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PART THREE

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1. Bahi'i National Spiritual Assemblies

2. Countries where Baha'is are resident

Abyssinia

Af&Bnistin

Alaska

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Albania

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Arabia

Argentina

Australia

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Austria

Bihrayn Island

Bahic_hist&n

Belgian Congo

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Belgium

Bolivia

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Brazil

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Bulgaria

Burma

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Canada

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Caucasus

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Chile

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China

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Colombia
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Costa Rica
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Cuba
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Czechoslovakia
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Denmark
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Ecuador
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Egypt ..
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El Salvador
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Finland
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France
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Germany
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Great Britain
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Guatemala
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Haiti
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Hawaiian Islands
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Holland
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Honduras
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Hungary
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Iceland
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India
.....
'Iriq

III
IN MEMORIAM
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I N MEMORIAM

JOHN HENRY HYDE DUNN

John Henry Ilyde Dunn was born in London, England, the son of a consulting chemist. In early childhood he was dandled upon the knee of Charles Dickens, and was amused and entertained by Cruikshank, the famous illustrator of Dickens' works. As a young man, after engaging in business in Great Britain and on the continent, he emigrated to the United States. While waiting in a tinsmith's shop in Scattle, Washington, he overheard two men speaking. One man quoted these words of Fanny Dunn, Bahl'n'll&h, "Let not a man glory in this, that he loves his country, but let him giory gradually come t o in this, that he loves his kind." Mr. Dnnn interrupted the conversation by saying, 'Abdu'l-Bahi came to "Surely these words are a message from God." The speaker turned, and, including Mr. Dunn in the conversation, gave the message of the Bah6'i Revelations. Mr. Dunn accepted the truth of the Bahh'i Revelation immediately and it was not long before he and Mr. Ward Fitzgerald, the one

come there as often as his occupation of traveling salesman permitted. He sought out Mrs. Getsinger for every interview, and she gave him time. In San Francisco he associated also with Thornton Chase, whom called the "first American Bah6'i." Among the San Francisco Bahh'is at that time were also Mrs. Gooddall and Dr. D'Evelyn and others whose fellowship he doubtless found most precious and helpful. In 1911 his first wife, Mrs. died. She had not accepted the Faith when her husband did, but had believe in BahCn'llih and His Revelation. In the fall of 1912 San Francisco. He had at one time given up His plan to come to the Pacific Coast. The Bahi'is of that region were, deeply disappointed, and nine of for earnest prayer that He might His plan and come. I X s prayer swered. 'Abdu'l-Bahi telegraphed that He

who had brought him the Message?; were the
traveling together, doing business and made arrange-
spreading the Faith. At one time they took en-
advantage of a brief period of unemployment in their city, a
ment to journey to Walla Walla, Washington, where they held meetings for this purpose. This journey necessitated extreme economy on the part of the teachers so that they were often obliged to go hungry. A certain lady, who remained after one of the meetings to learn more about the great Message, soon learned, as she talked with the two teachers, that they were as hungry physically as she was spiritually. She tactfully insisted on offering them hospitality and spread a bountiful meal for them.

In 1911 Mrs. Lua Getsinger, whom Shoghi Effendi has called the mother-teacher of the universal love that

American Bahá'í community, was lecturing in San Francisco on the Faith. This drew that love to

Mr. Dunn to the city and he continued to capacity. Not

THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD

John Henry Hyde Dunn

only did he make known the Teachings of his business in spreading the "Glad Tidings"

Bahá'u'lláh, but he gave generously material of the Bahá'í Revelation.

would come! Unbounded joy filled hearts of the believers. They
ments for Him to occupy with His
tourage, during His stay in
three story house. Mr. Dunn,
as near the Master as possible,
at a hotel near by. On the night
Bahá's arrival he waited on the
site 'Abdu'l-Bahá's house to
of Him as he alighted from the
went up the steps.

HS meeting with 'Abdu'l-Bahá
himself described as having a
effect on him. 'Abdu'l-Bahá's
glance, his life-giving words,
him the power that enabled him

come the spiritual conqueror of a
This meeting set ablaze the
smoldered in his heart, and the
life was devoted to scattering
the best of his ever growing

Melbourne, regarding
firm) was sent, everything given up, and a position.' The mail that
night carried a
arrangements made for our prompt sailing." letter to a good firm in
Melbourne, . . . to
Later, when Mrs. Dunn doubted the wis- whom I felt able to give good
sewice. By
dom of accompanying her husband, he wrote return post a reply arrived
(which read)
to 'Ahdu'l-Bahi for advice. "It seemed like 'Your application is most
opportune, . . .
ages," he goes on to narrate, "before a reply Call and see our Sydney
manager.' (Thus)
came. Read carefully, how and when it . . . a good position was
obtained which
came. We were all packed up ready to ultimately took me over the
whole of Aus-
leave the cottage we were living in. While tralia . . . and to New
Zealand with the
the carriers were loading on our luggage .
Bahi'i Message. . . Praise be to God!
and Mother waiting in the wee garden, "Mother was able to
surrender her po-
a telegraph boy appeared with a cable sition and God made it
possible for me to
from 'Abdu'l-Bahh containing these words, earn enough to travel all
aver the continent.
'Highly Commendable.' Imagine our hearts' taking Mother to the capital
cities.
delight and joy. This made our future an "For two and a half years
we remained
open door to service on this continent . . .
in New South Wales . Interest in the
(Australia)." Cause continually increased
and people . . .
On their way to Australia they stopped came at all times to see us.
There was no
at Honolulu and remained there two breathing space at all. I t
was an incessant
months. This stay was "in the truest sense plowing ahead. One
outstanding instance in
a real Baha'i viqit, with a lasting profit the teaching work Father Dunn
carried on
of understanding and conscin~xnessof real in Sydney was the meeting and
making of
.
love and service to God. . . We landed in the first real believer in

Australia, Mr. Sydney from the Steamship Sonona, April 18, 1919. Cause and all its believers, holding the "How strangely things happen, and how advancing wonderfully does God act and bring His Mother Dnnn plans into our lives ... so that we can serve Him. He is All-powerful t o fulfill half years . . . His Divine purpose for us in every thing. another miracu- ... 0 beloved ones of Bahi'u'llBh, make business; the whde firm your steps and secure every opportunity to work in . . . to serve with a new consciousness of love and we re- and service and so justify our being Baha'is. Victoria for about Strange to say, traveling on the Sonona t o visited New Zealand and Australia was the manager was repeated of the firm that Mother had represented in America for many years, and this gentleman opportunity came that landed in Australia after visiting New we crossed the Zealand about the same time that we landed Australia and in Sydney after visiting Honolulu. ... This with many manager offered Mother a position in the . . . we had the Australian company and set us right upon dear Martha our feet. This (arrangement) lasted for campaign the first five or six month. Our original plans for making a living in Australia were Queensland and revisited of no avail. Being far from well when we Victoria landed (I) was not fit for work, but how

Whitaker, who proved a friends in Sydney together and the Cause while Father and were traveling. "After these turo and a work in New South Wales, lous thing happened in of the continent was given me Melbourne was our first stop mained in the State of six months. Early in 1923 we Adelaide; and the same work there with great happiness. "Then the great we had been longing for, and Great Desert t o Western opened our Bahb'i campaign successes. .. Here in Perch honor and happiness to meet Root. A successful teaching followed. "Later we visited New South Wales together with and West Australia."

wonderfully does God guide us. Father Dunn died at Sydney, February 17, 1941. The Sydney Bahá'ís have supplied an account of his last days and laying the cloth for dinner, a voice, a mental funeral, which we quote in part: "Father voice, said to me, 'Now is the time for you was at the Heal- S96

THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD

ing Meeting at the Center on Tuesday after- are destined to inherit the fruit of his glorious labors. To the noon, February 11th, and was his usual sincere seeker he was as a finger post on the bright, informative self. After arriving spiritual highway. Absolutely and completely home he had an unconscious spell . . . but. confirmed, he was a brilliant example of recovered and was fairly well until Friday one in whom the confirmations of the when he became unconscious and remained the spirit had become a living force, vitalizing every so until he passed on, Monday morning. thought and action. Bahá'u'lláh, as the "The funeral service was conducted by embodiment of Reality, was the spring from Bahá'ís. It consisted of readings of Bahá'í which he drew his ever-increasing supply: of prayers and selections from the 'Hidden spiritual sus- tenance. It was not alone the Words' and of words from Mother Dunn, great message of which he was the bearer smiling and wonderfully composed, who that arrested ac- tentinn but in addition, the gave those assembled a message such as she unearthly light that suffused his whole knew Father would have wished to express." personality when giving the message, endowing him The following tribute to Father Dunn with a qualit? which set him on a came from the National Spiritual Assembly spiritual plane to which others were blindly of the Bahá'ís of Australia and New Zealand: groping, a height reached only through the The history of the Bahá'í Cause in Aus- surrender of personal will and ambition. tralia and New Zealand during the last

The only
 twenty years is bound up with the life and joy of being
 work of Mr. John Henry Hyde Dunn. Mr. Baha'u'llah. Every
 and Mrs. Dunn together responded to the opportunity
 call of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to the American believers for workers in other fields. It was
 Message, sowing to these countries, Australia and New Zealand, they travelled, and the story of their
 Bahi'u'llah. joint pioneer work is known and appreciated
 su-erved, never throughout the length and breadth of these
 ground, or dominions. Alone and unknown, with no
 apparent harvest. material prestige whatsoever they raised the
 triumph of the call of the New Day in all the capital cities
 rock that of Australia, and in Auckland, New Zealand
 or adversity land. Carefully and lovingly they nurtured
 the Faith. In the first few years no fewer
 -satisfying faith than five local Spiritual Assemblies were
 graciousness and established; four of these are still functioning
 contributed in no small ing in addition to a number of groups. In
 attractive personality. 1934 Father's heart was rejoiced to see the
 in the power further flowering of his labor when the National
 proclaimed that tional Spiritual Assembly came into being.
 in these distant All hearts were turned in loving sympathy
 extinguished. Let us t to Mother Dunn when the news was sent
 thanksgiving to God t to the believers of Father's passing to the

recompense he sought was the
 used in the service of
 contingency he accepted as an
 he must seize for the
 supreme task--spreading the
 ing the seed which was to
 the world order envisaged by
 From this task he never
 lost heart, however hard the
 poor the soil, or meagre the
 His faith in the ultimate
 Beloved's Cause was firm as a
 no huffings of indifference
 in the path could move.
 This steadfast soul
 coupled with his kindly
 understanding heart
 degree to his unique
 But it was his dauntless faith
 inherent in the Cause he
 enabled him to light a flame
 lands that can never be
 all unite in praise and
 for the privilege, vouchsafed

to us of this

AbhP Kingdom on February 17th, 1941.

friendship with dear

The threads binding him to earth had been to emulate

wearing thinner and his hold on life becoming he was and

ing lighter for some time, thus preparing us talent he used

for the severe blow of separation. Though obedience to

conscious of our irreparable loss, grief for devoted, tire-

one so full of years and honor and who lived to accomplish so much would be misplaced.

Spiritual Assembly

Let us rather thank God for the privilege Australia

vouchsafed us and future generations who IN MEMORIAM

'Abdu'l- Jalil Bey Sa'ad

The following cable from Shoghi Effendi, rank (of)

the Guardian of the Bahá'í Faith, to the conqueror.

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís Shoghi Rabbani."

of the United States and Canada was received February 21, 1941:

"I share (your) sorrow (in the) loss, SA'AD

(and) participate (in your) rejoicings (for 1942, the friends

the) triumph (of) beloved Father Dunn. the passing of a

(The) magnificent career (of this) veteran pioneer, 'Abdu'l-Jalil

warrior (of the) Faith of Bahl'u'lliiah re-beloved Guardian

flects the purest luster (of the) world his-"one of the Hands of

toric mission conferred (upon) American community by 'Abdu'l-Bahi. To (the)

Egypt, who embraced

three heroines whose dust reposes (in the) Mirz6 Abn'l-Fadl,

generation, of personal

Father Dunn. May are be moved

his complete consecration. All

all he had of ability and

in instant, exact and complete

the call of the Master, and in

less service to Bahfu'll6h.

National

of the Bahi'is of

and New Zealand.

Mashriqu'l-A&kL befitting the

Australia's spiritual

(Signed)

'ABDU'L- JALfL BEY

On the 25th of May,

of Egypt felt very deeply

~ a l i a n t believer and

Bey Sa'ad, to whom the

has given the title of

the Cause of God."

As an old Bahgi of

the Cause in the days of

heart (of) Persia, (in the) Pacific Island who was his teacher,
'Abdu'l-Jalil Bey Sa'ad
and southern extremity (of the) American was distinguished by such
high and noble
continent, a fourth witness in far-off Aus- characteristics that he is
entitled to rank
tralia (is) now added, attesting (the) first among those rare believers
who devote their
vital sparks (of) far-flung spiritual do- lives wholly to the Word
of God. So faith-
minion American believers (have been) corn- ful was he to the Cause
that he never
missioned (to) establish. (I am) momd hesitated to make any
sacrifice, whenever he
(to) congratulate them (for the) resplend- was called upon to do so.
He loved pro-
ent successes (of the) Plan destined (to) foundly the Faith of
Baha'u'll&h; in its
encircle (the) entire globe. Advise hold service he endured many
hardships with a
N a t i o n a l Memorial G a t h e r i n g (i n) spirit of true devotion
and radiant acquies-
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cence which sustained him in the course of that writer in a series of fourteen
articles
many transfers of his position to remote under the heading "The Bahi'i Faith
Is an
localities, where he was often isolated from Everlasting Truth." So graphic was
his pres-
both his family and the believers. We lost entation of the teachings, so ample
the
no opportunity to promote the interests of proofs he adduced in support of
them, that
the public, irrespective of creed, and we may the fanatics, having failed in
their argu-
well believe that future generations, per- ments, sought the aid of the
authorities and
haps, indeed, even the present generation, demanded to know how a judge in a
Muslim
will recognize the valuable service he rendered - country could be permitted to
promulgate
dered Egypt. the teachings of a religion
they declared to
In 1923, when the constitutional laws of the anti-Mahdian. They appealed on
the country were being legislated, the com- these grounds to the Minister of
Justice with
committee appointed for this purpose recommended a view to stopping his articles. The

Mitiister

mended that religious freedom be confined of Justice, on his part, tried to persuade to recognized religions. 'Abdu'l-Jalil Bey him to ccase writing his articles in defense

Sa'ad, as a judge of the Civil Courts, wrote of the Cause, but 'Abdu'i-J,alil Bey Sa'ad

very inspiring articles on this subject, main- answered hinl: "If your Excellency wishes taining that all religions should be treated me to cease defending my belief, then the with equal freedom. This principle was other side should also cease attacking it."

passed in the third reading by the legislators. In connection with this incident the ques-

This noble Bzhi'i distinguished himself tion of religious freedom was once again

during eTery phase of the development of raised in the House of Parliament where the

the Cause in Egypt. InMay, 1929, the sicua- Minister stated that although the absolute

tion of the believers in Egypt became critical freedom of religions is sanctioned by the

owing to the historic verdict rendered by the law of the country, action had been taken

Muslim Court against the Bahi'is of Kom to cease the publication of articles by both

El Sa'ayda in 1925. As directed by the be- parties concerned.

loved Guardian, Mr. Mills came to Cairo, Meanwhile, as adisciplinary action,'Abdu'l-

where he met 'Abdu'l-Jalil Bey Sa'ad, and Jalil Bey Sa'ad was transferred t o a remote

together they saw the Prime Minister and locality in upper Egypt vhere they believed

other high officials with a view to improving he would not be able to resume his activities.

the situation of the friends. Later, 'Abdn'l- On the contrary, he took advantage of this

Jalil Bey Sa'ad pursued these negotiations opportunity and translated the "Dawn-

alone. Breakers" into the Arabic

language, thus

In 1934 the Declaration of Trust had enabling the Arabic-speaking countries to to he legalized, but it was refused by the study this authentic history, so

rich in sub-

Mixed Tribunal on the ground that it con- ject matter, and so precious to d l Bahb'is.

stituted an instrument of a religious nature In 1941 his translation was published, but and was therefore beyond the Tribunal's owing to the war had to be referred to the jurisdiction. However, the tact and persistence- Publicity Section of the Government. From tence with which 'Abdu'l-Jalil Bey Sa'ad this department it was passed on to high supported the claims of the Bahi'is to the Muslim authorities who pronounced it to be Prosecutor General finally overcame all resistance- against the Muslim Faith and stated it should tance and the Declaration of Trust was be condemned. Whereupon the entire edition- recognized as valid and legalized. This history- tion was gathered for destruction. Having toric act greatly facilitated future transactions- lesrned of this, 'Abdu'l-Jalil Bey Sa'ad in- tions with the Government. interviewed all the officers concerned and In that same year (1934) a certain learned endeavored by every means in his power

- Shayk& el Kharashi attacked the Bahi'i to procure the release of the books. Far from Faith in a series of articles under the heading- being daunted by the opposition and un- ing "The Bahi' Faith Is a Pleasing Illusion." helpful attitude he met with, he seemed 'Abdu'l-Jalil Bey Sa'ad, with outstanding rather to be spurred on by it and, ignoring zeal and courage, refuted the assertions of the apparent hopelessness of his efforts,

IN MEMORIAM

Haji Mirzi Buzurg Afnin 'Alfi

finally succeeded, after untiring and persistent labors, in procuring not only the release of all the books but also official permission to distribute them in Egypt and his fellow- abroad. holder of Baha'i to the beloved Guardian, his teacher, his wide knowledge Writing.;, the love he showed Baha'is and the courage and self-sacrifice with which he served the Cause of God

the translation of "Bahí'u'lláh and the New Era" into Arabic and the compilation of the proud of their "Laws of Personal Status" and "Rules of his imperish- Procedure." will remain forever in the Egyptian believers, who are first Hand of the Cause and able services.

