

VISITING THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD

By Ruháníyyih Ruth Moffet

[Digitized by Adel Shafipour]

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The following are notes of table conversation given by the beloved Guardian in the presence of Ruhíyyih Khánum and the members of the International Council who heard them all.

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"For Ruth, Ruháníyyih, which means spiritual Beauty and the name for Robert is Habíb, which means beloved.

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*There is too much emphasis upon administration and not on the spirit in America, too much emphasis upon intellectual concepts and not upon spirit. Some do not know the difference. There is too much delving into **mysticism* * and **occultism**, 'idle fancies and vain imaginings.' This is not the world of God and leads people into the web of vain imaginings from which it is very difficult to become extricated. **The only hope for mankind is to turn to the word of God as revealed by Bahá'u'lláh in this Day, and obey His laws and precepts. **The occultists, like the Christian Scientists are not pure in heart as they so not recognize the station of manifestations, and like the Quakers, they are not united in the Divine Focal point, the Manifestation, so they do not have a direct power from God.*

The Guardian" The Jews are very devoted as are the Catholics when they really turn to Bahá'u'lláh

*One evening the Guardian began speaking about the unity of the home and the many homes that are disunited today. He said, " Nothing should be done to disrupt the unity of home.** Each should fulfill his responsibilities to the home and by the law of constant consultation and cooperation and prayer maintain that unity.** The one who disrupts it will surely suffer. The family is the institution of God. Everything should be done to preserve it. There is the greatest success and protection for both. **There will be a civil war and after that great unification**.** **This must begin with the unity of family and the friends. Mrs. Moffet help the friends to understand this and to accept and serve the word of God in this Day, as it is the most important thing in life.*

*Yes, Mrs. Moffet, move, out of Chicago to a small city or village. **The People are blind and deaf and village people are open to truth. Those who do not disperse will suffer physically, economically, and most of all spiritually because they have not listened and obeyed. They have not

listened to the warnings of Bahá'u'lláh and Abdul-Baha, who warned that the fire of Materialism will devour the great cities,** which are like Bábylon and Nineveh and Sodom and will be destroyed. Christ warned, "come out of her my people that ye be not partaker of Plagues." Canada is doing fairly well but the USA has failed. America must be saved and America must rise to meet her destiny.*

*She must become the moral and spiritual leader of all the nations of the world**. You must help her to rise to her great destiny. Abdul-Baha will help you.*

*(Page 2)** Several times the Guardian spoke of the great destruction in the world. One evening he said, "There will be a great amount of destruction all over the world, in Europe, Asia and in USA, in the Pacific, along the coasts, and even in Africa where war bases have been established.** The white race will be diminished to almost no-thing and will be unimportant in the future. We can do nothing about the calamities. We can do everything about the Faith.*

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*There is a great need for the awakening of the Assemblies. Everything is declining in America. Things are so trivial and amateurish and casual. We would express dignity; poise and maturity for the things related to the Faith. Nothing is too good for the Faith, and it should be in good taste and appropriate. **The friends should leave the great cities and disperse, that the Faith may grow and save mankind. Those who do not respond will lose everything. Yes, they will evaporate everything**. ** America is stagnant. America must be saved. This is why the believers must disperse, that the Faith may live and that they may not wither and die. He said that he does not feel that the Bahá'ís should waste time dwelling on the dark side things. Any intelligent person can understand from the experience of the last world war, and keeping abreast of what modern science has developed in the way of weapons for future war, that big cities all over the world are going to be in tremendous danger. He reminded us of the powerful world of Bahá'u'lláh in **PRAYER AND MEDITATION**, page 208, ' Armed with the power of Thy Name nothing can ever hurt me and with thy love in my heart all the world's afflictions can in no wise alarm me'.*

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The most holy places in order of their importance are 1- Akka, 2- Haifa, 3- Baghdad, 4- Shiraz, 5- Tehran, 6- Istanbul or Constantinople, 7- Adrianople. Bahá'u'lláh is the Divine Youth foretold by the Báb, He was only 26 when he made His declaration. He expresses youth and vitality of the spirit. It is a sacred duty to pay one's debt, if possible, before becoming a Bahá'í.

