

1955

4/1-10/1955 Ted Harris (Equipment T.C., B17 F18)

France

- 1- The American Baha'is have a very great ^{history} in pioneering in France.
- 2- Not only must the cities of France be opened to the Faith, but also the villages.
- 3- Tho many Baha'is are leaving Paris, it is very necessary that that city retain a sufficient number to have an active, forceful LSA.
- 4- The German Baha'is may, in time, settle and teach the Faith in France.
- 5- The movement of American pioneers to France is an historic step, and, tho the obstacles are very great and the task very difficult, the Cause will be firmly implanted in this Country and the goals attained.
- 6- The northeastern part of France must be settled: Dijon, Metz, Nancy, and Strasbourg, which are near Germany. *otherwise, the dispersion is such,*
- 7- The time has come when the Faith must be co-ordinated in France. This is the main purpose of the Lyon Conference. This should be effected by the Paris Assembly's acting as a "Provisional NSA", providing liaison between the centers in France and the ETC. The Guardian emphasized that Paris must do this and not Lyon or Orleans, etc.
- 8- "Speak less English and more French, and be less with Americans and more with Frenchmen, is my advice to you", said Shoghi Effendi. "If you learn French- and this you must do- you can accomplish two things at once: learn the language and teach the Cause."
- 9- The Marseille LSA must be re-established soon.
- 10- The Paris assembly must form a committee to work as liaison between the scattered centers & believers in France, and the ETC in America; to co-ordinate the work in France.

France (Con't)

- 11- The American pioneers must appreciate the fact that they can teach the Faith openly in France, unlike Italy or Spain, for example.
- 12- The American Pioneers must be very careful not to offend the French, as they are very sensitive and easily antagonised. However, the Americans are sensitive, too. The French, on the other hand, must welcome the American pioneers, and accept them into their Motherland and into their hearts.
- 13- The ETC must prepare the way for Mrs Davey to lecture and teach. Also, the various centers must encourage her work in the Cause and invite her to visit them. She is a very great asset to the Faith. More people of prominence must be brought into the Cause.
- 14- On the agenda of the Lyon conference must be: "How to Increase the Number of French Baha'is?"
- 15- The American pioneers must teach the French with great courtesy, so as to attract them. The French must be thought of as precious gems to adorn the Cause. The pioneers must be so outstandingly different from other Americans in France that people will ask: "What makes these Americans Different?" To help achieve this: less movies, less pleasure riding by car, less association with Americans, more with Frenchmen.
- 16- The American pioneers must not feel that they are here to lead and the French to follow, but rather, that the American Baha'is are here for "their sake of the French...thru love."
- 17- The sooner the Americans bring French into the Cause, the sooner will the Faith have itself firmly planted, and it will then proceed thru its own momentum. Then the Americans can go home- "for a time"- and then go on to another country.
- 18- Once the Cause is firm in France, the ETC will cease to have any connection with that country.
- 19- At first, in Italy, Germany, Switzerland, the Americans outnumbered the natives. Not so now. Now it's France's turn to follow the above path.

France (Con't)

- 20- Those French who cannot afford to attend the Lyon Conference must be helped by the Americans who are able to do this. All should attend.

Hawaii

- 1- Because of the vastness of the Pacific area, it will be necessary to have two NSA's: one NSA of Southeast Asia, with HQ at Suva, Indonesia; one NSA of the South Pacific, with HQ at the Fiji Islands.
- 2- The Faith is progressing well in the Philippine Islands, Indochina, Korea; poorly in Siam.
- 3- The work in Africa and the Pacific is progressing well.
- 4- The Baha'is of Hawaii must bring in the members of the Brown race first- not primarily Japanese, Chinese, Caucasian-(which the Guardian called "imported")- but the actual natives, who have traits which will be of great assistance to the Cause at a later time.
- 5- The Guardian emphasized the hugeness of the Pacific area. There will be a NSA in the north, at Tokyo; one in the south, at Sidney, Australia; on the east, at the Fiji Islands; one in the west, at Jakarta, Indonesia. (My impression was that he considers these locations as spiritual poles).
- 6- The Guardian stressed Hawaii's central location in the Pacific: to America, to Alaska, to Australia. Tho he didn't say this, he implied, as the saying goes, that Hawaii is truly the crossroads of the Pacific.'
- 7- The Baha'is of Hawaii must disperse, for when told how many were in Honolulu and Maui, the Guardian said that was too many in a small area.

Miscellaneous

- 1- The Archives Building, for which the excavation has begun, is the first edifice of the Administrative World Center.
- 2- The Faulkland Islands ^{is} ~~are~~ the southern most Baha'i settlement; Franklin, Canada, the northern most (soon to be Spitzbergen).
- 3- There are currently (as of 10 Apr 55) 3200 Baha'i centers in 235 countries of the world.
- 4- The Shrine of the Bab is set in an arc formed by Mt. Carmel. The administrative buildings surrounding the Shrine will be outside this arc.
- 5- The Guardian concluded one evening's talk with the observation that things look hopeful in spite of the obstacles.
- 6- Baha'is must 1) scatter, 2) persevere, 3) teach, 4) gradually form LSA's.
- 7- There are 3,000,000 Jews in Russia who will receive the Message, along with others in that country, from the Persians from the south, the Germans from the west, and the Americans thru Alaska. With regard to the Jews, the Guardian said their future is very great in Israel, and that gradually they will become less materialistic and more concerned with spiritual matters, and of great help to the Cause.
- 8- When there are approximately 60 NSA's, the Universal House of Justice may be elected. As it is now, there is not sufficient world representation.
- 9- There is now a Baha'i at the southern most city of the world, in South America, and one in the northern most city of Europe, at the top of Norway.
- 10- In this 10 yr Crusade, the sovereign States, their major dependencies, and the larger islands must be opened to the Faith and consolidated. Later, in succeeding crusades, the smaller states, dependencies, islands will be concentrated on.
 - 1- Japan & Australia have a great future in the Cause.
 - 2- In number of Baha'is, the races run thus: 1) White, 2) Negro, 3) Yellow, 4) Brown, 5) American Indian.
- 13- On two occasions the Guardian mentioned the importance of opening Tibet to the Cause.

Miscellaneous (Con't)

- 14- The Faith of Baha 'u' llah rests upon two pillars: the principles and the laws. The principles were set forth by the Master in his American & European talks, and are easy to accept. The laws were revealed in the Aqdas, and are difficult to accept. New Baha'is must be attracted thru the principles and gradually lead to accept and carry out the laws.
- 15- The Guardian emphasized the "twin theme" in the Cause: twin manifestations, twin shrines, etc. "Double", he concluded.
- 16- First will come the administrative order and the Lesser Peace; next, the World Order and the Most Great Peace; finally, the World Civilization.

The Guardian sends his loving greetings to all the Friends.