In 1941 he again employed

.. the Declara-

- tion of Trust as an instrument to induce the Ministry of Civil Defense to grant per- S J i M ~ R Z ABUZURG AFNAN 'ALkf mission to build the Haziratu'l-Quds in i r & in 1873.

Afnin 'Ali'i was born at a

Cairo and to purchase the necessary materials Nhru'd-Din

His father was tiq&Mirzi

for its construction. So dedicated was he the Bib.

Afuin, a close relative of

to this task that he personally was often to attached to the

From childhood he was

be found on the site, supervising the work. old he ad-

Cause and when but ten years

He continued to carry on this labor of love, BahCu'l16h and was

dressed a supplication to

in spite of all his other work, and the intense attained to the

honored with a reply. He

heat, until he fell ill and died suddenly he was eighteen

Presence of BahB'u'il6h when

after an operation.

years of age and stayed at

the Holy Land

He was for many years president of the earlier return being

for nine full months, his

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahb'is cholera in Syria

prevented by an outbreak of

of Egypt and the Sudan and a staunch up-

and Egypt.

T H E B A H A 'f WORLD

Two months after his departure from first

come a Bahi'i in New Zealand. My

Haifa, the Sun of Truth set, and, at the was through

knowledge of the Bahi'i Cause

Master's bidding, Afnin "AMi' set up in which was

'The Christian Commonwealth,'

business at Port Said. He proved helpful to sister, who

sent to me from England by my

Bahi'i pilgrims arriving at that city, and, in London.

was at that time studying music

ten years later, wound up his affairs under She had heard 'Abdu'l-Bah6
 preach. I read
 the Master's instructions, returning t o the article about him in the
 papers, but am
 -
 S h i r k with his father to take care of the sorry to say did not think any
 more about it.
 Holy House. When, in 1903, Persia was My sister returned from
 England, and in
 rocking with the storm raised by the 1912 a friend of hers, Miss
 Dorothea
 enemies of the Cause, this family was quietly Spinney, came t o New Zealand
 t o give re-
 busy, repairing the House. On the father's citals of Greek plays. While in
 Auckland,
 death, Afnhn 'Ali'i and his brothers carried she stayed with us, and told us
 about the
 on the work to a successful conclusion and Bahl'i Cause. She had met
 'Abdu'l-Bahi,
 to the Master's entire satisfaction. and as she told me about it
 all, evidently a
 At Shiriz, his home was always open subconscious chord was touched. As
 a
 t o the large number of believers who flocked child, I used t o wish I had
 lived when Christ
 on pilgrimage to the Holy flouse from was on earth. As Miss Spinney
 spoke, I
 Persia or elsewhere. remembered my childhood's
 wish, and the
 An apt scholar in youth, well-versed in thought came to me that I too
 might have
 Arabic, and a 'fine penman, Afnin was denied Him as so many others
 had done. I t
 eminently qualified for the education and was this secret thought that
 made me
 training of children, a work into which he seriously think of what I heard
 from Miss
 threw himself with his wonted zeal in Spinney, and through God's
 grace and
 s i r h e . He taught them the Aqdas, and mercy I was enabled to grasp
 and believe
 acquainted then1 with. the Holy Laws and in BahPn'Ilhh and His message.
 Naturally,
 Teachings. He was indefatigable in his I told others about it, but
 though they ap-
 efforts, acting as Secretary for the Local peared to be interested,
 nothing more came

Assembly, serving on various Committees, of it. Mrs. Blundell, who also had read
 carrying on a correspondence with friends T h e Christian
 Cormnunwealth,' was the
 in East and West, transcribing the Holy most interested, and we had
 many talks.
 Tablets. Although, in later life, his health "Miss Spinney had given me
 some Bah6'i
 failed him, yet he was unrelaxing in his books, and I sent to America
 for more and
 endeavors for the Faith. also subscribed to 'The Star
 of the West,'
 In speech and action, he was an exemplary Bah6'i magazine. The Srst great
 event after
 believer, both friend and foe testifying t o this was the visit of Mr. and
 Mrs. Hyde
 his unwavering faith, his radiant heart, and Dunn to Auckland. Mrs.
 Blundell invited
 his unquestioning loyalty. them t o her home, Lynbury
 Ridimngs Rd.,
 He ascended t o the Abhi Kingdom in Remucra, t o speak t o a group of
 about
 1941. twenty people she thought
 might be in-
 r terested. My two sisters and I were amongst
 MISS MARGARET STEVENSON them, and I shall never forget my
 first meet-
 ing with Mr. Dunn. On'being introduced, I
 The Bahi'i Assembly of Auckland, New noticed the Bahl'i ring on his
 finger. I was
 Zealand, has suffered a severe loss in the also wearing one and turned my
 hand to him.
 passing to the Abh6 Kingdom of its secre- When he saw my ring his
 pleasure and
 tary, Miss Margaret Beveridge Stevenson. astonishment will always be
 something to
 A short time before her sudden death she remember, for when Mr. and Mrs.
 Dunn
 had begun to write her experiences in con- arrived in Auckland they did
 not know
 nection with the Bahh'i Faith in New there was a believer in New
 Zealand. This
 Zealand. The following are excerpts from was the first BahA'i meeting
 in New Zea-
 her notes: land. While Mr. Dunn was with
 us a hall
 "As far as I know I was the first to be- was rented and public meetings

held. After
IN MEMORIAM

Stevenson

his return to Australia, Mrs. Dunn remained themselves an assembly at this time, 1924, for a time and formed a study group. The 'though the first properly constituted as- classes were held at our house in Cowie Road, sembly was not formed till April 21st. Parnell, for about ten years, and it was 1926." here that what Mrs. Dunn called the first The narrative was cut short at this point Bahi'i Feast took place. This was an aus- by Miss Stevenson's sudden passing t o the picious occasion and a flashlight photograph higher kingdom. Between 1924 and 1926 was taken which appeared later in 'The the little paper covered booli "Bahi'i Ad- Bah6'i World.' ministration" was received and a study of "It is through this effort of Mr. and Mrs. this resulted in the proper formation of an Dnnn that the Cause in Auckland grew, assembly. Miss Stevenson was elected secre- and on March 11 t h , 1924 it was decided tary, which office she filled with faithfulness that the time had arrived when i t was neces- and efficiency till her days came to an end. sary for the Bah2i Cause in New Zealand This steadfast servant was an active t o have an official head, some person who worker in the Cause of Bahi'u'116h for more would be responsible for the conduct of the than eighteen years. Her first visit to Haifa Assembly. Quoting from the Minutes:- and the Holy Shrines in 1921 made a deep 'It was proposed, seconded and carried unan- impression, which resulted in an unswerving imously that Miss M. B. Stevenson be first loyalty and consecrated devotion. Her duties President (Chairman) of the first Bahl'i as secretary of the Spiritual Assembly over Assembly in New Zealand and that she a long period of years, as also her work as be linown as the Mother of the Cause in this a member of the National Spiritual As- land.' This minute is an eloquent tctstimuny sembly, were undertaken in a spirit

of

to the ignorance of these early believers of loving, willing service. Her sweet, lovable

Bahá'í Administration. They began to call nature endeared her to all and her deep nn-

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THE B A H A ' ~ WORLD

Mary J. Revell

derstanding of the Teachings was a great souls, a confident hope and cheerfulness,

help to students and enquirers. benevolence-traits which singled her out

Her passing to the Abhá Kingdom on as a pioneer from the time of her contact

February 11th, 1941, was a severe loss to the with the Bahí'í Faith.

Assembly and to the Faith in New Zealand. Though actively engaged in church work,

Her memory will be revered by future she was searching, and that search made

generations who look back to the record of her receptive to the teachings of Bahí'u'llih

her work. when presented to her by her sister, Mrs.

Mrs. E. M. Axford. Annie E. McRiney. She proved the truth - of these teachings to her own satisfaction

MARY T. REVELL by her analysis of Bible prophecies; accepted

the Faith, opened her home as a center for meetings, attracted some of her church

Mrs. Mary J. Revell, born October 8, 1859 friends and others to these meetings, and

in Philadelphia, Pa., had an early life filled attended classes conducted by Mrs. Isabella

with many difficulties, which she overcame D. Brittingham, who was sojourning in

because of her love for, and dependence on, Philadelphia at that time. This stirred up

God. In 1900 after years of illness, her bitter persecution from the minister, which

husband, a devout Christian, passed away only tended to make her faith more stead-

leaving her with six young children, all of faith. In an early Tablet to Philadelphia he-

whom she brought up. This developed in lievers 'Ahdu'l-Bahh said: "It is easy to ad-

her strong traits of character-fearlessness, vance toward the Kingdom but it is difficult

a love born of God, patience, a sympathetic to remain inn and steadfast."

(See Stm of

nature which seemed to divine the needs of the 'West, Vol. 5, July 13, 1914, No. 7.)

IN MEMORIAM

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In the darkness of one night on three member of society publicized
his chagrin in different occasions while she was praying, a local newspaper.
Nevertheless, her courage a brilliant light appeared before her, which and faith never wavered.
a brilliant light appeared before her, which "I have met many from the
made her feel that she was witnessing the negro race,
light of God's Countenance and deepened Orientals, as well as the
famous and ob- her spirit. scure of our own race, in the
her spirit. Revell home.

Perhaps it may not be out of place to The fact that they came as
often-as they quote here from a talk, given at a memorial were in the city is proof of
the same selfless, meeting for Mrs. Revell, by Mrs. Elizabeth unaffected hospitality.
Pharo: "Week after week, year
after year, this "Naw-Rhz 1926, was my first introduc- Bah6'i home was a ceoter. The
work of tion to the Revell family. On that day Mrs. teaching was the major
problem. Classes Revell opened the door of her home and were held as well as feasts,
anniversaries welcomed me. MY first conscious thought and special meetings.
Literally hundreds was one of happiness, for I was surrounded of people have heard the
Message rhere. with a warmth of love I had never experi- ~ o o k s a, constant flow of
them, passed into enced before. In the seventeen years that the hands of inquirers and
seekers, at no cost haye elapsed, that warmth, that loving inter- to the recipient. The poor,
the neglected, the est, never wavered. sick always found a
practical and sympa- "Toward the end of her life, everyone thetic helper in ~ ~ ~ t
~ ~ h l l ~. ~ affectionately referred to Mrs. Revell as - p ~ ~ of mine can
adequately describe 'Mother The name was this spirit, that is like a

beacon to those
 one for if ever a mother was tender, loving, who knew her. solnefolks
 leave a heritage
 steadfast, and of phenomenal courage, that of wealth,
 wealth sometimes
 person was Mary J. Revell. gathered at the expense of
 the helpless, and,
 "Before her acceptance of the Babgi in some instances, this w'ealth
 is a curse to
 Faith, Mrs. Revell was a staunch, God- the legator. yet here is a
 lady n,ho has
 fearing Christian, active in church circles scattered a wealth of love
 like a
 and with numberless friends of similar in- fragrance all over the
 world,
 terests. During 'Abdu'ILBah6's visit to -we are of the fortunate
 ones to have
 Philadelphia in 1912, the Revell home, then known her. L~~ us be assured
 that her spirit
 just around the from the will continue to inspire us
 to greater efforts
 Philadelphia Railroad Station, was the only ;n the of God7
 home in Philaddphia that sheltered the
 It Was cAbdu'ILBahh who wrote
 Master. Later, many illustrious Baha'is en-
 joyed hospitality. Isabella n. Britejng..
 ham lived with the Revells for three vears
 (yinin the
 a dated October 1908
 Bahh'i archives in Wilmette,
 111.) :
 prior to her passing. Elizabeth Stewart, who
 devoted thirteen years of her life to service
 "I supplicate the True One that this
 for the Faith in Tihrln, Persia, passed to the maid-servant of God become
 the beloved
 next world from Mrs. Revell's home. Martha in the Supreme Kingdom, and
 be distin-
 Root, May Maxwell, Keith Ransom Kehler pished among the people for
 nde~stand-
 and numberless other Bah6'is of East and ing and wisdom."
 West, all were attracted by the magnet of I t was 'Abdu'l-Bahl also
 who, on the
 her love. occasion of her first visit
 to I-lim in New
 "This presents a rosy view of life, but Yosk City in 1912, said through
 the inter-

there was another side that Mother Revell preter: "This is a firm believer. Her spirit is larger than her body. I never shirked. I t t w k courage and initiative will see you often in Philadelphia." In telling usually associated with youth, to leave the about this visit, she would relate how she accepted form of religions worship in those seemed to be tread- ing on air in His presence, early days; to see the established friend- her heart full to overflowing with the ships of many years crumble. A few be- came actively hostile; indeed one esteemed A few weeks later (early Sunday morn- TI-IE B A H A ' f WORLD

ing, June 9, 1912), while she was visiting called that her over-night bag had been left w ~ t h 'Abdu'l-Bahh at the Rittenhouse Hotel, where she had stayed. Because of this delay Philadelphia, He suddenly turned t o her and they could not resist attending the evening said: "I will come to your home tomorrow meeting where 'Ahdu'l-Bahh was to speak. morning at nine o'clock." Her heart was On entering, they found a large gathering, full of happiness, the hour came, the rooms 'Ahdu'l-Bah6 sitting on a divan in the front were crowded, 'Abdn'l-Bah6 arrived and of the room with an empty seat on either greeted the friends hringing joy and hap- side of Him. To their surprise and delight, piness to all. He motioned for them to he seated beside In His talk that morning, 'Abdu'l-Bahh Him. Although they had said their farewells .likened the friends present to a string to the iriends, 'Abdu'l-Bah6 knew they of pearls, the brilliancy of which, He said, would be present that evening; and because would be realized as time went on (See Star His time had been entirely occupied, and of the West, Volume 5 , June 24, 1914, No. they had had no opportunity for a personal 6). Two friends, arriving late, found those visit, even though they had come from present standiu~gin line on the stairs and in Philadelphia, He bestowed upon them this the halls, eagerly awaiting their turn for a great favor. Many of the friends

later said
personal interview with 'Abdu'l-Bahh. they had wondered for whom
'Ahdu'l-Bahh
After everyone had left that day, Mrs. Revell was reserving the seats beside Him.
Revell discovered the lunch she had prepared. What was probably her last
visit with
provided for 'Ahdu'l-Bahh and the friends, 'Abdu'l-Bahh was on a train en route
from
which, in the ecstasy of the morning, she traveled from Baltimore to New York City. A group
of
had entirely forgotten. Those realizing the friends boarded this train in town
and rode
station of her guest, the Center of the City to Wayne Junction. It was at this time
that
Covenant, the Mystery of God, will hardly He handed her a string of beads which
He
wonder at this. Later the same day, she had been carrying, telling her to give one
'Abdu'l-Bahh in speaking with some of the beads to each of the friends. No act
of
friends' at the Hotel, referred to Mrs. 'Ahdu'l-Bahh was without a deep
spiritual
Revell's home as the "Bahá'í Home." (See significance.
Vol. I, Star of the West, June 24, 1914, Space does not permit the
recording of
No. 6.) her other contacts with
'Abdu'l-Bahh in
She was present when 'Ahdu'l-Bahh, in Chicago, New York City and Philadelphia.
1912, dedicated the grounds of the Bahá'í Temple. Spurred on by the messages of
the
Mahriq'u'l-Aakhir, in Wilmette. While in Gardaiu, Shoghi Effendi, to visit
towns and
Chicago, she had received a letter from a city where there were no resident
Bahá'ís,
Persian believer requesting her to touch Mrs. Revell although now advanced in
years,
the hem of 'Ahdu'l-Bahh's garment for him. showed her pioneering spirit by
tirelessly
On the day of the dedication, while on the way about in various outlying
districts,
grounds, she breathed a silent prayer that searching for and helping to confirm
recep-
she might fulfil this request. Almost in- tive souls.
stantly, she found 'Abdu'l-Bahh standing In August 1942, although she
was very
directly in front of her. Quietly she touched frail, she and her two daughters
spent their
the hem of His robe, while thinking of the week of vacation in Arden, Delaware,

doing

brother in far-away Persia, and then 'Ahdu'l- very intensive Baha'i teaching work, which

BahP walked away.

was syrtematically followed up by

other

On being asked which visit with 'Abdu'l- Baha'is and which, in the period of about

BahP impressed her most, she related the a year, resulted in the confirmation of three

following incident: After a week-end with resident believers.

her daughter Badia in New York City, spent On October 17, 1943 these three resident

in hearing 'Ahdu'l-Bahb give public ad- Bahi'is in Arden, with invited friends from

dresses and meeting with the Baha'is, she Arden and surrounding points, held their

and Badia bade the friends good-bye and first Baha'i gathering since becoming be-

left for the station. Suddenly, Badia re- lievers. I t was on this same day, at about

IN MEMORIAM

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three o'clock in the afternoon, that Mrs. portance of the meeting, he said, was prob-

Revell completed her earthly journey. As ably not now apparent to some of those pres-

the friends were about to leaxe the meeting ent, hut the fact that 'Abdu'l-Bah6 had

in Arden, word was received of Mrs. Revell's honored Mrs. Revell by visiting her home.

ascension. The prayer for one recently de- would be known in the future as a great

parted was immediately read, so that the historic event. group at Arden, the last place of out- Some of the Bahi'i

Teachings on Life after Death were shared at the of-town BahI'i activity for her, was the

memorial meeting, November 20, 1943, making first group to offer a prayer for her released

very real to

spirit. the friends present those

"days of blissful

In striking contrast t o her whole previous joy and heavenly delight."

