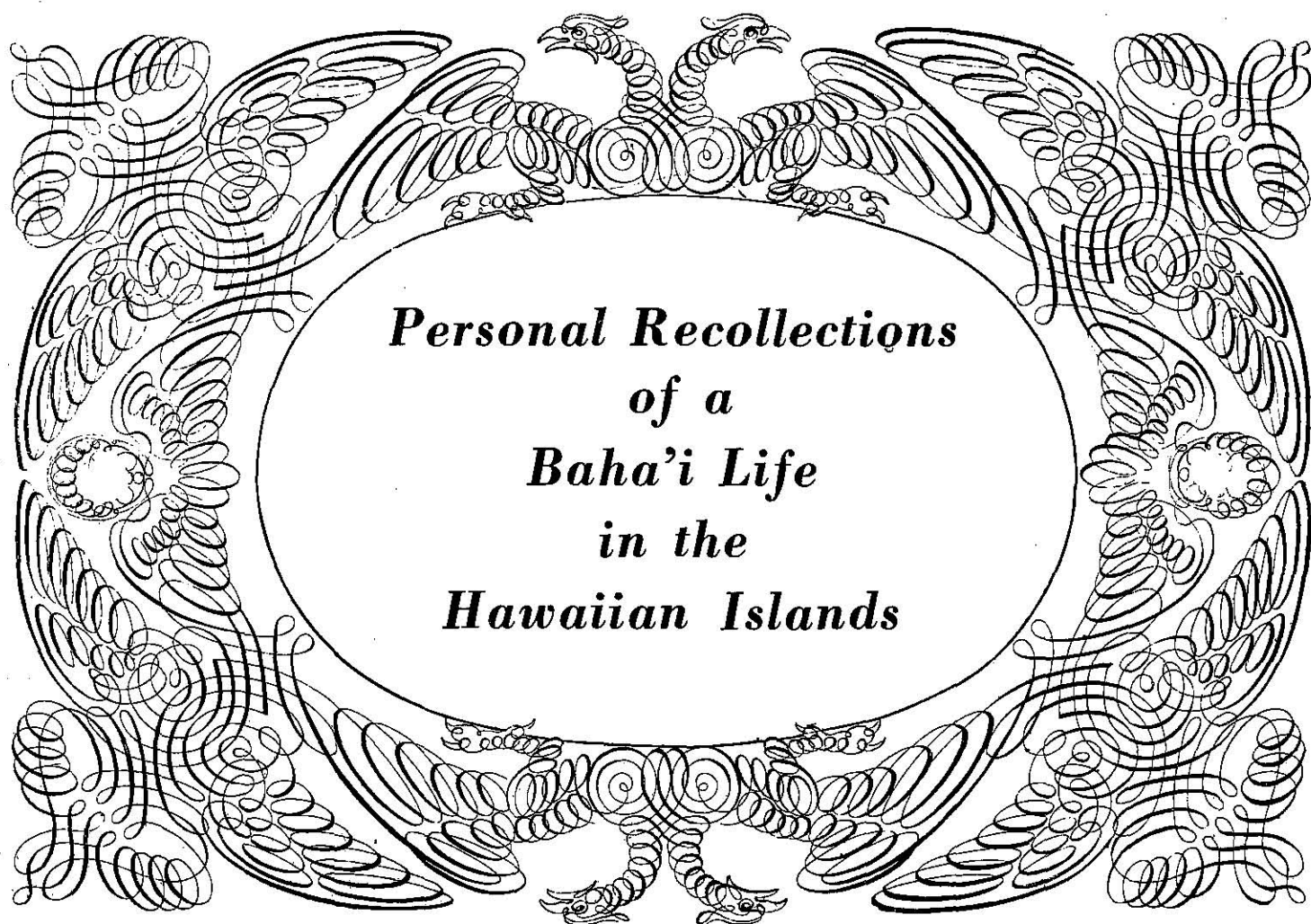




*Personal Recollections
of a
Baha'i Life
in the
Hawaiian Islands*

by
Miss Agnes B. Alexander

"Forty Years of the Baha'i Cause in Hawaii"

1902 - 1942



(Miss) Agnes B. Alexander
1875 - 1970

*To the Beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi,
Whose Guidance Inspired the Writing
of this History.*

Agnes Baldwin Alexander

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	4
Prologue	5
The Awakening	7
Return to Honolulu	9
First Seed Sowing in Hawaii (1902-1912)	10
The Baha'i Cause in Hawaii (1912-1922)	22
The Baha'i Cause in Hawaii (1922-1932)	28
The Baha'i Cause on the Island of Hawaii (1924)	35
The Baha'i Message Presented on Kauai (1924-1926)	37
The Baha'i Cause on Maui (1922-1942)	37
The Baha'i Cause in Hawaii (1932-1942)	39
Epilogue	48
Appendix	48

More than thirty years have passed since I received from Mr. Albert R. Windust the following letter:

6353 Peoria Street
Chicago, Illinois
January 18, 1910

Miss Alexander
Honolulu, HI

My dear Baha'i sister:

Mr. Chas. Mason Remey has told me of the great work the friends are doing in the "Paradise of the Pacific", and spoke of you to me, suggesting my writing you asking your assistance in compiling the historic data of the Cause in your small but brilliant assembly - brilliant because it is the first of the "Islands of the Sea", and destined to be a constellation in the heavens of the Kingdom. If you do this it will be greatly appreciated - now and hereafter. We have made careful provision for preserving such valuable data in one of the best vaults in this city. I would suggest that a blank book be used, thus insuring the leaves in order and in shape. Tell the story of your joys and sorrows as one would love to hear it a hundred years from now - and from the heart. We would be glad to have copies of all Tablets the friends there have received for preservation, and future publications - if they are willing to have them published. And if at any time they desire to send in the originals for preservation we will add them to the many now in the archives. I was made very happy in seeing the photograph of the friends there - it was shown to me by our dear sister, Miss Buikema. Kindly incorporate as much photos as possible in your historical compilation.

Your brother in service,
Albert R. Windust

I answered Mr. Windust that I did not wish to write of myself, but the Cause of God would remain. He then replied that he had placed my letter to him in the Baha'i Archives in Chicago.

Thirty years passed! On January 10, 1940, the time came when I started to write at the request of the Guardian, Shoghi

Effendi, who asked me while I was in Haifa in April and May, 1937, to write the history of the Baha'i Cause in the Hawaiian Islands, as well as in Japan. When I left there, at his request, I visited Baha'i Centers in Germany, Paris, London and the United States. On January 23, 1938, while I was in New York, he wrote me through his secretary:

He hopes that in your journey to the western states and particularly California, you will also find it possible to extend your stay for some time and meet as many centers as you can, and thus give the believers the benefit of sharing your manifold and valuable experiences in the Cause.

Again on November 20, 1938, he wrote:

... now that your return to Japan has been indefinitely postponed in view of the growing hostilities in the Far East, you will do well to concentrate all your efforts on teaching in America where the field is both vast and promising.

In fulfilling Shoghi Effendi's request, I was continually travelling and visiting Baha'i Centers. The desire, though, had come to find a place where I could remain and begin work on the histories, and I wrote of it to Shoghi Effendi. Suddenly, while in Chicago in December, 1939, I was guided to go directly to my sister's home in Berkeley, California, where I arrived on December 13. There, on January 10, 1940, I was enabled to begin work on the history writing. This was through divine guidance, for later I received a letter from Shoghi Effendi, dated December 13, 1939 (the day on which I reached Berkeley), in which he wrote:

Regarding your teaching plans; as your return to Japan seems far remote at present, he would advise that you remain anywhere you wish in the United States and engage in teaching work, and would also approve of your wish to undertake in the meantime writing the history of the Cause in Japan and in the Islands of Hawaii, as you are certainly best qualified to write such history which will no doubt prove of immense interest and value to the friends.

Collecting letters and accounts from friends required time, and only after my return to Honolulu in the summer of 1941 was I able to procure letters written in the early days of the Cause in Hawaii, from which I have quoted.

God works in a mysterious way His wonders to perform. Without the story of the background from which the Cause of Baha'u'llah was established in Hawaii, the history I am going to write would be incomplete. I will, therefore, begin with a brief sketch of the early Christian missionaries who forsook their homes and loved ones in America between the years 1820 and 1845, and voyaged to the then little known Sandwich, or, as they were later called, Hawaiian Islands. Filled with the love of Christ they went forth to teach the Word of God and show the way of life to the Hawaiian people. The wonderful facilities of travel, which have come into existence since the advent of the Baha'i Dispensation, were then lacking. The United States had not yet been opened up by railroads. The only means of reaching the Islands was by sailing vessels, setting out from the Atlantic coast, a voyage often of six months, around Cape Horn to the Pacific Ocean.

As the Bab's supplication, when on the voyage to Mecca, that the means of ocean travel might speedily be improved, its hardships reduced and perils entirely eliminated, had not been uttered, untold were the hardships which these dauntless pioneers of the Christian Faith faced and overcame on the long voyages in sailing ships. Leaving their kindred and friends far behind, with unbounded faith and courage, they took their lives in their hands as they went into a new and almost unknown part of the world.

The spirit of these Christian missionaries is portrayed by one of their sons in the following verse entitled, "The Torch-bearers".

With God's light upon their foreheads,
With earth's hoards beneath their feet,
And earth's self-denials thronging
On their pathway indiscreet -
So they sailed to bear the message
Of good-will forevermore
To the tribes that dwelt in darkness
On a distant island shore.
This is the story of how men listened
To the good-news brought to them;
How they cast away their idols
For the Star of Bethlehem!

Shortly before the arrival of the first missionaries in 1820, the Hawaiians had thrown away their idols and were prepared and eager to listen to the teachings of Christ. The friendly spirit of the missionaries and the loving nature of the Hawaiian people produced an unusual intercourse of social quality. Grafted upon this foundation of friendliness the orientals came to work on the sugar plantations. The first to come were Chinese men, many of whom married Hawaiian women. Later Japanese, Portuguese, Filipinos and others arrived. All the races developed and associated in peace and harmony. Today in the American schools their children mingle together with equal opportunities of education, and the spirit of loving fellowship, which was implanted in the Islands, is felt throughout the group.

In such an environment, where race prejudice was unknown, God destined me to be placed. In gratitude for the heritage of lives of love and sacrifice which were bequeathed to me, I mention my grandparents, whose lives were similar to other of the early Christian missionaries to Hawaii.

My mother's parents, Rev. and Mrs. Dwight Baldwin, sailed

from New Bedford, Massachusetts, with the fourth company of missionaries sent by the American Board of Missions to the Hawaiian Islands, where they arrived in June, 1831, after a voyage of one hundred and sixty-one days. My grandfather was a physician, as well as minister, and served the Hawaiians in both their physical and spiritual needs. At one time he was the only doctor on the Islands of Molokai, Maui and Lanai. For thirty-six years he labored without rest until his health failed. His consecrated wife, while caring for their family of six children (two had died in childhood), taught the Hawaiian women. Her spirit of faith is depicted in these words, "I leave the future all in the hands of our good heavenly Father. He has never left or forsaken us - in Him we trust."

In the fifth company of missionaries sent to the Hawaiian Islands were my father's parents, Rev. and Mrs. William Patterson Alexander. They were in a party of nine bridal couples, all young people in their twenties, with one exception. With them went an unmarried printer, making in all a company of nineteen. On November 26, 1831, they set sail from New Bedford, Massachusetts, on a small whaling ship of three hundred and fifty tons. Equipped for whaling, the passenger accommodations were very meager. The cabin, which was used as an eating, sleeping and sitting room, was so small that only one-half the company could be seated at a time. The furniture consisted of two chairs and boxes and trunks. Their sleeping accommodations are thus described: "Half the missionaries had to take berth in the cabin where four berths, each suitable for one person, and separated only by a curtain, had to do services for two each. Some had to be stowed away in temporary berths on the side of the dismal after-cabin, which was crowded with a confusion of boxes, casks and kegs."

When the wind was favorable the ship made eight or nine miles an hour. At other times, for days, it was becalmed. All these discomforts they cheerfully endured, and through close association and singleness of purpose they became united by bonds which lasted throughout life.

After a voyage of one hundred and eighty-six days, Honolulu was reached in May, 1832. When we contemplate the hardships of these pioneers of God's Faith, we may better appreciate the material blessings bestowed on us in the Baha'i Dispensation.

In the "Missionary Album", published in Honolulu, my grandfather is described thus: "Mr. Alexander was an eloquent preacher, a brilliant conversationalist, a loyal friend, a scholar and a linguist of no mean attainment . . . The young people of the mission admired and loved him with a lifelong attachment."

"Father Alexander", as he was affectionately called, once wrote: "God will probably first try our faith and patience and teach us more fully how entirely we depend on His grace." When in 1881, he and his wife celebrated their Golden Wedding, looking back they witnessed the steps by which the Islands had become transformed. Instead of one mail a year, reaching them six months after date around Cape Horn, now a week's voyage put them in touch with the world. In my father's address to his parents on that occasion he said, in referring to the great changes they had witnessed: "But after all, these wonderful inventions of our days do not produce greater souls nor nobler characters; they do not make us better or braver or wiser than our fathers and mothers . . . By

example, much more than by precept, you have taught us to live for something higher than what the world counts success, and to seek the favor of God more than the praise of men. We thank you that you have taught us to BE rather than SEEM, to abhor all that is sordid or base; and to cultivate charity, forbearance, humility, and other old-fashioned virtues . . ."

At the time of my grandfather's death, a lament in Hawaiian was sent to my grandmother. Translated, it reads:

Alas, alas, Father William is dead!
Dead is the missionary and friend;
Our friend who stood fast for the right;
Our friend in the rain and the wind;
Our friend in the heat of the sun;
Our friend in the cold of the mountain;
Our friend on the Eight Seas;
Alas, alas, our friend has departed!
Gone to the glorious heaven of Christ,
He will return no more.

To my dear grandparents I owe a debt of deep gratitude. If God has used me in His plan and I have received His favors, the praise belongs to the heritage which He bestowed on me, that from a timid creature He raised me up to serve His Cause.

Ella Louise Rowland writes, quoting words from the Beloved Master in His Tablet to the United States and Canada, April 11, 1916, in which He referred to Hawaii - she adds: "The name Alexander is so closely linked with the history of Hawaii and the establishment of the early Protestant Christian mission fields that it would seem strange to link other than one of the same name and ancestry with the most great privilege of being the bearer of the Glad Tidings of the Fulfillment of the Holy Utterances of our Lord Christ Jesus, the Message of the Dawn of a New Dispensation."

As I take my pen to write, my thoughts are of you, the yet unborn workers in His Cause, you who in the future times will inherit whatever we of the Apostolic and Formative Ages have accomplished, you who will usher in the Golden Age, the Kingdom of God, the New World Order.

Until one has been awakened by the Breath of the Holy Spirit, one is as asleep, for the only reality is that of the spirit. For twenty-five years I was asleep.

From childhood I had loved and wished to serve Christ, but His life seemed far away from me, and I always felt that something was lacking, that I had never been reborn.

My parents were real Christians. In the family home we gathered each morning for prayers. My father would read the Bible and then we knelt while he led in prayer. Once when listening to him read from the Revelation of St. John, I had thought the words were beautiful, but wondered whether I would understand them when I died. Little did I then know that while on earth they would become clear to me, for Baha'u'llah had unsealed the meanings of all the Holy Scriptures.

One day in the spring of 1900, my father, although unconscious of it, guided me to fine the Light of the New Day. He announced that some friends were going to Europe and he wanted me to go with them. At the time I felt I was not prepared to go, but he insisted, "Go while you are young and prepare after your return." A week later, on May 5, 1900, through the gift of an uncle, I was on my way.

Spiritual birth is attained through difficulties, and in my path they came. Unable to cross the Atlantic with my friends, I later joined them in Europe, where we were together for a short time. As I remained in Europe, my father wrote urging me to go to Rome, Italy, where cousins lived. Following his wish, the way opened for me to go. When the train approached Rome, a thrill passed through me, as though I had attained my goal. There, far from my homeland, I was to receive God's Message.

One day in the dining room of the "pension" where I was staying in Rome, some people sitting across the long table attracted me. So strong was the magnet which drew me to them, that I gazed at them until ashamed. They seemed to have a happiness which was different from others. Later I learned that they were Mrs. Charlotte Dixon and her two daughters, who were returning to the United States after a visit with the Master in 'Akka. The happiness which I had seen in their faces was a reflection from 'Akka. A few days after, while sitting in the parlor, I overheard them in conversation with a lady who had heard of the Cause in Paris. Little did I comprehend what they were talking about, but my heart was stirred, and the realization came to me that it was the Truth. The next day I met Mrs. Dixon in the elevator. Taking her hand, I asked if she would tell me what it was she had. With a radiant smile, she invited me to meet her after dinner in the back parlor. That evening as I sat listening to her, my heart was touched and tears came to my eyes. She gave me a prayer copied in longhand, for printed Baha'i literature was then very scarce. The prayer seemed to answer all the longings of my heart. After that we met for three successive evenings. She was endeavoring to prepare me for something which was to come, but did not tell me of the Coming of the Promised One. In those early days of the Cause in America, the Baha'i Message was considered too great to be conveyed at once. As teachers

were few, God revealed His Message in strange and wonderful ways. The third evening after meeting with Mrs. Dixon, when I retired to my room, sleep did not come. That night an overwhelming realization came to me, which was neither a dream nor vision, that Christ had come on the earth. All night I waited, unable to close my eyes. When morning came, I met Mrs. Dixon as she came from breakfast, and together we entered my room. There I turned to her and said, "Christ is on this earth!" She replied, "Yes, I can see by your face that you know it." In a Tablet which I later received from 'Abdu'l-Baha, He wrote: "*By God, the Truth, the Spirit of Christ from the Supreme Concourse doth in every time and aspect announce to thee this Great Good News.*" My first thought was of guilt, that I did not pray except when in trouble and did not even have a Bible with me. How could I have Him see me, I thought. At noon that day Mrs. Dixon and her daughters left Rome. Before she left, she gave me a letter to sign declaring my belief that the Promised One had come. At that time such letters were sent to the Master from the new believers. I asked where I could find other believers. In reply she gave me some addresses. The world had suddenly become a new world and I was reborn! Years later, when I reached Haifa on April 20, 1937, the beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, asked me the first night at dinner to tell the story of how I heard the Baha'i Message.

Before leaving, Mrs. Dixon told me that the Master had said to give only of the thirsty this Water of Life. My heart was so filled with joy that I desired others to know the Good News. I had to be tested, though, in order to grow. A few days later I attended a church service with my cousins. After the service I went to the pastor and told him of the Master in 'Akka. He took the Bible and read me from the Scriptures in order to show me that I was mislead. As I did not know the interpretation myself, I could not answer him. In my heart, though, I had the assurance that I was right. I resolved that I would not speak to anyone again, for everyone would have their own opinions and God was the only Teacher, and I could pray and read the Bible. Thus I was led to buy a Bible. Praying first for knowledge, I began to read it. Little by little the prophecies of the coming of the Bab, Baha'u'llah, and 'Abdu'l-Baha were unfolded to me. For three months I was alone in Italy with only God to teach me. The Bible became a new and wonderful Book which I eagerly read, making my own index of passages which referred to this Day. The only Baha'i literature I had at that time was the prayer Mrs. Dixon had given me and a copy of the Arabic "Hidden Words", which she had afterwards sent me. When I received the latter, I could not understand it. Realizing I had found the Truth, I put the little book aside and read only the Bible. Two months later, as I opened my drawer, I saw the book, and taking it up began to read. The words than became clear to me and I knew they were from God.

The time came at last when I felt that in order to have something to cling to I must know others who believed. Then I looked for the addresses which dear Mrs. Dixon had given me in Rome. The nearest believer I found was Miss May Ellis Bolles, rue du Bac, Paris. From the depths of my longing heart I wrote asking if she could tell me more of the wonderful Message. The heavenly letter which came in reply was so permeated with divine love that my heart was filled with assurance. The letter follows:

January 28, 1901

My precious Sister!

Praise be to God that He has enlightened your heart in these wonderful days of the Coming of His Kingdom, and that He has in His Mercy guided you to the Truth.

Please God we may soon welcome you in our midst in Paris and that you may then receive the full Revelation, and much help and instruction. In the meantime, I send you the enclosed pamphlets, Tablets and prayers, which by the Grace of God will illumine your understanding and fill you with the Breath of Life. I also enclose my photograph of our Great and Glorious Lord, which was given to me when I made the pilgrimage to 'Akka, at the foot of Mount Carmel, the New Holy Jerusalem.

My Lord appeared to me in a vision twice, two years before I heard the Great Message, and when, by the great bounty of God, and without regard to my unworthiness, I was permitted to be among the first Americans to visit 'Akka - I beheld my dear Lord, I know Him by my visions.

The picture I send you of His was taken about twenty years ago and does not give any adequate idea of His Greatness, Majesty and Power, which are beyond any words to describe - while His wonderful unspeakable love and kindness to everyone is unlike anything we have ever known or dreamed of! Since that time my whole life has been devoted to His service, to teaching and spreading the Cause of God.

I feel by your beautiful letter that God has chosen you to be a servant in His blessed Vineyard, and that you will be greatly blessed.

I am longing with great love to see you, to greet you in the Truth, that you may enter with your brothers and sisters in this city into the full joy and peace.

As to the writings concerning this great religion, they are now being translated slowly from the Arabic and Persian, and each year diffuses more widely the teachings and knowledge, for we are the pioneers and are believers in the most wonderful time of His Appearance.

Read Isaiah, which contains wonderful prophecies of these the "latter days", "the end of the world", which means the end of the power of evil - for this is the dawn of the Most Great Peace, the "Day of God", which is not followed by the night, and already the Sun of Truth has risen and is shining from the zenith.

One thing, dearest spiritual sister, I would say to you. Although the fire of love of God is burning in your heart, and you are longing to spread the glad tidings, be very careful - for every soul is not ripe - and our dear Lord has told us never to give to drink of this pure water of life, but to the thirsty. I know just how you feel, for I was just so myself, but I quickly learned that the Truth is a Spirit which only God can impart, and when it is IN US then it is imparted through us, for we are nothing - God is all - the Wonderful, the Mighty - He is sufficient for everything.

I do not know if dear Mrs. Dixon gave you the prayers. We should learn them by heart and say them two or three times daily, then we grow spiritually with great power and rapidity, for these prayers are unlike any others; they are from God himself.

May God shower upon you His greatest blessings and confirm you in the Glorious Truth.

I am your loving and devoted sister in the love and

service of our Lord.

May Ellis Bolles
100 rue du Bac, Paris.

I was obliged to travel to Paris alone. As I had always been the most timid of creatures, God used this means to teach me to depend only on Him. Reaching there in the spring of 1901, the first meeting with the beloved May Bolles is one of the precious memories of my life. From that day she became my spiritual mother, and through all the years her tender mother love has been a guiding star in my life. In Paris she had become the spiritual mother of a group of believers. The weekly meetings were held in the studio of Charles Mason Remey. The first meeting I attended there, someone asked as I entered the room with May, "Is she a believer?" The reply was, "Look at her face!" As I looked around the room, I saw the same look of peace and light on the faces. They had found their Lord and were at rest. I went to Paris with many questions, but May said to me, "You cannot eat a whole meal at once. First, you must take the soup, then the next course." Such an atmosphere of pure light pervaded the Paris meetings that one was transported, as it were, from the world of man to that of God. In the spiritual light of those meetings all questions vanished. One of the Paris believers, Berthelin Lexow, wrote of that time: "We were a little group of about twenty in Paris but there was such a strong feeling of unity among us, we had so much love for one another, which made us as one."

During a stay of three and a half months in Paris I had the privilege of meeting many pilgrims who came from the presence of 'Abdu'l-Baha and sojourned there on their homeward way. Among them were two from the Paris group, Monsieur Henri and Charles Mason Remey. Shortly after I reached Paris I met the later who had just returned from his first visit to the Master. When he told me of his experiences in 'Akka, I felt as though I were transported to another world. Other pilgrims from America were Mrs. Emogene Hoagg, Mrs. Helen Ellis Cowles, who was a cousin of May Bolles, also Laura Barney, Lua and Dr. Getsinger and Mrs. William H. Hoar. On her way to England was Miss Ethel Rosenberg. Later 'Ali Kuli Khan arrived on his way to America. Filled with love and light which the Master ignited in them, the pilgrims told of His wonderful, satisfying teachings. One of the Paris believers wrote: "Those who return from that White City by the sea are indeed filled with manifest light and when they speak of the Holy Place tears come to their eyes and they seem full of a new life and energy, and there is a restful, convincing peace about them which all feel who come in contact with them."

Some of the pilgrims shared notes which they had taken from the Master's talks. These I eagerly copied and studied. The greatest blessing of all was the coming of the saintly 'Abu'l-Fadl and his interpreter, Antone Haddad. At the request of 'Abdu'l-Baha he came to teach the friends in Paris before proceeding to America. Frail in appearance and small of stature, he was the most gentle and humble person I have ever met. When he was told that I was from Honolulu and would return there to teach the Cause, he said to me, "Always remember the words of Daniel, 'They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever.' If in the future there are five believers in the Hawaiian Islands, you will have done a great work." He also said that I should have faith like Peter.

It was a great bounty from God that I was permitted to be taught by him. Every day he gave the believers a lesson, which

was interpreted by Antone Haddad into English, on the proofs of a prophet and Bible interpretations. I was staying then in a small "pension" on rue d'assas in the Latin Quarter, not far from the apartment where May Bolles and her mother and brother lived. When Lua and Dr. Getsinger arrived from Palestine, they came to stay there. Later Laura Barney joined us and lastly, Mr. W. H. Hoar.

It was the only time that I had the bounty of meeting the beloved Lua. She gave me some treasures from 'Akka, one of which was a Baha'i ringstone blessed by 'Abdu'l-Baha. This I had set and wore for nineteen years. Among precious memories of Lua are the night she came and sat on my bed, after a visit with 'Abu'l-Fadl, and said he had told her she should help me. Another time when I mentioned that I awoke very early every morning, she said, "It is the Master calling you to pray." She told me when she was in 'Akka, passing the Master's room

RETURN TO HONOLULU

At last the time came when I felt I should return to teach the Cause in my homeland. A day in June, 1901, as I was preparing to leave for London the next morning, there was a knock at my door. As I opened it Antone Haddad handed me a Tablet from the Master which he had received and translated. The Tablet follows:

To Miss Alexander, the servant of God, through Miss Bolles.

O thou maid servant of God!

The tongues have spoken of thy attraction to God and the pens have testified of thy burning by the Fire of the Love of God. Indeed the heart of 'Abdu'l-Baha approves of this because it feels its heat from this distant and Blessed Spot.

O maid servant of God! By God, the Truth, the Spirit of Christ from the Supreme Concourse doth in every time and aspect announce to thee this Great Good News. Be therefore a divine bird; proceed to thy native country; spread the wings of sanctity over those spots and sing and chant and celebrate the Name of thy Lord, that thou mayest gladden the Supreme Concourse and make the seeking souls hasten unto thee as the moths hasten to the lamp and thus illumine that distant country by the Light of God.

Upon thee be salutations and praise.

The heavenly Tablet from the Master set the seal that I was confirmed to proceed to my homeland. Through the weakest of His creatures God reveals His power! That night when I attended a reception at the Bolles' apartment, I carried the precious Tablet with me and my heart was full of joy and assurance. When I left, May accompanied me to the stairs. Looking back, I saw her heavenly eyes following me with the tender mother love she poured on all who came under her spiritual influence, a love which the Master said was divine. We were not to meet again for many years. After the voyage to the United States a precious letter reached me from May as follows:

100 rue du Bac, Paris
July 1st, 1901

Allah'u'Abha!

My Darling!

It is Sunday and you are on the great sea, on your way

she saw Him in prayer and waited. An hour passed. Then He told her He had been praying for her.

During my stay in Paris, Clarence Hobrom Smith came on a visit to the city. His father's parents were among the missionaries to Hawaii. While with him one day I felt urged to tell him the Good News, but fearing he would not understand, I kept delaying. At last, just as we were about to part, I felt that if I did not speak I would die, and said abruptly, "Christ has come!" The next day he came to see me. The power of the spirit had been so great when I spoke the day before that he had believed at once. He said that when he returned to his room that day he felt frightened. Afterwards he attended the Baha'i meeting where he met May Bolles and experienced the heavenly atmosphere of those meetings. 'Abu'l-Fadl remarked how great was the power in the Cause, that in a few months I had a spiritual child.

to work in God's beautiful vineyard.

Oh! my little girl - my sweet gentle Agnes, only God knows how I love you - how the image of your pure face as it was that last night with its radiant look of happiness and peace - is graven on my heart.

As I think of you, dear heart - a great pure love wells up in me - a love that will follow you, bless you and watch over you with devout prayers all my life. I have thanked God over and over again that the Blessed Tablet reached you in time - so that wherever you go henceforth, you can feel that Our Great, Our Beloved Lord (may my soul be sacrificed to the dust of His Holy Feet!) has set His Eternal Seal upon you - has accepted you for His own - and that He will move you - guide you, strengthen you and uphold you - and surround you by His incomparable love - and His irresistible Protection.

This was the thought that consoled and upheld me that night after you had gone - when my tender little bird had flown from the nest of her Mother! I thought, she is His Divine Bird now - and has flown away to seek her Eternal Nest in His Bosom . . .

God bless you - bless you, my darling - and grant that all the pure beauty of your soul may continue to unfold in His Light. I greet you from the depths of my heart in His Blessed Name.

Allah'u'Abha!

Your humble sister and mother
May Bolles.

May's letters were like fresh breezes of the Divine Spirit. In far away Hawaii all who heard the Baha'i Message shared with me her love and heavenly influence.

Many years have passed since the days when the foundation of my Baha'i Faith was laid in Paris. In a Tablet which I received in Tokyo on November 26, 1919 (the nineteenth anniversary of my spiritual birth), 'Abdu'l-Baha wrote:

Thou hast undoubtedly met the attracted maid servant of God, Mrs. Maxwell (May Bolles) before sailing to Japan, for that maid servant of God is ablaze with the Fire of the love of God. Whosoever meets her feels from her association the susceptibilities of the Kingdom. Her company uplifts and develops the soul.

From the heavenly realm where she now dwells, with ever increasing strength and beauty, she assists her spiritual children on this earth!

It was the latter part of June, 1901, when I left Paris in company with Mr. W. H. Hoar for London, on the way to the United States. With the precious Tablet which I received the day before, carried close to my heart, I was assured of His confirmation to go forth and serve the Cause. During a few days in London, I had the joy of being with Mrs. Emogene Hoagg. The beautiful Baha'i sister, Mrs. Thornburg-Cropper, invited us to lunch at her home with her mother. It was a never-to-be-forgotten meeting. In the atmosphere of pure love the Master seemed very near to us.