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* There will be a world civil war in Europe, U.S., Israel, Islands of the Pacific, even in Africa, wherever bases are established. The white race in Africa will be almost diminished and will be unimportant in the future. The difficulty will be racial, civil, and religious all over the world. There is nothing to keep the Soviets from marching into Israel. Tehran and Baghdad are also in great Danger. Oil is the goal. The heart of the Bahá'í world, Haifa, and the Institutions are all in danger. The Bahá'ís must pray that God will mercifully protect the Faith, as in the past. This is all due to the decline in religion and to materialism and to spiritual decadence. *

* The coming calamity will be worse than war. Whole cities will evaporate especially those cities where it is hardest to teach the Faith such as New York, Chicago, and San Francisco. People will lose all their possession and homes over- night. They will simply evaporate. Americans will become refugees in other Countries and continents. The United States will suffer most because it is the most materialistic. Europe was the cradle of materialism but the United States is the stronghold of materialism. Russia will also suffer greatly. There is little difference between the USA and Russia in materialism and communism is purely materialism. Both control the proletariat. Both will suffer greatly, the calamity will be retributive. **(Page 3) **The Earth will be covered mostly by dark-skinned people and those of the so-called uncivilized nations not submerged in materialism. "The limbs of mankind shall quake" will apply more to the U.S. because of the importance of the U.S. and her great destiny. **Many countries are overpopulated with people of bad blood**. This must be cleansed. Science in the future will solve the food problem**. The calamity will happen before the lesser peace**. ** America must become the moral and spiritual leader of all the nations.*

*Another evening the Guardian said." London, Paris, Chicago and San Francisco are already trapped. There are Russian submarines along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts now. Some of the friends find it difficult to leave their homes and pioneer, even to move to goals with in their own country. They do not see that we are not asking them to sacrifice. We are protecting them from great difficulties and from themselves. We are not only protecting them from the calamity that is rushing toward them outwardly, but form calamity that is rushing toward them inwardly. *

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England went through a period also when it was too over-administrative but they have a good balance now. In America, they still repress some of the best teachers and build up a certain individual. Every good teacher that can teach should be encouraged and assisted. The progress of the world depends upon the way we teach and the way we function today in our united efforts. We must have loving understanding, consultation, cooperation and prayer together and for each other. Each one is important; we are all bits of mosaic in the great Divine plane, we must not mark the pattern by failing to fulfill our part.

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In the Western world, the people do not like to be commanded or to obey. They say, "No one can push me around." the Guardian does not command anyone. That night Ruth wrote in her notebook, "Here you lose forever the feeling that so many in the west seem to have of rebellion against command, and you long to have the Guardian command you to do something that you may obey. His words are always suggestions, pointing the way. You long to have the Guardian command you to do something that you may obey. His words are always suggestions, pointing the way. You see obedience in the light of protection, and in the joy of service, of accomplishment and of attainment. Love, self-sacrifice, and devotion bring results in attainment. Love, self-sacrifice, and devotion bring results in the Faith rather than plans, ability and any universal statements.

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It is very important to reach the native people wherever possible.

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* It is very important to concentrate on Istanbul than on Ankara. Even though Ankara is the Capital for six reasons: 1- because Istanbul is the city where Bahá'u'lláh suffered and was imprisoned by the Sultan 2- Because it is the key to the whole Black sea area. 3- Because it is the meeting point between the East and West, 4- Because it was the ancient Capital, 5- Because the Haziratu'l-Quds will be built there, 6- Because the NSA of Turkey will be established there. **(**Page 4)**

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Shoghi Effendi stated that the US was chosen as the cradle of the New World Order, Not because of its spiritual qualities, but because of its corruptions, the same as Persia was chosen for the revelation of Baha'u'llah because the Persian were worse than African savages and far more barbaric.

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After the coming calamity the U.S. will fulfill the prophecy then the US will suffer, then it will lead the nations spiritually. He said that he has given up warning the friends, as they paid no heed to either the warnings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá or Shoghi Effendi.

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*It is too late to save the world. The message of Bahá'ulláh has been in the world over one hundred years to save humankind, but it has been rejected all

over the world. The calamity will be sudden. He spoke of the, American statesmen, from the president down, all are helpless and impotent. The U.S. is not an altruistic nation. You help others to help yourselves.*

*The Russian submarines will paralyze the Great Britain, the U.S., the Atlantic, pacific and Mediterranean seaboard. The Bahá'ís have failed with the Negroes in the U.S. Intermarriages is good between the races. It brings the beauty in both races. Americans love money, wives, family, friends and possessions, there is a sad decline in home life, morals, art, music, money everything. *

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*Bahá'ís should not only leave their homes, but also go as far as possible from the coasts and to where they serve the cause of God. Victories come only from sacrifice and self-Abnegation, the greater the sacrifice the greater the victory. Bahá'ís should lower their standard of living in order to give more to the faith. *

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"How will the united states of the world become established?" was asked, and the Guardian responded: "The same as the United states of America. First, the states were disunited, antagonistic one to another, then there was a civil war and they were united in one great nation. This will happen on a world scale. There will be a world civil war and then great unification."

