1925

March 1925 - (Hartha Root B7 F62-65) *
4/23 Mrs Course Truce (Rebb B7) **
3/13-4/1 Effic S. Baker (Robb B6) **

Instructions to Martha Root, on her visit to Haifa, in March , 1925

Concentrate all on our Teaching work---you need your resouces--must not dissipate your energies---you must think of your work, to do it
effectively without breaks and interruptions. If you find you can offer
just a little help to your relatives or the friends or any one, you
could do just a little as a sign of love.

You must do your work efficiently, vigorously, without break or

sudden change .

People who know Esperanto WELL may translate Dr. Esslemont's pamphlet into Esperanto --- the one he wrote for Wembly. It is the best compilation in leaflet form.

It is well to link the Bahai Movement with Esperanto.

Europeis very interesting for this ____It is very good for the present for you to be in Europe.

Shoghi said: "I found the following paper among Abdu'l Bah's papers after His passing. It was in His own hand-writing. It was of such immense interest, I even took a photograph of it.

"A thousand years must elapse before Persia can, by the aid of material power, rise to the height of the peoples and governments of Europe. Baha'-U'llah, however, has illumined that land, and will surely raise her high in the eyes of all the world. That country shall so advance and develop as to excite the envy and admiration of the East and the West.

The land of Hedjaz, though deserted and sterile in its soil and its tribes ignorant and barberous, yet the power of the Cause of God has made of such a spot a Point of adoration and the focal centre of world devotion.

How foolish are the people of the East to have incarcerated for well night fifty years the like of this glorious personage! But for his chains and prisons, Baha u llah by this time would have gained absolute ascendancy over the minds and thoughts of the peoples of Europe, would have made of Persia the Garden of Paradise, would have raised its sons in the esteem of mankind, nay he would have made it such that all peoples and governments would seek enlighment from its people.

Consider and reflect upon the result of my few days' stay in London and the profound KKKKKK effect it has had here and in the surrounding regions. Ponder then in your heart, what the coming of Baha u'llah would have achieved Had He appeared in Europe, its people would have seized their opportunity and His Cause, by virtue of the freedom of KKKKKKK thought, would by this time have encompassed the earth. But alas! This Cause, though it first appeared in Persia, yet eventually it shall be seen how the peoples of Europe have wrested it from its hand! Take note of this and remember it in future. Ultimately you shall see how it has come to p pass. And yet behold! How the Baha is are still persecuted by the people of Persia!"

Write down in a corner of your notebook Germany, Vienna, England, Switzerland, conferences League of Nations will be a very fruitful field, peoples there are ready. The Master's Promise is quite plain, the Cause will advance rapidly in Europe. Give it publicity. Madame Raxkx Beck, 3 Carolina, Lausanne, meet her.

Give publicity to these persecutions in Persia. When you travel, use these facts I have given you, give extracts to the papers as much as you

Shoghi Effendi, the Guardian of the Bahai Caus had lunchat the Pilgrin House, March 23, '25 with Mrs. True and Martha Root.

He said it was increasingly difficult and impossible to answer the immense correspondence, but he liked to get letters from all the friends.

He can answer them verbally and have others write the letters. He hopes the will be satisfied if the message emantes from him . In the long run it will need to bedone this way, but at present answers are sent with such a great correspondence there is not time for Shoghi to initiate measures, to meditate on the big problems and give instructions

If friends will work together without referring to me the matters of detail -- only the big matters that require attention

He said he always expects the news of the friends, he wishes to her from them about the work of the Cause, even though he may not answer their letters. He is always praying for them that they will do good work, make many interested and establish general centres, make some active supporters. He is never too busy to receive their news and letters.

Universal Council will direct the affairs of the Movement. Eastern Bahais and Western Bahais will work in conjunction in that Council. Ultimately it will be even more than the League of Nations. It will be an International Parliament, a Super State, a World Parliament with its For the present own government

For the present the Council will direct the affairs of the Bahai Jause.

When the Governments of the world become Bahai ----

Baha'u'llah refers to a universal Court of Arbitration to direct affairs

before the Universal House of Justice is established. Be very careful

not to refer too much to the ultimate object tive, it might seem political.

The League of Nations must be more comprehensive, more representative, it, must represent all countries. Shoghi will give me a passage from Buha u llah to show how the nations must come together, how kings hast participate.

Ament reading must devote a little time each day to reading

(2) for understanding the Word , readto understand it, digest it, read to get fresh impulse.

Second Duy mar. 14 -+ now Becaland, with Ino. ne of Cherener + this servan Touto of the B allu and of as Duil Bulado, Center Costadant Passing our the nuslem Pilginin House may led pass Piboul Ba Home, then on pass the Securtiful new Pilgram House givan and Mos, W. H. Randall ascending slowy wad, to - look hibbon road down to medilerranean and beyon a gift from Hearn, po The little & at the front of ont. Carme Iroll in this new weigh Dens & Sond. Que's Jenelsa s to an elet don't from of whom the blive of sea and mountain beemists - one sees cornicall this but de cause the Righes

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their brand! Emyling is remarkably beautiful; love The express hees in two noble. Tous, stord like lively dentirele They had been fluited by about Balia, while ago in His loving Enthusiasur to make the Tomb & de Bab a surest resting pluce. The gardena dad lema breedladen north gellow funt Orange hees lossed their getsgenerously to the ground, while Olose heardie them mere all aploran. Jonegram las Violetto Jeeped up, general nodded agay willow and the grass has book and bruger The un winds) heavil flaged there and the sun tobelied Each flower and June and du Stone Tomb as if it had been waiting all morning On that Holy shouten spok The Stately Person Balini Cardaker boto us to a He looks of his olives, me did the Tune and then he led us to the door and to into the Tout) the Dub. lefon the floor mure Dopt, such red rugo, and

ing to the direct tweed of the be Rielt in sublin devotion. One by one, o I fitgeries Dowed the Hore & the flieshold and poured our Hen inplushed upon the une Eyr that His Holimes, the Bul Shot agains du Mills in Tabriz had Cheralded in the County of the Promod Que of all Luciger lund his precious remen been had for yours and their Inbentant the thome of the axiles The million blu Ruel and fray at this Toute of the Bub will go forth to be heralds of this Dalvai Cause and some, like Him, will we marty so to growate these TEach Then going to the other moin this divine house, the frilge bowed with gabbuil Balais olivered break of about the pity, are bourd with foresteends as the But He stord deside the pitgering This one heard thin ony! Cuch again ye can alia Combinicate with n "Ja Bala El-abla and again come His novo; Remember I am with you always, Wellet living or den

you to the and!" am north In diose moments Auly Spring Dulys the lean - amply. The Bak Belia'u'llale and abdu'l Bala Hort logellier to ausning the Jetition for the Friends, Jului nas Dil Coullet in emomble moment. The Hosts Concourse directing. It will all com cetty for ench to ps of calamity nose Olan Dund Spiris, men will be as in meetle or the preams lune about the an un the face of the Earth Duppered to much or so long as abduil Balier, Clinis sufferted 3 years. abdu'l Bala suffered del this life. Born on the sa night that the Dot decla His Miss, ou, abduil Ba Clubd lind rus willed Comeded mille du improsion of Histalher, Balancellel.