Before leaving Paris I learned that the steamer on which I was to sail for the United States, instead of going to Boston that week, was to proceed to Portland, Maine. When Mr. Remy heard this he told me of Sarah Farmer, a Baha'i who had a place called "Green Acre", near Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where people gathered for meetings during the summer, and suggested that I stop in Portsmouth and go to see her. Following his suggestion, on arrival in Portland, I took a train to Portsmouth. There I checked my baggage and proceeded by a streetcar to Eliot, Maine, where I was directed to Miss Farmer's home.

In the parlor of that home I was welcomed by dear Baha'i sisters who were so happy to meet a new child in the Faith. It was a heavenly meeting and they asked me to come and stay with them, so, procuring my baggage, I returned to "Bittersweet", Miss Farmer's home. Later my father wrote me that he and my mother were coming to the United States and advised me to remain in Green Acre for the summer, as I could then return with them to Honolulu. Thus, in God's plan, my stay lengthened into two months, and I came to know intimately some of the glorious believers in the Cause, among whom was "Sister Louise", as she was then called, now Mrs.

FIRST SEED SOWING IN HAWAII, (1902 - 1912)

Strange feelings came over me as the steamer on which I voyaged to Honolulu neared the shore, for alone I was to stand there, the first Baha'i to touch that soil. The youngest of my family, and hitherto extremely timid, God raised me up to carry His Message to these islands of the Pacific. Among my relatives a rumor had spread that I had taken up some strange belief. I had then to show through my life, and not by words, the great happiness that had come into my life. My sister said to me, "We all know you are happy and contented and if it helps you, it must be good." As she was satisfied in her Christian Faith, she did not seek more. My father told the uncle, through whose gift I had gone to Europe, that the trip had been my salvation. He did not, however, in his lifetime come to realize the truth of the Revelation of Baha'u'llah. My friends also recognized the change that had come in my life.

Two months after I reached Honolulu, Clarence Smith returned to the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Owen Smith. Living with his family was Miss Elizabeth Muther of Austrian parentage. While in Paris, Clarence had written her of the Cause, and on his return home he approached her with some Baha'i literature. As she was then interested in some other reading, when he persisted, she at last became annoyed. Her heart was pure and God placed another way for her to

John D. Bosch of Geyserville, California, who was helping in the home. She took me into her loving heart, a love which was unchanged throughout the years, and brought us together to work in His Cause after her marriage to Mr. Bosch.

The beloved sister, Mrs. Charlotte Dixon, and her two daughters, whom God used to attract me to the Cause in Rome, Italy, came to Green Acre, where we had a joyous reunion. Among the dear believers whom I came to know was "Mother Beecher", whose granddaughter, Mrs. Dorothy Baker, has become a lighted lamp in the Cause. When I left Green Acre, I had the privilege of staying for three weeks in an apartment in New York where Mother Beecher made a home for two other friends. Thus, through God's bounty, I was guided to meet many glorious souls in His Cause before reaching my far away home in Hawaii.

In the fall of 1901, I joined my parents and traveled with them to California. When enroute, in Chicago, on November 26, I met some of the Baha'is and remarked that it was my spiritual birthday. Then, for the first time, I learned that it was the Day of the Covenant, and on that Day, God had revealed His Truth to me!

As I could not secure passage on the steamer with my parents, they preceded me from San Francisco to Honolulu. While I remained in Oakland, God granted me the privilege of meeting the radiant and firm sister, Mrs. Helen S. Goodall and her daughter, Ella, now Mrs. C. M. Cooper. This was the beginning of a spiritual bond between the believers of Oakland and Honolulu, which greatly strengthened us during the early years of establishing the Cause in Hawaii. Later, when friends from Honolulu went to California, and from California friends came to Honolulu, the bond grew stronger.

On December 26, 1901, I reached Honolulu. My father wrote in his diary: "Thursday, December 26, 1901. Steamer Peru arrived early. Drove down with Mary C. to meet Agnes. She landed 8:30 A.M. safe and well."

hear His Message in her path when, in 1902, Mrs. Helen Goodall, with her husband and daughter, Ella, visited Honolulu. Of their visit Miss Muther wrote:

Clarence had met Mrs. Goodall at her home in Oakland, California, and when he heard of her arrival in Honolulu, he wanted me to call on her with him, for he felt if I called and heard her speak of the Cause, I would be convinced that it was God's Truth and would become a believer in the Teachings. I told Clarence that he would have to call without me because I saw no reason for forcing myself on dear Mrs. Goodall, especially as she came for a restful time with her husband. So he called without me, but I suppose he told Mrs. Goodall what I had said, for a note soon arrived from this dear lady inviting me to call on her, that she had heard of me and wanted to meet me and have a little talk together, and could I come at a certain time. Of course, I could not refuse to call after receiving that sweet note. Mrs. Goodall received me so cordially, and the love that beamed upon me through her luminous eyes drove away all embarrassment and I opened my heart to her at once.

After a talk about Teachings, Mrs. Goodall said to Miss Muther: "When you go home to your room tonight, pray

earnestly that God will show you if these Baha'i Teachings are His Truth, and He will show you; then open the 'Hidden Words' and read them with an open heart."

That night Miss Muther turned to God and prayed that He would reveal to her the Truth; that she was ready to accept whatever trials might come in her path. In less than half an hour she found herself saying aloud, "This is God's Truth! This is God's Truth!" Shortly after this experience I met her, and although she could not speak of her experience, as she was not alone, I saw in her eyes that the light of the Kingdom had dawned in her soul.

During her visit in Honolulu, Mrs. Goodall not only helped to confirm Miss Muther, but strengthened the faith of Clarence Smith through talks and enlightening letters which she wrote while staying at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel. After Mrs. Goodall and Ella returned to Oakland, the bond between them and the three believers in Honolulu became stronger, and Mrs. Goodall often refreshed us with letters and copies of Tablets from the Master. In one of her letters she expressed her hope that we three believers would be able to do great things in Honolulu. She wrote, "Think what it means to be the pioneers in this work. The Master has shown great favor in this."

In November, 1903, we had the joy of meeting Mrs. Seabee, the wife of Admiral Seabee, whom Mrs. Goodall had taught, and later, in the winter of 1904, Mrs. Harriet Laughlin, who also had accepted the Baha'i Message through her friend, Mrs. Goodall. She came on a visit to her daughter in Honolulu and we were happy to have her remain among us for three months.

Clarence Smith and I were both guided to receive spiritual light in Paris under the heavenly influence of May Bolles. I wrote to one of the Paris believers: "When I returned to Honolulu from Paris, it was always my aim to make the Assembly there like that of Paris. It might have been called a branch garden from Paris." Thus the pure seed of His Cause was first planted in Hawaii, laying a foundation for all the future generations.

Soon after Clarence Smith's return to Honolulu, he received a Tablet from the Master through May Bolles, who wrote him: "You have received words from that Pen Whose Greatness, Glory and Splendor will shine down the ages long after we have passed away from this earth and traces of our service in His Mighty Cause have appeared in dazzling clearness." The Tablet follows:

O thou who art advancing unto God!

Thy precious and beloved letter came to hand and all contents noted.

Consider how the Bounty of God surrounded thee until It brought thee to the Shore of the Sea of the endless and boundless Gift of God!

I supplicate the Benevolence of God and His Providence to make thee a dazzling light and a merciful and bounteous gift to His creatures; and to enable thee to be firm and steadfast in the Cause of the Truth, and to appoint thee as a means for the exaltation of His Word.

Upon thee salutations and praise!

Later both Miss Muther and Clarence Smith received Tablets from the Master. To Clarence Smith He wrote:

O thou confirmed by an inspiration from the Kingdom! Blessed thou art for thou hast delivered the word of thy Lord to Elizabeth Muther, the maid servant of God.

Glad tidings unto thee that by reason of which the Spring of Knowledge has flowed out in the gardens of thine

heart, inundated thy tongue, and made thee utter the Name of thy Lord, and call the people to the Kingdom of God.

I supplicate God, my Lord and thy Lord, to illumine thy forehead with the light of success and victory, strengthen thy spirit by the Breath of God, quicken thee by the Spirit of God, and make thee a pillar of guidance set up in the firmament of the Kingdom of God.

Grieve not because of my imprisonment and calamity, for this prison is my beautiful garden, my mansioned paradise, and my throne of dominion amongst mankind. My calamity in my prison is a crown to me in which I glory among the righteous. Thou shalt hear greater than this.

I ask God to assist whomsoever is related to thee to receive guidance in the future days, and to bless Mrs. and Miss Goodall, Miss Alexander, and Miss Muther, and make them the signs of His Gift amongst the people of the world.

Salutations and praise be upon thee.

To Miss Muther the Master wrote:

O thou maid servant of God:

Glad tidings unto thee because of my address and answer to thee! God hath purified thee from iniquities when He hath drowned thee in the Sea of His Mercy and made thee drink the Cup of Faith and the Pure Wine of Knowledge.

Well done! Well done! Because thou hast [not] desired the evanescence of thy will for the Will of God, sought the augmentation of the love of God, the enlargement of the Knowledge of God, and the straightforwardness in the Path of God, I ask God to assist thee under all conditions, and to enable thee to attain the utmost of hopes.*

Salutations and praise be upon thee!

Miss Muther received her Tablet while on the island of Maui and wrote to Clarence, August 1, as follows:

Rejoice with me in the great joy which has come to me this day by the receipt of the beautiful Tablet from the dear Master. Surely God's mercy is great to shower such a favor on me! Oh, what a help and inspiration it will be to my whole life through! And your Tablet! How beautiful it is and how rich and blessed are the bounties of God towards you. May the Master's prayer for you be fulfilled and realized! I feel that I owe you so much, dear Clarence, for having revealed this great and blessed Truth to me and I pray that I too may have the great joy of telling some of the beautiful Message of God. I shall feel now that I have God's help in whatever I try to do for Him, and I never could realize this before as I should, but now that God's blessed Son has prayed His Father to assist me under all conditions and to enable me to attain the utmost of hopes, I know that He will help me and that it only depends upon my faithfulness and the strength and purity of my desire to seek always to do His blessed will (no matter where that may lead me), "to attain the utmost of my hopes" - which is to receive the blessing and confirmation of God and be a fruitful servant in His Vineyard. Never before have the things of this world seemed of so little value to me and the Spiritual Kingdom appeared so all-important to attain and may God help us all to "press forward to the prize", and may we all work together in harmony and love for the establishment of God's Kingdom upon earth. I send my love and greetings to the believers.

* Probably omitted in original

When Miss Muther returned to Honolulu, the power of 'Abdu'l-Baha's Tablet to her, and her own earnest prayer, brought about a great event in the spiritual world, as God used her as His instrument to confirm the first Japanese Baha'i of the world.

Mr. Kawanichi Yamamoto had come from Japan and was serving in the Smith home. As he did not know English well, Miss Muther realized his difficulties and tried to help him. Then she told him of the Baha'i Message. God opened his heart that he might understand. When she asked him how he knew that it was the Truth, he answered by putting his hand to his heart, and said he knew there. On September 8, 1902, Miss Muther wrote:

I want to tell you of my great joy in being led to give the Message to Moto (Kawanichi Yamamoto). Last year I had many a little talk with him about the Christian life which he has been trying to live under great difficulties, such a constant Christian life as has made me feel ashamed of my own weak efforts in the same direction. After I became a believer I felt that sometime I might tell Moto. I thought of him on Maui and prayed that his heart might be prepared to receive the Truth. Soon after I returned I felt that I ought to speak to him. Although it was a little difficult to give him the Message because of his imperfect knowledge of English, yet God helped me so that he understands perfectly and is rejoicing in the knowledge of His Truth. I have just had a little talk with him and he told me how happy he was and that he expects to write his letter to the Master this evening. He seems fearful lest something may happen to the Master before his letter may reach Him. He thanked me with so much feeling this evening for telling him this good news and I feel that he will be a power for good among the Japanese here. He has a very even temper and winning disposition and seems to have many devoted friends, but as he told me before I went to Maui, 'but my friends not Christian' Oh, Miss Muther, very hard when your friends not Christian - this is very lonely when only you Christian and you cannot talk to friends about be Christian, they do not want to hear.' Now he has received the Message and I thought this evening from the joy expressed in his face, as well as his words of gratitude for the Truth of God, that he must have forgotten everything but to rejoice in God. 'Oh Miss Muther, I am so happy!' he said in parting, 'and I can only say, Oh God! How hast Thou honored me to have made me Thy servant!'

When Mr. Yamamoto wrote to the Master to express his heartfelt gratitude and desires, he was deeply affected and rewrote the letter four times before he was satisfied. September 14, 1902, Miss Muther wrote: "He felt that he could not write in English, so I told him that I thought it would be all right for him to write in Japanese. I was sure the Master would understand the spirit of his letter." When the Tablet in reply to his letter came, Mr. Yamamoto said that although his letter was written in Japanese, the Master had fully answered him. The Tablet follows:

O thou who art attracted by the Word of God to the Kingdom of God!

Turn with the whole of thy being to God, forget aught else save God, and supplicate God to make thee a sign of guidance in the midst of people who are veiled from God, perchance they may be guided to the Orb of all horizons, enter the Kingdom of Harmony, drink of the cup of the

love of God, rejoice at the manifestation of the Kingdom of God, taste the delight of the mention of God and shelter themselves in the shadow of the Tree of Life in the midst of the Paradise of God.

This beseemeth the believers; this is the qualification of the sincere; this is the path of the knowers; and this is the utmost aim of the faithful. Exert thy utmost power that thou mayest share this great bounty.

In February, 1903, Mr. Yamamoto received a second Tablet from the Master as follows:

O thou who has addressed 'Abdu'l-Baha!

Verily, I pray my Lord to teach thee a language and writing of the Kingdom which will satisfy thee, so as to dispense with all things; for that spiritual writing and instructive tongue are eloquent, clear, laudable, legible, read by the tongue and preserved in the heart. Blessed is he who knows it in the world of man!

Know, verily, that the Ocean is waving, the Sun shining, the Stars dawning. (Understand what I say!) The tree will grow, the earth will send forth hyacinths and give blessings and man will become of the heavenly angels. Feed on the light of guidance and impart light to the people. The bird will warble melodies unknown save by the birds of heaven; then tear asunder the veil and see the realities of things with the eye of God. Verily thy Lord guideth whosoever He willeth unto the Straight Path!

The Promised Spot will be made a race course for the steeds of the race of Knowledge and the lights of the Merciful will shine upon it. The dispersed ones will return to the Center of Gathering and the birds will return from the meadows of the world unto the Nest of Harmony. This is a preordained matter.

As to thee: Thou hast borne every difficulty and hardship and soon will be rewarded by God with a good reward. He will destine to thee all that is good, and choose for thee the manifestation of His mercy among the servants; that they may see that the sons of the Kingdom have gone out, while there hath come a soul from the remotest horizon who hath entered the Kingdom of God.

There will occur a matter for Miss E. Muther which she shall comprehend in the world of vision. This is indeed a matter that is certain and blessing that is abundant for every thankful servant.

Upon thee be greeting and praise!

On March 5, 1903, Mr. Yamamoto left Honolulu to go to serve in the home of Mrs. Helen S. Goodall in Oakland, California. After he reached Mrs. Goodall's home, she wrote:

It seems wonderful to me how the Spirit has taught Moto as he does not understand English very well, although now he is improving very fast. He received a letter from Miss Muther yesterday and seems very joyous.

When he hears from the Honolulu believers, he is very happy and goes about the house as if he were walking on air, especially if a believer comes to see us, or we have a meeting.

Moto is a beautiful believer and carries the Master's wishes in his every day life - so patient and faithful. He is surely unique as the Master called him in his last Tablet. I feel it a great privilege to have a believer work for me. He has surely been taught by the Spirit regardless of lack of understanding of English. It was a miracle that the Master

knew what Moto's letter contained when it was written in Japanese. He answered all his questions.

While serving in the Goodall home in Oakland, Mr. Yamamoto received two more Tablets from the Master. In one of these 'Abdu'l-Baha addressed him, "O thou who art the single one of Japan and the unique one of the extreme Orient!" And in the other Tablet 'Abdu'l-Baha wrote: "As to the question of marriage, according to the law of God, first you must select one and then it depends upon the consent of the father and mother. Before your selection they have no right of interference." The four Tablets addressed to Mr. Yamamoto are published in *Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Baha*, Vol. III, pages 559-564.

In conformity with 'Abdu'l-Baha's words, Mr. Yamamoto was married in the home of Mrs. Helen S. Goodall, where both the Baha'is and Japanese friends gathered for the wedding feast. One who was present said that if it had been the daughter of the home, it could not have been more beautiful. Five boys and a daughter were born to this union. After this wife's death in 1919, Mr. Yamamoto married her sister with whom he had six children, making a family of twelve children, to all of whom he has been a faithful and devoted father. The children by his first wife were taught the Baha'i teachings by Mrs. Kathryn Frankland.

In the early days of the Baha'i Cause in Honolulu, as there was no home where the group could meet, Miss Muther, Clarence Smith and I would go on Saturday afternoons by trolley car to Pacific Heights. There on the hilltop, surrounded by nature, we would read together the Baha'i prayers and Tablets which illumined our hearts and minds. Thus began the first Baha'i meetings in Hawaii.

In April, 1903, Mrs. W. H. (Anna) Bailey of Oakland, California, came to Honolulu to visit her sister, Mrs. W. O. Smith. She had accepted the Message through her neighbor, Mrs. Helen S. Goodall, and had written to the Master, February 10, 1902. When Mrs. Goodall told her that her nephew, Clarence Smith, was also interested in the Cause, she was surprised and pleased. While in Honolulu on April 25, she accompanied Miss Muther, Clarence Smith, Mr. Yamamoto and myself to Pacific Heights when a small photograph was taken of this first Baha'i group in the Pacific Ocean. Mrs. Bailey visited the Islands again in 1906, remaining until the spring of 1907. After her return to Oakland, the Baha'is met in her home there.

I had longed to share my joy with my dearest childhood friend. God prepared her heart so that when I told her that a Prophet had come again to the earth, she burst into tears and said, "It is Christ! I have been thinking of His coming all this week." She became filled with the love of her Lord and wrote many beautiful letters expressing the joy she had found. In one of these she wrote: "I know I am with Him in soul sometimes for all is so clear that I am then so happy. His sweet face is before me so often . . . I am so truly with Him now. Oh, such love and sweetness in His face!" Then her husband became the test of her life and objected to her connection with the Cause. As she conceded to his wishes and ceased to meet with the believers or read the Baha'i writings, saying she must be silent and patient, her faith began to weaken. I wrote the Master and supplicated for her. In a Tablet to me dated October 31, 1913, He sent her the following Message:

Convey the utmost kindness to Mrs. . . . on my behalf and say: 'The doors of the Kingdom of God are open, the call of the Lord of the Kingdom is raised, the Bestowals of

the Almighty are endless and the effulgence of the Sun of Reality has illumined the East and the West. In such a time patience and tranquillity are not allowable. Thou must engage with infinite joy and happiness in the mention of the Forgiving Lord!'

In the same Tablet, which I received while in Brooklyn, New York, the Master directed me to travel towards Japan. It was several years before I again met my precious friend. She did not awaken to the Master's Call and trails came in her life. Through the mercy and bounty of God, may she again awaken and rejoice in her Lord!

In the summer of 1902, Miss Muther and I sowed the first seeds of the Baha'i Revelation on the island of Maui. Miss Muther gave the Message to Clarence Smith's eldest sister. She did not awaken, but many years later, his youngest sister, Mrs. Katherine Baldwin, became a steadfast believer. I was guided to give the Message to a dear aunt. After having told her the Good News, when I returned to visit her a second time, I wrote Miss Muther, October 13, 1902: "Aunt Annie seemed so happy to see me and was so eager to hear more of our Glorious News. I had three beautiful talks with her. She said, 'Oh, if I could believe it was Christ!' But she can't quite comprehend it all yet . . . After I had my first talk with her, Uncle Charley returned from a trip. He told Aunt that when he was at Mrs. Shaw's, she wanted him to read a letter she had received from a cousin in Canada telling her how she had received the Message . . . Aunt Annie was so interested she wrote and asked if it could be sent to her, that she had already heard of the Message."

My dear aunt wrote to the Master asking Him some questions. I also wrote Him and supplicated Him for a Tablet for her and also for a young man there to whom I had given the Message. 'Abdu'l-Baha poured out His great bounty to us in four Tablets which I received in Honolulu on February 20, 1903, through Mrs. Helen S. Goodall. Two of these Tablets were addressed to my aunt. One was in answer to the questions she asked the Master, and the other fulfilled my request for a Tablet for her. In the latter He wrote: "*Listen to the servant of God, Agnes.*" The third Tablet was addressed to the young man for whom I had supplicated a Tablet and the fourth one was to me. In answer to her questions, the Master wrote my aunt:

O thou who are advancing toward God!

Know verily that the reign of Jesus was a spiritual Reign - penetrative in the hearts and the spirits and not over the bodies, rocks and earth.

The fetters which Christ put to Satan's neck meant the breaking of his power, the hindering of his dominion and the dispersing of his assemblage through the power of Inspiration and Revelation. But as to those who deprive themselves of the spiritual Table and of the Fragrance of the Spirit of God, they are dead and devoid of Life. There is no immortality for them in this world nor in the Kingdom of God.

As to the sincere believers, verily they rejoice in the garden of the Mercy of their Lord, are glad, associate with one another and praise God for this bountiful blessing.

O maidservant of God, verily the life of the world is a dream. Neither itself nor its happiness is of any important station, but the great happiness is after the departure unto the Supreme Friend, entrance into the Paradise of Immortality and the Sublime Garden at the time of meeting and beholding.

To the young man 'Abdu'l-Baha addressed these words:

O thou who hast turned unto his Lord, the Supreme!

Verily, I pray God to choose thee for entrance into His Sublime Kingdom, to select thee for His Mercy, to elect thee for the Spreading of His Fragrance, to make thee utter the Truth among the creatures, to guide through thee the people who are led astray unto the Path of Guidance and to overflow thy heart with the wine of the Love of God, so that thou wilt forget thy being of the material world and rather think that thou art of the Heavenly Angels.

The Tablet addressed to me, translated by Mirza Ameen in Chicago, January 25, 1903, follows:

O thou bird warbling in the Garden of the Love of God!

Thank God that He has illumined thy insight, led thee unto the Fire glowing in the tree of man, caused thee to utter His praise among the creatures, and guided certain women to whom thou spoke the Word of God.

O maidservant of God, verily thy Lord lighteth the lamp of Love in the heart of whomsoever He chooseth. This is indeed the great happiness. He confirmeth him in the service of the Supreme Vineyard.

I pray God to confirm the relatives in attending to the Brilliant Light, to let the Lights of Insight shine forth to the hearts and sights, to aid thy friends in being illumined by the Light of El Baha and fed from the Heavenly Table, and to make thee empty, void from the thoughts of life of this world, and filled with the Love of thy Lord, ready for His service, uttering His Praise and demonstrating with proofs the appearance of the Kingdom of God.

My dear aunt and the young man failed to enter under the divine protection of the Covenant of God.

Miss Elizabeth Muther and Clarence Smith were also blessed with Tablets from the Beloved Master at that time. The first of these to Miss Muther, translated by Mirza Ameen, Chicago, October 25, 1902, follows:

O thou who are calling in the name of God, and heralding unto the Kingdom of God! Verily, I considered the contents of thy recent letter, thy beautiful writing, and I observed thy heartfelt thanks. Verily, my heart is filled with love and affection, overflowing with spiritual attraction.

Verily, know that the letter of 'Abdu'l-Baha and His address is a hidden mystery and concealed fact. No one is informed of its greatness and importance, at these times, but in the course of time and future centuries, the signs thereof will be manifested; the lights thereof will dawn forth; the fragrances thereof will be diffused, and the greatness, the importance thereof will be known.

The truth I say unto thee, that each leaflet from 'Abdu'l-Baha will be a wide-spread book, nay rather, a glistening gem on the Glorious Crown. Know thou its value and hold great its station. Then, praise God for that He chose thee to love Him and elected thee to spread His fragrance. He selected thee from among the women of the world, so that thou became a flame to the fire of His love, a sign of the Kingdom of His grace and a summoner to His Name, in humbleness and meekness, invocation and supplication to God.

Verily, I ask God to protect thee from the waves of tests and storms of trial, until thou becomest firm in the Cause of the Lord, a firmness whereby thou wilt be enabled to

withstand all nations and peoples. When thou art thus confirmed by God, with firmness and solidarity in His Covenant among the people, thou wilt see the Hosts of the Kingdom shelter thee from all sides with banners whereunto all heads bow.

O maidservant of God! It is incumbent upon thee to be firm! It is incumbent upon thee to be steadfast! It is incumbent upon thee to be steadfast in the Cause of the Light which has shown forth into the world with great brilliancy.

O maidservant of God! Verily, Mary the Magdalene was a villager, but she kept firm in the Cause of Christ and confirmed the Apostles at the time she declared to them: "Verily, Christ is alive and eternal and death did not overtake Him, and verily, the foundation of His religion is not shaken by His crucifixion at the hand of the oppressors." By this her face is eternally shining from the horizon of guidance.

O maidservant of God! The circumstances will be severe for every thankful servant in those boundaries and countries. The people shall arise against thee with the most bitter hatred, opposition and envy. Swords of persecution and curses shall be thrown at you by all the nations. The wind of tests and trials shall fiercely blow and thereby the weak trees which are not firmly rooted in this Wonderful Vineyard shall be uprooted. But the trees which are strong, thriving and green will be strengthened, their branches extended, their leaves opened, their appearance beautified and their blossoms and fruits increased.

I ask God to make thee one of those firm rooted trees and an extended branch in this most great Vineyard, and to make thy heart like unto a cup overflowing with His Love in every assemblage. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Generous!

Supplicate to God to guide Mrs. Ide so that she may become thy partaker of this great Bounty and to confirm the family of Mr. Clarence Smith, so that they may be blest with blessings and successive aids and with the appearance of the manifest signs. Thus all ye may become spreaders of the Banner of Union, Love, Harmony and Peace upon plains and deserts, hills and mountains.

Upon thee greeting and praise!

Miss Muther received another Tablet translated in Chicago by Mirza Ameen, January 25, 1903, as follows:

O thou who art firm in the love of God!

Verily, I read thy recent letter dated October 23, 1902, and I praised God for His Glorious Mercy and His blessings which are successively poured into the pure hearts.

I have written a reply to the letter of Kawanichi Yamamoto and have enclosed it with this letter. I ask God to make him a sign of guidance and to guide through him souls of his native land and of other people.

Verily, my Lord chooses whomsoever He willeth by His Mercy and Generosity for entrance into the Kingdom of Glory, and shineth the lights of (His) Beauty upon them. Blessed is he who keeps firm in the Path and stands for the Cause of thy Merciful Lord, a firmness like to the lofty mountains.

O maidservant of God! Verily, I pray God to sanctify thee from the material and thus clothe thee with the garment of Holiness and the mantle of purity, and send through thee the Glad Tidings of thy Lord, from the Kingdom of Heaven.

O maidservant of God! It is incumbent upon thee to be firm and steadfast, for by it man attains the greatest hope. Bear every difficulty and be content with any ordeal for the Love of thy Lord, so that thou mayest obtain that Favor, the lights of which shine throughout the horizons.

Upon thee be greeting and praise!

The two Tablets which were addressed to Clarence H. Smith follow:

O thou who art attracted unto the Beauty of El Abha! Verily I read thy recent letter dated August 12, 1902, and noted its beautiful contents and meanings which proved thy firmness in the Straight Path.

O Friend! Be set aglow with the fire of the Love of God, so that the hearts of the people will become enlightened by the Light of thy Love.

Supplicate to God, pray to Him and invoke Him at midnight and at dawn. Be humble and submissive to God, and chant the verses of thanksgiving at morn and eve, for that He guided thee unto the Manifest Light and showed to thee the straight path and destined to thee the station of nearness in His wonderful Kingdom. Verily, I ask God to augment for thee every day the light of guidance and His gift of virtue, comfort and ease. Thus thou mayest set a good example in that region, that He may lift up the veil from before the eyes of thy mother and father, so that they may witness the Lights of the Kingdom of God which have encompassed all regions.

The second Tablet to Clarence Smith, which was translated September 1, 1903, follows:

O thou who art advancing toward the Kingdom of God!

Verily, I read thy letter which was clear indication of thy lofty nature and exalted efforts, and of the fact that thine insight is opened and thy reality has partaken of the Divine Bounty which is descending from the Merciful Kingdom. Verily, I pray God to ordain for thee and the maidservant of God, Elizabeth Muther, and other beloved ones, a lofty station in the Kingdom of God, to inspire your hearts with the signs of (Divine) Unity and refresh your souls with a new spirit, so that ye may be rejoiced at the wonderful Bounty and call out with abundant joy: "Blessed are we for this great Day! Glad tidings be unto us for this New Bounty! Blessed are we for this Greatest Grace! Glad tidings be unto us through the effulgence of the Manifest Light! Blessed are we for the Dawning of the Sun of Truth from the Shining Horizon! Glad tidings be unto us for the gleaming of the lights of Guidance from the Dawning Place of the Beneficent One!"

Delivery my greetings and longings to my beloved ones and tell them were ye to become birds singing verses of thanksgiving to the Glorious Lord. (Words here missing from original - ed.)

O my dear one! Verily, I long for your meeting, but the wisdom of the Lord does not allow your coming at this time. The favorable time shall surely come for your presence at the pure Threshold, but for the present, arise you to serve the Cause of God with all power and authority and call the people unto the Greatest Name that preadventure they may awaken from sleep in this manifest morn which irradiates lights upon all in the world. This is no other than the ideal presence. This is no other than a glorious attainment.

In the summer of 1905, Clarence Smith left Honolulu, and

in January, 1906, he reached Italy where he later married and lived for a number of years. After his marriage he lost interest in the Cause. Although he remained in the Cause only a few years, yet through him the pure seed of the Revelation of Baha'u'llah was planted in his home in the blessed soul, Elizabeth Muther, and later in his sister, Mrs. S. A. (Katherine) Baldwin, both of whom became firm Baha'is.

Through Elizabeth Muther, Mrs. Otis, the soloist in Central Union Church, heard of the Cause in 1904. In November that year, while she was visiting in Oakland, California, she met Mrs. Helen Goodall and after her return to Honolulu in the winter of 1905, she wrote the Master accepting the Cause. She then opened her little home on Bates Street for weekly Baha'i meetings. It was the first home in Honolulu where the Baha'is were invited to meet. Mrs. George J. Augur, a sister of Mrs. Otis, attended the meetings although she said she felt satisfied in her Christian Faith. The time came when Mrs. Otis was about to leave the Islands, that Mrs. Augur invited the friends to meet in her hospitable home on Beretania Street in the heart of the city. That was the beginning of great blessings to the friends. From that time in 1907, the Augur home became the radiant center of the Cause in Honolulu where the weekly meetings were held and the Baha'i library kept. Except during the intervals when the Augurs were away from the Island, for many years the Baha'is met there, until in 1927, the home was sold and the Augurs moved to a beach apartment at Waikiki.