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The codification of the Laws of the Kitáb-i-Aqdas is very important because we can break commandment or injunction, but when it comes to a law, we must obey it to the letter. When we have the codification of the Laws, we can see how that will begin to establish unification in the world greater than any other single means can bring about.

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*The Guardian said that material civilization is doomed, that all the nations have become corrupt politically; The America is the most politically disturbed nation on earth. The Americans are now living in a fool's paradise, thinking they are safe in their great materialistic, corrupt cities. They have come to the end of building corrupt, over-crowned cities that are full of noise, dirt, and crime. The Bahá'í friends should leave the corrupt cities, get a bit of land, establish a Bahá'í community and establish the (Page. 5) Bahá'í spirit in preparation for the glorious world order of Bahá'u'lláh. There will be a great destruction, and the friends should move to the cities and see what will happen when they build Bahá'í

communities in villages.*

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If the friends of America do not disperse, the Guardian said, they will suffer materially and spiritually the former will be caught in a trial. London, Paris, New York, Chicago, San Francisco will be bombed. This he repeated several times and said that ‘Abdul-Bahá warned the believers to solve the racial problem. Because they have not solved it, there have been two wars. The situation is very grave. The believers do not have enough trust in God, and detachment. Yes, great cities will evaporate. Everything will evaporate.

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The American continent will suffer, particularly in the North American continent, which will suffer greatly. This is a great challenge, and if they do not face it, they will be sorry. Everything is declining in America. The standards, which have been so materialistically high and superficial, will be lowered and Africa and her standards will be raised.

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The global plan and Bahá’u’lláh will triumph in spite of neglect of supporters. If one country falls short, another will make up for its failures. The friends will lose but the cause will go on.

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There is not enough dedication in the cause. Intuitively I act as soon as I find something that can be used. There is a dedication of a few, but dedication must permeate the masses, not just a few. They should study their instincts, their habits, environment, and prejudices. In the U.S. emphasize is on such trivial things and non-essentials. The Bahá’is must be quite different from the masses. They must have a new way of life in big as well as small things and remember that demonstration will speak louder than words.

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The guardian said there was too much emphasis on administration and not on enough on the spiritual. Too much emphasis on intellectual concepts and not enough on the spiritual, and some do not know the difference. Delving into occultism, mysticism an idle fancies and vain imagination. The words of Bahá’u’lláh are the words of God, but occultism or mysticism is not the word of God, and lead the people in a web of imagination from which extraction is very difficult.

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We must be careful with government and reckless with missionaries. The settlers should go from U.S.A. to France and to the Scandinavian countries. Do not think you can rest on your oars after this ten year Crusade. The Guardian has 19 new teaching plans to be launched after this ten-year plan is completed.

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We should use Dr. George Townshend's latest book, Christ and Bahá'u'lláh because it is the most scholarly and portrays the kingdom of God on Earth.

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*Your Books, " Do`A, the call to prayer " is very helpful. More should use and study it, especially the 'Five points of Prayer" which I gave you when you were in Haifa years ago. Help the friends to learn more prayers so that they do not have to depend on the book. Thinking the words is not sufficient. If you are where you cannot speak the words alone, speak them without putting the voice into them. *(Page 6)***

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*Every Bahá'í should teach according to his ability and all who teach groups and speak in public should be trained in classes for that purpose. The Bahá'ís must not practice in public. *

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The Guardian said one evening that world unity would be securely established in the twentieth century. Bahá'u'lláh does not wish the countries to be deprived of kingship, so when there are enough Bahá'í states, they will follow the injunction of Bahá'u'lláh. Then he made the surprising statement that America will one day have a king.

