

H.E.H.
Box 8,
fl. 12-14
or
Box 9, fl. 28

1920

10/24, 10/30, 11/13, 11/21,
11/6, 10/29, 11/4, 11/5, 11/22,
11/18, 11/25

At the Feet of the Sub.

Ht. Canal, October, 24, 1920

There are many collective forces in the world of existence which bring together the scattered , which unite different ideals and give uniformity to diverse customs. For instance, one of the collective forces is racial consciousness. For example, the racial consciousness of the Germans is the collective force for Germany. Similarly, racial consciousness is the collective force for the Americans, and so on for every nation.

It may be that the collective force is patriotism. People who are very different from one another will be gathered together through patriotism- they act unitedly.

It may be that the collective force is science. The universality of science gathers together people of diverse thoughts.

Again, it may be that the collective force is political. It will gather together people of different nationalities, uniting them under one flag.

Education may also be a collective force. In brief, collective forces are many, but all these become the cause of outward or human unity. But the Breath of the Holy Spirit is the collective force which brings together the friends of God. This is like unto a firmly rooted tree. The fruit is not for one month or one year- it is eternal. That is the real collective force.

To day the greatest collective force is the Kingdom of God. It collects or brings together different peoples under one banner, it unites people of different religions under one pavillion. Different people become quickened by one breath. It is so all inclusive and mighty that it changes the souls of different people into the waves of one ocean, which is the Kingdom of God.

Now this gathering is a heavenly gathering; its union is divine; its oneness is of the heart and spirit and tongue. This is true in all respects; this is why it is so unshakable.

The members of this gathering- how different they are, yet the power of the Kingdom has in this way united us. It is my hope that our spiritual sensibilities may progress to such a degree that our material differences will be of no importance; that the darkness of the world of nature may not prevent the heavenly illumination and that we may act according to the teachings of Baba's 'Ilah as we ought to- this is my hope.

In the time of His Holiness, the prophet (Isaiah) there were two tribes - Gus and Khazraj. These tribes were in the utmost hostility and hatred. For several centuries they were at war. As soon as they would meet they would kill one another, whether in villages, towns or cities. It was impossible for one of the tribes of Gus to meet one of the tribe of Khazraj, without kill-

ing him. Then these two tribes became believers and became as brothers.

Then God says: (Koran) "If you had given away everything on earth you would not have been able to create friendship in their hearts; but God was able to do so."

Faith is the cause of perfect friendship, but it should be complete faith; that will be the collective force.

Every cause which has a firm foundation is the means of unity and harmony; it becomes a collective force. Now what is the collective force in this tree-it is its root. It is the root that unites the trunk, the branches and the leaves. When the root is firm, it becomes the collective force. Therefore, every cause which is firmly rooted becomes a collective force.

On the contrary, every cause which is wavering can never be a collective force.

Abdul Baha showed a picture of the German believers and said: "These are the friends of one city in Germany. In other cities there are also friends." One believer went from America to Germany- Mr Remy. He served the cause there. Praise be to God, (pointing to the picture) This is through the power of the Word of God. From where are we and from where are they? They (the Germans) were saying, 'We are a civilized nation and the Orientals are uncivilized'.

Now see the power of the Word of God before which all the great heads have bowed. Verily, verily, see what one sincere soul can do. If one sees Mr Remy, one cannot believe that he is the Mr Remy.

His father was an admiral who is now retired. How much his parents tormented him. They said: 'You are not one of us, you do not belong to us, we disown you.' His father was rich, but Mr Remy worked and lived very economically, and thus saved the means for traveling. He traveled to Honolulu, in the Hawaiian islands; to Ischabad, in Russian Turkestan; to Persia and to India. He traveled in the same way that His Holiness Christ instructed: "Shake the dust from your feet, etc.,

Supper at the Master's house, October, 24th 1920.
nineteen at the table.

Mrs. G. We miss Hadji Mirza Hyder Ali very much, we have just heard that he has passed away.

A.B. Yes, he ascended. Hadji Mirza Hyder Ali was one of the souls who was immersed in the Kingdom of God. He was unaware of the material world. He lost himself in Baha'e'llah. He had no thought by day nor by night save that of the Kingdom of God. At the age of thirty he became a believer, and remained a believer until his death. For over sixty years he had no thought save that of service in the Kingdom. Although apparently he was working on earth, in reality, he was among those of the Supreme Concourse. His station is not yet known; in the future it will be appreciated.

In the same way his honor, Mirza Abul Fazl- these two blessed

souls were two stars in the firmament of the Cause.

There is a proverb in Persia-'The outer is the expression of the inner'. For instance, this lamp is the outer; the light which it contains is the inner. This exterior in this case, expresses what is within.

Now we have gathered here through the grace of His Holiness Baha'o'llah, in a spot of this material world. It is an indication of our seating in the Kingdom. In the same way that we are gathered at this table, we hope that we shall be gathered at the table in the Kingdom of Abha. This table is the counterpart of that table.

Mrs. C. I am glad that Abdul Baha makes my mother eat tonight.

A.B. This is the Lord's Supper. Sometimes material things have a spiritual effect. For instance, music is something material, but it has an effect upon the spirit. Sweet perfume is material, yet it has a spiritual effect. Cleanliness is something material, but its effect is spiritual.

It is our hope that although this food is material, its effect will be spiritual.

His Holiness Christ gathered His disciples one evening at supper and bestowed upon them his teachings, because it was near the time of his crucifixion. He gave them as many teachings as was necessary.

Pilgrim House at luncheon, October 29, 1920

Abdu' # - Baha... I long to be always with you. Although I am striving day and night I do not finish my work.

