



NINETY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY 1973



Published by
THE RECORDING SECRETARY,
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR,
MADRAS 600020, INDIA

MAY 1974

Price Rs. 8

May 1974

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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

TO THE 98TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Adyar, December 26, 1973

It is a great happiness to welcome you to this 98th Convention of the Theosophical Society. The number of members from the Indian Section seems larger than usual and it is particularly rewarding to see so many friends from other parts of our far-flung Theosophical world.

Let us remember the thousands of our brotherhood who for many reasons cannot be here at Adyar this week. They are with us in spirit and our goodwill flies around the world to each and every one.

Let us hope that this may prove to be a Convention that will inspire us all to renewed efforts and that the spirit of true brotherhood may pervade every heart. If we can leave outside the gate many problems of yesterday and live each new day here in an atmosphere that is open and free, we shall all be changed; for wherever Theosophists gather together to re-dedicate themselves to the search for Truth and the service of their fellows, there inevitably comes a corresponding Blessing from Those who are both at the same time the Masters of the Wisdom and the Guardians of the Race. (*Rise, Brethren*)

May Those who are the embodiment of Love Immortal, bless with Their protection the Society established to do Their will on earth; may They ever guard it by Their power, inspire it with Their wisdom, and energize it by Their activity.

(Be seated)

Many of us who were here last year, and on a number of other occasions in the last few years, are very conscious of our late President and much loved

Brother N. Sri Ram. As we miss his presence so do we think of his calmness, his gentleness and his wisdom, which remain with us always.

When the Society was planned 100 years ago, it was perhaps already foreseen that there would be much chaos in the world of today and that the Society would be a light in the darkness. However if we as members are to help effectively in any field, we must really know that field, so that the work we do for this Society, the guidelines we have to offer, as a learned member recently put it, to those who live in the turmoil of modern life must be related to what is actually happening. The world of today is so different from that world of the last century that we may reasonably question whether our methods are sufficiently in line with present needs. A simple advertisement in a newspaper, which was more than adequate even fifty years ago, does not suffice today. To be effective, advertising must be more striking to the eye. Similarly in most parts of the world, one must use bright covers on books if one wishes to sell them, although, of course, the content is what is important. We may question whether the principles of Theosophy do not have to be presented in a different way by using television, radio, newspapers, magazines, mass media, and whether we should not definitely consider the usefulness of public relations officers to help us with such publicity. In bringing about this change, however, it is extremely important that we should not indulge in any kind of vulgar propaganda which might seem to make our

mission cheap. One need not decry propaganda as such, but one should be very clear that it is the truths of the Divine Wisdom which the Society is here to disseminate.

The General Council of the Society normally meets once a year at Adyar and is attended for various obvious geographical reasons by only a small percentage of its membership. I am wondering, therefore, for the future, whether it would not be fairer to them and more useful for the good of the work as a whole if we were to try to remedy the situation, so that more members of the General Council can in fact play an active part in the decisions of the Society other than by correspondence. We have a European Federation and an Inter-American Federation and one might envisage the development of a third Federation covering S. E. Asia, Australia and New Zealand, formed along similar lines. As in Europe and America, this third Federation might also hold a congress once every three years. These Federation Congresses could provide the venue for additional meetings of the General Council, which would deal with broad policy and many other questions; and, if they were conveniently spaced, nearly every General Secretary would be able to come to an official meeting of the General Council at least once every three years, which is not possible at present. The regular Council meetings at Adyar would then be better equipped to discuss Theosophical problems arising in any part of the world. This is one way, I feel, that we could develop our work at the international level, making the Governing Body of the Society more effective and dynamic.

While the Society should stand firm for the enduring principles of the Wisdom in the midst of the storm, we have to be concerned with the wider aspects of that brotherhood to which we all belong and

consider how more help may be given to groups and nations with which we have as yet little contact. May there not one day again be Theosophical work in the Soviet Union? Can we not hope that the vast Chinese population may some day be open to contact with the Theosophical view of life? Should we not be producing literature in Arabic, for a part of the world which has not, it is true, shown much response to Theosophy, but for which we have in fact ourselves not been providing much opportunity?

We need research teams, partly to bring out from our Archives the many treasures of the past which could inspire the membership of today, especially in relation to the phases that the world is passing through. When the Astronauts go to the moon, what have we as students of Theosophy to say about the moon? When exciting experiments are made which explore the sensitivity of plants, for instance, should we not be able to put forward a Theosophical viewpoint, if not some explanation which might be of value to a field far wider than our own? When Science is able, as it is now, to photograph with Kirlian photography what has up to now been invisible to the physical eye, what have we to say? There is great need for us to be taking a more active part publicly in what is going on, and for this we need qualified people here at Adyar, as well as in other places, to undertake research. Much has been done by our microfilming unit to record many important items in our Archives and in the Adyar Library. This is a very important work, and might be increased. Copies of such material could be sent to other Theosophical Centres, and in their turn these Centres might be encouraged to send to Adyar copies of archival material which does not exist here.

In a totally different field, we are opening here a centre for Child Welfare. This

could also become a centre of family planning for the workers on our Estate; for the population problem governs Indian life more than any other single factor.