Dr. George Jacob Augur was a homeopathic physician who had come from Oakland, California, to practice his profession in Honolulu. A man of refined taste, he was independent in his convictions and accustomed to standing alone. Mrs. Augur had a mother heart of love which she showered on everyone. The time came when both Dr. and Mrs. Augur wholeheartedly accepted the Cause. Dr. Augur was gifted with rare spiritual insight in his comprehension of the station of 'Abdu'l-Baha and his love for Him. His words were few but he could quote from the words of Baha'u'llah and 'Abdu'l-Baha in answer to questions. He was blessed with six Tablets from the Master.

In 1908, while Mrs. Augur was in California, another friend invited us to meet in her home. From that time there was always a home where the Baha'is could meet. November 22, 1908, I wrote to one of the believers: "God's Spirit is moving in these little island spots and His love is spreading. Though we can only number three acknowledged Baha'is, still several are greatly attracted. Of the three acknowledged Baha'is, one is deprived at present of all intercourse with us. Every Friday we two Baha'is meet with others who are interested. We commence our meetings with a silent prayer and repeating the Greatest Name nine times and end in the same way . . ."

When Mrs. Augur returned to us she brought greetings to us from the believers of San Francisco and Oakland, strengthening the bond which was established between our groups. Miss Muther said that if 'Abdu'l-Baha were to ask her if we all were in harmony, she could answer from her heart's depth, "We are at peace."

Gradually the little group of believers in Honolulu grew. Miss Abby Frances Johnson, the daughter of the missionaries to Hawaii, Rev. and Mrs. Edward Johnson, accepted the Baha'i Message with great joy when she heard of it from Miss Muther. Her home was at Pearl City, and there the friends would gather for joyous Feasts, especially on Naw Ruz, when she gave the Feast for many years until she was called to a Higher Life. With loving enthusiasm she would serve the friends of the best she could give, after which all enjoyed reading Tablets and

Prayers and singing together. Thus the day was spent in love and unity, the friends going together by train from Honolulu. Miss Muther wrote of these Feasts, June 20, 1911, "I always feel uplifted whenever I go to dear Frances'. She is a dear beautiful soul, so faithful and true."

In a letter February 9, 1909, I wrote of the Feast we had celebrated at Miss Johnson's home: "Frances met us and threw her loving arms around each one in succession - she was so radiant, she is a wonder! I think her faith and love are strong enough to turn the world. I asked Frances if she would not like to write to 'Abdu'l-Baha. She replied she had been thinking of it but did not know just what to say - she thought she would say, "'Abdu'l-Baha, I am coming to Thee as a little child.'" Not long after this Miss Johnson wrote the Master and gave me the letter to send to Him. Then on April 1, 1909, she wrote me: "I must tell you that I am not at all satisfied with the letter I gave you - I might have said much more - I might have told the Master how my eyes have been opened - how much more wonderful everything seems - how much better I understand God's mighty power, infinite love and His Bounteous care - Agnes, sometimes the world seems filled with the Glory of God - I tell you, it is worth all the rest of my life just to have one day of this knowledge and foretaste of what is before us."

Miss Johnson was the recipient of two Tablets from the Master, one of which was addressed to the Honolulu Assembly. The one answering her supplication to the Master follows:

O thou maidservant of God!

Thank thou God that thou hast attained to that which thou hast been yearning for. Thou didst see the Kingdom established upon the apex of the world and didst behold the Heavenly Rays. Be thou thankful to Miss Muther who imparted to thee the Glad Tidings of the appearance of the Kingdom and guided thee to the Fountainhead of Eternal Life. Supplicate thou to the Lord of Hosts so that He may open the doors of knowledge and wisdom, make thee the cause of the guidance of multitudes of people and suffer thee to become a spiritual physician healing the sick hearts with the antidotes of Divine Guidance. But the Magnet which attracts the outpourings of God is firmness and steadfastness. Shouldst thou remain firm and steadfast in the befitting manner, thou shalt attain to all these bounties.

In a letter to Miss Johnson, January 18, 1911, Mr. J. H. Wilcott of Kendall, Montana, wrote: "Your most welcome letter reached us with great joy and uplift. You are a dear earnest worker of God, as I can see by your letter. One thing that struck me more than any other, was the love you had for each other in the Assembly. How loving you must all be! That is real unity and love . . . Your dear loving letter full of the Spirit of God will be sent to the Chicago Assembly to be read up there in these points which may be of help to others."

On February 3, 1921, at the age of eighty, Miss Johnson passed to her reward. The following is taken from the report of the Hawaiian Mission Children's Society: "... her soul peacefully answered the call as a tired child falls gently to sleep . . . Her whole life was the reflection of a beautiful soul which loved to labor in the service of Christ and to live her life for the welfare of others. After fourscore years of fruitful endeavor we can hear the Master's 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.'"

A dear childhood friend, Mrs. Ella Louise Rowland, whose heart was prepared by God, accepted the Message when I told her of it in 1909. Her daughter, Virginia, grew up in the Faith

and throughout the years they have remained faithful believers. From 1910, for many years, Mrs. Rowland served as the Recording Secretary of the Honolulu Baha'is. She writes in an article in the "Baha'i Magazine", of July, 1926:

You may be interested to know that from the first moment of my hearing the Glad Tidings of the coming of the Manifestation of God there were no doubts in my heart or mind, and whatever questions arose were from the desire to investigate and study, not only for myself, but rather that I might have something of value to share with humanity everywhere. The location of Hawaii being in the nature of a world center where various nationalities mingled in work and in every day activities of both spiritual and material progress, the idea of brotherhood and the realization of our dependence each upon the other was so early implanted in my life that I scarcely knew when it became evident to my consciousness, so it was but a step to grasp the significance of the Revelation of this New Day, and I only wish that I had shown earlier in life the hunger which my soul held for the Baha'i Teachings when my life-long friend, Miss Agnes Alexander, shared them with me.

The beautiful poems from Mrs. Rowland's gifted pen have been an inspiration to many. In 1910, she wrote the following:

Faith

Why do I smile though shadows creep across the future years?

Why do I smile when others weep and I should share their tears?

Have we not the promise of God who loves and shields us all?

Though the night be dark and the hillside steep,
He hears us when we call.

The dawn lies beyond the shadows of night; the light of day is ours.

There is joy in tears that are shed for love; the dew but brightens the flowers.

Then smile with me though your eyes be dim and the lessons of life severe;

They are stepping stones to a Higher Life and the spirit of God is near.

Awake, O Friends of God, awake!

And build the Temple strong!

He stands to guide and help us all

Why linger ye so long?

Search thou thy heart, thy soul and strength

For service to your King.

He stands with hands outstretched to aid,

O hasten, treasures bring.

What right have we to treasures rare

While He stands waiting long?

Forget yourself in His great love

And build the Temple strong.

Mrs. Rowland was blessed with three Tablets from the Master. The first of these, dated March 27, 1920, was also addressed to her daughter Virginia:

O ye two loved maidservants of God!

Your letter arrived. It was indicative of your firmness in the Covenant. For then, for thy daughter and . . . I supplicate to the Kingdom of God. Such is my hope that thou mayest attain immense confirmation in the islands of Honolulu and illumine those islands with the Light of the Love of God; spread the Teachings of His Holiness Baha'u'llah and impart the Spirit of Life to the people.

The second Tablet, dated June 21, 1921, follows:

O thou who art firm in the Covenant!

Thy letter was received. It gave the glad tidings that the truthful servant of God and His dear maidservant, Dr. and Mrs. Augur, hold meetings, sing the heavenly melody, encourage and incite the people to enter the Kingdom, and in the neighborhood of the island raise the call and fame of the Cause of God and draw the hearts to the Covenant . . . Meditate and commune with God. 'Abdu'l-Baha is exceedingly kind to thee.

Strive so that thou mayest become the symbol of guidance. Everyone finds his happiness in something; one in earthly wealth and riches, another in high positions, another in pomp and glory, and still another in travel and trips. All these, however, are temporary, of no consequence and will at last die out. Praise be unto God that thy happiness is centered in the bounties of His Holiness Baha'u'llah. This is the sovereignty of the Kingdom.

The third Tablet was dated October 8, 1921, as follows:

O thou maidservant of God!

Thy letter arrived. It has the glad tidings of the unity of the friends. No news brings such joy and pleasure as that of the unity of the friends. As the Baha'is in those islands are one and united, there is no doubt that the luminosity of the Kingdom will illumine those islands, like unto a spiritual rose garden, will decorate it with flowers and myrtle, the Word of God will penetrate and the Holy Spirit will bestow life. It is my hope that thy daughter will become completely attracted to the Kingdom of Abha, will light the lamp of guidance and illumine that island.

Since 1933, Mrs. Rowland has lived in California where she has made a home for her daughter and granddaughter, Dorothy.

Another dear soul who was attracted to the Cause was Mrs. Augustus (Margaret) Knudsen, whose home was on Kauai. The latter revealed for her the following Tablet which was translated July 7, 1909:

O thou who art attracted to the Kingdom of God!

Thank thou God that thou hast heavenly sentiments, and art drawing confirmations from the Spirit of the Messiah. The evidence of this confirmation is attainment to the knowledge of God and the aspiration for peace and salvation, the love of mankind and the power and strength of the soul and spirit.

Consider thou that 'Abdu'l-Baha is proving the validity of Christ through divine argument, brilliant traces and infinite outpourings, so that the Christians may attain to the Truth of His Highness Christ and other nations likewise may realize His greatness. Nevertheless these Christians dislike me very much and turn away from me. How heedless are they, and how submerged they are in worldly vanities!

Of Christ they know nothing but a name and of His Teachings they realize not even a trace. They worship His name and not His Spirit. If they knew His Reality they would undoubtedly execute His instructions and would act according to His good pleasure. Now thank thou God that thou hast partaken of a share from His Highness the Christ and I hope thou wilt act in accord with His divine teachings.

The first Baha'i travelers enroute to the Orient to stop in

Honolulu were Mr. Charles Mason Remey of Washington, D.C., and Mr. Howard C. Struven, of Baltimore, Md. In a Tablet to Mr. Remey, 'Abdu'l-Baha wrote: "Rest thou assured that the confirmation of the Blessed Perfection shall encircle thee from all sides. Travel thou with Mr. Howard Struven to Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, and from there depart toward Japan."

Before the coming of the brothers, Miss Josephine Locke, who had visited 'Abdu'l-Baha in 'Akka, and whom I had met in Paris in 1901, came to Honolulu, where she gave a series of lectures on Dante's "Paradise", and also on art. Although she was a Theosophist, God used her to bring people together and thus pave the way for the Baha'i visitors.

Mr. Remey had written me before coming to Honolulu: "As yet we do not know whether we will remain over for more than a few hours . . . if we lay over it will have to be for three weeks." He suggested that we might have two meetings the day of their arrival while the steamer was in port, one meeting for the Baha'is to talk intimately together, and the other for Truth seekers. Later he wrote: "Our own will must not enter into the matter. All which we desire is His Will."

For seven years the Baha'is of Honolulu had been isolated by material distance from other Baha'is, and the coming of the brothers was a great and joyful event. In the early morning of November 23, 1909, Miss Frances Johnson, who had come from her home in Pearl City, Dr. and Mrs. Augur, Mrs. Ella Rowland, myself and others assembled on the wharf to welcome the travelers. Joy filled our hearts when Mr. Remey called from the steamer, "Three weeks!" At eleven o'clock, eleven Baha'is gathered at the Augur home for a meeting with the brothers.

Mr. Remey was the spiritual son of May Bolles Maxwell, whom I had met in Paris. In God's plan he was to be the first to bring the Cause before the public in Honolulu. Thus the pure seeds of the Baha'i Revelation sown in Paris were again scattered in Hawaii. Mr. Remey had written, "It seems to me that many things have gone before to prepare the way for the reception of the Message in a more public way."

I had sought for a home large enough to accommodate an audience to whom Mr. Remey could give the Baha'i Message. As I did not succeed, I went to the Augur home and asked Ruth Augur to pray with me for God's assistance. The guidance came to me to ask my father's permission to hold the meeting in the 'lanai' (open room) in our home. Through God's assistance, he gave his consent. Then I hastened to invite those who were Truth seekers. The morning the brothers arrived all was arranged.

At two o'clock P.M. that memorable day, the first Baha'i lecture was given to non-Baha'is at the home of my parents where a Christian Science Church stands today on Punahou Street. About forty persons were present to hear Mr. Remey. A reporter who came published an account of the lecture in the next morning's paper. That marked a turning point when the Cause in the Islands took on new life. Although my dear father gave his consent that I could hold the meeting in his home, he had not realized at the time what it meant. When the newspaper article appeared about the Baha'i lecture, it caused a crisis which in reality strengthened the Cause. From that time the hospitality of Honolulu was extended to the visitors and Mr. Remey was invited to speak on the Cause in many homes where groups of friends gathered to hear him. Through the invitation of a friend, he was invited three times to speak at the New Thought Center where seekers of Truth gathered each week.

The first public Baha'i lectures in Honolulu were given by Mr. Remey on November 29, 1909, at the Alexander Young Hotel, which was attended by about seventy-five persons. He also spoke one Sunday morning at the Oahu Prison when the Baha'is had charge of the service, telling the prisoners of the Glad Tidings of the New Day. During the three weeks the brothers remained in Honolulu, they devoted all their time to the promotion of the Cause. Besides the lectures and talks given by Mr. Remey, several articles about the Cause were published in the newspaper, resulting in a new era for the Faith in the Islands. Shortly before the visitors sailed for Japan, a photograph was taken of them and the friends in the garden at the Augur home. When they departed from our shores, the Baha'is and friends bade them farewell at the steamer with flowers and fruit.

Newspaper article from THE PACIFIC COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER, Honolulu, Hawaii, Territory, Monday, November 29, 1909, Page 1.

WOULD UNITE ALL RELIGIONS

Followers of the Baha Explain Their Expectations. UNIVERSAL PEACE IS COMING World Arriving at Spiritual Maturity, and War Will Be Banished.

The establishment of a universal religion and of universal peace is the modest task set for themselves by the Baha'is, two of whose teachers are now in Honolulu disseminating their propaganda. Charles Mason Remey, assistant professor of architecture in the George Washington University, Washington, D.C., and Howard C. Struven, of Baltimore, are traveling around the world teaching the Baha'i movement, or the doctrine of Baha'u'llah. This doctrine they not only hope, but confidently believe, is to become the religion of the world -- or, rather, is to unite all the religions of the world, all the jarring sects, and bring about an era of universal peace.

"We believe," says Professor Remey, the chief spokesman of the two, "that the world is coming to spiritual maturity. There is a general spiritual awakening manifesting itself throughout the world which promises well. The general tendency of the human race is toward universal peace, universal harmony. We would do away with wars and contentions, but that comes later. Our present task is to change men's hearts."

"We are not proselytizing," the two men say. "We are not seeking to convert people. The word convert is not in our vocabulary. Our idea is to go through the world and give the message where we have the chance, where people are willing to listen. We simply present the truth to them and they can do with it as they will. We have no organization, no membership, no churches, and, therefore, nothing to proselytize for. Our teachers are all self supporting. We have no priesthood or clergy, and no form of public worship."

Believe in Prayer

"We do believe, however, in individual prayer."

"To whom -- or to what?" Professor Remey was asked.

"To God. We believe in God, one God."

"But what god? You say your idea is to unite all religions. Which God of all the religions is the God the Baha'is?"

"There is but one God," Professor Remey said, "the God of the Christian religion."

"And you expect to induce the adherents of other gods to believe in your God?"

Baha'is in Honolulu

"We are having great success throughout the whole world.

We have sixty or seventy centers in the United States. Our movement is strong in Persia, Russia, Syria, Burma, India, Turkey, and other countries. We have a few followers in Honolulu -- twelve or fifteen, I believe. Our idea is one that can be accepted by adherents of all other religions. We do not aim to tear down other religions; our purpose is to break down the differences between them, the differences which are really man-made, not God-made, not of truth. We would do away with creeds and dogmas, not with religions."

The Baha'is claim three teachers, the first of whom was Bab, the forerunner of "He whom God would manifest." After the death of Bab, Baha'u'llah declared himself the one who was to be manifested, and the sect takes its name from him. He was succeeded by his son, Abbas Effendi, who is now in Acre.

Ranks with Christ

These three men, Professor Remey says, were great teachers, divinely inspired and ranking with Jesus Christ, Zoroaster, Mohamet. Buddha and Confucius take a lower rank, being simply great philosophers. They did not bring anything new into the world, as did Christ, Zoroaster and Mohamet, but simply instructed the people in what already existed.

The two teachers who are here say that they do not try to force their ideas on anyone. They do not argue the matter but simply state what they believe and leave it to the intelligence of those who hear them to recognize the truth. They feel that the truth is so apparent that they do not have to insist upon it.

"We find a great interest manifested all over the world," they say. Professor Remey said that last year he traveled through Europe, Syria, Turkey and many other countries and everywhere he found the people ready to listen to him and many of them ready to accept his teachings. There are several thousand Baha'is in the United States and the number, Professor Remey says, is increasing rapidly.

Professor Remey and Mr. Struven arrived here on the China, November 23, and expect to be in Honolulu until the Asia sails December 14. They will give a lecture at the Young Hotel at eight o'clock this evening, at which their doctrine will be explained.

Teachings of Baha'u'llah

An outline of the Baha'i teachings is contained in a pamphlet which Professor Remey had with him. Baha'ism appears to be summarized in the following extracts from the writing of Baha'u'llah.

"We desire but the good of the world and the happiness of the nations. That all nations should become one in faith, and all men as brothers; that the bonds of affection and unity between the sons of men should be strengthened . . . These fruitless strifes, these ruinous wars shall pass away and 'The Most Great Peace' shall come . . . Let not a man glory in this, that he loves his country; let him rather glory in this, that he loves his kind."

The following is extracted from the Baha'i outline:

"The object of the Baha'i movement is Divine Unity of man with God, which unity manifests itself in the brotherhood of mankind. This is being brought about, not by attacking the different religious systems, but by confirming the same, and by showing that this revelation of today is but another outpouring of the One Divine Truth which in different epochs of the past has been poured out upon humanity."

"From the earliest times God has, through His prophets, revealed His Truth to the world. Although the persons of these teachers have been different, yet the truth which they all

taught has been the same. Each revealed God in the measure that the people of his time were able to receive, yet it was the One Light of God which shone through them all."

Heaven and hell are conditions of soul. The soul which lives in God is in that divine state called Heaven, while one not yet awakened to the glory of God is in a state of darkness, or hell."

The Bab

"In the month of May, 1844, there appeared in Persia a teacher calling himself the Bab, and proclaiming himself to be the forerunner of 'He whom God would manifest'. One who would shortly appear with manifest spiritual power and establish the Divine Kingdom upon the earth. The ministry of the Bab lasted six years and was followed by his martyrdom, which was brought about by the Mohammedan clergy upon the charge of heresy."

Baha'u'llah

"Shortly after the martyrdom of the Bab, the one whose coming he had foretold appeared in the person of Baha'u'llah. Under the most severe persecution, Baha'u'llah, together with some of his followers, was exiled to Turkey in Europe, and later on in 1868 was sent to the town of Acre, a penal colony situated on the Mediterranean, just north of Mt. Carmel, in Syria. Upon arrival here Baha'u'llah made his declaration to the world in the form of letters to the kings and rulers of the earth in which he declared to all his divine mission. Here in Acre he lived and taught until he passed out of this mortal world in the year 1892. While during his ministry he gave his teachings and spiritual instructions, yet during that time his cause was not explained and established in the world in general. To this end, Baha'u'llah commanded his followers, upon his departure, to turn their faces toward his son, Abbas Effendi, as their spiritual guide, the explainer of his teachings, the one who would establish his cause in the world, the one upon whose shoulders his mantle would fall."

'Abdu'l-Baha Abbas

"Abbas Effendi, who was born May 23, 1844, now a state prisoner in the town of Acre, makes but one claim for himself -- that of service in the Path of God. He signs himself Abdu'l-Baha Abbas, which means 'Abbas the servant of God'. He is regarded by the Baha'is as their spiritual leader and example to be followed in teaching this great faith in the world. He, through his example, is making the spiritual life of Baha'u'llah possible, and within the reach of his followers, the Baha'is."

"While this great latter-day movement for religious unity has had three teachers, the central point about which all focus is Baha'u'llah, from whom the believers take their name, Baha'is. While there is no personal return of God's prophets or messengers, the same spirit of Divinity which spoke through them in the past has again appeared in this day as a point of direction for the spiritual union of all people."

"Bab is the Persian and Arabic word for door or gate."

Newspaper Article from THE PACIFIC COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER, Second Section, Tuesday, November 30, 1909, Page 1.

WHAT THE BAHAI MOVEMENT REALLY IS

Editor Advertiser: -- As public attention is being called to the "Baha'i movement", a brief sketch of the early history of the sect may be of interest to your readers. The best authorities on the subject are Count de Gobineau's great work on the

"Religions and Philosophies of Central Asia", and the works of Prof. E. G. Browne, lecturer in Persian to the University of Cambridge.

The Persians never thoroughly assimilated the religion of Mohammad, and never forgot that it had been forced upon them by the sword. A product of the Arabian desert, it was uncongenial to the Persian mind and character. The first result of this was the great schism which rent the Mohammendan world into two hostile sects, the Sunnites and the Shiites, the latter of which includes all Persian and many Indian Moslems.

The Shiites hold that Ali, the first cousin and son-in-law of the Prophet, was his legitimate successor, and that the three Caliphs who preceded him were usurpers, and they devote the greater part of the month of Moharrem to passionate mourning for the assassination of Ali, and the murder of his two sons, Hassan and Hussein, the latter of whom had married the daughter of the Persian king. They hold that Ali's rightful authority was transmitted to the line of his descendants, his successors being styled, not Caliphs, but Imams. The twelfth Imam (the Mahdi) disappeared from earth in 937 A.D., but is expected to come again in power, and right all wrongs. Another result of the inherent antagonism between the Arab and Persian modes of thought was the rise of the Sufi mystical philosophy, which has extensively pervaded Persian thought. It is at bottom a pantheistic philosophy, similar to the Vedanta of India. It teaches that "nothing absolutely exists but God". All else is illusion. The highest state of bliss is absorption into the Eternal, to sink like a bubble into the ocean of Divine Life. It leads to indifference of moral distinctions, denial of the freedom of the will, and to self-indulgence, as is seen in the lives of many of its devotees, or to a dreamy Quietism. It is extremely tolerant, for "all paths lead to God". It has been clothed in beautiful literary garb by the genius of the great lyric poets Hafiz, Saadi, Jalalud Din and others. Babism also has with reason been regarded as "one of the numerous sects of Sufism, directed into a more practical channel".

It was founded in Persia in 1844-5 by Mirza Ali Muhammed of Shiraz, a young Sayyid, or descendant of the Prophet, about thirty years of age. Before his "manifestation", he was a disciple of the Sayyid Kazim of Rasht, the head of the sect of Shaikis, which is characterized by the doctrine that at all times there must exist an intermediary between the twelfth Imam and his followers. This intermediary is styled the "Bab" or "Door", through which alone the twelfth Imam, during the period of his "occultation", holds communication with the faithful. "It is in this sense," says Prof. E. G. Browne, "and not in the sense of 'gate of God', that the title 'Bab' was understood and assumed by Ali Muhammed, but he soon assumed the higher title of 'Nukta', 'Point' (or Manifestation of the Divine Will), and conferred the title 'Bab' on his ardent disciple, Mulla Husayn." The history of the Bab movement down to the martyrdom of the Bab at Tabriz, July 8, 1840,* and the terrible persecution brought on by the attempt of three Babis to assassinate the late Shah, Nasiru-d Din, in 1852, is of thrilling interest, and is well told by Count Gobineau. The doctrines of Babism are mainly contained in an Arabic treatise entitled the "Bayan", written by the Bab himself, which Gobineau has translated for us. It is essentially a system of Pantheism tinged by additions from Gnostic and other sources. It is therefore consistent for it to represent the Divine Nature to be incarnated in certain great prophets, Moses, Jesus, Mohammed and the Bab, each of whom is an advance on his predecessor. Great importance is attached to the number seven, and to nineteen, which mystically expresses the

name of the Deity himself. The year is to be divided into nineteen months, each of which shall contain nineteen days, besides four festival days. An organized priesthood of nineteen members, among whom the latest incarnation of the Divine Nature was conceived to be distributed, was to govern the Babi Church. At the Last Judgement the righteous will be absorbed into the Divine Nature, losing their personality while the wicked will be annihilated.

*July 9, 1850 (error in original)

The moral precepts of the Bab give evidence of a humane and gentle nature. He proposed to abolish the veiled seclusion of women, as well as polygamy, forbade the use of alcoholic liquors or opium, did away with the pilgrimage to Mecca, and the kibra, condemned mendicancy, and enjoined hospitality, charity and the kind treatment of children.

The writings of the Bab are full of prophecies of the future advent of "He whom God shall manifest", or the Mahdi who will bring in a more complete revelation. In the year before his death he appointed Mirza Yahya of Nur, as his successor, under the title of Subh-i-Ezel, (the Morn of Eternity), who escaped to Bagdad, and became the pontiff of the sect. He lived, however, in great seclusion, leaving the direction of affairs almost entirely in the hands of his elder half brother, Mirza Husayn Ali, entitled Baha'u'llah (the Splendor of God), who thus gradually became the most influential member of the sect, although in his book, the Iskan*, written in 1858-59, he still implicitly recognized the supremacy of Subh-i-Ezel.

*Iskan (error made in the original)

In 1863, however, Baha declared himself to be "He whom God shall manifest", and summoned all Babis to acknowledge his claim. A large majority submitted, but Subh-i-Ezel and a number of his faithful adherents refused. Nearly twenty of the leading Ezelis were at different times assassinated. Since that time the Babis have been divided into two sects, of which the Babis have steadily gained and the Ezelis lost ground so that at the present day there are probably only a hundred or two of the latter left.

In 1863, the Babis of both parties were at the instance of the Persian government removed from Bagdad to Adrianople. Again, in 1868 Baha and his followers were exiled to Acre in Palestine, and Subh-i-Ezel, with his few adherents, removed to Famagusta in Cyprus. Baha died at Acre, May 16**, 1892, and was succeeded by his son, Abbas Effendi, whose claims, however, were contested by another son, named Muhammed Ali. The former appears to have the support of the main body of the sect.

As soon as Baha was firmly established in his new authority, he proceeded to make use of it to abrogate, change and develop the Babite doctrines. His chief aim seems to have been to do away with irksome and unpractical regulations, to conciliate Christians and Jews, to diminish the Mohammedan features of Babism, and thus to render it more palatable to western converts. This policy seems to have been highly successful. At present an effort is being made to raise sufficient funds to provide for the erection of a mosque in Chicago, to be called "Mashrak-el-Azkar".

W.D.A.

**May 29 (error made in the original)

After the brothers left Honolulu, they wrote the friends: "January 10, 1910. As for the kindness received while with you, all I can say is that we will endeavor to tell 'Abdu'l-Baha of all and will supplicate for His Blessing upon you and upon your shores. Already we have written of our visit to Him, as well as to the believers in Acre ('Akka)."

In a Tablet to Mr. John D. Bosch, 'Abdu'l-Baha wrote: "*In reality Mr. Remey and Mr. Struven have pure hearts and brilliant souls. They are engaged in the service of the Kingdom and are sacrificing their lives in the path of God.*"

One day our dear sister, Miss Frances Johnson, learned that a friend, Mrs. Grace Crockett, was going with a party to Europe and would visit Palestine. Miss Johnson told her of our Faith and gave her some Baha'i literature, urging her to go to see the Master while in Palestine. Through this dear lady, who was a devoted Christian, a great blessing came to the Honolulu friends. In May, 1910, she met the Master in Haifa and wrote to Miss Johnson: "I must tell you a little about Palestine, and about one experience in particular. A visit to Palestine does certainly make the Bible seem like a new book, and brings home to one's heart the reality of Christ's life and teachings. I felt this particularly at Nazareth, the home of His boyhood, and at the Sea of Galilee, which is so associated with His ministry. We had a lovely early morning row on the peaceful lake, and the memories of Christ that came to us seemed to make His presence very real.

"Now I know you will be eager to hear of my interview with the one in Palestine whose teachings mean so much to you, the Prophet, or 'Abbas Effendi, as He is generally called. I found that He is not now kept a prisoner at 'Akka, but since the order of constitutional government in Turkey, He is free to live in His house in Haifa, nearby, and go and come as He will.

"I planned my trip so that I could stop and see Him, for I remember when you gave me some of the literature to read, you said: 'If you go to Egypt, Palestine is not far away, and you will surely want to see Him.' So I planned for the interview with Him when the others of our party went to 'Akka for a drive. (Perhaps you know that Haifa is a pretty little town, right at the foot of Mt. Carmel.)

"Well, I sent word to Him of my wish to see Him, and He replied that He would see me in the afternoon, as His time was taken up that morning in seeing some people from India. So I went to His house at the time appointed, and was shown into the presence of an old man, clothed in the flowing robe of a Persian, with white hair and a long white beard, and eyes that seemed to look me through, and yet were most friendly, too. It was the Prophet! He received me most graciously, with His interpreter, a young Syrian, a student at the American Missionary College at Beirut.

"I told Him first about the little circle of His friends in far off Honolulu, you who meet together to discuss his teachings, and I told Him of your love and loyalty. He seemed very happy at this, and His face lightened as He asked for the names of those who knew and loved Him . . . He sent you all His love and blessing, and said He would pray for each one of you, and He added: *'Tell them that they have a great mission, to make the blind eyes see, to make the deaf ears hear, and to shed the light of knowledge where the darkness of ignorance prevails.'*

"That was His message to you. He talked with me for some time, first telling me of His country, Persia, of His life, and then of His teachings. As He talked with me, I felt my heart soften under the influence of His goodness and kindness, and the tears came to my eyes. He asked me about myself, if I were

well, and if I were happy. I replied to the latter question, 'I have had many sorrows.'

"Forget them!", He answered. "When your heart is filled with the love of God, there will, not be room for sorrow, there will only be love and happiness.

"I cannot tell you the sweet sympathy of His voice as He said those beautiful and comforting words. Then He had the attendant bring in tea, a cup for Him and a cup for me. We drank together, wishing each other health and happiness, and then He told me that He hoped He should take tea with me in the Kingdom of Heaven. (Was that not a pretty thought?) When I praised the tea, He said it was real Persian tea, and presented me with a package to take away with me. When I finally said goodbye, He put his hand on my head and blessed me, and wished that might be a blessing . . . I went away feeling softened, uplifted and blessed.

"I am so glad you told me of Him and urged me to see Him. He wrote His name in my book for me, and told me always to remember the day as He would always remember it. I tell you all these little incidents as I know they will interest you."

Mrs. Crockett never returned to Honolulu. In 1926 I met her in Berkeley, California, where we spent several happy hours together. She told me that it was with difficulty and the ridicule of her friends that she left them to meet the Master. She had the great blessing of being the only person from Hawaii to meet the Beloved Master in Palestine.