It has happened that you have come at a time when I do not have an opportunity to be with you much. I have been thinking to accompany you to the Holy Tomb (روضه مبارکه) - Ruzeh - Mubarakah, but I find I cannot.

K.F.....

spoke of the Israelites and of the Tomb of Elijan.

A.B... Some souls appeared among the Jews, the people of Moses, who concealed their real motives, but apparently they arose as religious people. After H.H. Solomon someone appeared called Jeroboam who conspired with the majority of the Israelites against Rehoboam and succeeded. Like unto the violators of today he concealed his real purpose. The first thing he did was to tell the Israelites that in the time of Solomon the taxes were very burdensome. Now that Rehoboam is on the throne we should ask him to lighten the burden so that his reign may be prosperous. This concession will please all the people. He set this trap in the guise of kindness. He said that the King was kind and would grant their request. All the people became happy. He led them to the king; they began to ask to have their taxes lightened. Rehoboam consulted with the elders. They said there was no harm in making this concession. Then he consulted with the young men. The young men decided that as the king had just succeeded to the throne he had better refuse this demand, so that they might not get into the habit of demanding concessions every day, otherwise they would find pretexts for more demands.

In brief () Jeroboam created this dissension. Rehoboam said that his father had been just and that the taxes were moderate, and that it was not possible to lighten them, nay rather he should add to them. Jeroboam met the people and strengthened the dissension.

Jeroboam was thinking of leadership for himself, but he was concealing the real purpose. In the guise of kindness he expressed his sympathy for the people and told them that Rehoboam was not a kind king and was not considerate of them. In short he went on with his intrigues to such an extent that he produced a great rebellion amongst the Israelites. Day by day that rebellion increased until the Jews gave up the religion of God: it resulted in their giving up entirely the worship of God and becoming worshippers of Baal. The founder of this idol worship was Jeroboam.

The rebellion grew more and more until war broke out between Jeroboam and Rehoboam. Many souls were killed. All their wise men failed to cure the evil darkness that overtook them. The Israelites became degenerate. Corruption reached such a point that they became worshippers of Baal. In Tyre there was an idol called Baal, made of iron; it was hollow; under this they made a fire. The arms were extended. The priests would place a child on these hands, and this child would be burned until reduced to ashes; thus the Israelites worshipped Baal.

The Jewish violators pretended to be religious and ended in that worship. At such a time His Honor Elijah appeared and dwelt in this cave and his food consisted of fish, which he himself caught.

Elijah gathered some of the young men and taught them in this cave the religion of God. They became holy souls. Having educated them he sent them out to reach the people. In this way he trained the Israelites and reestablished the religion of God. Now the Israelites were divided into two parties. One became worshippers of God and the other remained idolators.

K.... Was there a town here at Haifa?

A.B... Yes. At the place where the convent is: the name was Haifu, which means in the phoenician language "at the foot of the mountain."

K.F....How long did Elijah remain here to teach?

A.B....From 20 to 30 years; until he accomplished his work of educating the people

These two parties fought together until they decided upon mobaleh (), so that it might be known which party was right. They decided that both of them should offer sacrifices, that fire might come down from heaven to burn the sacrifice of one of them. Whichever sacrifice would be burned, that party was the true one.

The priests of Baal came and brought a few ears of corn for their sacrifice. They prayed from morn until eve... no fire descended from heaven.

Then H.H. Elijah killed a lamb and offered it as a sacrifice. Suddenly fire appeared and burned the lamb. So it was proved that Elijah was the true one. Then Elijah ordered the priests of Baal to be killed. They numbered 360...all were killed. He reestablished the religion of Moses. Complete reformation came about, idol worship was abolished, again they became worshippers of God, and the social and political affairs improved. Having finished his mission he sought retirement and disappeared from among the people. Now the Jews believe that the chariot of fire caught him up and took him to heaven; but the fact is that he retired to spend his time in communion with God. This is the story.

K.F....Is it true that this was true fire?

A.B....It needs explanation....the point is this: This is the fire of the love of God.

E.C. Spoke about scientific tests on animals.

A.B. In the books of God there is no mention of this subject, but in the religion of God eating meat is permissable. Man can live without meat. To kill an animal and eat his flesh seems to be cruelty, but today it is almost impossible for the people not to eat the flesh of animals. It is difficult to tell people not to eat pork, mutton, beef, fish. Supposing that they do not eat these, what are they going to do about drinking water: for in this

glass there are thousands of living animalcules which cannot be seen under the microscope, swimming on the water. They are dancing in the air that man breathes....They enter the body of man and die. This cheese is full of them. If you put it under the microscope you will see them moving. When you consider this with a broader view, you see it is not possible not to eat animals. Why is it permissible?

We must observe that these animals which are in the cheese represent animal life without intelligence, but you are eating them. This transfers them from the animal kingdom to the human kingdom. They were without intelligence and now they find intelligence; they were knowledge and now they attain knowledge. Their sensibilities were primitive now they become developed, they receive a portion in thinking and reasoning. Then these animals which you are eating evolve from a low stage to a higher stage of existence. Therefore it is permissible to eat animals. ~~The purpose is to advance the human welfare~~

Because the purpose is for the advancement of human welfare vivisection is permissible, but provided cruelty is not practised....

For instance the animal which is diseased suffers more than if he were to die. To die is better than to suffer. If it does this thru vivisection it is for a high purpose.

R.... They breed animals ... for this purpose.

A.B. No! That part on which they must operate must be sound.. but it is not necessary that the entire body be sound. For instance they may want to experiment on the eye, the eye must be sound .

H.. They give serums and watch the effect of disease on the animal.