Looking at the world situation as a whole, we cannot fail to notice the very different conditions, needs, interests and happenings in East and West. Many younger people in the West—and not only the young—who have had plenty of food in wide variety and many luxuries, are beginning to realize that these do not of themselves bring happiness. Many children see that though their parents have amassed material possessions, motorcars, refrigerators, television sets, etc., they are yet often unfulfilled and frustrated people. So these children turn away from material values to seek deeper, spiritual meanings in life. We admire the advances of Science, which render life easier in many respects for vast numbers of people; but if the individual man becomes too dependent on outside factors, such as machines, there is likely to be lack of initiative in himself.

In India, and in other countries, where economic conditions are not yet much changed by technology, entirely different conditions reign. For here, the large majority of people have never had anything like enough of anything; many are not even able to have more than one meal a day. One is forced to ask the question: "Can one give up something one has never had?" We may have to wait until such time as India has had all the things she needs before she turns again towards the deeper spiritual values of her past heritage. If it is the dharma of the Society to make Theosophy available to the world, and through some understanding of its deeper teaching by individual members to bring about changes in the world about us, we have to approach the world of today in more than one way. There must be much reorganization at

Adyar in preparation for the Centenary Convention in 1975, and it is to be hoped that a number of willing and competent members may come from abroad and other parts of India to assist in what will be a major undertaking. At the same time there may be planning for a longer period. The School of the Wisdom here has occupied an important place in the yearly curriculum and has been of great use to those who attended it, all of whom will be grateful to those hard-working members who have been in charge each year. But in considering the expansion of this work there might perhaps be a continuing constructive curriculum, so that any member coming to Adyar would feel rewarded not only by the atmosphere of what Dr. Besant used to call "a flaming centre," but also by feeling that he has been greatly benefited by what Adyar has to offer in the way of what was earlier referred to as "guidelines".

Our international magazine, *The Theosophist*, has a strong appeal to a certain kind of person whom one would wish to see in greater numbers in our Society's membership. It presents a high standard of excellence, but many of the articles there are not readily understood by large sections of our membership, especially where English is not the mother tongue. There is much to be said for the development of a second magazine, in a lighter vein and covering a wider field, to act as a stepping stone towards a more earnest and deeper interest in Theosophy. Such a magazine might also give information about study courses and pamphlets that are available in different countries, books that have been published, and other information which may not otherwise be known between one country and another. A journal of this sort would probably both strengthen the work and facilitate an exchange of ideas.

In the old days there were roof talks given by various Presidents and others every week. Their value lay not only in the instruction given or received, but also in the fact that those living here came together and felt united in a common work. Roof talks might be given by various members who have something special to contribute; they could be informal and perhaps have that lightness of touch of which Dr. Arundale used to speak.

Just as the Society has been tested often enough in the past, so today, before we venture into the new century of our existence, we shall probably pass through moments of great testing, in which Those who have eyes to see will discover the men and women among us who are deeply true to the real purpose of our work, ready to make sacrifices for the cause, and constantly awake to the opportunities which the changing pattern of events continuously presents. Let real Theosophy shine in our lives, each one remaining free to express it as he will. All is within the Brotherhood of Life, and we may live our Theosophy by redressing wrong wherever we find it, so long as we are at the same time minding our own business in relation to the freedom of others. Theosophy is there to help us to discover ourselves. The One is in All, and we recall the words of the Christ: I am in You, and You are in Me. We do not need to prove Theosophy to anyone, nor indeed can we do so. We can only try to understand it ourselves. And as we pursue the way of our choice, we have to realize that others have a similar freedom to choose. If each is true to himself, the brotherhood among ourselves will be strong and real, full of understanding and friendship and practised always with consideration for others. Each man is free to use his own judgment and may ask himself how deep his real

commitment is. Theosophy is so vast that new facets may be discovered by everyone at all times, so that each individual can bring something of change to what we already have. From an understanding of this, it follows that we should accept each other as we are; hold out a hand of friendship, with a forgiving heart, across any barriers which might conceivably exist among us, and realize that the temperaments, characters, and inclinations of others are often just as much problems for them as they are for us.

All this, if we really believe that we are never left without the inspiration that comes from the true Founders, can create a new spirit out of which new developments may grow. Our future usefulness depends on ourselves and the type of instruments we can together offer to those Elder Brothers who brought the Society into being, and whether such instruments can serve Their purposes again now. Bearing this in mind, let us work without and within, as though we really were freeing ourselves from the limitations of time and earnestly learning to take Eternity and eternal values seriously.

In the early days of the Society the word "duty" frequently appeared in letters received by our leaders from the Mahātmās. The word is out of fashion, but it could well color our lives more vividly, particularly as we look at the unswerving purpose of the Founders of our Society and what they achieved almost alone in a hostile world, because of their refusal to be drawn aside into interests of less importance than the work committed to their charge. We, too, may feel that there could descend into our consciousness some reflection of that supreme Will, which can irrevocably change our lives.

All the Sections in their reports express their deep love for Mr. Sri Ram and appreciation of his wisdom and of his

work for the Society. Especially is this true of the Indian Section in which he was active almost to the day of his death.

The Vice-President, Mr. James S. Perkins, was called to Adyar to take charge of the Society's affairs as Acting-President during the interim period of the Presidential Election. Mr. Perkins immediately responded and together with Mrs. Kathrine Perkins left Sydney in Australia where they were resident at that time and arrived in Adyar on May 2nd. On behalf of our worldwide membership I should like to express to the Vice-President our most grateful thanks for all he has done during these last seven months to keep the work of the Society going. It is no easy task to have to make decisions which must at the same time be of such a nature that they do not limit the freedom of action of the President-to-be. We wish them both every success and happiness in their life ahead.

