

The Pacific will become a storm center. When the Bahá'is settle it; it will become really an ocean of peace.

Bahá'u'lláh first landed in Haifa, that is why it progressed first. Brother and half-brother were with Him.

Communism is based on denial of God, emphasis on matter, un-Bahá'i and dangerous. America, too, is materialistic but not atheistic. Bahá'is ~~don't~~ condemn both materialism and atheism.

Principle is to scatter and establish more centers, first isolated believers, then Groups, as basis for NSAs, as they have done in Central America.

Eastern Bahá'is have deeper understanding of the Faith but lack organization. Western Bahá'is have organization, drive, etc.

(Re: Temple Sites): 1 acre enough, not in city, not too far, not too near. Start with 1 acre, then extend. Bahá'is own 50 acres in heart of mountain. (Carmel) but it has been a slow process. Hope to own head of mountain now West of Báb's Shrine, belongs to Catholics and State--for Mashriqu'l-Adhkar. Bahá'u'lláh's tent was pitched there and Tablet of Carmel revealed. Bahá'u'lláh's voice was raised so that the priests heard Him and watched Him. Shrine is a place of pilgrimage, Mashriqu'l-Adhkar is place of worship. Later, on the East of Shrine will be located Administration Seat (work). Bahá'is ~~is~~ everywhere must establish these centers, worship and work, and in some countries Shrines where the Master visited. The friends must have a very clear conception of their responsibilities and duties; 1) derive inspiration from Source of Guidance (Mashriqu'l-Adhkar), starting near dawn, 2) go to Hazira (work), and inspire others by their service. Prayer and work, meditation and work; balance of two.

~~Bahá'is~~ Bahá'is must never identify themselves with Communists, neither attack nor criticize them. Don't approach them because they will not accept entirely; avoid them because authorities will become suspicious. The cooperation of the authorities is most important now.

Don't look for orthodox people, look for liberal element, spiritually-minded people, liberal followers of the religions.

As our activities extend, do not give authorities ^{the} idea that we are a State within a State; we are purely spiritual and administrative, not political. Don't mention that we will be the State. It will be a process of conversion, not force. When the majority become converted, then the Bahá'is State (Commonwealth) will be formed. We must avoid all political matters, we are not conscientious objectors. Obedience to Government and noninterference in politics is ^{the} only way to safeguard the integrity and unity of the Faith now that Bahá'is live under different forms of government and conflicting governments (as opposed to day of Bahá'U'lláh). We must try to please both sides, only way to do this is not to meddle in affairs of Government, e.g., Persia and England are opposed in their policies, Bahá'is live in both, if they interfere in one country, they will create problems for the Bahá'is in the other. We are above parties and governments. We belong to God's Party ('Abdu'l-Bahá).

Faith has developed remarkably in Central America. The friends should be very proud and happy.

Site in Panama -- must have commanding position overlooking the city, like the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar in Teheran; there must be enough land for all the dependencies. Important not to depend upon government., we must be self-sufficient.

2 Bahá'is must search for receptive souls and convert them to the Faith. Make them whole-hearted Bahá'is and create in them the desire to teach others, then the Cause will progress. Question: Why can some convert and not others? Answer: It is a question of consecration to the Faith. This is a continual struggle with ourselves and we must approach as nearly as possible the standard of Bahá'u'lláh.

The harder the struggle, the more the consecration. Without this we cannot quicken others. We must create the desire in our converts to study for themselves the Teachings (the Creative Word); to explain to them is all right but they must study also for themselves. GLEANINGS is very important, all of it is fit for public.

The prospects now are very bright (speaking of the World Crusade).

In Bahá'í Revelation everything is superlative—Most Great Prison, Most Great Peace, Most Holy Shrine.

(NOTE: The Guardian constantly refers to his cables, saying, "Do you remember when I said this and that?" We obviously must study his cables more fully.)

[The International Language will come gradually, probably the Bahá'ís will not establish it. While the Bahá'ís are establishing the New World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, the world will be establishing the World State which will need a World Language. The World State is different from the Bahá'í Commonwealth; it will come about during the formative period of the Faith. The Bahá'í Commonwealth will come about in the Golden Age and will be formed by Bahá'í States and will supersede the world state.]

