilled. The termination of anarchy and rebellion, the use of force and violence for partisan ends — all the causes of human suffering and social disturbance — calls for the operation in human life of those unique functions vested in the House of Justice. Through no other agency can the revealed teachings and principles be transmuted into the law and order on which humanity depends. Here we Bahá'ís stand.

Turn now to our tremendous project, completion of the Temple interior. This year marked the beginning of actual construction work, as last year marked the setting up of a construction fund exceeding $100,000. By now it should be $200,000, but the funds have not been made available.

The inspiration and guidance of all administrative work is given us through our worship of the One True God. Until the Temple interior is completed we will not have unitedly developed the facilities for public worship in the Name of Bahá'u'lláh. Therefore this task is a sacred opportunity the fulfillment of which nothing can be permitted to delay. The call of the Kingdom will resound through all the Americas with extraordinary power when not only Bahá'ís but the general public gather for worship in the Mashriqul-Adhkar. There at last will the Oneness of God be demonstrated, when the Words of all the Prophets are read.

(Continued on page 3)
New Slidefilm Released

The Visual Education Committee announces the release, for sale and distribution, of the new slidefilm "THE GOAL IS WORLD ORDER." This provides a 30 minute program, presenting 65 pictures, in black and white, with accompanying narration.

This visual teaching aid has been produced in two forms, and orders will be filled by the Bahá'í Sales Committee, 4639 Beacon Street, Chicago, 40, Illinois. The prices are as follows:

Slide set—(2x2 slides)—$4.00 per set, including narration
Filmstrip—(Single frame)—$3.00 including narration

THE GOAL IS WORLD ORDER was designed to bring to the Bahá'í teaching support the visual evidence of the world-wide scope of the Faith, and highlights of its expansion during the first twenty-five years of the Guardianship of Shoghi Effendi.

Trial runs of this slidefilm have shown its effective use for large meetings, as well as for the home meetings and discussion groups for which it was primarily planned.

Included with the narration are some "projection hints," for helping to put on a smooth-running performance, and also some suggestions and pamphlet material for the preparation of the Chairman's introduction, and the discussion following the showing of the film.

With the cooperation of the Los Angeles Bahá'í Assembly, the Visual Education Committee gave a short training course, at the Los Angeles Bahá'í Center, for the development of "projection teams." These teams include one person who operates the projector; and another who carries out the functions of Chairman, and Narrator. Through this brief training course new talents were discovered, and new teaching resources were made available.

The Visual Education Committee will welcome suggestions or questions about the use of THE GOAL IS WORLD ORDER.

Volunteers Wanted

The Study Aids Committee needs the help of at least 20 Bahá'ís for looking up Bahá'í references for use in connection with the preparation of new study outlines and courses. Here is a wonderful opportunity for service for isolated Bahá'ís or others whose circumstances do not permit them to take an active part in teaching. If interested write to: Charlotte M. Linfoot, 156 Nova Drive, Piedmont 10, California.

Around The Bahá'í World

BRITISH ISLES: Working under great difficulties the English believers are making great Bahá'í history. Recent reports show that "... 12½ percent of the British community has arisen to pioneer in this Initial Phase of our Six Year Plan! That is one in every eight of the believers you meet in these Islands is one of those devoted souls who have 'taken up their beds and walked' ... At the end of the Plan, an inactive believer, already a contradiction in terms, will be as extinct as the dodo."

IRAN: The house of the Imám-Jum'ih in Isfahan is now Bahá'í property. This is the house where the Bab stayed for 40 days during His sojourn in Isfahan. (See Downbreakers, pp. 199-201). The house is recognized as one of the finest in all Persia as to construction, interior decoration and ornamentation. The National Assembly has organized a Four-Year Plan for the progress of Bahá'í women in that country. Objectives: (1) To organize study classes in 22 centers for the training of Bahá'í women teachers who will be "well acquainted with the history of the Faith, its teachings and its administration." (2) To aid in the elimination of illiteracy. (3) To provide lectures and conferences on health and hygiene. (4) To give special attention to the education of Bahá'í girls. The Persian believers are in the midst of a 45-Month Plan started in November 1946. In several areas local goals have been completely accomplished. Some idea of the work of the Faith can be gained by a few statistics regarding Bahá'í Committees in Tehran: A year ago, the Tehran Assembly needed 24 committees to take care of the social, economic and religious problems of the community. Its Teaching Committee (which had 10 sub-committees for different parts of the city) organized between 75 and 85 weekly meetings, used 65 teachers, had audiences of as many as 300 seekers. The Youth Committee held 168 meetings during the year.

EGYPT: The believers here are struggling to gain certain legal rights as Bahá'ís. Plans are being made to protect the property of the Hazírat'u'l-Quds.

ETHIOPIA: The war scattered the small community in Addis Ababa. Pioneer Sabri Effendi Elias has reported enrollment of new believers. A Bahá'í booklet has been printed there in an edition of 1,000 copies.

INDIA, PAKISTAN, and BURMA: Disturbances in this troubled country have forced the dissolution of three assemblies. Looting mobs in Delhi stuck down an aged believer. The NSA is moving to rehabilitate the homeless.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND: The believers in this vast area "down under" also have a teaching Plan to end in 1953. Their goal is 31 groups and 7 additional spiritual assemblies. Fewness of numbers and vast distances make this a challenging goal. The Guardian cabled in response to their stated goal: "Overjoyed glorious news... Deepest admiration exemplary spirit..." Settlers have already started to move.

APRIL, 1948
**BAHÁ'Í NEWS**

**What Is Teaching?**

“We have a two-fold obligation to study: to become a better Bahá'í; to become an instrument for the spread of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.”

(N.S.A., Insert, Bahá'í News, January 1948.)

These two obligations are interdependent. A well-informed Bahá'í is an active Bahá'í, and an active Bahá'í constantly strives to deepen his knowledge in order to increase his capacity for service.

Before becoming a Bahá'í one is required to possess certain fundamental knowledge of the history, principles and teachings of the Faith, but if his study ceases at that time his growth as a Bahá'í never really begins. Enrollment in the Bahá'í Faith may be likened to graduation from a school of medicine. The act of receiving the degree does not make the individual a successful physician. It only signifies that he has acquired the necessary background of knowledge which he must now begin to expand through further study and practice. So also a Bahá'í becomes an effective instrument for teaching and service only after he has made his knowledge of the teachings completely his own through study, practice and sharing.

In the preceding articles in this series the Study Aids Committee has suggested materials and methods for the study of the teachings. We now offer a few suggestions for using and sharing the knowledge that has been acquired.

The statement by the N.S.A. referred to above, includes this sentence: “Continuous discussion of the teachings can make every believer an effective teacher for one kind of work or another.” It is admittedly much easier to discuss the Faith with another Bahá'í than with a non-Bahá'í—nd this should be done whenever possible, in conversation, through correspondence, in study classes and at summer schools, for the exchange of viewpoints and explanations helps to clarify the understanding. But if the discussion of the teachings is limited to Bahá'ís only, the Faith will not spread. Never to mention the glorious Message of Bahá'u'lláh outside the Bahá'í family is like hoarding precious jewels and denying all others the joy of beholding their beauty.

Therefore, the first step in sharing and thereby deepening one's knowledge of the Faith, is to talk about it on every possible occasion. Have you ever noticed how easy it is to tell someone about a new book you have read, or about a new recipe, a poem or a great heroic figure you have discovered? It is just as easy to speak of the Bahá'í teachings and books, and when you do, your listeners will respond to your personal enthusiasm and sincerity. See how many ways you can find to introduce the subject you have been studying into your conversations, directly or indirectly. Do not anticipate objections, arguments or difficult questions for they may not come up at all. If they do, you will be surprised to find how easily you can answer them. If you cannot give the answers at the moment, do not let one failure in this respect defeat you. Make those questions a challenge for further study. Another opportunity will present itself for you to try again.

Above all, remember the glorious promises of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá that Divine assistance will be showered upon anyone who makes the effort to promote the Faith.

Make a practice of collecting non-Bahá'í articles and news items with some bearing on Bahá'í subjects that interest you and look up the Bahá'í references, interpretations and viewpoints concerning them. Share and discuss these non-Bahá'í articles with other people and give them your Bahá'í viewpoint.

Take advantage of every opportunity to refer to the Bahá'í Faith in letters to friends and acquaintances. Use short Bahá'í quotations; give the Bahá'í viewpoint concerning subjects of mutual interest, and whenever possible enclose a pamphlet with marked passages, or send a World Order Magazine to stimulate reading of Bahá'í materials.

After a few attempts along these lines, you will find that you have developed a surprising amount of self-confidence and ability to present your Bahá'í knowledge with ease. And thus your teaching service has begun—as simply as that! For what is teaching but imparting knowledge? The most that any Bahá'í can hope to do is to share the results of his own efforts with others and to lead them to the point where they will of their own volition begin their own “independent investigation of the truth.”

**Study Aids Committee**
Mrs. Ruth Moffett, Bahá’ís and friends at Louisville, Ky., during the “Seminar” Mrs. Moffett conducted there.

Bahá’í Seminar Bears Rich Fruitage

Our beloved Guardian in his heart-stirring appeals is calling us all to “forge ahead with equal zeal, with unremitting vigilance, with indomitable courage, with tireless energy until the present stage of our mission is triumphantly concluded.” The National Teaching Committee, to fulfill the Guardian’s instructions, sent Mrs. Ruth Moffett on one of the most difficult assignments, to Louisville, Kentucky. There were few active local Bahá’ís, and few people even interested. The three pioneers and the non-residents had struggled loyally amid disheartening conditions. Perhaps the recent progress in Louisville may be of encouragement to many others.

Remembering ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s instructions to “Lay your plans with spiritual strategy,” Mrs. Moffett and the friends began the work with fervent prayer and laying the necessary plans for the Educational Seminar at the Brown Hotel. A brief summary shows that Mrs. Moffett gave 63 lectures, 54 classes, 36 interviews and conferences, 18 luncheons and teas, and 13 book reviews. She reviewed such books as “Human Destiny” by Le Comte du Nouy, “The Prophet” by Kahlil Gibran for whom ‘Abdu’l-Bahá sat for a portrait, and others that tie into our Teachings. She gave lectures to nine non-Bahá’í organizations including the University of Louisville, and several Kiwanis Club dinners.

She also spoke in the Negro WMCA to a group of Negro educators and students. Mr. Jackson, editor of The Defender, presided. Fifteen from the class at the Brown Hotel attended and all were served tea at little tables together, the first experience of the kind for most of those present, and Mr. Jackson said, “Mrs. Moffett, you will never know what you have done not only for Louisville tonight, but for the entire State of Kentucky. You demonstrate these noble Teachings.” A radio broadcast was also given over WGRC, on the Distinguished Guest Hour, and she spoke in several Womans Clubs and the Unity Center.

An unusual Art Exhibit was held for four days during the Seminar, exhibiting excellent paintings by some of the artists who attended the lectures. Mrs. Moffett spoke on the “Fundamentals of Art” and “Art and the New Age” with words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, which attracted some of the artists to begin studying our Faith. An attractive Bahá’í Book Display on World Order was arranged at the entrance of the Public Library for 10 days.

The amazing results in Louisville as the fruitage of the six weeks Seminar of daily, prayerful, consecutive, intensive work, is that seven people became confirmed and registered Bahá’ís. One Bahá’í from the suburbs took her residence in the city. These in addition to the 3 stalwart pioneers gives Louisville a LSA plus a few over for a community. This included 17-year-old Joseph Vital, the only Bahá’í youth in the State of Kentucky. Mrs. Moffett then arranged a Study Course Program for each Wednesday evening until July 1, with a different leader for each lesson—24 in all, and each one is eager to make his lesson the very best. All realize that these remarkable results in only six weeks from Jan. 9 to Feb. 18, are due to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the ardent prayers, the vast ocean of love and energy poured into the Seminar.
Local Assemblies  
Contributing to Fund in February, 1948

- Alabama—Birmingham; Alaska—Anchorage; Arizona—Phoenix; Arkansas—Little Rock; California—Alhambra, Berkeley, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Burlingame, Carmel, Glendale, Inglewood, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Monrovia, Oakland, Pasadena, Sacramento (Jan.), San Diego, Santa Barbara, San Mateo; Canada—Edmonton, Winnipeg, Halifax, Hamilton, Toronto, Regina, Scarborough, Vernon; Colorado—Colorado Springs, Denver; Connecticut—New Haven; Delaware—Wilmington; Dist. of Columbia—Washington; Florida—Jacksonville, Miami; Hawaii—Honolulu, Maui; Georgia—Atlanta (Jan. & Feb.), Augusta, Idaho—Boise; Illinois—Chicago, Danville, Elmhurst, Evanston, Maywood, Oak Park, Peoria, Springfield, Urbana, Wilmette, Champaign, Limestone Twp.; Indiana—Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, South Bend; Iowa—Cedar Rapids; Kansas—Topeka; Kentucky—Louisville; Louisiana—New Orleans; Maine—Eliot; Maryland—Baltimore; Massachusetts—Beverly, Boston, Springfield, Worcester; Michigan—Ann Arbor, Flint, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon; Minnesota—Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Paul; Mississippi—Jackson; Missouri—Independence, Kansas City, St. Louis; Montana—Butte, Helena; Nebraska—Omaha; Nevada—Reno; New Hampshire—Portsmouth; New Jersey—Dumont, East Orange, Red Bank, Teaneck; New Mexico—Albuquerque, New York—Binghamton, Buffalo, Jamestown New York, Yonkers; North Carolina—Greensboro; North Dakota—Fargo; Ohio—Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Lima; Oklahoma—Oklahoma City; Oregon—Portland; Pennsylvania—Philadelphia; Pittsburgh, Scranton, West Chester; Puerto Rico—San Juan; Rhode Island—Providence; South Dakota—Sioux Falls; Tennessee—Memphis, Nashville; Texas—Houston; Utah—Salt Lake City; Vermont—Burlington, Montpelier, Alexandria, Arlington; Washington—Richmond Highlands, Monroe, Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma; West Virginia—Charleston, Wheeling, Wheeling; Wisconsin—Kenosha, Madison, Milwaukee, Racine, Wauwatosa; Wyoming—Laramie.

Baha'i News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Baha'i Community. The first issue appeared in December, 1924. Baha'i News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Baha'i News Editorial Committee: Mrs. Roberta Christian, chairman; Mr. William Kenneth Christian, Mr. Gordon A. Fraser, Editorial office: Mrs. Roberta Christian, 1001 West Genese St., Lansing, Mich.

Please report changes of address to which Baha'i News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Baha'i National Office, 535 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

In Memoriam
Mr. Christy Petersen—Inglewood, Calif. 1-24-48.
Mr. William T. Bowers—West Chester, Pa. 2-4-48.
Mr. Adolph Bosse—Arden, Del. 2-13-48.
Mrs. Fannie Lesch—Chicago, Ill. 2-22-48.
Mrs. Barbara Fitching—Chicago, Ill. 2-25-48.
Mr. Fred Wendler—Chicago, Ill. 2-11-48.
Mrs. Eusebia Dorrida—Baltimore, Md. 2-26-48.
Mrs. Mary Poulson—Sacramento, Calif. 2-22-48.
Miss Eudora Ida Gardner—Kansas City, Mo. 2-6-48.
Miss Kaukab MacCutcheon—Minneapolis, Minn. 2-48.
Mrs. Florence Okell—Burbank, Calif. 2-23-48.
Mr. Floyd Schaub—Fruitport, Mich. 3-17-48.
Miss Emily Fay Rowe—Toronto, Ont., Can. 2-26-48.
Mr. Patrick Quinnan—Brooklyn, New York. 2-25-48.

More Abundant Contributions
"I cannot, however, overlook, much as I sympathize with them in their financial tribulations and anxieties, the mysterious power that resides in the united will and concerted action of all the members of that self-sacrificing community—a community which, since the passing of 'Abdu'l-Baha, has put an impetus to the advancement of the Cause out of all proportion to its numerical strength, its youthfulness, and experience of the powers latent in this sacred Faith. . . . Still more abundant flow of resources (to the) National Fund, involving still nobler self-sacrifice, (is) demanded. . . . (The) world crisis is . . . challenging (the) torchbearers (of) Baha'i civilization . . . (to) pour forth more abundantly (their) resources in support (of) the fund created for its furtherance. . . ."—SHOGHI EFFENDI

FINANCIAL BUDGET 1947-1948

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>
Public Relations in Action

Bahá'í advertising has two primary objectives: to inform the people about the Faith and to influence them favorably through an understanding of its principles. Basically designed to obtain long-run results rather than immediate effects, the advertising is used to gradually build up an interest in the Bahá'í Faith. The momentum of such a program cannot be turned off and on at will. Each month, therefore, in an unbroken continuity the Bahá'í message reaches the public through three national circulation magazines—Newsweek, U. S. News-World Report and United Nations World—to a combined readership of more than 4,000,000 persons.

What national Bahá'í advertising does is to bring the Faith to people in your town where you could not reach through any local channels. Therefore, Public Relations is already doing part of your local teaching work. To make these people interested enough to attend your meetings, plan your local campaigns along constructive publicity lines.

Much of the success of any local campaign depends on how the Assembly takes advantage of Public Relations and other national programs and materials.

The Bahá'í Public Relations committee wants to help you carry on your local campaign. For this purpose, PR Bulletin No. 4 is specially prepared to help you with plans, aids and suggestions. If your Assembly or group does not have a copy, write to Public Relations.

Trade Paper Schedule

Each month we talk to the editor, the columnist, the feature writer, the radio commentator and others interested in the newspaper and radio fields—men who are in an influential position to mold public opinion. During the past year a series of twelve ads were written specially for readers of these various magazines—Editor & Publisher, Broadcasting, Canadian Weekly Editor, and Publishers’ Auxiliary. Reprints of these ads in booklet form are available. Be sure your local newspaper editor and radio station program manager has a copy. For a supply, write Public Relations.

In the Bahá'í teachings last month the Brattleboro (Vt.) Reformer saw great possibilities. Responsible for the paper's editorial: a publicity release based on the NSA statement on human rights to the United Nations. Proclaimed the Reformer about the Bahá'í World Faith: "The fact that groups in all nations are working toward a common spiritual and social platform to break down the barriers of nationality, race and religion is good news, even if it is not conducive to flashy headlines."

A United Press staff correspondent prepared a feature about the Bahá'í new year which was released over the nationwide press facilities of the UP. We Bahá'ís cannot expect any non-Bahá'í to attain the accuracy about the Faith which we strive for in our own presentations. However, when non-Bahá'í agencies press or radio, go out of their way to feature the Cause, we should appreciate the value of their good will and not try to press the editor to change some minor point if the spirit of the story is favorable. Any really serious misstatements, however, should be reported to Public Relations.

A full-page picture of the Temple served as the February cover for the American Concrete Institute's News Letter. Inside the magazine was an illustrated readable story about the interior designs of the Temple. From a story in the travel magazine "Where" comes this sample paragraph: "Unforgettably beautiful by day or night, it is well worth seeing." Bahá'í students attending American university at Beirut, Syria, were mentioned in stories appearing in widely-respected New York Times and the Readers' Digest. Interest which most people have in how the other half of the world lives is one on which Bahá'í publicity committees can capitalize. All the flavor and romance of travel can be woven into a story of some phase of Bahá'í teachings and life. From Anchorage, Alaska, recently came just such a clipping. A newspaper feature was built around a letter from a former resident now a Bahá'í pioneer in Denmark. Clippings from the Temple interior release continue to cross our desk from all parts of the nation. A staff writer of the Lansing (Mich.) State Journal wrote: "Tourists threading their way along Highway 42 enroute to or from Chicago, pause in wonder at—one of the architectural landmarks of the world."
Teaching Campaign Nears Climax

The NTC reports a steady national response to the three historic appeals from the Guardian. In all parts of the country settlers are moving into goal towns and cities, and believers are seeking all possible opportunities to teach and confirm new souls, in a united, sacrificial effort to meet the goal of 175 assemblies by April 21.

A careful national survey on March 10 revealed the status of the national effort as follows:

- **Goal for April 21 - 175 assemblies**
- LSA's in Canada - 13
- LSA's in the U.S. - 130
- **Total:** 143

**Hopeful goals** - 42

Among the offers for assistance in the North American teaching field is an interesting one from a European Bahá'í, Mr. Harry Anderson of Denmark. Mr. Anderson plans to come to the United States to study medicine, and he will make a national effort as follows:

- Filling our 175 assemblies, the work in the North American teaching field is an interesting one from a European Bahá'í, Mr. Harry Anderson of Denmark. Mr. Anderson plans to come to the United States to study medicine, and he will make a national effort as follows:

The Home Front

Charleston, W. V. Mrs. Margery McCormick gave Charleston nearly three weeks of inspiration and teaching help during January, in a deeply appreciated public campaign under the NTC.

Public appearances included the first meeting on Jan. 18 (subject, "The World Safe for Humanity"); two subsequent Sunday meetings, one using colored slide photos to illustrate progressive Revelation and "comparative religion" in a practical way, under the title "Palestine, the Holy Land of Many Faiths;" a five-minute impromptu speech which, following a panel discussion at a meeting of the NAACP, had an electrifying effect on the audience; a fifteen-minute talk at a luncheon meeting of the Women's Hadassah Society (Jewish); and many small informal meetings at the Center.

Radio stations combined to furnish excellent publicity: in addition to a paid broadcast of "A New Interpretation of History," each of five stations made elaborate announcements of Mrs. McCormick's public talks under their Community News programs. Then as a result, one of these requested a fifteen-minute interview. Another station broadcast two seven-minute interviews with her at the instigation of the Jewish Rabbi who had spoken on the panel at the NAACP meeting.

It is earnestly hoped that the results of this campaign may come to fruition speedily enough to achieve the desired goal in Charleston.

Seattle, Wash. The Calendar of Public Meetings in this city carries a splendid notice of an unusual series of discussion meetings. The theme has been "Holy Books of the Bahá'í Faith." The book under discussion for January is "Some Answered Questions" and each week the discussion is guided by a different believer. Several chapters are discussed at each meeting and the titles of the discussions are very appealing. These meetings are held on Friday evenings and are in addition to the regular public lecture meetings.

**Los Angeles, Calif.:** Another splendid local news letter or bulletin is the Bahá'í Journal published monthly by the Spiritual Assembly of this city. A recent program of public meetings includes the following titles: Divine Revelation, Springboard for Social Action; For What Are We Seeking? Assurance in a World of Turmoil; Prayer in a World Religion; Religion: Spiritual Highway for a New Age; The Penetration of the Word of God and Individual Assurance in a New World. Their Reading Room is open to the public daily from 2 to 4 p.m.; they advertise an "Inquirer's Class," an "Espiranto Class" and a Youth Meeting weekly. Many Firesides operate and an interesting recent activity is a weekly gathering of some of the friends to read together from "The Dawn-Breakers."
Latin America Is Helping

Latin America is helping to answer the Guardian's call for 175 assemblies in the United States by April 21 through a 9-point program of cooperation, presented by the Inter-America Committee to the North American Teaching Committee. Some of these points include asking two Latin American teachers, Miss Flora Hottes and Hascle Cornbleth, to serve under the northern committee during the emergency, asking 12 families and individuals, who have volunteered and been accepted for Latin American pioneering, to place themselves at the service of the N.T.C. as North American pioneers for at least a year; asking the N.S.A. to recommend to the International School in Colorado Springs that the Latin American session June 18th to 28th be made an all-Americas session, where Bahá'í teachers may obtain normal school training applicable anywhere in this hemisphere, including the special Latin American techniques, and suggestions regarding how to adapt these to North American teaching; also including a voluntary $2,000 cut in the budget of the I.A.C., which the members hope to be able to increase before the end of the year, so that these savings will be available for the North American work.

Highlights of the Latin American work have just been brought to this country by Miss Janice Ewing of Oak Park, III., who became a Bahá'í in Santiago, Chile, and who has returned to Oak Park to prepare for her wedding to Artemus Lamb of Santiago, which will be celebrated in Oak Park May 8th. Janice gave us some clues to the miracles which enabled the Santiago Congress and Summer School to be such a huge success. She said, "Artemus did not know what could be done to take care of the delegates and visitors who were coming. He saw in the ads a large, beautiful home for rent in the best section of Santiago. It seemed impossible that such a place could be obtained for the use of a crowd of strangers, but he sat down and prayed. Then he went to see the owner and she handed him the keys at once.

"But," said Artemus, "there will be about 35 people staying there. Will that be all right?"

"Oh, yes," agreed the owner, "and in that case I'll just leave all the furnishings and the silver and dishes, and wouldn't you like the two servants too?"

"That is how 'La Colonia Bahá'í' was discovered. Then Artemus wanted a window to display information about the Faith," Janice continued. "He walked up and down the best part of the main shopping street and he saw a beautiful window, the finest in town, right in the heart of the shopping district. He asked a friend about it. 'Yes,' said the man, "the owner sometimes rents the window, but never for more than three days and it is very expensive.' So Artemus sat down and prayed and then he went to see the owner and told him about the Faith and the Congress. The owner offered him the window free of charge for a week.

"After the school sessions, when Artemus took back the keys to the beautiful house, he told the owner how he had become engaged to be married during this time," Janice said. "We had been wondering where we could find an apartment in Santiago, for these are even scarcer than in Chicago. "Oh," said the owner, "wouldn't you like one of my apartments for yourself and your bride? I don't have one vacant but I'll ask for one and have it ready at the right time. My family and I have noticed how the Bahá'ís have behaved during this month that they have used our house. We are interested and would like to study your Faith."

Janice told the Inter-America Committee about her visit to Ezeiza Summer School in Argentina, where the new dormitory has just been completed and where 35 students gathered to study this year. She was entertained by Edris Rice-Wray's and Margaret Swenogle's class of 45 university boys in Puerto Rico, and said that the girls are planning to have a second assembly in Rio Piedras by April 20.

Highlights have come from Esteban Canales of Santiago, chairman of the South American National Teaching Committee. His first stop was in Antofagasta, on the border of Chile en route to Bolivia, where Sra. Yvonne de Cuéllar de La Paz joined him to help with the teaching. Esteban reports that the head of radio station "El Los", which is heard in both Bolivia and Chile, became deeply interested and offered himself as a student and his station as a point for disseminating knowledge of the Faith.

In La Paz 80 people came to hear Esteban speak on the Faith and 40 participated in a reception for him. His itinerary includes Sucre and Cochabamba, Bolivia; Lima, Peru; Guayaquil, Quito and Ambato, Ecuador.

The thrilling news has just come that incorporation of the Faith has been granted in Lima, Peru, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where wonderful work is being done by devoted Edward and Mary Bode. Eve Nicklin, Lima, Peru Bahá'í community is happy over recent incorporation of their assembly, but sorry to see Miss Eve Nicklin, pioneer, leave for Punta Arenas, Magallanes, Chile. She is standing second from left.
Colorado Springs. Inter-America Committee, who gave the opening address of the Congress; Marcia Steward, Sra. Natalia de Chávez, Carlos Vergara and Oscar Castro of the National Teaching Committee, who were in charge of all arrangements. Official teachers at the school included Octavio Illescas, Marzieh Gail, Natalia de Chávez, Oscar Castro, Harold B. Murray and Sra. Mary Luz Guinchard.

A Five-Year Plan for carrying out the objectives of the Guardian’s plan was presented by the delegate from Haiti and will be shown by Mrs. Matthews at the Convention. Constructive plans were made for the multiplication of assemblies, consolidation of existing assemblies, incorporation of the Faith in each country as speedily as possible, establishment of national and local funds, (10 countries contributed toward the expenses of the Congress), establishment of Bahá’í summer schools, organization of regional and national conferences, and making a special effort to carry the Teachings to the indigenes of each country.

Members of the Bahá’í community of Sao Paulo, Brazil are rejoicing over the choice of their beautiful mountain city as the site of the 3rd annual South American Congress and International Summer School, scheduled tentatively for next January. Settlers in the group are Mr. Edmund Miessler, standing center, Muriel, his wife, at right and Margot at left of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s picture, with Bob standing second from left.

Calendar

FEASTS:
June 5—U’r—Light
June 24—Rahmat—Mercy

N.S.A. MEETINGS
April 28

CONVENTION
April 29-30 May 1-2
1948 Summer School Programs

International School
The International School Sessions are open to all believers for normal school training, whether the believers teach in the Americas or other countries. The courses are designed to deepen the understanding of the Faith and to perfect the teaching technique and to enable students to give Bahá’í answers to questions asked. The school will be open June 15th to 28th for a Latin-American Session, followed by a European Session from July 1st to July 10th. It is hoped that the friends will avail themselves of this opportunity and write promptly for reservations since the number is limited to twenty-five for each session. For reservations, address Miss O. B. Crum, sec., P. O. Box 1064, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Gevserville
The Geyserville Bahá’í School session will extend over six weeks again this year — June 20 to August 1. The following courses are being offered:

A. BAHÁ’Í ADMINISTRATION. This class is planned as a workshop. “The Bahá’í Community” will be its text, and its membership will be limited to Bahá’ís.

B. BAHÁ’Í WAY OF LIFE. A class also for Bahá’ís only, will deal with the obligations of Bahá’í life and will study such subjects as the development of spiritual qualities, personal conduct, the individual in the Bahá’í community and the individual in the non-Bahá’í community. It is planned for lecture and directed discussion in class time with assigned research work for outside preparation.

C. BAHÁ’Í HISTORY. An open discussion course with outside reading to be assigned. God Passes By will be the main text.

D. RESEARCH IN THE SPIRITUAL TEACHINGS OF THE FAITH. This course, which proved so popular last year, will be re-offered with some variation in material. Its special value is for those who wish to gain a deeper and more practical knowledge of Bahá’u’lláh’s teachings on the spiritual life of man. For the second and third school periods an advanced course of a similar nature will be given. Students who wish to register for it must have previously taken the primary course.

E. FUNDAMENTAL TEACHINGS OF THE BAHÁ’Í FAITH. A course designed for non-Bahá’ís for the purpose of assisting them to develop a clear understanding of the tenets of the Faith.

F. ISLAM. A combined lecture and discussion course on the history and influence, spiritual and material, of the Muhammadan Faith.

G. THE PLANNING AND DELIVERY OF BAHÁ’Í TALKS. A workshop course planned to give each student as much practice as possible in speaking before a group. Special emphasis is placed on the specific knowledge needed by Bahá’í chairmen and speakers.

H. PROGRESSIVE RELIGION. A new course, planned as lecture and workshop, to study the prophetic religions, their history and basic teachings, covering the relatedness of the various systems and tracing the development of practices and doctrines of today.

I. EFFECTIVE TEACHING METHODS. This workshop will consist of study, discussion and demonstration of individual and group teaching techniques as applied to class, fireside, round table and discussion groups.

Each student will be expected to enroll in at least two courses. There will be as many as can be taken in any two-week period. General assemblies and demonstrations will be held over the two-week ends for the benefit of guests and so the entire student body may profit from the work and study of all the groups.