He was Exilad mide his fa ar len, a hander aprisoner in acco yet hrough it a the dir 3 du Cos Zeo lalia Tulia ullal man Jestet ation of the Palleretural tution of we the head, teday Balia nes die Lising Cente His Coman & Shoogen Effen new dissine circlipater The great alterity established. There this celulary will see the thouse awared num lely before un B ly hotablishe Tis the Ceule Sugne of Melians of the ndo Bala uillall's prisco in acea, His Tomb in acea and this Tours of the Bab Balailillali in Han Z gr 20 ore attentionay

mar. 15, 25. Sunday. In the morning me mous to the Come of Rough Kleavour, the daughter 3 abdul Balia, who lines that next to His leave. Genking a abdul Bala's picture Being in fre Tromb, she said they placed is there just for a little While, as long to the Breaters Holy Las (abduil Balia's sister Who is brown 18 years ald, and me My frail I like . The Greaters Holy hay long the fricher and long to oce or When the gres to His Tout, But after her Hassing it will be taken Duay. "To much defends on what me to now, and me do not wish the picture a about Dalia placed in all Juding Jesus Clinist. It is His Fractings, not his picture hur are to the Chuphasized. Rough Klienow wet us & the Moliamed an olingings as acea has dont the visit acea Or Visit a Visitor gacca

again this dear who example thee nights in acco Resself in the next world. There was also a surging the Promised Que nould suprisoned in the lighest Devilding in acea. (Balia u Bala não infrisoned in the lefter Rose tu Barrueks, the Engliest Building trew in acea. The recounted how acea nag Wen Bala Willah Came -1868. Drinking pater lead to Carried a distance of four leours' walk Penns more bride Expecually malaria. The fire thine Kind Un Dreatest Hot (ler vame nas Balini dien a young homan if mus ditte fler mollier, being to lake a Turkioh Salte, they four to lake a profle galliered as the factitioner all yellows, their ofleens they surley they armo as their as her finge She said to her mother: "I duisso a few montes me oball he jus like these teaple. Bala willall and his Jullowing Mere Deux to acea décense the Moleannedanio & Persia and Turk deought the Climate was Teel none y lien Could Endure

to come step to consiler to consiler to come step to consiler willale and Dalia willale with the promiser was good nater on the prountain. Then Rough Rherrow of the Proposition of the Stay of the roll have and lived sufficient to condition of the condition of the condition of the day of the condition of the day of the

He has asked to plant a lots of Composeeds, lentils, bushey, beauto, blue to be book not give to be for sur Repr them for the coldiers about the paid that the copy as a much the property and be gone the suppliers alike to the Christian Molesumedam, Jewish poor offen the caid to his wife; "do not give the clied of the county of clock; two meals a day and the currents."

Delofle would come family a dolid balia

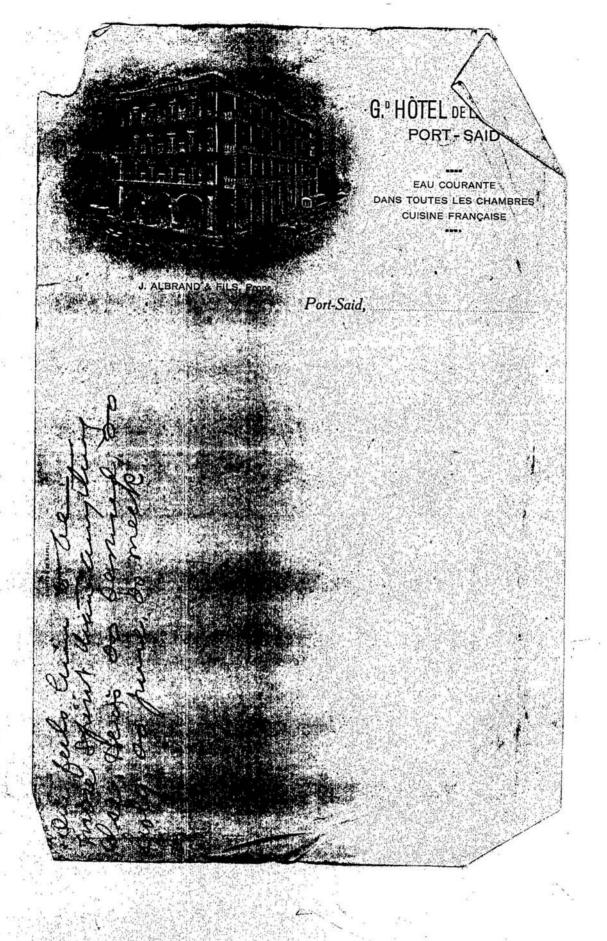
Ware so levery "abdul Balia

nould go to the Rilchen, ask for dunes and be noused give ixall to less slaving douls. Que night a nomate came and Daid Ger head on his door- ox She cried his vame, "a about Expendi! He mu and the morning Espendi! "He mut our and grouges be sent her to have a Turkioli Julte, reuled a twom for her deret mouther until the dited Wide was three mouther later They do during the ner, and The master (asou'l Balia" understood and he used to duy his Dervants to go to their home in the middle of the nights, Ruch as their doors bean the news or lentilo and come any withour Saying one word. He alutays Tangles his family that help should never de mentioned, Rouele Deanson Faid: "de, umy one misses line, Emptody Feigs: "HE is the only one who asked about the poor people! In this Willage & be laught the Jeofle irrigation To His Jamily begged lint not to

Itu but the Climate mies 20 hard for lim. He would vay; " If 2 go Inself, I can produce more heer ado non think their I should the poor people go lungery that I may gera rest ?" He stuyed for three may months. For four heates after his relumn he lead the greatest wed us that if her mother make a new coar Ar abdul Bula, She had to blide it because he noned not Reef two Couts, Oflen the world come home With our his aba. "The master suffered nucle Wite cold; ouid this dear daughter & lis. Jur for a narin coar the said to this family; "Dire it to me, I naws To use it and he had twenty fus Cafo made for the poor det men in acca, Speaking of the child hood of about Dalia, the Bunily recounted the Olorius of When about Bulia Jamile mere in Exile in Buglidad. "abdu'l Bala used to did in the drawing-noon and receive the great when of Bagledad & Speak white them until the middle of the night, and be used to answerall

heir questions. An always us 2" to asking his fallie in meeting refle. Dalia willalio Frollies weed to Fay: "How can this day Explain all this to the ulemas?" Rough wet us howas a little girl ohe used to be or oud girl ohe usea " les to deligate to her: " also to deligate Are hould say to her: " Who Educated me? you must go to the-Jame Deliver Unar I attended you naws to learn you muss Ilam from the Opiritual delival." asked where Glogti Estendi had studied, Devele David that bug ing a French a legol in Hange, Then he must to diette be has in classes with days of Musty years and bre always of dist in this French obligat. The let Studied in the american College in Decident and nac graduated from there in After this be slayed with about Hote news to Oxford University England In one year and a thalf and nas then called home

by the passing of Woder's Bula The account of this home-com is most Touching abdu'l Bale Two Whiks Defore his ascension came one Aug and called Slighi's mollier Klayour. Ar asked her to send of Slevylie, They all Knew that More g nork in the unidersity selow be nould take tis Examinations. Then abbuil Balia called wight's fallier and told limes Ithe for Pleagli or be nous not reach frome before lies (abbuil Balia's) fine a fishing the mother, who was greatly dented of the street of th lelegram, "abdu'l Baha David no, it noved he too great a livel. So diey wrote to Sling ai in mediately, the mollie, daid: to Come Conte griebly"
a Day or two taller they breeeised aleller from Lady Blomfired in fondon how said "Shooker is nogressine do muche in this uglish, he will be the first one Ho can buslate the Writings of Balanullali Rouch and to abduil Balia, "Ole, I liste he stay!" abden l Balia



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Mrs. True, having just returned from Haifa, related some of her experiences and talks with Shoghi Effenci.

Shoghi Effendi told me I could stay as long as Iwished and by having a long time we could take it easy and when convenient for him to talk about things we could take a walk to the sea, or go to the Shrine, and I gained a great deal more that way than to go for only a week or so and feel I must rush. There is so much to be absorbed and to talk about. Shoghi Effendi is very well.

The first pilgrims from Australia and New Zealand came while I was there. Martha Root is being sent to Europe, to Geneva, by Shoghi, will be located at Geneva for the summer where there will be many congresses. Shoghi Effendi says the work in Europe is very necessary just now.

All the big tourist ships now stop at Haifa making it their chief port, so that there are thousands of American tourists who land at Haifa. Cook has an agency in Haifa and his man asked Shoghi Effendi if he could have the privilege of showing the Shrine to the tourists and this was granted, and this may be an avenue. There is a drive around the city and they always take them around the Shrine and gardens, and the people from the town come there on Sunday afternoons. 500 people visited the Shrine one Sunday, they do not enter, only on special request. Such changes are going on. Haifa does not know itself. Shoghi says that through the Zionists Haifa will be very wonderful. He is very much in favor of the Zionist work in Palesting The James harillient neural fine reason is this. It has been a Mahamadan - a brilliant pearl. One reason is this. It has been a Mohammedan Caletti country and Syria the same way but through the coming of the Jews they, with the Christians, are in the majority and then progressive movements will be produced and Palestine will go far shead of Ayria because it has a Mohammedan majority.

In speaking of the work Mr. Mills had done at Bagdad in connection with the houses there. Mrs. True said he had wonderful letters of introduction to many people and it was surprising to them that a man like Mr. Mills was interested in the movement and it opened their eyes to the fact that the people of the West were really taking such an interest in the Cause of Baha'Ullah and Mr. Mills did great good in meeting these prominent officials.