Question: Will the 20 NSAs in Latin America be formed one by one or how? Answer: There will probably first be Regional NSAs, 2 or 3 in Central America of countries contiguous to each other, which will later subdivide in individual NSAs. All depends upon how fast the work develops and upon the multiplication of Bahá'í Centers, especially Local Assemblies. While the Bahá'ís are consolidating the home front, they must also extend beyond the other places, this is their responsibility, e.g. in Central America to the islands of the Atlantic and Pacific not far from them.

The pioneers must persevere and not leave virgin areas until a nucleus has been formed, then they may go to another place or return home. They must teach discreetly without publicity for it is dangerous in these new places. They must imitate Father and Mrs. Dunne. They cannot be called conquerors if they stay only a few months.

People who suffer, become receptive to the Faith.

When the Bahá'ís build up their Institutions, the people will open their eyes and become interested.

[Christ was the Redeemer in His day, but now a need another Redeemer Who will save the world through His teachings. When the world accepts His Teachings, it will be saved. His method is to redeem the world through world unity; personal salvation is not sufficient today (fishers of men, redeemers of mankind). Germ of truth in the Church doctrines about redemption but they have been elaborated upon. The principle of sacrifice operates in every Dispensation; Christ sacrificed His life to save the world, Bahá'u'lláh sacrificed His son, the Purest Branch, Abraham sacrificed His son, the Báb sacrificed Himself, etc.]

The Institutions (Hands, etc.) will be grouped around the Resting Places at the World Center.

He hopes that by Ridván of next year, all the Virgin Areas will be opened except the 16 behind the Iron Curtain. The World Crusade will open people's eyes. Three are going behind the Iron Curtain, this is a very meritorious act. We should try to convert Russians and send them behind the Iron Curtain. 60 out of 131 Areas settled on Oct. 22, 190 countries.

He has not been specific as to Consolidation Goals, but he will be if the Bahá'ís accomplish quickly the Virgin Goals. We should do this fast so as to be able to go on to something else. He does not worry about these or the purchase of Temple Sites. Only 1 acre is necessary for Temple Site. Temple in Germany can be modest, not like that of Wilmette; that of Iran more difficult because of restrictions there and larger size of Temple.

Haziras must be separate buildings owned by the Bahá'ís, preferably in the Center of town. If the Bahá'ís cooperate, they can accomplish wonders, all must take part, not just a few. It is based upon sacrifice, give until it hurts, tell them this, then leave it to their conscience. Fixed quotas not allowed. The more sacrifice, the greater the bounties.

The dispersal of the Bahá'is may be protection for themselves, although this statement may seem strange to the world. Bahá'is must do what is right regardless of what the people think. The principle of dispersal is not new, it began with the Báb, was emphasized by Bahá'u'lláh and later by 'Abdu'l-Bahá in His Will and the Divine Plan. Has a great spiritual effect on themselves, the world and the Faith. They just arise, then persevere, follow example of Dundes, not just settle in one spot, even in Virgin Area, but ~~travel~~ travel (Martha Root). Functions now: 1) scatter, 2) build. Bahá'u'lláh said if one is constrained where he is, go elsewhere. Question: Should I stay in or travel, Answer: He must try if it is more success

There are International, National, and Local Archives, all must be kept up; the friends must see to this.

This time the USA will be a storm center; Persia (Cradle of the Faith), the World Center, North Africa, British Isles, Western Europe, the Pacific, all are gravely and directly exposed. It will be more than a war, it will be a great upheaval on a global scale, social, political, economic. It will have tremendous spiritual reaction very much like the collapse of the Roman Empire when Christianity was given its greatest chance to build on the ruins of the Roman Empire, and the same will happen to the Faith. This fire of this ordeal will do 2 things: purge and weld. Bahá'u'lláh says, "My calamity is my providence."; it will weld the whole human race into one. This world upheaval very much like what happened to the US after the Civil War, the world will suffer a Civil War on a world scale. There will be all sorts of complications, States vs States, classes vs classes, etc. It may be so severe as to effect the physical atmosphere of the earth, causing physical disturbances. It will be unique.