A.B..... If some one suffered with gout, it is so troublesome he prefers death, but his mind works intelligently. For instance , if the brain is diseased and one becomes insane , but his hands and feet are all right... his head is diseased but his body is all right. One is suffering from cancer, every day the pain increases and it is worse than death, but his brain is all right. If they experiment on this suffering animal, and he should die, it will shorten his suffering. There is great advantage in vivisection because by these experiments on animals humanity is saved from thousands of diseases.... The animal should be chloroformed.

H.H. They do not use chloroform.

A.B. They should use chloroform. There are many diseases that can be discovered thru postmortem examination. They physicians of old did not use vivisection, they operated on dead.

The Blessed Perfection often would say that if man would be content with vegetable diet it would be well. Vegetable diet is cleaner than animal diet.

E.C...There is a great movement in America and England against vivisection They claim there is not enough scientific result to compensate.

A.B....Diseased animals that cannot recover had better be used for vivisection, and not those which are sound.

They claim vivisection on sound animals, and we say it should be done on the sound organ or sound limb. There are many cases where half of the body is paralyzed and the brain works well. There was once a Pasha whose whole body to his neck was paralyzed; two parts only were sound: his brain and his alimentary canal. For several years he was a governor general and he was very efficient. He had no hands to use, someone else had to feed him. If he was stung by an insect he did not feel it at all; if a dog bit him he could not feel it, but his brain was working perfectly. He governed far better than those who were sound.

Every act can be done with tyranny or with justice. In vivisection justice and not tyranny should be practiced. If they do not give chloroform to a healthy animal it is tyranny

About criminals.....

A.B. Not at all. Even those who are condemned to death should be killed in such a way as not to feel it..... with electricity.

Notes taken in long hand by H.E.Hoagg

Oct. 30-1920- Haifa Palestine,
Pilgrim House-

Saturday.

This afternoon we visited the Holy Tomb of Baha'ullah, Mrs Goodall, Mrs Cooper, Mrs Ralston, Rouha Khanoum, Mrs Hoagg Hovieh Khanoum, the prospective bride of Mirza Badi Effendi--Sec'y of the Governoe of Haifa and also translator or rather interpreter of AbdulBaha. Rouhi Effendi and his sister Sorayah, also Fugeta and Arthur Redeen, the chauffer went with us.

Khosoron, the Indian servant of Abdul Baha, drove the Ford and Arthur took the Cunningham.

We rode most of the way on the beach, but in places where it was too narrow for the machines we took an upper road in the soft sand where, chicken wire had been stretched in order that the guns and wagons could pass during the war--this had been accomplished by the English.

All the way along we could see Acca in the distance. Even with the bad road it took but little over half an hour to make the trip.

On our arrival at the Bahji we went into a small room adjoining the Tomb where we were served tea by Khosrow and Fugeta.

Shortly we visited the Tomb passing thru the beautiful garden and entering the room (where we removed our shoes) which leads into the Tomb proper.

This is an experience which no one can describe--only those who have witnessed it.

To kneel at the Holy Threshold; to ask forgiveness of everything save ones service in the Cause of God; to beg for the unity of the friends, and strength and confirmation to go forth to serve is a privilege which comes only thru the bounty of Baha'ullah.

On our way home we stopped at the garden of ----- owned by our Lord, to get some dates. While we waited the caretaker climbed up a date palm of great height and with a cycle cut off a branch hanging full of dates (burlap sacks covered each bunch on the palms to keep them which had ripened from falling) Never before have I eaten anything so delicious as a ripe date from the palm.

The gardener gave us also many beautiful pomegranites.

Rouha Khanum told us that our Lord did not use the fruits in the large garden; that he kept it for the poor entirely-

Every one in Haifa and in Acca knows Abdul Baha the friend of the poor. We were all very happy as we drove home along the beach at sunset. The beautiful blue bay and the surrounding hills were covered with a wonderful glow. As we drove into Haifa the Mohammedan women with their long black veils and the Arabs, Egyptians and Syrians riding the tiny donkeys was a picturesque sight never to be forgotten.

We passed several outdoor restaurants where the men were sitting by small tables eating and smoking their hubble-bubble pipes.

Our big automobile almost filled the narrow streets and when Arthur sounded the horn the pedestrians fled in all directions.

We also met a Caravan of Camels coming in from the outside towns laden with grain and % .

Men's Meeting - Evening - Haifa,
Nov 4, 1920.

Question

Aziz .. The Master received a letter in which one of the friends said that he together with some other friends had an interview with the prime Minister Mostofi ol Mamalik through the instrumentality of an Ezili who, during the war, four years ago, came to Haifa, visited the Master and was attracted to His beauty.

Abdu'lBaha

These two friends told the Prime Minister that it would not be good for the prosperity of Persia if the government should allow any more persecutions of the Bahai's who have done nothing against the government or the people. This ~~prawahtadmma~~ converted Ezili told the Prime Minister his experiences in Haifa during his visit. Then the Prime Minister said, "It is true I have not seen His Highness Abdu'l-Baha, yet, I testify that he is the wisest man in the world.

.....

Not one among the former religions, such as the Jews, spoke a word of praise of H.H. Christ, or concerning H.H. Mohammed. They said to Noah "We do not see thy followers except a few vagabonds". Now the Cause is shining with such glory that a person such as M.M. the Prime Minister says, that a servant of the servants of the Blessed Beauty is the first mind of the world. How great is the Cause! Not withstanding this the Persians are negligent. M.M. says so and the unfaithful relatives, how unjust they are! Almost all the people despised H.H. Christ. The Mohammedans do not know what the people did to H.H. the Prophet, Sura-Abu Lahab (Father of Flame).