*Kingship, as is known at present, will disappear but will later be re-established. Then he stated that 14-15 kings have fallen as the result of the resistance to the message of Bahá'u'lláh. Muhammad, who wrote to the kings, said if Caesar did not respond to the tablet that He wrote to him, that Constantinople would fall to the Moslems, and this tradition is in a tablet on the wall of St.Sophia. Kings will not have political power in the future, but will be honorary and cooperation with the Universal House of Justice. *

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*After passing of 'Abdul-Bahá, we know that the Persian Dynasty completely

changed and that the Turkish Empire fell. The Guardian said that we must base our work on the Divine plan and use the Divine institutions to do it. These only will bring success. These institutions were not created at time in the creating groups.*

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The Guardian spoke of the revelation of the world order; that the LSA and institutions in the days of the Master was the germ of world order. The Administrative Order is itself, an embryo. The world order is the child and the offspring. World Order will gradually develop in the Golden Age and reach the stage of the "Coming of age of Mankind." This stage will happen at the close of the golden Age until it will reach its period of "Coming age" then it will gradually mature. To illustrate we know that a man matures at the age of forty. It is a short period from the time of boyhood to the "coming of maturity" and that is the most important time in all one's life. It is important to know the genesis of the world order. It is a result of the union of the law of Bahá'u'lláh and the mind of 'Abdul-Bahá. The union of the two gives rise to the birth of the Administrative Order which started in the Formative Age and matures toward the close of the Bahá'í cycle.

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Bahá'u'lláh says that there will be in every 500'000 years only one revelation that can be compared to His revelation. The Master established it in the tablet. We must make a distinction between the station of Manifestation and the station of Bahá'u'lláh. There will be a series of major prophets, each with a book, added laws and truth, and each may abrogate previous ones, but they will be under the light of Bahá'u'lláh. All will be lawgivers, founders of a new Dispensation, major prophets, and yet, they will be under the light of Bahá'u'lláh. The world Order will mature in the course of a series of Dispensations.

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*So many times it is asked, "But why should Bahá'u'lláh have such a high station?" I will explain. Because His Revelation coincides with a stage unique in the evolution of humanity, namely, the coming *(Page 7)** **of age of the human race. This has never happened before and can never happen again at any time upon this planet. This planet was not discovered when Muhammad appeared and America was not discovered when Christ appeared, nor much even of the Far East, so it was impossible for Christ and Muhammad, or the prophets before them, to stress the unification of man. First the world must be discovered, to stress the unification of man, the science must develop, then the world must contract. This makes the coming of age the culmination of the 6000 years process so important.*

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*Nothing more important could happen to man than reaching the age of 21.

Something happens inside him physically, psychologically and spiritually. Maturity is reached at age of 40, and that is due to the change that came over him at 21. What happens at 21 is more important than what happens at 40 or any other time of life because what happens at 40 is determined by what happened at 21. That is why the revelation of Bahá'u'lláh is so important. That is why those recognize it and turn to him are alive and those who turn away are as dead. *

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In the Íqán, page 178-181, Bahá'u'lláh gives all the stations of the manifestation of God. He quotes them. He says, "If we say we are servant we are right. If we say we are God, we are right. "Muhammad claimed only to be a messenger of God, the least challenging. Bahá'u'lláh did the opposite! He claimed to be the Revelation of God, the Glory of God. All reflect the Divine spirit, through the Mission of each is different.

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When one claims a high station, all lower ones are included in that statement. Previous prophets were all preliminary Manifestations, preparing the way for the promised one and those under His shadow, like John in the Revelation of Christ , and the Báb to Bahá'u'lláh. Because this is the cycle of maturity. We are now entering the third stage. It will gradually lead to world order, the offspring. It will pass through seven stages : 1- Obscurity, 2- Repression, 3- Emancipation , 4- Recognition, 5- Establishment, 6- Sovereignty, 7-Emerging of the Bahá'í world commonwealth. That means the coming of the age the human race, the establishment of the Most Great peace. This is the Golden Age, and the elevation of humanity. These processes will join and they will reach the stage of the birth of world civilization.

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*Palestine has undergone many changes and influences. First, it was the land of Canaa, and then King Saul made it a civic state, then David and Solomon were Kings who expanded its territories. For a long time it was a part of Ancient Babylon, then it became a part of the Medo-Persian Empire, and it was at that time that Jesus, the Christ, came, when Palestine was under the heels of Rome. Following that, it became a Moslem country controlled by the Moslems, the Turks, and the Arabs. Then it was an English mandate in 1918. From 1948, after the revolution, Israel has been a free state, the Moslems holding the Old city of Jerusalem and Jordan. **(Page 8)** it was in 1948, during the remarkable bloodless revolution, that 4,000,000 Moslems fled from the land and less than a million Jews marched in and began developing the land. The Jews have suffered far nearly 2,000 years because they persecuted Jesus the Christ, for three years. How long do you think the Moslem will suffer when they persecuted Bahá'u'lláh, the Glory of God, for fifty years. They will scatter and be persecuted greatly. The borders of Israel will be extended far beyond where they are today. The Jews do not know why they have

been called the "Chosen People." They have been chosen to come and build the state that will become the chalice, holding a precious jewel of the Bahá'í World Center, the capital of the world. What a great bounty is theirs. Some day they will know and appreciate the reality of being "Chosen" for such a great service.*