Shoghi Effendi is very busy. The greatest Holy Leaf built him a little apartment on the Master's house, an office, bedroom and bath. He has maps of different countries, marked with red ink and dots for every city where there are Bahais. You can see right away in what part of the country the work is being done. Germany and Australia are doing more for the Cause, it is spreading fast in these two countries, more so than in any other country. Shoghi would be very happy when we can get matters established and relieve him of a great deal of work that should be taken care of by the different assemblies. He has a tremendous correspondence. He dictates letters and then adds a few words by hand. His sense of justice is wonderful. Today is the day for the House of Justice. Justice is a marvelous characteristic he has. He feels he cannot write to anyone for justice demands then that he write

Shoghi Effendi talked a great deal to us about teaching by living the Bahai life. Each one of the great Manifestations of God have brought a springtime in the spiritual world when they came and there are certain things they bring and teach us by living which have not been given before, and it is very essential that the Bahais live the life that Baha'Ullah has taught and 'Abdu'l Baha has explained, and then the deeds that would follow a life according to their teachings would be like new fresh flowers, not like last year's flowers but would have a newness and a fragrance, and an attractiveness of the new springtime; then we would attract more people to the Cause, because they would seek new spring flowers and come and ask for them and in that way we could quicken the whole earth.

Shoghi Effendi said it would be advisable for any soul who felt called upon to do so to arise and go forth and teach and he wished the friends could fulfill the Divine Plan and follow those teachings. Go forth and spread the teachings as broadly as possible.

They are expecting to elect a National Spiritual Assembly in Egypt on April 21st. that was before Mrs. True left.

One thing Shoghi said about organization was, to go ahead and get your organization created and when you have created do not forget the object of that organization. There might be a little tendency to give too much time to perfecting the organization and forgetting the object behind it which is to spread the Cause. He laid great stress on the point of being sure that the organization performed its function. Through these committees Shoghi himself will be able to promulgate the Cause. Ever have before your mind - how are we going to further the Cause. Have frequent meetings and make business if you have no business. The less often you meet the less business you have but do not forget what the organization was created for primarily. We are not trying to establish a perfect organization in the world but are establishing an organization to promulgate the Cause. We need machinery but not machinery without a soul.

Shoghi spoke of how we should name spiritual assemblies. On letterheads, speaking of National Assemblies, they should be called NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY, in large letters, and in small letters, of the Bahais of the United States, etc. Local -- THE SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY in large letters, of the Bahais of New York, in small letters. The spiritual assembly in any city means the nine elected members for that city.

MARKES: Shoghi does not change anything of Abdu'l Baha's. The master made two kinds of statements in his Tablets, one was for temporary expediency and the other permanent. Where it was temporary, when the time came to change that, Shoghi has the privilege to make that change. In Persia he found two or three Tablets about electing committees that were different. He found these differences and is making a uniformity and has sent instructions to elect committees once a year. He changes those that are temporary according to the expediency of the time and its requirements but those that are permanent-nothing on the face of the earth could change these things.

Shoghi says the Baha'i is a person who is attracted to the principles of the Cause but a believer is one not only attracted to the principles but knows the station of the founders and source of these teachings and who

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turns to the source for his strength and is detached from the world and attracted from the world to the Cause. Try from among those who are attracted to make more believers for the work of promulgating the Cause falls on the believers. They are the ones who are spreading this Cause. It is necessary to make believers for the Cause will never be established if we make only Bahais. It is necessary to make believers of those pure souls who are attracted and who will give all their time to the Cause and then the Cause will rest on the shoulders of those people. If they are only attracted they will not serve or put their hands in their pockets and the Cause will never become an established Cause.

Shoghi Effendi wants all the spiritual assemblies all over the country to get very closely united with each other and exchange speakers and visitors and get closer to each other.

Took up point with ahoghi, what should we do if the members of our local assembly cannot act. He said it might be very good idea to elect a few extra members and only call on them at specific times but each assembly could decide that for itself..

Shoghi is not pleased because the Temple work has been neglected. We must not push the Temple work now as it would cut off the channel of promulgation of the Cause. We must build up the body of the Cause and must make some believers and that will build the Temple. One reason he is stressing teaching is that the Temple is a wonderful instrument for attracting and after you have attracted them they must be instructed in the teachings. The Temple must not be neglected. He wants a complete statement of exactly how things are and any indebtedness. Wants everything cleaned off and then he will tell them waket what to do.

Shoghi also says we have now the right to ask for reduction in traveling expenses of teachers on railroads and the N.S.A. should take care of this.

We had a visit with the Greatest Holy Leaf, she gave us each a ring and said she did not think she was going to be with us very much longer and that if God allowed her to attain the Kingdom-she hoped and prayed she would succeed in obtaining the Kingdom, she wanted God to allow her to be an emisary to Baha'Ullah and 'Abdu'l Baha to tell them of the faithfulness of the friends after the passing of 'Abdu'l Baha.

At the 19-Day meeting April 28th, Mrs. True spoke at the Library and while some of the foregoing was repeated the following inspiring messages were given us.

Loving greetings from Shoghi Effendi and the Holy Family. I received so much in this visit. Shoghi gave me things that satisfied my heart so that now I can work with understanding. He says we must get understanding and be happy and joyous in our work and unless we know what we are doing we cannot be happy and joyous in this work.

He talked of the necessity of living the Bahai life according to the teachings of Baha Ullah. 'Abdu'l Baha says there was many a spiritually minded woman when Christ came to this world who did not know the Mouthpiece of God, so that she failed to attain, she was living the law of Moses.

So today, we have gone into still another and higher degree. Baha'Ullah has brought this wonderful new message, such a message as the world has never seen. We must live the life of the Baha'i teachings. Boxthat This message has come to the world and it has a mighty potentiality and the only way we can know what that potentiality is, is by the way those who come under these teachings bring into action those great teachings of Baha'Ullah. We must do something to prove to the world that it is a new springtime. Unless the trees do some sprouting, or you find violets you would not know that it is a new springtime, so unless the Bahai's show such qualities the people would not know that a new springtime has come into the wark's spiritual world. If we want to attract hearts to our Manifestation, the one of our day, we have to prove it through the teachings emanating from our teacher, we have to prove the teachings of this day. We want the new, fresh, fragrant spring flowers of our day.

After talking about the individual lives of our teachers, he talked about our teaching work. It is not enough to broadcast this message and simply proclaim the principles because the majority of the people will agree with you on them, but every place you go, when you have given them the principles, train them and turn them to the founder of the movement and teach them to turn to the founder as their source of inspiration.

Again referring to what Shoghi said about Bahai's, that a Baha'i is a person attracted to the principles of the Cause but a believer is one who is not only attracted to the principles but knows the station and founder and the source of these teachings and turns to the source for his strength. Shoghi said, try from among those who are Bahai's to make some believers for the work of promulgating the Cause falls upon the believers.

An effort must be made to train as many souls as possible to become real Bahai's so they will arise and give all their energy and time to the Cause. More work should be done for this than to spread the Cause.

Shoghi wants us to demonstrate to the world that we have something the world has not. We must prove to them that there is some reason why they should seek this movement in preference to others. Then you will find it will become a magnet.

Shoghi's wisdom and justice are wonderful. He will not do a thing that violates justice. There is a tie between Shoghi and the Greatest Holy Leaf that we on our plane cannot understand. They belong to a higher plane and they have a communion which we cannot understand which is most beautiful to see. She is very feeble and said she did not think she would be with us much longer.

Record of my visit to Haifa.

March 13th - April 1st, 1925.

(These notes were sent back to Haifa and corrected by Shoghi Effendi)

(Above note in Rffie E.Baker hand-writing.)

Record of my vist of Haifa, March 13-

Shoghi Effendi sent greetings to us and asked us to come to the Master's House and see him before lunch.

First Interview with our Beloved Guardian.

To me it was a wonderful interview and meeting. His step is quick and decisive also hismanner of speech, but the sweetness of his countenance, and the bright alert expression of his eyes conveys to you a wonderful tenderness of heart which radiates to you such graciousness and simplicity, you feel at once at your ease, as if a weight had been removed from your heart and a great Peace reighs. You feel such a happiness in his Presence it is hard to describe.

Shoghi Rffendi first of all gave us all a hearty welcome to the Holy Land, and hoped by making the Pilgrimage we would receive much sprituality.