Intimate glimpses

life, her last year was one of complete of her life and service t o

mankind were

physical inactivity, but it served only t o given, and some of the

numerous messages

emphasize her spiritual qualities, breathing of tribute were shared. One of these letters forth a fragrance of which she herself was frwn friends who had come from Europe mentioned how they were totally unconscious. The power of her pure spared homesick- mentioned how they were spirit affected everyone who came into her ness because of the warmth of her love and presence; and one heard such remarks as hospitality; one wrote of how a very serious these: problem had been solved by her prayers; another spoke of having been "That one brief day with her did some- nursed and cared for by her in her home, thing for me for all the rest of my life. I t during a grave restored something. It was like a return to illness; a friend abroad said the first thing he will do when he returns to the flame of the Master's days." the United States "She is a person I would cross continents will be to place red carnations on her grave, and one mentioned having to meet." contributed to "We will always look back upon, as the the Bahi'i Faith in her memory. One whom she had taught wrote that she dearest possession in our lives, that love we she had from her." had a short cut to Heaven by her presence there; a friend who read of her No difficulty, however severe, could cloud passing in the happiness of her sweet nature, because the Philadelphia Tribune (a Negro publication) related that on the she turned every obstacle into a blessing. occasion of her husband's death, Mrs. Revell Repeatedly, frail and almost helpless as she accompanied her to the cemetery, was, she would say: "I have so many things although the day was one of cold, sleet and snow--and tried to comfort her; still another from the negro As she passed to the Great Beyond, her last race said that one word of Mrs. Revell word was "Yh-Bah'u'l-AbhC, calling to changed the tide of his whole life some

mind these words of 'Abdu'l-Rahl in a twenty years ago, when he was experiencing

Tablet to Charles Greenleaf: ". . . So that a terrific test and wanted to escape it. That nothing shall be left of thee, neither thought, word was: "You can't run away from your-mention, voice or even a whisper save the self."

Word "YI-Bahh'u'l-Abhi". What a pre- Her precious remains are resting in Mount cious, eternal, hallowed memory to witness Vernon Cemetery, Philadelphia, about fifty this flight to the Abhh Paradise!

feet from those of Isahella D. Brittingham, Shortly after her acceptance of the Bah6'i whom Shoghi Effendi has named a disciple of

Faith in 1906, Mrs. Revell asked Mr. Charles Mason Remey, should he be living when she paid to her by

passed away, to conduct her funeral service Cable received

if possible; and it so happened that he was in Philadelphia on a business trip at the time Mother. Her ser-

of her death. In conducting the services he rank immortal

spoke with such sincerity and depth of feel- abundant blessings.

ing that all were deeply impressed, The im- 606 THE BAHAI'-WORLD left for France, where he received his degree.

In France he cooperated with Mr. and Mrs. Dreyfus (then Mr. Dreyfus and Miss Barney) and Mr. Edwin Scott in serving the Cause.

But his greatest privilege was in 1911-1912, when he served 'Abdu'l-Baha as translator on several occasions.

In 1913 he returned to Egypt and continued his activities in promulgating the Cause.

In 1937 and 1938 he visited Tunis and France respectively, in compliance with the request of the beloved Guardian with a view to strengthening those centers and encouraging their activities.

In 1943 he resigned from his government

whom Shoghi Effendi has named a

'Abdu'l-BahI.

Priceless is the tribute

the Guardian himself in a

October 20, 1943:

"Grieved passing dear

vices unforgettable. Deserve

pioneers Faith. Praying

Assure you loving sympathy."

post with a cherished hope of more energetic activities in serving the Cause, whether in Egypt or abroad, wherever directed by the beloved Guardian. During his last stay in Cairo he was fully occupied in planning for the preparations of the centenary celebrations, and revealed his plans to almost every member of the National Spiritual Assembly.

He was much interested in translating Dr. M. Shlih Bahi'i literature and in making compilations and was very careful and accurate in such work.

He was buried in the Bahi'i cemetery

On November 1 ~ t h 1943,

, the friends of near the resting places of his former teacher, Egypt were greatly shocked and deeply Mirzh 'Abu'l-Fag and Mrs. Lua Getsinger.

grieved by the sudden death of Dr. M. \$61&, Dr. M. Sblih will remain an ideal for

the chairman of both the National Spiritual the believers in Egypt both as regards

Assembly of Egypt and the Local Spiritual character and as regards faith, and will never

Assembly of Alexandria; a true exemplar of be forgotten by those who knew him

the Bahi'i Faith, and a faithful servant of whether Bahi'is or others.

the Cause. May his soul rest at peace in

the Ahh6

He was born in 1884; and at the age of Paradise! -

16, when he was yet receiving his secondary

education at Alexandria, he was attracted to OSWALD A. WHITAKER

the Cause through one of his school-mates "Blessed is the man that hath turned hi

who was then a Bahi'i. face towards God, and walked steadfastly in

His intelligence and high standard of His love, until his soul winged its flight unto

character recommended him for free ednca- God, the Sovereign Lord of all, the Most

tion, as, at that time hi financial situation Powerful, the Ever-forgiving, the All Merciful-

made him unable to continue his studies. ful."--Bah6'n'lllh.

In 1901 he entered the University of Mr. Oswald Alfred Whitaker. Our be-

Beirut for medical study, where he was so beloved Bahi' brother and fellow member

happy just to be near to his beloved Master of the National Spiritual Assembly was 'Abdu'l-Bahh, and to be able to partake the called to his reward in the Ahhi Kingdom Holy Spot whenever chance availed. *ing on the morning of July 3rd. His passing to illness during his last year of study he was tragically sudden and unexpected,

v

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though he had been in indifferent health for the last few months. Mr. Whitalrer was the first declared believer in Australia and was an assiduous helper of Mr. and Mrs. Dunn in the early days of their pioneering work. It was in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Whitaker that the first BahUi Feast was held, and since those early days of the Cause in Australia their home has always been available as a meeting place for the friends and for hospitality to visiting Bahi'is. It was here the late revered Martha Root spent her first night in Sydney after her prolonged stay in China. Mr. Whitaker was Chairman of the Sydney Spiritual Assembly for many years.

The spreading of the beloved Teachings and Divine fragrances was Mr. Whitalier's constant endeavor. In his business, contacts, in his family circle and in his continuous service at the Centre, he "lived the life" and delivered the great Message with sincerity and discretion. The Teachings became to him as a fountain ever k i n g poured out, yet ever being renewed from the Source. In 1934 Mr. Whitaker was elected to the first National Spiritual Assembly and for several years was a valued and beloved daughter.)

O. A. Whitaker
(Shown with his

vice-chairman. His sincerity and honesty of purpose, his staunchness and fidelity to the enriching their lives and enabling them to

Faith were ever an inspiration to his col- continue the work they shared with him

leagues. His understanding heart, his generous spirit, and a courage that admitted of in this earth life.

Hilda

M. Brooks.

no compromise when teaching the Faith, coupled with his unfailing adherence to the spiritual principles, which were the compelling force in his personal character and for Mr. Whit-

conduct, gained for him the respect and esteem of all who were privileged to know him. He had a rare gift of friendship, constant and deep, which communicated itself, even to strangers, as a benediction of good-will. He never spared himself when duty called or the opportunity of extending a helping hand presented itself, and no one will ever be able to appreciate the extent of his sacrifice for the Faith. To his sorrowing wife, Lynda, and their only daughter, Margaret, we extend deepest love and sincere sympathy and pray that they may find comfort and strength in the assurance that their dear one is very near to them. May the fragrance of his memory be a reality

for Mr. Whit-

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for Mr. Whit-

when married to her husband in 1882, and retained the refinement and culture of her early environment. She had a delightful sense of humor, and will be remembered by her many friends as a charming teacher of the Bahi'i Faith, not only in Chicago and its environs, but in many cities and towns of the Eastern States, especially at Green Acre,

HILDA GILBERT

Shortly after the cortege

maker's funeral left for the

Hilda Gilbert, another early

a stroke, from the effects of

the following day. Miss Gilbert

worker for the Cause, first in

later in Sydney. She was one of

secretaries after the Sydney

formed, also librarian, and has

a valued worker on various

She worked cheerfully and

sharing in the varied

munity with a radiant spirit.

greatly missed by the Sydney

with which she was actively

so long.

Hilda

Eliot, Maine.

Soon after the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, her husband, Charles H. Greenleaf, heard the Bahi'i Message, and together with Mr. Thornton Chase ("the first Bahh'i in America") and others, became one of the great pioneers of the Faith in this country. In a Tablet revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahi in 1907 for Mr. Greenleaf, He said:

"O thou who art firm in the Covenant!
Thy services, and those of thy revered wife,
are acceptable in the Kingdom of Abhb,
for ye made your home a nest for the birds
of God, and have engaged in teaching the
Cause of God. Ye are truthful gardeners of
the Garden of God, and two agreeable servants
of the Holy Threshold. This confirmation
Elizabeth R. Greenleaf tion sllust become the source of joy to
life
and r e m e to the conscience."

ELIZABETH R. GREENLEAF
Supreme Con-

Mr. Greenleaf passed to the

course in 1920, and was eternally honored by
BY ALBERT R. WINDUST the Guardian of the Bahl'i Faith,
Shoghi

The Guardian's tribute t o Mrs. Greenleaf Effendi, in the publication The
BahPi World,

is contained in a letter to one of the friends: Vol. IV (1930-1932), not
only as one of the

"Mrs. Greenleaf's passing deprives the nineteen disciples of
'Abdu'l-Bahl, but as a
friends of yet another veteran and ontstand- "herald of the Covenant" and
"firm sup- porter of the Faith."

ing teacher. The Guardian hopes and prays Mrs. Greenleaf's last
that among the younger Bahh'is many will
wishes were fulfilled

train themselves to follow her example and in that her mortal remains
were laid to rest

profit by the methods she used so success- beside her beloved husband,
after a Bahb'i

fully in spreading the Cause. .Deep knowl- funeral service was read in
the beautiful

edge of the teachings, profound human Chapel in Rosehill Cemetery
in Chicago. The

sympathy, a heart which mirrored the Mas- many friends present
rejoiced for her as they

ter's love, and a winning sweetness and supplication revealed friendliness were hers. She will indeed be recently departed greatly missed."

Listened to the glorious by Bahl'u'l 16h for the

spirit.
In the autumn of 1941, after a lingering illness, the spirit of the revered handmaiden of the Bahá'í Cause, Elizabeth R. Greenleaf, severed its connection with this mortal world,

HOWARD COLBY IVES

joined her husband and their two sons in Ives is a saga the Realm of the Unseen, entered the Kingdom of Light and the life eternal and radiant. She was a resident of Evanston, Illinois, been born

The life of Howard Colby

of the spirit. It was not its

interpretation of them that

portrayed his
genius. He had, it would seem,

been born

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Howard Colby Ives

with a degree of awareness that made, even of a small one with a

"His first parish was a

ordinary existence, a swing between ecstasy and torture. God favored him in that He

beautiful New England church.

Brewster, and there only a

Mass., on Cape Cod. He was

had bestowed upon him the grace of a martyr's heart: a head willing to bow, a

year when he was called to New

London for

Connecticut. We lived in New

spirit straining to soar.

five years, during which time

father built a

Howard Ives in his spiritual autobiography church for

very nice, though modest, brick

"Portals to Freedom" divided his life sharply in two. The forty-six years before he met

the people; then he was called

to Summit, he had in New

New Jersey... In Summit, as

'Abdu'l-Bahá he compares to the experience London, he built a church modelled after of a child of ten! He was born in Brooklyn

..

one of the early Christopher Wren's. . . It

in 1867 and after the death of his father his started additional

was from Summit that he

family lived in Niagara Falls, N. Y., until Church in Jersey

work with his Brotherhood

Inward was seventeen and then returned to Golden Rule City and also organized his Fraternity-a cooperative idea, again to Brooklyn. We hear of his spending many months on a ranch in Wyoming while overcoming a lung difficulty and are given a picture of a nineteen year old youth tending sheep on the mountain sides alone sometimes starting the Brotherhood is characteristic of the restless-ness that always drove him. the moon. In 1902 he entered a Unitarian One job was never enough. Two might do. theological school at Meadville, Pennsylvania, Three was better. And four was what he'd like." Of this period in his life his daughter Muriel The Brotherhood Church had no affiliation with his regular Ives Barrow writes: denominational work

THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD

and no salary. A group of "brothers of the effort is our own imaginations seeking vent. Throw open wide the doors spirit" among whom he was a prime mover of the soul and He will surely enter. But made a gesture through these Sunday night meetings to include more of humanity in the way, not ours. The doors of the Placeless are surely wide open but it scope of spiritual endeavor. Through one of his associates there he attended his first Bahá'í meeting. It was in April 1912 that 'Abdu'l-'Abdu'l-Bahá to How-ard Ives a transfusion of spirit. A Father claimed His son, and never phase of life began for Howard Ives, another were time, ab- sence, vicissitude in any Birth. way to weaken for 'Abdu'l-Bahá found, then, among the a moment the link between them. All of the

crowds of thrilled and excited people who
Howard had been
surrounded H i on His arrival, a Unitarian
until, as he admitted,
minister from New Jersey. He was on the
found 'Abdu'l-
outer fringe of the sea of faces, looking and
Man but a trace
feeling our of place. 'Abdu'l-Bah6 saw
where t o seek and
Howard Ives, singled him out of all the
into a near world.
throng, beckoned t o him, and as Howard
in 1935:
later said in "Portals t o Freedom": "such an
Bahl'u'llih is so bcanti-
understanding love enveloped me that even
and with Light
at that distance and with a heart still cold
really begins to gaze
a thrill ran through me as if a breeze from
is blinded. But
a divine morning had touched my brow."
have one's open
Of the interview that followed Howard
them eternally
could but say "He looked at me! I t seemed
brilliance of the nmnday
as though never before had anyone seen me."
dark room. The
We now leave the outer man behiid. I t is
confusing-perhaps painful
as if a musical score had been written for an
after a while the
instrument which was as yet but a concept
the light and we
in the mind of the Musician. Howard Ives
it is with this
had to die to truly live--by the Mercy of
day we shall
God, at last he has done so: When 'Abdu'l-
we shall be able t o
Bahi "saw" him He saw the tumult and
of Reality and
splendor of one of His own chosen ones-
of the 'night of self'
in chains still, it is true, forever t o be in

first tspect of his life
searching the Beloved,
his spirit fainted. When he
Bahl he found not only the
of the Beloved. He knew
find. He was indeed born
In a letter to me, he wrote
"The universe of
ful, so filled with wonder
supreme that when one
on it the eye of the spirit
how much better it is t o
eyes blinded than to keep
shut! I t is like the
sun after being shut in a
blinding is most
-but Praise t o be God,
eyes become accustomed to
see our way about. Just so
Celestial Light. Some great
become so used to it that
see our way about the World
all our terrors, creatures
shall vanish as if they had

never been."

chains as long as the pathetic inadequacy of the body should limit the interpretation of the flight of steps the Score itself.

toward which We and Howard

had been

The people about the Master were all enraptured by His heavenly aspect, which he has described as follows:

walking. The experience, which

made Him the epitome of every adorable quality—there were a few, and greatly gifted for the third time

"Again 'Abdu'l-Bahb

among them, Howard Ives, who had the it seemed, the full

He paused and turning, as

capacity to truly love celestial Beauty for me, He said again,

light of His spirit upon

Itself. Years later he wrote me in answer seemed like a voice of

but this time in what

to a childish question concerning the love flashing eyes and em-

thunder, with literally

of God:

phatically raised hand:

that I should remem-

"The passionate love for the Beloved of the worlds has no relation to any bodily form

ber that This is a Day for v e

These last three

VERY GREAT THINGS.

or any physical expression . . . This sense trumpet call. The long

words rang out like a

imagination has been in the past the great to echo them . . .

deserted city block seemed

barrier to that 'Nearness which is likeness.' to shrivel, where

I seemed to dwindle, almost

Do not try to build a bridge. Every such dominant figure,

I stood as that beautifully

IN MEMORIAM

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that commanding and appealing voice surrounded me like a sea . . . Who and what

Howard-temporarily in

was I to be summoned to accomplish great

as follows:

accustom our-

"You ask me how we can

things, very great things? ... "

selves to homelessness. Our

own vine and

Howard Ives was soon to give up all de- the children of

fig tree is a natural desire to

nomina- tional work and to become a "minis- men; there is nothing reprehensible in this ter of the Temple of the Kingdom." This desire. Bahá'u'lláh has provided for this in term, which 'Abdu'l-Bahá had applied to His Law, dignifying the home and hospitality Him, Howard Ives defined "to be an adher- 3s a means of serving God. Nevertheless ent and promulgator of the Law of Unity there are a few of us to whom He whispers and Love laid down as compulsory upon all in the ear 'Make My Home thy Mansion, sincere believers in one God. To be a minis- boundless and holy.' 'Riswana' and I often ter," he added "is the prerogative of every have a yearning for a permanent place to bestow ourselves and our few believer in the Words of God and sincere fol- goods. Just as lower of His Light." He returned to the sure 3s this longing finds a place in our arena-for him a literal "arena"-of the hearts we are moved again ... 'Abdu'l-Bahá's business world, chose occupations that would words 'Homeless and without rest' ring in my ears, when He is describing the attributes of the Apostles of Baha'u'lláh. numbers of people. During his long train Rest assured journeys he mastered the writings of Bahá'n'- that God does not take away an earthly home without providing a heavenly lláh and so became by degrees one of the one right here on earth if we accept His Will great authorities on the Bahá'í Faith. In with radiant acquiescence. . . . 1919 he met Mabel Rice-Wray, aflame with Rejoice, my beloved daughter, in the little home the same spirit of renunciation and service which Bahá'u'lláh and the following year, November, 1920, lláh has provided for you. If you are worthy He will move you into other they were married. It was like the juncture homes and of two swift running streams: from the other hearts, and you will then rejoice again; for the b u n t y of a wider moment of that union the streams became horizon of service a river. has been given you; a greater

freedom of

The plan from the beginning was to build spirit has been vouchsafed you
and a few

their lives around the propagation of the more chains of this world have
been knocked

Cause of God. They settled in New York from your limbs."