THE CHILDREN’S PROGRAM. Organized classes for children will be conducted during the four weeks from June 20 to July 18. There will be five groupings, each with its special program, as follows:

Junior Youth — 12 to 15 years
High Intermediate — 10 to 12 years
Low Intermediate — 9 to 10 years
Primary — 6 to 8 years
Pre-school — children under six years.

There will be no separate program for youth. Young people will choose among the courses outlined and will be included in all of the school activities.

In addition to Sunday “open house” programs and demonstrations there will be planned evening recreation, entertainment and cultural activities. The Unity Feast will be held Sunday, July 4, so friends coming for the second session, as well as those about to leave after the first session, will be able to attend.

Rates this year include room and three meals a day. Bedding and linen will be furnished tenants of Bosch Hall. The rates will be, Collins Dormitory, upstairs, adults — $10.50, under 14 — $10.25, downstairs, adults (2 to a room) — $24.50, under 14 — (1 or more on cots, with parents) $8.75, Bosch Hall, men and boys only, adults — $17.50, under 14 — $10.50. Meals for off-campus students, 3 a day, by the week, $14. Transient meals, breakfast, $6, lunch, $6, dinner, $1.20.

The National Assembly has authorized the Geyserville School Committee to charge a registration fee of $1 for each student over the age of three for each period of from four to fourteen days spent at the School. This fee will be used to pay for paper and mimeographing of syllabi for the use of the students and for working material for the children’s program. Any excess will be applied on administrative expense. This registration fee will be in addition to the above rates for board and room.

Make your reservations as soon as possible through Mr. Al Zahl, 326 W. Grant Place, San Mateo, California.

Louhelen
Junior Youth (June 27 to July 9 incl.)
Stories of Bahá’í Heroes
Your Religion and Mine
Your Place in the World
General Session I (July 11-23 incl.)
One Hundred Years in the New Age
Our Religious Heritage
Teaching Methods: New Ways for old
General Session II (July 25-30 incl.)
Bahá’í Community Life
The Role of Religion in World History
Teaching at home and abroad
General Session III (August 1-14 incl.)
Elements of Spiritual Growth
Lessons in Human Relationship
Psychology of Teaching
Senior Youth (Aug. 15-21 incl.)
Personal Life and Understanding Comparative Religion
How can I best serve the Faith?
Young Adults (Aug. 28-Sept.4 incl.)
Social Aspects of the Individual Life
Scientific Approach to Everyday Problems
Implementing the Divine Plan
Louhelen Homecoming, Sept. 5 and 6
The following courses will be available on dates specified.

PSYCHOLOGY OF TEACHING—July 12-24
CREATIVE WRITING — July 5-17
TRAINING TEACHERS FOR BABA' I CHILDREN'S CLASSES—August 2-14
EFFECTIVE SPEAKING (For advanced students. Entire month of August (subject to change)
ADMINISTRATION—July 12-24, August 16-28
VISUAL AIDS, PUBLICITY AND AD WRITING—July 26 to August 7
RADIO SCRIPT WRITING AND TELEVISION (Dates of course unknown definitely)

Green Acre Junior School
Six weeks—July 18 to August 28
Two weeks—July 29 to August 5
Two weeks—August 6 to 14
Nursery School—Ages 3 to 5
Children's Classes—Ages 6 to 11
Junior Youth Classes—Ages 12 to 14
Classes include Religious study, arts and crafts and sports. Classes are held for three hours each morning and there is one hour and a half supervised recreation each afternoon for Children and Junior Youth.

Special Weeks
YOUTH WEEKS—(Ages 15 to 21)
July 25 to August 7
YOUNG ADULT WEEK—(Ages 21 to 30) August 22 to 28

Ed. Note: A schedule of full information as to rates and reservations for all four schools will appear in the May issue.

ENROLLMENTS

Enrollments reported by Local Spiritual Assemblies
Chicago, Ill., 1; Peoria, Ill., 1; New York City, 1; Portland, Ore., 2; Cleveland, Ohio, 5; Dumbarton, N.J., 5; Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1; Lima, Ohio, 1; Danville, Ill., 5; Kansas City, Mo., 2; Burlington, Calif., 3; New Orleans, La., 1; Oak Park, Ill., 2; Albuquerque, N.M., 1; Beverly, Mass., 3; Santa Barbara, Calif., 1; Montreal, P.Q., Can., 2; Toronto, Ont., Can., 1; YOUTH 4.

Enrollments reported by Regional Teaching Committees
New England 3; New York, Conn. 8 & 1 Youth; W. Pa. & Ohio 1; Ky. Ind. 1; Ill. & Iowa 6 & 1 Youth; Georgia 1; Youth Mich. 1 & 2 Youth, Wis., Minn., No. Dakota, So. Dakota 8; Oida., Ark. 2; So. Calif & Ariz. 4; No. Calif. & Nev. 3; Wyo., Colo., N.M. 2; Wash. & Ore. 3; Quebec 1; Ontario 1; Prairie 1; British Columbia 1.
The Home Front

(Co ntinued from page 7)

San Francisco, Calif.: An interesting story reached us in regard to a means of approach to the Mayor of this city. Mrs. Else Waldman of New York City was visiting in San Francisco. One of her hobbies is hand-painting neckties. The manager of the hotel where she was stopping mentioned the fact that the Mayor was very interested in hand-painted neckties, and Mrs. Waldman immediately went to see him as a painter of ties. She was most graciously received, and in the course of her business with him found opportunity to tell him something of the Faith. His response was most cordial and she was able to leave with him a few pieces of literature which she "happened to have with her!

Chicago, Ill.: The believers of this city manage to consistently maintain 30 regular weekly Firesides in addition to their regularly scheduled public meetings. They maintain a Reading Room, open to the public every day from noon to 4 p.m. except Sundays, and issue a monthly magazine which is outstanding in its content and spirit. Their public meeting subjects for January are most interesting. The "Baha'i Youth Program" is offering the following: THE GOAL OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER; A WORLD GOVERNOR; THE MEANING OF FREEDOM; THE ESSENCE OF FAITH AND THE DIVINE ART OF LIVING. The "Baha'i Fellowship Group" is presenting CIVILIZATION, MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL CHANGING IDEAS; RELIGION; THE CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION; THE MEANING OF TRUE PRAYER; and BAHÁ'I PATTERN FOR FUTURE SOCIETY.

Cleveland, Ohio: On Friday Dec. 5, 1947, the Cleveland friends presented a lecture by Mr. William Sears of Philadelphia. The lecture room was well filled and an estimated 70 people heard the talk entitled "The New World Community." On Sunday, Jan. 4, Mrs. Ruth Maffett of Chicago spoke on "The Promised Day is Come" to an audience of about 60.

Other public meetings already planned will be reported later. The Cleveland Bahá'ís, however, are gratified with the continuing success of their regular Sunday morning public meetings which they have been sponsoring for about 18 months. The response of the public has been especially satisfying because in addition to the regular paid advertisement announcing the subject each week, the quotations from the writings of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá included have served to attract many inquirers. At least three papers always run a comment on the subject which serves to tie up the particular lecture topic with the basic teachings of the Faith.

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS & CHANGES

Local Spiritual Assembly Secretaries

NORTH ALBUQUERQUE, N. M.
Mrs. Olive Crocker, Sec'y.
P. O. Box 302
Albuquerque, N.M.

BRATTLEBORO, VT.
Mrs. Edith Newcomb, Sec'y.
18 Southern Ave.
HALIFAX, N. S., CAN.
Miss Arno Chesley, Sec'y.
C. N. A. hypothesis
505 Barrington St.

GROUPS

New Groups

MOUNTAIN VIEW, N. M.
Mrs. Everett Smith, Corres.
Rt. 1 Box 97 B
Albuquerque, N.M.

ESCONDIDO, CALIF.
Mrs. Vera Lou Scott, Corres.
Birch Drive, Rt. 1, Box 38

Change of correspondent or address of correspondent

FINDLAY, OHIO
Mrs. Nellie M. Duff, Corres.
209 Elm St.

LOUDONVILLE, OHIO
Mrs. Frank Warner, Corres.
121 S. Adams St.

CLAREMONT, CALIF.
Mr. Wyatt Cooper, Corres.
Webb School

BROOKLINE, MASS.

MRS. Harold Bowditch, Corres.
44 Harvard Ave.
GLENDALE TWP.
Mrs. W. W. McInyre, Corres.
3244 Montrose Ave.
La Crescenta, Calif.

EAST PHOENIX, ARIZ.
Miss Madge Knudsen, Corres.
c/o Engelder
Rt. 2, Box 394
Phoenix, Ariz.

RTC SECRETARIES

Mrs. Robert McLaughlin
The Stauton, 76 Maple Ave.
Greenwich, Conn.
Mrs. Robert Wilson
1319½ Gaines St.
Little Rock, Ark.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

Appointments and withdrawals were reported by the N.S.A. at its Feb. meeting as follows:

TEXAS REGIONAL
Mrs. Inez Butterfield—appointed chairman.
Mr. Charles Woodruff—unable to serve
Miss Anne Bullock—added. Mrs. Maxine Smith—added

NATIONAL RADIO COMMITTEE

Mail Address:
Mrs. Kit Goldstein
c/o Montefiah
225 5th Ave.
New York 10, N. Y.

April, 1948

William Mitchell of Kingston represented Jamaica at the recent Mexico City Congress. He is chairman of the Jamaica Regional Committee and of the Kingston Assembly and has been teaching the Cause in two cities of that island.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addresses</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around the Bahá'í World</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahá'í Seminar, Louisville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>9*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie, Andrew, Tablet</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conventions meals</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directory</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cables</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies contributing</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More Abundant Contributions</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where We Are</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Front</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memoriam</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Here We Stand&quot;</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictures</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castro, Oscar</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lima, Peru</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisville, Ky</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison, Wisc</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell, William</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santiago, Chile</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sao Paulo, Brazil</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slidefilm</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ad reprint</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;In Action&quot;</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slidefilm released</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Aids</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers wanted</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;What is Teaching?&quot;</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggested Daily Readings</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Schools, programs</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tablet to Andrew Carnegie</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Campaign</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Order magazine</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity Goal Achieved
The following statistics show the sweeping victory of the believers in achieving the goal for Local Spiritual Assemblies.

Goal: 175
Achievement:
in the U.S.—re-elected... 127
new assemblies... 49
in Canada—re-elected... 13
new assemblies... 3

First Convention Cable
I am moved to share with assembled delegates of the fortieth American Baha’i Convention the following facts and figures testifying to the present status of the World Faith of Baha’u’llah and disclosing the marvelous acceleration in the double process of the extension of its range and the consolidation of the institutions of its administrative order in the Eastern and Western Hemispheres in the course of the first four years of the second Baha’i Century.

The number of countries opened to the Faith total ninety-one. Baha’i literature is translated and printed in fifty-one languages. Representatives of thirty-one races are enrolled in the Baha’i World Community. Eighty-eight Assemblies, national and local, are incorporated. The number of localities where Baha’is have established residence has been raised to over thirty in Australasia, to over forty in Germany and Austria, over sixty in the Dominion of Canada, over eighty in the Indian subcontinent and Burma; over one hundred in Latin America, over seven hundred in Persia and to over twelve hundred in the United States of America.

The value of international Baha’i endowments in the Holy Land and the Jordan Valley is estimated at over six hundred thousand pounds. National Baha’i endowments on the

Brilliant Achievements
Transcending Fondest Hopes
(Second Convention Cable)

Joyfully acclaim brilliant achievements transcending fondest hopes and setting the seal of complete victory on the stupendous labors undertaken by American Baha’i Community in the second year of the second Seven Year Plan. The constitution of the National Spiritual Assembly of Canada, the heroic feat of raising almost two hundred the number of Spiritual Assemblies in the North American continent, the marvelous expansion of the daughter communities in Latin America, the successful conclusion of the preliminary phase of the interior ornamentation of the Mashriqu’-Adhkar, and the crowning exploit of the formation of no less than seven Assemblies in the newly opened transcontinental field, endow with everlasting fame the second epoch of the Formative Age, immeasurably enrich the annals of the opening decade of the second Baha’i Century, and constitute a landmark in the unfoldment of the second stage of the execution of ‘Abdu’l-Baha’s Plan. The primacy of the American Baha’i community is reasserted, fully vindicated and completely safeguarded. Recent successive victories proclaim the undiminished strength and exemplary valor of the rank and file of the community whether administrators, teachers or pioneers in three continents regarded as the latest links in the chain of uninterrupted achievements performed by its members in the council and teaching field for over a quarter of a century. I recall on this joyous occasion with pride, emotion, thankfulness, the resplendent record of stewardship of this dearly-loved, richly-endowed unflinchingly resolute community whose administrators have assumed the preponderating share in perfecting the machinery of the administrative order, whose elected representatives have raised the edifice and completed the exterior ornamentation of the Mother Temple of the West, whose trail-blazers opened an overwhelming majority of the ninety-one countries now included within the pale of the Faith, whose pioneers established flourishing communities in twenty republics of Latin America, whose benefactors extended in ample measure assistance in various ways to their sorely pressed brethren in distant fields, whose members scattered themselves to thirteen hundred centers in every state of the American Union, every Province of the Dominion of Canada, whose firmest champion succeeded in winning Royalty’s allegiance to the Message of Baha’u’llah, whose heroes and martyrs laid down their lives in its service in fields as remote as Honolulu, Buenos Aires, Sidney, Isfahan, whose vanguard pushed its outposts to the antipodes on the farthest verge of the South American continent, to the vicinity of the Arctic Circle, to the northern, southern, and western fringes of the European continent, whose ambassadors are now convening, on the soil of one the newly won territories, its historic first Conference designed to consolidate the newly won prizes, whose spokesmen are securing recognition of the institutions of Baha’u’llah’s rising world order in the United Nations. Appeal to members of the community so privileged, so loved, so valorous, endowed with such potentialities to unite and press forward however afflicting the trials their countrymen may yet experience, however grievous the tribulations the land of their heart’s desire may yet suffer, however oppressive an anxiety the temporary severance of external communications with the World Center of their Faith may engender, however onerous the tasks still to be accomplished until every single obligation under the present

(Continued on page 3)
Brilliant Achievements—Cont’d.

Plan is honorably fulfilled, enabling them to launch in its appointed time the third crusade destined to bring glorious confirmation to the first epoch in the evolution of their divinely appointed World Mission, fulfill the prophecy uttered by Daniel over twenty centuries ago, contribute the major share of the world triumph of the Faith of Baha’u’llah envisaged by the Center of His Covenant, and hasten the opening of the Golden Age of the Baha’i Dispensation.

(Signed) SACHED

Haiifa, Palestine
April 26, 1948

May, 1948

Around the Baha’i World

IRAN. Within a two-month period last year, more than 731 relief packages were sent to Germany and other European countries. More than 50 families from Tehran have settled in goal communities . . . . A works of art exhibition was recently arranged by the Baha’i youth at the National Baha’i Center . . . Among recent Baha’i visitors to Iran was Khanum Zaki el Kurdi of Egypt, “ . . . one of the outstanding Baha’i women of the East.”

ETHIOPIA. A spiritual assembly has been re-established here in Addis Ababa.

AUSTRIA. Baha’i youth of Vienna held a symposium on January 25.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. The magazine New Orient has published a long article on the Faith.

POLAND. A regular Baha’i study group has been started in Warsaw.

GERMANY. The friends have been able to secure a building in Frankfurt, which, upon restoration, will serve as a National Headquarters.

In October a teaching conference was held with representatives from all the communities of western Germany and Berlin . . . . In November a meeting at the University of Heidelberg had an attendance of 150 . . . . In Stuttgart, the Birthday of Baha’u’llah was celebrated in the Kammer theater with about 500 present . . . . In several cities the Faith has attracted sufficient attention to be the subject of sermons by the orthodox clergy . . . . All the centers report steady and increasing activity, despite the many difficulties that hampers the Germany community.

INDIA, PAKISTAN, AND BURMA.
The believers in this vast subcontinental face many difficulties in the transition being experienced in the political life of the country. The National Haziratu’l-Quds has been requisitioned by the government . . . . The conditions of riot and turmoil have caused the death of several believers, and others are missing. Three assemblies have had to be dissolved. Several stocks of Baha’i books were also lost . . . . The spirit of the Indian believers has not been impaired. They continue without censure in their teaching Plan, “Time, energy, riches, life itself, if need be—all the wealth that Baha’u’llah has blessed us with are His and are freely given in His service.”

Rejoicing in Europe

Naw-Ruz this year brought special rejoicing in the European Baha’i Centers and was the occasion for a number of new dedications of faith, bringing the total number of declared believers now in the ten goal countries, to 75, with some in every one of the goal cities. The letters telling of the various Naw-Ruz Feasts being celebrated for the first time in these capitol cities are most inspiring and touching. In Oslo for instance, ten Baha’is and fifteen guests were present and a lovely buffet supper preceded the spiritual program and a very wonderful spirit of fellowship and unity marked the whole occasion.

From the Stockholm friends has come a copy of their first letter from the Guardian, a paragraph of which the Committee wishes to share with all the friends:

“Now you are witnessing the first stirrings of our Baha’i Cause in your country. The shoot is small and tender but it will grow to become a mighty tree and cast its blessed shade over Sweden. To the degree to which you unhesitatingly and lovingly watch over it, will it grow and thrive. The very breath of life for this Faith is the love and unity which prevails amongst its followers; and for the protection of the Cause each one must be willing to sacrifice personal feelings and opinions to the good of the community.”

The Committee is deeply grateful to report the following results from the April 21 elections:

8 SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLIES ELECTED!

This veritable miracle has been accomplished under the inspiring and wise leadership of the Guardian and through the selfless sacrificial efforts of our valiant pioneers.

World Youth Day

A recent issue of the Baha’i Youth Bulletin carries interesting reports of observances of Baha’i World Youth Day from the following places: Chicago, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Oliveret, Boise, Kenosha, Urbana, Miami, Kansas City, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Syracuse, and Baghdad.
First Convention Cable—Cont’d.

North American continent are valued at over two million dollars. The area of land dedicated to the Mashriqu’l-Adhkär in Persia is approximately four million square meters. The value of the national Haziratu’l-Quds in the capitals of India and Persia respectively is six hundred thousand rupees and fifty thousand pounds. The area of land dedicated to the first Mashriqu’l-Adhkär in South America is ninety thousand square meters. The number of pieces of Baha’i literature sold and distributed in the course of one year in North America is over eighty thousand pieces. The record of the number of visitors to the Mashriqu’l-Adhkär in America in one year is over seventeen thousand and the total number of visitors since its erection is over one quarter of a million. The number of States in the American Union formally recognizing Baha’i marriage certificates is now eight. The number of National Assemblies functioning in the Baha’i world is raised to nine through the formation of the first Canadian National Assembly, to be shortly reinforced through the constitution of two additional Assemblies in South and Central America and the West Indies.

The second seven-year, the six-year, the four and one-half year, the six-year, the three-year, the five-year and forty-five month plans, respectively launched by the American, British, Indian, Australasian, Iraqui, Canadian, and Persian National Spiritual Assemblies, some culminating at the first Centennial of the birth of Bab’s Martyrdom, are aiming at the establishment of three National Assemblies in Canada, and Latin America, the completion of the interior ornamentation of the Mother Temple of the West, the formation of Spiritual Assemblies in ten sovereign States of the European continent, the constitution of nineteen Assemblies in the British Isles, doubling the number of Assemblies in India, Pakistan and Burma, the reconstitution of the dissolved Assemblies and the establishment of ninety-five new centers in Persia, the conversion of groups in Bahrein, the Hijaz and Afghanistan into Assemblies, the formation of administrative nuclei in the Arabian territories of Yemen, Oman Hasa and Koweit; the formation of thirty-one groups and seven Assemblies in Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania; the multiplication of centers in the provinces of Iraq, including the district of Shattu’l-Arab; the incorporation of the Canadian National Assembly; doubling the number of Assemblies and raising to one hundred the centers in the Dominion of Canada; the constitution of nuclei in Newfoundland and Greenland and the participation of Eskimos and Red Indians in the local institutions of the administrative order.

Plans and specifications have been prepared, and preliminary measures taken, to place contracts for the arcade of the Bab’s Sepulchre. Historic International Baha’i congresses held in South and Central America and an inter-European Teaching Conference projected for Geneva paving the way for future World Baha’i Congress. Recognition extended to the Faith by United Nations as international non-governmental body, enabling appointment of accredited representatives to United Nations conferences, is heralding world recognition for a universal proclamation of the Faith of Bab’s Ullah.

Haifa, Palestine
April 16, 1948

(Signed) Snooch

Guardian’s Cable to Canadian Convention

Hearts uplifted in thanksgiving to Bab’s Ullah for the epoch-making event of the coming of age of the dearly beloved Canadian Bahai Community, the formation of the first national Convention in the City of Montreal and the forthcoming election of Canada’s National Assembly constituting the ninth pillar of the institution of the universal House of Justice. I acknowledge with reverent gratitude and deepest joy the marvelous influence of the operation of the initial stage in ‘Abdu’l-Bab’s Divine Plan enabling the northern-most community of the followers of the Faith on the American continent to pass the stage of infancy and attain the status, and to assume the functions, of an independent existence within the World Bahai Community. I recall on this auspicious occasion with profound emotion the heroic services to the mother community of May Maxwell whose life and death forged unbreakable links binding the body of the Canadian believers to the sister communities of the United States and Latin America. I am moved to appeal to assembled delegates to arise in conjunction with the first Canadian National Assembly, as a token of gratitude for the manifold blessings of Divine Providence, to initiate in the hour of the birth of their national activities a Five Year Plan designed to associate them, formally and systematically and independently, with their sister community of the United States, in the common task of the prosecution of their world-encompassing mission. The fulfillment of this collective task confronting the rapidly maturing community necessitates the incorporation of the Canadian National Assembly, the establishment of national Baha’i endowments, doubling the number of local Assemblies throughout the Dominion and raising to one hundred the total number of localities where Baha’is reside throughout the Provinces, the constitution of a group of Assemblies and the formation of a nucleus of the Faith in the Territory of Greenland, singled out for special mention by the Author of the Divine Plan, and the participation of Eskimos and Red Indians in membership to share administrative privileges in local institutions of the Faith in Canada. I fondly hope and ardently pray that the commemoration of the first Centenary of the Birth of Bab’s Ullah’s prophetic mission will witness the triumphant consummation of the first historic plan launched by the Canadian Bahai community in a land whose future greatness and glory, both materially and spiritually, the Center of Bab’s Ullah’s Covenant twice emphatically proclaimed in His immortal Tablets.

(Signed) Snooch

Cablegram received April 14, 1948,

First National Spiritual Assembly of Canada

John H. Robarts ....Chairman
Emeric Sala ....Vice Chairman
Laura R. Davis ....Secretary
Siegfried Schophlocher
Roland Estall, Lloyd Gardner,
Ross Woodman, Rosemary
Sala, Doris Richardson
Our Sources of Guidance and Inspiration

The Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh provides His followers with two sources of guidance and inspiration: one, in the unparalleled Sacred Literature of the Faith, embracing the whole realm of Divine Revelation from the beginning of the Adamic cycle to this Day of God.

The other, participation in the Holy Feasts and Anniversaries, where the Master assures us He is present in Spirit.

There is no doubt whatever but that the Feasts and Anniversaries have power to guide and inspire the soul of the faithful. This is a Faith for the unification of the peoples of the world, and not for the perfection and exaltation of individual souls to the peaks of solitary grandeur. Therefore the urgency to attend is great, even though no law compels us to do so. Where hunger exists, it is not necessary to have laws compelling us to partake of life-sustaining food.

Let us cherish our attendance at these Bahá'í gatherings, and do all we can to make them radiant and joyous. Non-Bahá'ís may attend Anniversaries but not Nineteen-Day Feasts.

In addition to those gatherings listed in the Bahá'í calendar, the local community can hold an occasional Feast with a special program adapted to non-Bahá'ís. Dinner unions are conducive to fellowship, and fellowship creates interest in the Teachings.

While the Nineteen-Day Feast is particularized for the local community, since it includes consultation and discussion of current Bahá'í activities and local plans, there is no reason why adjoining groups and communities may not for special occasions jointly hold a Bahá'í Annversary and enjoy it together. But the most effective way to stimulate group development is for the group to assume responsibility for observing the Bahá'í calendar, rather than merge itself in the nearest community when Feasts and Anniversaries are held.

Marriage Notices

Because Bahá'í marriages are sometimes reported to Bahá'í News, the N.S.A. has approved the policy that the News may report marriages without stories.

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States

Dorothy Baker ....... Chairman
Paul Haney ....... Vice-Chairman
Horace Holley ....... Secretary
Philip Sprague ....... Treasurer
Elsie Austin, Kenneth Christian, Edna True, Amelia Collins, George Latimer

Letters from the Guardian to Individual Bahá'ís

The National Spiritual Assembly has adopted the policy that individual believers who receive letters from the Guardian, and who wish these considered for publication in Bahá'í News, are to submit either the original signed letter or a photocopy. Without this verification of the Guardian's messages the N.S.A. will not consider them.

In general the believers are reminded that all general letters, bulletins, reports, compilations, study material, etc., which are circulated as Bahá'í material, should carry evidence of an authorized and responsible source — the name of the Assembly or Committee which has prepared, or assumed responsibility for, the material. Lacking such signature, the material can only be considered an anonymous communication. The communication should also be dated whenever possible.

—National Spiritual Assembly

From the Guardian

(Excerpt from a letter to Marzieh Gail dated Dec. 15, 1947)

"...Regarding your question: The Devotional part of the 19 Day Feast means the reading of Prayers by Bahá'u'lláh and the Master. If, after this, there is a period of reading the teachings, his (the Guardian's) writings may be included, but this does not form part of the devotional aspect of the meeting.

"Attendance at 19 Day Feasts is not obligatory but very important, and every believer should consider it a duty and privilege to be present on such occasions.

"If the N.S.A. should wish to publish the above in Bahá'í News it may do so. He leaves such matters to the discretion of that body.

"He wishes the Bahá'ís to press for recognition of their right to observe their own Holy Days, and to observe them whenever possible in strict accordance with our teachings."

—National Spiritual Assembly

Misrepresentation of the Faith

A recent book, entitled "Religion in the Twentieth Century", includes a chapter by Ahmad Sohrab called "The Bahá'í Cause". This chapter gives a sketchy account of the Faith, including mention of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Will and Testament and the appointment of Shoghi Effendi as Guardian. The account ends with a discussion of the origin of the New History Society, written so as to give the impression that it is a well-established world-wide movement.

This chapter is a good example of the deceit which marks the attacks on the Faith by Sohrab. A reader would get no idea of the social teachings of the Faith and Bahá'u'lláh's plan of world order, or the significance of Bahá'u'lláh's Covenant and the function of Guardianship, or the extent of the Faith throughout the world. Sohrab ignored basic truths and facts in the effort to exalt himself.

The Guardian has described him as an avowed enemy of the Faith. "Obscure in his origin, ambitious of leadership, untaught by the lessons of such as have erred before him, odious in the hopes he nurses, contemptible in the methods he pursues, shameless in his deliberate distortions of truths he has long ceased to believe in...he...cannot but in the end be subjected, as remorselessly as his infamous predecessors, to the fate which they invariably have suffered." (Messages to America, p. 49)

—National Spiritual Assembly

Needed at Green Acre

The Junior School of Green Acre is greatly in need of all kinds of children's equipment: from dolls, their clothes and furniture and blocks, for the three-year-olds; to a printing press, (there might be a Bahá'í printer who has an old hand press about to be thrown out, that the children could work with,) for the older children; and all kinds of books for all ages. Could the Bahá'ís comb their attics for the fun and occupation of the children at Green Acre?

And wouldn't some Assemblies, even groups, like to give a shower for sports equipment; baseball and other sporting equipment; playthings for the water; any games of all kinds! They would love you dearly for it.
Goals for this Bahá’í Year

1. To achieve a minimum of fifteen believers in every community.

2. Every American Bahá’í to give prayerful consideration to the Master’s teaching challenge which calls upon each member to confirm at least one soul a year.

3. To make up the deficit in the National Budget for 1947-1948, representing the amount not accrued for Temple construction, by adding this amount to whatever budget is adopted for 1948-1949.

4. Steady progress in fulfilment of the tasks listed in “Challenging Requirements.”

5. Deepening the spiritual life of the individual believer by fuller awareness of the basic principle of the Covenant, and its fulfilment in the Guardianship and the institutions of the World Order of Bahá’u’lláh.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

Assemblies Contributing in March

Alaska—Anchorage; Arizona—Phoenix; Arkansas—Little Rock; California—Alhambra, Burbank, Burlingame, Carmel, Clovisdale Twp., Inglewood, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Monterey, Oakland, Pasadena, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Diego, Santa Barbara, San Mateo; Canada—Edmonton, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Moncton, Halifax, Hamilton, Toronto, Charlotte-town, St. Lambert, Sarnia, Vernon; Colorado—Colorado Springs, Denver; Connecticut—New Haven; Delaware—Wilmington; Dist. of Columbia—Washington; Florida—Jacksonville, Miami; Hawaii—Honolulu, Maui; Georgia—Atlanta, Augusta; Idaho—Boise; Illinois—Chicago, Danville, Elmhurst, Evanston, Maywood, Oak Park, Peoria, Springfield, Urbana, Wilmette, Limestone Twp.; Indiana—Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, South Bend; Iowa—Cedar Rapids; Kansas—Topeka; Kentucky—Louisville; Louisiana—New Orleans; Maine—Eliot; Maryland—Baltimore, Massachusetts—Beverly, Boston, Springfield, Worcester; Michigan—Ann Arbor, Detroit, Flint; Grand Rapids, Lansing; Minnesota—Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Paul; Mississippi—Jackson; Missouri—Independence, Kansas City, St. Louis; Montana—Butte, Helena; Nebraska—Omaha; Nevada—Reno; New Hampshire—Portsmouth; New Jersey—Cumberland, East Orange, Montclair Red Bank, Teaneck; New Mexico—Albuquerque; New York—Binghamton, Buffalo, Jamestown, New York, Rochester, Yonkers; North Carolina—Greensboro; North Dakota—Fargo; Ohio—Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Lima; Oklahoma—Oklahoma City; Oregon—Portland, Pennsylvania—Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Scranton, West Chester; Puerto Rico—San Juan; Rhode Island—Providence; South Carolina—Greenville; South Dakota—Sioux Falls; Tennessee—Memphis, Nashville, Texas—Houston; Utah—Salt Lake City; Vermont—Brattleboro; Virginia—Alexandria; Washington—Richmond Highlands, Monroe, Seattle, Spokane; Wisconsin—Kenosha, Madison, Milwaukee, Wauke - tosa, Wauwatosa, Wyoming—Laramie.

Assemblies contributing .................................. 136
Assemblies not contributing ................................ 7
Individuals contributing .................................. 182
Groups contributing ...................................... 52

Quiz Answers

1. True.
2. False.
3. False.
4. True.
5. False.
6. True.
7. True.
8. True.
9. False. They are often excellent subjects and easy to introduce.
10. False. It means the failure of any constructive teaching.
11. True.
12. False. If any real interest has been aroused your guests will not try to change the subject.
13. True.