Among the friends attracted to the Cause in those days were two sisters, Mrs. J. D. (Laura) Marques and Mrs. J. B. (Eleanor) Freitas. Their parents had left the Madeira Islands with a group of Protestant Portuguese who were seeking religious freedom, and came to the United States where they settled in Jacksonville, Illinois. In 1890, their father, Rev. E. N. Pires, came to Honolulu to work among the Protestant Portuguese, and later his daughters followed him. In Honolulu they married young men who had come with their parents from the Madeira Islands. Today both sisters and their husbands are active Baha'is faithfully serving the Cause.

In the years 1910 to 1912, an active friend in the Cause was Mrs. W. H. (Gersta) Graham. The Baha'i Feasts were usually held at her home where the friends met together in great love and unity. Such a Feast was held on December 31, 1910, when the friends united at the midnight hour in repeating the Greatest Name. Through Mrs. Graham's efforts, the believers were invited to hold meetings at Oahu Prison, where for three years they conducted the Easter service, distributing flowers to the inmates. On Mother's Day, flowers for their buttonholes were given to the men. Another service arranged by Mrs. Graham, was visits to the Leahi Home for consumptives. Her father, Captain Henry Berger, was the conductor of the Hawaiian Band, and on one occasion the band accompanied eleven of the friends to the Home where a concert was given and flowers, cakes and candies distributed.

In April, 1910, the believers started what was then called a business meeting. Twice a month they met to conduct the increasing work which the active followers were attempting to accomplish in a humble way. The first meeting was held at the Augur home on April 1, 1910. At these meetings letters were read from distant lands which brought the friends in close fellowship with the believers of the Orient, particularly the Holy Land and Persia. When later, the Spiritual Assembly was formed, the meeting continued to be held twice a month.

The Honolulu believers welcomed Sigurd Russell in February, 1910. He had been brought up in France where I met him

in Paris in 1901. As he had visited the Master several times in 'Akka, he had much to share. He remained a few months in Honolulu, then returned in 1911 for a second time. Clarence Smith had met him in Paris, and they had exchanged letters. In a letter, September 19, 1904, he wrote Clarence Smith from Chateau de Lancy, France, where he was attending school: "Both your letters were received. It was a great joy to me to hear from a friend so far and yet so near . . . I have related in my previous letter that I was in a school and am still there. Among many of all nations and situations, most are my age, but seem to show that they will be very far from God - I wish I could help them.

"Dear brother, a week or so ago I had great and wonderful news from the city (loved city) of 'Akka. I do not know whether you know it yet. I could relate it a thousand times with joy. Think! After three years of close imprisonment, of breathing impure air, of being in the city of wicked prisoners, our Lord (rouhi fedah) who will in the future be known to the world if you and I, who are all His lovers, keep well united. He, the object of our divine love and servitude, He, the Master, had, through a new governor, the permission to leave after three years, 'Akka, for one day, to visit the Tomb of the Blessed Perfection. All of us here are feasting with joy. That one day gives food for our hearts, which cry so much over the cruelty inflicted upon our Lord, 'Abdu'l-Baha (may my blood be shed in His Path). Oh, if you had seen, dear brother, in His prison, seen the wickedness of His enemies, I am sure it would have touched your heart like it did mine. Think of His own brother who, when I was there, swore that he would not be happy or in peace until he had drunk the blood of our Master. Oh! And yet our Beloved One treats him kindly. Verily, I suffer over all my Father's suffering. I cannot understand that after these terrible things how people still dispute and turn their faces away from their Savior. How ungrateful man is. Remember that our Lord teaches us to be united like those of Persia. Nothing is more pleasing to Him than to see the believers well united. It is only through self-denial, love, unity that they have attained such martyrdom - favors from the Mighty God. What big steps we have got to make. How hard is the every day struggle - struggle for the Light of the soul - but what a reward and help before the end of the fight to know our Savior 'Abdu'l-Baha, to be able to pray to Him - any prayer - what a gift, to be able in spite of our wickedness, to thank, speak, beg from God our Father, our Creator. Life is glorious thus with God - such a true Friend - knowing Him is not knowing misery or troubles. We have only to cling to Him - He must be the blood of our hearts, the light of our souls. We mortals must want nothing - have nothing but Him - then will come the peace, the happiness which so many have sought - the miniature of Heaven . . .

"Dear brother, I hope that you are well and beg for your prayers. Prayers can save those on earth as well as those in Heaven . . . The Cause is rising - for nothing can stop the Word of the Merciful Mighty God."

In January 1911, the Honolulu believers started evening meetings for teaching the Cause. Until then Dr. Augur had been the only male member of the group. His office adjoined his home so that he was able to be present at the meetings held there.

A Baha'i sister, Mrs. Georgina Harvey, came in 1911, to sojourn in Honolulu, and later, Mrs. Harriet Laughlin visited Honolulu for the second time. It was always a joy when the steamers from California brought us these spiritual reinforcements.

In May 1911, the Honolulu Baha'is received a blessing through the visit of Mme. Aurelia Bethlen, who was on her way to the Orient. Some of the friends met and welcomed her when her steamer arrived, after which a joyous afternoon was passed in love and unity at the Augur home while her steamer remained for a few hours in port. On May 30th, she wrote from Japan: "In your meeting I found the love of God go forth with such a splendor. I pray that His love increases in your midst."

After Mme. Bethlen reached the Master in Ramley, Egypt,

THE BAHAI CAUSE IN HAWAII (1912 - 1922)

In 1911 the Honolulu Baha'is united to arrange and publish a calender of daily verses taken from the Baha'i Writings, the proceeds from which were to be given to the Baha'i Temple Fund. To accomplish this each Baha'i was asked to contribute his or her favorite Baha'i verses. The calendar was printed at the Honolulu Advertiser press. When it appeared in 1912, the daily Honolulu Advertiser published three articles describing it. In the first of these was the following:

"The latest calendar - so late that the year had to begin before it was dry from the presses, is the Unity Calendar. The cause for delay was the epidemic of dengue in the press rooms of the Advertiser which made work impossible for many of the employees for many days just during the busy season.

"There are twenty pages with thirty pictures of the most interesting and best places in Hawaii. For each day there is a sound, comforting sentiment, which will help you live a day out with a good thought in your head. It is called 'Unity' because everyone having one of these calendars in any part of the world will be united in thought each day with others having the calendar.

"If everyone in Honolulu could, or would, read the saying for each day with all of his townspeople, we would have a 'United Honolulu' that would make living more than worthwhile."

A second article stated: "The Unity idea is based upon the request that, 'In order that 'Abdu'l-Baha and his Light Bearers and their friends may unite each day in reading the same words, this calendar is lovingly sent forth by the Baha'i Assembly of Honolulu.'"

A friend who offered to attend to the printing, unconscious of what she was doing, inserted words of her own into the calendar. This was a great test to the Baha'is, but for the sake of love they remained silent, abiding by 'Abdu'l-Baha's words that through love wrong would right itself. This they proved, but the calendar paid only for its printing. Mr. Thornton Chase wrote at the time that even though they did not raise money for the Temple Fund, the act of working together in love and unity brought blessings.

On March 26, 1912, Miss Elizabeth Muther sailed from Honolulu on her way to attend the Baha'i Temple Unity Convention in Chicago. There she had the great blessing of meeting the Beloved Master who sent through her His greetings to the Honolulu believers. He said to her: "From afar! From afar! I entertain the greatest love for them (Honolulu friends) because they are so far away, but yet they have promulgated the Word of God there. They have heard it from afar, therefore I am attached to them and bear my greetings to all of

on December 26, 1911, she wrote: "My dearest sisters and brothers! I told Him that I am writing to you and so His Holiness sends His love and greetings to you. The other day I was telling Him of your love and unity and that you all are so good and that your love to Him is very great, and He said: 'I love the friends of Honolulu very much because they are good and are lovers of each other and live in unity. I am always with them and because of their love and unity they shall not be in want of anything. The more they unite and love each other, the greater will be the bounties of Baha'u'llah to them. I love them very much.'"

them."

When the Honolulu believers learned in September, 1912, that 'Abdu'l-Baha had reached California, they united in love and sent a cable to Him expressing their desire that if it was God's will, He would come to Honolulu. The answer to their request came when our dear sister, Mrs. Adelaide White, and her husband met Him at a meeting in San Francisco on October 7. The Master addressed Mrs. White saying:

You have taken great trouble. You have come a long way. You are very welcome. How are the friends of God in Honolulu? Are there many?

Answer: There are about fifteen.

Very good. How long does it take to come here?

Answer: Six days.

But we have come from a more distant point. We have traversed an arc to see you.

Mrs. White: Are you going to Honolulu?

'Abdu'l-Baha: There is no time to go to Honolulu. I desire to go there and see the friends, and from there to go to Japan, China, India, but I have not the time. It is a long time since I left the Holy Land. You have come and it is just the same. You are representative of the rest. How are the friends? Are they attracted? Are they severed? Are they rejoicing? Inasmuch as they are living where they are, they should be much attracted. They are situated so far from the Holy Land, they should be very much attracted. The fact is they have capacity, and that is why they became believers. Evidently they are endowed with capacity. If they were not they would not be so united. It is good to be so far away on an island, and yet be near in the spirit, because places that are far from the Lamp, their traces and rays are not so visible. In places surrounding the Lamp, the light is more evident. When a place is far from the Lamp, it must be like a clear mirror to reflect. It must have a clear surface to reveal the light of the Sun. Were it not for the polished surface of the mirror, it could not reflect the Sun. This is the evidence of the purity of your hearts. Thus the Light of His love is evident and manifest in you, therefore, it is my hope that you will develop extraordinary qualities, that blessed souls may appear, that good souls may appear, that souls like unto angels, free from every fetter, every distant thought, having only the thoughts of His Holiness Baha'u'llah; no thoughts, no desires but these. You should not be fettered. Day and night be aflame with the Light of the love of Baha'u'llah. You are very welcome, you have come from far.

Although only two of the believers from Honolulu had the

great privilege of meeting 'Abdu'l-Baha when He visited America, all had the blessing of messages from Him. In London, England, in 1913, Miss Nellie Rice, a Theosophist, whose home was in Honolulu, met 'Abdu'l-Baha at a dinner given by Lady Bloomfield at her home. Through Miss Rice, He sent the following message to the Honolulu friends:

Convey my love and longing to all the friends in Honolulu and write to them. I always remember them, and I ever supplicate and entreat at the Threshold of Divine Glory, begging for them heavenly grace, wishing for them the Breath of the Holy Spirit, and praying that the Splendor of the Sun of Reality may descend on them. It is my hope that each one of the friends of God in that Island may become like unto a fruitful tree. Be ever in a state of expectation for this bestowal. Ere long the lights of the Kingdom shall flood all the regions, then the eternal glory of the friends of God will become manifest and evident. Therefore strive day and night that you may become assisted to suffer the souls to enter the Kingdom of God. Be always firm in the Covenant, to such an extent that if all the people of the world were gathered together there might not be one enabled to shake your firmness in the Covenant, which is conducive to the attainment of every bounty.

In 1913, I was in correspondence with an English Baha'i, Miss Dorothy Hodgson. When the Master was in Paris that year, she stayed in the same house with Him and wrote me: "Sunday, March 16, 1913, 30 rue St. Didien, Paris ... I suddenly thought I would go to the Master and get a greeting for the Honolulu believers. It was evidently an inspiration for when I mentioned Honolulu, the Master said, 'Take pencil and write,' and here is His message to you."

Convey to the friends of Honolulu my utmost greetings and love. Ever do I supplicate on their behalf at the Threshold of El Abha and beg for their confirmation and assistance. May God grant them firmness in His Cause! May they ever remain steadfast in the Covenant and Testament. If ever any person secretly desires to shake their faith in the Covenant and Testament, they must remain firm and know of certainty that the person has evil intentions. They must listen to the words of whomsoever calls the people to the Covenant, and they must know that if anyone desires to shake their faith, that he is a stranger of Baha'u'llah, because such a person thinks of sowing seeds of division in the Cause of God, aiming to scatter the Baha'i unity, so in the meanwhile he may propagate his own selfish desires.

In a letter from Mr. Charles Mason Remey, May 29, 1913, he wrote me: "The Master has just instructed me to lose no time in going to your shores. I will be with you in July." At that time the Master had instructed him to travel among the believers and call them to firmness in the Covenant of God. Mr. George L. Latimer of Portland, Oregon, accompanied him to Honolulu where they remained until September 14. Their sojourn brought to the friends new spiritual life through the Covenant of God.

In a Tablet to me dated August 16, 1913, 'Abdu'l-Baha wrote:

O thou maidservant of God!

Thy letter was received. Thou hast written something about Mr. Remey. In reality that youth is the son of the Kingdom and the herald of the appearance of Baha'u'llah.

All the believers of God and the maidservants of the Merciful must summon the people to the Kingdom and be

the means of the guidance of their souls. They must live and conduct themselves in such a manner that they may become distinguished above other people in sanctity, prayerfulness and humility. I hope that thou mayest attain to this station and become the cause of the diffusion of the Manifest Light.

Miss Elizabeth Muther received a Tablet dated October 21, 1913 as follows:

O thou daughter of the Kingdom!

Praise be to God that the Fragrance of the rose-garden of Holiness wafted over that Island. Mr. Remey was like unto a breeze of the dawn who carried with himself that sweet perfume.

What thou hast written is true, that today the most important of all affairs is firmness and steadfastness. Unless the tree is deeply rooted and is firmly and steadfastly established in the ground it will not become verdant and green, neither will it yield leaves, blossoms and luscious fruits.

Thank ye God that ye have stepped upon the arena of existence in such a radiant century and merciful age and partook of a goodly portion and a share from the Infinite bestowals of His Highness the Desired One.

In a Tablet to Dr. G. J. Augur dated October 27, 1913, 'Abdu'l-Baha wrote:

O thou who art firm in the Covenant!

Thy eloquent and beautiful letter was received. His honor, Mr. Remey, is indeed a believer and assured. His face is illumined with the light of guidance and his heart is in the utmost vibrations from the Divine Glad Tidings. Therefore he is the cause of joy and happiness in every city he travels and wafts the fragrance of life. Unquestionably he will consider your wish and stay there a few days. But he should travel to other countries, too, in order that he may call to the Kingdom of God. As to thee, grieve not on account of calamities and troubles. A tree that has a firm root resists every wind. Every ship that is strong and solid withstands the dashing of the waves. Every building that has a strong foundation is free from accidents and wrecking of beams. As thou art firm in the Covenant, therefore rest assured that these glooms of calamities will be changed into the light of Providence. Utmost joy and happiness will be obtained.

Concerning the question of the Reality of Divinity, it is as I said before and thou hast well understood. The Reality of Divinity is holy above the comprehension of the learned ones and sanctified from being surrounded by the human minds. Man has no road to this station. He is helpless. For example, this tree which is from the vegetable kingdom, no matter how much it progresses and acquires softness and delicacy, it is uninformed of the human world. This is above its comprehension. Thus because of the difference in degree in the world of creation being the preventors from comprehension; that is, every lower degree is unable to comprehend the higher one, and impossible, and cannot be, then how can the human mind comprehend that Reality which is holy above all the attributes? Hence for the souls there is no refuge save the Holy Realities. They must turn to the Holy Manifestations of God. Otherwise, they are worshippers of superstition, for the Reality of Divinity does not come within the human imagination. Every Divinity which man imagines is a superstition. Thus it is evident that

the souls who do not turn to the Holy Manifestation are worshippers of superstitions. Therefore all must turn to the Blessed Beauty and become ignited with the fire of His love and submerged into the ocean of His guidance. 'Abdu'l-Baha is His servant and the Herald of His Kingdom.

A Tablet from 'Abdu'l-Baha addressed to Miss Frances Johnson and the Assembly of the Friends in Honolulu, dated September 13, 1913, follows:

O ye sons and daughters of the Kingdom!

Verily I extend the hand in prayer and I thank God for the effulgence of the light of guidance in those hearts which are overflowing with the love of God.

Verily, I hope from the favor of El Baha to make those souls illumined torches and brilliant stars in the horizon of the love of God in order that those islands may become enlightened from the Sun of Truth, and the banner of El Baha el Abha may be waving therein, and the tumult of Ya 'Ali El Ala (O Thou Supreme of the Most Supreme) may rise above the clouds of heaven.

God confirmeth whomsoever He wishest; verily He is the Omnipotent.

As Hawaii is situated in the Mid-Pacific Ocean, it has been blessed by visits from many Baha'i travelers who have stopped at its shores when coming from the East and from the West. Each one, like a refreshing breeze, has left behind some fragrance from the Abha Kingdom.

In the spring of 1914, M. and Mme. Dreyfus-Barney, who were on their way to the Orient, remained ten days in Honolulu, where they met often with Dr. and Mrs. G. J. Augur. During their stay two meetings were held with the believers, and two larger meetings with interested people.

Honolulu, the meeting place of Orient and Occident, in God's plan was the center from which Baha'is were to go forth to work in Japan. In 1914 both Dr. Augur and I went to that country at 'Abdu'l-Baha's bidding to teach the Cause. Dr. Augur had once visited Japan and had a great appreciation for the country. His desire was to return there and practice his profession if it were possible. In regard to his going to Japan, he told me the following: "I wrote 'Abdu'l-Baha, and as I remember, I did not ask Him if I could go to Japan to teach, but I did ask that if it was His wish, I would like to go to make an indefinite stay, which shows that 'Abdu'l-Baha knows us better than we know ourselves."

The Tablet to Dr. Augur, November 21, 1913, follows:

O thou dear son!

From thy letter the fragrance of the rose-garden of significance was inhaled, that, praise be to God, thou art assisted by the Divine Confirmations, hast found the way to the Kingdom of God and thy heart and soul are quickened.

Arise thou to perform the blessed intention that thou art holding and travel thou to Japan and lay there the foundation of the Cause of God, i.e., summon the people to the Kingdom of God. Japan has great capability, but there must needs be a teacher who will speak by the confirmations of the Holy Spirit. I hope that thou wilt become assisted in this.

On May 21, 1913, Dr. George J. Augur sailed from Honolulu for Japan, and Mrs. Augur went to visit their son in California. Coming from war-torn Europe, by 'Abdu'l-Baha's direction, I reached Japan by way of the Indian Ocean on November 1.

In Honolulu I had been inspired to make a study of Japan

and its culture, little dreaming that God was preparing me to teach His Cause in that country. In the spring of 1913, both my parents were called to a Higher Life. The love which the peoples of Hawaii held for my father was shown by a Japanese servant who wept because he said he had lost his best friend.

After the passing of my parents, my sister, who was with me in the home, sailed for California. Suddenly life was changed for me, when the home I had dearly loved was broken. My only desire then was to serve His Cause. The words of 'Abdu'l-Baha rang in my ears:

I have a Lamp in My hand searching through the lands and seas to find souls who can become heralds of the Cause. Day and night I am engaged in this work.

I prayed that His Lamp might find me. For nearly twelve years I had been privileged to assist in establishing His Cause in Hawaii. Now the time had come when I was free to go forth to serve in other parts of His lands. The day I received the Tablet quoted on page 44, the guidance came for me to go to my spiritual mother, May Maxwell, in Montreal. She had once written me that sometime I would come to her home. At the time it had seemed impossible. Now the doors opened and I sailed from Honolulu in October, 1913. After a month spent in the Maxwell home, I went to New York, remaining in Brooklyn during the winter. It was while there that I received a Tablet from the Master which contained the first intimation that He wished me to travel to Japan. He wrote in part:

O thou dear daughter.

Thy letter was received. It became the cause of infinite rejoicing for it expressed eloquently thy faith and thy turning thy face toward the Kingdom of God. This light of guidance which is ignited in the lamp of thy heart must become more brilliant day by day and shed its light to all parts. Therefore if thou travel toward Japan unquestionable Divine confirmations shall descend upon thee.

The Tablet was dated October 13, 1913, about the time I left Honolulu to go to Montreal.

In the spring of 1914, my father's youngest sister and her Italian husband sent me a warm invitation to visit them in Milan, Italy. It was "towards Japan", and in May, 1914, I sailed from New York for Italy. While in Switzerland, on August 1, suddenly I was caught by the World War. My trunk had been sent direct to Stuttgart, Germany, where I had expected to go to meet the believers. As I was unable to cash my drafts in London, I was without money when a Tablet from 'Abdu'l-Baha reached me as follows:

O thou my dear daughter!

Thy letter was received. It imparted great happiness. Praise be to God that dear daughter is sacrificing herself in the Path of Baha'u'llah and enduring every difficulty.

It is now more advisable for thee to depart directly to Japan and while there be engaged in the diffusion of the fragrances of God. From there thou mayest return to India and from India to the Holy Land.

Today the greatest of all divine bestowals is teaching the Cause of God for it is fraught with confirmations. Every teacher is confirmed and is favored at the Divine Threshold. In the estimation of the Ideal King, the army which is in front of the battlefield is encircled with the glances of His mercifulness, and in the sight of the Divine Farmer, the sower of the seed is accepted and favored.

I hope that thou mayest be like unto the realm-conquering army and a farmer, therefore thy voyage to Japan is

preferred to everything else. Still thou art perfectly free.

Through the Divine favors all difficulties were overcome and on September 19, I sailed from Marseilles, reaching Japan November 1.

Dr. George J. Augur, who was already in Japan, remained there until April, 1915, and then returned to Honolulu. In order to go to Japan he had given up his medical practice in Honolulu, and when he felt guided to return there again, some of his friends opposed his going. Seeking guidance, he took up the book of "Hidden Words", and as he opened it the first words his eyes rested on were: "*O my servant! Free thyself from the fetters of this world and loose thy soul from the prison of self. Seize thy chance for it will come to thee no more.*" There was no question then as to what he should do. After a stay of six months in Honolulu, Mrs. Augur accompanied him to Japan, where they arrived on October 12, 1915. After reaching Tokyo, Dr. Augur received a message from 'Abdu'l-Baha through His secretary, which was forwarded from Honolulu. In it were these words: "*Write to Dr. Augur to return to Japan as soon as the first opportunity offers itself.*"

In October, 1916, Mrs. Augur returned to Honolulu. Between the years 1916 and 1919, Dr. and Mrs. Augur made three visits to Japan for the sake of the Cause, the last time returning to Honolulu in the spring of 1919. Dr. Augur told me the following: "I wrote 'Abdu'l-Baha a detailed letter in which I said the question was asked me, 'Well, what did you accomplish over there in Japan?' I replied, 'There is only one person in the world who can answer that question and He is not a person.'"

The answer to the question asked Dr. Augur, came in a Tablet addressed to Dr. and Mrs. Augur as follows:

O ye, the two doves nestling in the garden of the Love of God!

Your detailed letter was received. Your services at this spot are recognized and appreciated, particularly (your services) in Tokyo. Praise be to God that in that region ye have been assisted in diffusing the musk-scented perfume and this in future is pregnant with remarkable results.

You two have fulfilled your roles and have striven within the limits of your capacity. At present ye must rest for a time; the turn of others has arrived, that they may similarly travel to Japan, may water the seeds that have been sown and may serve and take care of the tender shrubs.

The days of life are swiftly going by, and eventually man will be confined into subterranean regions and his name shall perish except those souls who become Divine gardeners and who sow seeds in the soil of hearts. Those shall eternally remain shining and glittering like unto stars from the horizon of Truth.

In the spring of 1915, the Honolulu friends had the joy of a visit from Mrs. Corinne True and her three daughters from Chicago. They remained for five weeks in Honolulu engaged in teaching the Cause. Mrs. True wrote of their visit: "The precious Baha'i friends had learned of our coming and several of them were on the quay when our steamer landed and greeted us with that universal greeting of the Abha Kingdom, the Greatest Name. The maid servants had been to our hotel before our arrival and had decorated our bungalow with beautiful flowers to welcome us, and later in the afternoon came in person to meet us and extend their most cordial welcome. At once we were perfectly at home and spent five of the happiest weeks of our lives with them. A few days after

our arrival, Mr. C. M. Remey and Mr. George Latimer came, and every day we went to a Baha'i gathering together. After five such heavenly weeks spent in service to the Baha'i friends, together with several of them we boarded a steamer bound for San Francisco where we were to attend the Annual Convention of Baha'i Temple Unity. On the steamer the Baha'i friends were constantly together and speaking to the passengers and holding little informal gatherings for spreading the Teachings. One of the passengers said to me, just before landing in San Francisco: "It is not so much the meeting that has attracted us as the conduct of this little Baha'i group throughout this voyage. Their love for each other and their sweet spirits are shining examples as a practical proof of their teachings." There were nine Baha'is in the party which went from Honolulu to attend the Baha'i Convention in San Francisco.

Mr. Remey wrote of their visit to Honolulu, January 16, 1916: "Last spring there was quite a party of us in Honolulu including Mrs. True, her three daughters and George Latimer. The meetings were announced in the papers and we had an active season of work. Then during the summer it was possible to meet and talk with people individually and in small groups. At the present time the active workers in Honolulu are few, but a number of people are attracted and are interested. The people of the New Thought and Theosophical movements, as well as many people of the established churches, are very sympathetic with the Baha'i Ideals."

In another letter he wrote: "During that period many people entertained Mrs. True and heard the Cause. One morning a party of us were (sic) received by Queen Liliuokalani who listened very sympathetically to the story of 'Abdu'l-Baha's mission and upon leaving asked Mrs. True for literature and a photograph of 'Abdu'l-Baha."

Mr. Remey returned to Honolulu from California and spent the summer of 1915. Again in the fall of 1916, he and George Latimer came together for their third visit, remaining until April, 1917. Mr. Remey had received instructions from 'Abdu'l-Baha, "In company with his honor, Mr. George Latimer, travel thou throughout America and the Islands of Hawaii and summon thou the people of the Kingdom of God." He wrote from Honolulu, February 7, 1917: "Shortly before we came here on this present mission, Mrs. Allison and her sister, Miss Alice Griffith, Baha'is from Santa Rosa, California, came to Honolulu, and about the same time Mrs. Augur arrived here on a visit from Japan."

For some years the Augur home was the center for Baha'i meetings, so it brought pleasure to us all when Mrs. Augur and the two ladies from California established themselves in a home which they immediately opened for Baha'i work and where bi-weekly meetings have since been held. These meetings are well attended and each week we find new faces in our midst. Invariably in the gatherings the attention of all becomes so focused upon the subject that we feel the spirit of 'Abdu'l-Baha penetrating the hearts; this alone can accomplish that for which we are striving. During that winter the house which the Baha'i sisters had taken was filled for the meetings.

After the brothers left, and Mrs. Augur returned to Japan, and the Griffith sisters to California, but three persons remained to study. Of that time the beloved sister, Elizabeth Muther, wrote: "There was a period of time the meetings were held by Mamie Seto and I alone. It was rather pathetic a time and an effort to keep the 'Torch of Truth' burning. Dear Mamie was so kind and unselfish and was so tired she could hardly keep her eyes open after her hard day's work, but she

tried to be interested, and her sister, Mrs. Emory Hall, too, always made me so welcome in their home, though I know they longed to go to sleep which they both needed so much, but their kindness and patience with me was richly rewarded for they read and studied the Teachings and became more and more interested, and now dear Mamie is a most beloved and devoted teacher of the Cause of Baha'u'llah."

The story of an international Baha'i marriage in Honolulu follows: On the same steamer which brought Miss Alice Griffith to Honolulu in 1916, was Miss Katherine O'Connor of Detroit, Michigan, who later married Mr. Emory Hall. As they shared the same stateroom, Miss O'Connor learned of the Baha'i Faith. Her sister, Miss Mamie L. O'Connor, had preceded her to Honolulu. Mamie had once attended a Baha'i lecture in Detroit, and in Honolulu the sisters began investigating the Baha'i teachings which led to their acceptance of the Cause. In Detroit, Mamie had met Mr. A. Y. Seto, a student from Hawaii. His parents had come from Canton, China, to California, where his father joined the Christian Faith. Later the family moved to Hawaii where Anthony was born, and his father became one of the founders of the Chinese YMCA. In Detroit, Anthony attended the high school, and later the University of Michigan, and finally graduated from the Detroit College of Law. Mamie said of him, "He had always a world viewpoint as a free man."

Mamie O'Connor was brought up in the Catholic Faith, but was a seeker of Truth. Both she and Anthony Seto were interested in comparative religion and had attended in Detroit a class in Theosophy. Shortly after Mamie and her sister reached Honolulu, in 1916, Anthony Seto returned to his home. The sisters were then attending Baha'i meetings which Mr. Remey and Mr. Latimer held and occasionally Anthony met with them. Mamie remained in Honolulu until 1917, but returned again in 1918. A great event was to take place in her life. The culmination of the friendship between her and Anthony Seto came on August 1, 1919, when they were joined in marriage. They were then students of the Cause, but in 1921 became declared believers. 'Abdu'l-Baha addressed them in a Tablet dated September 22, 1920, as follows:

O ye two spiritual persons!

Offer ye thanks unto God that ye were released from the darkness of blind imitations; that ye attained the Light of Truth; that ye became united and acquired the greatest happiness. The East and the West have embraced each other. It is my hope that this will give rise to splendid results. Though ye are beginners yet I supplicate God to make ye accomplished. I implore a heavenly blessing for the child, so that it may in the Divine Fortress be bestowed with a spiritual power. The brothers and sisters will open their eyes, will observe the Light of the Kingdom and serve the oneness of the world of humanity.

The "child" referred to was their then unborn babe who died at birth. 'Abdu'l-Baha also addressed Mamie Seto in a Tablet dated August 3, 1921:

O thou maid servant of God!

Thy letter was received. From lack of time the answers are written in brief. I supplicate to the Threshold of Oneness and ask for thee bodily health and spiritual comfort. Be assured of the bounties and bestowals of the Bounty of Abha. On my behalf show utmost kindness to thy husband.

In July, 1917, I was called from Japan and spent a month in Honolulu and then proceeded to the United States where I

was privileged to attend the Baha'i Convention of 1918 in Chicago and 1919, in New York - when 'Abdu'l-Baha's Tablets of the Divine Plan were read. During two years in the States, I met many Baha'is and spent the summer of 1918 in Green Acre, where the American Esperantist Association invited me to speak at their convention. Later in March, 1919, while staying in Montclair, N.J., a Tablet from 'Abdu'l-Baha reached me as follows:

O thou daughter of the Kingdom!

Although thy letter has not yet been received, yet we do answer it. Praise be to God, that in Japan thou hast been assisted in the accomplishment of a distinguished service. Thou has raised the Call of the Divine Kingdom and hast led the people to an illumined world and a heavenly Cause. Thou hast become the cause of enlightenment and the wisher for the education of human souls. For those regions are in sheer need of Divine Teachings and are endowed with sufficient capacity. Those souls must be emancipated from the obscurity of blind imitations and be illumined by the light of heavenly instructions. Whosoever arises for such a work, divine confirmations shall assist him and the power of the Kingdom shall be made manifest.