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On Page 75 in "Some Answered Questions" 'Abdul-Bahá said, the time would come when the whole of Palestine would return to the Jews. The Jews are now materialistic, and very nationalistic and not at all spiritual, the fundamental reason why the Jews after supporters of the faith of Bahá'u'lláh at its world center. This is their destiny their immediate destiny is to build up their state, which is very valuable to Faith.

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The Arabs would not do this. The Jews are cousins to the British in tenacity and courage. They fought very bravely when defending their faith. They have great thinkers and scientists among them. They have good scientists and keen businessmen, and this is needed to build this state which will become the chalice for the precious Jewel of Bahá'u'lláh.

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I asked the Guardian, "Which is the correct cave of Elijah on Mount Carmel? The larger is claimed by Moslems, the smaller higher cave by the Christian Carmelite monks, over which is the Carmelite church. The Guardian said that the smaller high cave is the correct one the cave in which all the prophets, major and minor had been. It is in this cave, which the monks have kept a candle burning for over 1700 years and a monk in constant attendance, looking in 1888 when Bahá'u'lláh revealed the Tablet of Carmel in a loud voice so that the priests and monks could hear Him.

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*It is important, the Guardian said, to memorize the tablet of Carmel. It is on page 14 in gleanings. Then he continued and said that Bahá'u'lláh is founder of the shrines on Mt.Carmel, and much more. He is the Founder of the whole set of institutions on Mt.Carmel. He is the Founder of all the administration and spiritual centers of the world commonwealth. The tablet of Carmel is the charter of the world center of the Faith. The will and testament of 'Abdul-Bahá is the charter of the administrative order. We will build according to the directions of this charter and the divine plan, or third division, which is the charter for the propagation of the faith. All these three from the charter for World Order. *(Page 9)** *

*It is almost six years since the armistice between the Jews and Arabs but there is no peace. They are hostile and vindictive. Fortunately, they are not united. This saves the Jews and protects as well. There are 4,000,000

Arabs in seven states and yet they were defeated by less than a million Jews, and yet they were defeated by less than a million Jews, and Jews defeated the British with their great armies. Then the Guardian smiled and explained how they did it without adequate men and arms.*

We are assured that the Jews will occupy all of Palestine. ‘Abdul-Bahá said this is in Some Answered Questions, also the British secretary Balfour stated it. Israel, to many means homes. Israel means "Blessing", means "God", Israel hastening to God, or the blessings from God." The decline of Islám is beginning.

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The Arabs suffered great defeat because they persecuted and did not respond to the call of Bahá'u'lláh, and millions of Arabs left Israel and one million Jews moved in. How will the Jews get the Land? The Arabs will make trouble and the Jews will drive them out and the country will be extended. The destiny of Israel is to become a Bahá'í state. They will support the International institutions of the Faith. World opinion is now Pro-Arab. It will later become Pro-Israel. The Jews have suffered long, their reward is now to become a Bahá'í state.

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The only hope for man is obedience to the laws and precepts of his chosen messenger, Bahá'u'lláh.

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The young people should go out and work on the farms and work with their hands. The new race of men will be wholly devoted to the service of Bahá'u'lláh. "Should a man do so much for religion that he should neglect his family responsibilities, he should never do anything to disrupt the unity of the home."

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The guardian was speaking about the Mormons. He said that Joseph Smith was a seer, not a prophet, neither major nor minor; that he had high standards, but we have the power that comes from word of God for this age, which they do not have until turn to Bahá'u'lláh.

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The prophets are the mirrors reflecting the attributes of God. The Quakers do not have a prophet, therefore they do not have the power, and through they think they do.

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*The Bahá'ís of Asia and America need shock treatment. American Bahá'ís

needs a shock and they will have a shock. The American Bahá'ís must be different. They must act as though they were distinguished, above people of other types and means.*

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Then he described the processes in teaching the Faith, first, there is attraction, then there is interest, then is conversion, but more especially after confirmation.

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No one speaks English, as does our Guardian. Each word is a jewel of perfection. He spoke frequently of the shrine of the Báb as the Queen of Mt. Carmel, seated on her white throne with her garments of white trimmed ermine, and her crown of shining gold.

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The End.

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