Study Aids Committee

Contributions Are Voluntary

“In connection with the institution of the National Fund and the budgetary system set forth in the minutes of the National Spiritual Assembly, I feel urged to remind you of the necessity of ever bearing in mind the cardinal principle that all contributions to the Fund are to be purely and strictly voluntary in character. It should be made clear and evident to everyone that any form of compulsion, however slight and indirect; strikes at the very root principle underly ing the formation of the Fund ever since its inception. While appeals of a general character, care fully worded and moving and dignified in tone are welcome under all circumstances, it should be left entirely to the discretion of every conscientious believer to decide upon the nature, the amount, and purpose of his or her contribution for the propagation of the Cause.”

—SHOGIH EBBEN

Suggested Daily Readings for June

“Immerse yourselves in the ocean of My Words.”

—Baha’u’llah

God’s Law, a Refuge and Comfort


2. Gl., p. 93-98.
5. Gl., p. 330-333.

Some of God’s Laws for Today


Key: GL—Gleanings
A.H.W.—Arabic Hidden Words
P.H.W.—Persian Hidden Words
B.W.F. Baha’i World Faith

—SHOGIH EBBEN
Quiz on Fireside Teaching

How well do you understand the fireside method of teaching? Here is a true-false test on the subject. Read each statement carefully and opposite each one mark either “true” or “false” according to your opinion as to whether it is a correct or an incorrect statement. After you have checked all the statements turn to page 5 to see how many you have marked accurately.

1. Experience has proved that the informal fireside meeting in the home is the most effective teaching method.
2. A fireside requires a speaker.
3. Local Bahá’ís should be invited to any fireside in the community.
4. One non-Bahá’í is sufficient for a fireside meeting.
5. The best fireside meetings are those with the most people present.
6. Mrs. X. casually invited a neighbor in to listen to a radio discussion on world government and then they exchanged ideas on the subject. Mrs. X. never mentioned the word “Bahá’í” so it was not a fireside meeting.
7. It is not desirable to have more Bahá’ís than non-Bahá’ís at a fireside meeting.
8. Refreshments help to make a successful fireside meeting.
9. Current events should never be discussed at a fireside meeting.
10. A heated argument gives life to a fireside discussion.
11. Magazine articles, radio talks, or home movies that can be related to the Faith are good materials on which to base fireside discussions.
12. As soon as refreshments are served, all serious discussion should be dropped in favor of light conversations.
13. A sense of humor and hearty laughter adds to the most serious discussions.

Answers on page 5

On Your Calendar

WHEN: June 26, 12 to 6 P.M.
WHERE: West Englewood, N.J.
WHAT: Annual “Souvenir”—Commemoration of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá Unity Feast, Picnic, Music, Program
WHOM: Bahá’ís and their friends

May, 1948

Pioneer

(Continued from last month)

Sweden, Stockholm, July 29, 1934

When we feel it is the last straw, Bahá’u’lláh blesses some effort which proves glorious beyond anything we could dream. The blowing of the Breaths of the Holy Spirit do not depend upon our poor physical bodies, thank God, but on Bahá’u’lláh’s bounty . . . I came through the gates of this station in Stockholm, so tired, so ill, so almost discouraged, not knowing where I was going to stay, but Bahá’u’lláh helped me and I did get settled and my room is just a little, a very little, like my room at home, and He has helped me to get started . . .

Iceland, 1933

On July seventh, I started to Iceland and spent one month in Reykajavik, the capital. It was so heavenly, so much interest there, and the pure, bracing air, the bounty of Bahá’u’lláh helped me to get stronger.

Finland, 1933

Two months were spent in Helsinfors. There are great opportunities in Finland . . . I hope some Bahá’í teachers can go there and to all Scandinavian countries . . . and also to the Baltic states. Too long they have been neglected. These sons of the north possess the vitality of the magnetic Arctic. They are deliberate, determined, they are pioneers and can become valiant blazers of the trail of the Bahá’í Cause in the West . . .

Lithuania, Kaunas, 1934

Here are people who will study the Teachings. Perhaps the part of a Bahá’í teacher is only to point the way to Truth, to books, to contacts . . . I tell you that the Bahá’í culture of the north may be a rose that blooms later, but when it does bloom it will be fresh, fragrant, exquisite. The flowers of the north possess a freshness all their own!

Czechoslovakia, Nov. 26, 1935

As I travel to these countries, I try to make friends, teach the few who are interested, to try to get them books to study, try to get them into contact with Bahá’ís in other parts of the world, try to get Bahá’ís in other countries interested in them. Also I try to get publicity about the Bahá’í Cause into the newspapers, over the radio, and to the peace workers, the Esperantists, the modern religious organizations; and sometimes I have the bounty to speak of the Teachings to rulers, statesmen, educators and heads of the press.

How do I do it? Every breath, almost, is a prayer to be a “channel” so that Bahá’u’lláh can do His work. The secret is: be ready when your opportunity comes! If I do not read the Holy Writings, if I do not pray much, in two or three days I see the difference, the work is not so good. "Work in the spirit of service is worship" I know, but the spirit must be nourished constantly. Sometimes I fail, but I KNOW the way to interest people in the Bahá’í Teachings is through love and deeds rather than through too much information . . . They themselves will ask fully when they are really attracted. It is very difficult to be a worthy Bahá’í.

Also, dear brothers and sisters, it is possible to teach the Bahá’í Cause even in illness and in hard difficulties. If we do it then, the Bounty of Bahá’u’lláh is very tremendous . . . so in every time of our lives, we can be a help if we keep our hand in God’s hand, and keep looking only to Him.

United States, West Coast, May 1937

(Sentences from a talk on Teaching)

If I have been a Bahá’í teacher, I have had many examples to follow from the West. I got my inspiration to teach from studying the Tablets of Bahá’u’lláh to the Mulas and the Kings and from ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Tablets.

It is the countries who accept these Teachings and arise for the great peace ideal which will establish the divine civilization. Rulers statesmen and educators are more and more promulgating the Cause.

If you want to give the Message to anyone, love them, and if you love them they will listen and they will study the Teachings and become confirmed. If we sow the seeds, Bahá’u’lláh will do the rest.

We should make an event of giving the Message. We forget that they are receiving it for the first time and therefore we should make an occasion of it. It has been said that we live in moments, not in years. When we meet
in San Francisco tonight this is one of the great moments of life. I used to pray that I could give the Teachings to one person each day, and afterwards I prayed that I might give them to millions.

If you cannot go on a teaching mission, make a compilation and prepare things for others. The Teachings on immortal life are very interesting to people. It is well to be prepared to fill in for any emergency.

Try to meet as many groups as you can as the time will come when people will come into the Cause in groups. A thousand teachers will go up and down Europe according to the statement of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to Mrs. Gregory. There is no place for the training of teachers like our country.

Japan, Tokyo, 1937

For years I had wished to meet Dr. Tocchiko Kagawa, one of the bright spiritual lights in Easter Asia, a Christian. I did have the bounty to meet him. He said he had heard of the Bahá’í Teachings when he was a student but had no books. I gave him Gleanings, Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era and others. He said what he knew of the Bahá’í Faith he liked. Read his book “Christ and Japan,” and it will help you to understand the SOUL of Japan, this country that ‘Abdu’l-Bahá said would “turn ablaze.” I wish every one of you who read my letter would promise his or her own heart that he will do something, ONE deed at least, to help get these Bahá’í Teachings to Japan! You can send a “torch” to Japan...letters (“‘Abdu’l-Bahá said that letters are half a meeting), books, prayers, even if you cannot go in person.

Kobe.

After three days in Tokyo I came here to Kobe. Here I met Dr. D. Inouye, the Buddhist priest who is a devoted Bahá’í and who translated Bahá’í into Japanese.

As I sailed out from Japan (after sending out from the ship one last article to those Japanese papers) I thought of the great Buddha in Japan, and said to a thousand hands, and I prayed Bahá’u’lláh to join your thousands with mine to help Agnes Alexander and the Japanese Bahá’ís in establishing the New World Order in Japan. Shoghi Effendi has sent them such brave and tender instructions. Every country knows our Guardian never lets them go, he is helping every country...Trues, deepest love to you, each one, and happiness in all your work. Our happiest moments are when we can bring to others these Bahá’í Teachings which have given us the best we know. Just to have the strength, the opportunity to do anything at all is the greatest blessing. “Appreciate the value of the time for these great days are swiftly passing.”

India, Poona, Feb., 1938

Poona is a Bahá’í paradise and one of the high spiritual lights in India. The first morning, Feb. 5, we had a beautiful program of welcome in the Bahá’í Hall in the National Hotel. The pupils from the Bahá’í school marched to the Hall...The entire stay was so WELL arranged that even New York and Táhirih would say “Bravo!”

I think this plan could with profit be carried out in other cities: At seven P.M. that first day, the President of the Local Spiritual Assembly gave a tea in the Bahá’í Hall for the twenty-four journalists of India. I had prepared my speech, (the resume) to journalists very carefully and made carbon copies. I spoke on Journalism and the Cause and then read to them my interview and distributed it to them. Questions were asked and answered, and some of the journalists came each day afterwards and were very interested. (If it had been a big reception we could not have spoken intimately of journalism and the Cause and what Bahá’í said about the press.)

The SECRET of the very wonderful Bahá’í work in Poona is mobilized UNITY for service! The Holy Spirit is with them, attracted by their unity. The Bahá’í world over the five continents has been gripped at times by Poona’s work. In traveling over India three times as I have, I have met a number of fine people who said that they first heard of the teachings when staying for a few days in the National Hotel of Poona. I must give the tribute to Poona because since 1915, when I first met them, I feel they are “living the life” up there. To be continued

Directory Additions and Changes

Local Spiritual Assembly Secretaries
St. Louis, Mo.: Mrs. George Ferrill, Sec’y. 2924 Lawton, Zone 2
Champaign, Ill.: Mrs. Dorothy Underwood, Sec’y. 506 W. University
Houston, Texas Miss Dorothy Sleigh, Sec’y. 3409 Mt. Vernon, Zone 6
Pasadena, Calif. Mrs. Emina Walters, Sec’y. 609 N. Madison, Zone 4
Birmingham, Ala. Mrs. Rose Terry Brown 208 North First St.

Group Correspondents:
North Phoenix (formerly called East Phoenix group) Miss Edith Goranson, Corres. P. O. Box 1005 Phoenix, Ariz.

Elnecar Mr. Paul Park, Corres. 122 N. Main St.
Green Bay, Wis. Miss Florence Delany, Corres. 1133 12th Ave.
Brewer, Maine Mrs. Sherman A. Calahan, Corres. 4 Nile St.

Delmar, N. Y. Mrs. Georgia Holt, Corres. 18 Delmar Place
Boca, Ohio Mrs. Avis Hess, Corres. 347 Oaktree Place


Tucson Twp. No. 14 Dissolved temporarily

ETC Secretaries:
Okla., Ark. Mrs. Roberta Wilson, Sec’y. 215 Spring St. Eureka Springs, Ark.

National Committees: Appointments and withdrawals were reported by the N.S.A. at its March meeting as follows:
Fla. Regional Mrs. C. M. Davison, Jr.—unable to serve
Ohio, West Pa. Regional Mrs. Catherine Aho—unable to serve
Ala., Tenn. Regional Mrs. John Inglis—unable to serve

Address Change:
Bahá’í Public Relations 112 Linden Avenue Wilmette, Illinois Phone: Wilmette 6743
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, has joined the march of those Latin American Assemblies which have become incorporated this year. The assembly is shown seated in front and some of the community members standing behind them. Rio is the center of publishing in Portuguese. Members of the assembly include Mrs. Leonora Halapple Armstrong, first of the pioneers to Brazil, and Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Bode, who have done noble service in helping to build the community. The three are shown seated in the center, Edward in the middle, Leonora right and Mary Bode left.

New Day Dawns in Latin Work

A new day is dawning in the Latin American work. This year the native National Teaching Committees of the two great areas are taking over the task of planning and directing all of the teaching projects; planning in such a way as to make the native contributions to the fund and the diminishing funds being contributed by the National Spiritual Assembly, go as far as possible toward providing improved literature, the necessary teachers for the hundreds of cities which should be reached, the new radio recordings for the many radio stations ready and willing to contribute their part toward building a new world order, the perfecting of existing summer schools and the addition of new ones, arrangements and programs for the important annual congresses, fore-runners of the conventions, when the independent National Spiritual Assemblies will be elected; arrangements for public meetings at key points, regional projects and publicity work of all types.

Santiago, Chile, will continue to be the seat of the executive committee of the South American Teaching Committee, while Mexico City will become the center of the National Teaching Committee for the 12 Caribbean countries. Each executive committee will have one corresponding member carefully chosen in each of the countries of the area served. During the past year, while these committees and their regional arms in each country have been becoming trained and ready to operate fully, the Inter-America Committee has been gradually retiring itself from the post of directing all Latin activities, and choosing the place of a cooperating agency, so that the native genius of the southern countries may have full sway, as they learn to use their capacity in a Bahá'í way.

A new race of teachers is arising: devoted men and women, most of them young; women who dare to go alone from city to city in spite of the age old tradition requiring heavy chaperonage of every woman, binding her to her parents' home and then to her husband's house until she passes from this world. One of the great women of this new age is Sra. Natalia Chávez of Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Julie Regal of Panama City joined her recently in Mexico to carry on another step the task of reinspiring and deepening communities and teaching new cities there, while Natalia went on to help Guatemala.

Julie wrote of her: "Natalia Chávez has done a wonderful work here in Puebla, Coatepec and Jalapa, reviving the community in Puebla, which for lack of a pioneer had ceased all activity, animating the believers, attracting friends, explaining clearly, tactfully and appealingly the Bahá'í Teachings (and also everywhere, diplomatically but effectively, stressing that the Bahá'í Cause is not rich, but advances on the sacrifice of its supporters.) She stimulates the friends everywhere to do their part in contributing to the fund, and not to expect the U. S. believers to do everything, while they themselves merely accept the help. She works indefatigably, sacrificing her comfort. She demonstrates her zeal in actions, not just in words. All the friends greatly love her and hold her in high esteem."

Another unusual Latin woman, who has recently set out as a pioneer, is the well-known Chilean sculptress and artist, Sra. Lucha G. de Padilla, wife of the former consul general of Chile to the United States. Highly educated, delicately bred, deeply devoted to the Faith, this lady of high Chilean society has dared to break with ancient restrictions and has undertaken a mission in Costa Rica.

Success is crowning the efforts of another new native pioneer, Oscar Castro, who graduated recently from the University of Costa Rica and set out to serve his Lord in Santa Ana, goal city of El Salvador. After various sufferings, violent tests and fervent prayers, he found a brilliant and fine young man, Jose Cordoba, who became confirmed, and set forth enthusiastically to help. Together they interested the noted professor and intellectual, Dr. Alfredo Betancourt, and Oscar found himself called upon to address a public meeting at the university, attended by professors, students, intellectuals and a variety of representative people of the city. He described "The New World Order of Bahá’u’lláh and this was so enthusiastically received that a study class developed out of it, and he has been invited to address the normal school
A View of Pioneering

By Dorothy K. Baker

Pioneering is ecstasy and tears: bad food, cold rooms, dark pensions, and periods of fruitless waiting; yearning souls, sudden illumination, an outreaching public and new conviction of the "power that is far beyond the ken of men and of angels." Europe is frustrated and often skeptical, living in fear and believing in nothing. But Europe is groping too, and in search of a soul, and the part of her that finds it will go to almost any length to keep it. The new believers are the eyes of Europe; they alone can look ahead. To them the Cause is the difference between everything and nothing. Even

and other schools of the city. When he was to be transferred to a city in another country, Dr. Betancourt went to the regional chairman to describe the important work that Oscar is doing and to ask that he be allowed to remain long enough to complete it.

Sometimes we do not realize how far our voices may reach, if we remember always to speak of the Cause lovingly and devotedly. This is demonstrated in one of the many Latin American high lights which have just reached us. Six years ago in Venezuela Gwenne Sholtis spoke to a Hungarian gentleman in the consulate about the Faith. Out of this a contact has come in another corner of the world, in the form of a very touching letter from a young Hungarian medical student in Budapest. He describes how he went through the long agony of European war, first as a child, when his parents were killed, then as a youth in a labor camp. His first contact with the Faith was when all in the camp were slowly dying of starvation after seven days without any food, following upon prolonged starvation diet. An attorney, known as a Bahá'í, who was gentle and not brutalized like the rest, gave the youth half a carrot that he had saved, the only bit of food that he had. His second contact was when he recently met the Hungarian to whom Gwenne had spoken in Venezuela. He hastened to write to Gwenne, hungry to find a new faith, something in which he can believe. He wrote Gwenne that he plans to serve Bahá'u'lláh through his profession when he receives his degree as a doctor two years from now.
Boeck, except for one large downtown meeting, the stage center for peace leaders and the many friends and contacts of the Baha'is. On the last evening the little parlor overflowed into the hall. A tender note was struck by a Dominican priest, recently disrobed for the sake of his conscience. He sat in the farthest row back. A pioneer who had given him a book some months before, recognized him and spoke to him. "What do you think now?" she asked. He lowered his head for a moment and then replied with unaffected simplicity: "I have found the truth." A hero had found Baha'u'llah.

The little duchy of Luxembourg, fine in type, rich in worldly things, perceptive in spirit, waits upon a friendlier time to express itself publicly. It believes in peace, and a group of Federalists made a vital impression upon the public with five headlined newspaper accounts of its meeting, although no direct mention was made of the Faith. The pioneers here are masters of courage and discretion rightly blended, and work entirely through individual contact and firesides.

Switzerland has the thrilling advantage of three working centers with two possible assemblies soon. This land, summer host to a world Guardian, and couched in peace for many generations, offers a background of free thought and sturdy living. Geneva with its bureau and Persian student life; Zurich in its effort to form, in however small a way, following upon one of the largest public meetings sponsored in all Europe, a systematic class for new study; and Bern with its highly successful series of sponsored meetings, and truly impressive response in actual students, all give glorious promise.

A day in Rome was long to be remembered, with a beautifully appointed tea for 95 rare and high-minded friends, and a dinner for the pioneers and new believers of Rome, Naples and Florence. The most outstanding power to attract the highly intellectual was evidenced in Italy! And here especially the exquisite effect of the very recent visit of Marion Little was gratefully remembered.

I cannot refrain, in closing, from mention of France, and a brief but glorious visit to Britain. Through the courtesy of the Paris assembly a delightful meeting was held with the friends of that city, and two frater­ nal days in Lyon were arranged, in company with Marion Little and a brilliant youth of Luxembourg. Here the high­ spirited work of Lucienne Migette has done much to make an assembly probable, and the mother assembly in Paris plans visits of instruction and deepening. In Dublin, Edinburgh, Leeds, Manchester and London, and throughout the two extraordinary days of the Bi­ rmingham, A1-Britain Conference, January 17-18, a wonderful acceleration was manifest on the part of our British brothers.

(Continued on page 12)

Summer Schools
Rates and Reservations
International
Rates: $30.—10-Day Session
Reservations: Miss O. B. Crum
P.O. Box 1064, Colorado Springs.

Geyserville
Rates: Rates this year include room and three meals a day. Bed­ ding and linen will be furnished tenants of Bosch Hall. The rates will be, Collins Dormitory, upstairs, adults — $20.50, under 14 — $10.25; downstais, adults (2 to a room) — $24.50, under 14 (1 or more on cots, with parents)—$7.75; Bosch Hall, men and boys only, adults—$17.50, under 14—$10.50. Meals for off­ campus students, 3 a day, by the week, $14. Transient meals: Breakfast, $.60, Lunch, $.60, Dinner, $1.20.

The N.S.A. has authorized the Geyserville School Committee to charge a registration fee of $1 for each student over the age of three for each period of from four to 14 days spent at the School. This fee will be used to pay for paper and mimeographing of syllabi for the use of the students and for working material for the childrens' program. This registration fee will be in addition to the above rates for board and room.

Reservations
Mr. Al Zahl, 826 W. Grant Place,
San Mateo, Calif.

Louhelen
Rates: Adults: Single Room $3.00,
Double Room 2.50, Dormitory 2.00,
Youth: 1.75, (During Youth Session only.)

These rates are for room and meals, per day, per person.
Reservations: Write Registrar,
Louhelen Baha'i School 3208 S.
State Rd., Davison, Mich.

Green Acre
Rates: Room and board $21—$39 per week; $3.50—$6 per day, depending on size and location of rooms. Rooms engaged by month or season, 8% discount on rooms of $24 or more. Additional 10% discount on rooms to July 18. Youth weeks dormitory rate $15 per week, $25 for two weeks. (16-21 years old) Single meals: Breakfast, $5.00, Luncheon $5.00, Dinner
$1.25, Sunday Dinner $1.50.

Reservations:
Mr. Emanuel Reimer, Eliot, Maine

The Home Front

RIVERSIDE, ILLINOIS. The Baha'is living in Cicero, Berwyn, Riverside, Hollywood, Brookfield, Lagrange, and Western Springs conducted a teaching campaign centering in Riverside. Three public lectures on Feb. 5, 12, and 19, covering the subject "Baha'i Faith and its Teachings concerning Universal Peace and World Order" were given by Mr. Leroy Ios, in the Riverside Public Library. The public was notified by 700 mailed invitations, newspaper write-ups, paid advertisements, and placards in all the towns. Response to the talks was excellent so discussion meetings were continued in the same building through March. Also, social gatherings of attraction were held afterward to continue the interest of the contacts, with special attention in some, for the young people.

COLUMBIA, S.C. Radio, films, and personal interview marked the points of a weekend trip to Columbia, by Mrs. Margaret Kunz Ruhe of Atlanta. The radio broadcast over WKIX on Friday, March 12, at 7 p.m. made use of the Interview prepared by the National Radio Committee and came off well. Mrs. Annie Romer had arranged a Film Forum to be held at the Chamber of Commerce at 7:30 p.m. The stirring film, "One World or None" was followed by Margaret's talk, "A United World." Question period afterward was lively and the spirit fine.

On Saturday morning, Margaret and Mrs. Romer had a visit with Dr. Ward of the University of South Carolina, in which they were able to make references to the Faith. Margaret reports that Mrs. Romer's contact technique has opened many doors in Columbia. That evening, at the home of a seeker, Mrs. McKim, there was a warm response to the talk entitled "Renewal of Religion." Quoting the report, "I am beginning to understand a little more about the why and wherefore of the Guardian's plan. By going out and doing even a little, one's inner resources are enhanced and developed. The Baha'is themselves will be transformed inwardly as they meet the challenge before them. A new race of men is being created in us, the Baha'is of this day. How wise and knowing is our Guardian . . . ."

NILES, AND ROSEVILLE, MICH. 'Abdu'l-Baha's ceaseless service and encouragement of all humanitarian and cultural activity is our constant reminder that this is the key to our teaching effort — "An ounce of deeds is worth a ton of words." Niles is demonstrating this. Their newly established school for children collected food for the Friendship Train and stepped in with practical help when a baby arrived in one of their homes. Roseville's oldest member, Mrs. Katherine Page, has become an outstanding influence in her community which calls upon her for speakers, guidance in literature, and admires her as an artist. This has been invaluable in combating prejudice against the Faith.

PROVIDENCE, R.I. On Thursday, March 19, three Bahá'ís answered the invitation of the Lincoln Society of Brown University to attend their Coffee Hour and speak of the Bahá'í Faith. They found there a lively interest in every aspect of the Teachings, as about forty students took part in the discussion. With the close of the meeting they were extended an invitation to come again.

PERRYSBURG, N.Y. The Young Adult Fellowship group of the Methodist Church in Cattaraugus, numbering thirty-six, met on Naw-Rúz day to hear a presentation of the Bahá'í Faith by Dr. James M. Shaney of Perrysburg. The meeting was advertised locally in the newspaper and by a novel use of poetry on postal cards. A favorable follow-up article appeared later in the newspaper. Question and answer period was the most interesting to the group, and the minister accepted a copy of the "New Era" to read. In addition to this meeting, Dr. Shaney has been giving fireside chats in neighboring Gowanda, N.Y.

HONOLULU, T.H. (The following illustrates the power of united prayer.) In Honolulu a few Bahá'ís joined at the time of the daily noon prayer to repeat prayers for the removal of difficulties surrounding a Bahá'í friend. After the noon prayer, the "Remover of Difficulties" was repeated, then 'Abdu'l-Baha's prayer which begins, "Oh my God, unite the hearts of Thy servants . . . .," followed by the Tablet of Ahmad.

On the ninth day at the hour of noon, the friend who was in difficulty received a telephone call from the causer of the circumstances, promising a solution.

In Memoriam

Mr. Thomas W. Fleming, Cleveland Ohio. Date not reported.
Mr. Albert Galle, West Chester, Pa. February 18, 1948.
Enrollments

Enrollments Reported by Local Spiritual Assemblies

Los Angeles, Calif., 2; Kansas City, Mo., 1; Wilmette, Ill., 2; Detroit, Mich., 1; Muskegon, Mich., 2; Roseville, Mich., 1; Jamestown, N. Y., 3; Seattle, Wash., 1; Richmond Highlands, Wash., 1; South Bend, Ind., 1; New York, N. Y., 2; Independence, Mo., 1; Chicago, Ill., 2; San Francisco, Calif., 1; Racine, Wis., 1; Lima, Ohio, 4; Eliot, Maine, 1; Toronto, Ont., 2; Regina, Sask., 1; Winnipeg, Man., 1; Youth—2.

Enrollments Reported by Regional Teaching Committees

New England, 6 and 2 youth; New York, Conn., 5; New Jersey, 1; West Pa., Ohio, 4; Ill., Iowa, 2 and 1 youth; Michigan, 1; Kan., Mo., Neb., 1; Ala., Tenn., 1; Okla., Ark., 4; Texas, 1; So. Calif., Ariz., 2; No. Calif., Nev., 3; Idaho, Mont., Utah, 3; Wash., Ore., 2; Ont., Can., 2; English Columbia, Can., 1.

Publishing Announcement

'Abdu'l-Bahá the Center of the Covenant by Juliet Thompson reprinted from World Order Magazine, March 1942. An attractive pamphlet 28 pages with stiff cover. In these pages the reader, and especially the new believer, can recapture some of the delicate essence distilled by the beloved Master in the hearts of those who made pilgrimage to Haifa or were near Him during His stay in the West. Price $0.25

Home Front, Cont'd.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA. Always of interest is the forward stride in the life of a community and of the Faith, when incorporation is attained. This time it is Anchorage which this February completed and filed its Articles of Incorporation and approved the By-Laws. Publicity for the Faith was gained when the Anchorage Daily Times ran it as a front page article.

A unique aspect of their Intercalary Party was that in place of exchanging gifts, a special contribution of $217.64 was made to the National Fund.

Another novel feature in the teaching work of this community is the Sunday morning waffle breakfast firesides by Betty Becker.

CARRIZO SPRINGS, TEXAS. We congratulate Mrs. Alvin Rouse of Carrizo Springs for getting two splendid Bahá’í articles into rural journals. The title, “Heralds of Unity” in Farm Talk magazine and in February, Texas Curricular. Mrs. Rouse took the occasion of Lincoln’s birthday and the theme and tied the freeing of the slaves in this country with the same period in which Bahá’u’lláh, on the other side of the globe was releasing a new world program.

View of Pioneering, Cont’d.

Eight campaigns of the year, combined with a settlement project comprising over 12 percent of their membership, will complete assemblies in the three virgin areas and carry forward their total assemblies in the Plan. Humbled by a moving vision of the ceaseless labors of our pioneers abroad, an American also salutes France and Britain. All Europe is on the march!

Feasts:

Calendar

July 13—Kalimát—Words

Anniversaries:

May 23, 1844—Declaration of Báb (observed on May 22nd, at about 2 hours after sunset)

May 23, 1844—Birth of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

May 29, 1892—Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh (observed May 29th at 3:00 A.M.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page Col.</th>
<th>OF CONTENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Around the Bahá’í World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Assembly Goal Achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Calendar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Canadian Convention Cable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Canadian National Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Convention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Election results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>First Cable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Directory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Enrollments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Assemblies Contributing in March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Contribution Voluntary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Where We Are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Guardian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Brilliant Achievements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Contribution Voluntary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Emergency Teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>First Convention Cable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Letters to Individuals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Letter to Marzieh Gail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Home Front</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Latin America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Marriage Notices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Memorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Misrepresentation of Faith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly Election, 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>“Our Sources of Guidance”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>“Pioneer”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Publishing Announcements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Quiz—Study Aids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Answers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Souvenir Feast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Suggested Daily Readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Summer Schools Needed at Green Acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Rates and Reservations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>United Nations Contest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>View of Pioneering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>World Youth Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONVENTION — 1948
The Divine Plan Unfolds

Convention Report—1948
by Annieomer

"America will lead all nations spiritually," said 'Abdu'l-Bahá, when in this country America was not a world leader then; she has had world leadership thrust upon her in these recent tumultuous times. Although materialistic, and a young country, she is in the first place in the non-Bahá'í world. In His Message to the Fortieth Convention the Guardian says: "The primacy of the American Bahá'ís is reasserted, fully vindicated and completely safeguarded." The American Bahá'í Community is in the first place. To lead the world today is a task almost blinding in its impact on political leaders who will establish the Lesser Peace; it is stunning in its implications to the Bahá'ís who will, through the power of Bahá'u'lláh, the love and inspiration of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the leadership of the Guardian create the Most Great Peace and a world civilization.

On the morning of April 29, 1948 the sun shone brightly, and the new green of the trees symbolized the New World in the making. At 9:30 the Bahá'ís, and this year only Bahá'ís, came from the four corners of the land, and a few from other countries, to consult together, hear reports of work done and carry away the inspiration always found in the Temple at Wilmette.

Great masses of red roses greeted the friends, bringing the scene in Baghdad close and the Message of the Ridván. The idea of the Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh to the world ran through the Convention like a golden thread.

The Chairman, Mrs. Dorothy Baker, opened the Convention at 9:30 by asking—"What is the magic of this time?" In answering this she said that some of it was in the number 40. She referred to Moses and the 40 years in the wilderness, the 40 days Christ spent in prayer on the mountain-top and Muhammad's 40 days of preparation. The Báb, she stated, received the Letters of the Living for 40 days while the Blessed Beauty suffered for 40 years. In this Fortieth Convention, she continued, "May God assist us to make this the hour of a new birth, for it is the Time. In Europe, on my recent trip, so many asked me: "How long will this obscurity last? Will you hurry?" Mrs. Baker closed by asking: "May we make the keynote of this Convention that we arise to carry the Cause of God out of our own obscurity into the Light of God, for the true aim of the Convention is the conversion of the world."

On a table was a globe of the world; across the globe were the words: THE BAHA'I FAITH. That was the most important thing before the eyes of those present; Gradually the Divine Plan of 'Abdu'l-Bahá appeared beside the globe as reports came in from the Committees. The Guardian's two cables were read. The knowledge that no letters could be sent to Haifa and no cables sent or received after May 15 made them doubly precious. Hearts were sad and souls filled with awe at the thought of the suffering in the world and an almost crushing sense of responsibility. These people knew that they, and they alone, because they were Bahá'ís, had the secret of the new World Order Plan, in its entirety, and the nearness to the source of power.