Assured us of his earnest prayers for us and our countries... Enquired about the Friends in Australia and New Zealand..... Progress of Movement.....Very delighted at reports recently received from Father Dunn* re the Cause.....Thinks Australia has a great future.

He said the essential point is to spak of, and teach the Principles, but first and most of all--live them.

After giving the Principles, give the history of the Cause.

I said we would like him to come to Australia and his answer was "I certainly hope I will."

^{*}Note. In Australia and New Zealand the Friends all call Mr. and Mrs. Hyde Dunn, "Father" Dunn and 'Mother" Dunn, because they feel themselves their spiritual children.

Monday, 16th of March, 1925.

Second Interview with our Beloved Guardian-

Shoghi Effendi again emphasized the importance of speaking on the principles whenever opportunity arises and then giving a short history of the Cause.

Speaking of the Cause.... Our great object is to create harmony and unity.... If differences arise we must consult with one another- and when decision of a just settlement is arrived at, go to the ones with whom difference has arisen and tell them in great kindness and love of our decision; leave it to them to meditate on. Do not force or insit but just pray that they may see things in the right light.

Regarding literature....Must be distributed in a dignified and tactful manner and not made cheap.... Not given out at doors, or put in park benches &c. In meetings have a specified place for it in room and say if anyone is interested in the Cause they may obtain it.

Our object wherever we are to make a firm believer, instead of just interesting a lot of people....that is not sufficient... We must concentrate our efforts to make a firm believer who will be capable of carrying on the work when we are not there.

We must strive to study the teachings...to impart the truth fluently and with conviction (not sperficially)...Must devote as much of our time as possible so that we may grasp the inner meanings of the teachings and be able to satisfy without hesitation (or referring to books) questions asked us.

Questions asked by Margaret Stevensn for Mr. Hyde Dunn.

First Question: The Birthday of Shoghi Effendi?

Answer- 1897. Date not given as he does not wish it to be observed in any way.

Second Question: Are New Zealand and South Sea Islands to be included in the National Assembly of Australasis?

Answer:- For the present - yes. Later on when numbers increase and local spiritual assemblies seficient..have National Assembly for Australia and one for New Zealand....No immediate hurry to form National Assembly....Just go on quietly....Not important.

Third Question: Certain cities that have firm and steadfast Bahais, and yet not sufficient numbers for an Assembly... Would these firm ones be eligible for electors from whom the National House would be elected?

Answer-As a rule .. No. . except in countries where the Bahai Centres are still few in number.

In answering this question Shoghi Effendi says: Bahai in the wider sense of the term only means one who is interested in Principles.

We must <u>Birst</u> of all have <u>true believers</u>.

A true believer, is one who isnot only a believer in Principles but believes in Manifestation as well. We must wait till we have these firm believers before we can elect the local assembly. They must be the ten in number at least, but nothing less than ten, so that nine can be elected to form local Spiritual Assemblies.

Get local Assembly established first of all. To establish National Assembly not urgent. Get local Assembly firmly established first.

Fourth Question: Official Assembly of Nine? All the believers attending the meetings? Are these to be known as members of Assembly?

Answer- The term "Assembly" should apply only to the body of nine elected by the Friends.

First of all we must have more than nine declard believers before we can elect our local Spiritual Assembly (ten at least). Those who are not declared believers (declared believers being those who believe in the Principles and also in the Manifestation) have no vote.

The Will of Abdul Baha gives concise and explicit instructions regarding the election of the local Spiritual Assemblies, and must be studied carefully, followed carefully, not deviated from.

Fifth Question: Dommittee for practical work. Are they to be chosen from Assembly and its members?

Answer-Not necessarily from chosen nine to form local Spiritual Assembly. The Local Spiritual Assembly may choose them from amongst themembers or Bahais.

Sixth Question:-Regarding the Surat-ul-hykl? We have understood it to be by Baha'u'llah, revealing the Station of Abdul-Baha. Is that correct? Is there a commentary in connection with it to be had?

Ansser-No, there is no commentary referring to this.
No, rather revealing the Temple of Body of His Cause.

Note E.Baker. (I am not sure if I grasped the answer to this question properly).

Soventh Question: The Tablet of the Houri? Does that apply to Abdul Baha?

Answer- Yes.

Question by Margaret Stevenson: Regarding Prayers? Is it necessary to wash hands, bend and place hands on knees, hold before face&c. Some people object?

Answer_Baha'u'llah has revealed three Prayers (Obligatory) .

1st in the Prayer Book which is the usual daily prayer.

2nd is the short prayer which does not necessitate bending or kneeling.

3rd- Very long, kneeling with forehead to the ground &c. (this is only for those who wish).

One must choose one of the three as daily obligatory prayers.

Baha'u'llah has revealed these three so that one can have perfect freedom to choose one of them, but we are commanded to use one of them daily.

If one objects to bending &c., we have our freedom to choose the short prayer which does not necessitate it.

THIRD INTERVIEW with Shoghi Effendi our beloved Guardian, Friday, 20th March, 1925.

Shoghi Effendi sent for Margaret and myself and he spoke to me regarding the work in Australia ... Says for me to proceed to London and visit Friends there .. does not wishme to proceed to America.. it is not necessary... Wishes me to return to Australia and continue to work with Mr. & Mrs. Hyde Dunn, and spead the teachings in Australia He lookswith great expectations to A Australia,,, Speaking of getting in touch with The Source, said:-lst-We must have Purity of Intention.

2nd-We must have Detachment.

3rd-We must have Concentration.

FOURTH INTERVIEW with our Beloved Guardian, 29th March, 1925.

Shoghi Effendi sent for Margaret and myself. He referred to the return of the Jews to Palestins: says they will first make a great contribution to the material civilization of Palesting and then eventually will (as the Master foretold) come into the Bahai Faith. There are 14 million Jews in the world whom it appears are concentration upon Palestine, and their advanced ideas and wealth will help Palestine considerably.

Soheil then came to ask us to come and have our photographs taken with the Arab Pilgrims from Bagdad. Shoghi Effendi declined. He does not wish his photograph taken since he has become Guardian

of the Cause. Does not wish any attachment to his personality.

FIFTH INTERVIEW with Shoghi Effendi our Beloved Guardian, 31st March, 1925.

Shoghi Effendi sent for all of us and told us he had asked the Ladies of the Household to prepare the Pictures of Baha'u'llah, and the Bab for us to see.

The Picture of Baha'u'llah is a photograph (in sitting posture at a table. A wonderful powerful face. To me the eyes were half closed but they seemed to search one's heart, and involuntarily the words came to one's lips; Oh! God! Forgive me!

The other is a series of three small maintings of Him done by an artist (Persian) from memory depicting Him in His Youth which did not appeal to me so much.

The third a painting of the Bab is small and depicts him in a praying attitude. It is a beautiful quiet spiritual face. The art is Eastern in its conception and contrasting to Western ideas.

The others were beautiful photographs of The Master and one could there fully realize His Majestical Beauty simplicity and kindness of heart, showered to all creatures irrespective of race color or creed. One, who meekly withstood the onslaught of the enemies, bearing no trace of malice. Showing naught but loving service to all mankind from day to day, through many trials, t tribulations and indignities were heaped upon Him.

SIXTH INTERVIEW with our Beloved Guardian, March 31st, 1925.

Shoghi Effendi sent for Margaret and myself to say good-bye and wish us bon-voyage. He wished us to see his Apartment. His Library is large and spcious. has one of its windows facing the Holy Shrine. He opened it so that we could see the Light shring above the Holy Tomb. He can always turn there to pray. The walls are surrounded with book-cases containing literature touching on all vital questions of the day.

(He does most of his writing in hisbedroom).

He again mentioned how glad his heart is at the good reports from Australia, and hopes great things from there. How glad he was I had come as the first Pilgrim and assured me of his earnest prayers... that he wished me to return and continue the good work with Father and Mother Dunn, and that he felt all that we do together would be confirmed.

He prayed a prayer for us in English startins. In the Name of God, The Supreme, The High (page 78 of Hidden Words) - Says it is a favourite one of his.

Shoghi Effendi asks that we give publicity to martyrdoms occurring in Persia as much as possible. In doing so we must use tact and wisdom...Not to ask the Covernment to take steps, as Bahais do not interfere politically, but just try and let people know what suffering is caused by the fanatical minds ignorant and prejudiced...How the faithful followers of Baha'u'llah suffer for the Faith, He has proclaimed, which only has for its object the betterment of humanity. It does behoove each one of us to make fresh efforts to promulgate His Noble Teachings and strive to instill into our hearts His Command"OSon of Spirit. Justice is the best beloved in my Sight, turn not away there from if thou desirest me, &c".