(Koran) "The hands of Abu Lahab shall perish and he shall perish. His riches shall not profit him neither that which he hath gained. He shall go down to be burned in the flaming fire; and his wife also bearing wood, having on her neck a cord twisted fibres of a palm tree".

A.B. "When this Sura was revealed the wife of Abu Lahab became indignant and started to go and see Mohammed. On her way she met with the wife of Abu Jahl (Father of Ignorance). The latter asked her where she was going and she said, I am going to a man who thinks he is a prophet". She asked her business with him. The wife of A.L. said "I am the most revered soul in my tribe and acknowledged to be the queen of the tribes. How does he dare to call me a bearer of wood. I want to ask him, How do you dare call me a bearer of wood. Thou sayest that I have a cord of twisted palm leaves around my neck. See, this necklace which I have around my neck is of pearl. The wife of A.J. said "What is the matter with you? You should not deign to go and speak with him. He is insane. He says that K-(Zaghum) springs up from the midst of hell.

Mohammed was considering the reality of this woman, which was in fact, a bearer of wood for hell, and what Mohammed was considering was correct. Now you see how the people were despising the prophets in their days. It is the explicit text of the Koran and not tradition.. The people were considering Mohammed as the lowest person. They would say..."Is it he whom God has sent as a prophet?"

Praise be to God, nobody could say a word of scorn about H.H. the First Point or H.H. the Blessed Beauty. The most eloquent of the learned men of Arabia, whether Sunnite or Sheite have composed eulogies about the Blessed Beauty as to astonish one. A very learned ^{such} Christian says "I am not a Bahai and I do not believe in his prophethood, but to be fair, his miracles are as clear as day.

Today almost all the papers of the world are praising the Cause. The only papers which are scorning the Cause are those of our own country, that is Persia. One of the editors in Persia has written a letter to me. I do not mention his name because he does not wish it. He says: "In Persia there is a group of people which has arisen with all its power to undermine the holy Cause. They have sent me some letters and articles to publish, but I do not publish them in my paper."

This man wants to be obliging. He has frequently written to me, and up to now I have been lenient to him. I wrote to him this time asking, "What is this you are writing to me? What are these obligations that you place me under. Write what thou wishest and do not think that if these letters are published they can do any harm to the Cause. As thou hast experienced what the people have written has not affected the Cause. The banner of God is waving on high. O my friend, consider a little! and hear how the trumpet call "Ya Baha el Abna" is being raised among the Turks, Persians, Australians, in Asia Africa, Europe, America etc. then what art thou saying? Go and attend to your own affairs! Art thou trying to put me under obligations? Go and write whatever thou wishest! These will all contribute to the promotion of the Cause and can do nothing else!.....

Copied in Haifa by H.E.H.

Notes
September 5, 1920

Are you well, so you like the view here? The truth is that this place has spirituality. There are many beautiful views, but without spirituality: such as the mountains of Lebanon which have no spiritual atmosphere. In this region all the prophets have passed, but on the Lebanon mountains none have passed. It is strange that all the world is one piece of land yet this portion has become specialized: has been mentioned by God continually; but Sumat, Lebanon and Damascus have not been mentioned by God. Places of worship, temples, are there for idols and the remains exist even today. There was a magnificent temple of the sun in Baalbec and the ruins are there. It is written in the Book (Koran) that God gives His bounty to whomsoever He willeth. It is thus with this land.

Mrs X--- It is easier to worship here than in the churches.

A.B. Yes, the heart is attracted here. His Holiness Elijah was once in a cave near here. At that time all the children of Israel were opposed to the religion of God: they were engaged in their own passions and only the name indicated that they were the people of His Holiness Moses. If His Holiness Moses had come among them He would not have recognized them, and would have said: "I do not consider them my own for they have entirely forsaken the religion of God; they are deprived of the laws of God; no light remains in them. They are like a colored man whose name is Diamond. His name is Diamond, but the man is black. They were like this.

Then His Holiness Elijah educated certain souls in this cave: he educated sincere and pure souls as they should be and sent them amongst the children of Israel in Egypt. They taught the children of Israel and called them back to God. Again they were invited to the Law of God. He invited and brought together on this mountain (the top of) all the leaders. There were 360 people. He advised them much, but there was no result. No matter how much he tried to guide them it was useless. For several years he worked to educate them, but at the end there had been no effect. They were such as would corrupt other souls, so he had all of these put to death and the others (sincere ones) returned to the spiritual life as at first-- the children of Israel became spiritually awakened, the everlasting glory became apparent again. These overcame the neighboring tribes; they built the Holy Temple at Jerusalem. The law of God was put into action. When Elijah had finished His work he left it and went away- he disappeared entirely. They thought He had ascended to heaven, but no, He had finished His work and so retired from the world.

The person who is sincere and pure makes that apparent in his actions. Elijah labored hard with the children of Israel and when the way became smooth and the time of comfort and ease came then He went away and left them.

All the thoughts and traces of man must be heavenly: literally they must be of the Kingdom of God. Man must have no attachment to this world: he must be attached to nothing in this world. This world is like the waves of the sea: it is ephemeral.

The wise person does not attach his heart to the waves.

Q-- Is it well for the Bahais to attend the Unitarian Church?

A.B. There is no harm.

Q.... Is it better to attend the Unitarian or some other Church?

A.B. ,,In any place where one turns to God, whether in a home or a Mosque or a Church- wherever it is, it is good. The object is to turn to God. But if there be a Mashrek'ol'Azkar it is better to be there, for in other worshipping places the hearts are not turned to God, but to the world, therefore the Breath of the Merciful is not there. In the Mashrek'ol'Azkar the hearts are turned to God, for it is the place where the breath of the Merciful can be inhaled. If there be no Mashrek'ol'Azkar there is no harm in going to other places for worship.