In future, the 9 rooms of the Shrine will be for prayer, there will be separate archives, there will not even be buildings near the Shrine. Bahá'u'lláh chose the site for the Shrine of the Báb.

The time of the world upheaval depends upon the follies of the politicians; if they continue as they are going, it may not be far away.

The Bahá'is in Latin America must be very careful of Orientals, especially Syrians and particularly in Brazil, Sao Paulo, Rio di Janeiro, etc. They must not try to bring them into the Faith but rather concentrate on the natives, i.e. Indians and Spaniards and disregard Orientals as their motives are not good and they are enemies of the Faith. We must always try to convert the majority elements. Persian Bahá'is may travel to Latin America in the future, now is not the time for them to settle there.

Question: Should Bahá'is in Finland withdraw from the Church? Answer: How can Bahá'is belong to a Church which believes that the Promised One has not come? It is not fair to the Church. However, it must be done gradually.

The Bahá'is everywhere must not have anything to do with the Church in matters of divorce, marriage, inheritance, burial, etc. In spiritual matters obedience to the Faith is more important than to parents. In fundamentals, Bahá'is must obey the Faith and not the Civil Authorities or parents; in non-fundamentals, matters purely administrative, organizational, teaching, propagation, meetings, obedience to government. To recant is fundamental, to register as Jews or Christians, etc.—Bahá'is will obey this (e.g. the martyrs); anything that is detrimental to the Faith discredits it, they will not obey; something that will delay the progress of the Faith, they will obey. To recant is to bring ~~shame~~ shame on the Faith.

Esperanto—It is not necessary to study it but association with Esperantists is advisable as a means to an end. If necessary, study it to gain goodwill of them as long as it does not take too much time.

NSA minutes must be brief, short, condensations, only the actions. Latins must not copy USA in details such as Minutes, News, etc. Diversity in details and method is desirable, uniformity in fundamentals, e.g., the Constitution must be uniform throughout the world. Must not copy NSA in Newsletter, conduct of Feast, manner of consultation, etc., for these are secondary matters. Must encourage national characteristics, diversity in accordance with their own custom, i.e., can kneel, prostrate selves, stand, etc.; this purely secondary, the important thing is to turn to Bahá'u'lláh in their hearts. Only in Obligatory Prayer we turn toward Akka, also Prayer for the Dead. In Tablet of Visitation it is better to stand; circumambulation of Shrine not obligatory now, House of Justice will reveal laws for this. No rites for visiting ~~Báb's Shrine~~ Báb's Shrine.

Holiest Spot in Persia is Shiraz, next Siyal Chal. Prayer beads can be used as aid in counting, not prescribed. We must be careful not to create new rites and rituals. ~~Sx19-95~~, 5 is numerical value of Báb, 19 is first unit, 18 Letters of Living plus Báb, - 24 Elders; first 19 plus 5 to be revealed in future ('Abdu'l-Bahá). Vahid (Unity) has value of 19. Astronomers are starting to think that there are 19 year cycles in regard to revolutions of the planets.

Sabbath—Friday is Bahá'í Day of Rest but not yet. Now we follow customs the country—for House of Justice in future. The essential now is to teach and multiply number of centers!

The day will come when the people enter in troops (mass conversion). This will probably happen as result of the world upheaval.

There are 2 plans: 1) major plan, God's, mysterious, we do not know how it will work. 2) Our plan—definite goals. Both aim at same thing, conversion of the people and triumph of God's Plan for humanity. We are not concerned with God's Plan but the other is our responsibility and which is the Divine Plan originated with 'Abdu'l-Bahá which He gave to the USA in His Tablets 1915-17. The U.S. are the executors, because it was given to them, Canada are the allies because they were included, Central and South America are the associates because Bahá'u'lláh addressed the Rulers of America in Aqdas, almost giving them a commission to protect the weak and down trodden, administer justice, etc. In His Tablets to the other Rulers He admonished and rebuked them. The Báb addressed the people of the West, Bahá'u'lláh the Rulers of the Western Hemisphere, and 'Abdu'l-Bahá North America, thus each making the responsibility more specific. Divine Plan was held in abeyance while the Administrative Order was being built. Now we have the instrument to carry out the Plan. It was not only necessary to unfold the Administrative Order but to give time for experience until it could function properly. By 1963 the whole Administrative Order will be established, including the International House of Justice. Bahá'í Court next step, ultimately House of Justice.