We cannot realize this oppression in our land of freedom of thought and opinion. Pray earnestly that the time is not far distant that our dear brothers and sisters in Persia may have freedom of spiritual thought and ideas. That the Government will cause the enforcement of educational facilities which will be a means of material advancement and enlightenment that will bring in ite train spiritual enlightenment also.

Talk with Husain Ruhi and Asiz'u'llah Bahadur, Mar. 23, 1925.

Speaking of The Rab.... Said he had come to tell the people all the spiritual streams had become muddy, polluted with human ideas and conceptions and to announce that a new sping was at hand.

<u>Bahabu'llah</u> comes....says....here is a clear spring, come and drink.

Day of Judgment... Is the Coming of The Christ, the New Manifestation... The New Day... Jesus (The Christ) came to add to the Law of Moses... Each Manifestation is lake another examiner. Mohammed came with sword and fought in defense to establish His teachings.

Baha'u'llah is the Universal Manifestation.... None of the former Manifestations said "I am He".... One said "I am His Servant".... One said "I am His Messenger".... &c., but Baha'u'llah said - "I am He" - I am the One with my Son" - but people turned their faces away as in the time of Christ. He said only the chosen would know Him, as Jesus the Christ said only the chosen would know Him (meaning only those whose hearts are ready.)

The Bab's Mission was the fulfilment of promises of Mahammad. He was the Morning Star of the New Day. The early morning star does not shane from yesterday's sun, but from the Sun of the New Day.

The Bab drew his light from Baha'u'll h. (The great spiritual sun of this New Day.)

Abdul Paha, the Center of the Covenant, drew His Light from Baha'u'llah.

The Bab's Message was to destroy corrupted order of Islam and prepare the people for the Coming of Baha'u'llah, He Whom God would Manifest!

Baha'u'llah the Great Univers I Manifestation, the Revealtor, the Founder of this Great New Day.

Abdul Baha the <u>Center</u> of His Covenant not the Founder. His work was to expound the teachings of Baha'u'llah. He was the Examplar of how they should be lived. Each minute, each hour, each day. He lived those teachings revealed by the Bles ed Perfection.

Should another come before a thousand years to found new religion, he is an imposter.

Abdul Baha is the Branch mentioned in the Bible. What Abdul Baha says we must obey absolutely.

Abdul Baha said "I am the servant of Baha'u'llah.

Line of Guardians appointed to protect Cause and keep ite purity.

Fundamental things if not clear to you always refer to our beloved Guardian. Write clearly the text of your discussion. Send it to him, and he will give you the true and clear explanation.

Guardian always President of the House of Justice. The Master has conferred upon him power different from other people. (inspired). He is revelator, but only inspired po give correct interpretation, keep Cause from friction, corruption, and disintegration.

To give him as much help as possible. Keep our assemblies in greatest unity and harmony, and do our utmost to promulate the Chuse wherever and when ever we c.n, so that news of the steady progression of the establishment of this Great Cause in our country may be forwarded to him from time to time....Will be the means of bringing joy to his heart and enable him to shoulder responsibility he has been called to bear.

(Signed) Effie E. Baker, Australia. Letter No. 1, from Miss Effie S. Baker ("The Toymaker of Australia" while on pilgrimage to Haifa, Palestine, to Melbourne Baha'i Assembly.

March 2061, 1925.

We have been in Haifs just a little over two weeks and the days and nights have been so crowded with wonderful things, it has been impossible to find time to write. It is getting quite late now but I must make a beginning as we think our boat leaves next Friday. We will not know until tomorrow whether we can get berths though. We will be very loathe to leave. It is heavenly to be among these dear people. One cannot realize what self-sacrifice means until one comes in contact with them. I must start and give you as best I can all that has transpired since I last wrote to you and posted by the "Jervic Bay."

I think I wrote to Wather and Hother and told them of our trip up the canal and so will just continue about landing at Port Said. We reached there at daubreak on Thursday 12th Harch at 6. 50 A. H. Nartha (Root) came on board. We were surprised to see her. Her boat had been delayed so she waited for two or three days and came to meet us and then travel with us to Haifa. Three Persian Baha is were with her and gave us a warm welcome.

We had breakfast on board and then went ashore. Had to go through the Gustoms House. After a lot of wrangling our luggage was put on conveyance and taken to the Hotel where Hartha was staying. Here Moneyer Khamm, the youngest daughter of 'Abdu'l-Baha and w wife of Mirza Ahmad Yazdi, came to see us. She is very sweet and gave us such a beautiful welcome. After lumch Moneyer Khamum and a friend called on us again and some of the Baha'is (also). One Muharmad Mustapha offered to accompany us as far as Kantara E. (that is the station you change at for Haifa) and see us safely into the train for Haifa.

We left Port Said at 6 P. M. and reached Kantara at 6.45 P.M. Here we had to go through the Customs and we saw what thought and kindness of heart Mirza Mustapha had. He interpreted for us at the Customs and saw all our baggage loaded on the fen and finally had us a Kantara R. where we had to settle down and wait till midnight for the Express to Haifa. He had to leave us at 9. 30 P. M. fer to return to Port Said. He wanted to stay and see us safely off and then spend the night at the railway station and return early in the morning, but of fourse we would not let him.

We had a very good journey and reached Haifa at 10 A. H. Friday (March 15th). Fugeta met us at the station. He is a bright, merry hearted little fellow and gave us a heart welcome. He certainly is a good Baha't General and soon had his little band of happy pilgrims marshalled and in order. We were installed into carriages and driven to the Pilgrim House in Porsian Colony which is opposite the Master' House. Here we received

leaving Barracks 'Abdu'l-Baha's Mother had to live in room with his Uncle, her brother.

Baha'u'llah wished 'Abdu'l-Baha to marry. There was no room so the next door neighbor who owned the house they lived in, saw why marriage could not take place. He had a room in his house made with den connecting to Baha'u'llah's house, and prepared it for 'Abdu'l-Baha and offered it. It was accepted and 'Abdu'l-Baha was married. "My mother was called by Baha'u'llah and 'Ahdu'l-Baha said, 'What Baha'u'llah wishes me to do, I will do."

When taken out of prison some Azeles came. They were much against the Cause. Took 'Abdu'l-Baha first and for three nights put him in dungeon with chains. Then they took him to interview Baha'u'llah. He tried to hide the chains from his Mother's sight. Pleaded with them when they took Baha'u'llah to put him in the upper room and not the dungeon. They agreed. He went into the dungeon himself and became ill from being in such a foul, damp place.

The last time he was brought before Court, he was commanded not to leave Acca. He said to them, "I have news to make you happy. I am very happy this order is given. Now I really will have a good rest. My imprisonment is not my sorrow but the unfaithfulness of my followers. She (Rouha Khanum) then told us how he used to go and visit Baha'u'llah after he was allowed the freedom of the surrounding few miles of Acca and then went to live in Palace of Behjeh, four or give miles out of the city. He used to go and see Baha'u'llah every Friday. Would put on old Aba and go on foot, chanting prayers, praying slowly as if walking to his Beloved. Would rest in shade of old aquaduct with stone for a pillow (we saw the spot on way to Behjeh). Baha u llah would six from early morning at his window watching for him and as soon as he saw in he would send the friends and pilgrims to meet 'Abdu'l-Baha, saying: "The Master comes. Go and meet him!" It was a beautiful sight to see them meet. Such wonderful love, such kindness! 'Abdu'l-Baha would recount his work to Baha'u'llah. Then Baha'u'llah would direct his next week's work. Baha'u'llah would say, "How happy you make me. You bring might and happiness to my heart." Then Baha'u'llah would tell them all to leave the room and he and the Master would have a private talk for a while.

Baha'u'llah received so many letters. He would give them to 'Abdu'l-Baha to answer. 'Abdu'l-Baha would bring the answers and read them to him. Baha'u'llah would be pleased and praise 'Abdu'l-Baha for the way in which he answered them. (Rouha Khanum) told how 'Abdu'l-Baha would go to a room in Inn (across from house where Baha'u'llah was imprisoned for seven years) called Master's drawing room. Here he would receive people, Baha'is and non-Baha'is and give them advice both spiritually and materially. At twelve o'claock would come and have lunch with Baha'u'llah and tell him all that transpired during the morning. Would go to the Barracks in the afternoon and write in little room (sentry box for soldier). Had no room where he could go

to write privately. He would come back and again go and visit and help people.