When I was in America I went to the Churches to speak. When I entered the church they would be engaged in worshipping. I also would stand up and turn to the Kingdom of God. After they had finished their prayer I would give the divine glad-tidings. I gave the proofs and evidences of God; the teachings of the Blessed Beauty were given and all listened, there was no opposition. In reality I entered the churches with sincerity. When they commemorated God and sang songs I liked them. When they chanted "My God! My God!" I became happy.

When Christ gathered his disciples that last night it was not in a church it was in a room. That night they had the Lord's Supper and it was in a room. The aim is that the hearts may be attracted, the spirits may be filled with glad tidings of God and the souls turned to God. This is the object. Other things are secondary.

At Supper

September 5th.

I hope the health of the friends is good. Today you visited the Tomb of the Bab, are you happy?

His Holiness Christ was once eating grapes and said: "I will not eat of the fruit of this vine etc." but the grapes of the Kingdom are other than these grapes. In the Kingdom there are no grapes like these.

Now also I say to you all: We will eat together of the divinedivine bounties, God willing, in the Kingdom: that is divine fruit, heavenly fruit, its flavor is everlasting, its power is everlasting. God willing we shall there eat together of that heavenly food.

Pilgrim House

September 7th.

Miss C--- Just before the Master came in we were speaking of the training of the children to be thoughtful and unselfish. Will the Master speak to us on this subject?

A.B.,.,.,., The body of man is from the world of nature. His body is similar to that of the animal, and the animal tendencies exist in him, but the divine power is great in him; his spirituality is pure and sanctified: his spirit is heavenly, his body is satanic. If the spiritual susceptibilities overcome the susceptibilities of the body, that is if the spirit overcomes the tendencies of the body, the animal tendencies will not remain, and he becomes illumined, he becomes heavenly, he becomes full of activities and good qualities. But if the natural qualities should overcome the spiritual, those of the spirit will not remain at all, all will become natural. In such a state the love of self is found and man is immersed in his passions, he comes darkness upon darkness-- he becomes negligent of God and there will remain no signs of spirituality in him. This is what His Holiness Christ says ~~mm~~ -- "He must be born again.

Once man is born from the womb of the mother and is freed from darkness. In the same way he must become again free from the world of nature, so that he may become free from the darkness of the world of nature. This is the second birth. Man must always try to have the spirit overcome the body, and if it is accomplished he becomes freed from all his imperfections; he becomes filled with virtues, becomes nearer to the divine and will follow the divine teachings. He will become like unto a lighted candle. This is the reality of the subject. When in the world of nature man is immersed he is like an animal, and all defects will appear in him.

Mrs Paine, Miss Gray and Miss Coy were present.

W&M

Luncheon Pilgrim House,
November 6, 1930

A.B.,.,., Last night I visited the Mufti, the spiritual head of the Moslems. The governor and many notables were there-

I spoke to them of the oneness of humanity and the oneness of religions. I said that fanaticism must be forgotten and religions become one.

Mrs C.,.,., How did they accept this teaching?

A.B.,.,.,. When I speak it is in such a manner that no one can object. There is no ground for objection. When I spoke in America did anyone object? They could not offer any objections, even in the Jewish synagogue. In spite of the fact that the Jews are fanatical, in the synagogue I proved that Christ was the word of God, and that Muhammad was a prophet of God. No one can say this before the Jews in a synagogue but no one denied. About five thousand Jews were there, all of them alert to criticize, but no one could. They clapped, and after the meeting their spiritual head (Rabbi) said that they wanted to shake hands with me. I said that I could not shake hands with five thousand people, so he said that fifty or sixty might come. I shook hands with a few amongst them as representatives of the Jewish people. One of those who shook hands said, "By God, I am no longer a Jew."

From the time that I entered America until I left no one criticized. His Holiness Christ said: "When you want to speak don't think, say that which comes into your heart and mind. I did so. I had no thought, and all that came to my mind I said."

Mrs F.,.,., In Abdul Baha's talk at Stanford University in California, he stated that the Greek philosophers journeyed to the holy land, studied with the Jewish doctors and then returned to Greece. Did Socrates travel to the Holy Land.

A.B.,.,.,. Yes, after returning from the Holy Land to Greece, he established the principle of the unity of God and the immortality of the soul.

The people opposed him because this teaching was contrary to their belief. They brought him before the king and gave him poison. When he took the cup he said that he was glad he was going from this land to another one. It is written in Greek history.

Mrs F.,.,. It is not stated in history that Socrates went to the Holy Land.

A.B.,.,.,. It is written that Socrates went to other lands; they do not say that he did not ~~leave~~ leave Greece. It does not say where he went but in Oriental history it is given. The principle of the unity of God was learned from the prophets of Israel. In those days no one but the prophets of Israel believed in the divine unity, no one believed in the immortality of the soul, not even the Greek philosophers. They believed in transmigration of the soul. Socrates

established this divine unity (in Greece).

The philosopher Lycurgus came to the Holy Land and returned established his famous constitutional law. He then gathered all the people and made them swear allegiance. Then he said that he wanted to leave Greece and they must declare they would not change one letter of his law until he returned. He came to the Holy Land and never returned. This he did in order that the law he made might continue. He sacrificed his kingship to law. This is mentioned in Greek history.

Mrs F., When we return to America and speak to the Jews about our trip to Jerusalem, what are the best points to accentuate?

A.B. Read the prophecies of Isaiah and Hezekiah concerning the return of the Jews to Jerusalem in the last days. Also that the water of the Nile would come to Jerusalem in the last days. When the British came they brought the water of the Nile in pipes to Palestine, and we drank that water here.