Miss Joy Mills, in her report of the *American Section* gives a picture of tremendous activity in many fields of work, especially in study, training of workers, and publishing. The Educational Department supplies slides, tapes, tape-visuals, films, manuals and study courses to branches and groups. The publishing work, and especially the Kern Foundation, suffered a severe loss with the death of Miss Helen Zahara, who had worked untiringly in this field. The Kern Foundation recorded 78 titles under the Quest Book imprint, and in addition to the two Quest Book Shops in New York and Seattle there are now 33 branches and centres selling publications. Preparations are under way for a third Quest Book Film to be released to coincide with the Society's Centenary. Broadcasting continues to be effective. There are also lecture tours, summer schools and the four camps in different parts of the country, owned by the Section, are open to visitors

all through the summer. Continuing programmes in a number of fields are offered to all age groups in a multiple family setting. The Section has many plans for 1975. The membership now stands at 6044.

In *England*, Miss Ianthe Hoskins reports continued programmes of lectures and study courses at Headquarters in London, attracting large numbers, including many young people. Features of the work in the English Section are the conferences, seminars, camps and study week-ends held in Tekels Park, a country estate owned by the Society. As an experiment this year two Conventions were held, one in London in April and the other later in the Summer in Harrogate, in the north of England. These were both well supported, as was the Summer School at High Leigh at which members from Germany, Holland and Austria were also present. The Theosophical Publishing House in London has had a particularly successful year. The membership now stands at 2250.

Indian Section: The expansion programme of the General Secretary, Mrs. Radha Burnier, has continued. From the Headquarters in Varanasi lecturers have been sent systematically to weaker areas to organize study and training camps and new lodges. Both the General Secretary and the Joint General Secretary, Mr. Krishnamacharyulu, have been indefatigable in carrying out this work. Besides translations and reprintings of more than ten books in various languages (Gujerati, Bengali, Kannada, Malayalam, Telugu and English), there are now plans to extend the use, within the Indian Section, of other communication media. Between November 1974 and February 1976, covering the centenary year, arrangements will be made for Theosophical material to appear in magazines and newspapers, and for broadcasts from various radio

stations. The membership now stands at 7721.

Australia: In accordance with the rules of the Australian Section, Miss Ruth Beringer relinquished her post as General Secretary after five consecutive terms and Mrs. Elaine Murdoch took over the work. Miss Beringer had worked and travelled widely in the Section, with a deep sense of dedication. The National Headquarters and Blavatsky and Isis Lodges have moved to temporary premises, pending the completion of a new 14-storey office block in North Sydney next year. Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan, the Librarian in the Adyar Library and Research Centre, was the Guest Speaker at the Annual Convention held in the beautiful Lamington Park. Mrs. Neelakantan also visited many Lodges and conducted a seminar on World Religions in Adelaide. The 15 minute Theosophical broadcasts on Sunday evenings have continued, and these and magazine articles and book sales indicate a growing interest in Theosophy. The membership now stands at 1927.

Sweden: Mr. Curt Berg reports that the Swedish Section has moved its Headquarters to new premises with improved facilities for contact with the public and for the book-shop and library. A study course on Raja Yoga was held as well as others and the Scandinavian magazine *Teosofi in Norden* is published. The April Convention was held in Stockholm with the General Secretary of Denmark, Mr. Preben Sorensen, as Guest Speaker. Miss Ianthe Hoskins was the Guest Speaker at the joint Scandinavian Summer School at Tranberg in Norway. The membership now stands at 349.

New Zealand: Several delegates were sent to the international seminar on youth and environmental conservation in the United States but the emphasis has been more to direct the "crest wave" of action

from purely physical ecological subjects to the subtler planes. During Convention the General Secretary, Mr. Brian Dunningham, dealt with "Spiritual Ecology for Mankind," supported by many other lecturers. An especial highlight in the Section was the visit of Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan and the arrival of Mr. Dudley Gower to live in New Zealand. The establishment of the Mason Foundation on the lines of the Kern Foundation in America has accelerated publicity and advertising campaigns, and *Theosophy in New Zealand* has attracted new subscribers, thus proving its spiritual usefulness. By these means Theosophy is being made more readily accessible and relevant to everyday issues of life and the Society in New Zealand grows stronger. The membership now stands at 1165.

The Netherlands: Mrs. N. van der Schoot-Groot writes that the summer school and study week dealing with astrology were well attended and also the Convention lectures and weekly classes throughout the year. The October Convention was a study of the Byzantine rite of Catholicism and Religion in Eastern Europe. The membership now stands at 1066.

France: Monsieur Lancri states that large audiences attend the lectures and weekly courses in Theosophy at the Headquarters in Paris. The work proceeds satisfactorily also in other towns. Monsieur Georges Tripet was the Guest of Honor at the Annual Convention, at which a revision of the Rules of the Section was undertaken. This is the 78th year of publication of the magazine *Le Lotus Bleu*, which was founded by H.P.B., is produced conjointly with the Belgian and Swiss Sections and proves attractive reading to many. The membership now stands at 1221.