Effort must be exerted that the East and West may be reconciled, that the darkness of bigotry may vanish, that the unity of mankind may be made manifest and that East and West, like unto two longing souls may embrace each other in the utmost of love, for all are the sheep of God, and God is the Real Shepherd and is kind to everyone.

In accordance with the wish of the attracted maid servant of God to the love of God, Mrs. Maxwell, go thou to Canada and stay there for a time and then hasten back to Japan, for in Japan you will be assisted and exalted.

Some letters are enclosed for the friends in Japan. Forward them.

This Tablet was translated by Shoghi Rabanni, Haifa, December 27, 1918. It was brought with two others for Japanese Baha'is by Major Tudor Pole to Egypt where he mailed them to me.

On the way to Japan, I was guided to stay over in Honolulu. After reaching Tokyo, this was confirmed in a Tablet I received from 'Abdu'l-Baha on November 26, in which He wrote: "Remain for some days in Honolulu and then immediately hasten to Japan."

Through Dr. G. J. Augur a Tablet was received dated June 25, 1919, addressed:

To the friends of God and the maid servants of the Merciful in Honolulu, Hawaii:

O ye loving friends and maid servants of God!

Ye are in those distant Isles, remote and far from us, while we in the Holy Land are in the utmost enkindlement and yearning. The distance separating us is tremendous, but notwithstanding this, in view of ideal nearness, hearts are in a state of ecstasy. This is because the Word of God has so linked the hearts that distance, no matter how great it is, is utterly annihilated.

We are ever gathered in the ideal and Divine assemblage and are looking at one another's faces while the blessings of His Highness the Merciful One surround us.

In your behalf I solicit to the Abha Kingdom and beg for the hearts a new life and for the spirits heavenly glad tidings; that each one of you may become a resplendent sign, a banner of the Abha Kingdom, the cause of love and

amity among all men, and service to the world of humanity; so that the Divine Bounty may be showered, and unbounded joy be realized. This, verily, is conditioned upon firmness in the Covenant. Whosoever grasps firmly the (rope of the) Covenant and Testament, the legions of the Supreme Concourse shall assuredly make him victorious and he shall be confirmed at the Divine Threshold with limitless bounties. The power of the Covenant is like unto the heat of the sun which vivifies all earthly beings and causes them to grow and to thrive. Likewise, the light of the Covenant trains and uplifts the world of minds, of souls, of hearts, and of spirits.

Dr. and Mrs. G. J. Augur were the recipients of a Tablet from 'Abdu'l-Baha dated December 9, 1920, as follows:

O ye two attracted souls to the Kingdom of God!

Your letter has been received. It indicated that the divine friends and heavenly souls gather together at your home. That meeting is an effulgence of the Assembly of the Supreme Concourse, because ye are in the utmost unity and agreement. The Spirit of God is exercising His influence in that assembly and the heart of 'Abdu'l-Baha is in sympathy and association with you.

It is my hope that the Island will be quickened with great spirituality; that the people of different nationalities may gather under one Banner; that such enthusiasm and ardor may be (so) generated as to stream out into the other islands.

Convey on my behalf the utmost love and affection to all the members of that assembly which is spiritual, divine, and heavenly.

Another friend, Mrs. Killian Kendall had the blessing of receiving a Tablet from 'Abdu'l-Baha dated August 16, 1921, as follows:

O thou maid servant of God!

Praise be unto God thou hast an attachment of the heart to His Holiness the Bab and spiritual attraction to the Blessed Beauty, thereby obtaining a relation to 'Abdu'l-Baha. Thank thou God that thou wert confirmed and assisted in attaining such a great bounty. Strive with heart and soul to become a real Baha'i and act according to the 'Hidden Words' and the exhortations of His Holiness Baha'u'llah. It is sufficient if thou dost succeed in acting according to only the paragraph from 'Hidden Words' which thou didst quote.

(Hidden Word referred to was from the Persian - number 22.)

Early in 1920, Honolulu had the blessing of a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Hyde Dunn, who were on their way as Baha'i pioneers to Australia and sojourned for several weeks in Honolulu. The friends who met them remember the steadfastness of these blessed souls who earned their living while spreading the Message of Baha'u'llah. Opportunities opened for Mr. Dunn to give the Baha'i Message, and the presence of both in the Baha'i gatherings greatly strengthened the friends. Mrs. Clara Dunn wrote from Australia, February, 1942, on the 24th: "A great urge came to me for Father and me to attend the Convention in New York when the Divine Plan arrived from 'Abdu'l-Baha. We found we would not be able to do this from a lack of means, so waited for our delegate, Dr. DeEvelyn to return. Then we eagerly read the Divine Plan, and we came to the Tablet for the Western States where 'Abdu'l-Baha said: 'Would that I could go to Australia and the Islands of the Sea

and cry at the top of my voice even bare footed and in poverty and tell them the Promised One has come,' and when He also said this was not feasible as He had the affairs of the Cause to attend to in the Holy Land, 'Perchance ye will go,' I was reading it aloud to Father Dunn and looked up and said, 'Let us go where 'Abdu'l-Baha wished to go.' I said, 'We are almost in poverty.' Without one moment's hesitation he said, 'Yes, we will go.' When some of the San Francisco friends asked him why an elderly couple would go so far away to spread the Baha'i Message, he said, 'I would sooner die than not respond to 'Abdu'l-Baha's call.' We both felt it was His last great call to the American people. We planned to stop off at Honolulu and visit the friends there. Our dear friends, the Griffith girls and Mrs. Ashton had already arrived there from America and met our boat, and it warmed our hearts to see them waiting for us. All the days in Honolulu were unforgettably dear to us in all the years of our sojourn in Australia. The kindness of dear Dr. Augur and his sweet wife inviting us to dinner almost every evening. Then beloved Utie (Miss Muther); her love and kindness in asking dear Mrs. Samuel Baldwin to purchase an order of the things we had to sell to make our living, as we traveled to deliver the Baha'i Message. Many times since it has brought the tears to our eyes when we realized later she was not in need of the things purchased, but that it was only her sweet way to help us on our way to spread the Message of Baha'u'llah. God bless her and all her loved ones for this great help, also Mr. and Mrs. Seto who invited a number of Mr. Seto's university friends to their home to hear the Baha'i Message. All this indeed was a great prelude to our undertaking of going on board our steamer enroute for the continent of Australia. How we missed the Baha'i spirit as soon as we boarded the boat where the Great New Name had not been uttered! Our material means were most limited, but God opened the door and prepared the way, and never have we wanted for any necessity of life since leaving the shores of America. I call on all who arise to serve this Cause never to be afraid of the want of the need of material help. 'Rely upon God, the All-Powerful, the All-Wise!' Many times things would happen to us that seemed like miracles. It was His way of fulfilling His Promise to whomsoever would arise to promote His Cause."

At the time of the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Hyde Dunn to Honolulu, Mrs. Grace Allison and her sister, Miss Alice Griffith, from Santa Rosa, California, had come for a second visit in Honolulu, where they remained for five months in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Seto. In a Tablet addressed to Mr. Hyde Dunn and Mrs. Clara Dunn, dated June 25, 1920, 'Abdu'l-Baha wrote:

Praise be to God that even in the steamer ye did not sit silent but stirred and exhilarated some souls and met the friends of God in Honolulu. Verily the friends in those regions are enkindled with the Fire of the Love of God and attracted to the Kingdom of God... Dr. and Mrs. Augur are verily occupied in service... Miss Griffith and Mrs. Allison have really served the spreading of the Cause of God in their trip to Honolulu.

Mrs. Cora Ashton of Denver, Colorado, who was a visitor in Honolulu at the same time with the Dunns, on her return to the United States, represented the Honolulu Baha'is at the Baha'i Convention of 1920.

When the Beloved Master ascended, Mrs. Ella Rowland wrote of her experience at the time: "On the morning of November 27, 1921, during service at the M.E.C. church, I was suddenly overcome by the beauty of the music and expres-

sions so that I burst into tears and fled for home. On that date I later learned that 'Abdu'l-Baha was passing from this life and

THE BAHAI CAUSE IN HAWAII (1922 - 1932)

The third decade of the Baha'i Cause in Hawaii opened a New Era under the first Guardian of the Cause of God, the beloved Shoghi Effendi.

In response to their messages of allegiance to Shoghi Effendi, the Honolulu Baha'is received from Ruh-Anziz Rabbani the following letter dated Haifa, May 4, 1944*:

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the El-Abha!

Your letters of allegiance to Shoghi Effendi have been received and in accordance with his wish were read to the Greatest Holy Leaf and by the Holy Leaves who were deeply touched by the expression of your love and loyalty.

To the sorrow of the Ascension of the Beloved Master was added the sadness of Shoghi Effendi's departure. The momentous events of the last few months have made it necessary for him to leave the Holy Land for a time to rest and meditate upon the vast and important task that lies before him. We all pray and trust in the grace and bounty of our Beloved Lord that having gained strength and spiritual insight, he will return to resume work in accordance with his aims and desire.

At such a time it is needless for me to emphasize the comfort that your letters have brought to their sorrowful hearts, and ever relying upon the glorious promises of 'Abdu'l-Baha regarding the future growth of the Cause in America, they look forward with longing hearts and joyous expectancy to the realization of His Words. In writing to you now, I am voicing their deep and heartfelt appreciation of your efforts to fulfill the requirements of faithfulness and your untiring zeal and devotion in spreading the Cause. They will always remember you at the Sacred Threshold and pray that through your united efforts the fragrance of peace, love and joy may be diffused, and that through the radiance of your faith, the light of the Covenant may shine throughout America, then will ye have fulfilled the hopes of 'Abdu'l-Baha which He expressed in these words: "I pray to the Ancient Beauty that He will give them grace that they may so turn to the Light of the Covenant that all America be illumined by the radiance of their countenance."

By His Gracious Bounty the gate of service is open for all who seek to enter therein, and His confirmations are vouchsafed to every yearning soul. Should we feel any weakness, any inability, we need but turn for strength and inspiration to the promises of Baha'u'llah, "Verily, We behold you from Our realm of Effulgent Glory and will graciously aid whomsoever ariseth for the triumph of Our Cause with the Hosts of the Celestial Concourse and a company of Our Chosen Angels."

Letters from friends in Persia, Egypt, Japan, India, and from all other centres show that to the gloom of their sorrow, there has followed the dawn of a new era of effort and devotion, and that foremost to all their wishes is the yearning to comply with the request of 'Abdu'l-Baha and to fulfill His last desires. They seem to realize that Divine

ascending the Realms of Glory. I was made conscious of His Great Love and Mercy."

confirmations will reach them through their united efforts, and that the surest way to ultimate success lies in the cooperation of the friends.

We trust that through Divine Guidance the Convention will meet in love and joy and that the Abha confirmations will assist you to carry out the work with great success.

After the great earthquake of September 1, 1923, in Japan, I joined Martha Root in China and from there returned to Honolulu in January, 1924. During that spring and summer I had the joy of visiting the islands of Maui, Hawaii and Kauai - where the doors opened for me to share the Baha'i Message.

The first letter from the beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, dated Haifa, January 16, 1924, addressed to: "The beloved of the Lord and the handmaids of the Merciful in the Hawaiian Islands," follows:

The message of love and greeting which I have just received from that ardent and faithful servant of Baha'u'llah, Mrs. Rowland, has rejoiced my heart and has served to renew and strengthen that firm and invisible bond of love and fellowship that unites our hearts in the service of our beloved Master.

I was delighted when I learned of your selfless and untiring services to the sacred Threshold, and of your determination to persevere to the very end till all He has repeatedly declared will have been fulfilled. I was very pleased to receive the photograph of the Baha'i home of Mr. and Mrs. Seto, and I pray the Almighty that it may prove the nucleus around which will gather in the days to come many a Baha'i institution spreading radiance of the Abha Beauty throughout the length and breadth of these far-away islands. I assure you, my dear friends, of my constant and ardent prayers on your behalf, and of my determination to do all that is in my power to further the interests of the Cause which you serve so devotedly in those remote corners of the globe.

I shall be pleased and grateful to receive from every one of you reports of your individual as well as collective activities, and desire to inform you that your welcome letter has been translated into the Persian tongue and incorporated in the circular letter which the Haifa Baha'i Spiritual Assembly forwards every nineteen days to all Baha'i centres throughout the East. I am certain it will contribute its share in imparting happiness and enthusiasm to the hearts of our fellow-workers in Persia and elsewhere.

I shall ever remember you in my hours of silent meditation at the Three Holy Shrines and await with keen anticipation the joyful tidings of the progress of your work in those promising regions of the world.

Another letter from Shoghi Effendi dated Haifa, January 16, 1924 - addressed to Mrs. Ella Rowland - as follows:

My dear Baha'i Sister,

Your kind and encouraging message from such a distant land as Honolulu brought great pleasure to the heart of our dear Guardian who is now again in our midst and cooperating with his fellow workers abroad with all joy and hopefulness.

He thanks you very heartily for the kind invitations which you had all sent him to come over to Honolulu. Indeed, although nothing could give him greater pleasure than to meet those faithful loved ones of 'Abdu'l-Baha so far away, and to have the chance to proclaim in public the great Message to which he has dedicated his heart and soul, he finds the prospects of such a visit rather uncertain. But he feels assured that though wide oceans and seas may separate him from you, he is in spirit with you all and he shall pray at the Holy Shrine that God Almighty may so help you and guide you as to succeed in bringing ALL your efforts to a glorious victory.

He always awaits your news with great eagerness and he wishes me to assure you as well as all the friends in Honolulu of his undiminished love and affection. The members of the Holy Family join me in sending you all our love and greetings.

Yours faithfully, Soheil

My dearly beloved sister:

Your sweet message of love from so distant a land revived and refreshed my soul. I assure you of my unfailing prayers on your behalf. May our Beloved enable you to attract a vast concourse of spiritually-minded and enlightened souls to His most mighty Cause. Let us persevere and turn wholly to Him. I wish you from all my heart the highest success.

Shoghi

In a letter addressed to me, dated December, 1924 - Shoghi Effendi wrote:

My Spiritual Sister:

The letter signed by yourself and the Honolulu friends stirred my soul and refreshed my mind. I pray for you all and wish you the highest success in all your noble endeavors. I am looking forward to seeing you establish various powerful Baha'i centres in those remote Islands of the world. The power of God is working with irresistible potency through you all. Persevere, persevere to the end and your work will surely be crowned with magnificent success. I will never forget you.

During 1924, Mrs. Lillie Kendall brought a young Filipino, Benito Morales, to the Baha'i meetings. He regarded her as a mother and when she went to California in 1925, he accompanied her.

Two Danish women who had come from Denmark to the United States became members of the Honolulu Baha'i Community in 1925. Miss Henriette From heard of the Cause in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Baldwin, where for many years she cared for the children, and Miss Anneken Krogh, a trained nurse, who heard first from Mrs. Lorin (Sila) Smith at Makawao, Maui, and later in the Baldwin home in Honolulu. Both these women are devoted followers of the Faith. Miss From lives in Honolulu and Miss Krogh now makes her home in Seattle, Washington.

In January, 1925, Orcella Rexford (Mrs. Gregory), and her husband, came to Honolulu where she gave a series of paid lectures. At the end of the series, as was her custom, she advertised a free lecture open to the public on, "What All the World is Seeking". When she told of the Baha'i Message, a Danish nurse from Copenhagen, Denmark, Miss Johanne Sorensen, who attended the lecture accepted the Cause. Soon

after she was called to her home in Denmark but before leaving met once with the Honolulu Baha'is. Throughout the years she has remained firm in the Faith and through her efforts the Esslemont book was translated and published in Danish.

After the lecture given by Orcella Rexford, a class was formed of those who were interested to learn more of the Baha'i teachings, which Mrs. Mamie Seto conducted. The class met weekly in a room of the Alexander Young Hotel, each member contributing toward the room rent. From this class a number of persons accepted the Cause, among them was Ernest Hirahara, a Japanese young man who now lives at Bingham Canyon, Utah, and attends the Baha'i meetings in Salt Lake City; Mrs. Loela Lydick, now Mrs. Edward Bucher of Oklahoma City; and Mr. and Mrs. Otto Swezey, devoted Baha'is of Honolulu who have given the use of their home on Lanihuli Drive, at different times, for Baha'i study classes, also Mrs. Liliendahl of Los Angeles, where she and her son and daughter serve the Cause.

Mrs. Ella Rowland was blessed with a letter from Shoghi Effendi dated January 23, 1924, in which he wrote:

My precious fellow-workers:

The thought of your undiminished efforts for the Cause in those outlying regions of the world is an encouragement and inspiration to me in my work. The friends in Honolulu are always affectionately remembered by all of us. We know their needs and realize their eagerness and hopes. We are conscious of their faith and determination. We are assured of their success. We wish them to be happy, radiant and brave. We will always remember them in our prayers. We shall NEVER forget them.

Shoghi

Through his secretary, the Honolulu friends received the following letter from Shoghi Effendi, dated March 6, 1925:

My dear friends:

Your letter of December 21st, 1924, with all your signatures was gladly received and filled the heart of our Guardian with fresh hopes and greater expectations in the future development of those islands spiritually and in the selfless activities of those dear and precious friends.

It is a joy that we can hardly express to be able to serve on such a day the people of the world and to bring to them the great Message our Lord has brought. Every day that passes makes the need of a new spirit greater and greater and will we, who have been blessed by a knowledge of His Cause, fail to share it with our fellow-men and tarry any longer in pouring out to an imploring humanity the eternal floods of His everlasting love?

Assuring you all of our Guardian's affection and prayers for you all and with heartfelt greetings from the family of the Master.

*Yours faithfully in His Service,
Soheil*

Another letter from Shoghi Effendi addressed to Mrs. Ella Rowland was dated Haifa, May 1, 1925:

Dear Baha'i Sister:

Shoghi Effendi has asked me to reply to your kind and loving letter of March 13th. We rejoice to hear of the increased activity and greater efforts of the friends in Honolulu and pray that you may all be confirmed in the

*1922? - error made in the original

path of service and greatly blessed in your work for the coming of the Kingdom, so that Honolulu may become famed for the spiritual beauty of the lives of its inhabitants as well as for the physical beauty of its trees and flowers, its avenues and gardens and natural surroundings. I remember how charmed I was with the beauty of Honolulu when I visited it one day over twenty years ago, and the gay scene when the steamer was leaving, with the band playing and everyone laden with garlands and bouquets of flowers. At that time I had not heard of the Baha'i Cause, but if I ever visit Honolulu again, it will have a far deeper attraction for me because of the faithful friends of God there who are radiating the light and diffusing the fragrance of the Spirit.

The Greatest Holy Leaf, the Holy Mother, and the other ladies of the Household yesterday paid a visit to the Shrine of Baha'u'llah at Bahji (about ten miles distant) in commemoration of the Feast of Ridvan.

Shoghi Effendi and all the friends here join in loving greetings and pray that your health may soon be fully restored.

With best wishes,

Your brother in the Holy Cause,
J. E. Esslemont

My dear fellow-workers:

I am deeply grateful to you for your constant and devoted labours. Your beautiful spirit of self-sacrifice inspires me and encourages me in my work. May the Beloved of our hearts enable you to achieve the greatest triumph for our precious Cause.

Shoghi

In 1925, Baha'i activities were enlarged in Honolulu. In February, the Baha'i sister, Mrs. Orol Platt of Los Angeles, who was on her way to the Orient, passed through Honolulu, and through meeting her the Abha fragrance was carried to Japanese friends whom she met in Kobe, Japan. That spring a home on Terrace Drive became mine, enabling me to sow many seeds of the New Day. Wednesday evening meetings for the study of the Cause were started at the Baldwin home in Nuuanu Valley, while the Friday afternoon meetings continued at the Augur home. Mr. and Mrs. Seto, who were always active, rendered the Cause a service by gathering the friends in their auto for the evening meetings. For nine years from 1923 to 1932, Mamie Seto served as treasurer of the Honolulu Baha'i Assembly. During that time she was twice invited to speak on the Cause to the Sunday School classes in Central Union Church. That year the Honolulu Baha'is in the name of Anthony Seto as Trustee, were privileged to purchase land surrounding the Shrines on Mt. Carmel. Since then the land has been turned over to the Palestine Branch of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of North America as an International Endowment. In a letter addressed to Mr. Seto, dated January 16, 1926, Shoghi Effendi wrote:

My dear fellow-worker:

I am touched by the spontaneous and generous response of the Honolulu friends. May they be rewarded a hundred fold! May the spirit of our Beloved guide their steps, strengthen and inspire them, and lead them to glorious victory. I will pray for them at the Holy Shrines, the surroundings of which they have so nobly safeguarded.

Their brother and well-wisher,
Shoghi

In another letter Shoghi Effendi wrote:

I gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the sum of 190 English pounds from my dear friends, the members of the Honolulu Assembly, as their much appreciated contribution for the purchase of land in the surroundings of the Shrines on Mt. Carmel.

In 1926, a Baha'i sister, Mrs. Edith Woodward Warren, came from California to make her home in Honolulu, where she has served the friends generously with her beautiful voice and loving hospitality. The same year the friends were blessed with letters from Shoghi Effendi. On January 16, he wrote Mrs. Ella Rowland as follows:

Dear Baha'i Sister:

Your letter of November 23rd with its enclosed clippings and group photograph has been received and read with great interest and pleasure.

Shoghi Effendi was most deeply touched by the expression of the love and devotion of the Honolulu friends and he wishes me to extend to you his brotherly love and assurance of his unfailing prayers for your success and happiness.

Today humanity stands in dire need of the lofty principles of Baha'u'llah, and we His humble followers, conscious of this supreme urgency, must arise as one soul and expend our all in the service of mankind. Thanks to the faithful and active labours of the friends the world over the call has been raised in every clime, and the Divine Remedy has been administered to many a sick and weary soul. We hope and pray that our dear Honolulu friends will not fail to fulfill their befitting share of the glorious task for the peace and regeneration of mankind.

The Greatest Holy Leaf, the Holy Mother and the other members of the Holy Household send their loving greetings to you and to all the friends there.

Your sister in His Name,
R. Rabbani

My dear fellow-worker,

Persevere in your arduous yet sacred task, concentrate on the teaching work and let your primary concern be the promotion of unity among the friends. I will remember them all in my prayers and wish them success and happiness from ALL my heart.

Your well-wisher,
Shoghi

Another letter addressed to the Honolulu Baha'is, dated Haifa, February 12, 1926, was received as follows:

Beloved Friends,

Your letter of January 1st to our beloved Guardian has been received and read with joy and gratitude. He was most deeply touched by your message of love and devotion, and your earnest desire to help lighten the burden which rests on his shoulders. I assure you, dear friends, that despite his many responsibilities and manifold duties, nothing gives him greater joy and strength than news of the united and loving services of the friends to the Threshold of Abha.

To his beloved fellow-workers in that beautiful land, he sends his loving greetings and the assurance of his constant prayers for their welfare and the success of their work. The world today stands in great need of Divine Guidance, and it

rests upon us the faithful followers of Baha to endeavor to the utmost of our capacity to achieve God's Holy Purpose for mankind.

Yours very faithfully in His service,
R. Rabbani

My dear fellow-workers:

Just a word to assure you again personally of my continued prayers for you that in those isles, for which the dear Master cherished the brightest hopes, you may be enabled to summon the waiting multitude to the realization of this New Day of God. Endeavor also to turn a few of the many admirers of the Cause into active and whole-hearted supporters of the Faith. This is my prayer for you.

Your brother and well-wisher,
Shoghi

In the summer of 1926, Miss Gertrude Fraser, now Mrs. King, came to Honolulu, where in my home I had the joy of telling her of the Baha'i Cause. After two years she returned to California. There she became active in the Faith and has since served the Cause selflessly in the teaching field in America.

In February, 1927, Miss Valera Fisher, a young Baha'i who had accepted the Cause in San Francisco, and her friend, Miss Emma Maxwell, came to Honolulu to serve for a year in the Susannah Wesley Home for girls. During their stay, Miss Maxwell became confirmed in the Cause. As they sailed away from Honolulu on October 23, they sent letters to the Honolulu Assembly. Miss Fisher wrote: "Some Answered Questions, in my mind, signifies two things - one, a wonderful book of explanation given to the world by our beloved Master, 'Abdu'l-Baha, a copy of which was presented to me by the Honolulu Baha'i Assembly; and it also applies to the spiritual knowledge that I have gained from that same Assembly. You have answered many questions for me and I deem it one of the greatest blessings that God has bestowed upon me to have been a part of that Assembly for the past few months.

I feel very definitely it was the guidance of 'Abdu'l-Baha that took both Miss Maxwell and me to Honolulu because there, where all the nations of the Pacific meet and mingle with good will toward all, we learned to appreciate what the Baha'i Spirit could really mean if it were put into practice throughout the world. And now that the time has come for us to say 'Aloha' to our dear friends of Honolulu we pray that we may carry to others the same spirit of helpful friendliness they manifested to us. Our one and only desire is to serve the beloved Cause and to promulgate the teachings of Baha'u'llah.

With Baha'i love and prayers for the 'speedy triumph' of the Cause of the Blessed Perfection in Honolulu, Valera Fisher."

In her letter, Miss Maxwell wrote in part: "I do not know how to begin to tell you how thankful I am for your love and help given me in the past nine months that I have associated with you. My only regret is that I did not know the Baha'is sooner, but I am so thankful for the little knowledge I have. I feel so unworthy of being the 'child' of your Assembly, but will strive to live up to the great duty that falls upon me . . . The 'Answered Questions' will be a great help to me, and also make a splendid foundation for my library. How wonderful is the love of 'Abdu'l-Baha! It will be a source of joy and inspiration to know that my mother assembly gave me such encouragement. Val is my spiritual mother, but I attended my first Baha'i meeting in January at the Honolulu Assembly. My deepest Baha'i love to each and all of you."

Miss Fisher and Miss Maxwell are now Mrs. Walter (Emma) Jones of Glendale, Arizona, and Mrs. John (Valera) Allen, of Burlingame, California. They and their husbands are active in the Cause and their children are being educated in the Faith. Mrs. Allen writes of her Baha'i experience in Honolulu thus: "You asked if I had any contribution to make to the history you are writing. I don't think there is anything of value I could add. I received a GREAT deal from all of the friends of Honolulu and it will always be dear to me because there I received or ABSORBED the 'spirit' of the Faith surrounded by various races and cultures of the 'Cross-Roads of the Pacific'. The many visits up Manoa Valley to your home and that of Mrs. Sweezey's where the classes were held are like precious jewels in my book of memory. The homes of the Seto's and the Rowland's were oases of hospitality long to be remembered. Dearest Utie's (Miss Muther) face shines like a star of guidance in my memory. She possessed true reverence and spirit of humility equalled by few. And now Honolulu has been blessed with the earthly remains of our first and foremost pioneer of the Faith, Martha Root. Honolulu must have a great future that the Shrine of one so beloved by the Blessed Beauty should be entrusted to it.

To me, one of the most impressive sights of Honolulu was the ever present rainbow. Almost every day some portion of a rainbow could be seen, and very often it stretched across the sky in all its splendor. The verse from Genesis would so frequently come to my mind, 'I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a token of a covenant between me and the earth.' And I realize for the first time the 'Covenant' was the Manifestation which God had sent his people from time to time and He always stood out against the 'clouds' of superstition and misunderstanding. And how marvelous it is that we have had constantly with us since the passing of Baha'u'llah a 'token' of that covenant here on earth, first in the person of 'Abdu'l-Baha, and now in Shoghi Effendi. These and many others are the impressions that cross my mind when I think of the Islands . . . I gave the Message to two superintendents of Susannah Wesley Home, and while both were sympathetic, neither one felt any responsibility toward accepting it. Many of the girls in the home heard of Baha'i and asked questions, and we will pray that at some future date the seed may bear fruit."

The beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, sent through Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Seto a letter to the Honolulu Assembly dated January 7, 1927, as follows:

Dear Baha'i Brothers and Sisters and Friends in Honolulu,

Our Beloved Guardian has asked me to write and thank you most warmly for your letter of loving greetings to him, written on the Day of the Centre of the Covenant. Your letter reached him yesterday, January 6, 1927. He greatly appreciates your expressions of loyalty and devotion to this Great Cause and to him personally, and he rejoices to hear that you are striving to follow the instructions given to the Friends. He hopes that your efforts to teach and spread the knowledge of the Movement will be especially blessed.

There is no doubt that this Cause is of the utmost importance for the world today. There is no country or region which is not in deepest need of the instructions and wise counsels of the Blessed Perfection and of our beloved 'Abdu'l-Baha. These teachings contain the only sure antidote and remedy for the miseries and difficulties from which the whole world is suffering, and we rejoice that it is

our happy lot to do our utmost to spread them and make them known.

Please accept my utmost hearty good wishes for your happiness and progress. May Honolulu become a lamp of enlightenment for all those far distant regions!

Your sincere friend and fellow-worker in this blessed service.

Ethel C. Rosenberg

My dear fellow-workers:

Your most welcome message has reminded me of the beautiful spirit of devotion and self-sacrifice that animates the hearts of those far-away friends whose future contribution to the Cause is sure to be of immense value and significance to the world. May the Beloved guide you and inspire you to solve the problems and surmount the obstacles which your unique position as a meeting place of both East and West must necessarily present. I will pray for you all from the bottom of my heart.

Shoghi

In a letter to Mrs. Ella Rowland dated March 31, 1927, Shoghi Effendi added these words:

My dear Baha'i sister:

Your welcome letter has refreshed my heart. The bearer of your message, Mr. Bishop, has imparted to us the joyful news of your welfare and happiness, of your constancy in service and of your unabated devotion to His Cause. May our Beloved reinforce your unsparing efforts, comfort you in your difficulties and trials and inspire you to teach and to exemplify by your lives the Sublime Teachings of God's Faith. I will especially remember you in my prayers at the Holy Shrines that you may be richly blessed in your endeavors.

Your true brother,

Shoghi

The Honolulu Baha'is had the joy of a visit, in the spring of 1927, from the radiant sister, Mrs. Ella Cooper of San Francisco, who came with her husband. During a month's stay she met with the friends and seekers at the homes of Mrs. Katherine Baldwin, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Swezey, and my home.

In October, 1927, the Honolulu Baha'i Community held a successful rummage sale to raise money for the Baha'i Temple of Wilmette. Mr. Anthony Seto and Ernest Hirahara procured the use of a vacant store which the owner gave free of rent, and through the united efforts of the friends, one hundred and seventy dollars were raised.

Dr. and Mrs. G. J. Augur moved from their home in the heart of the city in July, 1927, to an apartment at Waikiki Beach. For nearly twenty years their home had been a haven to the Baha'is who always found there a loving welcome. For some time Dr. Augur had been in poor health and had retired from his medical practice. On September 9, he suffered a stroke and passed away on the fourteenth, and was laid to rest in Nuuanu Cemetery.