The philosophers were always astonished at that prophecy saying that this was one of the exaggerations of the bible; that this was impossible, the water could not cross the desert and how could that water be brought from the Nile to Palestine. They never imagined that iron pipes could be laid for bringing the water, or that the British forces would come through the desert and need water. Many Turks died at that time for lack of water (at time of the war).

Notes by R. E. N.

Luncheon Pilgrim House,
November 6, 1920

A.B.,,, Last night I visited the Mufti, the spiritual head of the Moslems. The governor and many notables were there-

I spoke to them of the oneness of humanity and the oneness of religions. I said that fanaticism must be forgotten and religions become one.

Mrs C,....How did they accept this teaching?

A.B..... When I speak it is in such a manner that no one can object. There is no ground for objection. When I spoke in America did anyone object? They could not offer any objections, even in the Jewish synagogue. In spite of the fact that the Jews are fanatical, in the synagogue I proved that Christ was the word of God, and that Muhammad was a prophet of God. No one can say this before the Jews in a synagogue but no one denied. About five thousand Jews were there, all of them alert to criticize, but no one could. They clapped, and after the meeting their spiritual head (Rabbi) said that they wanted to shake hands with me. I said that I could not shake hands with five thousand people, so he said that fifty or sixty might come. I shook hands with a few amongst them as representatives of the Jewish people. One of those who shook hands said, "By God, I am no longer a Jew."

From the time that I entered America until I left no one criticized. His Holiness Christ said; "When you want to speak don't think, say that which comes into your heart and mind. I did so. I had no thought, and all that came to my mind I said.

Mrs F.....In Abdul Baha's talk at Stanford University in California, he stated that the Greek philosophers journeyed to the holy land, studied with the Jewish doctors and then returned to Greece. Did Socrates travel to the Holy Land.

A.B..... Yes, after returning from the Holy Land to Greece, he established the principle of the unity of God and the immortality of the soul.

The people opposed him because this teaching was ~~was~~ contrary to their belief. They brought him before the king and gave him poison. When he took the cup he said that he was glad he was going from this land to another one. It is written in Greek history.

Mrs F.... It is not stated in history that Socrates went to the Holy Land.

A.B..... It is written that Socrates went to other lands; they do not say that he did not ~~and~~ leave Greece. It does not say where he went but in Oriental history it is given. The principle of the unity of God was learned from the prophets of Israel. In those days no one but the prophets of Israel believed in the divine unity, no one believed in the immortality of the soul, not even the Greek philosophers. They believed in transmigration of the soul. Socrates

established this divine unity (in Greece).

The philosopher Lycurgus came to the Holy Land and returning established his famous constitutional law. He then gathered all the people and made them swear allegiance. Then he said that he wanted to leave Greece and they must declare they would not change one letter of his law until he returned. He came to the Holy Land and never returned. This he did in order that the law he made might continue. He sacrificed his kingship to law. This is mentioned in Greek history.

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November 6, 1920.

'Abdu' l-Bahá at Pilgrim House (6 P.M.)

The air, if there is no wind, no motion, becomes impure. - For instance; when water is stagnant it becomes spoiled. All the plants are moving - motion in everything. All bodies, whether small or large, are moving. There is no globe which is stationary. They were thinking that the poles were without motion - in reality they have motion - rotation - they have two motions, rotation and evolution.

Some of the heavenly bodies have three motions: like the earth, motion for day and night; motion as annual movement; and movement as regulated seasons.-

The solar system moves; they are moving around a center. There is a star or sun which is the center of all suns: that is, our sun with all planets are moving around this sun, like the moon around the earth.

The point is this: that all existing beings are moving, therefore it is known that motion is ^{the} cause of life and, to be stationary is to die of decay, or retrograde.

From this talk the purpose is that sometime you should have a ride somewhere in the automobile. *(To Mrs Goodall.)*

When the weather is good, no wind, no rain, then you should have a ride. Mrs Goodall must go when the weather is pleasant.

Motions are many, material, sensual, emotional; motion of intellectual acquirement; motion of the child from pre-birth stage to time of birth, maturity is motion toward perfect sensual ~~immaturity~~ immaturity is from one stage to another; from nothingness into being.

But the main motion is that based on the Holy Books, which lifts man from miserable stage to that of exaltation. It moves man from center of eternal death to eternal life - this is the real and important motion.

A.B. We are speaking in Persian and you are obliged to listen -

Answer: We are glad to hear your voice.

A.B. Man has two ears and one tongue, so he should hear twice and speak once. The wise man listens much and speaks little.

Notes by H. E. F.

Pilgrims House.....Nov.13,1920 at Luncheon.

A.B.... "You got very tired in Jerusalem. There are many places to visit and so one gets tired.

Mrs K... "The suffering of Baha'u'llah and 'Abdu'l-Baha came to our minds more than those in the time of Christ.

A.B.... "There is no difference... the past is like the future. This is what Christ said: "Compare my days with those in the future." His Holiness Muhammad said that the past and future are like a pair of shoes..... the same way the days of Moses are like my days.
Muhammed said one shoe is like the other..These can be compared one to the other.

Mrs F... We saw the gate in the wall (around Jerusalem) which is to be opened when Christ returns.

A.B.... "No doubt. They don't open the door to Christ if He came as they did not in forer days.

Mrs F... Referring to the Jews waiting at the wall of Solomon. If the Jews were sincere in their prayers for the returns of Christ would they not recognize the Manifestation in this day?

A.B.... There is no doubt. They are weeping because their sovereignty is taken away; while the Temple of Solomon has been destroyed. They are longing to try to establish Jewish sovereignty. They are not weeping for the sake of God...of Christ, but for sovereignty; they want worldly power..to regain their former power and influence.