Italy: Signor E. Bratina reports increasing interest in Yoga, Meditation and Spiritualism and stresses the need for

members to put forward the importance of the spiritual aspect of these subjects. The Section magazine, *Revisto di Teosofia*, is popular with members. Mme. Sabetay was the guest at the Convention, which received good press and radio publicity. The membership now stands at 566.

Germany: Frau Anneliese Stephan states that the German Summer School was held at Hustedt/Celle, with Mr. and Mrs. Barborka and Mrs. Leslie-Smith as guests. Interest in Theosophy has been sustained in Bad-Homburg since the 70th anniversary meetings held there in 1972. The membership shows a slight decrease in this period and now stands at 302.

Cuba: The eight Lodges continue active under the General Secretary, Sr. Dana Cruz-Bustillo Artigas. Each member receives *Revista Teosofica Cubana* free. The membership now stands at 390.

Finland: Miss Sirkka Kivilinna reports that many inquirers show interest in radio talks and interviews with students. But there is a need for real workers. Members took part in the joint Scandinavian Summer School. Several new Theosophical books have been published in Finnish and others are planned for the future. The membership now stands at 450.

South Africa: The General Secretary, Mrs. Bischoff, has toured all the Lodges in South Africa and Rhodesia. Johannesburg Lodge has bought a new property near the University and hopes for contacts with students. The membership now stands at 425.

Scotland: Mr. James Mitchell, the General Secretary, keeps the scattered membership in touch by newsletter, and by the study of *Yoga* by Ernest Wood. The membership now stands at 96.

Switzerland: Monsieur Georges Tripet, the General Secretary, reports much

activity. Three languages are involved in the work and pamphlets and books in foreign languages are produced with the help of the Meyer Fund. A paper in French, *Unité*, is produced by the Young Theosophists. Lecturers from abroad included Mme. Pearson-Laroute, Mme. Nine Grandi, Monsieur Lancri and Dr. Lauppert. Mr. Coats and Mrs. Leslie-Smith attended the Pays-Latin Summer School in 1972. The membership now stands at 230.

Burma: Translation of *The Key to Theosophy* is being undertaken, writes U Than Kyaing, the General Secretary. The membership now stands at 56.

Austria: Interest is increasing, especially in Graz, where the Adyar-Verlag publishing business is carried on by the General Secretary, Dr. Lauppert. Good co-operation has been established with the T.P.H. in London where the German translations of *The Abridgement of the Secret Doctrine* and E. L. Gardner's *Fairies* are to be printed. The German Regional Summer School was again held in Pichl, under the direction of Frau Claire Wyss, on the theme "Unity". Visiting lecturers to the Section included Mr. John Coats and Dr. Reinhard Fleming. Dr. Lauppert lectured in the German Section. The membership now stands at 246.

Norway: Mrs. Wessel-Nielson reports that many new people are finding their own way to the T. S., buying books and asking sincere questions. The combined Scandinavian Summer School, at which the Norwegian Section celebrated its 60th anniversary, was held very successfully at Tranberg with Miss Ianthe Hoskins as chief guest. The membership now stands at 138.

Denmark: The General Secretary, Mr. P. Sorensen, reports that this Section took part in a 4-week exhibition on the theme "The Journey Inwards," where

many T. S. books and pamphlets were sold and talks were given. The demand for the Section bulletin *Nu*, which is distributed free, grows so fast that expenses have to be watched. Danish translations of T.S. books are produced. A new Headquarters has been bought in Copenhagen and the renovation of the building was undertaken by enthusiastic members in preparation for the opening on November 17th, the 80th anniversary of the Section. Several smaller libraries have been combined to make the Section Library more comprehensive. The membership now stands at 283.

Canada: In the report for the Canadian Section Mr. Ted Davy states that patterns of life in Canada are changing and that the new style of Quest Books is much appreciated. With modern methods of communication it is possible to reach members even in remote districts. The Quest Book films have been sent for thousands of miles throughout the Section. Members attended a North American Students Conference at Olcott on "Roots of Theosophy". The facilities of the Olcott Library were much appreciated. Toronto Lodge suffered an almost disastrous fire in which many books, some "irreplaceable," were destroyed. Mr. Geoffrey Farthing from England, Mrs. Gool Minwalla from Pakistan and Mr. John Coats visited the Section during the year. The membership now stands at 299.

Argentina: Señor Farinich reports great activity in this Section. Mr. John Coats was a very welcome visitor and Señor Juan Viñas conducted a series of instructive lectures in Central America. The 56th Convention and Summer School at which Mr. Coats and Miss Joy Mills and representatives of other S. American Sections were present, took place at Embalse in April. Books are being published and distributed, and *El Teosofista*

is on sale on book stalls. The membership now stands at 758.

Chile: A report has been received from only one Lodge in Chile, but study continues there, writes Signor Quintanella, with group celebrations of special days in the Theosophical calendar. The membership of the Lodge now stands at 13.

Brazil: There has been much inter-Section activity in Brazil, reports Senhor Sales, with Señor Juan Viñas revitalizing groups wherever he has travelled. Many books have been published and weekly articles have appeared regularly in papers, with a wide circulation. The Young Theosophists and the T.O.S. are active and a campaign against the use of drugs has been initiated. The membership now stands at 840.