(Rouha Khamum) spoke of the pilgrims coming on foot and the journey taking four and sometimes six months to complete. There were nine pilgrims once who came this way (Ismael, 'Abdu'l-Baha's gardener) who is still living was one of them). They were very poor, nothing else to offer, they brought a white lily in a basin or pot and carried it on their heads, each taking their turn. Baha'u'llah said when they offered it to him, "It was the best present kings or queens could ever get," though the valley of Behjeh was full of lillies, it was their love that counted.

In the afternoon we spent some time with the Holy Family. Greatest Holy Leaf who had a cold is little better. Dr. Esselment is better also.

Friday 20th March: Shoghi Effendi sent for Margaret and myself and he had a talk with us regarding work in Australia. He wishes me to proceed to London with the party and visit the Friends there. Said it would be encouragement to them to meet a friend all the way from Australia. Does not wish me to proceed to America, there is no necessity for me to go. He wishes me to return to Australia and continue to work with Father and Mother Durm as I have done before and spread the teachings in Australia. He looks with great expectations to Australia. Speaking on getting in touch with the Source, he said:

1st, We must have purity of intention. 2nd, We must have detachment. 3rd. We must have concentration.

Afterward I went down town with Mrs. True and on the way met Hussein Ruhi who had just arrived by train from Jerusalem. Had come up for the week end to celebrate Mauruz Feast. He related his father's life story for us just after lunch which I shall try to give as he gave it.

when Baha'u'llah was in Adrianople. He witnessed the martyrdom of The Bab. He was a teacher of religion (a mullah. A leader of the Shi'ite sect from Suffi School (Suffi's discovered the date of The Bab's coming) and thought himself greater than any theologian in Persia. (He was very learned and proud). He came to Hosul where he met a man, a believer (who afterward became a mac(?). My father was sitting in his shop. He offered to the man a cup of coffee and told him about the teachings, but my father said it was not worth while arguing with him, so he took my father to his father (Mirza Moneer) and he in turn took him to Jinabi Zain (one of the old believers) who was a copyler of tablets of Baha'u'llah and also the Master. What he wrote was true (or correct—never any mistakes. His writings are very valuable now. They are perfect.)

When my father went to him he said: It is no good talking (They knew each other as teachers of religion). My father said he had seen writings of The Bab and thought he could write Said he wanted to see writings of Baha'u'llah. just as well. Jinabi Zain gave him the Ighan. My father went to his hotel to read it. (He) spent whole night reading. At dawn he took a cup of tea, went to Jinabi Zain and said, 'Tell me where is the Where is He! He is God! One who revealed this? These are the words of God. He (Jinabi Zain) said, He is in Adrianople. My father went to see Baha'u'llah and became a believer. Baha'u'llah said to him to go to Tabriz, and go to Egypt and stay until they would meet again some where in Syria. My father went, and a few years later Baha'u'llah was exiled to Acca and my father had the pleasure of meeting him once again. My father was the first one to take the teachings in the Ottoman Empire. sent by Baha'u'llah. My father returned to Acca and then went on to Baghdad, leaving believers in each village. I was two years old when my father went to Alleppo and from there to Aintab in Khurdestan (a few miles from Alleppo). There he received a tablet from Baha'u'llah in which he plainly told him that it was time to stop teaching and that he must go to the place in which he had to drink the cup which he was longing for. So my tather (as I was told by a certain Baha'i) left taking no food or clothes. He went toDiarbakr in Khurdistan. The place which he had frequented as a merchant of indigo and carpets. There my father used to go to the Armenian church to teach the priests. time attended mosques and explained Koran. The people doubted his belief and finally discovered he was a Hablet term only known then as follower of the Bab). They sent some people to meet him at the gate of the city, who knocked him to the ground. informed by one who had seen that (which was related to me world for word by the Master) and began to break his bones with oudgels They broke the bones of his arms, legs, robbed him of his belt of money and left him alone. At that night a caravan going into the city heard him moaning. They brought two boards and carried him intox the town to the room in which he used to live. happened that three believers were coming from Baghdad on the way to the Holy Land whose names I didn't quite get, but they were something like these. He put it thus: No. 1 Darvish Aba, No. 2 Haji Nur, No. 3, All- Isphan.) Momentumes Some people informed them that one, a Babi, whose bones were broken was in an Inn and wanted to see them.

"My father told them, as related by Haji Nur, that two of them should go on and one remain with him. His advice was carried out because the caravan was on the move toward Acca. My father said to man who remained with him that he would depart at dawn, and that he should take him to a certain spot just by the gate of Mardin (one of the gates of Diarbakr) and bury him there.

I finally discovered that this spot is the last place in the country at which Baha'u'llah stopped on his way to Constantinople. The way I discovered my father Tomb: I had supplicated that I might be permitted to build the tomb of my father at Diarbakr. Reply was like this, You are permitted to go provided

of my father.

facility or things are all right.

On the day of the arrival of the reply, I had \$600.00. I was a teacher in school and it was not possible for no to go then as the school session was not finished. I was glad I had the money but I did not realize necessity of keeping it, and when vacation came I had spent it. This annoyed me. I didn't know why I had spent it. I had to continue another year. I u supplicated again. The reply came, 'You are permitted to go at once before his grave is lost in ruins.'

At time of reply I had no money but at end of session I had \$500.00. so I started for Acca taking my family with mo. left (as quests at the Holy Home my minim Mother, sunty, wife and little child). I asked the Master to give me a letter to No. 2 Holi-Mur (who was at Aintab at that time as a watchmaker) because he know where the grave was. He had visited it on his way back to Persia. The Master also gave me something to inscribe on the Tomb which reads as follows: 'Verily the tranquil soul Heji Hullah Ali had drunk the cup of Eternity from the hand of the Water diver of ---- away from his home, while he was spreading the fragrances of God, and devoted to the Beauty of God. Master told me before I left that I would find my father's grave. I went to Aintab and to make a long story short, took my friend No. 2 Hall-Hur to Diarbakr. He took no to whereabout of grave and for four hours we were searching in not more than ten square yards for grave. I said the Master said I was going to discover it, better let us go and find a grave digger and ask if he know about it. Gooing an old grave digger I asked him his ago and how long he had been at that work. He told me he was over 70 years old and was a grave digger for over 40 years. I was glad to hear this. I asked him if he bould show me any graves of Persians in that part of the country. He said there are only two, pointing to first one, he said this was made over 15 years ago, but the other only five years ago. Being then more than neventeen years of age, I know the first was my father's. began to clear away the debris and looking on it I read this "He is Alloha-Abha inscription: Mis is the tomb or grave of

I discovered the man who put this on my father's grave was a teliever (working at Persian Consulate). He had put it on on his own account and expense and was the man who had stayed with my father and had seen to his burial. I brought massed masons and built the Tomb. On the day that the Tomb was finished the wife of the Governor of the city died and as the funeral procession passed my father's Tomb, the people stopped and recited introduction of Koran. Quite surprised to see a boy from Egypt in Diarbair (not less than twenty days from Cairo) building Tomb of his father. I gave them a drink made from liquorice-root in the name

Heii Mullah Ali of Tabriz.

When I returned with the picture of my father's Tomb for the Master, he took it and kissed it and passed it to the believers present and then related the martyrdom of my father word for word as the grave-digger had related it to me.

In afternoon, Martha (Root) and I went for a walk and to the Holy Shrines. Went and had afternoon too with the Holy Leaves and saw the Greatest Holy Leaf for a while.

Saturday, Sist March: Nauruz Foast today. It is the beginning of New Yoar of the Baha'i Calendar. Had a visit with the Ladies of the Holy Household. Holy Mother gave us each a Persian silk handkerchief and ringstone blessed by the Master.

Went to new Pilgrim House and partook in another wedding festivity. These two weddings are the first to be celebrated since ascension of the Master. After visiting Shrines we came to see the Ladies of the Household and saw bride and bridegroom in Haster's drawing room. She is very pretty and he is good looking also. They were not so sky as the first once were.

Esphani. We showed us wonderful pictures of Tuneral of 'Abdu'l-Baha. We had a lovely time there.