Progress in Latin America has been very rapid, now it is just beginning to fulfill its responsibilities. Until 1937 only 1 believer, Leonora Holsapple, then a remarkable response from 1937 to 1953.

Hazira and Endowments in each country. These are inherent tasks wherever a NSA is to be built. The important thing is to make a beginning, even though modest. (He mentioned that a room could be rented, other times that we should own our own Hazira, other times to start buying them.) (It does not seem rigid, probably the best step under the circumstances.)

Islands of the Pacific will be grouped in one NSA.

Hopes LSA of Puntarenas, Chile, will incorporate.

The NSAs of Latin America will have their branches in Israel to hold property. This important for prestige of Faith and to bind spiritually and legally different parts of the Bahá'í World.

Punishment: If we commit offense, we will receive two-fold punishment—in this world and the one to come. Punishment essential for order—reward and punishment. Justice breeds confidence. The Manifestation upholds the Law of Justice although He personally is inclined to pardon and give mercy. (Bahá'u'lláh)

Akka is Most Great Prison. Bahá'u'lláh's suffering most intense there because of treachery of Bahá'ís (His half-brother, etc.), although physical suffering worse in Síyah Chal. Cause always develops through crises, this is the propelling force because the foundation is firm, otherwise the Cause would fall. Thus there is a wisdom behind the Covenant Breakers—crises and ~~triumphs~~ triumphs, every crisis succeeded by a triumph. As the Cause develops, its progress will develop crises which will enable the Power of Bahá'u'lláh to demonstrate itself. The Cause awaits crises for opportunity to demonstrate its power, this is a continual process which will exist as long as there is Evil in the world, this is the way God develops His Institutions. There will always be opposition, political, ecclesiastical, enemies within, even ~~in~~ in the Golden Age. Clergy and priests will still exist, oppose. Papacy will disappear but some Institutions of the Church will remain. Opposition now starting, will spread to Church of England, Lutherans, Catholics, finally to Orient where it will be worst, i.e., Hindus, Budhists, etc. As Papacy opposes

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consciously, it will sow seeds of its own downfall. It is a very long process, but glorious. Evolution of the Institutions will make opposition aware and arouse it. We should welcome opposition as providential—is means of new triumphs which in turn will produce new problems and new triumphs. We must not imitate methods of missionaries, they will be awakened only by development of Institutions of the Cause, not by individual efforts.

Pioneers must maintain themselves completely independent of both ~~political/and/~~ politics and missionaries without asking help of either. In remote places, missionaries compromise their principles to gain converts—anything to be popular. We must not do this, neither align ourselves with politicians as they do. Independence. Faith is ~~of~~ emerging from obscurity, the more we scatter, the more we will arouse opposition, which is good for the Faith. For the coming two years we must concentrate on Virgin Areas. There must be a reserve in case the first pioneers cannot remain as we must hold the fort. If the pioneers wish to be real conquerors, they must remain and die at their posts. NSAs must remain in close contact with pioneers, encourage and provide them means to stay.

We must not disrupt the family for pioneering; pioneering, attending 19 Day Feast or meetings, etc., are administrative affairs and the family must not be disrupted for them; but if it is a case of a spiritual principle, e.g. to recant, then we must even leave the family, even suffer martyrdom. We must learn increasingly to distinguish between these two types of things in dealing with authorities.