Iceland: The General Secretary for Iceland, Mr. Sigvaldi Hjálmarsson, reports that three summer seminars were held during the year. The Section organ *Gangleri* has been issued as formerly and its subscribers have increased considerably. In addition to this a newsletter, *Mundilfari*, is published, containing news and information on Theosophical endeavor and its nature; every effort in Iceland is bent towards increasing the standard of the Society's information output. The many young people who joined there in the early sixties have now reached full development and this generation is presently assuming the leadership.

Portugal: Active work has continued under the General Secretary, Professor Delio Nobre Santos. Dr. Cesina Bermudes, who travels widely, gave translations for the lectures delivered in French at the Summer School of the Pays-Latin Region. An optimistic spirit prevails. The membership now stands at 186.

Wales: Mr. Harry Edgar, the General Secretary, reports the celebration of the golden jubilee of the Section. The Headquarters of the Section in Cardiff

has been sold and new and more suitable premises bought. Study of the works of H.P.B. are much appreciated and younger people are now joining. The membership now stands at 78.

Uruguay: This Section was the host at a seminar for Theosophical study under the patronage of the Inter-American Federation. The new Headquarters is being put in order, and in the Lodges there is a deep interest in a wide variety of books, reports Señor Justo de la Vega. The membership now stands at 181.

Puerto Rico: The General Secretary, Mr. Seymour Ballard, states that activity continues, and that the Section was represented at the council of the Inter-American Federation in Argentina. The membership now stands at 59.

Yugoslavia: Regular work continues everywhere. The General Secretary, Mrs. Grubacevic, does translations of many Theosophical books and these are distributed in duplicate copies to the Lodges for study. The Section suffered a great loss through the death of Dr. Duro Robotic. Mr. John Coats visited the Section and the General Secretary toured all the Lodges. The membership now stands at 75.

Sri Lanka (Ceylon): Mr. Pedris reports that the work is carried on by a small group of dedicated members. Adyar Day, known as Olcott Day in Sri Lanka in memory of the President-Founder's work for Buddhism, was celebrated in conjunction with many prominent citizens. The Section suffered the loss of Mr. N. K. Chosky, Q.C., a member of many years' standing. The membership now stands at 74.

Greece: The members have to contend with very fluctuating difficult political conditions, but work continues, with Mr. Melissaropoulos as General Secretary. The membership now stands at 241.

Central America: The complication in this Section, writes Señora Madrigal Nieto, is that it comprises several countries, and passports are required when visiting Lodges. The disastrous earthquake last December in Nicaragua brought problems which members hastened to solve. Although members in Managua lost everything, not one of them was killed, but Theosophical work has had to be suspended for the time as the members have now been scattered. Mr. John Coats and Señor Viñas were very welcome visitors to the Section. The membership now stands at 115.

Philippines: Mrs. Gregorio reports that great political changes have affected the work and there was at one time a fear that the T. S. might be banned. But the work continues with Library and Bookshop proving attractive to the public. The Order of the Round Table has been formed, a Young Theosophists group re-formed, and an active T.O.S. and Healing Group are also working. More discussion leaders are needed. The membership now stands at 253.

Colombia: Particular emphasis is given to work for youth, with co-operation between members of all ages. The Order of the Round Table and the Young Theosophist Group are active. Señor Alfonso Ortiz writes that courses in Self-Realization are being published. The membership now stands at 123.

East Africa: Mr. Chhaya, the General Secretary, reports that the Section lost over 300 members with the expulsion of Indians from East Africa; but more than half that number have since joined the Society, most of them as the result of the visit to the Section of Mrs. Mehra Dhalla from Bombay, for whom television interviews were arranged. An encouraging sign is that some African people are now joining the Society. The membership now stands at 1078.

Northern Ireland: The recently elected Organizing Secretary, Mr. A. Rodriguez, records the difficulties of carrying on Theosophical work in the present disturbed conditions in Northern Ireland. However, devoted members continue to meet. New premises have been found and work recommenced after the summer break. Dr. Hugh Shearman, who resigned the office of Organizing Secretary after twenty years of dedicated service, continues active. The membership now stands at 39.

Viet Nam: Since receiving this report we learn with much regret of the death of the General Secretary, Mrs. Nguyen thi Hai. She had reported that in spite of almost war conditions there is great Theosophical activity in Viet Nam. Books, including *The Secret Doctrine*, have been mimeographed and distributed and booklets issued at very low prices. With help from the Australian Section and other members, an Orphanage is maintained. The visit of Mr. and Mrs. Hodson was a great inspiration to the members. The membership now stands at 1116.

Venezuela: "Business as usual," reports Señor Bonilla, the General Secretary. New and very capable members have recently joined the Section. The membership now stands at 40.

Bolivia: Here "business as usual" is reported by the General Secretary, Señor Cariaga Aramayo. Mr. John Coats and Miss Joy Mills visited the Section. The membership now stands at 38.

Canadian Federation: Mrs. Ida Stephen reports a number of new Lodges in the French-speaking province of Quebec, but emphasizes that if these are to continue there is an urgent need for members fluent in both French and English. Mr. John Coats was a most welcome visitor and Dr. Phan Chon Ton, now a lecturer in Alberta University, a very interesting lecturer. The membership now stands at 178.