In afternoon, visited Mirza Badi Bushwi a home. He is Governor of the Province and such a fine man. His wife is very sweet and charming. They put in the phone record of the Master's voice. It was wonderful.

Went next to visit the Holy Family. The Greatest Holy Leaf is much better. We went in to see her and she gave us each a Baha'i ring. Them we went to see the room where 'Abdu'l-Baha passed away. His white Fez lay on the pillow. One felt in the Holy Presence and we all knelt at the bedside and prayed.

We are leaving in norming for a four day tour of Palestine.

Mrs. Blundell is kindly taking me. She has hired a soven-seated Studebaker car and a Baha'i Mr. Tarmous (?) is to arrange the tour. It is his business taking parties on those tours. He has a line of cars called the 'Jerusalem Express.' As this car has just returned to Haifa with a party we are to go straight to Jerusalem tomorrow and return by Nazareth and Tiberias way on the return journey. I will give you the trip from leaving Maifa till return.

Monday 23rd Harch: Left Haife at 9 A. H. for Jerusalem. Passing the plain of Jerricl where River Kishon flows into the Sec. This is the River where Rijah alow the priests of Baal, 400 inn mumber, I think.
We are now 21(7) miles from Haife speeding mountain side and looking down on plain of Schraelon. It looks very fortile land and is under cultivation. On the hill side are anemones, blue corn flowers

under cultivation. On the hill side are anemones, blue corn flowers and a pink flower resembling exalis. Passing as village called Jaffa-near Nazareth. The reading are while and winding (?). Heet cand trains, Arabs driving hords of cattle. Flooks of sheep and goats. The country is hilly and mountaineus and very stony. They are composed of a volcanic shale. Passing home of Jezabel

see Mount Tabor and Little Hermon. Can see Jordan Valley in distance and Mount Jebrah, where King Soul was killed. Passing village-Jewish settlement. Plain of Esdraelon, cultivated abd looks so green with young crops. Arabs ploughing with oxen and primitive wooden ploughs. Plenty of storks in fields. have red bills, heads, neck and part of body white, wings partly white and partly black, black tail. Very handsome birds. allowed to kill them as they keep fields gree from grubs, etc. We keep passing small Arab villages. Passing scene of British camp during war. Old tractors lying about One viewing the stony mountainous districts all around can understand "the high places" spoken of so often in the Bible. Passing Arabs drawing water from well at roadside to water their flocks- very picturesque. All along the way you see women in the fields weeding the crops. They have a very hard life, have to help in the fields and do the house work and look after the children. Passing the Hill of Dotham where Joseph was sold by his brethren. Passing Arab village of Sileh. Plonty of fig and olive trees, can get a glimpse of Mediterranean Sea from here, also Plain of Sharon in distance. Passing lentil fields - an olf Roman aquaduct and Hills of old Samaria. Can see ruined gate of town of Samaria built by King Ahab. Reached Nablus (new city). name is Shechem. It is associated with carliest period of Jovish settlement in Palestine. Here Abraham pitched his tent on entering the country to set up the first alter to Jehovah. Joshua led Israelites after miraoulous passage of the Jordan and on slopes of Mount Girizim and Ebal recited the Laws of Moses. Also from Mount Girizim and Ebal were pronounced blessings and cursings. are high barren and rigged looking. Here the Sauaritans come to keep the Passover (which takes place beginning April. They offer the sacrifices on Mt. Girizim). We lunched and left Nabulus at 1.20 P. M. Passing Tomb of Joseph and remains of house of woman of Samaria whom Jesus met at Jacob's They are building an orthodox church over this well, but Well it is only partly erected, cannot finish on account of lack of Passing stone erected to show the boundary between Samaria and sitrict of Jerusalem. Here we are beginning to see vineyards. Passing village of Singel or St. Giles, founded in time of Grusades. British and Turks fought a battle here during the last wate Passing Villages we are now passing are mostly Christian faith, mich amplia cleaner and prosperous looking than the Arab villages. The village Birrziet (called well of oil) is surrounded by hills, all the sides of which are terraced and olive trees growing on them. The quing hills just seem to be layers of stoney strata. The people build dentity up the terraces to keep the soil from washing away. Each house here has its oil press and little under-ground well to store the oil, hence its name. Passing Shiloh where the Ark of the Covenant stood. People used to visit it annually. Bethel (ancient) Here Jacob had his vision (ladder from heaven with angels ascending and descending).

Ancient Beiroth where the parents of Jesus returning from Jerusalem to their home missed him. They had to return to Jerusalem to look for him and found him teaching in the Temple. Saw American Friends (Quakers) School School. Fine

building. Can now see in distance two towns on Mount of Olives, and part of City of Jorusalem to the right. Passing Bedouin Archs moving camps. Bon see high hills with Mosque. It is Tomb of Prophet Samuel and called Hizpah. Hinaret on it was destroyed by British during was. They have rebuilt it. Passing landing place for aeroplanes, English mail service between Cairo and Bagh-Passing ruins, excavation of House of Saul. Ancient Hob (place of good vision). Can see Garden of Gethsemane. Passing Damascus Cate. We are outside of the old city and will be staying at the Motel Case Neva in the modern Christian portion of the city. Roached hotel at 3. 30 P. M. Had a little rest then Hr. Tannous who is our guide came to take us to see the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which is situated in North-western corner of old city. All is so quaint and interesting. One has forgotten modern civilization. We are gazing on seemes hear with antiquated and those in authority no doubt are doing their utwest to keep it its orginal state. You can see by its vaulted bazaars, narrow winding streets, steep alleyways, stone paved, planked on each side with ancient architecture that no change has taken place for centuries. It is indeed very picturesque but lack of cleanliness detracts from the scene semewhat. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre was originally a group of small separete churches rising in the hely site in the 4th century and afterwards received its present form from Crusaders who built one large Romanesque Church to embrace the Chapel covering holy sites. In this Church which is circular in form are separate chapels alloted to different sects of Christianity. Otthodox Greek, Roman Catholic Armenians, Coptic POC) and It is the some of many different rituals and coremonies and endless sectarism strifes. On entering the door you see the altar with stone of unction on which Jesus was amointed after crucixion. The Tomb of Jesus and the piece of stone suppose to be rolled from door of Tomb. Tomb of Joseph of Aremanthes and Hicodenis hown out of the rock. The place where Hary met Jesusa and thought the gardener (had taken him away). The prigon where Jesus avaited his trial. Place where femily of prisoner visited Piller on which Josus set and Jaws mocked him. Place where soldiers cast lots for his garmants. Place supposed where St. Helong found grosses, mails and crown of thorns. Tomb of Lenginos soldier who piercod Jesus' side. Calvary where Jesus was nailed to cross and crucified. Painting by Murillo, his masterpiece, of Christ and his mother. This is a wonderful piece of work. It depicts the Holy Mother holding her hand under the head of Josus and gazing into his face just after he has been taken from the cross. The pertrayal of the serene calm, physically beautiful face of the dead Christ, the look of anguish and and untold gricf in the face of the Mother as she gazes at her son's lifeless form is indeed a masterpiece of art. The statue of the virgin Mary, - this is too a wonderful piece o work of art. The face is beautiful. She seems to be in a kneeling posture. Is enclosed in glass case, her robe from neck to knee is literally covered with jewels. Fingers of each hand are covered to finger tips with rings sparkling with juvole. How arms from writt to chaulder, with bracelets. Phornous jewels over her head, wetch chains, watches, models and ect., covering whole figure. They is have been gifts of people who have come to pray to her for healing and the value is estimated at five million bounds. Here is

wealth untold meeting your gaze while just outside the doors of the edifice holding this wealth your eye meets the scenes of abject poverty and misery and much of it caused in the name of religion. It is sertainly one certainly that has lost its lif-e giving properties.

Next went to Russian Church where we saw part of the old wall of Solomon and gate where Jesus left city carrying cross.