One of the twinkling remarks interspersed by the Chairman, voiced a thought often found in many minds. She said she could not see why some people coupled inefficiency with spirituality. Some one said quickly: "The Guardian does not." It was notable, from the start, that no inefficiency marked this meeting. The Bahá'ís who are envied by so many believe in far-away places, because they live near the Temple, had worked very hard to oil the machinery. Every detail had been thought of. The Chairman of Arrangements, Mr. Larry Hautz, gave each one a beautiful souvenir hand-book containing a picture of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and full directions. Mr. Hautz's frequent explanations never failed to bring a response, for he had added the sense of humor to the idea of law and order.

The Fortieth Convention was historic. Some highlights were:

The triumph of surpassing the goal set by the Guardian of having 175 Assemblies in the United States and Canada. The National Teaching Committee, which had been the main base, in connection with the National Spiritual Assembly, from which information and inspiration flowed, announced that the number was 184.

The Chairman, Dr. Katharine True, reported that it was literally a 'breathless' victory. Dr. True showed clearly that the inspiration brought to the friends by the three cables received from the Guardian proved the power which aided the workers to make the result possible. These cables came at a dark hour when victory seemed remote. "Had every believer responded earlier, and to his fullest extent," the Chairman said, "the last minute crisis might not have been so acute." She stressed, as did the entire Convention, 'How can we do better in the future, for the TIME IS VERY SHORT.' Dr. True said that much was done by traffic control at the last moment, routing believers from one place to another, and while heartfelt appreciation is due the settlers who made this historic victory possible, the slogan taken away for the coming year should be NEW BELIEVERS.

A second goal, toward which all eyes had been turned with hope, was described by Mr. John Robarts, who was introduced by the new name of

Convention Message to Guardian

At this fortieth convention of the Bahá'ís of United States, assembled delegates and visitors unitedly express our grateful thanks, your loving approval our efforts. Appreciation of your guiding hand in discharging effectively our divinely appointed task, can never be adequately expressed.

We approach our ask in this third year of Second Seven Year Plan with great humility and pledge anew intensive effort to rise above all conditions and endeavor to fulfill goal set for American Believers. Our hearts grieved over any external severance, however temporary, from world center, yet very conscious of strong spiritual ties with Beloved Guardian.

Our hearts are turned toward you offering humble prayers. Supplicate your prayers for courage, strength to serve Beloved Faith.

Baha'i Convention Answer:

Cablegram received May 2, 1948

Deeply touched by your message welcome pledged by assembled delegates ardently praying fulfillment deepest hopes.

(Signed) Shoghi
Chairman of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Canada." With enthusiasm and assurance Mr. Robarts said: "We have accepted the challenge of our 5-year Plan sent by the Guardian, we are going at it NOW and we KNOW it can be done." He spoke of the good judgment of the Guardian in marrying a Canadian and of the inspiring letter received from Ruhiyyih Khanum, in whose childhood home the Convention was held. Canada, Mr. Robarts reminded those present, was the ninth pillar in the forthcoming International House of Justice. The Canadian representative expressed the thanks of his people for all the help received from the United States, through teachers and settlers, and hoped that many would continue to visit them. The very practical help in funds was also feelingly acknowledged. Mr. George Latimer added a sparkling account of the joyful first Canadian Convention, quoting from his letter from the Guardian's wife, describing the dinner tendered all present by Mr. Maxwell and Ruhiyyih Khanum; also citing the fact that in the public meeting held in the auditorium of a High School, the speakers, Miss Elsie Austin and Mr. Ross Woodman held the audience for two hours. It seemed that the enthusiasm of the Convention flowed into the public meeting as it did in the one held during the Convention at Wilmette. Mr. Latimer's closing remark caused those present to think—and seriously. He said that while the meeting, compared with that in the United States was small, only 112 being present, 13 of whom were delegates, he felt about as great a potential there as in the large meeting in Wilmette.

The dramatic story of the newest chapter in expansion was told by Miss Edna True, Chairman of the European Committee. The figures given of 80 newly declared believers and 6 spiritual assemblies in 7 of the goal countries were one shining highlight of the meeting. Miss True spoke of the 35 valiant pioneers, of the several traveling teachers and the two itinerant pioneers. The amazing things which happened, Miss True said, demonstrated vividly the power in the Divine Plan. Doors opened publicity was obtained and the field seemed ready. It had been prepared through suffering. This condition was stressed by Mrs. Little, who spent several months in Europe. In her brief account of her visit she mentioned the number of people of capacity who had become interested, the glory a Bahá'í felt in giving these sad people the assurance of new life and said that the Italian New Era was sent to 400 libraries in Italy with a good letter. Nearly all, Mrs. Little stated, replied and only three adversely.

A point brought out dramatically by Mrs. Philip Sprague, of the European Committee, was the glowing dedication and joy found in some of the letters from the new believers in Europe. She showed four, one from Rome, Florence, Luxembourg, and Stockholm. Besides emphasizing the fact that all such new believers add immensely to the reservoir of spiritual power in the Cause, with their fresh new light, they bring the countries and people of other lands very close.

A brilliant light was the description given by Mr. Leroy Ioas of the plans for the first European Conference to be held in Switzerland from May 22 to 26. Mr. Ioas gave a graphic picture of the meetings to be held in Geneva, with a trip to Berne, with emphasis on the commemoration of the Declaration of the Báb. He reported that about 80 Bahá'ís would be present, including all of the pioneers, some of the new believers, and friends from non-goal countries, such as Germany, France and England. His announcement that the beloved pioneer, Marion Jack, would be the guest of honor, delighted all present. The cable regarding her came vividly to all minds. It stated: "Great station of Marion Jack example for pioneers in America and Europe." An incident which illustrates this worker's courage and tenacity was that when Miss Jack, who for many years taught the Faith in Bulgaria, was threatened by the dangers of war, the Guardian gave her three choices: They were: to return to America, to go to Haifa, or to remain at her post. She remained at her post.

The reports of this historic Convention will be awaited with great eagerness, for Mr. Ioas filled all hearts with a bit of envy that they could not be present.

A little story told by one of the delegates points up the swiftness or slowness of the work in the Faith. It was of watching a pigeon walk slowly up the long steps of the Cathedral on Fifth Avenue, in New York. "When," as the speaker said,"He could so easily have flown." It seemed to those present, as the reports were given of goals reached that some of the workers were learning to fly.

As always, the report of the Inter-America Committee was most colorful and specific. The fine record of new believers and gain in membership will be found in other places in the News Letters and reports. But some very striking evidences of development were shown. Several members of the Committee spoke on different phases of the work, showing the extent to which consolidation and organization has gone forward. The two Conventions, one in Mexico City and the other in Santiago were described so vividly that all sensed the rapid way in which the Latin Americans are taking over responsibility. The definite statement was made that the original pioneers no longer dominate the scene, and that many signs of maturity are evident. In many ways the cooperation of the public was stressed. The dramatic story told by Mrs. Matthews illustrated the contrast between the North and the South. No one will forget her account of how one Latin friend received the Message. She spoke of the mass production idea in the North and the individualism in the South, also of the cultured minds and the fire found in so many people. The account of the interest and cooperation found in the Masonic Lodges was inspiring, as was the success of the Correspondence Courses. The first Indian Assembly in South America was described. Miss Cheney closed a thrilling report with a beautiful movie which not only brought Latin America into the room but raised the hope that there may soon be more picture stories in the Faith.
And so four highlights flashed forth: 194 assemblies in North America, Goals reached in Europe and the first European Conference, Organization and Consolidation advancing rapidly in Latin America, and the Ninth Pillar of the future International House of Justice, the Canadian National Assembly formed. The Faith of Baha'u'llah was marching forward out of obscurity—and very rapidly.

Mr. Holley told a story which will remain long in the minds of those present. He said that while in a very interesting section of the country, the Smokies, a government scientist told a group of people that during the ice age these mountains were raised above the level of the ice and they preserved the grasses, herbs, shrubs and trees, which later, with the recession of the ice, were spread across the continent. They were the seed bed. Mr. Holley said that in this spiritual ice age when people are inert and unable to live in a spiritual realm the Bahá'í Community is the seed bed of the new Continent of Mankind. The Convention showed the sprouting, growing and maturing.

What was the real core of everything at the Convention — all discussions? It was teaching. From the Library, Literature, Publicity, Public Relations, World Order Magazine and Radio Committees came reports of ways to reach people through words; the appeal through the eyes was described graphically by Dr. Ruhe and shown by Mrs. Longyear through the movie — "The Goal is World Order." Others told of the work with children, with youth and the blind. Several very attractive exhibits were shown, notably those of Public Relations, Visual Aids, Work for the Blind and the detailed plan shown by Mr. Niss for keeping better records in the Bahá'í communities. This spelled the word efficiency. In everything there was a spirit of maturity, courtesy and earnestness which augured well for the future. Perhaps because the words of the Guardian and the spirit of 'Abdu'l-Bahá vibrated through every session, there was a sense of unity. To some it seemed that there was much less talk of unity and much more of it than ever before.

One historic landmark was the brief report given by Mrs. Collins of the formation of the first Indian Assembly in the United States. She quoted the words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá on the great importance of this task; also read a letter from the Guardian expressing his great joy at this achievement. Very interesting was the statement Mrs. Collins said the Guardian made to her that if any believer undertook to teach a minority group they were first to convince themselves that they could walk all the way with the one they were teaching. He also said that it had not been done in the past. Minimizing her own share in the work with these Indian Bahá'ís, Mrs. Collins closed with the words: "Our beloved Mary Stevenson who has brought about this victory is going all the way."

The interesting experiment of the workshop technique proved most challenging and the Convention moved to request the NSA to have all of the summaries given in the Convention, including the fine ones presented by the Convention Chairman, sent to every Bahá'í. Of course the Guardian's cables, and all other information will be made available to every believer.

The room was filled with the large number present at every meeting. A major thrill, as always, was in seeing old friends; perhaps a greater one was in meeting so many new ones. Perhaps greatest when one met a Bahá'í worker to whom the Message had been given several years ago with, to all intents and purposes, poor results. This happened over and over again. So seeds are to be planted, and in God's time many sprout.

And of the Temple, what shall be said? Much information will be sent to the friends during the coming month. The interior decorations, which was pictured vividly during the Thursday evening session, has been shown to the world through the fine work of the Public Relations Committee. The Treasurer, who really made giving attractive, pierced every heart when he said: "We may look back in five or six years and say: 'Our opportunity to put something in that Temple, which will last eternally in the sight of God, has been lost."

Deep in every soul was the resolve to "Give to the Most Holy Temple and if possible guide in the Most Holy Temple." A lovely movie was shown in the fine report of the Temple Program Committee. The fact that the Temple is a very great teacher was proved by the record of the thousands who come to it — an audience ready to be taught.

The idea of spending one's vacation guiding was voiced. The Summer School Committee had also had the same thought. Surely many will come to the Temple this summer, for where in all the world could more inspiration be found? Mr. Haney, and his fellow-speakers described the great beauty of the completed Temple, when the inside is clothed with color and loveliness. Every dollar spent in bringing this picture to reality will be greatly blessed. And when the goal of completing the Temple is reached a mighty impulse will be felt in the entire world. Such is the promise of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

An Oriental note was struck when Mr. Yamamoto was introduced and Mrs. Franklyn told a little of his story. She spoke of his becoming a Bahá'í many years ago in Honolulu, and of his 12 children, nine of whom she taught in a Bahá'í class in California. The sincere devotion of Mr. Yamamoto and his son inspired every one as did the story told by the beloved teacher, Miss Alexander, who worked so many years in Japan.

During the Convention a note of warning was struck by the Secretary, Mr. Holley, which should not be forgotten in the joy of victory. He spoke of the bitter attack which the friends will be called upon to meet in the future and said the lines are forming now. Since we are aware of this, Mr. Holley said he felt in his heart that we should win the battle in the immediate future. His hope, he declared, was that some knowledge of the Faith could be given to millions years before we can reach out and make the personal contact, so that in the hours of great decision there will be friends of Bahá'u'lláh. There are two tasks in the Plan, he concluded, giving the Faith to the masses, and confirming believers, and they should go forward together, step by step, to ultimate victory.

At the Ridván Feast on Saturday evening the children stole the show. The Forum, given by them and their teacher, Mrs. Gaylord Barnett, together with the lovely singing of Mr. Olitzky and the beautiful string music would have pleased 'Abdu'l-Bahá. It cheered the large number present. The splendid program centered around the Ridván proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh made dramatic by Mrs. Gall, and the New World of Peace described in the Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Mr. Windust, as Chairman, added much to the happy time. For
this wonderful story the dark world waits. In the Bahá’í Temple it was Ridvan and the New Creation had appeared.

The Public Meeting on Sunday night showed to old and new believers alike, the response of the non-Bahá’í world. It was a fine meeting, featuring a talk by Miss Elsie Austin which brought almost all of the very large crowd of people present to the platform to ask questions and greet the speaker. Beautiful music given by a harpist and a pianist added a wonderful touch and created an inspiring atmosphere. A fitting climax to a wonderful convention.

One highlight which stands out sharply was the significant report given by Mrs. Mottahedeh regarding our relation to the United Nations. She described the setup of the U.N. and how similar it is, in some ways, to our National Committees. Other points stressed by her were the number of idealists found among U.N. representatives, the many who know about the Bahá’í Faith and the Guardian, and the spirit of collaboration in this Bahá’í work by Hilda Yen, and a clear statement of our position with regard to this world organization.

The news of the U.N. Conference to be held in Geneva, May 17 to 22, at which the Bahá’ís are sending five people, will be awaited as it is an historic event in our world. It marks the recognition of the Bahá’í Faith in a new way, which will be described more fully in other reports.

Every one resolved to watch eagerly for the news and to follow Mrs. Mottahedeh and her associates, who attend this meeting, with their prayers.

Everyone received a thank you as the historic and lovely Convention closed at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, May 2. The Chairman thanked the friends and the delegates thanked the Chairman and the Secretary. A sincere vote of appreciation was tendered to all who made the meetings so successful including those who helped with housing, meals, registration, badges, ushering, the Ridvan Feast and the Public Meeting. Also to everyone who served, in any way, thanks were given and appreciation felt.

There was a lack of personality seen in the Convention, and it seemed that for the crucial time, the greatness of the task, and the state of the world blotted out all littleness and personal feelings. Much of this, too, was no doubt due to the Devotional periods, when the soul-searching Words of Bahá’u’lláh, the Master and the Guardian, created an atmosphere of spiritual awareness which carried through the entire session. Most notable was this spirit at the election period, bringing home to many the complete departure in this New World from old methods. Prayer, silence, guidance. These three make it possible to know and do the will of God.

As the friends from far and near left the Temple for their homes they sensed the bombs falling on Haifa and the agony of the world. But they had seen a picture of a New World unfolding, and they knew how it was to be created. They felt the terrific speed, they thrilled to the great power surging through the entire Cause; and the words of the suffering people of Europe, voiced by the Chairman, rang in their ears — "Hurry, hurry." And with bowed heads, and hearts turned wholly to Bahá’u’lláh, with the Covenant graven on their souls, and the Guardian’s Messages held tightly in their grasp, they whispered, as one voice, — "We will."

Bahá’í Participation in World Conference of Religion

The National Spiritual Assembly has accepted an invitation issued by the Church Peace Union to send a delegate and an alternate to the "World Conference of Religion for Moral and Spiritual Support of the United Nations" to be held at Town Hall, New York City, June 16, 17 and 18, 1948.

A report will be published in Bahá’í News after the Conference with all the interesting information made available by the believers chosen to represent the Faith.

Concerning Fireside Meetings

The National Assembly, judging by letters and reports received in recent months, feels that there are some misunderstandings about the aim and the conduct of intimate fireside teaching meetings which can be readily cleared away and thus release more potential teaching energy for effective service to the Faith.

What the Assembly has in mind is the need for some simple definition of the nature of the home meeting started by one or more members of a family in order to awaken interest in the teachings among their neighbors and personal friends.

Such a meeting is a direct response to the universal command that every believer teach the Cause. It is also one of the very best methods for bringing new people into the community. As such its value depends almost entirely upon two factors: first, control of the attendance and the program by the host or hostess; and second, continuity and development in the teaching and discussion.

The National Assembly wants this type of intimate gathering safeguarded. Experience from all over the country shows that the intention cannot be carried out if the other Bahá’ís look upon such a fireside as an open "party" or "community teaching meeting" and come and go as they feel inclined, join in the discussion and in general adopt the meeting as their own.

Believers should not attend a home fireside meeting unless they are specifically invited by the host or hostess. More than charity is involved, important though courtesy and respect for this Faith. What is involved are the rights of the non-Bahá’í guests to receive the Message, enter into study and discussion, and when prepared, declare their faith.

The home fireside conducted for a few non-Bahá’í friends and neighbors is not subject to administrative control. The Assembly has no grounds for exerting its authority but on the contrary should uphold the right of every Bahá’í to gather his own friends together in the hope of confirming them. Assembly authority does not apply until there are applications for enrollment, unless the Assembly has fair reason to believe that erroneous and harmful teachings are being given out as "Bahá’í".

—National Spiritual Assembly
Beloved friends:

This Bahá’í year opened with the Guardian’s acclamation of victory in his message to the Convention: “Joyfully acclaim brilliant achievements transcending fondest hopes and setting the seal of complete victory on the stupendous labors undertaken by the American Bahá’í Community in the second year of the second Seven Year Plan.”

What is the meaning of this victory for us? That we have acquired greater capacity to serve the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh — that we are more deeply aware that the Faith itself offers the very essence of power to achieve, and all we do is to open ourselves to its penetration.

When unity of faith is combined with unity of action, the condition needed for extraordinary progress has been attained. To contribute to that condition, the National Spiritual Assembly has planned its policies, its committee functions, its annual budget and definite goals in order to meet the Guardian’s expectation and prayer: “Appeal to members of the Community . . . to unitedly press forward . . . until every single obligation under the present Plan is honorably fulfilled.”

1. Consolidation of the Community

With the formation of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Canada, we now constitute the Bahá’í Community of the United States. In this Community there are now 176 local Spiritual Assemblies. Our first goal is the safeguarding of these communities, so that not one single Assembly need be dissolved by April 21, 1949. Nor can we spare a single one of the older Assemblies where the community is still small and near the danger point.

With the same vigor and intensity with which we brought about the formation of 49 new Assemblies last year, we must now work with all the smaller communities until each has attained a membership of at least 15 Bahá’ís. This calls for consecrated effort by individual believers who can carry on circuit or weekend or even occasional teaching, by extension committees of every Assembly able to offer assistance in its area, by the Regional Teaching Committees, and by the National Teaching Committees, which bear the ultimate responsibility.

2. Four Areas of the Divine Plan

In order to develop a more flexible and localized direction of the consolidation activity, the National Spiritual Assembly has appointed a National Teaching Committee for each of the four areas to which the Master, more than 80 years ago, directed one of the Tablets of the Divine Plan. The Assembly feels that ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s definition of the country in terms of these four areas has a profound spiritual meaning.

The system of Regional Teaching Committees remains, but each RTC now operates under the Area Teaching Committee. Each ATC has, for its area, the same power and functions as have been exercised by the NTC in previous years.

All the new and all the smaller communities are requested to look to the Regional Teaching Committee for assistance. The NSA wants each of these communities to conduct a regular study class for all the local Bahá’ís. This is the strong foundation of unity and efficiency. The NSA also wants each to take advantage of every Area, Regional and National facility for public teaching programs, that the Faith may be proclaimed with vigor and the Bahá’í teachings made a part of the spiritual life of the city, town or village.

3. Proclamation of the Message

For the more effective conduct of planned, cooperative public teaching campaigns, the NSA has appointed a new National Committee, the National Programming Committee, endowed with important functions. It is to gather together all available teaching materials, aids, methods and plans, recommend new materials as needed, develop campaign-type teaching plans for both large and small communities, carry out teaching plans in designated centers, and assist the other communities by providing bulletins clearly explaining how each community can conduct an improved teaching program.

The new policy has also been adopted that hereafter the various teaching materials — like displays, recordings, transcriptions, slides, films, and exhibits — so much needed and desired for proclamation
teaching work, will be made available at cost price through the Sales Committee. Any local Assembly or National or Area Committee can purchase such material from its own budget or resources.

Under this arrangement the Committee which develops the material is not charged with the cost of manufacturing it in quantity. The production costs are met by a turnover fund assigned to the Sales Committee. Each item so charged becomes self-liquidating through sales. In this way the costs are eventually distributed over the entire community on the basis of use rather than of production.

This principle is important in that it does not charge such teaching materials to the Annual Budget, which has, through the budgets given national committees, in the past assumed up to $10,000 for cost of teaching material given or lent for use without equivalent return through sales.

The NSA confidently expects that this arrangement will stimulate the "creative planning" committees to even greater achievement in originating new ideas, by making them independent of the task of production and distribution.

Under "Proclamation" comes also the national advertising and publicity schedules of Public Relations Committee, details of which the committee will announce from time to time.

4. The Annual Budget

The Budget adopted for current activities amounts to $285,000 divided into these classifications: Temple construction, $100,000; National Committees, $91,975; Operation of Trustees properties, $17,500; Schools, $1,000; International, $5,600; Administration, including Baha'i News and The Baha'i World, $35,500; Special items, including repairs needed in the Temple structure, $21,800; and a Reserve of $11,825.

In line with the high sense of responsibility manifested by the Convention in its recommendation, the amount of the deficit in our Temple construction item in last year's Budget is added to this year's Budget. This deficit is $59,000, which makes our measure of Baha'i sacrifice this year the goal of $354,000.

5. Unity the Essential Baha'i Quality

But all our plans and activities, all our contributions of effort and money, will fail in their real purpose unless we all attain the condition of unity among ourselves. Let us exalt the spirit of disunity forever from Baha'i gatherings and councils throughout the land. Let us remove this cancer from the body of the Faith. Let us give way to the Holy Spirit, that Light from on high which shines so brilliantly in the polished mirror of a united community.

In the Spirit is joy, healing, power, capacity and guidance, when we open our hearts to its Presence. Whatever this year may bring forth, may it find us worthy of that "prerogative" which the Guardian has referred.

6. Publishing Announcement

Character, a Sequence in Spiritual Psychology by Stanwood Cobb; now issued in paper bound edition. This book has been found a good approach to the Baha'i Faith by many of the friends. 152 pages, price $1.00

On Declaring a Vacancy in Assembly Membership

Years ago we had the direction from the Guardian that Assembly members unable to attend meetings because of illness or absence from the city were to be replaced. In a few cases of obvious need, this principle can very readily be applied. For example, if an Assembly member during the year establishes his permanent residence elsewhere, a vacancy is declared; and the same rule of reason applies if a member becomes physically incapacitated to the point where he simply can no longer render service.

The difficulty has been to apply the principle where the inability to attend is temporary. Is there a definite time limit after which the member automatically loses his membership status in the Assembly?

The National Assembly is very happy to cite words from a recent letter written by the Guardian through his secretary to an American Baha'i clarifying this very point.

"... it is establishing a dangerous precedent to allow Assemblies to put a time limit on non-attendance of their members at meetings of the S. A., beyond which that person is automatically dropped from the Assembly and a vacancy declared... There should be no time limit fixed by Assemblies beyond which a person is dropped. Every case of prolonged absence from the sessions of the Assembly should be considered separately by that Assembly, and if the person is seen to not want to attend meetings, or to be held away from them indefinitely because of illness or travel, then a vacancy could legitimately be declared and a new member be elected."

British Baha'i Youth Bulletin

The NSA of the British Isles has announced the publication of a Youth Bulletin as a quarterly appearing in March, June, September and December, and distributed on a paid subscription basis.

American believers wishing to subscribe should send a postal order for an amount equivalent to three shillings, six pence, to the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the British Isles, 168A Old Brompton Road, London, S. W. 5, England.
The flower-scented house gleamed, from the pink spirea on the piano top beside the Temple model, (a farewell gift from Ruhíyyih Khánum to her mother-community at the time of her marriage) the roses beside the Master’s picture, the daffodils and narcissi in the halls, to the sweet-peas in the bedroom where the Master once slept. Everywhere there was an air of expectancy.

Friday evening was “open house” in the Maxwell house, our Convention headquarters. Singly, or in little groups, the friends arrived with shining faces to be met with glad cries of welcome. Haifa drew a little closer with the coming of the aunt and cousin of our beloved Ruhíyyih Khánum, awakening memories of the occasions when May Maxwell herself was our hostess. A babble of voices and laughter had arisen by the time the refreshments were served. Color slides were being shown to the very interested youth as some of us left to meet a group of Ontario friends, at the station. In greeting these twenty-odd Bahá’ís, we thought of how many such groups would cross-over our country, forming arteries through which the love of God would flow anew.

Saturday morning, April 24, we gathered for devotions. The thirteen delegates sitting in front, the hundred visitors overflowling into the dining-room, study and stairs, were made one unit by a system of microphones. While waiting for the momentous opening words, these two days appear as a pellet of time into which is compressed the history of forty-eight years of Bahá’í life in Canada, from the time the seed was first brought by May Maxwell to this moment when that seed would become the ninth pillar of the future Universal House of Justice. Sitting in this mellow blue and golden room, past, present, future fuse, the phrase “no beginning and no end” becomes real to us. For two days, less than a tick of eternity, with time sense lost, we are one with Bahá’u’lláh’s first messenger to Canada; we rejoice with her over the first Canadian to accept the Faith, Martha McBean, her husband’s cousin; we share in the thrilling days of preparation for the Master’s visit; we sit in the very room where He spoke, perhaps the very chair He sat on; we see Him stride in flowing robes up and down the street before the white doorway, while the interested, awed, and curious drive by slowly in their carriages. Into a pellet of thought, rush memories, of the many years of struggling, patient, ecstatic effort until today the largest group of Bahá’ís ever to congregate in this country open, on this sunny morning, Canada’s first National Convention.

Devotions ended, the roll call of the delegates took place. Flood, and the three thousand miles, prevented the six far-western delegates from attending. Dorothy Baker, for the last time acting as chairman of our joint N.S.A. opened the Convention and conducted the election of our Convention officers. She had come with four other members of the N.S.A. of the United States (how strangely worn that title appears!) to hand over to the Canadian N.S.A. the trust shared for so long.

Our Convention chairman, John Roberts, and secretary, Laura Davis, took their places. The Guardian’s cable was read, and a copy given to those present. We have all read by now the Five Year Plan which the Guardian outlined for us with the specific goals which he has measured to our capacity. As Mrs. Baker spoke on these eight goals, we could sense the friends planning summer holidays near Indian reservations, to Newfoundland or Greenland; inwardly resolving to accomplish these tasks well before 1953.

The letter from Ruhíyyih Khánum was masterly. How it made our hearts swell with joy to realize her great services to the Cause, her position in the Holy Family, and our link with her, the physical symbol of the unity of the east and west! We could feel how she, on her part, rejoiced with us in our greater opportunity to fulfill the promises of the Master for Canada. Messages of reply were sent to both our beloved Guardian and Ruhíyyih Khánum.

It had been with some trepidation that the large auditorium of the Montreal High School had been engaged for the public Congress on Saturday night, a night not too favorable for lectures. Though the location was central, timing was against us. It was the night of a great Jewish festival, and an exhibition by Canada’s world champion skater! However through the unexcelled publicity arranged by the Montreal friends, over

### Calendar

**FEASTS:**
- July 13—Kalimát—Words
- August 1—Kamal—Perfection

**ANNIVERSARIES:**
- July 9, at noon—Martyrdom of the Báb

**N.S.A. MEETINGS:**
- June 17-20
- July 29-Aug. 1, at Green Acre

### Suggested Daily Readings for July

**Rahmat—Month of MERCY**

Meditation—“I bear witness O My Lord, that through Him Thy most resplendent signs have been uncovered, and Thy MERCY hath encompassed the entire creation.”

P.M. 255

**July**

1. P.M. pg. 76 LIU
2. P.M. pg. 139 LXXXI
3. Gl. pg. 124 LIU
4. P.M. pg. 240 CL
5. B.W.F. pp. 102-105
6. B.W.F. pg. 114 “As one soul...”
7. Gl. pp. 32 XXV
8. D.B. pp. 34-35
10. B.C. pg. 3
11. B.C. pg. 90
12. P.M. pg. 250 CLVII

**Kalimát—Month of WORDS**

Meditation—“Whoso reciteth, in the privacy of his chamber, the verses revealed by God, the scattering angels of the Almighty shall scatter abroad the WORDS uttered by his mouth.”

Gl. 285

13. P.M. pg. 112 LXIX
14. P.M. pg. 19 CXXXII
15. B.C. pg. 3
16. B.C. pg. 90
17. Gl. pg. 104 LIU
18. Gl. pg. 136 LXII
19. Gl. pg. 173 LXXIX
20. B.W.F. pg. 10 “The true believer...”
21. B.W.F. pg. 35 “This new World order...”
22. B.W.F. pp. 67-68
23. Gl. pg. 259 CXXII
24. B.C. pp. 102-103
25. Gl. pg. 141 LXXIV
26. R.C. pg. 97
27. Gl. pg. 10 VII
28. Gl. pg. 12 X
29. P.M. pg. 138 LXXXII
30. Gl. pg. 261 CXXXII
31. F.M. pg. 42 LXXIII

The above readings may be used for daily reading and for selections to be read at Nineteen Day Feasts.

**Key**

P.M.—Prayers and Meditations
Gl.—Gleanings
B.C.—Book of Certitude
B.W.F.—Bahá’í World Faith
D.E.—Dispensation of Bahá’u’lláh
B.N.E.—Bahá’u’lláh and The New Era

### Canadian Bahá’í Convention — 1948

The flower-scented house gleamed, from the pink spirea on the piano top beside the Temple model, (a farewell gift from Ruhíyyih Khánum to her mother-community at the time of her marriage) the roses beside the Master’s picture, the daffodils and narcissi in the halls, to the sweet-peas in the bedroom where the Master once slept. Everywhere there was an air of expectancy.

Friday evening was "open house" in the Maxwell house, our Convention headquarters. Singly, or in little groups, the friends arrived with shining faces to be met with glad cries of welcome. Haifa drew a little closer with the coming of the aunt and cousin of our beloved Ruhíyyih Khánum, awakening memories of the occasions when May Maxwell herself was our hostess. A babble of voices and laughter had arisen by the time the refreshments were served. Color slides were being shown to the very interested youth as some of us left to meet a group of Ontario friends, at the station. In greeting these twenty-odd Bahá’ís, we thought of how many such groups would cross-over our country, forming arteries through which the love of God would flow anew.