Federation of European Sections: Most Sections have held their own Summer Schools, but as well as these, Regional Schools are arranged according to language areas. In Norway a Scandinavian school was held, in Austria a German Regional School, and the Pays-Latin Regional School in Tremezzo in Italy. At this last, the meetings of the Executive Committee and Council took place. The Chairman, Mrs. Leslie-Smith, attended several of these gatherings. The Council decided to pay the travelling expenses of Mme. de Berg, a Russian member now living in Belgium, to go to Israel to give talks and instruction in Russian to refugees to Israel from Russia. Unfortunately, we have since learned that, owing to the war, this visit has had to be postponed. An important International week took place in Huizen, presided over by Srimathi Rukmini Devi.

Malaysia: Mr. S. Narayanan, the Presidential Agent for Malaysia, reports that in the coming year action will be taken in Malaysia to tackle the inadequacy of dissemination of Theosophical information there. Plans are being considered to organize a South-East Asian or Pacific Convention in Malaysia in 1975/76, so that members travelling to or from the international centennial Convention at Adyar may participate.

Israel: Reports from the Lodges show them to be very much concerned with the newly arrived immigrants from Russia. The language difficulties in Israel are considerable, with a population gathered from all over the world. But work goes ahead in spite of the war and plans are being made for the future; translations into Hebrew of Theosophical books, lectures, study, meditation and the formation of groups of Young Theosophists, are all being undertaken. Miss Ilse von Tresckow was the guest of honor at the Annual Convention.

Singapore: Mr. Lim Khay Guan, the President of Singapore Lodge, reports continued activity, with visits from Dr. Jean Raymond, Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan and Mr. and Mrs. Hodson. Books and pamphlets have been gratefully received from Adelaide Lodge in Australia.

Japan: From Nippon Lodge, Tokyo, Mrs. Emiko Tanaka, the President, mentions that the work is severely handicapped by the lack of Theosophical material in Japanese. Efforts are being made to remedy this situation and she herself is working on C. W. Leadbeater's *Invisible Helpers*, *The Abridgement of The Secret Doctrine* and *The Key to Theosophy*.

Bangladesh: The Comilla Lodge in Bangladesh is one of the oldest Lodges in the world, dating back to 1889. Unfortunately, during the period of hostilities the premises were illegally occupied by Pakistani troops and even after the liberation the building remained in the hands of a political party. In spite of representations to the Government this occupation continues and all old records, furniture and rare books seem to have disappeared. But despite all difficulties weekly Lodge meetings are held in the house of a member.

Peru: H. P. B. "A" Lodge, Lima. There seems to be an intense interest in acquiring Theosophical literature in Lima at this time and the Lodge President, Mr. Augusto Bardales, points out that this awakening is a very important and vital development. Already, though the Lodge has hardly existed for one year, it has presented 124 public lectures. The group is still in its incipient stages of growth and has only 38 members, but from the way things are maturing it seems that in the future this Lodge and others which may be formed in Lima, a great city of over three million inhabitants, will play a dominant part in the

development of Theosophical studies on the West coast of South America.

As is inevitable, there have been a number of members who have passed on during the last year and among them several who have distinguished themselves specially in the Theosophical cause. First among them, of course, is our greatly appreciated late President—Mr. N. Sri Ram—of whom mention has already been made in this report. From America came the news early in the year of the death of Miss Helen Zahara, who had just returned from a journey which had included her visit to Adyar last winter. She had served under Mr. Jinarājadāsa as Recording Secretary, and as General Secretary of Australia for a number of years. A traveller on behalf of the Society, she was well known around the world and had been particularly active in the United States for the past few years, where she had played a leading role in the putting forward of projects for the consideration of the Trustees of the Kern Foundation, and in the distribution of funds received from that source. The Quest Book publications have been largely under her direction, and she was vice-chairman of the Non-English Publications Loan Fund. Mr. N. K. Choksy, who for many years was General Secretary in Sri Lanka, and Madame Nguyen thi Hai, who has guided the destinies of the Viet Nam Section through the very difficult period of the prolonged war that has raged in her country over past years, were also lost to us. Mr. J.E. van Dissel, who was for 21 years General Secretary and Chairman of the European Federation, passed away recently. Whilst in England during a large part of the war, he laid the foundations for the reestablishment of our work in Europe after hostilities ceased. It is due largely to his efforts that the work in Europe was able to start again so quickly and so well.

Mrs. Adeltha Peterson, who lived for about 38 years in Adyar and became known in India as Sita Devi, died in July after a full life of service to the Society in many capacities, from the time when she assisted Dr. Arundale until shortly before she became ill. Dr. Alfred Taylor, who was in charge of the School of Theosophy at Krotana in California for several years, and Mr. Harry Banks, for long years National Lecturer for the New Zealand Section, are among the many other devoted workers who have passed away, many of whom may have labored quietly in the background of our activities, and to whom we all owe our gratitude.