In a letter from Shoghi Effendi addressed to me, he wrote on October 22, 1927, the following:

Please assure dear Mrs. Augur of my tenderest brotherly sympathy in her affliction. The services of her dear husband are engraved upon my heart. I will pray for him from the bottom of my heart at the Beloved's Shrine.

Again on October 31, he wrote me through his secretary:

He was deeply grieved to hear of the death of Dr. Augur. He prays that in seeking eternal rest, his soul may soar to heavenly kingdoms and attain an everlasting bounty. Surely he is now where he would much love to be. Please convey to his family Shoghi Effendi's deepest sympathy and regret.

Shoghi Effendi conferred on Dr. Augur the imperishable honor of including him among the nineteen disciples of 'Abdu'l-Baha who has passed on. (See Baha'i World, Vol. III, page 84.)

When the Augur home was no longer available for Baha'i meetings, Mrs. Katherine Baldwin gave the use of her cottage on the Baldwin property, facing Nuuanu Street, for the Baha'i Center. The cottage remained the Center until 1931 when the property was sold.

The Baha'i brother, Charles Reed Bishop, was born on the island of Kauai. At his birth the relative after whom he was named placed a sum of money in the bank in Charles' name. As the sum grew, Charles was enabled to serve the Cause independently. He married in the spring of 1927, Helen Pinkerton, and in September came with his bride to Honolulu where they remained for six months assisting with pure hearts the work of the Cause. God endowed Helen with a brilliant intellect and Charles was selfless in his service to the Cause.

In the fall of 1927, Mrs. Katherine Baldwin returned from a visit to New York accompanied by Miss Julia Goldman, whom she brought as her guest to help in the work of the Cause. Miss Goldman remained in the Baldwin home in Honolulu and at Makawao, until June, 1932, devotedly assisting the Baha'i work. Through gaining the goodwill of the Honolulu newspaper editors she succeeded in 1931 and 1932 in procuring much publicity for the Cause.

It was my privilege in September, 1927, to start a children's Baha'i class. On Sunday mornings we met under a spreading monkeypod tree near the Baha'i cottage on Nuuanu Street. The children sat on a great stone and there with perfect freedom they learned Baha'i prayers and verses and listened to stories of the Founders of the Faith. The children who attended the first Baha'i class in Honolulu were Prof. and Mrs. J.S. Donagho's daughter and two boys; Hobron and Katherine, children of Mr. and Mrs. Lorrie Smith; Mary Abby Baldwin, Clare Murdoch and Maile Stevenson. When I left Honolulu to return to Japan in January, 1928, the class was continued with others assisting. From time to time the group of children changed and when the Baldwin property was sold in 1931, Mamie Seto continued to teach a few children in her home.

On January 10, 1928, I sailed for Japan in obedience to the urgent request of Shoghi Effendi who wrote me:

I long to hear of your determination to return to Japan and pick up the thread of your unsparing efforts and activities for the promotion of the Cause of God. I feel that your destiny lies in that far-off and promising country where your noble and pioneer services future generations will befittingly glorify and thankfully remember. May the Beloved remove every obstacle from your path and enable you to resume your active work in that land.

(This most unexpected message was followed by others.)

In 1929, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Husted of Washington, D.C., accompanied by their children, came to make their home in Honolulu. Mrs. Husted had met 'Abdu'l-Baha in Washington, and He blessed her baby, Lorraine. During their story of eight years in Honolulu all the family became declared believers and for two years the meetings were held in their home. They now reside in Brooklyn, New York.

The beloved sister, Keith Ransom-Kehler, spent a day in Honolulu when on her way to Japan in June, 1931. The friends gathered to greet her at the hospitable home of Mrs. Katherine Baldwin. After she sailed, the Honolulu Advertiser published a two column story about her visit and the Baha'i teachings. In the fall of the year, Mrs. Lorol Schopflocher and Mr. Loveday visited Honolulu when on their way to the Orient. Mrs. Schopflocher spoke during her stay at the public Baha'i meeting held in the YMCA and also to a group of young people.

When on her way from Japan to the United States, in 1931, Martha Root spent nine days in Honolulu from January 8 through 17th, as the guest of Mrs. Katherine Baldwin. Julia Goldman had arranged for her, prior to her arrival, a full program. With Martha's spirit of severance and devotion and the united efforts of the believers, many souls were attracted to the Cause. The dauntless and tireless Martha not only addressed twelve organizations but spoke over the radio stations KGU and KGMB, giving two talks at each station.

The first large gathering for her was a tea given by the Chairman of the Federated Study Club, Mrs. George F. Straub, assisted by the officers of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Invited to the tea were the American Association of University Women and the League of Women Voters. Martha spoke of the men and women she had met in Europe and the Orient and of their far-reaching influence in creating public opinion on ways and means for establishing universal peace and the New World Order as outlined by Baha'u'llah. At the Baldwin home the next day Martha met a group of women. She was also invited by the Pan-Pacific Union to speak at their weekly luncheon where representatives of the Pacific races and different organizations gathered. Martha spoke to them on "Universal Education for Universal Peace." Other talks were given in the Lincoln High School; to a group of University of Hawaii students; to the members of the Zonta Club; to the Business and Professional Women's Club; to the Representatives Club of young men; to the Esperantists - besides large groups at the public Baha'i gatherings.

The spiritual confirmations which surrounded Martha enabled her to procure splendid publicity from the press, especially from the Honolulu Advertiser, as she had once been associated with the editor, Mr. Coll, on a newspaper in Pittsburgh. During Martha's nine days' stay in Honolulu, nine articles appeared in the papers, Advertiser and Star-Bulletin, and three times her picture was used.

THE HONOLULU ADVERTISER, FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 9, 1931.

EMINENT LECTURER AND WRITER TELLS DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL BAHAI'

By Charles Eugene Banks

Martha L. Root, American journalist and international Baha'i speaker, arrived in Honolulu yesterday morning on the Taiyo Maru from the Orient. This is the ninth year since she left the United States. She has been traveling continuously and uninterruptedly during this time.

Inspired with the belief that the Baha'i principles contain the yeast that is to leaven the world, she has delivered her message in almost every country with the exception of Russia.

The aim of the teacher during those nine years has been to promote the teaching of Baha'u'llah for the solution of present day world problems and to write constructive articles, to bring the countries together.

Miss Root is a soft-spoken gentle-woman. She welcomes one with that universal attitude which stamps all the pure thinkers, an attitude in which one cannot remain outside their refining influence.

"My interviews", said Miss Root, "have included audiences with a number of the sovereigns and presidents of the world, ministers of foreign affairs, ministers of education and the leaders of thought in all progressive and constructive movements."

Has Lectured Widely

The visitor told of delivering lectures in the leading universities of Europe, Oxford, Merlin, Letpaic, the Balkan universities, the great universities of China and Japan. She has broadcast in every continent. Her last broadcasting speech was in Tokyo, her voice being heard in every part of Japan on the subject: "Progress of the Baha'i Movement in Five Continents."

This lecture, said Miss Root, was arranged by the Kochi Shinbun, one of the greatest newspapers of Japan, owned by Mr. Noma, who is called the magazine king of Japan, as he owns nine great magazines in addition to the Hochu Shinbun. This brilliant function was on December 20th, and it was like a conference about Baha'ism. It was attended by more than 300 of the thinkers of Japan. It lasted four hours.

Notable Broadcast

Here she gave a little smile. "No it was not tiresome. The vice-president of the Hochi Shinbun was the first speaker, and he said he considered the teachings of Baha'u'llah one of the greatest solutions for the present day world problems. Dr. Masugima, a brilliant lawyer, spoke of the Baha'i as he found it in the United States. The legal advisors to the Japanese government spoke of Baha'ism as a conciliatory force."

"There were many eloquent speakers," continued the visitor. "Prof. Tetruiro Inouye, professor emeritus of the Imperial University and one of the very greatest of scholars and philosophers and writers spoke of the Baha'i movement, its approach to Christianity and Buddhism. He said: 'The Baha'i truths, if they are to be accepted, must be presented scientifically and philosophically.'"

Illustrates Talks

Following these speakers Miss Root on "The Baha'i Movement for Universal Peace and Religions", afterwards showing sixty fine stereopticon views of the history and activities of the Baha'i movement. These pictures have only been shown twice in four years, and the visitor said she would be happy to show them in Honolulu if it can be arranged.

One significant point the American visitor made was when she told them that 'Abdu'l-Baha had said that "Japan will turn ablaze! Japan with one other country will take the lead in the spiritual awakening of peoples and nations -- that the world will soon welcome such an awakening."

While we were talking, word came from New York City asking Miss Root to cable how long she could remain in the United States and how many lectures she will give. She is returning to Europe in November. The journalist is the guest of Mrs. Sam Baldwin while in the city. She will lecture twice each day during her stay.

Called Great Peace Agent

Asked as to what the Baha'i movement is, Miss Root said: "It is the greatest religious and social movement of which history bears any record. It is a program to unite the world religions and it offers the most practical plan for universal peace. Its teachings will make all countries international minded. The educationalists of the East are making a profound study of its teachings.

"The Baha'i teachings," she concluded, "are based on the harmony of science and religion and offer scientific proof of the life after death.

"Among the well known leaders of the world who are its adherents may be mentioned, Count Keyserling Tagoe, King Fazel of Iraq, Kemal Pasha of Turkey, Queen Marie, President Thomas Masaryk, founder and first president of the Republic of Czechoslovakia, Madame Hainseh and Madame Majuya, eminent leaders of the women's movement in Austria, C.T. Wang, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Dr. Mon Sen-Chiang, Minister of education and other government officials in China and Japan."

For many who are looking forward with keen interest to an account of Miss Root's remarkable experiences, an opportunity will be given next Tuesday evening, at the Y.W.C.A. and also at the Pan-Pacific luncheon Monday noon.

THE HONOLULU ADVERTISER, SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 10, 1931.

STUDY GROUP HEAR LECTURE BY MISS ROOT

Noted Disciple of Baha'i Has Busy Week Before Her

Miss Martha L. Root, journalist and Baha'i lecturer, addressed the members of the Federated Study Group on "Noted Women of the World and Their Interest in World Affairs" at the home of Mrs. George F. Straub yesterday afternoon at 3 p.m.

The group includes members of the American Association of University Women, the League Women Voters, and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

During the course of the next week Miss Root will lecture at the University of Hawaii, Punahou Senior Academy and McKinley High School. Subjects have been chosen that will appeal to the students of the various schools.

Miss Root's schedule for the next week follows, in detail: Today, 3:30 p.m. -- Afternoon tea and talk.

Tomorrow, 8 to 8:30 in the evening -- Broadcast talk, subject: "Progress of the Baha'i Movement in Five Continents."

At Luncheon

Monday, 12 o'clock -- Pan-Pacific club luncheon, one of the speakers. Her subject will be "Universal Education for World Peace." 8 p.m. -- Lecture to the Esperantists of Honolulu on "Esperanto as a Universal Auxiliary Language." All interested are cordially invited.

Tuesday -- Zonta Club luncheon at noon for the members. Miss Root will speak on "Universal Peace: What you Can Do to Help Bring It." 8 p.m. -- Public lecture, Y.M.C.A., subject, "What Form Will the New Civilization Take?" All are cordially invited.

Wednesday, 9:30 to 10 o'clock -- Subject, "Youth's Part in the New World Order." 10 to 10:30 o'clock -- "Progress of Esperanto in the Schools of the World", before the student body of McKinley high school. 12:30 o'clock -- University of Hawaii, Women's Association, subject, "What the East Can Do for the West."

At Punahou

Thursday, 11:30 a.m. -- Punahou senior academy, subject, "The Aim of Liberal Education." 8 p.m. -- Lecture before educators of Oahu at the Central Junior high school, Emma Street, subject, "The New Universal Education", graphically describing the work and aims of the great educators of the Far East as well as those of the West.

Friday, 12 o'clock -- Luncheon and lecture for the members of the Business and Professional Women's Club in the gold room of Young hotel, subject "Women's Place in the New World Order". 8 o'clock -- Last public lecture of Miss Root on "International Aspects of the Baha'i Movement". Sixty lantern slides will be presented, showing the history and progress of the Baha'i movement. Place of lecture to be announced later. The public is invited.

HONOLULU ADVERTISER, SOCIETY SECTION, JANUARY 11, 1931, PG. 4

MISS MARTHA ROOT IN INTERESTING TALK BEFORE STUDY GROUP

The first meeting of the year for the Federated Study Group in international relations of the American Association of University Women, Women's International League, and League of Women Voters was in the nature of a tea in honor of Miss Martha Root, well-known lecturer and world traveler, and Miss Julia Goldman, the returning member of the group, given by the Women's International League for peace and freedom, at the home of the president, Mrs. George F. Straub, in Manoa Valley, Friday afternoon.

Assisting the hostess in receiving were the officers of the League; Mrs. S. A. Baldwin, Mrs. Isaac M. Cox, Mrs. Maude B. Cooke, Mrs. Alonzo Gartley, Miss Julia Goldman, Mrs. George F. Cooke, Mrs. Douglas Cooke, Mrs. Colin Lennox, Mrs. T. Harada, Mrs. Harry Kluegel, Mrs. Shao Lee, Mrs. Frederick J. Lowrey, Mrs. E. A. Mott-Smith, Mrs. Gayetano Ligot, Miss Elsie Wilcox, and Mrs. W. D. Westervelt.

Presiding over the tea table were Mrs. George Ikeda and Mrs. Kenji Hamada; the coffee table, Mrs. Montague Cooke, and Mrs. H. W. Babbitt.

Miss Martha Root, who has traveled and sojourned in many lands, and who has attended many of the educational conferences in Geneva, London, Leipsic, Vienna, and other centers, and who has spoken in colleges and schools, and before groups of students, lectured interestingly on "Noted Women in Various Lands and Their Interest in World Affairs." Many opportunities of working and associating with such women as Frau Hainisch, Saro Jini Naidu of India and innumerable others, gave vivid and real interest to her lecture.

She gave a graphic picture of the great effort being put forth by the women of each country for world understanding and justice, and the effort for economic adjustment which may lead to a better world order.

During her lengthy sojourn and pilgrimage in Persia, she had opportunity of coming in contact with many of the leaders of the Baha'i movement, which has for its spiritual message world cooperation, unity and peace. She spent some time in India, and also spoke in China, in universities and schools, and has just come from Japan, where she spent several weeks.

THE HONOLULU ADVERTISER, TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 13, 1931.

MISS ROOT IS ENTHUSIASTIC OVER ESPERANTO

An enthusiastic group of Esperantists gathered around a

circular table in Honolulu's Y.M.C.A. building on Monday evening to hear Miss Martha Root recount some of her experiences in foreign lands with the idiom called Esperanto.

Miss Root has discussed Esperanto in most of the lands of the civilized world, and probably has a personal acquaintance with more speakers of the idiom than anybody alive. Her own attention was called to it in 1910, and her interest was aroused in what might be called a philosophical way, because she seemed to see in it a tool for bringing the people of the world together in some sort of mutual understanding.

The curious result followed that she had published more than a hundred articles on Esperanto before she began to speak it.

This situation has since been altered, and since 1925 she has spoken it at every opportunity. Moreover, as everybody agrees who uses Esperanto, she speaks it beautifully.

It is Miss Root's opinion that Esperanto is a favorable method of approach to the study of other languages, particularly European languages. She hopes to see it introduced into the schools, and into Sunday schools perhaps. She reports that a test group who studied English and Esperanto for a definite period, made more progress in English than a similar group who studied English alone for the same period.

THE HONOLULU ADVERTISER, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 14, 1931.

AT KGU

Miss Martha L. Root, American news writer and lecturer, will speak over KGU tonight at 8:15. Miss Root who is striving for the establishment of a universal league of nations will speak on Esperanto, the international language.

Miss Root recently arrived from the Orient and while in Honolulu has been giving a series of lectures on various social and religious movements.

Following her talk tonight, Miss Root will again be on the air Friday evening during The Advertiser's news-acting program which starts at 7:15. It will be an interview broadcast on the subject, "What is the Baha'i Movement?" The interview will be conducted by Ben Holmes, a mainland newspaperman who is now sojourning in Honolulu.

THE BAHAI CAUSE ON THE ISLAND OF HAWAII - (1924)

During the first forty years of the Baha'i Cause in the Islands of Hawaii, Mrs. Leona Thompson, the wife of Judge J. Wesley Thompson, of the District Court of Kona, was the only Baha'i resident on the Island of Hawaii, where as a Baha'i she served the Cause in 1924 and 1925. When on a visit to Washington, D.C., she heard of the Cause and on her return to the Islands in February, 1924, she met with the Honolulu Baha'is.

In the spring of 1924, I visited the Island of Hawaii where for two weeks in May I was the guest in the home of Judge and Mrs. Thompson at Kealakekua. Although Judge Thompson did not claim to accept the Manifestation he was sympathetic to the Cause. Through his introduction I was invited to speak on the Baha'i teachings in the Christian Mission Church of Kona at the Sunday morning service taking the place of the sermon. A young Japanese, Soeno Inouye, who was in the audience, listened to the teachings with wrapt attention and delight. As he was a reporter for the Honolulu Advertiser, he wrote two enthusiastic articles about the Baha'i Faith for the May 31st and June 3rd editions of the paper. Because

THE HONOLULU ADVERTISER, SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 18, 1931.

YOUTH MOVEMENT FOR WORLD-WIDE PEACE PROPOSED

Martha Root Outlines Idea in Speech to McKinley Students

McKinley High School students were entertained at two assemblies on Wednesday by Miss Martha Root, lecturer, journalist, and traveler, to create a "youth movement" of new international peace. Esperanto, the universal auxiliary language, as a medium for world peace was the subject of Miss Root's interesting lecture. She stated that the language, developed by a Polish oculist whom the people called Dr. Esperanto, which means "one who hopes", can be learned easily and well in six months' time. In 1918 the schools began to teach it.

Although McKinley has no class in the instruction of this language, the school has a club to carry on the work. Esperanto is 42 years old, and for a good many years annual conferences to which about 42 countries send delegates and where the language is spoken, are held. At the 1930 conference held at Oxford, England, there were 3,000 delegates. (Article continued with entertainment program at the assembly.)

In July, 1931, Mr. Arthur Husted, Mrs. Gertrude Piutti and Mrs. Florence Johnson joined the Honolulu Baha'i Community. The following year Mrs. Elma Adolphson also declared her faith. Before she heard of the Cause, in 1923, she lived opposite the home of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Seto. One day in a Christian meeting she heard the Baha'i Faith condemned as being a Muhammedan religion. This led her to inquire of Mamie Seto about her religion. When Mamie explained the Bible proofs of the Cause, she was convinced of its truth, but although she believed in her heart, on account of opposition in her family she did not attend the Baha'i meetings.

At last the time came in 1932, when Mr. and Mrs. Seto were about to leave Honolulu, that she took her stand and began to attend the meetings. God then removed the opposition and she has since been an active member of the community.

of the friendliness of Judge and Mrs. Thompson towards the Japanese population of Kona, I was invited on May 23rd to speak in the Japanese community hall, and later in a Buddhist Temple hall. Mrs. Thompson also arranged for me to speak to the High School students and others.

The second article by Soeno Inouye, published in the Honolulu Advertiser was a sympathetic account of the Baha'i talks given in Kona, a portion of which follows:

BAHA'I "REVELATION" IN KONA Captivates both Haole and Oriental And Esperanto Is Advocated By Soeno Inouye

Kealakekua, Hawaii, May 30 -- That even this staid district is keeping pace with the changing world - not only in material things but also the higher concern of the spirit - is happily evidenced by the wide interest aroused hereabout over the Baha'i 'Revelation', perhaps the most ethereal of all religious teachings. Its utopian doctrines are now captivating both the

haole residents and the younger Orientals, and its swift appeal is largely due to the local expounder, Miss Alexander, a widely-traveled lady possessed of radiant eloquence and much charm. She addressed the audiences at the high school, the Christian church, and the Buddhist temple - which certainly testifies to the amiable and all-embracing character of her message. By her long residence in Japan and by her friendly contact with the native population there, Miss Alexander has acquired an intimate knowledge of Japanese people, their homeland customs and their modes of thought. And in addressing the transplanted Japanese here she is adroitly utilizing this insight. Besides, Miss Alexander's vivid reminiscences of the Tokyo earthquakes enthrall even those listeners too young or too simple to comprehend her iridescent gospel. Forty years ago the only religion preached here was a dogmatic brand of Christianity, suitable to the native minds of the day. Later on, Buddhism and rational Christianity arrived, and now comes this highly sophisticated Baha'ism. All proves that Kona is truly progressive, even in her spiritual yearnings.

Universal Speech

Among its up to date features the Baha'i cult advocates the spreading of a universal auxiliary language, Esperanto. If such a lingo really prevailed throughout the world, this territory, the dwelling place of assorted races, would have been spared among many other annoyances, the infinite bother of posting at the public places proclamations and notices composed in six or seven varying languages. Also, that official nightmare, the language school, might never have sprung. Assuredly an international speech, when widely adopted, would do more to slay petty prejudices and erase provincial ideas than all the religions and languages have accomplished hitherto among the erring tribes of mankind.

To demonstrate the existence of so many advanced thinkers in Kona, we shall briefly sketch the enticing movement. Like most other religions, Baha'ism was born east of Suez. It originated 80 years ago in the land of the Rubaiyat, the home of minarets and figs, of roses and wines and damsels of dark and potent eyes. Sprung from such an environment, its doctrines are distinctly mild and humane. Here is none of the Hebrew wrath and torrid fancy. An earnest yet a gentle Persian youth (a sort of sublimated Omar Khayyam), bearing the crisp name of Bab, conceived of a universal religion that should embrace and harmonize all the existing religions, and thereby bring about a religious unity unto this distracted world. And the unified religion would bring the perfect peace and understanding among the nations. A dazzling Oriental idea! After six years of unappreciative preaching in such a vein Bab met the usual fate of all daring thinkers, a martyr's death.

Teachings Broadened

The founder's original teaching has been broadened since by other learned Persians. It now champions a religion purely based on science and reason - minus all miracles and superstition; it declares equality between men and women - an evidence of Occidental influence; it offers a tempting solution to the economic problems; and noblest of all, it preaches the eradication of all national and racial prejudices. The last feature should prove of particular utility in these islands. Here, among the diverse races, the primitive biases are still abiding, good and strong. Here the invading cult may achieve some beneficent result.

Up to three weeks ago the writer knew of only one accomplished Kona woman who was really interested in Baha'ism and its 12 principles. Now, however, it is becoming a fashion

among the cultured women to take up the study of this novel "revelation". Likewise a number of the native Orientals are solemnly discussing the subject. Meanwhile, Miss Alexander is proceeding on her well-arranged program of speaking at all the principle settlements of Kona. May this desirable movement for charitable and liberal thinking, so auspiciously started here, abide and flourish to the lasting benefit of coffee land.

Mr. Inouye's articles called forth an editorial in the June 3 Advertiser entitled, "The Baha'i Movement". The Honolulu Star-Bulletin of May 31 also published an article from its Kona correspondent, and the Japanese language newspaper "Kona Echo", published an account of the talks given in Kona. In this way, through Divine confirmations, the Baha'i Message was made known, not only in Kona, but throughout the Islands of the group wherever the newspapers were read.

From Kona, Mrs. Thompson accompanied me to Hilo where again the doors opened for me to speak of the Cause in wonderful ways. The first morning in Hilo, I was invited to speak to the high school students, through Mrs. Thompson's efforts, and later an invitation came to give the Baha'i Message in a Buddhist temple. I also spoke to a group of young Japanese in the Sunday school of a Christian church. Accounts of these talks were published in the Hilo Tribune Herald of June 3, 6, and 9. The Japanese language newspaper, Hawaii Mainichi, also had articles entitled, "Baha'i" in its issues of June 9 and 14. Seeds of the New Day were thus sown in Hilo.

Mrs. Thompson was an ardent worker for peace. Through her efforts the Kona Forum prepared a plan for peace essays to be written by the students in the government schools of the Islands. For the best essays, prizes were contributed by women's clubs of the Islands. Mrs. Thompson acted as Chairman of the work the first year, then in the spring of 1925 she went to Washington, D.C., on a mission where she suddenly died. Before her passing she had received in April, 1925, a letter from Dr. David Starr Jordan, which read: "I have read the plan of essays on peace as prepared by the Kona Forum. I think it altogether admirable and I wish that some plan of the kind may become wide-spread in America, Europe and Japan. I have, as you know, already suggested it to the World Federation and also to the directors of the Constitution's contests now progressing. I wish you and your colleagues all success in your noble work."

As a memorial to Mrs. Thompson in 1925, I carried on the peace essay program for that year.

A letter which Mrs. Thompson addressed to the editor of the "Star of the West" magazine follows:

"Dear Sir:

'New occasions teach new duties,
Time makes ancient good uncouth,
They must ever up and onward
Who would keep abreast of truth!'

"Kipling's 'East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet', must be relegated to a past age since subjects and citizens of all countries have migrated to the 'Paradise of the Pacific', and extremes have met, mingled and married. The result is '57' Varieties of the human race. Truly it is the Dawn of a New Day in human affairs and relations. The signs are both portentous and reassuring. Just as the anthropologists are about to prove the common origin of mankind, the oneness of humanity is being demonstrated here in 'the loveliest fleet of isles that lie anchored in any ocean'. The 'Old Glory' floats over the Executive Building in Honolulu.

"At a recent Pan-Pacific Conference our Governor in welcoming the delegates very graciously said, 'Gentlemen, you are on neutral territory.' A recent edition of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin says: 'Hawaii is not only the meeting place of the East and West, but Hawaii has attained a high degree of success in solving race problems by the simple but fundamental method of tolerance, the method of frank exchange of ideas and smoothing out of differences at their

THE BAHAI MESSAGE PRESENTED ON KAUAI - (1924 - 1926)

Since the Cause of Baha'u'llah reached the Islands of Hawaii, there has not been a resident Baha'i on the Island of Kauai during the first forty years.

In July, 1924, while visiting in the home of a cousin at Eleele, Kauai, the way opened for me to give the Baha'i Message. My cousin was the manager of McBride Sugar Plantation, and at the time of my visit the women of the neighboring plantations had many afternoon parties to which my cousin's wife and I were invited. I attended the parties with a prayer that the opportunity might come for me to speak of the Cause. One day, before leaving the home for a party, I earnestly supplicated divine assistance. That afternoon a lady sitting at a table with me suddenly said, "I wish we might have something worthwhile and have Miss Alexander tell us of the Baha'i Cause." It seemed at that moment light burst forth. I joyously asked the lady where she had heard of the Cause. She replied that on a steamer coming from San Francisco she had heard Mr. C. M. Remy speak of it. The next day I asked my cousin if we might invite some ladies to his home, that I might tell them of the Cause. With his consent, his wife, who was in sympathy with me, invited by telephone about twenty ladies to come the following afternoon. A lady of the Quaker faith who had heard 'Abdu'l-Baha when He spoke at Stanford University, was visiting in Eleele and I asked her to come and tell of her meeting with 'Abdu'l-Baha. With but one exception all the guests came, although they had only a day's notice of the gathering.

In its July 15th edition, the Garden Island weekly, pub-

THE BAHAI CAUSE ON MAUI - (1922 - 1942)

The first resident Baha'i on the Island of Maui was Mrs. Samuel A. (Katherine) Baldwin through whose effort and divine assistance the Cause has been established there.

In the fall of 1922, I had the joy of spending a few days with Katherine Baldwin when she came with her husband (my cousin) and friends on a visit to Japan. Through Miss Elizabeth Muther, who lived in the home of her parents, she had known of the Cause from her girlhood and gradually the light of the New Day dawned in her soul. On her return from Japan to her home on Maui, she wrote me that she was happier than ever before in her life. At that time an English lady from Vancouver, British Columbia, gave a series of lectures on Maui based on Unity. She had heard Jenab-i-Fadil speak on the Cause in her city, but only mentioned that she had attended the lectures. As an instrument, God used her to prepare the way for the Baha'i Message. At the end of the series of lectures, Katherine Baldwin spoke and said that she was a Baha'i and gave the Baha'i Message. She said that Unity was a step towards it, and said that if they wished, she would come each week to study the Baha'i teachings with them. The class was held in her beach home at Sprecklesville. The result was the forming of a group which has continued from that time. Five of the group who accepted the Baha'i Message were: Mrs. Mary

beginnings. This has prevented differences from growing to the point of serious friction, and Hawaii has justly earned the reputation of having no race problem in the sense of race clash and conflict. Hawaii believes that what has been done here on a small scale can be done on an international, ocean-wide scale."

Mrs. Leona Thompson was a noble woman who served the Baha'i Cause devotedly with all her powers.

lished in Lihue, mentioned the gathering under the heading, "Baha'ism Explained by Miss Alexander", The Honolulu Advertiser also, in a special news item from its Eleele correspondent, carried a notice of the gathering. Thus through divine assistance the first seed of the Baha'i Message was sown on that island.

Another opportunity was given me to speak on the Baha'i Cause on Saturday evening, February 21, 1926, when I was invited to the island especially to speak at a meeting held in the Lihue Memorial Parish House, where a series of talks on present day religions was being given. With divine assistance the night of the meeting, I was enabled to explain the Baha'i teachings to an attentive audience. The next morning I was again invited to speak to a group of Hawaiian ministers who had gathered for a conference in Lihue. This was an especially happy occasion, as my grandfather Alexander was once stationed as a missionary on Kauai, where he preached on Sundays at Koolau, under the shade of a kukui grove, to an audience of about four hundred natives. As my grandfather's name was known among the ministers, they received me most kindly.

A notice of the meeting in the Parish House appeared in the Garden Island, February 16, and later the paper published an article, "What is the Baha'i Movement?" which I had prepared from addresses given by 'Abdu'l-Baha.

Through the bounty of God the few seeds which have been sown of the New Day on Kauai may spring forth and blossom in time!

Tilton Fantom, Mrs. Mary Clark, Mrs. Sila Pratt Smith, Mrs. Alice D. Cameron, and Mrs. Annie M. Hansen. The last two friends have since passed on.

Mrs. Mary Fantom was the first one of Hawaiian blood to accept the Cause. Her great heart of love and pure spirit has enabled her to keep the friends together when Katherine Baldwin was away. Her home in Sprecklesville has been the center where the meetings were held in love and unity.

In February, 1924, after my return from Japan, Katherine Baldwin invited me to accompany her to Maui to help in spreading the Cause. Through her efforts, opportunities were given me to speak of the Baha'i Faith. Again in April I visited Maui. During my stay I spent two weeks with Mrs. Lorrin (Sila) Smith at Makawao. It was a joyous visit as Sila had a deep understanding of the Cause. One afternoon, April 23rd, she invited some friends to a Baha'i gathering in her home, when Mrs. Mary Fantom, Mrs. Mary V. Clark, Mrs. Alice D. Cameron, Mrs. Hermine S. MacLaren and Miss Lucille Hodgins came and we had a happy meeting.