Central America and South America are ready to approach directly the authorities through their NSAs. They must increasingly communicate with authorities but not meddle in their affairs nor bargain with them as the missionaries do. Bahá'is prefer to suffer martyrdom to compromising their spiritual principles and we should not be afraid to tell authorities this. In case of possibility of government employment for a Bahá'í, the NSA should investigate if it is political or purely administrative and not leave it to the individual. Bahá'is can serve their country but not the politicians. Best way to serve one's country is to avoid the corruption of politics. A "just" government is a firmly established one, the recognized government, for example, a ~~fast~~ revolutionary government is not a "just" government until it is recognized. Bahá'is must make efforts to secure from government administrative posts, for 1) gain gratitude of government, 2) prove that they are truly patriotic by serving faithfully and honestly. A public position is not necessarily political. Consular positions, legations, ministers, ~~parli~~ parliaments, etc., are political. Economic missions may or may not be political. Truthfulness is a fundamental Bahá'í principle. How can we ~~of~~ accept political posts?

Bahá'is should concentrate on the easy parts of the Plan first and get them out of the way, then the hard ones. Consolidation, ~~the~~ Haziras, Codification of Aqdas, Bahá'í Courts, two Mashriqu'l-Adhkars, etc., are hard tasks.

There will be Hands in all the countries, there is no limit to the number of Hands and they will have subsidiaries (e.g. the Boards of 9 in 1954). Hands have two functions: 1) Propagation (teaching) of Faith; 2) Preservation (protection) of Faith. These functions are more important even than Administration. NSAs will evolve into Governments and their Committees into Government departments. At present, NSAs are in charge of teaching, but this will be transferred later to the Hands and for this purpose they will have their own administration, Boards of 9 first step.

Until the majority of the people of a country become Bahá'is, the Bahá'is will not accept the reins of government even though they may be asked to do so. Reasons: 1) We must uphold the principle of majority vote; 2) to avoid the complications which such an act might cause.

Duty of Bahá'is to hold the fort (regarding Virgin Areas), otherwise the Roll of Honor will have to be torn up!

Contact with Authorities: We must always protect the name of the Cause, explain the purpose of incorporation, etc. If they oppose the Incorporation, obtain it as a commercial body, then religious when the government changes. The pioneers must take precautions before leaving, then seek the help of officials who may help if possible.

(name of believer)--Yes her resignation from the NSA to dedicate herself to the Indian work is justified because of the importance of the latter. The native Latin American Bahá'ís must take everincreasing responsibility in both local and national work; if she resigns, perhaps a Latin American can be elected. He is very proud of the Latin American Bahá'ís and has many hopes for them. The Cause has developed there firmly and rapidly, when the foundation is firm, the Cause progresses. The Bahá'ís ought not to fear tests and difficulties there because the foundation is firm because the administrative principles have been followed. They must remember that every ~~thing~~ test is a blessing in disguise. Summer schools are a very important aspect of the Administrative Order, it has 3 elements: 1) social, 2) administrative, 3) devotional.

We must form Assemblies, then increase and specialize activities by naming Committees for teaching, literature, summer schools, to establish Nazíras, etc.

Tell your NSA what they must be sure that the pioneers to the Virgin Areas remain until they have established firm foundations.

The Bahá'ís must not fear the world upheaval. Even if war breaks out and our Plan is interrupted, it will only be a temporary delay of our Plan. The Plan of God continues and the suffering probably will do more than our plan to convert the people. God's Plan is mysterious, impossible to understand. The Bahá'ís must continue working, earn their livelihood, consult with experts on business, this is not the province of the Guardian, only the Cause is the concern of the Guardian. Whatever happens is for the good of the Cause, have confidence.

Ahmad Sohrab and the old Covenant-Breakers have lost their power outside the Holy Land. The Theosophists are not so important. The Covenant Breakers are those who have disobeyed the Manifestation, who have not accepted the Covenant and have denied the Master. They create doubts by very subtle ways.

The soul has a beginning but not an end. The soul begins individually at the moment of conception and continues after death. Unborn infants have a soul. The soul becomes more sensitive and is endowed with greater vision and intuition in the next world. We have the opportunity here to prepare for the next world, if we lose this opportunity, we are going to know it on leaving this world.

In the future, the NSA must have a Nazírat'u'l-Quds, for the present it can share it with the LSA for economic reasons.

The Assemblies must obtain recognition of Bahá'í marriages; they must not use a Church.

The believers must pray for me as I pray for them; their prayers sustain me as I hope mine do them.