City and tried first to earn as quickly as Their first stop was

Pittsburgh, where be-

possible enough to free their activities com- sides working during the day
they held

pletely for the life of teaching, which they thirty-six meetings in six
weeks. From there

felt must somehow be theirs. The fate of they moved continually from
one city to

all of us spiritual children of theirs hung in another. In most of these
favored spots the

the balance on the day that these two had a Divine Standard was not only
raised but

certain talk in which they faced the facts: firmly planted. The spiritual
children and

they might go on all the rest of their lives grandchildren of these teachers
are among the

working as others did and dreaming of the pioneers, administrators,
writers, of the pres-

future--or they could take hold of the ap- ent generation of Bah'is in
the eastern,

parently impossible by both horns and go central and southern parts of
the country.

then. In 1921 they sold or gave away all Literally they are numbered by
the scores-

their immediate possessions, answered an ad- and the race increases! It was
indeed the

vertisement for two salesmen and started on "day for very great things."

How gloriously

their long Odyssey. had those sods arisen to the
challenge!

As the years passed no one seemed to expect To account for a lion-like
courage and

the Ives to have a home. We took it for often superhuman accomplishment
we have

granted that they should have become wan- Howard Ives' explanation of the
secret of

derers upon the face of the earth and that power--so diametrically opposed
to most

they should forever be first packing and then modern philosophies on that
topic.

unpacking boxes and trunks. In 1934, "I think it is something

like this," he once

w

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wrote. "The VCrill of God and the will of in- for me to do. As you say, the doctors are individual man . . . may, nay must, become often mistaken. I remember an old doctor identified, become identical. . . . 'Abdu'l-Bahi friend of my mother's, who, when I was speaks of losing the self in the Self of God. eighteen years old, said I would not live be- We must accustom ourselves to the actual yond twenty-five. Yet here I still am."

..

doing of this. . We cannot think of God's I have said that the All-Bountiful One had Will as a passive thing any more than we can bestowed upon Howard Ives a martyr's heart. think of our own will as passive, inert. God's After five long years of debility and actual Will is evidenced in nature, in power, in suffering through which he wrote steadily he action. T o identify our will with His Will is was cold by a Memphis oculist that the per- to partake of His activity, His Power, His sistent and increasing dimness of vision that effectiveness. T o submit my will to His Will had halted the use of his eyes so alarmingly then, carries an implication of marching- was cataracts! Already cut off from normal wearing-overcoming. But not marching association by his deafness, the closing of alone; we march in step vith Him. We another channel of perception-might well throw our feeble wills in vith His and so have reminded him of a parallel in the story become all-conquering as He says we shall. of Job. He did not live to lase his sight, How can the result be other than victory?" which seemed n~iraculouslyextended' to fill Reiterating again this central theme origi-. the needs of his remaining year and a half of nating in the Master's words in 1912, How- life, but he had abruptly to face the ever- ard, burned out with the strenuous and un- present imminence of still another blow. stunted efforts of t enty years, in 1939, still How did he feel about it? From

some notes

gloriously invincible, wrote "Never be afraid that he wrote, April, 1940 we are permitted

of expecting too great things. Nothing is too to know that too. He begins: great for this Day!"

day of spirit-

It was in Knoxville, in 1934, that Howard's realization, and, God willing, shall mark

began to write-at sixty-seven. He was embarking on a new and great step on the path of Reality."

employed to write articles about the great dam He said that his reaction to the doctor's state-

project there, the T.V.A. Suddenly he found himself was a triumphant inner shout and

the knack of writing vivid prose. In the late that it was then as if a voice spoke through

spring and early summer he sat for four hours the doctor's words saying, "See how I am

each day at his typewriter in the unaccustomed trusting you! ... You have offered your

toned heat of Tennessee. One morning he gave his life as a sacrifice in My Path. . I have . .

fell unconscious on the floor by his bed-his taken you at your word. . . ."

Then comes first attack of angina. He had found a gift the self-revelation of a noble spirit "at the

which might have resulted in a relief from culmination of calamity," following several

economic stress only to lose the use of his eyes. Pages of honest self-analysis: most at once. His health, always precarious, "If, as I can sincerely say

is true, ever

was now undeniably gone, also his eyesight since I have been intellectually and spirit-

and hearing began rapidly to go, and he now, usually conscious, approximately from my

already facing an end that might come at 15th-17th years, my passionate longing has

any moment, began to struggle for time. been for spiritual attainment; and if, ever

Time to put down in his new found style the since I met 'Abdu'l-Bahí the path of at-

spiritual memoirs we have referred to as attainment has been sincerely shown to me to

"Portals to Freedom." Forbidden to use his as the path of self-renunciation, self-sacrifice-

eyes, he learned the touch system on the face, detachment from all save God; if it

typewriter and completed the book, which has been my sincere and earnest prayer:
 published by Dutton and Co. in 1937. Then 'Shower Thy sorrows upon me that my soul followed his book-length poem, the "Song may live! What, then, I ask, must be the Celestial." He wrote two later works which instant reaction when that life-long yearning have not as yet been published. From winning is even partially appeased? What the netka he wrote: "I am content to wait. Its response of my soul when those very trials may be that Bahi'n'll61r has still some work and sufferings and even the supreme tests descend from the heavens of His Mercy he almost saw the turn of the first century and Bounty? . . . Has He not in effect said of the Baha'i era, for he lived up to the age of 99 years. to me: 'I have taken from you one by one the normal use of your organs. There is Name on his He died with the Greatest scarcely a part of your body unaffected by lips on the 27th of December, 1942, his death being as peaceful as his life My Decree. Your nerves, your back, your had been stormy. Devoted to the Cause ever since he embraced it at the age of 32 your sight-and you have not repined, you years, he was in the very nature of things have not sought to evade nor have you bound to encounter and overcome turned away for a single moment from My formidable obstacles ill its service. Love. Nay, rather, have you accepted all His skill and fame as a this as the very evidences, signs, proofs of physician placed within his reach wealth and that Love.' I can almost hear Him saying influence, which he dedicated unhesitatingly with that divine smile 'Congratulations!' " to the service of the Faith, The concluding words of this fragment of Spiritual Diary might be the voice of his Numerous were the schemes, the plotting ~ ,the assaults of translated being speaking, not then to us the Jewish, and to a lesser extent, the Muslim but NOW, from the realm to which he has populace, directed

been gathered: against the Jewish Bahl'is in
 his native city,
 "When I recognize th; undoubted fact Hamadin. Whenever the enemies
 could se-
 that all this life has taught me, or could cure the ear of one in power,
 they would
 ever possibly teach me, is but a sign, a token, make the most of their
 opportunity. And
 a symbol, of what the future worlds of God it was at such moments that
 the zeal and
 shall surely teach-my whole beug is lost in resourcefulness of
 Hifizu's-SiNih were
 thanksgiving and praise of Him Who has manifest. Approaching
 governors, and se-
 bestowed on me-this boundless Gift and curing on more than one
 occasion the ear
 this infinite Bounty." of the King himself, he
 pleaded and argued
 - until he got their wrongs redressed, their
 On June 23rd, 1941, a group of about oppreations removed. A t one
 time, for in-
 fifty friends, gathered in a chapel in Little stance, a Bah6'i was refused
 burial in the
 Rock, Arkansas, to gaze for the last time Jewish cemetery;
 Hifizu's-Siha offered
 upon the heroic outer shell of this great the friends a plot of land
 for this purpose.
 man. His beloved wife, teaching in a sum- At another, the Jews
 conspired to refuse
 mer school of Vogel Park in Georgia, had admittance t o the Baha'is to
 their public
 reached his bedside in time. The pain in baths; he constructed one a t
 his own ex-
 the last days was like the exquisite pense and placed it at the
 disposal of the
 throbbing of violins, stabbing the heart with friends. He assisted in the
 establishment of
 their terrible hut ecstatic beauty. Then his two Baha'i schools at Hamadan
 and con.
 long patience was rewarded. With his sheaf tributed largely towards the
 purchase of a
 of VERY GREAT THINGS in his hands he site for the Baha'i center.
 He lived the life
 went forth t o meet his Beloved. Crowning and brought numerous souls
 into the Faith.
 his life was the Guardian's cablegram: The first Jewish converts to
 the Bahl'i

"I profoundly deplore tremendous loss out- Faith at Kirminh were due to
his efforts.

standing promoter Faith. Evidences his Although his house was
burnt, his prop-

magnificent labors imperishable. Deepest erty pillaged, his son
killed, he never swerved

sympathy. Ardent prayers. from the true course of
action he had marked

Shoghi Effendi." for himself, loving even those who had
wrought such atrocities on him and, in sev-

eral instances, setting them again on their
feet when they were in straitened circum-

stances and bringing them into the Cause
Born in the Jewish fold in the very year

the occasion through this means. I t was on
which witnessed the birth of the Cause, of his visit to the Capital

in connection
THE BAHÁ'Í

WORLD

Mirzh A. Hifi~u'g-Sihhih

with this particular outrage that the Cen- Talhot, who gave him the Bahi'i
Message.

tral Government offered him as amends the From that moment, Mathew's real
life be-

title of "Hifi.qu'q-Si*h" (i.e., Superin- gan. The heroic age of the B6b
and the

tendent of Public Health) and a post in martyrs absorbed his mind and
The Dawn-

che,@oreign Ministry but he felt that his Breakers became his constant
companion.

work lay at Hamadln and obtained per- He never spoke of his childhood
or youth

mission to return to, that city. or of anything prior to his
contact with the

Not even old age and failing health could Revelation. He was utterly without
per-

keep him idle and he continued serving sonal ambition. He worked at
anything that

right till the end. would allow him time t o study
the Bah6'i

He attained t o the presence of 'Abdu'l- writing. A t one time, he motored
to Wash-

Bahh at Haifa after His return from ington with a friend, and Mrs.
Preston (then

America and the Tablets revealed in his Miss V a ~ l) ,who offered him
a room in her

honor both by the Blessed Beauty and the house. He went to work in a

restaurant,

Master attest to his high station and his happy and content to be under the roof of

devotion and fidelity to the Cause. a Bahá'í.

When Shoghi Effendi's Adverrrt of Diuke

Jestice was published in February, 1939,

MATJ3EW KASZAB

it contained words that lighted a flame in

Pioneer Sahd'i Teacher in Nicaragziu his heart:

BY LOULIEMATHEWS

"Let some, at this very moment, gird up

the loins of endeavor, flee their native towns,

While Mathew was a student at the Uni- cities and states, forsake their

country, and,

versity of New York, he met Mrs. Louise putting their whole trust in

God, as the best

IN MEMORIAM

Mathew Kaszab

provision for their journey, set their faces happy. The rising generation will be stimu-

and direct their steps towards distant climes, lded and inspired by the

example you and

those virgin fields, those unsundered cities, your fellow-workers are

setting. May the

and bend their energies to capture the cita- Beloved achieve your heart's

dearest wish.

dels of men's hearts." (page 52?

Persevere and rest assured.

These dynamic utterances carried Mathew

Your true and g a t e i

d brother,

away, and without delay he set out for

Shoghi."

Panama. I was, at this time, Chairman of

the Inter-America Committee, and was

While in Panama, Mathew

wrote articles

obliged to write Mathew that the post of

for all the leading

journals: The Panama-

Panama had been already assigned to two

American, The Star and

lerald, and The

pioneers, Louise Caswell and Cora Oliver,

Tribune. He gave Baha'i

talks on the radio

who would arrive in about six months' time.

and brought into the Faith

our first Pana-

I sensed hi immense disappointment at

manian believer.

the news-contained in the letter, but like

We wanted him to take a

cabin steamer

the good soldier of Bahh'u'lllh that he was,

on his journey to Nicaragua

but he wrote

he accepted our suggestion that he go to expense. He that this was an Unnecessary
 Nicaragua. We knew he had some family embarked on a small cattle
 ship, The Ala- connections there and we hoped this would juela. He wrote of this
 journey that he lay an the floor of the deck at
 make it easier for him. After his acceptance of the new post, he at the sky and reviewing ill
 night looking up his mind the
 was made radiantly happy by a letter from stormy journey of the B6b
 and Quddhs, the Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, who wrote in during which they continued
 writing and his own hand: praying as though in the
 atmosphere of com-
 "Dear and precious co-worker: X have plete calm.
 just heard of your transfer to Nicaragua and From the very beginning,
 everything in hasten to assure you of my special and lov- this sick land was a
 disappointment. The ing prayers wherever you may labor and property that had belonged to
 o Mathew's whatever circumstances under which you grandmother had been sold and
 he was not able to secure any redress.
 serve. You should feel proud, grateful and
 He went to work

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in the gold mines of Blue Fields. He de- viewed the proprietor of the
 small hotel where Mathew died.
 scribed the deplorable conditions of poverty On his arrival, Mathew
 and vice and was so appalled by the igno-
 went in the Brownsville hospital, but he
 rance of the miners' children, that he took
 did not remain there; though his left side
 a night shift and taught school in the day
 was completely paralyzed, he rented a small
 time. When I remonstrated with him be-
 room in a mod- est hotel. He locked himself
 cause he was giving himself no time for
 in and went to bed. As no sound came
 sleep, he replied that his time was so short
 from his room after repeated knocking, the
 he could not afford to sleep! All his efforts
 manager ,had the room broken into at the
 at betterment in Blue Fields having failed,

beginning of
 he returned to Managua. Suddenly, while
 silence. He was
 walking on the street, he was arrested. The
 breathing, and died
 reason given was that he uttered words in
 him. He was
 criticism of the Nicaraguan government.
 of Brownsville.
 This may have been the reason or not,-the
 engraved the words
 cause is very obscure. He remained in prison
 Shoghi Effendi
 from March 1st to 23rd. As suddenly as
 Mathew's
 he was interned, he was liberated. He de-
 termined to leave Nicaragua, sensing danger,
 unforgettable."
 and began to make preparations for his de-
 with suffering and
 parture. When they were complete, he came
 Bahi'u'llih. Down all
 to say goodbye to our first native believer,
 remembered and remain
 who was teaching school nearby. He was
 world. His
 loved by the children of the school, who
 to achievement.
 gathered around him and sang their songs
 bright victory
 for him. The group of students that had
 standard of purity
 studied with Mathew came to say goodbye
 will not die with
 and wish him Godspeed, they would have
 accompanied him to the airport but, as it
 was far from the town, Mathew would not
 let them. Then he reached the airport, an
 officer stepped forward and presented a war-
 rant for his arrest. The day was September
 said frequently
 28th of 1942. It was some time before his
 Indeed this thought
 friends learned the sad news. On November
 her life and
 first Mathew was attacked by an illness the
 nature of which was never learned, his con-

the fourth day of Mathew's
 unconscious, though still
 before a doctor could reach
 buried in the city graveyard
 On his tombstone are
 cabled by our Guardian
 when he received the news of
 death:
 "His services are
 His short life, filled
 pain, was offered to
 the ages, he will be
 a beacon light to the Baha'i
 example will become a spur
 Where he labored and lost, a
 will follow. The high
 and faith set by his life
 him but live on forever.
 MABEL RICE-WRAY IVES
 "As my Lord wills," she
 during her last illness.
 had been the undercurrent of
 continued so to the end.
 Mabel Rice-Wray Ives,

known to many
dition was so grave that he was moved from of her friends as "Rizwanea,"
was born in
the dungeon to the Guard's hospital. His 1878 in St. Louis, Mo. She
was the daughter
friends were allowed to visit the hospital but of Caroline h.lcGrew Simon
and Albert G.
he did not recognize any one. At that time Simon. Her grandfather's
were
death seemed imminent but his strength froin Germany while her
mother's parents
slowly returned and he was sent back to the came from Virginia and were
of English
prison. On December 28 the authorities an- extraction. She was always a
very vital
nounced that he was free, but must leave and active person, loving
outdoor sports,
the country. Silently and alone, he took a especially tennis, horseback
riding and swim-
plane to Mexico City and there reembarked ming. She grew up to be a
very beautiful,
for Brownsville, Texas, where he died Janu- charming and sought after
young woman.

ary 1.7th, 1943.
the Bah6'i

At the age of 21 she heard of

It is due to Mrs. Louise Caswell that we Message from Mrs. Doty of
Baltimore, Md.,
know the details of his death. She visited and not many months later
became a Bahb'i.
Brownsville in the summer of 1943 and Mother often related that
from the time
placed flowers on Matbew's grave and inter- she was a young girl, she had
an intense

IN MEMORIAM

Mabel Rice-Wray Ives

desire to find truth. She investigated every Rice-Wray's beauty and radiance,
but par-
avenue which gave the least promise of ticularly her spiritual
capacity, so unusual
being able to fulfill her intense desire to in such a new believer and
especially in one
know until she found the Bahi'i Faith. so young.
In those days they knew nothing of the From 1909 to 1914, we livcd in
the vi-
details of the World Order of BahB'n'lIbH. cinity of Los Angdes. Though her
Faith

They had no books, only a few tablets from which she still had 'Abdu'l-Bahi. She was asked one day how she felt about the organization's activities, particularly those she felt would further the cause of women or of children of World Peace.