Saturday morning, April 24, we gathered for devotions. The thirteen delegates sitting in front, the hundred visitors overflowing into the dining-room, study and stairs, were made one unit by a system of microphones. While waiting for the momentous opening words, these two days appear as a pellet of time into which is compressed the history of forty-eight years of Bahá’í life in Canada, from the time the seed was first brought by May Maxwell to this moment when that seed would become the ninth pillar of the future Universal House of Justice. Sitting in this mellow blue and golden room, past, present, future fuse. The phrase "no beginning and no end" becomes real to us. For two days, less than a tick of eternity, with time sense lost, we are one with Bahá’u’lláh’s first messenger to Canada; we rejoice with her over the first Canadian to accept the Faith, Martha McBean, her husband’s cousin; we share in the thrilling days of preparation for the Master’s visit; we sit in the very room where He spoke, perhaps the very chair He sat on; we see Him stride in flowing robes up and down the street before the white doorway, while the interested, awed, and curious drive by slowly in their carriages. Into a pellet of thought, rush memories, of the many years of struggling, patient, ecstatic effort until today the largest group of Bahá’ís ever to congregate in this country open, on this sunny morning, Canada’s first National Convention.

Devotions ended, the roll call of the delegates took place. Flood, and the three thousand miles, prevented the six far-western delegates from attending. Dorothy Baker, for the last time acting as chairman of our joint N.S.A. opened the Convention and conducted the election of our Convention officers. She had come with four other members of the N.S.A. of the United States (how strangely worn that title appears!) to hand over to the Canadian N.S.A. the trust shared for so long.

Our Convention chairman, John Roberts, and secretary, Laura Davis, took their places. The Guardian’s cable was read, and a copy given to those present. We have all read by now the Five Year Plan which the Guardian outlined for us with the specific goals which he has measured to our capacity. As Mrs. Baker spoke on these eight goals, we could sense the friends planning summer holidays near Indian reservations, to Newfoundland or Greenland; inwardly resolving to accomplish these tasks well before 1953.

The letter from Ruhíyyih Khánum was masterly. How it made our hearts swell with joy to realize her great services to the Cause, her position in the Holy Family, and our link with her, the physical symbol of the unity of the east and west! We could feel how she, on her part, rejoiced with us in our greater opportunity to fulfill the promises of the Master for Canada. Messages of reply were sent to both our beloved Guardian and Ruhíyyih Khánum.

It had been with some trepidation that the large auditorium of the Montreal High School had been engaged for the public Congress on Saturday night, a night not too favorable for lectures. Though the location was central, timing was against us. It was the night of a great Jewish festival, and an exhibition by Canada’s world champion skater! However through the unexcelled publicity arranged by the Montreal friends, over
five hundred attended, the largest audience of any Bahá’í meeting since the Master’s visit to Canada.

The music linked the audience together, putting us into a reflective mood, giving us time to look at the mixed gathering of French and English, Negro and Jew, rich and poor, to examine our programmes and the notices of future Bahá’í meetings; to admire the flowers and remember the donor, an absent American friend, and to follow the music. I found myself sitting behind an old school friend whom she hadn’t met for years. On chatting together it was learned that the schoolmate’s husband had heard of the Cause ten years ago from an American Bahá’í in the Gobi desert. He had been deeply interested and was also present that night.

There was the usual pause and rustle when the music ended until the chairman, with easy and friendly dignity, made the audience and speakers one. As Elsie Austin moved to the microphone, her green velvet dress catching the light, one felt the admiration and interest she created. She gave a simple yet graphic account of her work, more than her words the spirit of faith out of which they were born.

Our National Assembly took place on the land. This city, and beyond it, throughout the worlducher and this momentous moment of Canada’s spiritual coming of age would never be matched.

During the presentation of the Temple progress report, the tellers returned. Dear as is the Temple to us our restlessness forced the chairman to ask for the election results. Here was the pivot point of the whole Convention. It was as if we were to see a child suddenly become a man, or a bud a flower, in the recurring of the nine names of Canada’s first National Spiritual Assembly. Our first act after the great announcement was to say a prayer in the name of our beloved Baha’u’llah who had been the chosen instrument to set in motion in this country the mighty forces of the Cause of Baha’u’llah.

The closing moments passed quickly in the discussion of teaching problems. A few of the Bahá’í youth present were asked to report on their activities. The Convention welcomed their bright accent, the excited interest that exuded from all of them. One young man, a Bahá’í of only a few weeks, was asked what he thought of the Convention. His unusually beaming face grew very serious as he replied, “I think I might have missed this!” Tributes were made to the magnificent work of the Montreal community in organizing the many details of the Convention; to the National Spiritual Assembly of the United States for all that they have taught us. Listening to the five members present as they clarified points of national importance, we realized how grateful we should be for all that we have learned and received from them. The first gift to the Canadian Bahá’ís was a cheque for fifteen hundred dollars from this sister community!

The last act of the chairman was to invite all the friends to a buffet supper in the Maxwell home as guests of Ruhiiyyih Khanum and Mr. Maxwell. It was almost as if we were in Haifa, we felt so close in spirit.

The full tide of joy was reached at the Ridvan Feast, arranged by the Canadian Bahá’ís. Among the readers was one who had met the Master as a Bahá’í in 1912; another a relative of the Maxwells, and a young pioneer. We thought as we listened to Bahá’u’llah’s message, en-joined to us to read the word of God with melodious voice. Our hundred hearts felt like birds, and this great Cause the tree from which we sang out our thanksgiving as the Master’s Tablet and Prayer for Canada was read in the room whose walls still seemed to store and treasure the sound of His voice.

Who among those present can recapture the words spoken by Dorothy Baker? Europe became part of our world, as indeed it is, the valiant friends in England, Scandinavia, Switzerland, Italy, Portugal, the sleeping lad of France, the catacombs of Spain, and above all the hearts arising out of the pain of that continent in response to the thrill of the Greatest Name. It was on this occasion, possibly the greatest event taking place at that moment on this planet. It was a solemn moment in which our delegates, representing six provinces, and the visitors, from seven provinces and eight states, shared. Indeed the visitors by their courtesy and attentiveness had a vital part in the success of the Convention. At this time our regret at the absence of the western delegates was deepest. Though they had all sent their ballots, and a perfect score was cast, this actual breathless moment of Canada’s spiritual coming of age would never be matched.

Temple Design Approved
Generous Support Urged by the Guardian

This important message from Shoghi Effendi combines statements conveyed to the National Assembly in two telegrams, dated May 4th and May 6th respectively:

“Temple drawings received. Approve design. Urge proceed without delay to place Temple contracts. I appeal to entire body of believers to arise and generously support the National Fund in hour of greatest need, to insure uninterrupted progress in the ornamentation of the House of Worship, as foretold by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, is already conferring such benefits upon the community.

“Praying for magnificent victories in third year of second Seven Year Plan.”

(Signed) Srow
Growth in Latin America

Convention reports showed steady and comparatively rapid growth of the Cause in Latin America. There is a total of 47 Spiritual Assemblies, 11 of them new this year: 44 groups and 257 new Bahá'í pioneers, representing a growth in all-over membership of about 50 percent. The 11th assembly to join the march of general incorporation of the Faith throughout Latin America, reported receiving its decree during convention. This was Havana, Cuba.

The other seven assemblies which incorporated this year, were La Paz, Bolivia; Lima, Peru; Caracas, Venezuela; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Santiago, Chile; Panama City, Panama; and Guatemala City. Two assemblies attained their decrees the year before: Asunción, Paraguay, and Bogotá, Colombia. San José, Costa Rica, was the first assembly to incorporate, receiving its decree in 1942. Four additional assemblies are now in process of incorporating. An interesting phase of such incorporations in Latin America is that the first incorporation granted gives the Faith legal recognition by the government anywhere in that country and additional assemblies in each country can register under the one incorporation and partake of its benefits.

Latin America has also attained its first Spiritual Assembly in a city of the indigenes, Chichicastenango, ancient capital of Guatemala.

National Youth work will get under way in the 22 countries this year for the first time, being headed in this country by Charles Ioas and John Eichenauer, collaborating with native National Youth committees in the two great areas.

Twenty-six approved native teachers, 19 of them new this year, have arisen to supplement the efforts of the dwindling ranks of the North American pioneers, who still serve only eight of the 22 countries. The requirement that all resident teachers earn their own living, has placed a great sacrifice upon the shoulders of those North Americans who have continued in spite of the very difficult economic conditions, so difficult in many instances that our North Americans cannot comprehend it without going through these experiences personally. In many countries, a well-trained secretary can do very well, but no other profession seems to fit into the Latin picture at present. Those who are good secretaries, have great and interesting opportunities, and are extremely important to the development of the Cause. The Inter-America Committee strongly urges those who can qualify in this respect, to volunteer to help during these three years, which are so crucial in the proper formation of strong and stable National Spiritual Assemblies in April, 1951.

Social service to the Island Republic of Haiti by the growing Bahá’í Community in Port-au-Prince, was described to the Inter-America Committee by Mr. Pumpey. The Bahá’ís have established the first medical clinic where sympathetic, efficient and helpful service is available to the poor people of the island, he said. It is a large, white-washed bamboo hut. Behind natural curtains of blossoming vines are the white operating tables. Simple cots serve those who must rest in the clinic for a time. Clients are seated on long benches on the porch of the little, tropical-country house. The white uniforms of the doctors and nurses, who are giving their time without charge, their earnest and intent faces; the patient faces of those who wait, the crude but effective equipment, against the background of tropical verdure and flowers, makes an unforgettable picture, he said. Those who can do so, pay the cost of medicines used. Eleven new members have recently been accepted by the Port-au-Prince Community, some of them outstanding people of the island. The Assembly is in process of incorporating the Faith in Haiti.

European Conference Planned

The glorious news of 80 newly declared believers spread through all of the goal countries as well as the historic announcement of the formation of eight Spiritual Assemblies in 10 of the goal cities was transmitted to the Guardian and the following inspiring cable received from him:

Hearts flooded with joy remarkable victory exceeding fondest expectations stop. Convey heartfelt congratulations, assurance, admiration, loving gratitude, prayers newly formed Assemblies. Supplicating Bahá’u’lláh enable both pioneers, native believers unitedly achieve still greater triumphs stop. Eagerly await photographs newly constituted Assemblies adorn walls Bahá’u’lláh’s Mansion adjoining Most Holy Tomb Bahjí.

Shoghi Effendi

The plans for the European Teaching Conference in Geneva have been completed. It will begin on May 22 with an afternoon opening session followed by a Unity dinner and the Commemoration of the Declaration of the Báb. During the following four days there will be consultation on Administration, Will and Testament, besides all other matters specifically concerning this teaching campaign. On Monday evening there is to be a public meeting in Geneva with an address in French and in English and on Wednesday night, a public meeting in Bern, our Swiss goal city, with a talk in English and in German. Through the special contributions from Bahá’í friends it has been made possible for the Committee to invite all of the pioneers as well as one newly declared believer from each country to attend the Conference. Four members of the Committee, Mary Sprague, Leroy Ioas, Sylvia Ioas and Edna True, will be present and visitors from the communities of Great Britain and Paris with a probable total attendance of 75.

Schedule of N.S.A. Meetings, State Election, and National Convention

The meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly have been scheduled from May, 1948 to April, 1949, as follows:—

1948

May 1, 2, 3, 4.
May 8, 9.
June 17, 18, 19, 20.
July 29, 30, 31, August 1, at Green Acre.
September 3, 4, 5, 6, at Louhelen School.
October 8, 9, 10.
November 5, 6, 7.
December 3, 4, 5.

1949

January 7, 8, 9.
February 11, 12, 13.
March 24, 25, 26, 27.
April 27.

The 1949 State Elections will be held on February 6.

The Forty-First Annual Convention will be held April 28, 29, 30 and May 1, 1949.
Public Relations

Public relations begins and ends with human relations. It has been described as "living right and getting credit for it." Others call it "good manners." And it has been defined, simply, as relations with the public.

Whatever the definition, sound Bahá’í public relations has a fundamental function of carrying to leaders and to the public the story of the Faith, what it means and what it means to them. This involves every public contact of every Bahá’í. It means that Bahá’í public relations is an all-encompassing activity within the Faith, not limited to a few.

The importance of an enlarged program of action for the public proclamation of the Teachings has been stressed repeatedly by the Guardian. In the recent "Challenging Requirements," Shoghi Effendi, under "proclamation," directed the NSA to "amplify public relations programs." It is this program that the Public Relations committee is developing.

Clarifying its role in Bahá’í public relations, the Committee points out that it conceives of its programs as one which (1) prepares for continuous enlargement of direct teaching work by other committees, turning up the soil and sowing seeds, and (2) provides a continuous follow-up of interest and literature for persons who have never heard of the Faith, or who have visited the Temple or attended some meeting but have no contact with Bahá’ís.

Its aim is to bring the Faith to the attention of thousands who have never heard of it, make free literature available, and continue the process of deepening their interest by regular mailings of the Bulletin. When evidence of interest is found, the name is turned over to the appropriate body for its list of prospects. The Public Relations committee stops at the boundary where "proclamation" ends and "consolidation" begins.

Here is some of the evidence attesting to the growth and effectiveness of our public relations:

Members of the Sunday Evening Forum of the First Congregational church in Oak Park, Ill., recently listened to an assuring definition of the work of the Bahá’í Faith. Said Dr. Bayard Dodge, president of American College at Beirut, Syria, in answer to a question as to what (Continued on page 12)

Our Children: Science or Religion?

Scientists working in the field of human relationships are making significant contributions to the understanding of how children grow and develop in our culture. Through observation over long periods of time they are learning at which stages in the child’s development the various physical, mental, social skills and behavior characteristics develop. A noteworthy example are the studies made by Dr. Arnold Gesell at the Yale Clinic of Child Development. These and similar studies give us understanding of the mechanism of emotional and social growth and from these we can learn what it is reasonable to expect of a child of a given age.

Specialists in child care today do not give us many hard and fixed rules for bringing up children. They have learned that individual variations in parents, children and family situations are too great to permit the formulating of many rules of thumb for specific situations. Rather they seek to show parents and educators that it is the way in which a thing is taught, the spirit behind the teaching, which registers most with the child. Basically the only way to teach children character is by the example of our own lives. They respond to our attitudes, our beliefs which are shown by our daily (often unconscious) actions. Insofar as we make of our beliefs a set of creeds and rituals to which we give lip service alone, just this will get across to our children. Insofar as we believe in a living God Who teaches through His Prophets, our children will grasp and reflect this.

The importance of religious faith and positive moral convictions for laying a foundation for the healthy development of children is recognized by many psychologists, psychiatrists, and educators today.

"Children do not need parents who dutifully send them to church, or methodically instruct them in their duty; they need parents who themselves hold strong and passionate moral convictions... The important thing is that children should grow up with parents who believe that there are some ways of life which for us today are better than others and that these ways are worth defending with every ounce of our strength."

"A Child's spiritual education begins as soon as he becomes aware that his parents feel intensely concerning these distinctions" (distinctions between good and bad ways of living).

"Parents need to be free and alive enough themselves so that they can do things actively with their children... have good times... work and play together... and love each other without dependence. If the way is clear for these things and if parents are able at the same time to confront their sons and daughters with their own mature standards in living, children will learn, not all at once, perhaps, but gradually as they develop, and with many backslidings. Sound and responsible character in children does not come because they have been caught young and trained that way, but because they have been enabled of their own free wills, to give up their early egoistic and primitive wishes through affectionate contacts with parents who themselves love and practice civilized living."

"Among all my patients in the second half of life... that is to say, over thirty-five... there has not been one whose problem in the last resort was not that of finding a religious outlook on life. It is safe to say that every one of them fell ill because he had lost that which the living religions of every age have given to their followers, and none of them has been really healed who did not regain his religious outlook."

The Bahá’í Faith gives security in the knowledge of a loving God, plus a realistic understanding of the conditions of the world and the basis on which its conflicts may ultimately be resolved. This faith and assurance we can give our children. And the inestimable value to our children of having such faith and standards is readily acknowledged by many psychologists and educators. There is however much that we can learn from the scientists about human behavior, the developmental patterns of children and work out for ourselves the best ways in specific instances, to aid them to grow into really mature, self-reliant people.

As indicated in two of the basic principles of the Bahá’í Faith: "investigation of truth" and "the unity of science and religion," we can pro-
Public Relations, Cont’d.

part Bahá’ís were taking in the Palestinian dilemma: “Bahá’ís are working to spread a religion that will unite all the peoples of the world.”

To “Questions and Answers,” a syndicated feature appearing in such papers as the Boston “Traveler” and the Niagara Falls “Gazette,” a reader queried: “‘What is the membership of the Bahá’í Faith and how many churches has it in the U.S.?’ The answer: ‘The Bahá’í Faith is composed of followers of Bahá’u’lláh, a Persian prophet (1817-1892). The Faith has neither clergy nor churches nor ritualistic worship, but each community constructs its own Mashriqu‘l-Adhkar, or house of worship, for prayer, meditation and reading of the Sacred Scriptures.’”

Another widely-circulated cartoon-feature, entitled “‘They’ll Never Die,’” showed a sketch of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and a brief description of the Faith. “His father, Bahá’u’lláh, a gentleman of great wealth, was exiled by the Persian government for preaching the doctrine of human equality and brotherhood!”

In “Chicago,” a 98-page picture book of the Windy City, a half-page view of the Temple is shown. In the text: “A universal religion which welcomes Christians, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, or persons of any other faith.”

From Puerto Rico comes an interesting newspaper story along with a picture of the Temple: “In the heart of the North American continent considered by many to be the most beautiful building in America, the Temple of Wilmette rises like a ray of hope for a world darkened by a cloud of hatred and religious and national suspicion. Those responsible for this Temple are the Bahá’ís who comprise a community that extends through 80 countries of the world. They are people of every nationality, race, class, religion, who found this precious gem of understanding and cooperation between the countries which will be a substitute for the antagonisms, prejudices, and lack of confidence that are destroying the fundamentals of a world society.”

Last fall a leading Boston paper used the name of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá as an answer to a cross-word puzzle query. Now comes the Saturday Review of Literature’s double-crostic puzzle-question: Persian Bahá’í leader knighted by England in 1920 for his services.

Our Children, Cont’d.

it greatly by keeping aware of the contributions to the art of living made by the social sciences today. Thus religion and science can supplement one another, ...

...p. 126

...p. 280

...p. 320


In Memoriam

Mrs. Florence Cox, Bremerton, Washing­ton, April 1, 1948

Miss Agnes Leo, Watertown, S. D., April 3, 1948

Mrs. J. A. Houchens, Washington, D.C. April 4, 1948

Mrs. Cora B. Ashton, Los Angeles, Calif. April 3, 1948

Mrs. Ruby N. Griffith, Sacramento, Calif., March 30, 1948

Mrs. Ina Forth, Long Beach, Calif. April 13, 1948

Mrs. Cora Ely-Jones, Ruskin, Fla. April 15, 1948

Mrs. Fanny A. Sargent, Hazel Park, Mich., April 8, 1948

Mrs. Rosella Dennis, Los Angeles, Calif., April 8, 1948

Mrs. Grace Mattson, DeKalb, Ill. April 25, 1948

Mrs. Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, Olivet, Mich. May 19, 1948

Miss Dayna Farrand, Olivet, Mich. May 16, 1948

Mr. Clarence Niss, Chenequa, Wis. May 21, 1948

JUNE, 1948

Enrollments

New enrollments reported by Local Spiritual Assemblies

Oakland, Calif., 1; Charleston, W. Va., 2; Chicago, III., 2; Los Angeles, Calif., 4; Racine, Wis., 1; Little Rock, Ark., 1; Indianapolis, Ind., 1; Miami, Fla., 2; Santa Cruz, Puerto Rico, 3; Baltimore, Md., 1; Flint, Mich., 1; Portsmouth, N.H., 2; Milwaukee, Wis., 2; Wilmington, Del., 1; Lima, Ohio, 2; Cleveland, Ohio, 2; Columbus, Ohio, 1; Louisville, Ky., 1; Albuquerque, N.M., 5; West Chester, Pa., 1; Independence, Mo., 1; Philadelphia, Pa., 1; Washington, D.C., 2; Boise, Idaho, 1; St. Paul, Minn., 1; Toronto, Ont., 2; Youth, 9.

New enrollments reported by Regional Teaching Committees

New England, 1; New York, Conn., 5; New Jersey, 6; Del., D. Pa., 3; Ohio, W. Pa., 4; Kan., Mo., Neb., 1; Okla., Ark., 2; Texas, 5; So. Calif., Ariz., 11; Fla., 2; Ky., Ind., 2; Ill., Iowa, 10; Mich., 8 and 1 Youth; Wis., Minn., No. and So. Dakota, 5; No. Calif., Ore., 2; Wyo., Colo., N.M., 1 Youth; Wash., Ore., 5; Ontario, 1.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page Col.

Addresses .............................................. 3 2

British Youth Bulletin .............................. 7 2

Calendar ............................................... 8 1

Canadian Convention ............................... 8 2

Convention, Messages to and from Guardian ...... 2 3

Convention Report .................................. 2 1

Divine Plan Unfolds ................................ 2 1

Enrollments ....................................... 12 3

European News ..................................... 10 2

Fireside Meetings .................................. 5 3

Guardian .............................................. 6 1

Message to NSA ..................................... 6 1

Sacred Obligation .................................. 6 1

Shadrine ............................................. 9 3

Latin America ..................................... 10 1

Marriage Certificate ............................... 6 1

Memorial ............................................ 12 2

National Spiritual Assembly

Fireside Meetings .................................. 5 3

Marriage Certificate ............................... 6 1

Purposes and Plans for Year ........................ 6 1

Schedule of Meetings .............................. 10 3

Vacancy in Assembly .............................. 7 3

Pictures-Convention ............................... 1 1

Public Relations ................................... 11 1

Publishing Announcement .......................... 7 2

Suggested Daily Readings ........................ 8 1

World Conference of Religion ..................... 5 2
"Temple drawings received. Approve design... Urge proceed without delay to place Temple contracts. Appeal entire body of believers to arise, generously support the National fund in hour of greatest need to ensure uninterrupted progress of the ornamentation of the House of Worship which, as foretold by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, is already conferring such benefits on the community. Praying magnificent victories Third Year of the Second Seven Year Plan."—Shoghi

"The Mashriqu'l-Adhkár is the most important matter and the greatest divine Institute... To have it (the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár) built is most important. Some material things have spiritual effect, and the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár is a thing that will have great effect upon the spirits of the people. Not only does the building of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár have an effect upon those who build it, but upon the whole world."

—Abdu'l-Bahá

"Vie ye with each other in the service of God and of His Cause."

—Bahá'u'lláh

1. A few days after the convention the National Assembly received a cable from the Guardian approving the Temple interior design. He asked the immediate placing of contracts. He urged us all to "generously support the National Fund in its hour of greatest need."

2. The Guardian's appeal emphasizes the Convention recommendation that the deficit in the National Budget for last year be added, as a special goal, to the Budget for the current year.

3. The National Assembly adopted this Convention recommendation. The deficit in meeting last year's budget was $69,226.35. This is the goal for our special sacrificial effort.

4. For most of us, this deficit goal of $69,226.35 can be met through sacrificial contributions of our savings or other capital assets. This is a challenge requiring contributions from sources which will not impair our ability to meet the heavy demands of the National Budget for the current year. Our desire to answer the Guardian's call will fail if we do not achieve the current budget as well as eliminate the deficit.

5. Each month in Bahá'í News the National Treasurer will report the progress in reducing the deficit. Contributions may be labelled "Special Deficit Fund." They may be sent direct to the National Treasurer, 112 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois. Or they may be forwarded through Local Assemblies or Groups.

6. In working out the current budget, the National Assembly made drastic reductions in the budgets of the major national committees. Many worthwhile projects have been postponed or eliminated. The operating budget represents a great curtailment of many vital national activities. Now, Temple construction must go forward without interruption.

7. A special item of $20,000 in the current budget is for essential repairs to the Temple structure. Broken glass in the dome must be replaced. The decks of the main story and first gallery must be repaired to eliminate present leakage. These repairs were deferable as long as no ornamentation was placed in the interior auditorium. But with interior construction starting, leakage would now cause rapid deterioration of the ornamentation. This would mean high replacement costs later on.

We know our Faith has grown and expanded through sacrifice. We know that thousands of Bahá'í martyrs saw their homes plundered and gave their lives—in praise and joy at the opportunity to show their faith.

We have seen waves of pioneers leave comfort and security to proclaim the Faith of God in other lands. We have seen bands of settlers face hardships cheerfully to consolidate the Faith in this country.

The entire human race awaits redemption. People live in confusion and agony of spirit. The Temple is the symbol of their salvation. Through our sacrifice the coming of Bahá'u'lláh can be clearly demonstrated. Through our sacrifice our love for God becomes a living reality.
# NATIONAL BUDGET FOR THIRD YEAR OF SECOND SEVEN YEAR PLAN

**1948-1949**

## Temple Construction:

| Interior Ornamentation | $180,000.00 |

## Committees:

| European Teaching | 41,400.00 |
| Inter-America | 22,500.00 |
| National Teaching Committees |
| Northeastern States | 1,150.00 |
| Southern States | 1,725.00 |
| Central States | 1,150.00 |
| Western States | 1,700.00 |
| Special Fund for Settlement Commitments | 4,000.00 |
| Public Relations | 9,000.00 |
| National Programming | 3,000.00 |
| Temple Program | 2,000.00 |
| Radio | 2,000.00 |
| Service to the Blind | 500.00 |
| Visual Education | 500.00 |
| Questionnaires | 300.00 |
| Library | 300.00 |
| Youth Activities | 300.00 |
| Souvenir of 'Abdu'l-Baha | 100.00 |
| Bahá'í World Editorial | 100.00 |
| World Order Magazine | 100.00 |
| Archives & History | 50.00 |
| Child Education | 50.00 |
| International Relief | 25.00 |
| Study Aids | 25.00 |

## Schools:

| All | 1,000.00 |

## International:

| International Bureau—Geneva, Switzerland | *2,000.00 |
| International Fund—(Allocated to European Teaching by instructions to Guardian) | *3,600.00 |

*These two items increase amount available to European Teaching by $5,600.00

## Administrative Expenses:

| General—(includes Bahá'í News, Convention Expenses, Printing, Special Mailings of Guardian's Messages, etc.) | 15,500.00 |
| Bahá'í World, Vol. XI | 5,000.00 |
| Secretary's Office—(includes Salaries, Telephone & Telegraph, Cables, Supplies, etc.) | 11,000.00 |
| Treasurer's Office | 4,000.00 |

**Total Operating Budget** $251,575.00

## Special Items:

| On Account Purchase Louhelen School Property | 1,800.00 |
| Special Repairs to Temple Structure (Necessary before beginning of interior construction.) | 20,000.00 |

**Reserve:**

| For Contingencies | 11,625.00 |

**TOTAL NATIONAL BUDGET FOR 1948-49** $285,900.00
European Bahá'ís Hold First Teaching Conference

"Share the joy and elation of the attendants at the first historic European Teaching Conference on the Continental, regarded as the fairest fruit of the momentous enterprise signaling the second stage in the evolution of the Divine

In this foregoing quotation from his cable-greeting to the historic first European Teaching Conference, the Guardian clearly foretold the spiritual blessing and bounty which was shared by all those participating in this Conference. Ninety-two Bahá'ís from seventeen countries gathered in Geneva, Switzerland, on May 22 for the series of consultations which were planned for the following four days. All of the pioneers with one exception and at least one newly declared believer from each of the goal countries but Spain, four members of the European Teaching Committee and Bahá'í representatives from England, Scotland, France, Australia, Germany and Austria, participated in mature and thrilling constructive consultation on all matters pertaining to the strengthening and promotion of the Faith on the European Continent and in the British Isles. Very special study was made of the Divine Plan, Administration, Will & Testament and Covenant as well as the important matters of teaching methods and techniques, translations, publications and publicity.

Throughout the sessions a unifying welding spirit of Bahá'í love and fellowship pervaded the atmosphere and a new conception of the greatness of the Cause, of its power to draw together and unite the different peoples of the world, inspired all of those present to renewed dedication and devotion to their high mission of establishing the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh in these new fields. So great were the confirmations which descended upon those assembled here that five non-Bahá'ís who had been studying the Faith asked to declare themselves at this time.

The two public meetings, one in Geneva at which addresses were given in French and in English and the other in Bern with talks in German and English, were most successful with excellent attendance. On the last day of the Conference, Wednesday, May 26, the representatives traveling in three chartered motorcoaches enjoyed a beautiful scenic drive from Geneva to Bern which gave them an opportunity to partake of the true spirit of Bahá'í sociability and fellowship and to share with each other their many confirming and thrilling experiences.

The Commemoration of the Declaration of the Báb which was celebrated on the first night, May 22, of the Conference, was an outstanding occasion; at the close of which the Báb's prayer, the Remover of Difficulties was repeated in all languages of the ten goal countries. To those who had experienced both occasions, this first historic European Teaching Conference could only be compared in its dynamic spiritual atmosphere to the Centenary of the Faith in 1944. It was truly an unforgettable, priceless experience.

— European Teaching Committee

"Distinguished Disciple of 'Abdu'l-Bahá"

Greatly deplore passing of distinguished disciple of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, firm pillar of the American Bahá'í community, George Latimer. His outstanding services during closing years of the Heroic, and first epoch of the Formative Ages of the Faith, are imperishable. Assure bereaved, dearly loved, much admired mother my profound sympathy and fervent prayers for the progress of his soul.

Shoghi
(From cablegram received June 23)

Cablegram from Haifa

Welcome decisions made at recent Assembly meeting. Suppli­cating blessings for forthcoming Conference with Com­mittees. Elated by magnificent success achieved at European Conference, development affiliation with United Nations . . . Urge you devote special attention in current year to insure rapid progress of Temple construction, maintenance of Assembly status, and consolidation of newly formed Assemblies.

Shoghi
(From cablegram received June 23)
Community Development

A Letter from the National Assembly

Beloved friends:

At the core of our Baha’i understanding, and of the resolve of our hearts, let us hold to the ideal of community development. The development of local and national Baha’i communities throughout the world stands as the central theme of the Formative Age of the Baha’i Dispensration. The Faith of Baha’u’llah will not be fulfilled in the spread of books nor even in the multiplication of believers, but in the creation of an ordered society, local, national and world.

The term “community development” covers many steps in this great process, but the process is one and the goal should be kept clearly in sight.

For example, the first step is the formation of a group of nine or more adult Baha’is in one civil area. The second step is the election or formation by joint declaration of a Spiritual Assembly. The third step is study and training in the principles and methods of Baha’i administration. The fourth step is the unfoldment of those powers, capacities and responsibilities with which Baha’u’llah has entrusted the community of the Greatest Name. This step may be divided into many stages, some of them far beyond our present vision.

Two essential attainments are within our grasp, and indeed within our duty and obligation at this time.

1. The development of the sense of kinship in the local community, making of believers the members of one spiritual family and one social organism. Here there is mutual respect, trust, affection and the sharing of community joys and sorrows. Here there is regard for one another’s welfare, a swift flow of sympathy, and the proffer of what help, when needed, lies within the power of the community to supply. Here there is willingness to understand and appreciate the diverse types of character and temperament which necessarily exist in the Baha’i community because it represents “mankind in miniature.” Until this development has taken place there is no proper foundation for effective teaching work.