26th March: Visiting Mosque of Omar in area known as 'The Haram (the August Sanotuary). The two principle edifices being"Bome of the Reck" on a raised platform in the middle and the Mosque of Al Agea against the south wall. On the left along east wall the double portals of Golden Gate appear. On every side trees break the prospect which lends a peculiar charm to the The site is one of the oldest in the world. Its sanctity dates from the earliest times. Its identity with the site of Solomon's Temple is boyond dispute. This too, is the spot according to universal bolief on which "Daniel built there are alter to the Lord and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings" (2 Samuel 34th)! The Mosque of Al Ages built in commemoration of Prophets caught you in the slouds did wishing his charger and then handed miraculous ascention. It is said that Muhawand was miraculously caught up in the clouds while riding his charger and then Landed at this spot. Ectivaca-and

Returned and had lunch, then started for Mount of Olivos. Passed hospice built by German Emperor, now residence of Sir Herbert Samuels, Governor of Palestine appointed by British Consul after Can see Dead Sea from here. Visited Carmelite Convent. Here we entered a courtyard supposed to be the spot where Jesus have the disciples the Lord's Brown Prayer. Saw on walls surrounding this courtyard the prayer in thirty-four different languages. Nums of this convent never see any one after they onter Visiting Church of Mativity. Passing Plain where King David not Philistines on way to Bethlohem. Bethlehem is five and one-half miles south of Jarusalem. Birthplace of Jesus and of King David. It stands 2500 feet above sea level and has about 8000 inhabitants mostly Christians. It is the scene of the story of the book of Ruth and in Old Testament times is famous for association with House of David. Can see Mountains of Loab and Hills of Judea. Passing Rachel's Tomb. See fields of Boaz where Ruth gleaned and where shepherds received message of the "Now born King." Church of the Nativity is the outstanding mornment of Bethlehem and is built over the spot where the Irm se stood that Jesus' parents came to and where he was born in the stable to ret and put in the manger. Built by Constantine in 330 A. D. Church consists of a nave with double aimles, of a The nave and addles wide transept, and semi-circular aspect. are separated from one another by four rows of monolithic columns surrounded by Corinthian capitals. Like Church of the Holy Sepulchre it is shared by several communities, orthodox, Greek, Armenians, Coptic, etc. Went down a sort of underground protto a where you are shown the stable roof, then the spot where the manger was (of course all these places have alters erected on them). We were much amused here. Saw a policeman sitting with handouffa

beside him. Our guide told us they have to keep one there all the time to keep peace between the greek, Armonians, Roman Catholic Coptic. etc. One sort doesnot dure put his foot on portions of another sect or there will be a fight.

We are going to see the Dead Sea. Passing Bethany, home of Mary and Martha, Lazuras, Simon the leper. Can see old original road winding round the hill-cides on our right. The road to Jericho on which we are traveling was frequented by thieves (it is a very lonely road winding round the hill sides, no habitation any where) and robbers and is very unsafe to travel. since under But since under British control this has been put down and it is quite safe now. Jericho is 18 miles distant. Roadswind along sides of the Hills of Judea. They are mostly composed of stratas of lime stone, and are very barren as no rain fall here.

Passing Apostles Spring where Jesus and disciplos rested on way from Jerusalem, wayside in at this spot. Passod In. of Good Samaritan, Reached Dead Soa. It is ten miles wide and 47 miles long over 1800 feet below sea level. Its water is very bitter and salt to taste. River Jordan flows into it three miles further up from where we are standing. Can see village of Lodern Joricho in distance. Looks like easis in desert it is so green. We are at bank of Jordan Miver where Jesus was supposed to have been buntized. Plenty of roplar and Towarick trees growing slong its banks. Water very muddy colored (turbulent stream nord) ressing through modern Joricho. Here are panala and orange groves every more. Visited site of old rown. Jericho was soons of t vectory of Israelitos in Palestine. Sacked by Joshua. Subsequantly robuilt and formed part of inheritance of Benjamin. It was here that Elisha performed the miracke of rendering the mitter apping sweet (the people told him they had found water but it was bitter so he put a handful of salt in it and it turned sweet). People from all narts come here to draw water from it. The British Government have built a long oblong coment basin around it. You can see it bubbling up and gushing out at one end of busin. This begin fills up and then theylet it out to irrigate the land round That is why it is so green. When we were inspecting the walls of old Jericho I found a piece of broken pottery Ambodece in the mud, etc., evidently used in those days.

of the old town there is little to see beyond the escavations of the German Priental Society which laid bare braces of the old masonry and walls. The walls were composed of irregular stones and sand (so no wonder they rell down shen the High Priests and people marches round them blowing trumpets, etc).

We then started for the return to Jerusal and reached there at 7. 30 P. A.

March 25th: Lord Balfour is entering Jerusalom this morning and much bitterness amongst Arab community. They are making a stop work demonstration to show disapproval of the Jews coming into Falestine. Lord Balfour is coming in connection with opening on a Jewish University. For fear of trouble our guide advices

not to leave Notel till he comes. No cars or vehicles to run in streets and shops closed. Mr. Tarnous who is a Baha'i and loss lived here all his life has warned us for our safety. We are having a novel experience. Stayed in all morning. We demonstration, so are continuing our tour. We called on Noussain Ruhd (Inspector of Education) then returned to Notel to prepare to leave for Nablus where we will spend the night. We heard guns firing just before or at noon and thought perhaps a riot had occurred but not so. Found it is the beginning of Muhammadan feast. It starts with now moon. The first who sees it has to get a witness and then they goald tell High Priest. A gun is fired to let the rest of the community know.

At 4. 30 P. M. we are starting for Nablus. It was a wonderful drive from Jerusalem to Nablus. Looking down on the Plaims
with some of their rich red soil just fallowed, some under subtiwation crops, the different variety of cereals and giving contrasts
ing hues of green. Hills outlines with winding terraces of white
stones, patches of sembre grey green of elive, the brighter tint
of fig and almond trees was a sight not to be forgetten. The
sum's genial rays giving ever varied tones added to the panerana
before our eyes. Great patches on the hill sides of scarlet and
blue and pink flowers causing a rict of color hard to depict.
It gave the impression of a huge Fersian carpet, rich in coloring
had or wonderful tracery spread to meet our gaze.

After a good nights rest we are leaving Both Marchs Tor Tiberias. Again. reach Manareth. Dee the Church of Molohites which is claimed to be the Synagogue in which Jesus taught. From Plain couth east of Mazareth is the done shaped Hount Tabor. Can see Horn of Hittin where Christ gave the Bormon on the sount. Plain where he fed 5000 and 7000 people. At noon reached Wiberias on Sea of Galilee. It is 681 foot below sea level and lies on west bank of Sea of Timeriana Galilee. Seeme of miracle of Cana (St. John 2). It is built of basalt a black looking stone like blue stone and this gives it a very combre appearance. It is very old and street very creeked, narrow and dirty. Had lunch in Municipal Wardens outside of city. Had a row in boat on the Lake on Sea of Galilee. We then went to Bothsaida. Passed home of Hary Hagdalone, Home of Jonah. We then returned to Tiberias, back to Sazareth, and then to Heafa. Traveling from Mazareth to Maifa we get the view of the other side of Hount Carnol fanod from Old Tostament time for its beauty. It is one of the most attractive regions of Palestine. Its lines out point is 1300 foot and it is 12 miles long. On south best point at height of 1685 foot the miracke of Elijah took place (The offering of the sacrifice, the place of burning recorded in I hing 18) with priests of Baal. The River Richen in the Plain below minding its way to the Sea where Mijah slew the Priests of beat 400 in number.

and has 54000 inhabitants. So you see it is not a small place. To reached there at 5 P. A.

Hother will see by this narrative that "Mart Alock" plied

the guide with a few questions. and put them down tersely and have just written up the events as I could remember, so if we made a few mistakes in recording, excuse them. It has been quite a long task writing this. The boat has been rolling a good deal. I wish to post it on board tonight so that it will go straight away by an outgoing mail.

This journey to Jerusalem has left a lasting impression for one has indeed seen the full demonstration of the words of The Bab, "You have the forms and creeds but have lost the spirit of your religion." One recognizes how necessary it was for the appearance of the Father Himself to come and purify the channels of spiritual thought from the superstitions of man made creeds and dogmas. Ones return to Haifa was certainly a return to a pure crystal spring of spiritual thought, effervescont with life and emergy frumbulent muddy streams and stagmant pools poluted with sectarian strife, superstitions and human ideas and thoughts, absolutely void of essential life giving properties - "The Love of God."

It was a happy home coming to be once again with the dear souls whose lives are one continual sacrifice and service to immanity.

I think I shall end this now as it will be quite, perhaps more than you can read at one time. All the Holy Family, Shoghi Effendi and the Friends wish me to convey their love to you when ever I write. Hrs. Blundell and family and Hargaret also join me in love to you. It won't be so long before I return to be with you once more. Love to you all.

Yours, In His Name,

Your loving co-gorker,

(Signed) Effic S. Baker.