During these years in California her activity in teaching the Bahi'i Faith gradually increased. There were frequent meetings and study classes at our home in Newark, N. J., and during the first four years, became the parents of three children: Edris Roushan, Landon Carter (who died in infancy) and Rouhi Colston. During this period they were frequently hosts to many of the early believers such as the Haneys, 'Ali Kuli Khin, Harlan Ober, Haoper Harris, and others. Mrs. Mariam Haney writes of her at this time: "Through the throes of tests and trials she was proving how well fortified

THE B A H A' I WORLD

she was spiritually. Life in this world was not easy, but as the tree of her existence he left this world was this, "Darling, we'll be together through all the worlds of God." And they

of tests were many and tragic. . . There both knew that this was the truth.

was a mark upon her; there was a distinction about her. There was that spiritual pull she said she always felt." In that memorable year of 1912, when 'Ahdu'l-Bahi came to America, mother looked forward with great longing to the time when He would visit Los Angeles and she would at last see Him face to face. When she heard the electrifying news that He indeed arrived, we were in the midst of moving into a new house. She dropped everything to the consternation of the movers and continued the rest of my grandmother. She managed somehow to get herself and her children dressed. We were then six and eight years old. We arrived at the hotel just as He and a group Many times of the believers entered the lobby and we rode up with Him in the elevator to His room, where we spent an hour or more, virgin territory. along with 12 or 14 others. We children did not fully appreciate the importance of this meeting at the time; to us He was as a kind grandfather, but to our mother it There was a was a moment of rededication, a moment

From the time of her marriage Howard Ivcs, her effectiveness increased amazingly. Together they accomplished wonders. She excelled in attracting the public and giving lectures, ing and confirming those During the first year of they lived in New York City and Harlan Oher. These four were closely associated in business and in work, and there grew up between love and affection which of their lives. This was an bond which unites Bahi'is, a is not like any other is founded upon eternal values. in the years to follow, the Ives would travel long distances another establish a group in At this time they also saw a of Juliet Thompson and the well as May Maxwell, who was in a good part of this first year. strong bond of love and

understanding be-
of increased awakening. She became in- tween Mabel Ives and May
Maxwell, which
flamed with the deepest longing to serve this was augmented by their many
contacts in
Cause, of which He was the authorized In- the Cause throughout the years.
After
terpreter and Exemplar. Motl~er's passing, Ruhiyyih
Khanurn wrote,
Bur next home was in Detroit, hfich., "Mabel seems to me to be my own
mother's
where we moved in 1914. Here her teach- (May Maxwell's) twin sister.
Something in
ing activities continued and soon a group them is just exactly the same
stuff. Pure,
was formed. Through a host of personal courageous, wonderful stuff!
They know
difficulties at this time, she learned completethe spiritual laws which we all
do so des-
renunciation. Of this period, she said, "I perately need t o know."
turned t o God, saying that I wanted nothing One day in 1921, the Ives'
made a mo-
but His will-that I asked no personal mentous decision. In Mother's
words, "Our
happiness, nothing but one thing-to be plan had been to earn a lot of
money rap-
permitted to serve His Cause. Whatever idly--enough t o make us
independent so
was His Will was also mine." we could give the rest of our
lives to spread-
ing the Cause. This proved to be a chimera,
Her second marriage, to Howard Colby and our dream of traveling and teaching
Ives, was a very rare and beautiful spiritual was no nearer fulfillment. Then
one day
union. She said, in speaking of her marriage, we realized that we might go on
the rest
"There is no greater thrill than for two of our lives trying to establish
security so
souls to grow spiritually together, t o ex- that we might go out in the
teaching field,
plore the spiritual universe together, to learn but never do anything but
simply work and
spiritual lessoils together. T o share all this dream of this future. So we
decided that,
with one you love is a most marvelous because it was zstterly itn@ssZble and
couldn't be done, as we had no money, we just can't take it any
longer!" He replied,

would now go out and teach. "Bah6'u'lliih said, 'The only
escape is i n
"so began our long Odyssey. We adver- submission.' " So she went off by
herself and started to submit. In her
tised for some selling proposition for two very much in earnest and I
words, "I was mit, I submit, I submit,' and
salesmen who wished to travel, received 21
repeated, 'I sub- it until at last I began t o
answers, chose one, and felt ready to go. We mit, I submit, I submit,' and
kept on saying
sold or gave away all our earthly possessions, it until at last I began t o
feel it. I sub- mitted with everything that
reduced all our earthly goods to a trunk or
was in me, nntil I finally had the
two an&a couple of suitcases. When we had
feeling that my whole being was fluid. All the
bought our train ticket to Pittsburgh, we
feeling in my being was gone. There was a sense of
had just \$7.00 between us." fluidity, of
From this time on, they never stopped. openness. I felt in utter
amazement that
At first they earned their living by making I really had submitted and I
began to feel
show-cards on a little machine. They were pretty good that I really had
done it, and
printed in different styles and colors and then a voice deep, deep down
inside of me
had appeal to the average store. Later they said, 'Oh yes, hut you haven't
gone far
sold an adult education course which in- enough. There is another
step.' I exclaimed,
cluded the hooks. Think of the difliculties 'But what Inore can I do? I
have submitted.'
which beset these two precious souls, both And then the voice said, 'But
you must he
of them past middle life; Howard, who was thanlrful.' And I said, 'Be
thankful? I can
submit to the thing and I
trained for the ministry, and Mabel who
will, but how can
I he thankful about it?'
had been brought up in the South to be a "I started being thankful
lady. Neither of them knew anything about
and I thanked
God, expressed thanks for each
business, nor were they equipped to earn
phase of the
rather large situation and, at
their living in this manner. They worked
first, it was

hard calling on prospective customers all just words and then pretty
 soon I began to feel it more and more, until
 day and then spent their evenings holding
 at last I really meant it, for everything .that
 Bahd'i lectures, classes, fireside groups. was happen-
 Their housework and all the rest was sand- ing, and this little voice
 began talking again and said, 'But you haven't
 waded in between. Mother once wrote us and said, 'Another step?' 'Yes,
 gone far enough.' I said, 'Another step?' 'Yes,
 that they were having such interesting ex- I thought, 'I can submit and
 you must love.' I thought, 'I can submit and
 periences and that she hoped God would he thankful but
 help them learn the lessons that they were how can I really love it?' I
 said, 'All right, X am going to love it.' " A
 supposed to learn from them. One of these couple of days
 couple of days
 <c.
 Interesting experiences," it turned out later, all those problems were
 somehow re- solved, she said and then
 later, was the problem of finding them- added: "Submit-
 selves with only twenty-five cents between sion, thankfulness, love. It
 has never failed. This is one of the Laws of
 them, in a new city. If they could not God. It works.
 make a sale that night, they would neither I have tried it again
 and'again. You have to mean it. You can't fool
 sleep nor eat. God."
 Kenneth Christian writes of 1934 when Her teaching activities took
 her the length and breadth of the continent,
 they were in Albany, N. Y. "They invited York to California, North
 from New ana, as well as middle and
 me to bring a group of college friends to York to California, North
 Dakota to Lonis- ana, as well as middle and
 their apartment one evening. It was a In her notes concerning this
 glorious evening. Later I found out, by a "During our six weeks in
 period we read: working during the day, we
 slip on Mabel's part, that they had spent
 Pittsburgh, after
 their last dollar in order to buy refresh- working during the day, we
 held 36 meet- ings."
 ments." And again: "During our 19 days
 On another occasion, down in Tennessee,

in Buf-

difficulties beset them from every side; the lack of money, difficult personalities, impos-

they spread the sible living conditions, and so on. Mabel turned to Howard and said, "I give up; I the Ohers, the

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Willard MacKays and the Ives all lived to-

localized in the South. gether and worked together in business and that her beloved

in teaching the Faith. Here the six of them ascended.

further demonstrated the amazing results of more than in

group activity that she showed

pletely unified in their common dedication to a great Cause.

difficult position,

Noreen Keith-Beattie, writing of Mother's lean on or

teaching techniques during her stay in To- children and all

ronto mentions her unfailing patience. She away. The people

said, "We (the young group particularly) the Faith or

peppered her with questions, our only excuse those two days,

being the ignorance of the very young. And service, when we ar-

yet we received her full, undivided, courte- their continuing

ous concentration and interest. She always strength. But she was

made you feel that you had thought of personal grief and

something wonderful or important. Her herself for others.

answers were invariably truly important and her husband,

really wonderful and profound and yet that certain

simple, logical and clear-cut. Another re-

falo, we spoke 17 times."

The list of cities in which

Faith seems almost endless.

One winter in Pittsburgh

her activities were

I t was in Little Rock

husband, Howard Colby Ives,

And it was there, possibly

any other place or time,

her spiritual stamina.

She was put in a most

for there was no one for her to

draw strength from. Her

the older Bahl'is were far

there were either 3,oung in

newly interested. During

until the day of the

riued, it was a matter of

t o draw on her for

able to rise above her

continued as usual to givc

At the memorial service for

her beloved Howard, she felt

things should be said that

only she could markable faculty she possessed (and this service and was almost psychic) was her ability to sense and penetrate to the heart of your particular individual dilemma or problem and to set your feet firmly on the right path to recovery. She always knew the right answer. She never spoke frequently of hurried you. She never seemed impatient. and assistance. "We were all so constantly impressed with her power to choose the best approach to which there can be her. various audiences, gauging both their expressed the belief mental and their spiritual needs and capacities. You felt at all times her reliance, not from the un- on herself but on God. You could almost during the see her drawing unto herself that invisible she was able power. She was a marvelous demonstration qualities and of radiant acquiescence. Nothing seemed to could still make daunt her spirit. That inner light seemed give lectures, to glow through her skin. . . . Now here is distinct quality of something that delighted us. She was so and deepen them good to look at, so dainty, so exquisitely groomed, that we could be proud of her. of her teaching "We also had constant admiration for so weary her executive ability, the swiftness and have rested smoothness with which she could organize morning there she

say. So she took part in the eloquently and beautifully of renunciation, his great his tremendous devotion, and the path of God. After his passing, she being aware of his presence In speaking with others of the of a spiritual union in no separation, she had that after his passing, she work augmented by assistance seen world. It was amazing, last two years of her Me how to combine both her former his as a Bahá'í teacher, She contacts, attract people and but now she also had his being able to confirm souls in the teachings. Gertrude Gewertz writes methods in Birmingham: "She was when she arrived. She was to that week. But the next

and get things done. No grass grew under a picture and her busy feet. It never seemed to occur to anyone not to do what she asked them to. Every- I had been in one was made to feel necessary and thus was together the encouraged to take an active part. This was would be a reflection of her own dynamic vitality." She took the In the fall of 1940, they went to Memphis, forth. Late Tennessee, and then to Hot Springs and Little Rock, Arkansas. From then on until 1943, lunched with

IN MEMORIAM

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the Theosophists and was going to talk to health and often them that Sunday.. She had received an invitation to talk before the Women's Club and the Civic Club (this led to invitations directly and to two other clubs). 1942 convention in Wilmerte she was very ill and during this time suffered a great deal of pain. One day she exclaimed, "I give up. I can't take any more of it. Then after a little while she said, "Why, I have been praying that the quality of my work might improve. I know I track down information, not resting nor letting one lead get away from her. From because there aren't these lists, and the contacts she made from

was, dressed up as pretty as ready to plunge in and start

During the four months that

Birmingham, I had gathered

names of some who I thought

good material for the Cause,

list and the details and went

that afternoon she called me

saying that she had already

she suffered greatly from ill

had to stay in bed. She

to get up somehow and go and

ture even if she had to return

go back to bed. Following the

vention in Wilmerte she was very

during this time suffered a

pain. One day she exclaimed,

I can't take any more of it.

Then after a little while she

have been praying that the

work might improve. I know I

crease the quantity of it

any more than twenty-four

hours in the her tallis before clubs, and the people she improve the met, she gathered her first audience. This deepening. Now, was what she was worlung for, to build up suffering. an audience. The hotel room was then ar-asked for and ranged for, the invitations printed, and every posters made up and distributed. well, she said, "She told me she found from experience spiritual growth that it was better not to mention Bahi'u'll6h was indeed a as the Prophet or to give the direct Message realize now that when until the fourth lecture, because she found the plane of from the trial and error method that more speaks. One people came back that way. This gave them plane of great the opportunity to become imbued with the and may change Bahi'i spirit. After these lectures were over plane one may she gave three more if they wanted it. no effect." Those who followed through t o the last of resumed, this the lectures came to the classes. There were where Annie about nineteen. Romer and Ruth Moffett had been working "She used the thirty-six lesson study and already had a group. course. From these people she gradually November found her in Louisville, Ky. took out the ones whom she felt were ready Early in January she entrained again. 1% time it was the West, across for a deeper class and then started on the the continent 'Dispensation.' to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where her "What was so unique about her teaching efforts were again joined with

those of
 was that she seemed to know at the right Kathryn Frankland. She wrote
 enthusiastically- cally about the exquisite
 time what questions to put before them, cally about the exquisite
 blueness of the sky and the continual sunshine.
 such as, 'Do you believe in progressive reve- and the continual sunshine.
 She had always
 lation?' If they said they did, then she loved to be out in the
 sunshine. Often when
 asked them if they thought it was possible completely exhausted, she
 would take the
 that Bahi'dllbh was the One sent by God morning off to lie in the
 sun, and it worked
 in this day. It was at this point that some like a tonic. Her three
 months' stay in this
 of the friends for the first time expressed lovely spot was full of
 activity. There was
 themselves as believing. Then she would time for the lectures and
 classes and many
 lead up to the Will and Testament of personal contacts. When she
 left there were
 'Abdu'l-Bah6 authorizing the institutions of a number of new believers, and
 a beautiful
 the Guardianship and the Universal House unity had been established in
 that center.
 of Justice. Then finally came the signing She wasn't coming to the
 1943 convention
 of the card for membership." because she was tired
 exhausted. But we
 During all this intensive teaching work, persuaded her at the last minute
 and at
 the last minute she flew to Chicago from After a stormy illness of
 ten days, she
 Albuquerque, getting a tremendous thrill, ascended to the supreme
 world. 'We were
 as she would, out of the long trip by air. both with her at the last.
 Almost her final
 This convention was particularly wonderful words were, "My children."
 to her because she saw so many of her "Yes, we are both here,"
 we answered.
 spiritual children strong and active in the After a pause she went
 on, "But I have so
 Faith. She remarked, "How thrilling to see many children . . . and
 there's so much
 how they grow from year to year." One work to be done!"
 of her characteristics as a teacher was her She passed on at 19
 minutes after eight

habit of pushing her students away from
 lacking two
 dependence on her and urging them to get
 her beloved
 to work and start teaching on their own.
 united. What
 Everywhere she turned during those few
 unseen world
 days people surrounded her, each insisting,
 the great work
 "But you must spend some time with me.
 lives. Her physical
 I am your special baby." Of course that
 Memorial Park in
 was impossible, since everywhere she looked
 were those who had heard about the Faith
 September, 1943,
 .
 through her efforts . . . dozens and dozens
 Bahh'is in various
 of them. It must-have been a tremendous
 not established,
 source of inner joy to see gathered under
 Committee said,
 one roof so many to whom she had given
 sacrifices entailed in
 new life. She had once said t o Sylvia King
 at the earliest
 while teaching in Omaha, Nebraska, "I have
 the magnificent
 lived longer than you have and so I will tell
 Ives, those who
 you this; some day you won't remember
 o the triumph
 when you were happy, you won't remember
 single devotion
 the times when you were sad, yon will only
 fuliillment of the Guar-
 remember the times when you helped the
 America will be re-
 Cause of God." This convention surely
 Her achieve-
 roused those memories.
 states and
 A week afterward she started out again,
 recounted. bough-
 to Oklahoma City. She had planned to rest

on June 18, just twtr years,
 days, after the ascension of
 Howa d. Now they are again
 a power they must be in the
 to assist us who carry on
 to which they gave their
 remains were interred in
 Oklahoma City.
 In the a?hi'i News of
 speaking of the settling by
 centers where the Faith was
 the National Teaching
 "However great the
 making these necessary moves
 date, they can never exceed
 deeds of souls like Mabel
 have dedicated their lives t
 of the Seven Year Plan. The
 of Mrs. Ives to the
 dian's hopes for North
 membered in years t o come.
 ments in numerous virgin
 provinces are yet to he
 out the entire course of the

first six years
 a couple of weeks here before starting the energies, her time of the plan she gave her
 lectures. As usual it seemed as though she and her spirit. It is surely
 significant that her passing should have been
 never could really rest. If anyone needed in Oklahoma City, the first of the
 her help or wanted to hear of the Teachings, organized assemblies to be pioneered and
 she always put aside every personal con- sideration. The series of lectures was planned plan. Not until the last
 sideration. The series of lectures was planned hours did her labors cease. She was a n example t
 as usual. She gave the first one and then o us all."
 became ill and had to cancel the second. Shoghi Effendi, the
 Guardian of the Bah6'i Faith, cabled as
 When she was told that the were ex- follows: "Profoundly
 follows: "Profoundly deploring loss self-sacrificing,
 expecting her at the next she realized the dis- distinguished
 distinguished appointment of the Oklahoma friends, who teacher Faith Mabel Ives.
 appointment of the Oklahoma friends, who had spent money on this campaign, and of butions teaching activities
 Manifold contri- had spent money on this campaign, and of butions teaching activities
 had spent money on this campaign, and of before and since inception Seven Year Plan
 the people who were interested, and she outstanding, memorable, highly
 outstanding, left her sick-bed to give two more. At the meritorious. Assure
 left her sick-bed to give two more. At the last one, even the audience could see that daughter deepest loving
 meritorious. Assure sympathy, prayers. Abiding felicity crowning
 sympathy, prayers. she was very weak. She finally realized noble labors."
 she was very weak. She finally realized this herself and consented to enter a hospital. Mother had a full and
 noble labors." this herself and consented to enter a hospital. Mother had a full and
 complete aware- She said several times, "I have let the people ness of what it meant to be
 complete aware- She said several times, "I have let the people Living in the Day
 She said several times, "I have let the people down. I have let the Guardian down. I of God. She realized the
 Living in the Day down. I have let the Guardian down. I bounty of being of
 down. I have let the Guardian down. I have let Bah6'u'll;ih down." the few with sufficient
 bounty of being of insight to have
 have let Bah6'u'll;ih down." insight to have
 insight to have IN MEMORIAM 623

Bridget Hill (On the right)

recognized God's Messenger for this day. light of God might shine through. By
 many
 She, furthermore, was thoroughly conscious experiences she learned that the

friends stunned with unutterable sorrow and

RICHARD MARLOW

anguish.

It was in June, 1937, while staying at Richard Marlow was for over thirty years

Government House, Jersey, that I met her a familiar figure in Southbourne. Having

when she was a fellow guest. That too was been deprived of both legs by an accident,

her first introduction to the Bahá'í Cause. He supplemented his small pension by selling

On her return to Sahsbury, her parents at matches, knitted anil raffia work.