2. The development of a unified teaching effort, on a scale commensurate with the size and experience of the community. A unified effort grows out of the consultation of all, and employs all available gifts and talents, each in its most effective place. A unified effort can be expressed through many different Baha’i agencies, employ different methods and materials, and seek to influence the public on different levels; but remains a unified effort because there is unity of understanding throughout. Every committee, no matter how difficult, pressing or specialized its work, draws upon the common store of unified understanding and seeks to return its own particular gift to the common store.

Nothing less than a mature, conscious, developed community can cope with the difficulties of this particular age. Baha’u’llah knew the prevailing disease, and He provided the remedy. Therefore the aim of our spiritual knowledge, our love for the friends, our ability to work for the Cause, must be to strengthen the community and help in the unfoldment of its marvelous powers.

Many people feel that the modern family in great measure fails to implant the sense of security and the habit of cooperation which enable souls to come to sound maturity. Therefore the Baha’is are to supply the element which has become lacking, and learn how to maintain the spirit and wisdom needed to guide the immature, the untrained, encourage the weak, heal the sick, educate the ignorant, and raise up the broken-hearted.

Many feel that current education misses the central core of personality, the realization of a divine purpose in life. Therefore the Baha’is conduct schools for world religion, to quicken the heart and raise the understanding from the darkness in which it lies.

The instances are many. The purpose is to illustrate the vital role of the Baha’i community as the nucleus and pattern of the new society. We can cultivate our own highest possibilities by accepting the divine trust laid upon us: to do all we can to help our community grow in unity, in wisdom and in power.

—National Spiritual Assembly

International Relief

Because of the difficult conditions in the needy countries of Europe (particularly Germany, France and England), all Baha’is are asked to cooperate fully with the plan of the National Spiritual Assembly for international relief as published in Baha’i News for February, 1948, pages 6-7. According to this plan the friends are asked to obtain addresses for sending individual packages or CARE orders from the International Relief Representative. The friends are asked not to go by the lists published in earlier issues of Baha’i News or to use addresses which may be sent to them from other sources.

Adherence to this plan is necessary in order to follow the instructions of the Guardian that relief be sent only to declared and steadfast Baha’is. The responsible Spiritual Assemblies of the needy countries are cooperating fully with this plan, but they report to us that packages are being received by persons who are no longer Baha’is or whose claim to be Baha’is is not supported by registration. Because Baha’i status may change, addresses change, people die, for these and other reasons, it is necessary to repeat this specific request that the friends use addresses obtained only from the International Relief Representative. These addresses are kept constantly up to date by contact with the responsible Spiritual Assemblies, to include new Baha’i groups or communities also.

Moreover, when food and clothing are so scarce, hard feelings are engendered if one locality appears to be favored because a very active Baha’i community in the United States may send chiefly to that address. As in all Baha’i activity, “justice is loved above all”, and we can express our universal love through a fair distribution of the help we are able to give to those temporarily going through difficult conditions.

The Guardian is constantly urging all Baha’is, in whatever part of the world they may be living, to function according to the Administrative Order, which has for its purpose the development of unity and harmonious cooperation among all the peoples of the world. It is the channel, the divine pattern, for activity and
contact between the different countries through the responsible Spiritual Assemblies. These Assemblies in the needy countries can help their Bahá'ís to understand and follow this pattern, the Administrative Order, if we Bahá'ís in the United States follow it ourselves. We have had the benefit of nine years of guidance and instruction from the Guardian through his letters, which the Bahá'ís in France and Germany, for example, have missed during the war years. It is our responsibility, therefore, to set an example of activity through the Administrative Order. This does not mean that personal letters should not be sent to friends. That is another form of expressing "loving encouragement." But for the sending of relief packages and CARE orders, the friends are urged to follow the plan of the National Spiritual Assembly as worked out on the Guardian's instructions. Thus the responsible Spiritual Assemblies of the needy countries will also be aided in their task of education and assistance.

The friends are asked also to refer to the National Spiritual Assembly of the U.S. or its International Relief Representative letters which may be received from persons claiming to be Bahá'ís or from individual Bahá'ís or communities or groups, asking for help or sending addresses. Some of these letters, which have been referred by the friends, have been found, on being forwarded to the respective Spiritual Assembly, to come from persons known to be against the Cause or to be non-Bahá'ís. For the protection of the Cause, therefore, it is thus obvious that the pattern of the Administrative Order should be followed in all our activities.

INTERNATIONAL RELIEF REPRESENTATIVE
Box 548
Evanston, Illinois
(New Address)

In Memoriam
Mrs. Margaret McCowan, Lima, Ohio. 5-8-48
Gale Marsolais, Monroe, Wash. 5-8-48
Mr. Ofa B. Shuler, Clevis, Calif. 4-4-48
Mr. John Quinn, Los Angeles, Calif. 5-48
Miss Clara H. Philippsaar, Dunkirk, N. Y. Date unreported
Miss Neya G. Bissell, Rutland, Vt. 6-5-48

Guardian’s Cable to the European Teaching Conference, Geneva, Switzerland — May 22-26

Share the joy and elation of the attendants at the first historic Bahá'í Teaching Conference on the European Continent, regarded as the fairest fruit of the momentous enterprise signifying the second stage in the evolution of the Divine Plan. Overjoyed at the manifold signs of the rapid progress evidenced by the formation of eight Assemblies in seven goal countries, in the notable increase in the number of new believers, in the remarkable activity displayed by itinerant teachers and the meritorious endeavor systematically exerted by the organizers and participants of the newly launched European campaign in the opening years of the Second Seven Year Plan. Appeal to the newly constituted Assemblies to preserve, at whatever cost, the integrity of the prizes gloriously won, to consolidate the institutions recently established, to simultaneously initiate extension work designed to form nuclei destined to reinforce the administrative structure of the Faith in the respective countries. Urge the groups in the three remaining goal countries to ensure Assembly status ere the termination of the current year. Entreat every individual and all agencies associated in the conduct of the divinely sustained, majestically unfolding, tremendously challenging crusade, whether administrators at home or abroad, visitors or settlers, itinerant teachers, newly enrolled believers to intensify their concerted efforts to win wider fields, to give added momentum to still more conspicuous victories. Unstayed by the aggravation of the crisis in the tragically disturbed continent, undeterred by the obstacles and pitfalls encountered in a thorny path, sensible to the growing hunger of disillusioned, fear-stricken, spiritually famished multitudes, constantly aware of the subtlety of the mission entrusted, in this critical propitious hour, to their care, inspired by the example of the Author of the Divine Plan, who, in no less a critical hour in the fortunes of the European continent, notwithstanding His age and illness, twice visited its shores and labored tirelessly for the illumination of its peoples, let them hold aloft, amidst the tumult of the disorders of a tottering civilization, the torch of divine guidance, tramp resolutely ahead to the appointed stage in the evolution of the Divine Plan.

Haifa,
May 2, 1948

Bahá'í News is published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada as the official news-letter of the Bahá'ís of the United States. The first issue appeared in December, 1924.

Bahá'í News is edited for the National Spiritual Assembly by its Bahá'í News Editorial Committee: Mrs. Roberta Christian, chairman, Miss Margaret Yenter, Mr. Gordon A. Fraser, Editorial office: Mrs. Roberta Christian, 1001 West Genesee St., Lansing, Mich.

Please report changes of address to which Bahá'í News is to be sent and other matters pertaining to its distribution to the Bahá'í National Office, 536 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, Illinois.

Enrollments reported by Local Spiritual Assemblies

Minneapolis, Minn., 3; Champaign, Ill., 5; New York, N. Y., 1; Elmhurst, Ill., 1; Phoenix, Ariz., 1; Detroit, Mich., 2; Maui, Hawaii, 1; Santa Barbara, Calif., 2; Portland, Ore., 1; Louisville, Ky., 12; Monroe, Wash., 2; Greensboro, N. C., 1; Greenville, S. C., 1; Palo Alto, Calif., 1; Atlanta, Ga., 1; Syracuse, N. Y., 1; Youth 2.

Enrollments reported by Regional Teaching Committees

NORTHEASTERN STATES AREA
Lower New York and Connecticut, 1
Upper New York, 3

SOUTHERN STATES AREA
Kentucky and Tennessee, 1

CENTRAL STATES AREA
Ohio and Indiana, 2

WESTERN STATES AREA
Washington State, 1
Sc. California and Arizona, 2
Around the Bahá’í World

(From Bruce Davison)

GERMANY

To attend a late afternoon meeting the Dziobeck Family must leave their home, in Maidenbach 31 miles northwest of Frankfurt, at 9 A.M. They take one train to Wiesbaden where, after a long wait, they get the train for Frankfurt, and streetcar for the meeting. They have to leave the meetings a little early to make connections returning home, which at that involves an hour walk through the woods at midnight.

Bahá’ís were months learning Mr. and Mrs. Dziobeck, after the Friday night meetings, sat from 9:00 P.M. till 7:00 A.M. in Frankfurt’s railroad station just sitting and waiting. The round trip cost 150 Reichs marks, (an average German salary for one month) if you can get a ticket on the overtaxed railroad system. On one occasion Heyd waited seven hours in the Hamburg railroad station just to buy his ticket. Heyd has never been able to get a sleeper ticket.

An exhausting trip, which no one envies, is Gunther Heyd’s monthly train jaunt to the Stuttgart NSA meetings. The 450 miles require two days, and usually one night in the Frankfurt railroad station just sitting and waiting. The round trip cost 150 Reichs marks, (an average German salary for one month) if you can get a ticket on the overtaxed railroad system. On one occasion Heyd waited seven hours in the Hamburg railroad station just to buy his ticket. Heyd has never been able to get a sleeper ticket.

Mrs. Schenk starts at 8:30 A.M., walking the first mile, then catches, respectively: a bus, streetcar, train to Frankfurt and another train to Zeppelinheim for a weekly afternoon Bahá’í fireside team. Mrs. Kohl-Schmit makes a similar trip, minus the bus ride, from Darmstadt and Mrs. Bommersheim the same from Bad Nauheim for the same tea. Often trains are so packed with passengers that a person cannot stand with full weight on both feet.

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Austalia

The eleventh session of the Yerrinbool Bahá’í Summer School was held Jan. 1 to 11, 1948. . . All those attending felt that there had been increased activity and consolidation in the progress of the school. The mornings began with devotions, and these were followed by two sessions, one on “The Rising World Commonwealth” and another on “The Book of Certitude.” Afternoons were open and round table discussions were held on subjects of interest. In the evenings, a series of lectures on “Nine Great Religions of the World” was given. On Saturday evening, Jan. 3, a social was held with over 50 present, both believers and non-Bahá’ís. The session was closed with the playing of the records of the Devotional service held at the Bahá’í Temple in Wilmette.

Great Britain

(Quoted from a letter to the N.S.A. of the United States from the National Teaching Committee of Great Britain) “. . . Mrs. Baker’s visit meant something very special to our national community . . . appreciation is not confined to the Committee but is warmly felt up and down the land. . . . Great as was the value of her teaching work, however, by far her most remarkable and permanent contribution grew out of the providential opportunity for her to participate in our Annual Teaching Conference. This Conference is one of the three rallying points of the national community during the year, and for the past three years has marked a significant turning point in the affairs of the Cause. In a sense, Mrs. Baker’s presence and contributions were a pivot for the whole proceedings of the Conference. . . . A reception was attended by 58 people, including 50 non-Bahá’ís, while the attendance at the Teaching Conference was the highest on record, averaging about 75 believers. You will realize that this is more than a third of our national community, every Assembly and goal town being represented. Thus it is apparent that the beneficent influence of Mrs. Baker’s work has gone out to all parts of Britain. . . Her work will long be remembered, and we feel sure that she has done much to knit even closer the bonds of Bahá’í fellowship which unite our two national communities . . .

during the Centenary in 1944, commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of the Báb. "That the school affords both an opportunity for spreading the Faith among non-Bahá'ís and deepening the knowledge of Bahá'ís in their own Faith was recognized by all those present."...

INDIA, PAKISTAN, and BURMA

"We have been caught in a tangle of negative tasks this year. To our losses already reported, we have to add these: The Jammu Assembly has been dissolved as the friends were forced to leave the town; of these friends, four, of whom two were accompanied by their families, joined a convoy which was attacked and they have been heard of no more; a consignment of copies of the New Era recently printed in Oriya, has been lost in transit to Delhi from the Press in Orissa where they were reprinted. We have further discovered that among the material lost at the capital during the recent riots were two or three manuscripts of translation of Bahá'í books that had consumed months of labor, also much of the N.S.A.'s past records the publishing committee's books of account, and the bulk of Bahá'í literature that had been recently imported from America. This mounting tide of reverses should not unman us or deflect us from our purpose. They should rather inspire us to redouble our efforts to achieve our goals in the pioneering and teaching fields. Of some life is demanded in this glorious adventure, of others, possessions, of others, may be less. But whatever it may be love holds back nothing from the beloved. Time, energy, riches, life itself, if need be—all the wealth Bahá'u'lláh has blessed us with are His and are freely given in His service. He is a true Bahá'í says 'Abdu'l-Bahá, 'who lays down his life that others may prosper and succeed.' This is the standard set by our Master. It is for each individual Bahá'í to endeavor daily to measure up to it."

From the News Letter of India, Pakistan & Burma

The Home Front

Madison, Wis.

The University of Wisconsin Bahá'í Youth Group has recently been recognized as a religious group on the campus. As such it is now able to participate in all campus religious activities and privileges. Also, it is being admitted to the University Religious Council, a body which plans and coordinates the activities of the various religious groups in the council.

The Bahá'í Youth have been holding bi-weekly meetings at the University Memorial Union, usually beginning with a short talk, which serves to stimulate a discussion afterward. The attendance of interested friends has been encouraging especially among the older graduate students.

Texas

Since the regional bulletin made the suggestion that mothers of young children, who were isolated Bahá'ís, form an association by letter regarding Bahá'í training for their children and share problems in this respect, three mothers responded, generally benefiting by the group consultation.

Miami, Fla.

About 35 people gathered for the Feast of Ridván in the garden of a Bahá'í home. Held as an open feast, the audience was entertained by violin selections from a new believer who has been blind from childhood. An interesting part was taken in the feast by the Bahá'í children. As an older youth announced each of the Bahá'í principles, a child stepped up with a placard illustrating it and then told a short story for emphasis.

Waterloo, Iowa Bahá'ís and friends at their Naw-Ruz banquet which closed the series of lectures and classes conducted by Mrs. Ruth Moffett. Several new declarations during this period resulted in a total membership of eleven.

Providence, R. I.

Sayles Hall of Brown University was the scene of a Bahá'í symposium, March 31 on the topic, "Moving Toward a United World," with 350 attending. Dr. Charles F. Towne spoke from the educational standpoint, Mr. Howard C. Olsen from the humanitarian, and Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh the spiritual, with Mr. Matthew Bullock acting as moderator.

On April 6, 30 students of the Clarence Skinner Fellowship of Tufts Theological School gathered to hear a talk on the Bahá'í Faith by Firuz Kazemzadeh. After his half hour address they asked questions for an hour. The important point is that this group had written Mr. Charles Krug, ASKING for a Bahá'í discussion. Firuz also filled a speaking engagement on April 25, before the Young People’s Fellowship of the Washington St. Baptist church, as part of a program of getting better acquainted with other religious groups.

Anchorage, Alaska

Public recognition was given to the Bahá'í efforts against racial discrimination in Anchorage at the organization meeting of the Anchorage Youth Council. With various committees reporting on youth conditions, the chairman of the Committee on Youth in Minority Groups reported, "We have found that the Friendships Unlimited group and the Bahá'í Faith are actively working against race discrimination in Anchorage." This was particularly significant since the Bahá'í Faith was never mentioned by the Bahá'í member of the committee, Janet Stout.
### Suggested Daily Readings for August

**Arts, Science and Religion**

**August**

1. B.W.F. pp. 242-245
2. B.W.F. pp. 247
3. B.W.F. pg. 188 The Second Tajjali
4. B.W.F. pg. 189 The Third Tajjali
5. B.W.F. pg. 195 The 11th and 12 Glad Tidings
6. B.W.F. pg. 240 4th teaching of Bahá'u'lláh
7. B.W.F. pg. 171 The 6th Taraz
8. B.W.F. pg. 377 Work is Worship
9. B.W.F. pp. 377-378 Science is Worship
10. B.W.F. pp. 379 Music
11. B.S. 871—page 467
12. P. of U. P. pp. 49-50
13. P. of U. P. pp. 51-57
15. P. of U. P. pg. 27
16. P. of J. P. pg. 28
17. P. of B. W.F. 135 Scientific knowledge
18. P. of U. P. pp. 342-343
19. B.S. 422, 423—pg. 218, Science of God
20. B.S. 424 pg. 219
21. B.S. 413 pg. 216
22. B.S. 309 to 315, pg. 194
23. B.S. 132, pg. 134
25. Gl. pp. 156-157
26. D. P. pp. 75, 77, 78
27. D. P. pp. 79 Knowledge
28. D. P. pg. 91 Spiritual education
29. D. P. 102 Balance of science and reason
30. N.E., pp. 100, 101
31. N.E., pg. 131

**Key:**

B.W.F.—Bahá’í World Faith
B. S.—Bahá’í Scriptures
P. of U. P.—Promulgation of Universal Peace
Gl.—Gleanings
D. P.—Divine Philosophy

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### Publishing Committee Announcements

- **Pertoals to Freedom** by Howard Colby Ives; a new edition made in England. 254 pages, paper cover $1.50
- **Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era**, fabrikoid $1.25
- **Seven Valleys and Four Valleys**, fabrikoid $1.00
- **Hidden Words**, fabrikoid $1.00

Above titles in fabrikoid binding again in stock after a long wait and at increased prices which seem inevitable.

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**JULY, 1948**

**PIONEER**

(Ed. note: This is the last installment of a series of excerpts from the letters and diaries of Martha Root, compiled by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ford. It is suggested that the various installments now be gathered together and read in their full continuity, for a fuller grasp and appreciation of the indomitable spirit of this valiant pioneer and the flow of inspiration to be gleaned by such a reading.)

Karachi. (August) How can I put in one short letter the report of four months more "spiritual skylarking"! (Sura to Bombay, Ajmer then Indore). April fourteenth I arrived in Indore to take part in the All Faiths Convention... One man had a paper on the need of a great universal religion, and explained what it ought to inculcate. A great Hindu professor arose and said: 'The Bahá’í Faith we have been hearing so much about in this Convention is a universal religion and it inculcates all your suggestions and more The Bahá’í Faith is READY, why not accept it for a universal religion?”... It is remarkable how many religious conventions are being held in different parts of India, and the N. S. A. of India, and Burma is invited to send, and does send Bahá’í speakers to every one of them. The N. S. A. is very efficient and very, very spiritual; the members work almost beyond human endurance and they are as united as one soul in nine bodies...

Lahore. (October) Since I wrote you from Karachi, I wish to tell you that the three thousand copies of my book “Táhirih the Pure, Iran’s Greatest Woman” which I published in Karachi, have been sent out over the world... I have already heard from more than twenty countries about this book...

No Bahá’í teachers have ever toured the Northwest Frontier Provinces of India, and the N.S.A. was very eager to have these cities opened to the Bahá’í Religion. Really this trip has been historic in the fact that so much of this vast country has been toured, even including Colombo, Ceylon to the south and Kashmir to the north, and all Burma to the east... It was extraordinary the way we met prepared souls, for we went as strangers, and only stayed two days in each place... but we hope these visits are only the beginning of further work down through the ages—"Where the acorn falls, the oak tree grows.”

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**Bahá’í Youth class in Sioux Falls, Sd. Dakota.**
... A great scholar, Prof. M.H.H. of the Royal Asiatic Society Library of Calcutta, a leading Orientalist of the world, has written about Tahirih. Perhaps he is one of the first great Indian scholars to write about the Faith. He said that he had first met the fine Iranian Baha’i teacher, Ibn Asdaq, who came to India about 1902 or ’03. “He was so charming, so spiritual, so cultured,” said Prof. H., “and we read the figan together in Persian.” This very sentence throws an illuminating light to us today, on the qualities that a Baha’i teacher should possess. We must all be teachers today, and the great scholars of this and the coming generation will be quickened or left unawakened perhaps, by the way we present the Cause to them...

I was so touched: a Baha’i had gone from Calcutta nearly two years ago to spread the Faith. He was very poor and lived on seven rupees (less than three dollars) a month. Baha’i friends had given him a present of money to buy a bullock and a cart to help him earn his living. The bullock and cart were stolen from him, and for several days he had no food; then Mr. P. found him; but later this most devoted self-sacrificing Baha’i whom everyone who knew him praised, took the plague and passed on in Madras, a month before we arrived. ... To me that Baha’i was as great as the widow with her mite (in the New Testament) for he gave his ALL! Because of his self-sacrifice, Baha’u’llah will OPEN the doors of Madras to the Baha’i Faith!

(December) ... Like you I am very sick at heart about the war clouds, but I have bought my ticket third class as far as Australia, and even if war comes, I expect to go forward with my plan...

On ship from Perth to Adelaide, Australia, Jan. 26, 1939

My back was very, very lame, and it is still hurting a little. My back would not be WELL even if I did not do one thing about it, and I thank God I can work a little longer. I am HAPPY in the work because I see how it helps many souls. Whatever our troubles are, they are as nothing compared to the world troubles; all we can do is pray as hard as we can to

(Continued on page 8)

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Bahá’í Sales Committee

Slides
A set of 70 film-slides of the Temple, accompanied by a 10 page mimeographed script. The set includes 51 Kodachrome or color views and 19 views in black and white. The slides are the standard 2 x 2 inch size on 35 mm. film, cost $12.75 prepaid. Just released by the Visual Education Committee, a set of 65 film-slides, a lecture entitled “The Goal is World Order,” designed to serve as the basis for an entire evening’s program. The set is accompanied by a 10 page mimeographed script giving full description of each slide. The cost is only $4.00. Standard 2 x 2 inches in size. The same thing may be had in a film strip, standard 35 mm. size for $3.00 postpaid.

Display Kits
These Kits are intended to furnish basic display fixtures for arranging small window, counter or table displays. The Kits include easels made of lucite; printed cards; a large Global Map; instruction sheets and a photo of a sample display. The cost is $8.50 postpaid.

Change In Prices
Owing to increased cost of production, the following changes are now effective:

- Steel engraving of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, 12x16 now $2.25 postpaid.
- Photostats of Temple—6 for 25c, in lots of 100 prepaid $3.50 (No order for less than 50c will be mailed) Photographs of Temple including two views of interior 50c each. The size of these photographs is 8x10.

Now Available
A color postcard of the Temple to sell for one cent each, in lots of 100, 75c prepaid.

Music
O Friend! A vocal solo; music by Ernest Lubin for a selection from Hidden Words of Bahá’u’lláh. (“O friend! In the garden of thy heart plant naught but the rose of love . . .”) Key of F. Each—$1.50

Harry E. Walrath,
4659 Beacon Street,
Chicago 40, Illinois

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1601 W. Genesee St.
Lansing, Mich.

Incorporation of their Assembly is announced by the Bahá’ís of Albuquerque, N.M., April, 1948. Seated, left to right: Mrs. Mabel S. Coxwell, Mrs. Lois E. Heister, Dr. E. Leonore Morris, Mrs. Frances B. Grich, chairman. Standing: Louis Heister, Mrs. Frances C. Boste, James H. D. Merrifield, Mrs. Clara May Merryfield, and Mrs. Catherine O. Cole.
help make a better world. How thankful I am that I can work. I shall concentrate to do the utmost possible in Australia and New Zealand until early May.

Adelaide, Jan. 29. We have consulted and made plans for the work in Australia. They have nearly seventy lectures arranged for, and nearly twenty broadcasts under consideration. Of course I submit the radio manuscripts for the Directors to see...

Melbourne, Feb. 10. Last night, I broadcast "Tahmas, Iran's Greatest Woman" at 9:45. It was a state broadcast, the greatest here, and at least 500,000 people listened in. The Director said: "It is a perfect broadcast!" (It is my favorite broadcast. ... This is thrilling, gripping, it moves me until it seems to be Tahmas speaking her own self to the modern world.) ... The nine o'clock hour is the best hour of all on their programmes... Tomorrow afternoon from two to six o'clock in my hotel I am giving an "at home" to the people... who wish to come and meet me and ask me questions. The invitation is in the newspapers, (for everyone in the city) and was given out at the luncheon... the Hotel Manager gives me the reception room free (the fee is generally nine shillings) and he said: "I see you do everything for humanity, you do not do anything for yourself, I will give you the room." The temperature is 108 degrees F., I shall have plenty of ice water and glasses (I have to pay for the ice water) and some biscuits. Mr. Baktian of Kansas gave them to me, but—shall not serve tea. It would be too expensive—and they are coming not for food, but to ask questions, it is all right. (P.S. Later the Spiritual Assembly telephoned me and said they wished to serve tea at the party and they are going to do it. We expect a large party.)

Hawaii, Honolulu, July, 1939

Tenderest love to you all

Today I received a cablegram from our beloved Guardian from Haifa: "Grieve illness, fervently, lovingly, praying. Shoghi." I was so thrilled and happy to receive it. I am making every effort to get better, but I have suffered so much... I try to endure the pain and I pray to Bahá'u'lláh to hold my hand and help me to bend every nerve to try and get better. I trust Him and I know that He will walk with me to the end. I pray that even this illness in the mystery of God will bear good fruit, that this crisis will be an impulse forward to promote the Cause of God.

(September) I am so near the shore of eternity... I thank you each and everyone for all that you will do to help me, and I thank you for your love. I do not speak, so late tonight, of the glorious side of life after death. We shall all walk together arm in arm, you and I; and in the mystery of God, the Bahá'ís will confer together, understand each other... I am glad to go through this terrible agony; for if it came it must have come for a purpose... If our love for one another has been deepened, if this servant has been able to witness for her Lord, if the ties between India, Australia, New Zealand and the Hawaiian Islands is strengthened, then I have not come in vain. Everything has been successful... Such are our lives...

Assemblies Contributing for the Month of May, 1948


Assemblies Contributing for the Month of June, 1948


World Order Magazine

With justifiable hopes of passing the half-way mark in our call for help to procure 1,000 additional subscribers to World Order, before the end of June, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the many friends through whose efforts and generosity this task has been accomplished. Up to May 1st a total of 425 additional enrollments have been received.

The numerous letters with subscription gifts to friends and for library donations, are especially gratifying and reflect the sentiments of the contributors, who realize that in these days of world re-making, a World Order subscription gift to a friend may mean a new Bahá'í enrollment or that a subscription donated to a Public Library may enlighten many of the Library readers to the real value of the Bahá'í Teachings.

Subscription rate to World Order is $2.00 yearly. Address orders to World Order Magazine, 110 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois with name and address of new subscriber, or if you wish to donate one or more new subscriptions to libraries, address order to World Order Library Fund and if desired we will select placement and notify the Librarian that the subscription is donated by you.

Calendar

FEASTS: Aug. 1—Ramadán—Perfection; Aug. 20—Ashá'—Names.

N.S.A. MEETINGS: July 29-Aug. 1 (at Green Acre); Sept. 3-6 (at Louhelen).

Number contributing

Total number of assemblies

Number not contributing
Latin America Moves Toward Independence

The two National Teaching Committees of Latin America, one for South America and one for the Caribbean Area, are getting underway with their year's projected work, aiming at increasing the local Assemblies in their territories and developing their national administration so that it will be able to continue independently of the guidance and assistance of their brothers in the United States, through the Inter-America Committee, upon the establishment of their own National Spiritual Assemblies in 1951.

The Chairman of the South American NTC, Esteban Canales, of Valparaiso, Chile, is devoting several months to a teaching trip that has already taken him to Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador, and will carry him on through Colombia, Venezuela, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and Argentina. Through him, the National Committee will thus obtain a comprehensive picture of the Bahá'í communities spread over that vast continent and thus be greatly enabled to more wisely plan and coordinate Bahá'í activities in all of these countries.

The Secretary of the Caribbean NTC, Natalia Chavez, is going to Mexico City for the first meeting of that Committee this year, having terminated her brief vacation with her family in Honduras, where, also, she made teaching trips to the new Bahá'í Assemblies in the towns of San Pedro Sula and Taulabe. In San Pedro Sula the Cause has caught the interest of the business and professional people. In Taulabe, where as yet there are no hotels or electric lights, the entire town has been attracted to it. These two Assemblies were formed last April as a result of the teaching work done there shortly before, during her vacation, by Maria Francisca Rivera, of the Tegucigalpa community.

Meanwhile, our pioneer Lucha de Padilla is proceeding to her post in San Jose, Costa Rica, making stops in all the Central American countries en route.

From Buenos Aires comes word that a large quantity of books have been shipped from there to Santiago, Chile, where henceforth the Spanish Publishing Committee will be located, and that all books still in Buenos Aires will be shipped out soon.

The town of Cordoba, near Buenos Aires, has given a warm welcome to the Bahá'í Message. Shirley Warde and Salvador Tormo have spoken at several large meetings and secured fine newspaper publicity there. The new Assembly of Cordoba, organized last April with 11 members, now numbers 13.

Helen Shearer, who just returned to this country after 11 months in Brazil, and who was responsible for the formation of the Santos Assembly last spring, has been a visitor in Chicago and at Inter-America Committee meetings. She has given us valuable suggestions for preparing pamphlets especially designed to appeal to the Latin Americans.

Our stalwart pioneer, Eve Nicklin, at the request of the National Teaching Committee of South America, and of the Guardian, has gone to Punta Arenas, at the tip of Chile, to strengthen that community. Here in this city, the closest to the South Pole, Eve has gathered a class of 20 English students, and in her free time arranges Bahá'í programs and publicity, and otherwise serves the Cause.

Sheila Rice-Wray, in Ciudad Trujillo, the Dominican Republic, describes how she was able to interest some people in the Faith: "One day I prayed to find some more people to tell about the faith," writes Sheila. "That night I collapsed in class, and two of my students called a taxi, brought me home, got medicine, fixed me all up, and then sat down to hear all about the Faith."

The Panama City community are thrilled with their new and attractive Center. After two years' searching for a place, they finally found one that was for them in every way ideal.

A year-old Assembly in war-torn Costa Rica has set a shining example of true Bahá'í devotion. In the little town of Quepos, as soon as meetings were permitted, the believers gathered together and decided, as their first act, to collect $10 and send it to their National Treasurer. For this small and poor community, this was a large sum and real sacrifice.

Perfection and Complete Mercy

Humanity is not perfect. There are imperfections in every human being and you will always become unhappy if you look toward the people themselves. But if you look toward God you will love them and be kind to them, for the world of God is the world of perfection and complete mercy.