During the year Miss Joy Mills, following her trip to India last year, visited a number of countries in Latin America, including San Salvador, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru and Argentina, where she attended the Council Meeting of the Inter-American Theosophical Federation which was held in conjunction with the Section's summer school at Embalse. Over 300 members attended. Plans are now under way to hold the 5th Inter-American Conference simultaneously with the Centennial Congress of the Society in New York in 1975. Señor Juan Viñas toured extensively through South and Central America, attracting large audiences of young people. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson completed his term as Director of the School of the Wisdom at Adyar in March when he and Mrs. Hodson travelled through Singapore to Viet Nam and on to Perth in Australia. At present they are settled in Auckland, New Zealand. Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan, of Adyar, was guest speaker at the Australian Convention and toured the principal Lodges of the Section, where her contributions and talks were much appreciated. She also visited New Zealand and the Singapore Lodge. Smt. Rukmini Devi spent some months in Europe, presiding

over the International Week at the Huizen Centre and visiting lodges and summer schools in Denmark, Switzerland, France and Austria. Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith, Chairman of the European Federation, was very active in Europe, attending summer schools in Germany, Austria and Italy. I myself visited Austria, Yugoslavia and several countries of eastern Europe, and then in the winter travelled to a number of Lodges of the Indian Section in Andhra and the North. Most of this year, I have been in South, Central and North America, visiting nearly all the Sections and national groups. The number of younger people joining the Society in this area is particularly noteworthy.

Many Sections mention the work of the Theosophical Order of Service which, though inactive in a number of countries, is nevertheless beginning to attract greater attention in many places, as offering a means whereby the member can find a way to practise the ideals we cherish.

The World Federation of Young Theosophists has groups working in many countries, issues a number of magazines and is attracting an increasing interest with its activities which vary from deep study of *The Secret Doctrine*, on the one hand, to more socially oriented meetings on the other.

The 24th Session of the School of the Wisdom at Adyar closed on March 16th 1973. A total of 33 registered students included representatives of twelve nations. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, Director of Studies, inaugurated the session which was characterized by an extraordinarily fine lecture programme. Mr. Hodson lectured 3 times a week, covering all phases of Theosophical teaching, while on alternate days speakers included Mr. N. Sri Ram, Mr. K. Sankara Menon, Dr. Jean Raymond, Dr. Kannan, Mrs. Radha Burnier, Mr. Krishnamacharyulu

and many others. Unfortunately it was not found feasible to hold a session of the School this year, but plans for next year are in hand.

The Librarian of the Adyar Library and Research Centre states that modern methods were introduced in the care and preservation of many valuable books and manuscripts, including the airconditioning of the stackroom where the MSS. are stored—together with the micro-filming laboratory. The standard of the Adyar Library Bulletin and other publications in the Adyar Library Series was improved and better facilities were extended to scholars from within and outside India who use the Library for research. Publications and sales have increased steadily and the Bulletin now records 132 exchanges and 170 subscribers. There have been contributions from many well-known scholars. During the year 4000 books were received, 1133 of which were donated by our late President, Brother N. Sri Ram.

The president of the Theosophical Islamic Association, Prof. H. E. Hakim, reports that membership is slowly increasing and now stands at 40. This year the head of the Sufi Movement, Mashaik Fazal Inayat Khan, the son of the renowned Sufi leader and restorer, Hazrat Inayat Khan, visited Adyar and conferred with the Islamic Association about their developing programme. With the co-operation of several Muslim scholars in India, the association is now undertaking the translation and publication of a good number of important books into Urdu, such as Dr. Annie Besant's booklet *Beauties of Islam* and *The Gospel of Islam* by Duncan Greenlees.

At Adyar there have been some changes in the staff working there. In October 1972 Miss Carin Citroen, who had been Superintendent of Leadbeater Chambers for the year, transferred to the Recording Secretary's Office, also assisting in *The Theosophist* office. Mrs. Alwyn Mielchel resumed her position as Superintendent of Leadbeater Chambers, until July 1973, when Mrs. J. Jayewardene was appointed. Mr. T. Jayewardene was appointed Superintendent of the Garden Department in April 1973. Following the passing of Mr. Sri Ram, Miss Carin Citroen performed the secretarial duties for Mr. James Perkins when he became Acting-President, relieving Mrs. Bridget Paget who had been doing Mr. Sri Ram's secretarial work in addition to remaining Assistant Editor of *The Theosophist*. Mrs. Ruth Espin, who had been assisting in Leadbeater Chambers, took over the Archives Department in February 1973, as there had been no full-time worker in this department since the departure of Mr. Zoltán de Álgya-Pap a year earlier.

It is useful to mention again the position of some of our special funds in relation to the tax position in India today. Donations made to the ABC Fund, with the directive that they be added to the Capital of the Fund, are exempt from Income Tax. Donations made to the Century Fund will be exempt until the end of 1975, by which time, of course, it is our intention to have exhausted the Fund for the purposes for which it was started. Donations sent to other Funds will largely be treated as income for tax purposes and so it is better meanwhile for donations to be earmarked specifically for one or other of the two Funds mentioned above.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT:

In the current year the expenditure under the heads 'Miscellaneous' and 'Salaries and Wages' have gone up by Rs. 8,225/- and Rs. 9,662/- respectively. The increase under the head 'Miscellaneous' is mainly due to increase in the maintenance expenditure of the T.S. cars consequent to increase in the price of petrol and two major repairs carried out on two of the cars. The revision of pay structure during the year has resulted in increase of expenditure under the head 'Salaries and Wages'. The deficit for the year is Rs. 8,706/-

1. Adyar Library:

The gross deficit for the year has gone down by Rs. 1,299/- owing to the increase in sale of publications during the year by Rs. 9,319/-. There is not any substantial change in the net deficit during the year.