A Rabbi told me that they expected a Christ that would come and be successful; that he would conquer the world so that they (the Jews) would become wealthy, powerful and predominant over all nations. They want to become governors or generals. They are not expecting a Christ who will make us wretched and miserable.

After Christ we became miserable. Titus killed almost all the Jews. We were scattered over the world. Almost all were killed, and our wives and children were captured.

We were expecting a Christ who would make us conquerors, that we might conquerors, that we might conquer nations, take possession of all property in the world.

But after the appearance of this Christ, Titus came and captured all our property, killed our men, destroyed the Temple; our children were taken into captivity. They killed our sons and at last we had to run to other parts of the world

This is a separation that will not be followed by regathering. We are not in need of such a Christ, one who will be crucified and suffer. We do not want this kind. We want one who will ascend to the throne of David..draw the sword and conquer people and nations of the world, and then take all countries. All the poor

of Israel will become rulers in other lands. We expect such a Christ. When He comes we shall believe in him.

We do not want a Christ that will be oppressed, but one who will oppress, - who will behead thousands---who will bring into captivity all the kings of the earth. When he comes all the kings of the earth will believe.

We do now want a Christ with a crown of thorns, but one who has a crown of jewels. We want a Christ of Solomon, --one who has Solomon's majesty.....

They are expecting such a Christ to come and they believe he will come. Then all Jews will gain honor and power and all ~~Jermanian~~ money go into their pockets.

Mrs F... Considering this condition of blindness, how will it be possible for them to accept the present Manifestation?

A.B.... When the Word of God is raised this impossibility will become possible. In spite of their obstinancy they will be obliged to come under the banner of the Cause/

They say we accept His Holiness Baha'u'llah, but provided he will not make us believe in Christ. He makes it incumbent for us to believe in Christ and this is why it is hard for us.....

At supper in the Master's house, Nov. 18, 1920.
The wedding of Howia Khanoum and M. Badi.

This is a very happy evening, one of joy. In one respect it is a wedding night, in another way, praise be to God, people of different races and kinds are present, American, French, Italian, Arab, Turk, Persian, Japanese, Indian, Syrian and Egyptian, briefly from every kind. It is like a flower garden where every kind of flowers are grown and found there. It is like a sea which contains all kinds of fish. It is like a mountain where all kinds of birds. All are commemorating God in utmost love and friendship.

Their hearts are detached from all things, their spirits are gladdened; their attraction is to the Kingdom of God.

It is a very happy evening, God willing, in the same way that we have met together, all the world of humanity may gather together; all become cordial, all become friendly, all may associate together in utmost love. We hope that this meeting may effect the world of humanity, so that they may become evanescent in God, all may have good-will toward one another, all may become one family, all may act according to the teachings of the blessed books. God willing it (this meeting) will have such an effect that in the world of humanity war and struggle may cease, that in the world of humanity bloodshed will be done away with, that in the world of humanity ferocity may not remain, that all the people may become like unto the angels of heaven, that they may have complete goodwill towards all, that they may become alive with the spirit of God and with the breath of the Holy Spirit. This is my hope.

Talk at Tomb of the Bab, Nov. 21, 1920.

A. B. How many days have you been here Mrs. Goodall?

Mrs. G. One month today.

A. B. Very good- God says in the bible we promised Moses thirty days and now you have been here thirty days. I have written a Tablet to San Francisco, and given to Mirza Azizollah to translate. It is to all, God willing now that you are returning you will be a speaking book; you will be the carrier of great tidings and will make all happy. You will refresh them, admonish them, give them advice. Tell them that today nothing is useful except that which is in accordance with the teachings of Baha'o'llah. Actions must be in conformity with the teachings of God. He whose actions are in accord with the teachings of the Blessed Beauty is a real Bahai, because the Blessed Beauty underwent all calamities and difficulties in order that people might follow the teachings of God. Therefore acting in accordance with the teachings is a proof of faith, an evidence of belonging to the Kingdom.

Just as Christ said: "Ye shall know them by their fruits".

Every tree is known by its fruit. You do not know a tree by its branches and leaves, but when it brings forth fruit then you can judge whether it be good or bad, whether the fruit be good or sweet or bitter.

If we are Bahais in words only, what is the difference between us and others? We therefore must have certain actions to differentiate us from others.

You must speak of the meetings held here. Tell how the believers meet in unity and love and have no other topic of conversation but the mention of God. In whatever meeting they hold there is the mention of God, supplications or talk of the divine teachings. Meetings must be so. No other mention, no other topics. You must speak either of the Blessed Beauty or His Holiness the Bab & Supreme (Bab), or speak of the results of their achievements, or the grandeur of the Cause; or speak of the difficulties and hardships the Blessed Beauty and His Holiness the Bab underwent. Speak of the martyrdoms and severance of the believers, of the teachings of the Blessed Beauty of the Principles of the Blessed Beauty, the mention of the believers in general, or difficulties they endured, or divine proofs. The Meetings must be confined to these topics and should not deviate.

Such topics become the cause of joy or such topics are like rain on the grass, just as vegetation finds verdure and fresh freshness from the rain so human hearts find joy and pleasure from such topics. They give new life to the soul and glad tidings, and even the body becomes refreshed. Your time should be confined to such topics. Any meeting the topics must be within these limits.

Notes taken by Mrs. Hoagg.

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W. H. M. | at A. K. K. | 2012 33.
Farewell supper at table, November 22, 1920.

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Praise be to God you have been here a month and have attained to the privilege of visiting the holy tomb & have associated with the friends; although our gathering here at present does not seem important; but in the future it will produce great results.