So it was

once became interested, independently in that Dr. Esslement one day found him, investigated the Bahá'í Faith and were sitting in his wheeled chair at a corner of

sequently inspired to invite Bahá'í speakers the road, and struck by his spiritual

to their beautiful home to interest their character, gave him the Bahá'í Message. To

many friends.

this he made a ready response,

and when a

Bridget and her mother were very well- Local Spiritual Assembly was formed in the

come members of the Bahá'í Summer School district in April, 1923, Mr. Marlow was

at Matlock Bath where they were able to make a member and when possible would be

make a deeper study of the Teachings. It taken by friends to our meetings.

was after long and careful research that Although he had no opportunities of

Bridget declared herself a Bahá'í. teaching the Cause, he lived the life, and

I had never met a single human being was a shining example of quiet courage and so human yet so divinely human as Bridget. cheerful resignation to the Will of God.

In her new Faith Bridget became more When the Bahá'í group became dispersed, radiantly lovely than ever before and, when- only Miss Challis was able to keep in touch

ever I saw her, there seemed to me to be with him through letters. But before his

some new grace and charm reflecting divine death he was destined to make personal

attributes.

contact again with the friends,

who gave

Bridget was fond of trees and would living him every help in their power.

things, she was clever with horses and even 7% spiritual assurance of

Richard Marlow

the most highly strung animals immediately never seemed to falter, and one came away

responded to her. from his dark little room

impressed by the

When she was so suddenly taken it came simple faith and patience of a truly beautiful

as a rude shock which took me unawares. soul.

It seemed such a ghastly waste, so young, When on 30th April, in his 76th year,

only twenty-seven, so courageous, so dar- the mortal cage was opened, with what joy

ing, so competent, so kind and with in- he must have winged his flight to the finite understanding and personal charm. "Paradise of 'the Placeless."

I was angry and resentful, forgetful of the

F. Pinchon.

profound teachings so clearly given in the

Writings. Then on Thursday night follow-

H A J ~'ALf YAZDi

ing the tragedy, perhaps at four o'clock in

the morning, I felt Bridget was standing

The oldest survivor in the

Holy Land of

near me; she did not speak but had a look the early days of the Faith, H&ji'Ali

passed

of such divine radiance I was at once aware away in Haifa on November the 13th, 1943,

that all anger and resentment had vanished in his ninety-eighth year. He was

originally

forever.

from the town of Yazd, in

Persia, and pro-

How can we extol a life so full of joy ceeded to Baghdad shortly after

Bahh'u'llbh's

and solace, so rich in imperishable memories? exile to Adnanople. During the

persecution

How certain in her belief, how steadfast her of the believers in B a a d i d he

suffered severe

faith in the Bahl'i Cause. Her radiant spirit beatings at the hands of their

fanatical ene-

will forever conquer space, she has created mies. A few days after Bahi'u'Ulh

and His

an abiding place in our hearts' affections, Family were removed from their

two-year

di

I N MEMORIAM

confinement in the Barracks of 'Akki, H6ji to him by Shoghi Effendi, was

deep and

'Ali arrived at the Prison City and entered keen. He bequeathed all he

possessed to the presence of Bahi'u'llih. From then on Cause and was buried in the Bahi'i Ceme- he lived in 'Akki and its environs, was tery in Haifa, at the foot of Mt. Carmel. present at the time of Bahl'n'lilih's Ascension at Bahji and continued to reside in MRS. MARGARET DIXON Palestine until his death. He will forever be remembered, amongst other things, as the establisher of Bahi'i endowments in the The passing of Mrs. Margaret Dixon re- vicinity of 'Akki through his gift of a tract calls the early days of the Bahi'i Cause in of land dedicated to Bahi'u'llih's Holy Melbourne. Mrs. Dixon was one of the first Tomb in Bahji. In spite of the eventfulness to accept the Teachings brought to: Australia of his long life, the feebleness of old age by Mr. and Mrs. Hyde Dunn. By her pen and the handicap of almost total blindness, and voice, in season and out of season, she H i j i 'Ali, up until the last weeks of his strove to spread the Bahi'i Teachings wher- life, continued to work, and persisted, with ever she went, and even when stricken with touching devotion, in attending all the illness she carried on the work with un- Bahi'i Feasts and Anniversaries held in Haifa abated enthusiasm. and 'Akki, which involved a tedious jour- In June, 1940, she passed on, and at the ney of about four hours in either direction. funeral service conducted by the Unitarian minister at whose church Martha Root spoke ory of the wonderful rimes he had witnessed from the pulpit, a fine tribute was paid by in the days of Bahi'u'llih, and after His him when he said, 'The Bahi'i Teaclung is passing, and his interest in the contemporary the purest and most all-embracing expression events of the Faith, as frequently recounted of Universal Truth."

T H E B A H A ' f W O R L D

Margaret Dixon

IDA BOULTER SLATER tears of spiritual joy." Both Mrs. Slater and her husband, Dr. William F. Slater, became

members of the Chicago Bahi'i community

Mrs. Ida Boulter Slater was born in Portland, Maine, February 19, 1860, and died in Chicago, Illinois, November 17, 1941. Her mortal remains were laid to rest in Rosehill Cemetery after a Bahá'í funeral service.

immediately, and for a number of years were members of the Spiritual Assembly,

Secretary and Treasurer.

This unique and most lovable of the Bahi'i community was

very hospitable,

Mrs. Slater heard of the Bahá'í Faith from Mr. Thornton Chase ("the first Bahá'í in America") in 1902; but it was in 1912, when 'Abdu'l-Bahí was traveling through the United States and Canada, that her interest in the Faith was thoroughly awakened. When He was in Chicago, Mrs. Slater and her husband had a brief interview with Jenab-i-Fadil's teaching Him. It was observed, when they came out of the room, that she was crying. It was learned later that 'Abdu'l-Bahí had said to her: "You have sought the Kingdom of God in many places, and it was good, but now-you have arrived at home." And her reaction was: "I knew I had come home when I entered the Presence of 'Ahdu'l-Bahí; those were not tears of sorrow, they were

must have felt her marvelous

and her great generosity. She

bounties upon young and old

Bahí'is. She entertained many

Bahí'í teachers, notable among

Lua Getsinger and Jenab-i-Fadil

family; and during

program in Chicago she, with

a special committee, arranged

to speak before twenty thousand

days. Later she served on the

Teaching Committee for the

and also was a delegate for

the Bahí'í Annual Conventions.

The visit of Dr. and Mrs.

Bahá'í Shrines on Mt. Carmel

IN MEMORIAM

Ida Boulter Slater

Palestine, in 1927, was another great spiritual event in their lives. There they had the privilege of being guests of the Guardian of the Bahh'i Faith, Shoghi Effendi, for about nineteen days. He entrusted them with a definitely manifested mission in allowing them to bring "The Path paved with them on their return to America, rugs from the Shrines of the Bib and 'Abdu'l-Bah6 on Mt. Carmel, and a letter addressed to Albert R. Windust, Chairman of the Chicago Bahi'i Spiritual Assembly, containing instructions to open the Bahb'i House of Worship in Wilmette, Illinois for public meetings, to furnish the Foundation Hall of the Temple, and to hang on the walls these rugs which they had so carefully, devotedly and even prayerfully carried with them every step of the way from the Holy Land. BahPis will never forget the devotion and loyalty and sincerity and strict obedience with which this mission was fulfilled. Very few now in this, material world, could, we venture to say, understand the depth of their uncomplaining spirit, spiritual emotion as they realized how the them. Their recognition and the Pure Bounty bestowed upon Mrs. Slater's life was most festive in the way she traveled by BahQ'n'lILh", for during the years she lived an active Bahi'i life she spiritual heights, she an increasingly higher level and sacrifice and devotion to Threshold of the Almighty "normal accent of life." During her long illness she horn of the spirit, and endured and tribulations as if they 'Ahdu'l-Bahi said, "Tests and so it was evident to all days in Columbia Hospital in C even among all those strangers she was truly a holy soul and would ever be remembered for her gentleness, her her graciousness. She indeed

was "a manifest protection of the Holy Spirit o'er shadowed sign for the religion of God,"-and, to the.
Frank E. Osborne

Bah6'is who knew her well, she was a living was very active in teaching at that time and proof of the transforming power of introduced all of the men with whom he Bahi'u'l16h. was associated, in the shop where he worked, Early in her Bahi'i life, 'Abdu'l-Bahi gave t o the knowledge of the Revelation of her the name "Gohar," meaning Pearl. She Bahh'u'llih. A few of them accepted the had truly found the pearl of priceless value Faith and were for many years very ac- in the Bahi'i Teachings, and the beloved tive themselves in spreading the Teachings; 'Abdu'l-Bahl, Reader of hearts, knew she and among them Mr. Osborne was out- would remain firm and steadfast within the standing. Fold of the ABHA Kingdom. He was a member of the first Bahl'i

Mariain Haney. Board of Council of New York City, and served almost continuously as its secretary from the time it was organized until about FRANK E. OSBORNE the middle twenties. He also served as secretary on the Board of Council of Brook- lyn, N. Y. as long as that body was in The American Bahl'i community su6ered existence. che loss, a short time ago, of one of the He had the inestimable honor of meeting early believers in the Faith through the 'Abdu'l-Bahl during His visit t o America death of Frank Edward Osborne of Brook- and was accorded, with his family, an lyn, New York. inter~~iew.

Mr. Osborne received the Bahl'i Message A valuable service which he was peculiarly of the new Day of God in 1899 from Mr. fitted to render was to serve at one time George Witte, who had attended the earliest as chairman of the New York Archives classes held in New York City. Mr. Witte Committee. Most of the Bahi'i history of

James F. Morton

New York was within his personal experience and had been recorded by him during his secretaryship. Mr. Morton had been curator of the Paterson, N. J. Museum since 1921; he was also an author of several books and poems, a pamphleteer and lecturer. Perhaps it was due to that spirit of religious devotion which brought those Puritan settlers across the ocean to people a new land, He received his Bachelor of Arts and Masters degrees at Harvard University, from which institution he graduated in 1892. Two years later he graduated from the School of Expression; thereafter he lectured on literary and social topics. Some time was also given to journalism, as he was a reporter on The Boston Globe and Pacific Coast papers. From the time that he accepted BahQ'u'-116h as his Lord, he served Him unswervingly. He was a descendant of one of America's oldest families. One of his ancestors, the Rev. Samuel Francis Smith, was the author of "America."

JAMES F. MORTON

BY M. H. For many years Mr. Morton was a follower of the Bah6'i Faith, and his articles appearing from time to time in The Bahd'i Masazine were much appreciated and widely read. His clear presentation of the necessity for a

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renewing of religion proved that this theme is eternal, everlasting, both

birthless and

was nearest his heart.

of that Other

"The Bahá'í Cause comes as a blessing to all, with good will to every preceding form of divine worship," a statement oft repeated in private and public addresses, especially to Esperanto groups. His interest in a universal auxiliary language was well known.

From one of his articles published in seeing heart!

The Bahá'í Magazine this quotation is par-

speaking, thou art

ticularly interesting:

sight, yet, praise

"The world awaits new methods, a new

is thy pos-

spirit pulsing with a deeper life than it has

and thy spirit

known . . . The divine plan never fails; but

heareth . . . "

it requires new steps, as the world becomes

in a Tablet to

prepared for larger expressions and applica-

tions of the One Eternally True Message . . .

saint. As I opened

The Messenger of the present day has arisen

loclied) of the

in an epoch when all things are again be-

with its siin

coming new, and when the intellects of men,

that therein lives

baffled and bewildered by their own gigantic

felt I was

discoveries and inventions, have vainly

peace and re-

sought satisfaction in the tenets and the

spirit and mind

forms which were sufficient for their fathers.

encouraged.

"Hence the Message of our day is a

fine, sensitive

majestic synthesis of all the truths revealed

generous head,

in the preceding revelations, together with

outer sight, the long

clear and comprehensive applications of the

deathless . . ." "The reward

"World is nearness to God."

-

HARRY RAVER,
THE BLIND CRUSADER

"O thou possessor of a

Although, materially

destitute of physical

be to God, spiritual insight

session. Thy heart seeth

.

Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá

a blind believer.

Today I have visited a

the door (which is never

simple California bungalow

announcing to all who pass

and works a "Busy Blind," I

entering a sanctuary where

pose could be found and the

become refreshed and

As I became aware of the

face, the broad forehead and

eyes that had lost their

slender body tranquilly

awaiting me, I felt
 principles of spiritual truth to the needs the power of an illumined
 spirit rush out
 and the problems of the whole world of and envelop me with a
 welcoming warmth.
 humanity. It offers a firm foothold for the Such was Harry Raver; "Uncle"
 Harry to
 restless spirit of inquiry, and meets the thousands of blind and
 helpless, and to the
 challenge of skeptical investigation with Bahá'í's a great and noble
 person who had
 patient and lucid exposition as satisfying to accepted the world's acclaim
 with calm
 the pure reason as its marvelous vision of detachment, and tribulation
 and adversity
 Divine Glory is inspiring to the spirit of without fear or plaint,
 content with the
 religion's emotion. The altar to the Un- Will of God.
 known God no longer vacant, but is During my association with
 this rare
 radiant with Celestial Glory." person I witnessed his spirit
 working through
 Mr. Morton was well known by the an almost shattered body,
 spreading the
 Bahá'í's in New York and New Jersey, Teachings of Bahá'u'lláh, and
 at the same
 and in Philadelphia and Washington, D. C. time cheering, encouraging
 and improving
 He spoke at Bahá'í meetings in many East- the conditions of suffering
 humanity.
 ern cities, and will always be remembered Mr. Raver was connected
 with the theater
 for his great sincerity, his kindly spirit, and for thirty-five years finding
 his way there
 his loyalty to the Truth. May he receive from the circus, which he
 joined at the
 that reward which 'Abdu'l-Bahá refers to age of twelve. From this
 beginning he
 in these words: fought his way upward until
 he attained
 "When you break a glass on which the an eminent position in the
 theater, col-
 sun shines, the glass is broken, but the laboring in the production
 of many well
 sun still shines. . . The same is true of the known plays and having
 numerous theaters
 spirit of man. Though death destroys his under his management.

body, it has no power over his spirit which
broad vision,

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Larry Raver

he was among the first in America to see
'Abdu'l-Bahb.

the possibilities of the motion picture and
a complete

applied all of his imaginative capabilities
to Florida

to its promotion, in the formative period of
health. Out of

this industry. Seeing ahaays beyond the
search his soul

usual, the tried, he imported many foreign
spiritual

films of great beauty and artistry, which
part of

were immediately acclaimed in this country.
received a letter

Among these was Gabrielle d'Annunzio's
all he

great picture "Cabiria" and this, the first
gone, wiped out.

film to be exhibited at the White House,
came to Califor-

he was privileged to show before President
displaying

and Mrs. Wilson. This privilege made it
collected from

possible, same time later, for him to aid
string of

in securing the Praident's permission to
beads. One

write the story of his life for the films. He
eye of a Bahh'i

guided innumerable pioneering enterprises to
Being an

a successful conclusion, attracting men of
their back-

distinction and ability w association with
entered the

him in all that he did. His effort was never
meeting with

for himself alone as it was a part of his
been interested

Being always a man of

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Words of Bah41'116h and

Overwork and strain caused

breakdown and forced him to go

in an effort to regain his

this experience came time to

and he began to find the deep

knowledge that became so much a

him. It was also there he

from his broker announcing that

had of material wealth was

Stiil broken in health, he

nia and opened an antique shop,

the many fine pieces he had

time to time. Among these was a

rare Baluchistan black amber

day these beads attracted the

who happened to be passing.

archeologist and recognizing

ground and their value, he

shop. Mr. Raver told of this

a little chuckle, "I had always

nature to use his vision and good judgment in philosophy and so with my
 interest in
 to help others achieve their goal. This he philosophy and this Bahb'i's
 interest in my
 did, in many cases, with no thought or desire Baluchistan heads we were drawn
 together
 for return; but the gratitude of one whom and had in any fine talks. He
 told me of
 he had so assisted brought a valued return, Bahl'n'llih, and one day he
 told me I was
 years later, as it was through this medium a Bahi'i!"
 he was enabled to give, over the air, the Harry Raver had sought for
 truth through

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many philosophies and was a prepared soul He was very fond of the
 following prayer,
 to receive the challenge of the Bahh'i Mes- which he one day gave me,
 saying, "I have
 sage. "It was easy for me to become a a prayer which I use when in
 a dilemma and
 believer in Bahi'u'llih," he stated quite it clears things up for me,
 simply, and added that when he read in the " 'O God! O God! Open
 Thou the gate,
 newspapers of 1912 the reported accounts prepare the means, make
 straight the path,
 of 'Abdu'l-BahB's talks he thought "That pave the way and supply my
 need!"
 is something I have always believed." "If the gate is open so
 that you can see,
 He minimized a major tragedy by whim- the way is clear. If the way is
 paved, you
 sically saying, "You know, I placed the won't stumble, and if the
 need is ~applied,
 Bahh'i books in my shop and then wore that's all we need."
 out my remaining good eye trying to read -
 every one of them."
 Feeling the urge to remain ever useful,
 not allowing frailty or affliction to limit To Harry Rush Raver, who
 died September
 14, 1941, this sonnet was written,
 him, he pushed on and put his talents to
 work writing many radio programs, persuad- by a Bahh'i friend.
 ing those for whom he wrote to broadcast My song is sad today, for
 yesternight
 sections of "The Goal of the New World Died one I've known and
 loved through

Order," and was repaid by requests for further broadcasts along these lines.

plaudits-and its

As he became acutely aware of the needs of the blind he had an overpowering desire flawless

to help them, and evolved a radio program, naming it "Cheer-Up" and dedicating it to embrace the cause

inspiring and educating the blind and handicapped to "come out of their corners," to broaden their horizons and become self-re-unite,

supporting. He knew that happiness was to wage the

their need, so gave of his own, having learned well and followed faithfully the words of from both grief and

'Abdu'l-Bahi, "There is a star of happiness in every heart, let us remove the clouds so I do not grieve that he is gone and find it may twinkle radiantly." He knew their That I myself would ask no moment's need to hear of their Lord and from this pause--

program, every week for a number of years, If I might go, and going, leave behind he radioed out over the ether waves the So grand a record for the world's applause, Teachings of the Blessed Perfection, Bahá'í-

As this man leaves, who was both ill-and

11Bh. He invited Bahá'í guest speakers to

blind!

partake of the privilege of this great service;

Mme. Barney, Mrs. French, Mrs. Gibson and

and heroic service

Mr. Hatch spoke to the blind of the beauty

hand of an as-

of the Great Day in which they were

unlocked door, as

living.

he lay on his couch, and

brutally attacked

The blind have been stimulated by this

such a

program to "carry on" and have learned

ten days of

many years-

One who had faced Life's

jeers-

With calm disdain! He was a

knight,

With arms e'er ready to

Of those who sorrowed; He

fears-

Their hopefulness and courage

Enduing them with strength

fight

To shield their brothers

tears!