Sila Smith had at that time a children's group, the "Aloha Garden", made up of her children and the neighboring children who met Sunday mornings and were taught from the Baha'i teachings. While I was there the children who gathered

on April 27 were: Hobron, Katherine and Billy Smith, Joseph Taylor, George Fernandez, Hitoshi Sera, Manuel Fernandez, Misao Sera, and Shizuko Arai. The next day, April 28th the first Baha'i Feast on Maui was held at the Fred Baldwin Home with Mrs. Alice Cameron when Sila Smith, Mrs. Cameron and her daughter Faith, Mrs. MacLaren, Mrs. Mary Clark, Miss Cramer and myself were present.

From the Maui Baha'i record book the following is taken: "April 21, 1928. Signifying their desire to form a Baha'i Spiritual Assembly the following named ladies met at the home of Mrs. Lorrin (Sila) Smith on the above date at ten o'clock a.m.: Mrs. Katherine Baldwin, Mrs. Jessie Bissett, Mrs. Alice Brown, Mrs. Mary Clark, Mrs. Mary Fantom, Miss Henriette From, Miss Julia Goldman, Mrs. Sila Smith and Mrs. Cameron. A letter was read with instructions by Shoghi Effendi regarding the Annual Elections and their importance in the world in this day. Mrs. Baldwin and Miss Goldman briefly outlined our duties as members of a Spiritual Assembly and with duties come also blessings and privileges. We then read from the **Hidden Words** and repeated the Prayer of Unity. The following officers were elected: Chairman, Miss Julia Goldman; Vice Chairman, Mrs. Smith; Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Baldwin; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Cameron. We are very fortunate in having Miss Goldman of New York in our midst. She is visiting Mrs. Baldwin and will serve as Chairman during her stay on Maui. Alice D. Cameron, R.S."

On May 16, 1928, I wrote from Japan: "I was especially happy to hear the good news from Maui. That night I had a dream in which 'Abdu'l-Baha appeared among friends on Maui as we sat at a table, and then afterwards He was walking over the country. It is very seldom that I dream anything which seems to have an importance such as this."

The Maui Baha'i Record book contains the following: "September 6, 1928. The Spiritual Assembly met at the home of Mrs. Katherine Baldwin. Those present were: Miss Julia Goldman, Mrs. Mary Fantom, Mrs. Jessie Bissett, Miss H. From and Mrs. Katherine Baldwin. The meeting was opened by the Prayer of Unity repeated by Mrs. Fantom. On August 27, our dear Baha'i sister, Alice Cameron, passed into the Kingdom Beyond. Her illness lasted a week and the last time she left her home was to attend a Baha'i Feast. Her earthly life was one of love and service, and as an Assembly we grieve her loss, although we know her spirit is with us. Owing to this loss the Assembly met in consultation as to whom should be elected to carry on her work. It was decided to write to the National Spiritual Assembly for information regarding the situation for at present there is no other confirmed Baha'i in this community. Katherine Baldwin was elected to take the position of Recording Secretary in addition to Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. The meeting closed with a Baha'i Prayer. Katherine Baldwin, Secretary."

In a letter, February 4, 1934, I wrote from Makawao: "The Cause here is advancing with the help of dear Katherine (Baldwin). I have been very happy to take the Friday afternoon meetings since coming, and also a class in the 'Iqan' of Baha'u'llah, the same book we read in Honolulu on Thursday mornings. There is a very lovely spirit among all the friends here. They only lack men. We meet at Mary Fantom's home for the meetings. Katherine has started a Friday morning class to explain the Cause to some of her relatives here. Also she has a Japanese group meeting in the evenings once a week, I believe. Today she is invited to speak of the Cause to a group

at a school, so you see how things are advancing here. Miss From had a lovely letter from the Guardian which also was encouraging."

Again on February 14, 1934, I wrote from Makawao: "We have had beautiful meetings here and the way opened for me to meet two of the friends whom I am assured are now fully confirmed and this would make it possible for an Assembly of nine here, - that is, counting Katherine and Miss From who do not belong to Honolulu, so I feel there is great wisdom in Katherine's being here."

After returning from the Baha'i Convention of 1934, I visited Maui and wrote from there: "Now I am on Maui and here also having a heavenly time with the beloved friends who meet regularly twice a week. Everything I can tell them from my notes and otherwise seems to be of the deepest interest to them all. This is a heavenly group made up of so many combined races."

The Maui Baha'i Community is unique in its diversity of racial backgrounds. During the twenty years since the group was first formed, it has been composed entirely of women from Hawaiian, Japanese, Portugese, British, American and Negro parentage. Forgetting their racial and color differences, they are joined together through the Message of Baha'u'llah in love and unity.

On April 21, 1935, as the number of Baha'is on Maui had increased, they were enabled to reorganize and form a Spiritual Assembly. Katherine Baldwin was elected Chairman, and a new member, Mrs. E. F. (Daisy) Sabin, Vice Chairman. As Katherine Baldwin was obliged to be away from Maui most of the year, Daisy Sabin, as she is known, carried on the Assembly. This helped to strengthen and develop the Baha'is. The next year, 1936, Mrs. Sabin was elected Chairman of the Assembly, the office she has been re-elected to each year until the present time. In 1938 and 1939, she experienced a severe illness which awakened her to the consuming power of the Cause. Since then she has grown to become a lighted candle attracting many to the Cause.

In March, 1939, I had the joy of visiting the Maui friends. On Naw-Ruz, they all gathered in commemoration of the day at the home of Mrs. Daisy Voss at the Sprecklesville beach where they partook of a luau. From the gathering of love and unity, a message was sent to the beloved Guardian, who responded with the following letter dated April 22, 1939, as follows:

Dear Baha'i Friends,

The Naw-Ruz message, dated March 21st, you had addressed to our beloved Guardian, has been kindly transmitted to him through the care of our dear sister Miss Agnes B. Alexander, and needless to say how profoundly he was moved by its perusal.

He wishes me to cordially reciprocate your sentiments, and to wish you all, individually and collectively, every happiness and prosperity, and continued confirmation in your services to the Cause throughout this year.

In his moments of prayer and meditation he will specially remember your group, entreating Baha'u'llah to vouchsafe unto you much measure of His grace and bounty as would enable your community, now so small in numbers and so limited in its resources and power, to steadily increase in numbers, to deepen in devotion, in faith and in understanding and to accomplish results of far-reaching and enduring benefit to the Cause in those distant yet spiritual*

*such - error made in the original

Reciprocating your loving greetings, and wishing you ly-promising islands.

again every blessing and added confirmation in your services,

Yours most sincerely,

H. Rabbani

May the Almighty Spirit of Baha'u'llah sustain and guide you in your highly appreciated endeavors, deepen your understanding, illumine your path, cheer your hearts, and aid you to render inestimable service to His Faith and institutions. Your true and grateful brother,

Shoghi

In 1939, Mrs. Annie Crockett went as the first delegate from Maui to attend the Annual Baha'i Convention in the Temple in Wilmette.

In her home at Makawao, Katherine Baldwin has rendered great service to the Cause through her hospitality in entertaining many visiting Baha'is who have helped to strengthen the Cause on that island. Among the Baha'i guests were Mrs. Seto who twice visited Maui for the work of the Cause. In 1932, Mrs. Loulie Mathews and Mrs. Marion Little spent ten days as Katherine Baldwin's guests, and in 1937, Mrs. Little returned and spend the summer. Besides these visitors, Miss Elizabeth Muther, during her sojourns in the Baldwin home was a strengthening power among the friends.

On November 12, 1941, Mrs. Mary Fantom gave a glorious Feast to the Maui Friends. Her spirit of love is depicted in the following letter written to the Honolulu friends, November 14th: "Yesterday we saw the article in the Advertiser about your Feast meeting of the Birthday of the Blessed Perfection. I

THE BAHAI CAUSE IN HAWAII (1932 - 1942)

In 1932, the faithful Baha'is, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Seto, left Honolulu to make their home in San Francisco, where Mr. Seto engaged in law work. As they owned property in Honolulu, Mrs. Seto returned on visits in 1934, 1937 and 1940, and the last time in 1941 when the property was sold. During her visits Mrs. Seto always actively assisted the friends in the work of the Cause.

I was guided in June, 1933, to return from Japan to Honolulu. There I received a letter from Shoghi Effendi dated Haifa, June 8, the day I reached Honolulu, in which he wrote through his secretary:

He was very glad to learn that you have decided to leave for Honolulu as he firmly believes that such a visit will give you a chance to rest and will enable you on your return to Japan, to better serve the Cause. There should always be a limit to self-sacrifice. The Guardian is fully confident that your journey to the Hawaiian Islands will be a great benefit to the friends there and it will stimulate them to pursue with refreshed zeal their Baha'i activities. Last April we had the pleasure of meeting two of our Honolulu friends, Miss Julia Goldman, whom you have probably met, and Miss Baldwin, the daughter of our devoted Baha'i sister Mrs. Baldwin. Their visit to Haifa seems to have been very inspiring to them as it is hoped that as a result of their pilgrimage they will redouble their energies in the service of the Cause. Please extend to them, as well as to all our

had that meeting here on Wednesday morning at 10:00 o'clock. It being an open meeting, there were fourteen present. It was a wonderful gathering. I greeted everyone with Allah-u-Abha. Oh, everyone seemed so happy! Even before the meeting someone said, 'I am so happy that I came!' I said, 'Yes, this is a special happy day for all of us because it is Baha'u'llah's birthday. In the future it will be a legal holiday like Christmas is today.' As I passed the hymn books around I said, 'Let us turn to page 12 and sing, 'Tell the wondrous story', and as we sing, think that we are singing to the whole world.' We sang it twice and how happy we were! Before we had our closing prayer we sang it again. I gave a short talk about Baha'u'llah's birth, etc., also told them that during His time it took four months to go from Tihiran to Akka and now by plane it takes only seven hours . . ."

Mrs. Fantom then tells of the refreshments and the gifts of plants she had prepared for each friend. She writes: "They were so very happy - like young children and I told them that we are all young Baha'is. Mrs. Atwater was overjoyed with her plants and she said, 'I will always think of Baha'u'llah every time I look at these plants.' They are really perpetual plants for they all bear seeds and will keep growing."

In 1941, the members of the Maui Baha'i Community were: Mrs. Katherine Baldwin, Mrs. Matilda Barrus, Mrs. Jessie Bissett, Mrs. Alice Broadhurst, Mrs. Mary V. Clark, Miss Agnes Clark, Miss Harriet Clark, Mrs. Annie Crockett, Mrs. May T. Fantom, Mrs. Amelia Feiteira, Mrs. Faily Howard, Mrs. Harumi Inouye, Mrs. Daisy Sabin and Mrs. Daisy Voss.

If God so wills, in the future on the slopes of Haleakala, at Makawao, a Baha'i Summer School may be established where people of the Pacific Islands will meet in love and unity to study the Revelation of Baha'u'llah.

Hawaiian friends, the loving greetings of the Guardian and assure them of his prayers on their behalf. May I also assure you once more of his best wishes. In his moments of meditation and supplication at the Blessed Shrines he will especially remember you and will ask the Lord to bless and enrich your efforts a hundredfold.

Shoghi Effendi added:

Dear and valued co-worker:

I immensely appreciate your outstanding services in those faraway Islands, and I will pray that you may be assisted to resume in the not distant future your manifold and valued activities in the service of our beloved Faith. Your name will forever remain associated with the rise of the Faith and its establishment in Japan and the record of your incessant and splendid endeavors will shed on its annals a lustre that time can never dim.

*Your true and grateful brother,
Shoghi Effendi*

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Mathews of Colorado Springs and Mrs. Marion Little of Covington, La., visited Honolulu during the winter of 1932 and 1933, where they assisted the friends in the Baha'i work. During their stay they spent ten days as the guests of Mrs. Baldwin at Makawao, Maui. In a letter to Mrs. Baldwin dated Haifa, January 21, 1933, Shoghi Effendi wrote through his secretary:

Shoghi Effendi wishes me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated December 22, 1932. He fully appreciates how happy you were to receive in your home such devoted servants of the Cause as Mrs. Mathews and Mrs. Little . . . Shoghi Effendi hopes as a result of their short stay the friends will obtain a new spirit and impetus to serve the Cause, especially as both of them are outstanding Baha'is with deep understanding of the Faith . . . Shoghi Effendi hopes that by meeting them and Mrs. Mathews, Mr. Baldwin will feel nearer to the Faith. The breadth of their outlook as well as hope for the future have surely impressed him . . .

Shoghi Effendi adds:

Dear and valued co-worker:

I wish to add a few words in person in order to assure you of my keen and abiding appreciation of your steadfast services to our beloved Faith. I will pray for you and your dear family from the depths of my heart. May the Almighty guide your steps, remove every obstacle from your path and fulfill your dearest wish.

*Your true brother,
Shoghi*

Mrs. Katherine Baldwin received another letter from Shoghi Effendi dated Haifa, May 26, 1933, in which he wrote in part through his secretary:

Shoghi Effendi was so glad to meet two of our Hawaiian friends this last spring, Miss Julia Goldman and Miss Barbara Baldwin. He feels confident that your daughter's visit to the Holy Shrines, though exceptionally short, will not fail to impress her mind and to deepen her interest in the teachings. He fervently prays to God that she may be soon spiritually awakened and become an invaluable help to you in your teaching activities.

Shoghi Effendi adds:

Dear and valued co-worker:

Your detailed letter brought much joy to my heart. The visit paid by your dear daughter and Miss Goldman served to remind me of your devoted and constant services to the Cause. We all missed your presence, and I trust that in the not distant future you may be enabled to undertake the long-desired pilgrimage to the Holy Land. I will continue to pray for your happiness, your success and spiritual advancement.

*Your true and grateful brother,
Shoghi*

One morning in July, 1933, the door bell rang at my brother's home where I was staying and a stranger greeted me with the words, "Allah-u-Abha!" It was our Baha'i brother, Mr. W. E. M. Grosfeld from Batavia, Java, with whom I had once exchanged letters when in Japan. He was on his way to the United States and eventually Haifa. Several years before, when in Egypt, he had visited Shoghi Effendi. By means of the telephone I was able to arrange with the friends a luncheon at the Uluniu Women's Club at Waikiki where the Baha'is often met and had lunch or supper together. Mr. Grosfeld was very happy to meet the believers. As he seemed loath to leave them,

two of the friends invited him to stay in their homes, each for a week, if he could arrange to remain for two weeks. He was delighted to stay and we had many happy meetings while he was with us. During that time the Star-Bulletin published an interview with him and his picture. When he at last reached the Holy Land, he sent us a letter written from Bahji, February 2, 1934. He wrote in part:

Our beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, ordered me to write to you from the most precious Spot of the World, the Shrine of His Holiness Baha'u'llah . . . The Guardian is most interested in that beautiful Baha'i Center in those far islands. Of course he is interested in all regarding the Cause and the friends, but he realizes very well that your Center is one of the most beautiful. He was anxiously waiting for the news I had to tell him from all the Baha'i Assemblies. I spoke about our zealous sister Agnes Alexander and the question of Japan. He approves that the work of her teaching in Japan is of great importance and thinks that in a short time she will be able to return to that country. As I promised, I prayed for you all in the Holy Shrines . . . Dear friends, be persuaded that I never forget the lovely days I spent in Honolulu. Your great love has touched me and I always shall return with my deepest and sincerest feelings of devotion. My heart belongs to you, dear Honoluluans. Honolulu is a splendid garden with the finest flowers, soft and sweet roses of our glorious Baha'i Cause. Accept all my love. Don't forget a young brother in Holland.

On July 16, 1933, Mrs. Florence Johnson gave a talk over radio station KGMB, describing the Baha'i Temple of Wilmette. On November 26, the believers gathered in her home for a joint supper and meeting. A new friend, Mrs. E. Austin Jones, was with us that evening. She had long known of the Cause from Miss Muther and her cousin, Mrs. Katherine Baldwin, and soon after she declared her faith.

In October, 1933, I received a letter from Shoghi Effendi dated Haifa, August 25, in which he wrote:

It was a real pleasure for the Guardian to read your beautiful message dated July 12, 1933, and to share the many news items you gave him about the progress of the Cause in Honolulu. He is confident that your stay in this inspiring spot will serve to consolidate the work that has already been achieved. The friends in Honolulu, who as you say, are mostly new believers, will undoubtedly appreciate your presence among them, and it is hoped that they will fully avail themselves of this opportunity to deepen their knowledge of the Teachings and to broaden their vision of the Cause.

In closing please extend Shoghi Effendi's loving greetings to them all, and particularly to Mrs. Baldwin and to Miss Barbara Baldwin, her daughter. With the renewed assurance of his fervent prayers for your advancement and welfare.

*Yours in His Service,
H. Rabbani*

May the Beloved keep, bless, and protect you and enable you to resume in the not distant future your unforgettable pioneer services in Japan.

*Your true and grateful brother,
Shoghi*

On September 7, 1933, I gave a talk over radio station KGMB, entitled "Esperanto". It was the first time for me to

speak over the radio. Later, in 1938, Shoghi Effendi confirmed me in such work for the Cause. In a letter dated November 20, 1938, he wrote, "He was particularly gratified to hear of the opportunity you had received of speaking on the Cause over the radio, and hopes that such occasions and facilities of teaching and expounding the Faith will be increasingly offered you in the future." After his message the doors opened for me to speak over many radio stations in the United States in the years 1938 to 1941.

In a letter to Katherine Baldwin, Shoghi Effendi wrote October 22, 1933, through his secretary:

The prospects for the future of the Cause in Hawaii are immense and most encouraging. The friends should, therefore, be happy and strengthened by the full consciousness of their power. They should persevere in their efforts and try to widen the scope of their activities. But, as you have rightly suggested, they should first deepen their knowledge of the Cause and of the Administration. Such a knowledge is today indispensable if they want to teach the Cause successfully. Your assembly was fully right in stressing the study of the Administration, and it is hoped that with the valuable and timely assistance of Miss Agnes Alexander such an important objective will be fully attained.

Miss Henriette From, who lived in the home of Katherine Baldwin, also received a letter from Shoghi Effendi dated Haifa, October 31, 1933, in which he wrote through his secretary:

Your close and continued association with such an inspiring and devoted soul like Mrs. Baldwin has been undoubtedly responsible for the spirit of service which is growing in you, and which will gradually lead you to render the Faith many distinguished services.

Again on June 12, 1934, Shoghi Effendi wrote Miss From, through his secretary:

He deeply appreciates the spirit as well as the way in which you are deepening your knowledge of the Baha'i teachings. Your association with dear Mrs. Baldwin has been undoubtedly of an immense help to you in this respect. You should therefore continue keeping in close and constant touch with her that thereby your interest in the Cause may be sustained and cultivated. In Mrs. Baldwin and in Miss Agnes Alexander as well, you will find almost perfect believers. Their devotion to the Cause, and their knowledge of its teachings and principles are such that every non-Baha'i can benefit spiritually from coming into contact with them.

In the spring of 1934, I was elected by the Honolulu Assembly to be their delegate to the Annual Baha'i Convention in the Temple in Wilmette. On May 26, the day I was leaving Berkeley, California, to go the Convention, a letter reached me from Shoghi Effendi dated Haifa, May 5, in which he wrote through his secretary:

I wish to thank you in the name of the Guardian for your deeply appreciated messages of February 20? and April 1, 1934, as well as for the accompanying photographs, all of which testified to the success which attained your teaching activities in the Hawaiian Islands. Your stay in Honolulu, in particular, seems to have given a new spirit of determination and of service to the friends and they all surely feel gratified to you for the kind assistance you have extended to them in this respect. Shoghi Effendi is also

gratified to learn that you have been elected as delegate to the coming Baha'i Convention. He is praying that you may be assisted and guided in all your deliberations and consultations with the other delegates and friends who will attend that important gathering.

The Honolulu friends had the pleasure of meeting the artist brother, Mark Tobey, when he passed through Honolulu on his way to the United States from a world tour. While his steamer was in port about eighteen friends gathered at the Baldwin home to hear him speak.

Another Baha'i, Miss Georgy Fitz Gerald, who had just declared her faith in Los Angeles, came in 1934 and remained in Honolulu a number of months. As she had lived in Honolulu at one time, she felt it was her home and was very happy among the believers.

In September, 1934, after attending the Baha'i Convention and meeting after fifteen years the beloved May Maxwell, I returned to Honolulu. In a letter to a friend, I wrote, "I assure you I had heavenly ties with the friends in Honolulu. I have so much more to give them that is really vital now than before, and I have witnessed the effect of it on individuals. And what a great privilege it is that God can use us in this way to really bring the divine spark to others!"

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Mathews of Colorado Springs came on their first visit to Honolulu in December, 1934, remaining until February, 1935. Mrs. Mathews writes that when she reached Honolulu, she argued with herself that there was no special work for her to do as Honolulu had an Assembly of long standing. After she fell asleep and 'Abdu'l-Baha came to her and said, "You must not rest day or night, there is work to be done . . ." Then He led her to friends in three sections of the city and in parting said, "Work! Work!" She awoke with a changed consciousness and hurried to offer her services to the Assembly. Then she was guided to find the souls who were waiting. During her stay two weekly meetings were held which she joyfully conducted. One was a series of talks under the auspices of the Honolulu Baha'is held in a room in the YWCA, and the other a morning class at the home of Mrs. Katherine Baldwin. She wrote, "Every Baha'i meeting became a bright chapter of the Book of Life. No effort was involved. My talents, whatever they may be were not required. My personality was laid aside."

Mrs. Mathews donated two years subscription for the World Order Magazine to the Leper Settlement on Molokai, and also Christmas gifts for the children.

In the spring of 1935, the Honolulu friends were happy to welcome the Baha'i sister, Mrs. Orol Platt, of Los Angeles, who remained for several months.

On May 9, I returned again to Japan. Shoghi Effendi wrote me through his secretary, September 26, 1934:

Concerning your plan to leave for Japan after your visit to Honolulu, Shoghi Effendi fully approves of your intention to revisit our Japanese friends, and to resume your pioneering work with them. His best wishes for the success of your plans will surely be with you all through this long journey, and it is hoped that as in the past you will be effectively guided and assisted in attracting and converting new souls to the Faith.

Shoghi Effendi added:

May the spirit of Baha'u'llah illumine your path, cheer your heart and reinforce your efforts for the continuation

and expansion of your historic services and may He protect you and enable you to achieve your heart's cherished desire.

In December, 1935, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Mathews returned to Honolulu accompanied by Mrs. Marion Little, and remained until March 21, 1936. Both the Baha'i sisters were active in assisting the work of the Cause. The Honolulu Advertiser published many summaries of the public talks given by Mrs. Mathews. The happiest event of their visit was when Mr. Mathews, Mrs. Florence MacIntyre, Mr. and Mrs. John Kelly, Mr. John B. Freitas and Mr. Joseph D. Marques joined the Baha'i Community. The wives of the last two had for many years been associated with the Cause.

Through the publicity chairman of the Honolulu Assembly, the Guardian's letter, "The Goal of a New World Order", was published in installments in the Sunday edition of the Honolulu Advertiser. Beginning on April 26, 1936, the series continued until July. The Chairman of the National Publicity Committee wrote, "To my mind Honolulu has achieved the most remarkable piece of publicity for the Cause to date in having 'The Goal of a New World Order' published in its entirety in serial form."

In January, 1936, Charles R. Bishop arrived in Honolulu on a short business trip. He and his wife had for several years assisted the International Baha'i Bureau in Geneva, Switzerland.

Friends from Honolulu, Mrs. Gertrude Piutti and Mrs. Harriet Moulton and her daughter Charlotte, while on a world tour in June, 1936, visited Haifa, where they were the guests of Shoghi Effendi. Mrs. Piutti wrote on a card from Egypt, "Had a glorious and never to be forgotten visit of six days at Pilgrim House. The Guardian sends greetings. The Port Said and Cairo friends are giving us a wonderful time." In gratitude for God's bounties, Mrs. Piutti has lovingly assisted the Baha'is in Honolulu.

At the invitation of Shoghi Effendi, who wrote me through his secretary:

"Regarding your wish to visit the Holy Shrines, he fully approves of it and wishes me to extend to you a most hearty welcome," and in Shoghi Effendi's writing were the words, "I would be pleased to meet you face to face at this Holy Spot."

I had the inestimable privilege in April and May, 1937, of visiting for the first time the Holy Land, where I met the beloved Guardian and visited the Holy Shrines. Nineteen memorable days were spent in the Pilgrim House at the time Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Maxwell were there. One night was spent at Bahji and two days in Jerusalem. Although I had been awakened to the Cause since November 26, 1900, the privilege of meeting 'Abdu'l-Baha had not been in God's plan for me.

One evening at the dinner table in the Pilgrim House, Shoghi Effendi spoke of the duties of the believers in establishing at least one residential believer in all the states, provinces and republics of North and South America before the end of the first century. He then asked me how many islands there were in the Hawaiian group. I answered, "Eight", expecting to qualify it by explaining that only five were large islands, but he immediately continued saying, "and the eight islands of Hawaii, a residential believer on each island is part of the world plan."

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Mathews, when on their way to Australia, passed through Honolulu, May 8, 1937. The friends gathered at the Baldwin home to greet Mrs. Mathews and hear her tell of her travels in the interest of the Cause.

When Martha Root was on her fourth journey to the Orient, her steamer touched at Honolulu on May 25, where she was met by friends with fragrant leis and spent the day as the guest of Mrs. Katherine Baldwin. She first visited the Honolulu Advertiser, the editor of which, Mr. Coll, had once worked with her on a newspaper in Pittsburgh, Pa. The result was an interview on "What is the Baha'i Movement?", covering a column and a half which was published with her picture. In the afternoon Mrs. Baldwin invited the friends to her home to meet Martha. After leaving Honolulu, Martha wrote, "The Hawaiian Islands have a unique role in the dream of a New World Order . . . the Baha'is there can be a potent force for international understanding and peace in the Pacific."

During the years 1935 to 1938, Mrs. Elma Adolphson was the faithful secretary of the Honolulu Assembly, which was blessed with letters from Shoghi Effendi in answer to those she wrote on their behalf. In a letter dated May 15, 1937, he wrote in part through his secretary:

The Guardian is in receipt of your letter of April 16, written on behalf of the Honolulu Baha'i Community, and he wishes me to ask you to transmit to your fellow-believers in that center the expression of his loving appreciation and thanks for the sentiments they have been moved to convey to him through you on the occasion of his marriage. He indeed values the assurance of love and loyalty you have expressed and is fervently praying that through this union the hearts of the believers throughout the world may be stirred in such wise as to enable them to render the Faith services of unprecedented magnitude and of far-reaching and enduring effect. May I also express the Guardian's gratification at the beautiful meeting which the friends in Honolulu have held to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of 'Abdu'l-Baha's visit to America. May the celebration of this epoch-making event in the history of the Cause serve to awaken the believers to a deeper sense of the manifold responsibilities they are called upon to shoulder in this formative period of our beloved Faith.

In another letter to the Honolulu Assembly, July 18, 1937, Shoghi Effendi wrote:

Your secretary's message of June 1st has duly arrived, and the expressions of happiness and appreciation it conveyed for the privilege your community has had of entertaining our beloved world teachers, Miss Martha Root and Mrs. Loulie Mathews, have imparted deep joy and encouragement to the heart of our dear Guardian. The very warm welcome you have extended to these friends is indeed a clear and convincing evidence of the spirit of solidarity that animates your group, and for it you deserve to be highly congratulated. It is our beloved Guardian's hope that the inspiration you have gained through contacting these indefatigable and priceless teachers will long be felt by all the members of your community and will be fully expressed in their lives as well as in their activities for the extension and consolidation of the Cause in the Hawaiian Islands.

Mrs. Marion Little returned to the Islands in June, 1937, where she spent the summer as the guest of Mrs. Katherine Baldwin at Makawao, Maui, and assisted in the Baha'i work.

In August, when on her way to Australia, Mrs. Nellie French paid a visit of a day to the Honolulu Baha'is. At the home of Mrs. J. D. Marques a community luncheon was given for her where twelve of the friends gathered. On September 6, after she had left, an article with her picture appeared in the Honolulu Advertiser.

In December, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Mathews and Mrs. Marion Little returned for another visit to Honolulu remaining until March, 1938. During their visit both the ladies actively assisted the work of the Cause. The Honolulu Advertiser published an interview with Mrs. Mathews and notices of her talks. She was invited to speak of the Cause to two Sunday School classes in Central Union Church. She also donated a bo tree in the name of the Greatest Holy Leaf to the Ala Moana Park.

The story of the starting of a Baha'i Children's Class for the second time began one day in December, 1937, when Elizabeth Muther expressed her wish that there might be a children's class to Mrs. Elma Adolphson. Elma went immediately to the home of Dr. and Mrs. Y. S. Seto. Dr. Seto is the brother of Anthony Seto and his wife is of Japanese parentage born in Hawaii. They are the parents of six boys. When Elma spoke to Mrs. Seto of forming a Baha'i children's class, although neither she nor her husband are Baha'is, she replied that she had wished there was such a class for her boys. The first Sunday in January, 1938, the class started with four Seto boys. Mrs. Gertrude Piutti assisted Elma except during the summer. Children of the neighborhood were soon attracted until the enrollment reached twenty-three. As the ages of the children varied from three to sixteen years, it was necessary to divide them. Miss Henriette From then joined to take charge of the little ones. The children were from non-Baha'i homes. With the exception of the Seto boys, they were from poor families. The class continued for three consecutive years, until May, 1941, when the Baldwin home, where they met on the porch, was sold. Elma Adolphson carried on the class with courage and sacrifice, and during the three years she never failed. The older children were taught by her the Baha'i principles and prayers supplemented with selections from the Holy Writings. The little ones also learned prayers, songs and verses from the **Baha'i Scriptures**, supplemented by handwork in the form of clay and simple paper work. The children are now scattered, but the foundation laid in their lives of the knowledge of the Baha'i teachings cannot be extinguished.

Through Mrs. Elma Adolphson a letter from Shoghi Effendi dated May 1, 1938, was received by the Honolulu Assembly as follows:

The letter which you had written the Guardian on behalf of the Honolulu Assembly, dated December 29, has been duly presented to him by dear Mr. Nils Chrisander, and he has profoundly enjoyed and appreciated reading its contents. He wishes you to kindly assure your fellow-members of his deepest thanks for their message, and to tell them how much he was pleased to meet Mr. Chrisander and to know of the very warm reception he had been accorded by the friends of Honolulu. Mr. Chrisander's appreciation of the Cause is indeed most genuine and profound, as it is the Guardian's hope that upon his return home and as a direct result of his visit to the Holy Shrines, his interest may be considerably deepened and sustained through association with the friends. It is a matter of deepest joy to the Guardian to hear of the news of the formation in Honolulu of a morning class of prayers and meditation conducted by dear Mrs. Piutti in her home, inasmuch as he feels the

absolute necessity for the friends to make now a special effort to cultivate the devotional side of their Baha'i life in preparation for more intensified and successful service, particularly in the teaching field. He will also especially pray for the success of your labours in this connection, and also for the development of the Sunday School Class which you have recently started, and for the future of which he cherishes very bright hopes.