We should not look at the present, we should look to the future, when the disciples of His Holiness Christ gathered on the mountain at that time their gathering together was not considered important by the people. The people were saying "What result can be obtained from the gathering of a few fishermen, or some working people". Afterwards it

became known what a great importance that gathering had. The importance of that gathering shone upon the world, perhaps some of these disciples themselves could not realize the importance. But now you are seeing what great results have followed,

Now our gathering, altho, it does not seem to be important, yet in the future it will have great results. The Cause was once confined to the city of Shiraz, very few became believers, no one paid any attention to them at first- that is, no importance was attached to their gatherings by the people. Then that gathering spread its influence to Isphahan, then to Teheran and Khorassan and all over Persia, then to other countries until it finally reached America. And God willing from America it will spread its influence to all of the Pacific coast, to Japan, China, in short, it will exercise its influence all over the world. Be assured of this! If all the forces of the world combined in order to oppose the influence of the Cause, they shall fail. The power of the word of God will ultimately exercise its influence all over the world. Like unto the Holy Spirit it shall permeate into the veins, arteries and all parts of the body of the world. No power can check it, because it is the influence of the Word of God: it is the breath of the Holy Spirit. It is not a political movement it is not an industrial movement, it is not a scientific movement,-- but it is the influence of the Word of God, it is the breath of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, now that you are returning, you must go with a greater power, greater influence, because you have come to visit the Holy Tombs and you have attained the privilege of visiting the holy threshold. You have visited the tomb of the First Point, holy breezes have blown upon you- the fruits will be known afterwards. Be assured! that divine confirmations will accompany you. Be confident that the hosts of the Supreme Concourse will support you. Therefore you should arise with all your strength in service. In this world every gathering proves useless; every edifice will be destroyed; every lamp will be extinguished; every star will set, but the Word of God will day by day become more and more predominant. The teachings of God will spread more and more, farther and farther.

This foundation is eternal, this is a lamp that will never be extinguished; this is a star that will never set, nay rather it is life in life- therefore you should have absolute dependence upon the Word of God and be devoted to the Holy Spirit.

With all your strength, strive day and night so that you may be able to serve the Kingdom of God. This is an impregnable fortress, this is a unshakable foundation, this is eternal life, this is an ever lasting bounty. Observe that those souls who arose in service to Christ, during the days of Christ are shining even until now.

You came here and asked almost all your questions, scientific religious- (problems of the Kingdom)-economic and social, all of these have been, as far as possible, answered. It is my hope that your problems have been solved. When you return you should ~~not~~ arise in service as much as possible.

Be very lenient and kind to the Japanese and show kindness also to the Chinese. You should use all means so that all these differences between the Japanese and Americans may be done away with. Similarly you should use all means to spread the word of God in Japan and China. Be very kind to those people, explain to them the oneness of the world of humanity, which is one of the basic principles of His Holiness Baha'o'llah that all the people are the sheep of God, and God is the affectionate shepherd. He is affectionate to all his sheep, this is the policy of God. Therefore to us the Chinese Japanese, French, English, Persians and Germans are all one. They are all the sheep of God; we must be kind to all. In brief you should be kind to the Japanese, I spoke to you about them today, you should remember what I have said. Now that you are going you should be bearers of glad tidings and you should be like unto a breeze which blows from a rose garden; you should be like unto rain which pours down from the clouds of mercy; you should be like unto waves which rise from the sea of truth.

I shall pray for you, that you may, day by day, develop in the Kingdom of God, and obtain greater insight, and find keen ears; that you may become very eloquent in speech, so that, as ~~the~~ his Holiness Christ said-, the breath of the Holy Spirit may inspire your hearts- now, God be with you. Harhaba!

At the Masters house farewell supper at table.

November 22, 1920.

Notes by H. E. Haagg

Farewell supper at table, November 22, 1920.

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Talk at the Master's house, November, 25th 1920.

The friends of God who departed recently that is, the friends from America, Mrs Goodall, Mrs Cooper, Mrs Balston, Mrs Frankland, and from France, Mr and Mrs. Drayfus, have determined to strive to promote and spread the word of God with all their energy. They have confined all their thoughts to this excellent intention..... They departed from here with utmost sincerity of purpose and devotion to Baha'Ullah. The truth of this statement was not so well known while they were here, but after they return home this will become manifest, and you will hear what they will achieve. Now you should pray for them and supplicate confirmation and assistance for them, that they may be able to promote the word of God and be favored with the privilege of serving the world of humanity, that they may help to establish universal peace, and lay the foundation of the oneness of the world of humanity. They should be kind to all people and prefer the welfare of others to their own. When they attain to these characteristics, the Hosts of the Supreme Concourse will assist them and the confirmations of the Kingdom of Abha will surround them. Every one of them will become a brilliant candle and a victorious banner, not only they themselves, but others will become astonished; but they are in need of your prayers. Whenever you are supplicating ask confirmations for them.

Today every soul who gives up his own thoughts and desires and mingles with the people with utmost sincerity, such an one is surrounded by the Hosts of the Supreme Concourse; as a magnet attracts iron these benevolent intentions similarly attract the divine confirmations. You shall see before long that every one of the friends will be confirmed to achieve distinguished services. Do not think that he or she is weak or without fame; consider his characteristics, his sincerity, truthfulness, ~~willings~~ willingness to serve, trustworthiness etc., not his position on society. Such a person is confirmed, otherwise all the doors of confirmation will be closed.

Therefore, you should supplicate and pray for such friends as these and implore confirmations and assistance.

Talk by Abdul Baha, translated by Mirza Azizullah Bahadur Kahn.