Harry Raver's beautiful

was ended abruptly by the

assassin who entered his

he lay on his couch, and

and robbed him, leaving him in

serious condition that after

trades and crafts that have earned them
 away. At the
 regular amounts; and Harry Raver, their
 assisted him
 kindly, courageous friend, to whom they
 held his paralyzed
 could always turn and receive help, earned
 Greatest Name. 011
 their deep love and respect for his Faith,
 ninety-fifth mention
 as his teaching was based on deeds. He gave
 released
 them hope and earned their eternal gratitude.
 to meet his

grievous suffering he slipped
 last one who loved and always
 in his labors for the blind,
 band and repeated the
 the last syllable of the
 of this Name, Harry Raver was
 and his spirit winged its way

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Lord, Whom he had served so well and so
 Guardian, Shoghi
 lovingly.
 warned the
 Before becoming unconscious he pleaded
 reproach Sydney
 for mercy for his assailant, saying, "He must
 friends heeded
 have needed the money so much more than
 pided his feeble
 I did."
 steps, as he left the
 automobile which
 Though the skill of the physicians failed
 Feasts and meet-
 to bring him to consciousness, he would
 an arm-
 come out of his coma whenever "Alif-u-
 while he
 Abhh" was repeated. Shortly before the
 rejoiced in his
 end he heard the Name of Bahh'u'llih men-
 once more in the,
 tioned and in a clear, strong voice asked,
 God.
 "Who speaks of Bahh'u'llih?" and "What is
 that there
 said of Him?"
 Thornton
 In life his only thought was of BahCu'llih
 by the
 and at the moment of his, passing he lingered

The distinguished
 Effendi, was reported to have
 believers that no one should
 Spragnc with the past. The
 this advice. Tenderly, they
 brought him to the Bah'í
 ings. They provided him with
 chair to make him comfortable
 was with them. They, too,
 evident happiness at being
 company of the friends of
 Some of the Bah'ís knew
 was recorded in the papers of
 Chase a copy of a Tablet written
 beloved 'Abdu'l-Bahi in which

He had
to tell once more of Him. He truly was stated that Sydney Sprague,
as he neared
one of whom 'Abdu'l-Bah⁶ spoke in His the end of his life, would
return to the
Tablet, "Thy heart seeth and thy spirit Bahi'i Faith. The friends
were happy to
heareth." realize the fulfillment of
this prophecy.

- They were appreciative of the fact that those
SYDNEY SPRAGUE last days of Sydney Sprague's Baha'i life
were to be spent in Los Angeles.
How glad the friends were to visit their
His Holiness Bah⁶'u'llbh has written: dear brother. They found him like
a thirsty
"True life is not the life of the flesh but the traveller newly rescued from
a desert. He
life of the spirit. . . . This life knoweth no drank in, through his eager
questioning,
death, and this existence is crowned by im- the facts which brought him
up to date in
mortality. Even as it hath been said: 'He his knowledge of what had
occurred in
who is a true believer liveth both in this the Faith of God in the years
intervening
world and in the world t o come.' " since his own close
association with its
Sydney Sprague lived in this world, and dramatic history. In this effort
also, he
lives now in the world to come. He was was best assisted by reading
the "World
born into this world in Oshkinh, Wisconsin, Order of Bahh'u'Uab,"
pamphlets by Shoghi
in the year 1877; he ascended to his Effendi. These formed the
best bridge by
heavenly home Monday, August 16th, 1943, which he could cross over the
gap between
at the age of 68 years. His body rests in the days of 'Abdu'l-Bahi, the
heroic age of
Inglewood Cemetery, Inglewood, a town the Faith, and the present
transitional
adjacent t o Los Angeles, California. His period of the Guardianship,
in which the
grave is beside that of Tom Collins, husband Bah'i Administrative Order
becomes the
of Amelia Collins, and lies just across the "cradle" for the future,
spiritual Bahiai

road from the grave of Thornron Chase, commonwealth.
 "First Bah2i of America." The believers, in their
 turn, also Lamed
 The Bahi'is of Los Angeles, California, from Sydney Sprague. They heard
 from his
 t o which Bahh'i community Sydney Sprague own lips the story of how he
 fell ill from
 returned in 1941, after 28 years of absence fever while traveling for the
 Faith in India;
 from membership in the Faith of Bahb'u'llih, of how he lay helpless in bed
 in that far-08
 quickly learned to love their newly rein- country, and of how an
 Oriental Bahl'i
 stated Bahh'i brother. Some saw the great came to nurse him. This
 Oriental, spiritual
 humility it took for him to turn his back brother remained faithfully
 with Mr.
 upon his error, of which so many in the Sprague until he recovered.
 Bur, in the
 Cause knew, and to return to their com- meantime, the fever had
 passed from the
 panionship in the Truth. patient t o his nurse and the
 nurse failed

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Sydney Spragne

to withstand its attack. When the nurse Zola. The press also stated that in
 Persia
 died, Mr. Sprague became the first Occiden- h4r. Sprague had taught music to
 the daugh-
 tal Bah6'i for whom an Oriental Bahi'i had ters of the ruling &ih; that he is
 credited
 sacrificed his life. with having later introduced
 Persian music
 After his own passing, the press of Los to the Occident.
 Angeles carried items concerning Sydney Since every useful work that
 one does
 Sprague that its world of readers would is acceptable to God, in its fullest
 sense, only
 most likely be interested in noting-that after the individual has achieved
 faith in
 world which, for the most part, is so heedless his Creator and the knowledge
 and love of
 of spiritual truth, a fact to which His God, these deeds of Sydney Sprague now
 Holiness Jesus testified when He said: weigh heavily in his credit. As Jesns
 stated:
 "Let the dead bury their dead." "But rather seek ye the Kingdom

of God;

There was no mention in the newspapers and all these things shall be added unto you."

of the happiness that came to Sydney Sprague The newspapers had not stated how

when he returned to the Bah'í Faith and difficult affairs had gradually become for

thus to that eternal spiritual life which is Sydney Sprague, during his period of ab-

theirs who accept the Manifestation of God since from his Faith. They passed by his

in the Day of His Dispensation. These financial losses in his attempt to become a

papers wrote that Sydney Sprague had been producer of plays. They said nothing of

an author, lecturer, and composer. They his being swept into failure and into debt.

stated that, at twenty-three, he had studied They failed to remark on his being afflicted

at the Sorbonne, Paris, France; that he was with apoplexy. They did not mention his

at one time a "free lance" writer, and, as ever growing yearning to return to the

such, "covered," in France, the trial of Baha'í Faith, the proof of his understanding

Captain Dreyfus, and the funeral of Emile of the purpose and work of all of the

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Prophets of God Who had preceded the his flight unto the celestial Concourse. And

Bib and Bahi'u'llih. But to the Bah'ís, how often harsh a devout believer, at the

this intense longing to return had become hour of his soul's ascension, been so changed

known and was understood. They encouraged as to fall into the nethermost fire."

aged it.

Sydney Sprague, who had

gone out from

There came a day when the power of his the "impregnable fortress" of the home, or

innermost heart longing surmounted some Faith, of the divine Father, had re-

difficulties. In 1931, Sydney Sprague appeared turned to the Cause of God over two

years before he passed through the portals

city of Los Angeles. He introduced him- of earthly death. He is now
 self, he stated his wish to return to the of eternal, spiritual life.
 Having died firm in his Faith, he is happy in
 Bahi'i Cause. He was advised to get in Divine forgiveness. "He hath
 the certainty of flight unto the celestial
 touch with the Guardian of the Faith, as Concourse." "All
 taken his praise he to Thee, O God, my
 his was an internationally know11 case. This most glorious."
 Concourse." "All CAROLE LOMBARD GABLE
 action, after 10 years more of troubles, People who knew Carole
 Lord, the tell you of her amazing vitality.
 Sydney Sprague succeeded in accomplishing. not imagine her as not
 He expressed to the Guardian his acceptance the films do not show her as
 of the Will and Testament of 'Ahdu'l-Bahi, that because of her coloring
 of the Guardianship, and of the spiritual quality she was more
 Bahi'i Administrative Order. The daughter of Frederick
 Lombard will Knight Peters, she was born
 The repentance of Sydney Sprague was Peters, in Fort Wayne,
 They can- she was brought by her mother
 sincere; it was accepted. Word of it was Angeles with her two older
 living. They say erick and Stuart. As a young
 sent to the National Spiritual Assembly of medals in the Los Angeles
 she really was, ing and jumping. She appeared
 the Bahl'is of the United States and Canada. plays, attended a drama
 and vibrant roles in the movies, in 1930
 The news that he was to he readmitted was
 beautiful in real life.
 conveyed to the Spiritual Assembly of the
 and Elizabeth
 Bahi'is of the City of Los Angeles, Cali-
 Carol Jane
 fornia. Sydney Sprague, to the joy of those
 Indiana. A t swen
 concerned, was reinstated by this Spiritual
 t o Los Angeles with her two older
 Assembly to full membership in the Los Angeles Bah6'i community, with the ap-
 brothers, Fred- erick and Stuart. As a young
 Angeles Bah6'i community, with the ap- girl she won
 girl she won medals in the Los Angeles
 proval of the National Spiritual Assembly, schools for sprint-
 schools for sprint- ing and jumping. She appeared
 in the year 1941. This was the 47th year in school
 in school plays, attended a drama
 of the Bah6'i classes in America. I t was the roles in the movies, in 1930
 school, obtained
 97th year of the BahPi Revelation in the

was placed
 world. under contract by Paramount,
 and by 1936
 His Holiness Jesus recited to His disciples was a top ranking star. Miss
 Lombard was
 the parable of the man who had two sons, twice married; in 1933 she
 became the wife
 the younger of whom became a prodigal. of William Powell, but their
 careers gave
 He departed from the homestead, while the them little time together and
 a divorce re..
 older son remained at home. When the sulted two years later; in
 1939 she married
 prodigal repented, it was for him that the Clark Gable.
 father killed the fatted calf. The elder son Carole Lombard's closest
 Bahb'i friend
 had always had the companionship of the was the well-known teacher,
 Mrs. Beulah
 father, an all-sufficient recompense. The Storrs Lewis, who writes: "The
 Carole who
 prodigal son had been lost. He had been longed to meet and know her
 Lord, 'Ahdu'l-
 counted as one dead. This prodigal had re- Bahl, the Carole who planned to
 see Him,
 turned. He was as one resurrected from a the Carole who spoke with the
 writer of
 tomb. the service she wanted to
 render her Lord-
 His Holiness BahCu'llih once wrote: this Carole few people knew."
 Carole at-
 "How often hath a sinner, at the hour of tended Mrs. Lewis' classes
 held in Mrs. Peters'
 death, attained to the essence of faith, and, home; at fourteen she wrote
 the Master of
 quaffing the immortal draught, hath taken her love for Him, her
 ambitions and long-

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Carole Lombard Gable

ings, and she said, "If only He approves, I will take me to the Center and
 stay with
 shall not fail." His Tablet came, praying me."
 for her success. Mrs. Lewis writes, "Carole Mrs. Sara Kenny, then a
 member of the
 never failed to give credit to her Lord." Los Angeles Assembly, describes
 Carole
 Miss Lombard in later years wrote to the Lombard as she appeared that

night. She Guardian-the tone was that of a child looked very young, in a simple
 tailored suit; writing to its father, Mrs. Lewis says- usually so vital, now she was
 subdued and and received his answer. reverent, "like a bride." Later
 that night Mrs. Lewis taught many persons of the Carole, her face streaming, said
 to Mrs. Cause in Miss Lombard's home. On the Lewis: "I have acted many
 parts, I have threshold of what was to be her last journey, been in many plays, but this is
 the greatest Carole Lombard had a long talk with her act of my life, this is why I
 was born." friend; she spoke of her desire to see the Miss Lombard was famous for
 her demo- Faith spread, and discussed plans for a trip cratic attitude, her lack of
 ostentation; at across the United States in its interest. home she liked to wear simple
 clothes, and Carole Lombard's acceptance of the Faith her three cars were all Fords. She
 was a is recorded in the ApAI, 1938, issue of the good hostess; an eminent judge
 who met her Los Angeles BahVi newsletter. Mrs. Lewis socially describes her as an
 intelligent con- states that both mother and daughter came versationalist, and well-read.
 She was popu- into the Faith because of their great love lar for plain speaking and
 hatred of sham. for 'Abdu'l-Bahi. After many visits with Marked character traits were
 her sense of Carole, Mrs. Lewis told her: "The time has humor and her love of practical
 jokes. Most come for you to stand up on this earth important were her continual
 acts of kind- openly and declare your Faith." She an- ness.
 nswered, "Well, Beulah, I am ready if you After the plane crash which
 took the

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lives of both Carole Lombard and her mother, a brother asked Mrs. Lewis to assist
 in selecting the memorial readings. The Los Angeles Assembly likewise appointed a com-
 mittee to offer Bahi'i participation on this

occasion. In this way the words of Babc-
u'l16h beginning "I have made death even
as glad-tidings . . ." and "O Son of Man!
Thou art My dominion and My dominion
perisheth not . . ." were read as part of the
~nemorialat Forest Lawn.

Carole Lombard died in the service of her
country. For this, tributes were paid her
editorially, both in the New York Times and
the New Yorlr Herald-Tribune, and she was
publicly commended by Secretary of the
Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr. She had
been on a bond-selling tour and was nearing
exhaustion. A t the State House, Indianapo-
lis, in a few hours she had sold two million
dollars worth of bonds. With Mrs. Pcters
and her press representative she boarded a
plane for home. On the evening of January
16, 1942, miners in the Nevada mountains
heard a terrific explosion; then they saw
Usk6i

flames shoot from a peak, and vanish. Some
fourteen hours later, rescuers had toiled
service and self-
up almost vertical slopes to the wrecked
Spiritual As-
transport. They found the pine trees burned
resided in
for yards around, and a wide pit melted in
very advanced
the snow. There were no surviliors.
his long career

She was a second generation Bah6'i. Her
ascended to
mother had been brought into the Faith by
11th of May,
Mrs. Orol Platt, and as a child Carole often
served a t Baha'i gatherings held at Mrs.
Platt's Los Angeles home. Mrs. Platt re-
members how happy Carnie was when the
Master's Tablet came, saying that He would
LL.B.)

pray for her to be an actress, and a sue-
cessful one.

-
MfR 'Alf A S B A R FARfDf USKO~
the) pass-

Mir 'Ali As&ar Faridi

tivity, and hospitality. His

lessness promoted him t o the

sembly of whatever locality he

and thus he continued to a

age when infirmities checked

of useful service and he finally

the spiritual Kingdom on the

1942.