—Abdu'l-Bahá

Window display of literature for the blind, in Little Rock, Ark., arranged by the R.T.C. of Arkansas and Oklahoma, appearing at the time of public lectures in that city.
A Resumé of Some Key Thoughts on Teaching Recorded at 1948 Convention

1. Emphasis on deepening our own consciousness by regular study. Comprehension and conviction by this means.
2. Special study on the Covenant and the Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.
3. Goal for the individual of confirming one new believer this year.
4. Teaching individually by word of mouth and by pamphlet distribution, and with daily follow-up.
5. Area meetings for the public, so located that several communities can take part.
6. Goal for the Regionals of a minimum of fifteen members in every community.
7. Goal of Regionals to bring further groups to assembly status; a second assembly where possible in virgin areas.
8. Encouragement of firesides for enquirers, by as many believers as possible, and not to be dependent upon attendance of other community members.
9. Association with liberal groups for contact purposes (Example, Great Book Club).
10. Teacher training in communities and schools.
11. Daily prayer for unity within our own groups.
12. Attitudes of encouragement in communities, releasing all to make contact and teaching efforts with audacity and enthusiasm.
14. Study of Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, p. 390, for directive in teaching a fireside.
15. Use of seminars or series, rather than single presentations alone.
16. Psychology of teaching:
   (a) Begin with special interest of enquirer.
   (b) Sympathetic recognition of backgrounds, and care not to sound dogmatic.
   (c) Avoidance of arguments.
   (d) Emphasis on life rather than theory.
   (e) Care not to give too much at first, but attractive development of a usable branch of the Teachings to inspire them to further investigation (use of stories and illustrations rather than heavy material).
   (f) Hospitality as an aid.
   (g) Necessity of flame and the spirit of love.
   (h) Confirmation dependent upon the spirit of love.
   (i) Further study immediately arranged following confirmation and registration.
   (j) Development of a universal sense and spirit.
17. Further coordination of programming needed nationally.
18. Training of teachers should meet the expanding need.
19. Use of the visual and radio facilities as well as the literature.
20. A faster start, with no summer lull.
21. Immediate regional conferences with the believers at large.
22. Continuance of all extension work done by assemblies.
23. Periodic national information on progress.
24. Immediate publication of goals chosen by Regionals.
25. Emphasis on attaining spiritual prerequisites of success.
26. Itinerant teachers for groups and smaller assemblies.
27. Courses on good chairmanship as well as on teaching.
28. Giving the Word as a source of courage.

The above picture, released to the press by Bahá’í Public Relations, shows a few of the delegates attending the opening session of the United Nations Conference of Non-Governmental International Organizations on the subject of Human Rights. Bahá’í International Community delegates include Mrs. Mildred R. Mottahedeh and Dr. Ugo R. Giachery.

Public Relations Launches Campaign on Religious Education

Last month, against the backdrop of the recent Supreme Court decision which brought to a climax the struggle between the churches and schools, the Public Relations committee unwrapped its new national campaign on the theme of Religious Education for a Peaceful Society. By far the most widespread plan the committee has attempted, it marked the start of an advertising drive, using the theme which opened the door of the Bahá’í Teachings that “the prophets are the real educators of humanity.” Variations of the theme will be presented, such as “what men must know about religion in order to survive” and “what men seek in religion.” It combines in one brief and complete phrase three concepts of vital public importance—religion, education and peace.

The campaign went into action early in June when the theme was announced to the press and radio through their trade papers, “Editor & Publisher” and “Publishers’ Auxiliary.” “Bahá’ís recognize,” the ad ran, “that the gap between education in the factual sense, and denominational incultation of religious doc-
The first public ad in the campaign appeared in the “Saturday Review of Literature,” whose readers had this salient reminder: “Religion as blind tradition and separate sect has come to an end. The Baha’i definition of faith is conscious knowledge.” The ad further cited the three most urgent needs of human personality today: “Recovery of the basic purpose of life through a clarified understanding of God’s relationship to man and man’s relationship to God... Opportunity to participate in a powerful world-wide affirmation of human unity which uproots prejudices of race, class and creed... conviction that the pattern of a world society has been created to release the forces of mind and conscience for the victory of peace on earth.” Advertisements in “Newsweek” and “United Nations World,” told the “Education in Religion” theme in another way.

The advertising series, backed by a publicity and direct mail campaign, continues July 17 in “Saturday Review of Literature” and in the August 9 “Newsweek.” Explaining that the main point about an ailing society is the number and diversity of its sectarian creeds, the copy cites: “Division of faith in God prevent the people from attaining the moral unity needed to generate power enough to uproot the real causes of disease.”

A new public teaching pamphlet has been prepared on the general theme. This will be available to communities. A compilation, “What modern man must know about religion,” prepared by the committee to bring together Baha’i teachings on the theme has been approved by the NSA and will be released by the Publishing Committee as a Baha’i study aid.

Scheduled for general release in early fall, the public relations campaign will utilize every means of publicity available. Local assemblies and groups, through their publicity chairmen, will receive full information about the campaign plan by August 1. Inquiries should be addressed to the secretary, Baha’i Public Relations, 112 Linden Avenue, Wilmette, Ill.
New Assembly
Grosse P. Farms
Grosse P. Farms
Grosse P. Farms
Kalamazoo, Michigan
Kalamazoo, Michigan
Kalamazoo, Michigan
Jersey City, N. J.
Jersey City, N. J.
Jersey City, N. J.
Bergenfield, N. J.
Bergenfield, N. J.
Bergenfield, N. J.
Bergenfield, N. J.
Newark, New Jersey
Newark, New Jersey
Newark, New Jersey
Newark, New Jersey
Ridgewood, New Jersey
Geneva, New York
Geneva, New York
Syracuse, New York
Syracuse, New York
Syracuse, New York
Syracuse, New York
Waterloo, New York
Waterloo, New York
Waterloo, New York
Mansfield, Ohio
Mansfield, Ohio
Mansfield, Ohio
Mansfield, Ohio
Toledo, Ohio
Columbia, South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina
Dallas, Texas
Dallas, Texas
San Antonio, Texas
Marysville, Washington
Shorewood, Wisconsin
Somers Twp. Vis.
Somers Twp. Vis.
Greenville, S. C. *
Greenville, S. C. *
South Bend, Indiana *
South Bend, Indiana *
Charleston, W. Va. *
Charleston, W. Va. *
Charleston, W. Va. *
Butte, Montana *
Elmhurst, Illinois *
Elmhurst, Illinois *
Alexandria, Va. *
Alexandria, Va. *
Dubuith, Minnesota *
Red Bank, New Jersey *
Red Bank, New Jersey *
Montclair, New Jersey *
Montclair, New Jersey *
Tacoma, Washington *
St. Augustine, Florida *
Wilmington, Delaware *
Wilmington, Delaware *
Laramie, Wyoming *
Laramie, Wyoming *
Lansing, Mich. *
Lansing, Mich. *

**Settlers**
Mrs. Floyd Munson
Mr. Donald Corbin
Mrs. Doris Corbin
Etta Catlin
Mrs. Geneva Brown
Mr. Percula Blumountain
Mr. Edgar Wright
Mr. Richard Greengard
Mr. Ali'i Kalantar
Mrs. Emilie Kalantar
Miss Valerie Joyce
Miss Ferny Paulson
Mr. Gottlieb Klump
Miss Dorothy Cham
Mr. Nicholas Glameresse
Mrs. Zelo Garza
Mrs. Grace Marshall
Mr. Edwin Barham
Mrs. Edwin (Beatle) Barham
Mrs. Grace Covid
Mr. Rudolph Handel
Miss Ida Noyes
Mr. Michael Betelak
Miss Maude Mickle
Miss Alta Wheeler
Miss Ella Quant
Mr. A. L. Price
Mrs. A. L. Price
Rose Steinberg
Marion Clark
Henrietta Corrodi
Miss Jessica Perry
Mrs. Anzie Bomer
Miss Josie Pinson
Mrs. Eugenia Meyer
Mr. Joseph Hanen
Miss Barbara Hanen
Mrs. and Mrs. R. Christiansen
Mr. Lell Jackson
Mr. Robert Miss
Mr. John DeBruin
Miss Iva Russell
Mr. John Inglis
Mrs. John Inglis
Mrs. Clara Huber
Dr. Aphi Sampson
Mrs. Marcia Andrade
Mr. John Glaecker
Miss Ada Schott
Mrs. Ruth Meurer
Mr. Harold Hunt
Mr. George Miller
Mr. Larrt Cramer
Mr. Rouhullah Zargarzar
Mr. Harvey Winer
Caroline Stewart
Mrs. Margarette Brugger
Mrs. Sarah Mahber
Mr. William Millete
Mr. Seymour Weinberg
Mrs. Edna Hyett
Mrs. Florence Keener
Mr. John Verhoven
Mr. Fred Sudhop
Mrs. Donia Leitmer
Charlotte Daskin Orloch
Mel Orloch
Miss Margaret Yettet
Mrs. Mabel Vacary

**Former Location**
Detroit
Detroit
Detroit
St. Louis
Celina, Ohio
Kenosha, Wis.
New York City
New York City
New York City
New York City
New York City
Washington, D. C.
New York City
New York City
New York City
Chesapeake
Newark
Washington, D. C.
San Francisco
Scranton, Pa.
Binghamton
Scranton, Pa.
Eliot, Maine
Eliot, Maine
Schenectady
Mansfield outside
Mansfield outside
Columbus, Ohio
Chicago, Ill.
Cleveland, Ohio
Cleveland
Portland, Me.
Greenville, S. C.
Greenville, S. C.
Evansville, Ill.
Evansville, Ill.
Chicago
Spokane, Wash.
Nashota, Wis.
Racine, Wisconsin
Kenosha
Birmingham, Ala.
Birmingham, Ala.
Indianapolis
Chicago
Columbus
Vienna, W. Va.
Greenville, S. C.
Washington, D. C.
Washington, D. C.
Chicago, Ill.
Chicago, Ill.
Washington, D. C.
Washington, D. C.
Fargo, N. Dakota
Farmington, N. J.
New York City
New York City
New York City
New York City
Denver, Colo.
Miami, Florida
Baltimore County
Arde1, Del.
Los Angeles
Los Angeles
New Haven, Conn.
Detroit, Mich.

**It Behoveth the People of Bahá...**

"It behoveth the people of Bahá to die to the world and all that is therein, to be so detached from all earthly things that the inmates of Paradise may inhale from their garment the sweet smelling savor of sanctity, that all the peoples of the earth may recognize in their faces the brightness of the All-Merciful, and through them may be spread abroad the signs and tokens of God, the Almighty, the All-Wise..."

**Table of Contents**

- Addresses
- Around the Bahá’í World
- Assemblies Contributing to Fund
- Bahá’í Sales Committee
- Calendar
- Enrollments
- European Teaching Conference
- Fund, Assemblies Contributing
- Guardian
- Cable to NSA
- Cable about George Latimer
- Cable to European Teaching Conference
- Home Front
- International Relief
- Latin America
- Memoriam
- National Spiritual Assembly
- Community Development
- Pictures
- Albuquerque, N. M.
- European Teaching Conference
- Little Rock, Ark.
- New-Ruz in Norway
- U. N. Human Rights Conference
- Waterloo, Iowa
- Youth Class, Sioux Falls
- Pioneer
- Publishing Comm. Announcement
- Public Relations
- Resume of Key Thoughts on Teaching
- Suggested Daily Readings
- Settlers

**Endangered Assemblies secured by these settlers.**

12
1948

JULY

It behoveth the people of Bahá to die to the world and all that is therein, to be so detached from all earthly things that the inmates of Paradise may inhale from their garment the sweet smelling savor of sanctity, that all the peoples of the earth may recognize in their faces the brightness of the All-Merciful, and through them may be spread abroad the signs and tokens of God, the Almighty, the All-Wise..."
The Love That Shows Itself in Deeds

A Letter from the Guardian

The recognition given your Assembly (as representative of the other National Spiritual Assemblies) by United Nations as a non-governmental body entitled to send representatives to various U. N. conferences, marks an important step forward in the struggle of our beloved Faith to receive, in the eyes of the world, its just due, and be recognized as an independent World Religion. Indeed, this step should have a favorable reaction on the progress of the Cause everywhere, especially in those parts of the world where it is still persecuted, belittled, or scorned, particularly in the East.

In these days, when his mind has been so preoccupied with the grave problems and difficulties, he is indeed weighed down with various problems and difficulties. He is indeed carrying, and brought him moments of pride and happiness, when his heart was weighted down with various problems and difficulties. He is indeed grateful for this active support, this love that shows itself in deeds that rise to meet and overcome every obstacle!--Written by the Guardian, through his secretary, in a letter to the NSA dated May 18, 1948.

ELECTION RESULT

Leroy Ioas was elected to the National Spiritual Assembly to fill the vacancy caused by the passing of George Latimer.

Where the Budget Stands

The annual budget as reported amounts to $283,000, plus deficit of $59,000 carried over from the Temple construction fund of last year. Total budget, $342,000.

In May and June the Temple construction fund received $24,906.09, and the income of the National Fund was for that period $27,766.63. Total income, $52,672.72.

If we divide the total budget, $354,000, into twelve, to set up a standard for the average monthly income, we get the figure of $29,500. For the two months, May and June, the rate of income should be $59,000, about $6,400 more than was actually received.

These figures are most encouraging, but July and August are invariably the months of lowest income. Will the friends overcome this annual temporary irresponsibility?

NSA

A Call for Unity and Sacrifice

A printed letter has been mailed to every American Baha'i home address. It is a call for unity and sacrifice during the third year of the Seven Year Plan. The National Spiritual Assembly requests local Assemblies to refer to the letter at a Nineteen Day Feast, and Regional Committees to emphasize its importance in their conferences and other contacts with groups and isolated believers.

Public Interest in Faith Increasing

The Baha'i Faith in North America entered a new era of increasing public influence with the Centenary celebrated in 1944. The community of believers finds itself immersed in an ocean of spiritual power which moves mysteriously and irresistibly whenever a sincere effort to spread the teachings is made.

Every Baha'i is concerned with public relations, because every Baha'i in himself as in his local and national community draws upon that vast reservoir of force. Its waves are set in motion by whatever is done in the name of the Faith. The time has come, therefore, to undertake larger and larger public campaigns and learn more and more consciously how to make right use of the instruments by which spiritual influence can be exerted on a great scale.

For the promotion of the Faith of Baha'u'llah all these instruments were developed—press, radio, motion picture, whatever acts upon the minds and hearts of human beings. But they will not fulfill their mission until the Baha'i community itself is fully prepared. Step by step, with boldness yet with wisdom, with enthusiasm yet with patience, we have received the call from the Guardian to begin the exertion of public influence as never before.

Technical training and experience are needed along with knowledge of the teachings and desire to serve. The association of active workers along public relations lines throughout the entire community is one of the first requisites. The exchange of ideas, experiences and methods can develop rapidly a collective capacity to produce results not even dreamed of a few years ago. The public is ready for the Baha'i message. That is the sign and the challenge to concentrate energy on constructive work.

The national public relations program has begun to make lines of force reaching into almost every
The friends must, at all times, bear in mind that they are, in a way, like soldiers under attack. The world is at present in an exceedingly dark condition spiritually; hatred and prejudice of every sort are literally tearing it to pieces. We, on the other hand, are the custodians of the opposite forces, the forces of love, of unity, of peace and integration, and we must continually be on our guard, whether as individuals or as an Assembly or Community, lest through us these destructive, negative forces enter into our midst. In other words, we must beware lest the darkness of society become reflected in our acts and attitudes, perhaps all unconsciously. Love for each other, the deep sense that we are a new organism, the dawn-breakers of a New World Order, must constantly animate our Baha'i lives, and we must pray to be protected from the contamination of society which is so diseased with prejudice. — To the Spiritual Assembly of Atlanta, February 5, 1947, through his secretary.

Significance of the Remains of the Prophets

There is no special physical significance in the remains of the Prophets or relics of Their Persons. But there is a profound spiritual significance in the sense that Their dust was the physical mirror of the greatness of God. In other words we know God through His Prophets, Who have bodies; these bodies were the physical mirror of the greatness of God. In other words we know God through His Prophets, Who have bodies; these bodies were the physical mirror of the greatness of God. In other words we know God through His Prophets, Who have bodies; these bodies were the physical mirror of the greatness of God. In other words we know God through His Prophets, Who have bodies; these bodies were the physical mirror of the greatness of God. In other words we know God through His Prophets, Who have bodies; these bodies were the physical mirror of the greatness of God.

Esslemont Book

Not to Be Revised

A number of believers have expressed the view to the NSA that “Baha'u'llah and the New Era” should be revised, so as to relate its exposition more directly to the conditions existing today. The book in its original form was written some twenty-five years ago.

This question was addressed to the Guardian and in his letter of May 18, 1948, written through his secretary, the Guardian answered:

“R. does not consider that Baha'u'llah and the New Era should be revised at present, but should be continued in its present form.”

August, 1948

Excerpts from Letters of the Guardian to Assemblies and Individual Believers

“Custodians of Love”

The friends must, at all times, bear in mind that they are, in a way, like soldiers under attack. The world is at present in an exceedingly dark condition spiritually; hatred and prejudice of every sort are literally tearing it to pieces. We, on the other hand, are the custodians of the opposite forces, the forces of love, of unity, of peace and integration, and we must continually be on our guard, whether as individuals or as an Assembly or Community, lest through us these destructive, negative forces enter into our midst. In other words, we must beware lest the darkness of society become reflected in our acts and attitudes, perhaps all unconsciously. Love for each other, the deep sense that we are a new organism, the dawn-breakers of a New World Order, must constantly animate our Baha'i lives, and we must pray to be protected from the contamination of society which is so diseased with prejudice. — To the Spiritual Assembly of Atlanta, February 5, 1947, through his secretary.
Lifting the Burden of Misery from Mankind

Regarding the question you raised: In the first place every believer is free to follow the dictates of his own conscience as regards the manner in which to spend his own money. Secondly, we must always bear in mind that there are so few Bahá'ís in the world, relative to the world's population, and so many people in need, that even if all of us gave all we had, it would not alleviate more than an infinitesimal amount of suffering. This does not mean we must not help the needy, we should; but our contributions to the Faith are the surest way of lifting once and for all the burden of hunger and misery from mankind, for it is only through the System of Bahá'u'lláh—Divine in origin—that the world can be gotten on its feet, and want, fear, hunger, war, etc., be eliminated. Non-Bahá'ís cannot contribute to our work or do it for us; so really our first obligation is to support our own teaching work, as this will lead to the healing of the nations.—To John E. Falk, December 8, 1947, through his secretary.

The Crimson Book

Unfortunately it would seem that the knowledge “which could largely eliminate fear” has not been disclosed or identified by Bahá'u'lláh, so we do not know what it is.

However, what Bahá'u'lláh did not elaborate but what He meant by the “world” recorded in the Crimson Book was the power of the Covenant. The “Crimson Book” refers to the Book of His Covenant, and the reference above means the power for unity which the Covenant possesses and radiates. On page 238 of “God Passes By” you will find the cross-reference to the “Crimson Book” and the “Epistle to the Son of the Wolf.”—To Charles S. Krug, January 5, 1948, through his secretary.

Attendance at Nineteen Day Feasts

Attendance at Nineteen Day Feasts is not obligatory but very important, and every believer should consider it a duty and a privilege to be present on such occasions.—To Mrs. Marziah Gail, December 15, 1947, through his secretary.

The Undertow of Materialism

People are so marredly lacking in spirituality these days that the Bahá'ís should consciously guard themselves against being caught in what one might call the undertow of materialism and atheism, sweeping the world these days. Skepticism, cynicism, disbelief, immorality and hard-heartedness are rife, and as the friends are those who stand for the antithesis of all things they should beware lest the atmosphere of the present world affects without their being conscious of it.

The Guardian agrees with you that a higher standard would be required before World Order could attract people of marked intellectual capacity; but he feels that the friends should make a greater effort to see that it gets supplied with better material; they should raise the standard of the present publication.—To Dr. Glenn L. Shook, November 19, 1945, through his secretary.

Answers to Questions

Note: The following answers were written by the Guardian through his secretary to Dr. Glenn L. Shook in a letter dated November 19, 1945.

1. & 2. The supreme Tribunal is an aspect of a world Superstate; the exact nature of its relationship to that state we cannot at present foresee.

3. Supreme Tribunal is the correct translation; it will be a contributing factor in establishing the Lesser Peace.

4. There is no statement in the teachings indicating that the Lesser Peace will definitely be established by 1957 or 1963.

5. The Most Great Covenant is different from the Everlasting Covenant.

6. No Bahá'u'lláh did not bring a complete system of economics to the world.

7. Profit-sharing is recommended as a solution to one form of economic problems.

8. There is nothing in the teachings against some kind of capitalism: its present form, though, would require adjustments to be made.

9. Islam attained a very high spiritual state, but western scholars are prone to judging it by Christian standards. One cannot call one world Faith superior to another, as they all come from God; they are progressive, each suited to certain needs of the times.

10. Of course, Man divides; only the Power which comes from God can unite.

11. & 12. The Seven Lights of Unity will not necessarily come in the order given. A product of the second may well be universal culture.

13. “Insaf” should be thought of as fairness.

14. Through meditation doors of deeper knowledge and inspiration may be opened. Naturally, if one meditates as a Bahá'í he is connected with the Source; if a man believing in God meditates he is turning in to the power and mercy of God; but we cannot say that any inspiration which a person not knowing Bahá'u'lláh, or not believing in God, receives is merely from his own ego. Meditation is very important, and the Guardian sees no reason why the friends should not be taught to meditate, but they should guard against superstitions or foolish ideas creeping into it.

15. In quoting prayers any part may be used, but should be quoted as it is, however short.

16. The Manifestos no doubt had some consciousness of Their station, but what the nature of that consciousness was we do not know.

17. Those who have never had any opportunity of hearing of the Faith but who lived good lives will no doubt be treated with the greatest love and mercy in the next world, and reap their full reward.

18. There is no objection to using Ruhí's book on mysticism.

19. We believe that Christ only was conceived immaculately. His brothers and sisters would have been born in the natural way and conceived naturally.

20. Both Caliphathe and Imamate mean successorship. Either term could be used.

21. Shoghi Effendi has always made it quite clear that, in the future, the teachings may be retranslated, if the need arises.

22. There is nothing in the teachings against swimming and dancing; mankind will become nobler, this we know; if that will include or eliminate such pastimes we do not know at present.
Beloved friends:

In the Bahá’í World Faith there is no room for mere passive acceptance of principle and truth. The believer today can not take over the attitude of the followers of ancient religions and merely by changing the name of his religion become a true Bahá’í.

The Faith of Bahá’u’lláh establishes new standards of achievement for the individual and for the community. It creates movement in society in the direction of definite goals. It drives forward ahead of the darkness and the ruin which has overtaken the unfaith of the past.

Time is of the essence. We first become conscious of this pressure for action when the Guardian set up the first Seven Year Plan — an allotted time for a measurable task. The second Seven Year Plan renews and intensifies our collective responsibility to advance, to attain, to succeed in a definite mission.

Let us apply this standard of active faith to one of the great objectives of the teaching work in the United States this year: the development of every small community to the number of fifteen adult, declared Bahá’ís. No community can take that vital step of progress by mere repetition of calendar programs. There must be an intense drive behind our Bahá’í activities and plans, the overcoming of inertia, the enkindlement of souls, the concentration of will.

Consultation is more than discussion and exchange of views. Consultation is becoming ignited from the flame of a common purpose. The most illiterate, inexperienced and humble of believers in a community may be the one who first becomes aflame and communicates the holy fire to his fellow believers.

Enthusiasm and conviction precede agreement on any specific teaching plan. They are its wings, its power of life and the cause of its success. A Bahá’í community can and must blend the force of emotion with clarity of vision and sound judgment. This blending of all available spiritual resources is true unity. When that degree of harmony is attained, every individual can share the capacity of all his fellows. The experience is mutual, not selfish.

The world around us despairs because individuals do not find this fulfillment of spiritual fellowship. Alone the individual feels lost and frustrated, or his capacity hardens into accomplishment for himself or for his own particular group. When a Bahá’í community learns how to fuse the souls into an all-embracing unity it will attract. Teaching needs this spiritual communion to bring enlightenment to the seeker.

It is because the element of time has become so vital that the National Spiritual Assembly wishes the Regional Teaching Committees and the Extension Teaching Committees to assist the smaller communities this year. In no part of the national community can we afford to crystallize around the negative attitude of passive acceptance. There are so many weeks, days and hours at our command. The acceptance of help involves no lessening of the authority vested in the local Assembly. On the contrary — authority is actually fulfilled when we learn how to take advantage of every opportunity to grow.

Crystallization can also overtake us in larger communities. There is no point at which Bahá’ís can stop and say they have done their work. The larger community must also set a standard of progress for itself this year, and with all its resources drive forward from power to power.

Faithfully yours,

—National Spiritual Assembly

Enrollments

Enrollments reported by Local Spiritual Assemblies:

Boise, Idaho, 2; Columbia, S. C., 1; Maywood, Ill., 2; Berkeley, Calif., 1; Dumont, N. J., 1; Topeka, Kan., 1; St. Louis, Mo., 1; Winnetka, Ill., 1; Montrose, Calif., 1; YOUTH—2.

Enrollments reported by Regional Teaching Committees:

NORTHEASTERN STATES AREA
New Jersey 2

CENTRAL STATES AREA
Ohio, Ind., 4; 1 Youth.

WESTERN STATES AREA
Alaska, 4.

National Teaching Committee

The National Teaching Committees for the four areas designated in the Tablets of the Divine Plan can be addressed as follows:

NTC for Northeastern States: Mrs. Katherine Mclaughlin, Secretary, P. O. Box 1435, Greenwich, Conn.

NTC for Southern States: Mrs. Annie Romer, Secretary, 1815 Evers Street, Columbia, S. C.

NTC for Central States: Mrs. May Scheffer, Secretary, 1821 Lincoln Street, Evanston, Ill.

NTC for Western States: Mrs. Jesma Herbert, Secretary, 5372 Templeton Street, Los Angeles 32, Calif.

N.S.a. of Australia and New Zealand

Mr. S. W. Bolton..., Chairman
Mr. H. Fitzner..., Vice-Chairman
Mrs. Mariette G. Bolton...
Mr. A. Tunks..., Treasurer
Miss E. Dawe
Mr. J. Heggie
Mrs. F. Fitner
Mrs. E. Dobkins
Miss G. Lamprill

Meetings of the National Spiritual Assembly 1948 - 1949

May 1 to 4, 8 and 9, at Wilmette. June 17 to 20, at Wilmette. July 10 and 11 (with sessions of a National Teaching Conference), at Wilmette. July 29 to August 1, at Green Acre. September 3 to 6, at Wilmette. October 8 to 10, at Louhelen School. November 5 to 7, at Wilmette. December 3 to 5, at Wilmette. January 7 to 9, at Wilmette. February 11 to 13, at Wilmette. March 24 to 27, at Wilmette. April 27, at Wilmette. (A total of forty days)

National and State Conventions

The date chosen for the State Conventions, where National Convention delegates are elected, is February 6, 1949.

The Annual National Convention will be held in Temple Foundation Hall, Wilmette, April 28 to May 1, 1949.
Temple Construction Progress Report

Rapid progress has been made in carrying forward the successive steps necessary to bring the Temple interior project to the point of letting contracts for the placing of the ornamentation.

On May 28, the Temple Trustees awarded a contract to the George A. Fuller Company, who will act as general contractors for the interior work, and will be responsible for providing all the labor and materials for the completion of the interior of the Temple, as called for in the plans and specifications prepared by the architects.

The Fuller Company was the contractor for the erection of the superstructure of the Temple, which was completed in 1930 and 1931, and this organization was again chosen for the current phase of construction because of its familiarity with the Temple structure, and also because of the very favorable contract terms offered to the Trustees.

Mr. Shaw, the architect, and his associates, are currently engaged in completing the working drawings, specifications, and architectural details, and it is now expected that actual construction work on the nine vertical piers supporting the dome will begin in the early Fall.

Meanwhile, the necessary repair work on the decks of the main story and first gallery is being carried out under a sub-contract negotiated by the Fuller Company in consultation with the architect, and with the Temple Maintenance Committee.

Arrangements for the work of modeling the details of the ornamentation have been made, and this very important phase of the project is now under way at the New York studios of Rochette and Parzini, noted sculptors and modelers. The architect and the members of the Bahá’í Technical Advisory Board are supervising this work very closely, and have informed the Trustees that they are very pleased with the manner in which the flowing motifs of the Bourgeois ornamentation are being retained in the simplified design approved by the Guardian.

Photographs of the simplified interior design and the detailed section models will be published in a subsequent issue of BAHÁ’Í NEWS.

—TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Renewed Enthusiasm in Europe

From the many letters that are coming to the European Teaching Committee from the pioneers in all the goal countries it is evident that they have resumed their teaching work following the Geneva Conference with renewed enthusiasm and dedication. All of the pioneers have a thorough understanding of the immediate goals before them and are planning their teaching work and that of consolidating the newly formed Assemblies efficiently and systematically. At the last National Convention in Wilmette the Chairman of the European Teaching Committee announced that there were 81 Bahá’ís enrolled in the goal countries of Europe. The Cause is moving forward steadily and the latest count shows that there are now 102. The wonderful thing about the new Bahá’ís of Europe is their mature understanding of the great significance of the Faith and their capacity to be active workers.

It seems that Dan Cupid has played his part in this European Project and has been especially active in Bern, Switzerland. Here in Bern, on June 11, Louise Baker one of our pioneers to Portugal and formerly of Lima, Ohio, and Hubert Matthias of Lisbon, Portugal, were married. Anna Kunz and Fritz Shaver read the Service. During the first week of July there was another Bahá’í wedding held in Bern; this time both the bride and bridegroom were native Swiss, newly declared Bahá’ís, Mrs. Olga Spreng and Mr. Friedrich Schär. This marriage service was read by Anna Kunz and Elsa Steinmetz. Some of the Bern pioneer’s closest contacts were invited to these weddings and were deeply impressed by the Bahá’í Service. In Brussels, Belgium, our pioneer, John Carré was married to Georgine Jacobs, a native of Brussels and a newly declared believer.

All of those who attended the recent Geneva Conference have expressed in detail their deep gratitude to the entire community of the Bahá’ís of the United States for their generous support and their continued interest in the European aspect of the second Seven Year Plan.

There is to be an International Congress of the United World Federalists in Luxembourg this September and the N.S.A. has been invited by the Secretary General of the World Federalists to send a representative of the Bahá’í Faith to participate as an Observer in this Congress. This invitation was gladly accepted as it will give the Bahá’í Faith added prestige in Europe and also will give our Observer and the Luxembourg pioneers the wonderful chance to make contacts.

EUROPEAN TEACHING COMMITTEE

Making of Braille plates at the Braille Institute of America. Alice Tilly is doing the Braille work on a Bahá’í book.
Through a willing spirit and the coordination of many hands, the Geyserville Bahá’í School has made great strides forward in the past three years. Building, ground improvements, and varied alterations are all a part of this intensive work. The job is more commendable since it is necessary for most of the friends to travel some 150 miles round trip from the general San Francisco area, consequently using up their ends. 