Shoghi Effendi added:

Wishing you and dear co-workers the utmost success in your incessant and highly meritorious labours for the extension of the Faith and the consolidation of its institutions.

*Your true and grateful brother,
Shoghi*

After leaving Haifa on May 12, 1937, at Shoghi Effendi's request, I visited the Baha'is in Germany, Paris, and London; and in the United States attended the three Baha'i Summer Schools, visiting Baha'i Centers from the East to the West coast, sharing with all the friends the notes I took from the Guardian's talks at the dinner table in Haifa. In December, 1938, I reached Honolulu where I received a letter from Shoghi Effendi in which he wrote through his secretary, January 3, 1939:

He has noted your plan to go to Honolulu together with your sister and trusts you have safely reached there by now and are engaged in teaching the Cause, and in assisting the friends in their efforts for the extension and consolidation of the Faith in the Islands. Your stay there, he is confident, will bring forth good results and will be as deeply appreciated by the believers as your sojourn in California.

In the early morning of January 29, 1939, Katherine Baldwin was inspired to write a letter to the Central Union Church in Honolulu withdrawing her name from membership in the church. At the same time she wrote Shoghi Effendi and sent him a copy of her letter to the church in which she stated that she was withdrawing because there was a New Manifestation, Baha'u'llah. The same morning I also felt the urge to write to Shoghi Effendi. We both had the blessing of receiving letters from him in reply. To Katherine Baldwin he wrote, February 23, through his secretary:

He was particularly impressed and pleased to read the copy of the letter you had addressed to the Central Union Church in Honolulu, informing them of your decision to resign from membership in that body. The tone of your letter, so direct yet so tactful, and so sincere and covering in its presentation of the matters that have prompted you to take such an action, cannot possibly give the Church authorities any reason for complaint, and it is to be hoped that they will also serve as a means of awakening their interest in the Cause. This bold step which you have taken by severing all formal connections with the Church opens indeed a new chapter in your life as a believer, and will contribute an example of faithful and loyal devotion to the Cause which will greatly encourage and inspire your fellow-believers in Honolulu and stimulate those who have not yet completely disassociated themselves with the ecclesiastical institutions of the past to follow in your footsteps, and thus set a final seal to their whole-hearted and unconditional affiliation with the world-wide fellowship established by Baha'u'llah.

In a letter to me, Shoghi Effendi wrote through his secretary, February 22, 1939:

Your most kind and welcome message of the 29th of January has been received by our beloved Guardian, and he has read its contents with deep interest and genuine satisfaction. He is profoundly grateful and happy that you are enjoying your visit to Hawaii, and are finding so many avenues of teaching the Faith. Your services in those far-off islands are certainly most urgently needed, and the friends, and in particular dear Mrs. Baldwin, with whom you are in such close collaboration, will no doubt make full use of the opportunity of your stay in their midst to impart a fresh stimulus to the expansion of the teaching work throughout those regions. The Guardian will ever pray that divine confirmation may strengthen and sustain you in your noble and indefatigable exertions for the spread of His Cause, and its wider diffusion in that distant land upon which has been conferred the unique and inestimable privilege of being blessed by the mention of our beloved Master. Conscious of such a priceless honour you should indeed redouble your efforts, and leave no stone unturned until you befittingly and successfully accomplish this noble mission you have undertaken to those shores.

Both in Honolulu and Maui I had the joy of sharing the experiences in Haifa and the notes taken of the Guardian's talks at the dinner table in the Pilgrim House there. On April 5, 1939, I spoke over the radio station KGU on "It is a New Bible of Human Power", which reached all the islands of the group. On the 7th of April I sailed from Honolulu to attend the Baha'i Convention as the delegate from the Honolulu Assembly.

On her last world tour, beloved Martha Root reached Honolulu on June 7, 1939, when returning to America from Australia. In God's plan Honolulu was to become her resting place. Accompanied by the friends Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Bolton of Sydney, Australia, Martha left the steamer to go to the home of Mrs. Katherine Baldwin for the day. As she was very ill, she retired to a room to rest. From that hour our precious Martha never left the house. Too ill to continue the voyage, she decided to remain in Honolulu for a week. The week became months before she left her earthly cage. Many plans which had been made for the days she was to be in Honolulu had to be cancelled. Mr. and Mrs. Bolton then spoke in her place over the radio. On August 4, the doctors decided that Martha could not linger long. Every week during her illness the Honolulu Baha'is sent flowers to her, and everything was done for her comfort and happiness. The afternoon of September 28, her spirit took its flight.

After Martha's passing, Katherine Baldwin wrote that she could not understand why Baha'u'llah had permitted her the privilege of having Martha in her home, but friends knew that God placed Martha where she would have loving care and comfort during her last days. Katherine Baldwin offered as her contribution to the memorial to Martha, a plot in a lovely spot in Nuuanu Cemetery, to be known as the Martha Root plot. There, precious Martha was laid to rest. Although she never stepped out after reaching the Baldwin home, she sent two articles to each of the two Honolulu dailies which were published with her picture. At the time of her passing both the newspapers had articles concerning her life and the Advertiser also carried an editorial about her.

HONOLULU ADVERTISER, FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 29, 1939.

MARTHA ROOT, HIGH BAHAI LEADER, DIES

Miss Martha Louise Root, Baha'i leader, died at 4:20 p.m. yesterday at the home of Mrs. S. Baldwin, 36 Bates Street. Services will be held at 4:30 p.m. today at the graveside in Nuuanu cemetery, where interment will take place. Funeral arrangements are in charge of Williams' mortuary.

Miss Root was born in Richwood, O., August 10, 1872. She is survived by a brother, Claud E. Root, and a niece, Anne E. Root, of Eugene, Ore.; a nephew Frank D. Root, and niece, Ruth Root Canfield, of Cambridge Springs, Pa., and a cousin, Sidney L. Hart, living in Sherman, N.Y.

Became Ill Here

On June 7, Miss Root was forced to remain in Honolulu because of illness. She was on her way back to the Mainland from a two years' teaching tour in India, Australia and New Zealand.

Miss Root, international Baha'i teacher, journalist, author and lecturer, literally carried the teachings of Baha'u'llah to every part of the earth. In her, the ordinary restrictions placed upon personal life, limiting it to one local environment, was broken and the world became her spiritual home. She served the faith vigorously with great efficiency and without stopping for rest and comfort for many years.

Visited Whole World

Some idea of the scope of her work may be glimpsed from the fact that she lectured in more than 400 universities and colleges of the world. She was received by kings, queens, princes and princesses, presidents of republics, statesmen, women writers; she had interviews and wrote magazine articles about the imperial household, ministers of state, governors of provinces, mayors of cities, ministers of education; she lectured nearly every day on Baha'u'llah's teachings and the progress of the cause in other parts of the world. She was received with friendliness by all classes because she wrote and spoke for goodwill between all countries, all religions, all races.

The Baha'is of Tihiran regard her as an angel of purity and as a true Baha'i -- that is -- a possessor of all human virtues. One fruit of her visit to Persia was the writing of the life of Iran's greatest women (a Persian poetess) "Tahirih the Pure!" She also prepared for publication a story called "White Roses of Persia" a story based on two great Baha'i martyrs of Persia.

Teachings Translated

She succeeded in bringing the teachings to the attention of many groups, clubs, societies and important personages in Europe, South America, and the Orient. Also through her efforts the teachings were translated into many different languages. She believed the Baha'i movement would do more than any other influence to bring understanding between the white and colored races, leading to better international understanding. She was an ardent Esperantist and attended their Congresses both in Europe and America.

One can only say of her what 'Abdu'l-Baha wrote to Martha Root: "Thou art really a herald of the Kingdom and a harbinger of the Covenant and doest self-sacrifice. Thou showest kindness to all nations; thou art sowing a seed that shall in the long run give rise to thousands of harvests; thou art planting a tree that shall till eternity put forth leaves, blossoms and fruits and whose shadow shall day by day grow in magnitude."

HONOLULU ADVERTISER, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1939; EDITORIAL PAGE.

MARTHA LOUISE ROOT

The long and useful career of Martha Louise Root came to an end in Honolulu, and the remains of this famous woman, whose work virtually touched all corners of the earth, will rest in Nuuanu cemetery.

The disciple of Baha'u'llah started life as a newspaper woman and in that career achieved exceptionally high rank by virtue of unusual intelligence and extraordinary energy. The intelligence that served so well in this pursuit was later turned to religion and the Baha'i philosophy was embraced.

As a Baha'i teacher she carried her work into Persia, India, the Antipodes, South America and dozens of other far places, as well as in her homeland and those countries closer to it. Kings and students, presidents and people, heard and read her words. She came to be regarded virtually as a saint.

The amount of good she did cannot be overestimated. Her creed was good for those who needed the brand of mental comfort and the philosophical support she taught. Hundreds of thousands listened to her wisdom and gained personal confidence that aided them in their problems. Fortunately she wrote profusely and her work will remain to guide those who followed her. Her career can be considered a boon to those she met.

Katherine Baldwin wrote of the beautiful Baha'i service held at Martha's graveside: "The hour was late afternoon, that glorious time of day when peace seems to descend upon earth just before the sun sinks before the western horizon. The entire atmosphere was filled with joyous purity, a quality difficult to express in words, but which radiated loving happiness from every heart present. It was as though the surrounding air vibrated with celestial song, a song of Eternal Assurance."

Shoghi Effendi sent the following cablegram to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Baldwin:

Sorrowful dearest Marth's passing, rejoice her assumption seat Supreme Concourse, profoundly grateful your tender care.

How blessed is Hawaii that the world-beloved Martha rests on its soil! A memorial tomb stone, which Shoghi Effendi has directed to be placed on her grave is now under construction.

The first pilgrims to visit dear Martha's grave were Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Bolton, who were returning in October, 1939, to Sydney, Australia. Mr. Bolton took moving pictures at the grave. Since then Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Seto from San Francisco, and Mr. and Mrs. Habib Sabet and their two boys from Tihiran, Iran, have visited the graveside. Martha wrote profusely of her travels in the interest of the Cause, and thus her work remains to guide those who will follow her.

Delegates from the Honolulu Assembly who have attended the Baha'i Conventions have been Mrs. Mamie Seto, who went in 1926 to the Convention held in San Francisco. In 1934 I represented the Honolulu Assembly at the Convention held at the Temple in Wilmette, Mrs. Katherine Baldwin in 1936, Miss Henriette From in 1937, and again in 1939 I attended the Convention as the Honolulu delegate, Mrs. Elma Adolphson in 1940, and in 1941, Mrs. Laura Marques. As a visitor I also attended the Conventions of 1918, 1919, 1938, 1940, and 1941.

In August 18, 1940, a happy event occurred in the Honolulu Baha'i Community on the eighty-second birthday of Elizabeth

Muther, when Miss Sally Sanger, a young woman from California, was accepted into the Honolulu Baha'i Community.

On October 23, 1940, the beloved sister, Elizabeth Muther, passed to her reward. She had lived in the family of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Smith until they both passed on. Then their daughter, Mrs. Katherine Baldwin, and her husband took Miss Muther to live with them where she received all that love could provide. Her eyesight was failing, but she courageously carried on to the end of her life when her earthly vision was gone. A little over a year after precious Martha's passing, Miss Muther was laid to rest by her side in a beautiful spot in Nuuanu Cemetery. Miss Henriette From in her annual report as secretary of the Honolulu Baha'i Assembly wrote: "In the early morning of October 23, Miss Muther passed away quietly in her sleep as had always been her wish. She had long been preparing and arranging in every little detail all her affairs for this journey. Her provision for the Baha'i Cause in her will was her last testimony to her love for and steadfastness in serving the Cause. She was like a Baha'i mother to all of us. Her love and interest enveloped all with whom she came in contact, and of her it could truly be said that her heart was filled with love to all and malice towards none."

Miss Muther was affectionately called by those near to her, "Utie". Mrs. Katherine Baldwin, who had been close to her from childhood, testified that she was the most selfless person she had ever known.

When Dr. and Mrs. G. J. Augur moved from their home in the heart of the city in 1927, the Honolulu Baha'i Center was kept in a cottage in the Baldwin yard on Nuuanu Street. This remained the Center until the property was sold in 1931. The Baha'is then rented a room in the YWCA for the weekly public meetings. Later they procured a room free of rent at the Library of Hawaii. In September, 1937, Mrs. Baldwin again donated a large room in her bungalow on Bates Street. It was in this home that the blessed sisters, Martha Root and Elizabeth Muther, passed their last days. In November, 1940, this property also was sold and the Baha'is were again obliged to rent a room at the YWCA for their public meetings. This led them to seek a permanent center. A building fund had been started in 1936, by the gift of \$30 from two friends. Others then contributed and the fund grew. The story of the donation of the building site for the Baha'i Center on McCully Street as recorded in the annual report of Miss Henriette From for 1940, follows:

"There had been a feeling in the community for some time that we ought to look for a suitable building lot for the Baha'i Center, as with the present conditions causing a great influx in Honolulu, the choicest sites were fast being taken. At one of our Nineteen Day Feasts it was suggested that we all keep this need in mind. At the next meeting Mrs. Marques reported a lot for sale beautifully situated on the Ala Wai Canal and very convenient for transportation facilities. Other lots were reported and investigated also but from every point of view the one on the Ala Wai Canal was preferable. However, after earnest consultation with the Community and deliberation of the Spiritual Assembly, the conclusion was that the Assembly did not feel in a position to meet the obligations. There had been a general sense of deep regret of not being able to obtain this beautiful, and in every way so seemingly advantageous, site for a Baha'i Center, that it is difficult to measure the joy with which at the Nineteen Day Feast, December 30, the announcement was made that Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Marques and Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Freitas would donate the lot for a Baha'i Center. A

special meeting of the Spiritual Assembly was called January 9 to consider this wonderful and generous offer, which was unanimously accepted with great joy and gratitude. The building committee has had the building plans accepted by the Spiritual Assembly and are ready to proceed as soon as material and labor is available."

THE HONOLULU ADVERTISER, FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 12, 1941.

GROUND BROKEN FOR NEW BAHAI BUILDING HERE

Members of the Baha'i Community of Honolulu broke ground for the building of a Baha'i Center on McCully Street near the Ala Wai at 9:30 yesterday morning.

The simple ceremony consisted of the reading of a prayer and words from the Writings of Baha'u'llah, Founder of the Faith, after which the ground was turned by Miss Agnes Alexander, pioneer of the Cause in Hawaii, and other friends.

The cornerstone of the Faith is the fundamental principle of the oneness of mankind, and that the foundations of all religions are one in their essence.

The contract calls for the completion of the building by Sept. 1.

HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1941.

BAHA'I CENTER TO BE OPENED AT 4 MONDAY

The dedication ceremony will be held at 4 p.m. Monday at the opening of the New Baha'i Center on McCully Street near the Ala Wai canal. The building designed by architect Hart Wood, Sr., completes plans of the Honolulu Baha'i Community to own its home for Baha'i meetings.

On the program will be Tony Seto, guest speaker from the San Francisco Baha'i community and Mrs. S. A. Baldwin of Maui.

The cornerstone of the teachings is the Oneness of Humanity and the Fundamental Oneness of Religion.

The Center will care for all group activities including classes for children and a regular public meeting and lectures on the teachings of the Faith.

On October 20, 1941, the one-hundred and twenty-second anniversary of the birth of the Bab in Shiraz, Iran, in the mid-Pacific Ocean, the Baha'is of Honolulu dedicated a Baha'i Center for all mankind. In response to a cable sent the beloved Guardian, "Entreat prayers dedication Baha'i Center, October 20. Honolulu Community," a glorious reassuring reply came, "Delighted praying fervently success, Shoghi Rabbani."

The National Spiritual Assembly, the San Francisco Assembly and the Maui Baha'i Community all sent loving greetings for the occasion. Mrs. Mamie Seto had been in Honolulu for some time, and in September, 1941, was joined by her husband. It was Anthony's first visit in nine years to Honolulu, and it seemed providential that he was present to give the address of the day. About seventy-five persons, some of whom were children, who had attended the Baha'i Children's Class in 1937 and 1940, were present at the dedication. In the audience were Americans of Chinese, Japanese, Hawaiian and Portuguese ancestry. Mrs. Gertrude Piutti, Chairman of the Assembly, welcomed the friends. On the program among three selections of recorded music was Schubert's "Ave Maria", sung by Marian Anderson. Mrs. Katherine Baldwin, representing the Maui Baha'i Community, read a prayer by 'Abdu'l-Baha for all nations, and I read a selection from "Prayers and Meditations"

by Baha'u'llah. After the program refreshments were served in the library room. The heavenly afternoon closed with a beautiful sunset which nature produced at the entrance of the Ala Wai Canal. I doubt not that in spirit and prayer the beloved Guardian was with us. Both the newspapers, Honolulu Advertiser and Star-Bulletin, had notices of the event, the former carrying a picture of the entrance to the building.

After the dedication of the building, everything needed to furnish the rooms was donated by the friends without any effort on their part. As a parting gift, before they sailed for San Francisco on November 7, Mr. and Mrs. Seto donated a desk with matching chair and rocker, which were placed in the library room. They had sold their Honolulu property which severed the ties that brought them here.

Since the opening of the Baha'i Center, Monday night meetings, Feasts, and all the Baha'i activities have been held there. November 12, a glorious celebration was held at 4:00 p.m. when Baha'u'llah drew near.

On June 2, 1941, I had returned to Honolulu where a letter reached me from Shoghi Effendi dated March 2, 1941, in which he wrote through his secretary: "... he hopes you will be able to in Honolulu not only complete your history of the Cause in Japan, but also lend your active assistance to the Baha'is there. Shoghi Effendi feels the work of the Cause in the Hawaiian Islands is of great importance and hopes you can further its spread there."

When December 26, the fortieth anniversary of the coming of the Baha'i Cause to the Islands of Hawaii drew near, suddenly all things changed. The first crashing of the old order came on December 7, at 7:55 in the morning, when the long predicted conflict in the Pacific Ocean burst forth. Honolulu was taken unawares and bombs caused more than 3,000 deaths among the men in the United States Armed Forces. Shoghi Effendi had said when I was in Haifa in May, 1937, "The Pacific will become a great storm center in the coming war and there will be great suffering."

In a letter to the Honolulu friends in 1917, Mr. C. M. Remey wrote:

It recalls my experiences when first visiting you over seven years ago. The apparent harmony of the various races impressed me so much that when I arrived in Haifa some months later, I hastened exultantly to tell 'Abdu'l-Baha of that land in the mid-Pacific where such a friendly spirit existed among so many races and peoples. Then at some length 'Abdu'l-Baha explained to me that this harmonious condition of which I had been speaking was one due to material conditions, ethnic, geographical, economic, racial, and so on, rather than to any great universal spiritual ideal to which the people adhered. Then it came to me that a unity brought about by material conditions will last only as long as those conditions endure, whereas a condition of harmony which is the result of an eternal truth, or a divinely spiritual principle, will be lasting and independent of transitory things.

On December 17, 1941, a blessing came to the Honolulu Baha'is in the presence of Mr. Habib Sabet and Mrs. Bahriyyih Sabet and their two lovely boys, Iraj and Hormoz, who had come from Tihiran, Iran, by way of Manila enroute to the United States. They were the first Persian Baha'is to touch these shores. In 1939, Mr. and Mrs. Sabet attended the Baha'i Convention in the Temple, where I had met them. After December 7, the Baha'is had not held meetings, as the city was blacked out from sundown, but with the coming of the

visitors, nine of the friends gathered at the Center the afternoon of December 17, to greet them. There, each member of the Sabet family chanted prayers. The next morning, some of the friends accompanied them to Martha Root's grave and there Mr. Sabet chanted the Prayer of Visitation. In 1930, Mrs. Sabet had traveled with Martha when she was in Iran. At the graves of Dr. and Mrs. G. J. Augur and those of the men of the Armed Forces who lost their lives on December 7, Mr. Sabet also chanted prayers. The visitors were obliged to embark again at noon on the steamer which carried them to San Francisco.

The Honolulu Baha'is had the blessing of receiving on December 19, through the National Spiritual Assembly, a message from the beloved Guardian:

Shoghi Effendi cables assurance prayers wishes news safety Honolulu friends.

A letter from the Guardian dated Haifa, December 14, 1941, reached me on April 18, 1942, as follows:

Dear Baha'i Sister:

Your letter of August 23rd and October 20th, reached the Guardian together with the pictures of your Baha'i Center and the grave of our dear Martha Root, both of which he was pleased to receive.

His thoughts these last days have been constantly with the dear friends in Hawaii, and at present he is waiting a reply from the N.S.A. to his cable inquiring after their safety. He hopes and prays all are well.

In spite of the dark outlook of these days the Guardian feels confident that the believers, so full as they are of love and confidence in the Plan of God, will surmount every

hardship and rise to even nobler heights of service and devotion. The tests and trials of the times will demonstrate the true nature of the people of Baha and hold them up as an example to their seeking, disillusioned fellowmen.

The Guardian is very happy over the work you are accomplishing and he hopes that in spite of the difficulty of the times, you will be able to go on teaching and aiding your fellow-believers, as well as compiling your histories of the Cause in the lands where you have most served it.

He assures you his loving prayers will always surround you, and he will supplicate your guidance and protection in all matters.

With Baha'i love,

Ever your devoted co-worker,

R. Rabbani

May the Almighty protect and sustain you in these days of turmoil and strife, enable you to promote the best interests of the Faith, reinforce the basis of its institutions, and stimulate the enthusiasm of its supporters.

Your true and grateful brother,

Shoghi

December 26, 1941, the fortieth anniversary of my return to Honolulu, a newborn Baha'i meeting was held of the Honolulu Baha'i Community to consummate the incorporation papers of the Baha'i Faith in the City and County of Honolulu.

On this day I will leave the story of the Baha'i Cause in the Islands of Hawaii, which some future Baha'i may continue in a changed world.

EPILOGUE

Forty years have passed since the Baha'i Message reached Hawaii! The present Baha'i Center on McCully Street is a shadow of what future events may hold for the Revelation of Baha'u'llah in the Islands of the Pacific. Just as the early Christian missionaries could not envision the transformation which has taken place in Hawaii during a hundred years, so also it is not possible for the present generation to foresee the glorious future of the Cause of God in the fullness of time.

A member of the Honolulu Baha'i Community writes: "Just as Hawaii was spiritually prepared for Christianity a century ago by the breaking of ancient tabus, so today she is fertile soil for the spread of the Baha'i Faith, because she has already broken the modern tabus of racial prejudices. And, God willing, may Hawaii be the bridge between East and West, proving to a war-weary Orient that the world is one and all men are brothers."

Expressed by Ella L. Rowland are the following verses:

*"Honolulu, Honolulu,
Land of Promise, land of Peace
Bear 'Aloha' to the nations
Welcome all that strife may cease!"*

APPENDIX

Honolulu Baha'i Community

The members of the Honolulu Baha'i Community on December 26, 1941 were:

Mrs. Elma Adolphson	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Marques
Miss Agnes B. Alexander	Mrs. Mary Moore
Mrs. Johanna Cluny	Mrs. Harriet Moulton
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Freitas	Miss Catherine Nourse
Miss Henriette From	Mrs. Katharine MacPhee
Mrs. Helen Jones	Mrs. Gertrude Piutti
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Kelly	Mr. & Mrs. Otto Swezey
Mrs. Amelia Feiteira	Mrs. Edith Warren

TABLETS FROM 'ABDU'L-BAHA

Between the years 1901 and His passing, 'Abdu'l-Baha revealed forty-one Tablets to the following residents in Hawaii:

Miss Agnes B. Alexander	Mrs. Ella L. Rowland
Mr. Clarence H. Smith	Dr. & Mrs. George J. Augur
Miss Elizabeth Muther	Mrs. Margaret Knudsen
Mr. Kwanichi Yamamoto	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Y. Seto
Miss Francis Johnson	Mrs. Killie Kendall

and two other non-Baha'is

BAHA'I RADIO TALKS IN HONOLULU

Since 1931, the Baha'is of Honolulu and visiting Baha'is have spoken on the Baha'i Cause over the Honolulu radio stations, KGU, founded in 1922, 2500 watts, 760 kilocycles, N.B.C. members; and KGMB, founded in 1929, 5,000 watts, 590 kilocycles, C.B.S. and M.B.S. members. In January, 1931, Martha Root spoke four times over these stations. One talk over KGU was on "Esperanto", another was an interview, "What is the Baha'i Movement?" Julia Goldman also spoke in 1931, and on July 16, 1933, Mrs. Florence Johnson gave a talk describing the Baha'i Temple in Wilmette. On September 7, 1933, I had the Baha'i Message over KGMB under the title, "Esperanto," and again on April 5, 1939, over KGU on "The Home of a World Faith," Mrs. Loulie Mathews spoke over KGMB on Lincoln's Birthday, February 12, 1938, on "All Mankind One Family." This talk was published in the Honolulu Advertiser. On June 5, 1939, Martha Root was scheduled to speak. As she was ill, her place was taken by Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Bolton, Mrs. Bolton reading Martha's talk, "The Section of Women in the New World Order."

BAHA'I BOOKS IN LIBRARIES OF HAWAII

In the Library of Hawaii, Honolulu, many Baha'i books have been placed - also in the library of the University of Hawaii, and the Army and Navy YMCA library. On Maui, Baha'i books have been placed in the library at Wailuku, and on the Island of Hawaii, in the Hilo library. Through the Library of Hawaii, Baha'i books were also sent to Samoa.

BAHA'I VISITORS TO HONOLULU

1902,	April	Mrs. Helen S. Goodall and daughter, Ella, from Oakland, California
1903,	April	Mrs. Anna Bailey, Oakland, California
	November	Mrs. Sebre (wife of Admiral Sebre) of California
1904,	January-March	Mrs. Harriet Laughlin, California
1906,	Through	Mrs. Anna Bailey, Oakland, California
1907	Spring	
1908		Mrs. Bowen
1909,	November 23	Mr. C. M. Remey and Mr. H. C. Struven
	December 14	
1910,	July-August	Sigurd Russell
1911,	February	Sigurd Russell
	May 9	Mrs. Georgina Harvey (remained in Honolulu)
1913,	July 2	Mme. Aurelia Bethlen (on way to Orient)
	September 14	Mr. C. M. Remey and Mr. George O. Latimer
1914,	Spring	Mons. and Mme. Dreyfus-Barney (enroute to Orient)
	10 Days	
1915,	Winter	Mrs. Corinne True and three daughters, Chicago
	5 Weeks	
	Winter	Mr. C. M. Remey and Mr. George O. Latimer
	Summer	Mr. C. M. Remey
	July	Miss Martha Root (one day enroute to States)
1916,	Fall through	Mr. C. M. Remey and Mr. George O. Latimer
	April 1917	
	Fall	Miss Alice Griffith and Mrs. Grace Allison (now Harris)
1920,	Several weeks	Mr. and Mrs. Hyde Dunn (enroute to Australia)
	until March	
	Several weeks	Mrs. Cora Ashton, Denver, Colorado
1925,	January -	Dr. Gregory and Mrs. Orcella Rexford
	April	
	February	Mrs. A. C. (Orol) Platt (enroute to Orient)
	(1 day)	
1927,	February-October	Miss Valera Fisher (Mrs. John Allen), San Francisco
		Miss Emma Maxwell (Mrs. Walter Jones), San Francisco
	Winter	Mr. Charles Reed Bishop
	April	Mrs. C. M. (Ella) Cooper, San Francisco
	September 30	Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Bishop
	April 28	
	September -	Miss Julia Goldman
	June 1932	
1931,	January 8-17	Miss Martha Root
	June	Mrs. Keith Ransom-Kehler (enroute to Orient for 1 day)
	One Day	Mrs. Dewing (Auckland, New Zealand)
	Fall	Mrs. Lorol Schopfloch and Mr. Loveday (enroute to Orient)
1932,	June	Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bolton and three children, (one day)
	Winter	Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Mathews and Mrs. Marion Little
1933,	July	Mr. W. E. M. Grosfeld, Batavia, Java, (two weeks)
1934,	April -	Mrs. Ramona Bray, Berkeley, California
	February 1935	
	Summer	Mr. Mark Tobey (one day)

	Until Spring 1935	Miss Georgy FitzGerald
	December - February 1935	Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Mathews
1935,	Spring - Several months	Mrs. Orol Platt
	One Day	Mrs. Stanley Bolton and three children (enroute to Sydney, Australia)
	December - March 1936	Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Mathews
1937,	Summer	Mrs. Marion Little
	January	Mr. Charles Reed Bishop (few days)
	February	Mrs. Mamie Seto, San Francisco, California
	May 8	Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Mathews (enroute to Australia)
	May 25	Miss Martha L. Root (enroute to Orient)
	June 21	Mrs. G. Gunning-Davis (enroute to Australia)
	December-March 1938	Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Mathews and Mrs. Marion Little
	August	Mrs. Nellie French (enroute to Australia)
1939,	June 5	Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bolton (enroute to States)
	June 5 - September 28	Miss Martha Root
	One Day	Mr. James Heggie, Australia
	October	Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bolton (one day), returning to Australia
1940,	Summer	Mrs. Sylvia King
1941,	February - November	Mrs. Mamie Seto, San Francisco, California
	September - November	Mr. Anthony Seto, San Francisco, California
	December 17-18	Mr. and Mrs. Sabet and two sons (enroute to States)

October 1913, Agnes Alexander left Honolulu, returning on visits in August 1917 for one month; July, 1919, for one month; January, 1924 through September, 1926, March 20, 1927 through January 10, 1928; June 1933 through April 1934; September 1934 until May 1935; December, 1938 until April, 1939; June 2, 1941 - remaining until after Pearl Harbor attack.

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" XIV, Pg. 184	Cause Started on Maui
" XV, Pg. 177	Bahá'í Tour of Hawaii
" XV, Pg. 206	Article Food Conservation Conference, A.B.A.
" XV, Pg. 243	Esperanto Talk at Pan-Pacific
" XV, Pg. 332	Article-New Era in Pacific A.B.A.
" XVI, Pg. 589	Article-Institute of Pacific Relations
" XVI, Pg. 438-535	I.P.R.
" XVII, Pg. 56	Pan-Pacific Union
" XVII, Pg. 83	Star-Bulletin Editorial
" XVII, Pg. 126	Article-Why I Believe - ELR
" XVIII, Pg. 212-216	Articles about I.P.R., also 255
" XXII, Pg. 279	Portion of Tablets to Dr. & Mrs. Augur

ILLUSTRATIONS FROM HAWAII IN BAHÁ'Í LITERATURE

Star of West, Vol. 1, Nov. 3	Photo of Honolulu Bahá'ís
Pg. 11	
" XV, Pg. 186	Members of I.P.R.
" XVI, Pg. 570-590	I.P.R.
" XVII, Pg. 57	Pan-Pacific Union Speakers
Bahá'í World III, Pg. 84	Children's Group
" III, Pg. 226	Dr. G. J. Augur in Group
" VI, Pg. 693	Maui Bahá'ís, February 1934