NARAYENRAO RANGNATH
(SHETHJI) VAKIL, (B.A.,

"(I) share fully (the) poignant grief (of

the) Indian Baha'i community (at

ing (of) its distinguished champion, firm
 Mir 'Ali A&ar Faridi UskGi, a true and pillar, able teacher (and)
 administrator, be-
 faithful Baha'i and pioneer, was famed for loved Vakil (stop) (The)
 concourse on
 his sincerity and trustworthiness and charity high acclaim his pioneer (and)
 historic
 among friends and non-Baha'is alike. He services (stop) (I) advise
 (you to) hold
 met the Master in person, visited the Holy befitting memorial gatherings
 (as a) recog-
 Shrines, and received many Tablets from the nition (of) and (a) tribute
 (to) his high
 Blessed Beauty and 'Abdu'l-Bahl. At station. . . . Shogbi
 Rabbani."
 A&ibByjin and 'TxbhAbhd, at TB&kand His BahB'i friends referred
 t o h i as Mr.
 and Mahhad, wherever he settled, he quickly Vakil, although he belonged to
 the well-
 distinguished himself by his zeal, his ac- known Shethji family of
 Navsari, an im-

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Narayanrao P[angnath Vakil

portant principality in Baroda, the pro- known for putting the interests
 of his clients
 gressive Indian State under the Mahratta first. 'Whenever he found that
 the parties
 Prince, the Gaikwad of Baroda. had really no cause for action,
 or, that al-
 He was the Grst person from the Hindu though they had a cause hut the
 matter
 community t o identify himself wlth the could he settled better out of
 court, he
 Bahi'i activities in India, and the first exercised his personal
 influence to bring
 Indian BaM'i to address an All-India re- about a compromise out of
 court. This led
 ligious conference. He was the first presi- t o his being elected a City
 Father at one
 dent of the National Spiritual Assembly of of the Municipal elections, but
 as it en-
 the Bahi'is of India and Burma, and eu- croached upon the time that he
 was giving
 joyed such universal confidence that in spite to the Bah6'i Cause, he
 his ad-
 of ill health in the later years, hut for a mirers t o leave him out at the

next elections.

single exception, he was re-elected President For a short while he was similarly appointed

of the N.S.A. year after year. Only four Assistant Government Pleader, because of

days ago he had been re-elected P-esident, his detached outlook.

and the healing prayer offered for him by He came to hear of the

Bahb'i Cause in

his loving colleagues, when he passed away December, 1908. The story of his initiation

on 2nd May, 1943, aged Y7 years. He was is of more than personal importance, so it

born at Navsari in 1866 A.D. may be told here. Incidentally the year

He was a graduate of the Elphinstone 1909 marks a fresh milestone in the history

College, the premier college of Bombay, and of the Bahi'i Cause in India, and three

a gaduate in Law of the Bombay University. students of the Elphinstone College who

He was an Advocate of the Bombay High joined the Indiin Bah2i community in the

Coun, and one of the senior legal Practi- course of three consecutive months that

tioners of Swat, where he practiced for 30 year through one of the most outstanding

years. He was universally respected for his BahA'i Teachers of Persia (Mirzi Mahram

sobriety and integrity and he was well- Isfihini) have rendered considerable ser-

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vices in close collaboration throughout the Mirz6 Mahram was not the person to he

ministry of 'Ahdu'l-Bah6. satisfied with a lip

declaration. He believed

Muhammad Rid6 Shirizi (who later in making each new-comer a living link in

came to be known as Professor S i r 6 z i) an interminable chain of effective teachers.

was studying at the Elphinstone College, He said to ME. S'akil "If you want me to

Bombay. The Bahi'i Hall was located at believe that you have intelligently accepted

29 Forbes Street, on the 3rd (top) floor. the station of Bahi'u'llih, then prove it

(This has since been rebuilt and the present to me by leading your friends

and neigh-
number is 26.) I t was within a few min- bors to accept Him as you
have accepted
utes walking distance of the college, being Him. If you cannot do this by
yourself,
immediately east of the Equestrian Statue then, you can at least make
them sufficiently
of King Edward VII. interested to come to me with
you and
Mirzi Mahram was the resident Bahl'i continue their mquiries."
teacher. I-Ie had so arranged matters that Thus, in January, 1909,
Mr. Vakil was
every day ten or fifteen college students started on his career as a
Bah'i teacher,
came to see him and try their dialectic and continued teaching
throughout his life.
strength. Mirzi Mahram had become known An indefatigable urge to
teach the Cause,
throughout the city for his short, convinc- in spite of obstacles and
handicaps, has been
ing and irreiutable repartees, as well as the outstanding
characteristic of those who
his learned and highly illuminating dis- have been taught by Mirz6
Mahram.
courses. Mr. Shirhzi was one of those stu- In 1910, A.D., a very big
exhibition was
dents who was proud of his powers of dis- held at Allahahad. This
included an All- India Religious Conference.
ciission and repartee; and Mirzh Mahram
Siyyid Muptaf6
found in him an apt student for being Rhmi, the Grand Old Pioneer,
was to rep-
made into a Bah6'i teacher. resent the Bahi'is and read
an address, which
I t was Mirzi Mahram's invariable prac- had been printed for
distribution t o the
tice to start his students on a course of delegates. But, he had a
strong attack of
teaching from the very first week. He used bronchitis, and was unable to
read it him-
to advise his students to consult their fel- self. He requested the
Spiritual Assembly
low students and further t b t out with their of Bombay t o send some one;
and Mr. S7aki1
help what seemed to them irrefutable in was sent. This was the
beginning of that
his arguments. Mr. Vakil was one of those close relationship and

collaboration between intelligent, sober minded fellow students of Bombay, which lasted to the end of his life. Thus was started the life long friendship and collaboration between these two star servants of the Cause in India. Mr. Shirizi resided at the Anjuman-Islim hostel at Bori Bunder, and Mr. Vakil at the Elphinstone College hostel at Apollo Bunder. But every day, these friends went out for a morning walk together on the sea shore, and discussed what Mirzi Mahram had told Mr. Shirizi. One day, in January, 1909, Mr. Vakil declared to Mr. Shirizi that he had no further inclination left for picking holes in the arguments of Mirzi Mahram, and that he was desirous of joining the Bahá'í movement (as it was then known).

Mr. Vakil went to see Mirzi Mahram in the company with Mr. Shirizi, and declared to him that he had become a Bahá'í. But appearances are often deceptive. Mr. Vakil was a Hindu, read out the History and teachings of the Bib, Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-

Mr. Vakil and the local Spiritual Assembly of Bombay, which lasted to the end of his days; so that whenever the Assembly took up any work which needed the collaboration of some Bahá'í who knew English well, and who could be relied upon to safeguard the interests of the Cause to the utmost, they always asked Mr. Vakil to help. Allahahad, under its ancient Hindu name "Prayag" still rivals Benares and as a place of pilgrimage. It is situated at the confluence of the two most sacred rivers of India, the Ganges and the Jumna. A dip in either is sufficient to wash away the life-long sins of a Hindu devotee. So, think of the incalculable efficacy of the waters at the confluence.

The All-India Religions Conference (1910) was held on the banks of the Jumna -near its confluence with the Ganges. Mr. Vakil to all outward appearances was a Hindu, but in 1919 the first

Convention was organized. Some Baha'is of Poona, with the concurrence of the local Spiritual Assembly of that city, had received the Glad Tidings of the Appearance to all corners of India and Burma. The printed 'Abdu'l-Bahi for holding a Convention. Mr. &irbzi, Mirzi Mahm5d and pamphlet helped them to refresh their memory, and supplied then1 the addresses organizing it, although many other Bahi'is of Bahl'i Assemblies whence they could from India and Burma helped to make it a really memorable success. Being near Bombay A Brahmin from South India, who attended the Conference, maintained touch with Mr. Vakil, and we have it on the authority of the latter's autobiographical note, that Mr. Vakil kept on sending books and pamphlets until he decided to join the Bahi'i community. Thus, the first All-India Religious Conference to be addressed by a Bahi'i was by a Hindu son of the soil; and the first to respond to that call was a member of the hereditary Hindu priesthood. Mr. Vakil was its President, and when its name was changed to the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahi'is of India He loved to write and receive letters. For almost 15 years his were the only letters that disseminated all sorts of Bahi'i news President every year, he was its first President. 1943, he was re-elected

to the outlying parts of India. Whenever Mustafi RGmi he heard of any occurrence of outstanding S . A. interest to the Bahi'is in India, he would by sea t o issue a typed circular to all who were on with his mailing list. Some of his friends have a i r h z i and happily maintained files of Valsil's corre-present in the spondence, and any historian who refers to these letters would find many items of per-his second manent interest recorded there; which have This time been forgotten by contemporaries. The Sushila Vakil and names of those whom Mr. Vald interested accompanied him. in the Cause during his many teaching tours, His beIo57ed and with whnm he maintained contact by there. The correspondence, some of whom declared blessings to their complete attachment to the Cause, the names of would be of special interest to those ac-respectively tively interested in establishing groups and loved to be centres throughout India. known since. Mr. Vakil mras of a highly devotional Vakil, his wife temperament. He used to pray intensely and two daughters have shown exemplary strength in every thing, and for the illumination of those whom he tried they are happy, now, t o count Surat among cities that have developed into administrative centres with a full fledged Local Spiritual Assembly. Mr. Vakil went out on an time, and wrote long letters to 'Ahdu'l-

except once, when Siyyid was elected President of the N. In 1914 Mr. Vakil voyaged Palestine, and was photographed 'Abdu'l-Bahi in a group, Prof. MirzI Mahmljd also being group. In 1924, Mr. Valsil went on pilgrimage t o the Holy Land. Mrs. Jasodha Vakil, Miss Miss Kapila Vakil also 'Abdu'l-Bahi had passed away. successor-Shoghi Rabbani was greatest Holy Leaf gave her the family, bestonring on them Bahiyyih, Bihirih and Tihirih By these new names they have Since the passing of Mr. and two daughters have shown strength in every thing, and now, t o count Surat among developed into administrative a full fledged Local Spiritual Mr. Vakil went out on an

extensive teach-

Babl--almost half of which were filled
first conven-

with "I pray that so-and-so may he con-
Allahabad,

firmed in his belief--or-that so-and-so
Shantiniketan, and Dacca,

IN MEMORIAM

Alma Knobloch

returning to Surat via Karachi. Later he
free-ships at the

attended the Brahma Sarnaj Centenary at
communicated

Calcutta with his wife and daughter. North
secured some

and South, East and West, he has toured
himself

India throughour. its length and breadth
dear colleague.

proclaiming YI-Bahh'u'l-Ahhi. As late as
love-love

1940, he travelled with his wife and
had a head.

daughters in support of the six year Plan
that he had

of Teaching.
which have

He had made it a practice to donate a
during the

fixed proportion of his income to the BahYi
of his sug-

Funds. Whenever there was an appeal for
sympathetic

funds, his was among the first donations
and suc-

received. On all the 9 holy days he sent
taben up at

something to the Funds. If, for any reason
--e.g. the war-he could not remit his do-

Koreshi.

nations, he considered it a debt payable, of
which he kept a regular account. He would

never allow any- direct approach to indi-
viduals for funds, saying, everyone is pay-

BY ROSASCHVAKTZ

ing all that is possible for evevone. If we

ing tour immediately after the

tion, visting Agra, Cawnpore,

Benares, Calcutta,

in-rited scl>olarships for

Tarbiyat School, Mr. Vakil

the appeal to everybody and

donations from Indian Bahf is,

sharing one scholarship with a

Mr. Vakil had a heart full of

for each and all. But he also

A perusal of hi letters shows

thought out many of the plans

come automatically into being

last six years. There are some

gestions that still await the

consideration of his colleagues

cessors. Perhaps they would be

some future date.

(Signed) S. H.

June 9, 1944.

ALMA KNOBLOCH

ask for more, and he is unable to pay, we Karl and Alma Knobloch, daughter of shall cause him shame. If he pays under Amelia Knobloch, sister of Pauline Knobloch and Fanny Knobloch, passed into personal pressure, we shall be the cause of the Abha Kingdom on December 22, 1943, at the age inconvenience or hardship. Mr. Vakil sponsored every charitable of eighty. She had been associated with cause. When the America Persian Society the Cause since 1903 and had expended her

642 THE B A H A ' ~ W O R L D

utmost efforts to teach the Cause of God in working knowledge of English offered their Germany, as well as in America. services. The way was not always easy, and At the request of 'Abdu'l-Bahl, Alma was Alma, in her fine, soft voice and well-brcd delegated to take the Glad-Tidings of the ad- manner, fought many a mental battle with vent of Bahb'u'llih to the soul of the German the intelligentsia who had -becomeinterested. people. The following are some of the words One could see the Bahb'i spirit at work in of 'Abdu'l-Bah6 concerning the undertaking. her, when some learned gentleman discussed "Thou hast written about Dr. Fisher, in not always a gentle way, the different that praise be to God, thou hast found a aspects of our Faith. Never once did Alma helper for him and ere long she will start lose patience, and ncvcr once did she falter for Germany. Truly I say, the beloved in her answers. The foundation of brother- maid-servant of God, Miss Alma Knobloch, hood ,was firmly cemented through prayer is very much acceptable for this service-- and combined effort. thou hast done well to choose her. She is Concerts and assemblies, held in public accepted by all means, but regarding her halls, brought this new Faith to the atten- stay in Germany, she must stay as long as tion of the general public, and always the possible. Forward. to this land a copy of highlight of the evening was the speaker

every tablet translated into the German who introduced the Bahl'i Cause
to an ever widening circle of souls.
language. I hope that the endeavors and exertions of these two sisters, may display Alma was in Germany before
'Abdn'l- all-encircling effects." Baha visited there, so the
friends knew what
Signed: 'Abdu'l-Bahb-'Abbbs. a rare and wonderful privilege was accorded
them, and also they became aware of the
She left in July, 1907, for Germany. station of Alma. Her unceasing
love and pa-
At first the message was spread by word tience, kindness and unselfishness,
gave ever
of mouth only. When Alma went to Stutt- new evidence of the Spirit of
Bah8'u'lllh.
gart, the homes of those interested were m e n war was declared in 1914, Alma
gladly thrown open to her and her won- joined in the sufferings of her German
derful news. The afternoon and evening brothers and sisters, descended into the
gatherings were tremendous events in the damp cellars with them, hungered and
froze
lives of the friends, and, indeed, many a with them, renounced her American
citinen-
life was literally rocked as the Message of ship (which she later resumed), in
order
Bahl'bl16h changed the direction and the t o be free t o travel in the service
of our
purpose of that life; and through that beloved Master; and indeed, the need for
change came an acceleration of life and the spiritual food was great at that
time. Many
blessings of inner peace. Not a little part in evenings at the fireside
meetings, the spir-
this was the love and devotion with which itual food was the only kind of food
the
Alma worked incessantly, always effacing friends had that day. Rut her
emphatic,
her own strong personality and accenting yet gentle, way of speaking and the
tre-
the Spirir of Bah6'n'lUh. mendous power of the prayers,
gave sus-
Soon many young people in Stuttgart, tenance to their areak and hungry bodies.
Leipzig, Hamburg, and other cities, visited Before Alma returned to
America, she
hy Alma, arose and formed informal fireside visited Austria, Switzerland,
London, and
groups, studied earnestly a11 material that Paris. The groups in the different
cities
was available, and many entered into cor- continued to flourish, and a steady

correspondence with the Holy Family. The spondence was carried on between Alma and Bahá'í Faith took root in the hearts of these her spiritual children. Some of the German religiously educated souls, and through the believers received Tablets from 'Abdu'l- effort and constant study Local Spiritual Bahl and Shoghi Effendi, and these were all Assemblies were formed in Stnttgart, Esslin- shared with the other believers. gen, Zuffenhauscn, Leipzig, and Gera. The blessings of Bahá'u'llbh were in evi- The translation of new passages was dence; children's groups or gardens, as they awaited with avid interest and all with a were called, were formed. Near Esslingen a

I N MEMORIAM

Philip Effendi Naimi

Bahá'í summer house was built, and friends from near and far came there to meet with Effendi Nailni other believers. A great day it was when the Bahá'í the model of the Temple, that we see so death on Jan. gloriously in Wilmette now, was first shown devoted and firm at one of the gatherings. When the new regime came to power in responsible Germany, the Baha'i faith was banned, the first Bahh'i books confiscated, the Bahi'i house abau- negotiating done, the Spiritual Assemblies disbanded; for its but there remained that nucleus of faith Community. which will never die, and when this conflict Ismailia he was is finally ended, the Bahh'is of Germany will the attacks rise anew, purified in fire, and work for the on the Bahh'is New Day, for the establishment of all that of various

PHILIP EFFENDI NAIMI
In Cairq in 1913, Philip
at the age of fifteen embraced
Faith. From then until his
8th, 1942, he remained a
believer and rendered the Cause
many services. He was largely
for the establishment of the
Burial Ground in that country,
with the Government authorities
allotment to the Baha'i
Both in Port Sa'id and
exposed to grave danger through
of excited and fanatical mobs
on the occasion of the deaths

Bahá'u'lláh proclaimed. believers who were refused
 burial in Muslim cemeteries. He was at all times a
 The loving memory of our dear Alma courageous
 Knobloch will ever linger in the hearts of defender of the Cause of
 Bahá'u'lláh, cham- pioning its teachings and
 the German believers; and their children and rights before friend
 children's children will remember her un- and enemy alike.
 selfless service in the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. After a serious operation,
 from the effects

THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD

Muhammad Effendi Mussa

of which he died, he gathered his nephews Muhammad Effendi Mussa was
 privileged by re- ceiving the blessing of
 about him and addressed them as follows: 'Abdu'l-Bahá in Port
 "I had great hopes of you but I am going Sa'id. Since he embraced the cause
 he dis- tinguished himself by historic
 away shortly! Know of a certainty that particularly teaching. Brave
 activities, and valiant he
 there is nothing in this life worth mention was never frightened nor
 except serving the Cause. My earnest hope discouraged by
 is that you will grow up and prepare your- the threatening forces of
 opposition. In 1920 the fire of
 selves for serving Bahá'u'lláh devotedly in a animosity was reen-
 degree even greater than your parents did." kindled; he was pelted with
 stones, beaten
 The Hospital authorities summoned a and wounded; and according to the
 advice
 priest to perform the last rites, but Philip of the Beloved Master he
 emigrated to Cairo
 Effendi-Naimi, courageous and devoted to where he settled for some
 years. His last visit to the
 the last, turned to him and said: "I am a Holy Shrines in 1927
 Bahá'í and I am no longer in need of your nourished his spirit with still
 more zeal and
 services." energy.
 Firm in his belief he never ceased to utter
 MUHAMMAD EFFENDI MUSSA the Greatest Name during the period
 of his
 The passing of the late Muhammad Ef- illness.

fendi Mussa of Port Sa'id on August 23rd, On spreading the news of
his passing away a big disturbance took place
1939, at the age of 77 years was accom- a big disturbance took place
whereupon the masses attempted to set fire t
panied by a big disturbance which marked to burn the body which action
o his honse and the authorities
a glorious termination of a life which was could but hardly prevent.
the authorities
once rich with services to the Cause. ing the night the body was
Finally, and dur- secretly conveyed
He was one of those few early believers by the authorities to Ferdan,
secretly conveyed 40 miles distant
in Egypt who accepted the Cause in 1910. from Port Sa'id, where it was
40 miles distant buried.
During the journey of the Beloved Master
buried. t o Europe and America in 1911-1912 Mu- May his soul abide in
eternal peace!

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IN MEMORIAM

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 Texas.
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 Ohio.
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 Calif.
 Miss Nancy Brown Van Riper, Circleville, Mr. Alexander Mapp, Avon, Mass.
 Ohio. Mrs. Robert Sully, Buffalo, N. Y.
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 Calif.
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 Catonsville, Md.
 N. J. Mrs. Anne B. Walker, Salem, Mass.
 Dr. Lillian K. Sielken, Indianapolis, Ind. Sr. Elias Calderon, San Jose,
 Costa Rica.
 Mrs. Alice Ward, Richmond Highlands, Mrs. Agnes Blodgett Rowe,
 Spokane, Wash.
 Wash. Mr. Frederick A. Clapp, Los
 Angeles, Calif.
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