Facilities created by these efforts are children's classrooms, a cafeteria, dormitory for men and boys, grading of property and leveling to provide parking space. For many years the "Geyserville Press" has given publicity space to the Bahá’í School and its activities, and the following quote comes from this source:

"The most outstanding addition is the new building to house the children's school. It is a one-story building, 24 x 56 feet, standing to the north and west of the main buildings. It has a solid concrete foundation and floor, is painted white and has a gentle sloping green roof. It is divided into three large classrooms with separate entrances, each room equipped with large work tables and benches, book shelves, and a piano in the large central room. They are being used at present to accommodate the primary, intermediate and the junior youth groups. A long gravel porch continues across the entire eastern side of the building and it is planned to surface this at some future time with concrete and to cover it with a sloping roof."

Bosch Hall for men and boys was created by remodelling the old prune house, installing lighting, and furnishing with beds and other equipment. The cafeteria arose from the conversion of a garage and storage building to this purpose. It was completely equipped with stoves, refrigerator, cooking utensils, sinks and plumbing, water heater, and freezer unit.

The grading operations involved the hauling of 200 cubic yards of gravel to give a sizeable parking lot and a children's playground. A donation of $125 was received for play equipment. Adjacent to the Administration Building which also saw major improvements, is the new concrete floored patio, surrounded with bamboo plantings, and equipped with metal furniture, making a pleasant spot for relaxing and entertaining drop-in visitors. The 22 acre campus requires extensive ground maintenance and beyond removing weeds and cutting grass there has been planting of flowers, shrubs, ivy, verbena, and fig trees both for beauty and erosion control.

The carpentry, machinery, plumbing, and painting work was done in many cases by persons from quite unrelated professions. The school Maintenance Committee and other Bahá’ís have performed these labors, effecting the saving of large sums, and a great deal of equipment and materials were also donated.
Around the Bahá’í World

INDIA, PAKISTAN AND BURMA
Charles Mason Remey was asked by the N.S.A. of India, Pakistan and Burma to design the tomb of the well-known and beloved Bahá’í, Siyyid Musta’lil Roumi. Having received his drawings, their secretaries enthusiastically replied, “Beautiful as the design looks on paper, we can visualize how appealing it will be to the eye when it is ultimately built, as elaborately designed by you. It will be a song in stone.”

Pleased with the prompt response by two Indian believers to his appeal for the establishment of an outpost of the Faith in Ceylon, the Guardian has asked for volunteers to go to Siam and Indonesia. This will bring the number of countries opened to the Faith of Bahá’u’lláh near one hundred. In his cable the Guardian said that the act of hastening this glorious consummation carries with it an inestimable reward.

To fulfill the aims of their four and one-half year plan, the Indian Bahá’ís must form 19 assemblies per year in the remaining two years. This is to be done in a land where care of the dispersed and dispossessed is an item on the National Budget and pioneer teachers stay at work near their families in spite of “lack of living accommodations and other difficulties.”

From the Geneva Bureau News Exchange:

AUSTRIA
Mr. Chr. Eberndorfer, Spallerhof-Siedlung, Waldinger Str. 7, Linz, Austria, an isolated believer, wishes to correspond with Bahá’í youth of other countries in English and/or German.

GERMANY
Two hundred believers from all parts of Germany attended the Eighteenth National Convention of the Bahá’ís of Germany and Austria on April 30 - May 2, 1948. The public session of the Convention was attended by over 400 people, though it was unadvertised. Over 5 million people in and around Frankfurt heard the Bahá’í Message when the Frankfurt radio station broadcast a program about the Bahá’í Youth and their activities. “Plans for a summer school encountered serious obstacles due to the economic situation, but finally an arrangement was made with Quaker Relief, who provide throughout the summer fortnightly and weekly camps with all equipment.”

Bruce Davison and his German bride, Charlotte, who were married in Frankfurt on May 19, attended the European Conference in Geneva on their wedding trip.

GREAT BRITAIN
“All Goals Achieved. Initial Phase of Six-Year Plan Completed.” is the thrilling “Stop Press” announcement on the cover of the latest Bahá’í Journal.

An animated and successful Regional Youth Conference, and the formation of several more local Youth committees, are visible signs of the steady advance and marked consolidation of Bahá’í Youth activities throughout the British Isles.

IRAN
In spite of renewed persecutions, homes plundered and set on fire, severe injuries inflicted on a number of friends, library books burned, and other acts of aggression, the Bahá’ís of Iran press steadily forward since the 45-month Plan was put into operation, 11 new Faith groups, 17 new Bahá’í Centers and 27 new Assemblies have been established. Perhaps these achievements can be explained by the following quotation from their “Bahá’í News and Review”’s “These tests and perplexities, grievous as they are, provoke in our minds the thought that pain and suffering constitute an outstanding factor in the evolution of the Divine Cause.”

CANADA (From Canadian Bahá’í News)
Of the nine non-Bahá’ís present at the winter session of the Laurentian Bahá’í school, five have joined the Faith. Encouraged by this record, and in order to foster the unity of the Canadian Bahá’í community and to help in the achievement of the tasks outlined for them in the Guardian’s Convention cable, several interesting summer school sessions have been planned for this season:

At the Laurentian Bahá’í School at Beaulac, Quebec, the session will be from July 31 to August 6. Dr. Ali Kuli Khan will guide in “The Deeper Teachings of Bahá’u’lláh.” Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh will speak on “How to Appeal to Our Fellowmen.” There will be a workshop on Effective Speech and on Community Problems. Further information may be obtained by writing to Mrs. Carl Lohne, 336 Ridgewood Avenue, Apt. 17, Montreal, Canada.

The Franklin Camp Summer Conference, at Georgian Bay, Ontario, will be held from August 7 to August 14. Subjects of study will be “The Foundation and Structure of World Civilization,” led by Mr. Harlan Ober. Mrs. Elizabeth Ober will guide a course on “The Reality of Man” based on the Bahá’í book of the same name. “Practical Teaching Suggestions” will be led by Miss Parti Walrath. Mr. Craig Weaver, 10 Miles Road, Minico, Ontario, Canada, is in charge of reservations for this session.

For information concerning the British Columbia Summer Conference at Vernon, B. C., Sept. 2 to Sept. 6, write to Mrs. Priscilla Waugh, 1852 Holland Avenue, RFD No. 3, Victoria, B.C.

Seriously and prayerfully considering the Master’s Teaching Challenge, for each Bahá’í to confirm at least one soul a year, the Canadian Bahá’ís are providing for themselves opportunities for spiritual growth and more effective teaching, through collective study and discussion.

On recommendation of the delegates at the first Canadian Bahá’í Convention, the N.S.A. of Canada has appointed a special teaching committee for Greenland and Newfoundland.

POLAND
Enquiries continue to come to the Warsaw group from all parts of the country. Special use has been made of copies of Bahá’u’lláh and the New Era in the Polish Foundation.

PALESTINE
At a time when the Holy Land is in the throes of a great tragedy, when law and order have almost completely broken down and peace and security are non-existent, the Bahá’í World is no doubt, anxiously following the news of Palestine with its heart and mind turned towards our Beloved Guardian and the Holy Shrines at “Bahijeh” near Acre and on Mount Carmel, at Haifa. Our Beloved Guardian, we are happy to report, is in the best of health.

Palestine is going now perhaps through its gravest and most decisive hour since the year 70 A.D. In that year as students of history recall, following a period of dreadful
anarchy and chaos after the death of the Roman procurator Herod Agrippa, Jerusalem was destroyed by Titus amidst scenes of great horror and bloodshed. Are we living today in one of the really great, creative and divine moments of history? Are we witnessing the first stages of "the battle of that great day of God Almighty"? "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem," lamented Christ, "thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

"Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

"For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." (Matt. 23:-37-39)

In the light of the present events in Palestine, it will be of great interest to the believers to recall what "Abdul Baha said (in 1914) about "Akka (Acre) and Haifa":

"In the future the distance between 'Akka and Haifa will be built up, and the two cities will join and clasp hands, becoming the two terminal sections of one mighty metropolis. As I look now over this scene, I see so clearly that it will become one of the first emporiums of the world. This great semi-circular bay will be transformed into the finest harbour, wherein the ships of all nations will seek shelter and refuge. The great vessels of all peoples will come to this port, bringing on their decks thousands and thousands of men and women from every part of the globe. The mountain and the plain will be dotted with the most modern buildings and palaces. Industries will be established and various institutions of philanthropic nature will be founded. The flowers of civilization and culture from all nations will be brought here to blend their fragrances together and blaze the way for the brotherhood of man. Wonderful gardens, orchards, groves and parks will be laid out on all sides. . . . Mount Carmel itself, from top to bottom, will be submerged in a sea of lights. A person standing on the summit of Mount Carmel, and the passengers and steamers coming to it, will look upon the most sublime and majestic spectacle of the whole world.

"From every part of the mountain the symphony of 'Ya Bahá'u'lláh Abha' will be raised, and before the daybreak soul-entrancing music accompanied by melodic voices will be uplifted towards the throne of the Almighty.

"Indeed, God's ways are mysterious and unsearchable. What outward relation exists between Shiraz and Tihran, Baghdad and Constantinople, Adrianople and Akka and Haifa God worked patiently, step by step, through these various cities, according to His own definite and eternal Plan, so that the prophecies might be fulfilled. This golden thread of promise concerning the Messianic Millennium runs through the Bible, and it was so destined that God in His own good time would cause its appearance. Not even a single word will be left meaningless and unfulfilled." (Esslemont-Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era, PP. 212-213).

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Suggested Daily Readings for September

"Transformation of the World"

September
1, 2 Gl., Ch. XIV pp. 27-28
3, 4 Gl., Ch. XIV, pp. 29, 30
5 Isaiah 42-9 and Rev. 21-1, 2
6, 7 H. of G. pp. 27, 28, 29
8 Rev. 21-3, 4, 5 and 1 Cor. 2-9
9 W. O. of B.—34
10 W. O. of B.—168
11 P. of U. P. p. 127
12 Joel 2-9 to 32
13 Isaiah 60-10 to 22
14 Isaiah 25-1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9
15 Gl. 40
16 Matt. 25—31, 32, 33, 34
17 Gl. 41 and 42
18 I Cor. 15—51, 52
19 B. and N.E. pp. 146, 147
20, 21 H. of G.—104, 105, 106
22 H. of G.—184, 185
23 H. of G.—186, 187
24 Pr. D. C.—Page 121
25 Pr. D. C.—Page 125
26 Pr. D. C.—Page 135
27 Pr. D. C.—Page 122
28 Pr. D. C.—Page 123
29 Pr. D. C.—Page 127
30 Pr. D. C.—129

Key:
Gl.—Gleanings
of G.—Heart of the Gospel
W. O. of B.—World Order of Bahá'u'lláh
P. of U. P.—Promulgation of Universal Peace
B. and N.E.—Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era
P.D.C.—Promised Day is Come.

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Tri-State Conference of Bahá'í Youth

The Bahá'í Youth of Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan held a conference at Muskegon State Park overlooking Lake Michigan on July 10 and 11, 1945. This occasion was for non-Bahá'ís as well as Bahá'ís, and was the first of its kind ever to take place. There were three delegates from each state who led the discussion and presentation of assigned topics.

After a swim in the lake, the first meeting was held on Saturday afternoon in the council circle—a delightful wooded spot. Paul Pettit, general chairman of the conference gave an opening speech welcoming everyone to the camp and outlining the purposes of this first inter-state conference.

PURPOSES

1. Consult on problem of promulgating teachings of Bahá'í Faith.
2. Provide opportunity for Youth to organize and conduct meetings, and gain experience in Bahá'í procedure.
3. Provide situation for exchanging ideas on youth work at home.
4. A chance to meet members of the National Youth Committee.
5. Provide a good time for all—very important in the light of personal contacts regarding new-comers to the Bahá'í Faith.

Mention was also made at this point of the responsibilities of the youth as Bahá'ís.

The delegates were then introduced and Illinois presented their topic of teaching. This was done by putting on a "mock fireside." An atheist and an avid churchgoer asked pertinent questions which were very effectively answered by Larry Cramer representing the Bahá'í viewpoint.

There followed a question period which continued after dinner. Then all adjourned to the beach for a moonlight swim.

The following day was opened with devotions led by the Michigan delegates, and after breakfast a wire from Horace Holley urging all youth at the conference to make outstanding contributions to the teaching work this year, was read. The Wisconsin youth, led by Farhang Javid gave a report of Bahá'í activities in colleges.

Special mention should also be ac-
corded to Larry Hautz for making a special trip from Milwaukee to Muskegon to talk to the Baha'is about the National Youth Committee and plans for the future; and also for the two huge boxes of cookies that were eaten to the last crumb.

After another swim and an early supper the conference broke up. The whole affair was voted a huge success. The non-Baha'is there were very much impressed by the fire and zeal of the young people. They enjoyed themselves immensely and made many new friends amongst the Baha'is. They will not be likely to forget such a week-end, and expressed a desire for more and more literature.

Marriages
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA: Donna Mae Robinson (first declared Baha'i Youth of Alaska) to Samuel I. Kimura, June 26, 1948, in Anchorage.
BERN, SWITZERLAND: Winifred Louise Baker (European Pioneer) to Robert L. C. Matthias, June 11, 1948 at Bern, Switzerland.
OAK PARK, ILL.: Janice Ewing to Arthurus Lamb, (Latin American Pioneer) May 8, 1948 at Oak Park.
YONKERS, N. Y.: Hildegard Nesch formerly of Oberesslingen, Germany, to Lawrence F. Doty, June 15, 1948 at Yonkers.

In Memoriam
Mr. William Goetting, 8-7-48
Milwaukee, Wis.
Mr. Grant Peck, 6-3-48
New York City
Mrs. Margaret Buswell, 3-17-48
South Bend, Ind.
Mr. George O. Latimer, 6-21-48
Portland, Ore.
Dr. John Osenhaugh, 5-26-48
Chicago, Ill.
CORRECTION: June issue, Page 12:
Mr. J. A. Houchens instead of Mrs.

Calendar

FEASTS:
Sept. 8—'Izzatt—Might:
Sept. 27—Mashtiyat—Will.

NSA MEETINGS:
Sept. 3-6—(This meeting will be held in Wilmette rather than at Louhelen as noted in June.)
Oct. 8-10—(At Louhelen Baha'i School.)
The Home Front

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

Word comes from Dr. Edris Rice Wray that San Juan’s fine community is unique in her experience, in that its youth outnumber the adult members, 16 of the former and 11 of the latter. Though her job as medical supervisor of a district in Public Health Dept. places her in Arecibo, 50 miles away, she manages visits weekends or oftener to San Juan. Margaret Swengel assists greatly in the work and they have two other goal towns for assemblies.

BUTTE, MONTANA

At a special fireside at the home of an interested seeker, Mr. Harold Hunt gave a talk to the gathering, which later enjoyed the unusual musical treat of Safta Kinney’s “American Anthem”. This remarkable composition has been presented to the President of the United States on behalf of Mr. Kinney for the American people, by Mr. Hunt.

HONOLULU, HAWAII

Both the Public Library and that of the University of Hawaii are well stocked with Bahá’í books which are frequently used, according to the librarian of the Honolulu Assembly, showing that the younger generation is being attracted. Due no doubt to this foundation interest, the Bahá’ís have been called on several times to give talks to student groups.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

The first baby born of Bahá’í parents in Alaska was Dorothy Whitenack Stout, to Verne and Janet Stout, the event occurring on May 11.

LANSING, MICH.

Regular weekly newspaper ads have produced most interesting results in this State Capitol. There have been a total of at least 25 telephone inquiries about the Faith since January, only two of which were negative. Of these, all have been sent literature, several have been personally contacted, one person has ordered five books, another asked for literature to give to friends and two have paid two visits for personal talk.

The ads are two column inches and carry a bold-face heading “BAHÁ’Í WORLD FAITH.” Underneath is a short one- or two-sentence quotation from the Teachings, either verbatim or simplified. One twelve-week period carried the twelve principles re-worded as challenging statements. Care is exercised in the choosing of the quotations or the preparation of the statements so that each time the reader is presented with a really “new” idea, one that cannot produce the thought “But that is taught in any church.” The last line of the ad is the street address of the local meeting place and the telephone number.

This is the ad which produced three telephone calls the next day: “The Teachings of Bahá’u’lláh have the same basic principles as Christianity, but they fit the maturity of the world and the needs of our time.”

MUSKEGON, MICH.

This Community was asked to conduct a Bahá’í marriage service recently for two people, neither of whom are believers. A newspaper story of the wedding carried the word “Bahá’í” in the headline.

MIAMI, FLA.

The friends of Miami took advantage of the birthday of the chairman of their Spiritual Assembly to have a social get-together with their interested friends. Everyone having a birthday in May was given a small cake topped by one lighted candle and each one told of some outstanding experience in his or her life. Games were played and there were several musical selections and songs in which all took part. A friend from Havana, Cuba, was there and some out-of-town Bahá’ís, making a total of about 30 who greatly enjoyed this special occasion.

At their observance of the Martyrdom of the Báb, which they held at noon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Morris Eisenberg, there were 14 present including representatives of the Chinese, Jew, Negro and Gentile “races.”
"The Shield That Defendeth His Cause . . ."

"Every discerning eye can, in this Day, perceive the dawning light of God's Revelation, and every attentive ear can recognize the Voice that was heard from the Burning Bush. Such is the rushing of the waters of Divine mercy, that He Who is the Day Spring of the signs of God and the Revealer of the evidences of His glory is without veil or concealment associating and conversing with the peoples of the earth and its kindreds. How numerous are those who, with hearts intent upon malice, have sought Our Presence, and departed from it loyal and loving friends! The portals of grace are wide open before the face of all men. In Our outward dealings with them We have treated alike the righteous and the sinner, that perchance the evil-doer may attain the limitless ocean of Divine forgiveness. Our Name "the Concealer" hath shed such a light upon men that the froward hath imagined himself to be numbered with the pious. No man that seeketh Us will We ever disappoint, neither shall he that hath set his face towards Us be denied access unto Our court . . ."

"O friends! Help ye the one true God, exalted be His glory, by your goodly deeds, by such conduct and character as shall be acceptable in His sight. He that seeketh to be a helper of God in this Day, let him close his eyes to whatever he may possess, and open them to the things of God. Let him cease to occupy himself with that which profiteth him, and concern himself with that which shall exalt the all-compelling name of the Almighty. He should cleanse his heart from all evil passions and corrupt desires, for the fear of God is the weapon that can render him victorious, the primary instrument whereby he can achieve his purpose.

"The fear of God is the shield that defendeth His Cause, the buckler that enableth His people to attain a victory. It is a standard that no man can abase, a force that no power can rival. By its aid, and by the leave of Him Who is the Lord of Hosts, they that have drawn nigh unto God have been able to subdue and conquer the citadels of the hearts of men."

Itinerant Teacher

The following excerpts from a letter from Mr. Charles Mason Remey give some idea of the life of a traveling teacher abroad:

". . . On landing in England, I made a tour of nine assemblies in that country, Scotland and Wales. During these past four years there has been a strong pioneer movement in the British Isles. Pioneers have gone out from London and other places with the result that many new people are coming into the Faith—a number of them are energetic young people, so the Faith is much on the increase.

"In Geneva, we delegates appointed by the NSA attended the U.N. conferences on Human Rights . . ."

"I spent the month of June in Paris attending the meetings of the Bahá'ís and finishing up the designs of the Bahá'í House of Worship to be built on Mt. Carmel. Several months ago Shoghi Effendi wrote asking me to do this work and the drawings are now completed. These designs were exhibited in Paris at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts as a thesis upon which the French government gave me a diploma in Architecture. Until now it has been impossible to send the design to Shoghi Effendi but this I hope to do as soon as the upset conditions in Palestine permit. (Ed. note: Mr. Remey has also designed a tomb at the request of the NSA of India, Pakistan and Burma. See Around the Bahá'í World in this issue.)

"Recently I've been again in Geneva for a meeting of the friends there and now I am in Germany spending a few days with the friends here in Frankfurt, later to go to Stuttgart, Heidelberg and Esslingen as requested by our NSA. This will include the Summer School sessions in Esslingen where the friends from various outlying towns will assemble. After that, Vienna, Austria, then Italy and Switzerland again. Then to France and the sessions of the Summer School in England before sailing for home early in September . . ."
Latin America Session at Temerity

The Latin America session at Temerity Ranch, from June 18 to 28, provided a wonderful course of instruction for those in attendance. An intensive study of Some Answered Questions was delightfully conducted by Mrs. Loulie Mathews. Mrs. Gayle Woolson, home from South America on a three-month vacation, gave an excellent course on Public Teaching in Latin America.

This session was also significant for the several splendid occasions which it provided for mentioning the Faith to non-Bahá’í audiences. Gayle spoke at the Colorado Springs YWCA on “Bozgota During the Uprising,” after which, Flora Hottes showed beautiful colored slides of Bolivia, where she had pioneered. Gayle also spoke before the Rotarians and Lions clubs of that city with marked effect.

In Latin America itself, the two National Teaching Committees, one for Central and one for South America, are earnestly making plans for their forthcoming annual Congress, to be held the third week of January, 1949.

Esteban Canales, Chairman of the NTC of South America, has arrived in Ecuador, having visited the Bahá’í communities of Bolivia and Peru, on his long journey from Chile to all the countries of South America. He has given us a most beautiful and touching picture of the Lima, Peru, community and of the heroic work done there by Eve Nicklin, their pioneer, who left them a few months ago to strengthen the community of Punta Arenas, at the tip of Chile. Wrote Esteban: “The work which Eve accomplished here is marvellous. She used great wisdom in imparting the Teachings; she taught by her example...The Bahá’ís of Lima, who are mostly youths, are very sincere, capable, and conscientious. Now that their pioneer has left them, they have awakened, they have seen the marvelous work done by her, and they have arisen to assume their responsibilities. They are like children who had lived at their mother’s expense, but when she left them, they arose to meet the challenging situation with full courage and zeal, and each endeavor to improve himself so that he can better serve the Faith.”

Another vital Bahá’í community which numbers many youths is the one of San Juan, Puerto Rico. It has been growing rapidly, and recently reached the point where it outgrew the Center, the home of Sra. Martin, because the neighbors in the aristocratic neighborhood could not understand the purpose of the Bahá’í meetings and objected to them. For the present, therefore, they are looking for a new Center.

Publishing Announcement

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Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Page Col.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addresses</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around Bahá’í World</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies Contributing</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to Fund</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia &amp; New Zealand NSA</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call For Unity and Sacrifice</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Election Result</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollments</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esmond book</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund (See Budget)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geyserville School</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters to Individuals</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Love That Shows Itself In Deeds”</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“My Appeal to this God-Centered Community”</td>
<td>Insert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Front</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Itinerant Teacher”</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamplight Homecoming</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memoriam</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly of New Zealand</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly of Australia</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Spiritual Assembly</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for Unity and Sacrifice</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toas, Leroy, elected to</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Time is of the Essence”</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Teaching Committee</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Era</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictures</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Braille books</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lomahen School</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowship Group</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geyserville School</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Acre School</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Interest Increasing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing Announcements</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Shield That Defendeth His Cause”</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggested Daily Readings</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temerity Summer School</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Latin America)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple Progress</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Conference</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will and Testament, copies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

August, 1948
Dear and Valued Co-workers:

The response of the American Bahá'í Community to the urgent call to arise and remedy a critical situation has been such as to excite my highest admiration and exceed the hopes of all those who had waited with anxious hearts for this dangerous corner to be turned at such an important stage in the prosecution of the Second Seven Year Plan.

The rapidity with which the challenge has been met, the strenuous efforts which have been systematically exerted, the zeal and devotion which have been so abundantly demonstrated, the resolution and self-sacrifice which have been so strikingly displayed by the members of a community, burdened with such mighty responsibilities and intent on maintaining its lead among its sister communities in East and West, confer great lustre on this latest episode in the history of the prosecution of the Divine Plan. I am moved to offer its high-minded and valiant members my heartfelt congratulations on so conspicuous a victory, and on the preservation of an unblemished record of achievements in the service of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh.

The formation of the Canadian National Assembly, the conclusion of the preliminary steps for the completion of the interior ornamentation of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar, the rapid multiplication and consolidation of the institutions of the Faith throughout Latin America, the steady expansion of the activities aiming at the proclamation of the Faith to the masses, the recognition secured, on behalf of the national institutions of a world community, from the United Nations Organization, above all the phenomenal success achieved through the constitution of no less than eight spiritual Assemblies in seven of the goal countries selected as targets for the transatlantic operation of the Plan, now crowned by the holding of the first teaching conference on the Continent of Europe—all these have served to immortalize the second year of the second Seven Year Plan and round out the mighty feat accomplished throughout the states and provinces of the North American Continent—the base from which the operation of a divinely impelled and constantly expanding Plan are being conducted.

Emboldened by the enduring and momentous successes won, on so many fronts, in such distant fields, among such a diversity of peoples, and in the face of such formidable obstacles, by a community now launched, in both Hemispheres, on its world-enfacing mission, I direct my appeal to the entire membership of this God-chosen community, to its associates and daughter communities in the Dominion of Canada, in Central and South America, and in the Continent of Europe, to proclaim, in the course of this current year, to their sister communities in East and West and by deeds no less resplendent than those of the past, their inflexible resolve to prosecute unremittingly the Plan entrusted to their care, and emblazon on their shields the emblems of new victories in its service.

The placing, with care and promptitude, the successive contracts, designed to ensure the uninterrupted progress of the interior ornamentation of the Temple, at a time when the international situation is fraught with so many complications and perils; the acceleration of the two-fold process designed to preserve the status of the present Assemblies throughout the States of the Union and multiply their number; the constant broadening of the bases on which the projected Latin American National Assemblies are to be securely founded; the steady expansion of the work initiated to give wider publicity to the Faith in the North American Continent and in circles associated with the United Nations; and, last but not least, the constitution of firmly established Assemblies in each of the remaining goal countries in Europe and the simultaneous initiation, in the countries already provided with such Assemblies, of measures aiming at the formation of several nuclei calculated to reinforce the structural basis of an infant administrative Order—these stand out as the primary and inescapable duties which the members of your Assembly—the mainspring of the multitudinous activities carried on in your homeland, in the Latin American field, and on the European front—must in this third year of the Second Seven Year Plan, befittingly discharge.

That the launching of one of these fundamental activities to be conducted by your Assembly during the present year—the commencement of the interior ornamentation of the Mother Temple of the West—should have so closely synchronized with the placing of the first two contracts for the completion of the Sepulchre of the Báb, as contemplated by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, is indeed a phenomenon of singular significance. This conjunction of two events of historic importance, linking, in a peculiar degree, the most sacred House of Worship in the American continent with the most hallowed Shrine on the slopes of Mount Carmel, brings vividly to mind the no less remarkable coincidence marking the simultaneous holding, on a Naw-Rúz Day, of the first convention of the American Bahá'í Community and the entombment by the Center of Bahá'u'lláh's Covenant of the remains of the Báb in the newly constructed vault of His Shrine. The simultaneous arrival of those remains in the fortress city of 'Akká and of the first pilgrims from the continent of America; the subsequent association of the founder of the American Bahá'í community with 'Abdu'l-Bahá in the laying of the cornerstone of the Báb's Mausoleum on Mount Carmel; the holding of the Centenary of His Declaration beneath the dome of the recently constructed Mashriqu'l-Adhkar at Wilmette, on which solemn occasion His blessed portrait was unveiled, on western soil, to the eyes of His followers; and the unique distinction now conferred on a member of the North American Bahá'í community of designing the dome, envisaged by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, as the final and essential embellishment of the Bab's Sepulchre—all these
have served to associate the Herald of our Faith and His resting-place with the fortunes of a community which has so nobly responded to His summons addressed to the “peoples of the West” in His Qayyum u'l-Asmā.

“This Sublime Shrine has remained unbuilt . . . .” ‘Abdu'l-Bahá, looking at the Shrine from the steps of His House on an August day in 1915, remarked to some of His companions, at a time when the Bab’s remains had already been placed by Him in the Vault of one of the six chambers He had already constructed for that purpose. “God willing, it will be accomplished. We have carried its construction to this stage.”

The initiation in these days of extreme peril in the Holy Land of so great and holy an enterprise founded by Baha’u’llah Himself whilst still a Prisoner in ‘Akká and commenced by ‘Abdu'l-Baha during the darkest and most perilous days of His Ministry, recalls to our minds furthermore, the construction of the superstructure of the Temple in Wilmette during one of the severest financial crises that has afflicted the United States of America, and the completion of its exterior ornamentation during the dark days of the last World War. Indeed, the tragic and moving story of the transfer of the Bab’s mutilated body from place to place ever since His Martyrdom in Tabriz, its fifty-year concealment in Persia; its perilous and secret journey by way of Tihrán, Isfahán, Kirmánsháh, Baghdad, Damascus, Beirut and ‘Akká to the Mountain of God, its ultimate resting-place; its concealment for a further period of ten years in the Holy Land itself; the vexatious and long-drawn out negotiations for the purchase of the site chosen by Baha’u’llah Himself for its entombment; the threats of ‘Abdu'l-Hamid, the Turkish tyrant, the accusations levelled against its Trustee, the plots devised, and the inspection made, by the scheming members of the notorious Turkish Commission of Inquiry; the perils to which the blood-thirsty Jamal Pâshá exposed it; the machinations of the Arch-breaker of Baha’u’llah’s Covenant, of His brother and of His son, respectively, aiming at the frustration of ‘Abdu'l-Bahá’s design, at the prevention of the sale of land within the precincts of the Shrine itself, and the multiplication of the measures taken for the preservation and consolidation of the properties purchased in its vicinity and dedicated to it—all these are to be regarded as successive stages in the history of the almost hundred year long process destined to culminate in the consummation of Baha’u’llah’s irresistible Purpose of erecting a lasting and befitting memorial to His Divine Herald and Co-Founder of His Faith.

As the Mission entrusted by ‘Abdu'l-Bahá to the followers of His Faith in the North American Continent gathers momentum, unfolds its potentialities, and raises to new heights of heroism and renown its valiant prosecutors, events of still greater significance will, no doubt, transpire, which will serve to enhance the value of the work which the prosecutors of the Plan are carrying out, to widen their vision, to reinforce their exertions, to sustain their spirit, to ennable their heritage, to noise abroad their fame, to facilitate their assumption of the unique functions distinguishing their stewardship to the Faith, and to hasten the advent of the day, which shall witness, in the Golden Age that is still unborn, their “elevation to the throne of an everlasting dominion,” the day whereon “the whole earth” will “resound with the praises” of their “majesty and greatness.”

SHOGHI

Haifa, May 18, 1948.

1See God Passes By, p. 278
2See God Passes By, p. 257-8

William Sutherland Maxwell of Montreal. A colored rendering of the design is reproduced as a frontispiece in The Bahá’í World Vol. IX.

4For the story of the removal of the body of the Bab from Tihrán to Mount Carmel, see God Passes By, Chapt. XVIII, “Entombment of the Bab’s Remains on Mt. Carmel.”