2. Bhojanasala:

The increase of the current year deficit by Rs. 4,465/- is mainly due to the considerable increase in the price of provisions, vegetables, etc., as compared with the rates charged for meals, etc. The rates have been revised from the middle of October 1973 to cover the increased cost of provisions and vegetables and also with the hope to meet the regular establishment expenses in running the department.

3. Garden Department:

In spite of the increase in income by Rs. 9,194/- under cultivation, the deficit of the department for the year is Rs. 15,707/- as against Rs. 10,600/- during last year. The increase in expenditure under the following account heads, viz. Rs. 5,664/- under 'Office Salaries' and Rs. 5,408/- under 'Ornamental' have resulted in the increased deficit in the current year.

4. Laundry Department:

The deficit has decreased by Rs. 3,046/- in the current year. There is an increase in income of Rs. 1,985/- under laundering charges and a fall in expenditure by Rs. 1,060/- in the current year.

5. Leadbeater Chambers:

The department shows a deficit of Rs. 1,595/- as against Rs. 5,213/- in the previous year mainly on account of increase in Mess income by Rs. 9,905/- in the current year.

6. Maintenance Department:

The increase under the head 'office salaries' by Rs. 9,905/- is the result of the revised scales of pay implemented during the year.

A new generator has been purchased during the year to cope with the power shortage caused by the frequent cuts in electricity imposed by the State Government.

7. The Theosophical Publishing House:

The steep fall in the net income by Rs. 67,927/- in the current year is owing to the fall in receipt of orders for printed sheets of books from abroad.

8. Vasanta Press:

This year a sum of Rs. 14,204/- paid as retirement allowance has been charged against the Retirement Allowance Reserve and Rs. 3,000/- has been provided for as fresh reserve for the year. The decrease in printing receipts in the current year is owing to the fall in receipt of orders for printed sheets of books from abroad.

BALANCE SHEET
1. A. B. C. Fund:

The receipts during the year amounted to about Rs. 90,000/-. As has been already specified in my circulars dated 24th November 1972 and 2nd April 1973, only donations made to the corpus of the A.B.C. Fund are exempt from tax as per the present Income Tax regulations prevalent in India and hence I wish to stress once again the need to specify clearly on all the donations sent to us that they are donations to the corpus of the A.B.C. Fund.

2. Century Fund:

The present balance stands at Rs. 433,717/- after the transfer of the Adyar Day collections of Rs. 72,645/- for the year. The donations made to this Fund will also be exempted from tax as we have applied to the Income Tax Department for exemption on the accumulations of this Fund till the conclusion of the centenary celebrations in 1975.

3. General Fund:

The sum of Rs. 269,093/- realised on disposal of a part of the rice fields during the year has been transferred besides the bequest for Rs. 19,329/- credited to this Fund.

Fees and Dues amounting to Rs. 147,180/- for the year have been credited to this Fund. The increase in the remittances by Rs. 68,341/- is owing to the receipts from U.S.A. for the years 1971-72 and 1972-73. The dues for 1971-72 were not remitted last year by the American Section, by oversight. Annual dues for 1972-73 have not been received by us from five Sections during the year.

ADYAR
12th December 1973

(MISS) TJIOE SIANG NIO,
Hon. Treasurer.

REPORTS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIES
OF NATIONAL SOCIETIES, FEDERATION
SECRETARIES, PRESIDENTIAL
AGENTS, ETC.

These reports in some instances have been translated
into English, edited or condensed in the office of the
Recording Secretary.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PROPHETIC indeed was the choice of a theme for the 1972 Convention-Summer School, "Facing the Winds of Change," for in the year that has followed those sessions, the winds have blown upon us in a way that might have disturbed the equilibrium of less stable organisms than The Theosophical Society. Growth is never achieved without change, however painful the change may be. We must not, we cannot, permit the winds that have assailed us this past year, and particularly in the last few months, to deflect us from our central purpose or to blind us to our greater opportunities.

In his Presidential Address to the 97th Convention of the Society, held at Adyar last December, Brother Sri Ram pointed out with that singular clarity which marked all his writings and speeches that what the world needs today is not more knowledge, not sensationalism, not wealth and material possessions, but rather "that Wisdom which can fill one's heart, soul and being, and enable one to face all problems with equipoise and discernment, and with results conducive to the greatest good of all concerned." If we are to "saturate time and eras," to infuse the theosophical spirit, the theosophical vision, into every area of human endeavor, then we must be wholly and completely possessed by that Wisdom, which H.P.B. in *The Voice of the Silence* referred to as "soul-wisdom." In our contemporary world, and in the annals of this Society, surely no one more beautifully exemplified that state of absorption in the wisdom of the heart than did the Society's fifth President, N. Sri Ram. His passing on April 8

may seem to have cast such a shadow on the Society that all other events of the past year are dwarfed thereby. Let us not lose perspective; rather, let us strive to see with greater clarity the unfinished agenda of our work. We must keep our eyes clearly focused on the wider horizon, perceiving what may yet be accomplished if we are faithful, as was our Brother Sri Ram, to that charge we have laid upon ourselves: "To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity . . ."

No member of our Society took that charge more seriously or worked more strenuously for its fulfillment, than that other stalwart who this year passed from our midst, Helen Vasanta Zahara. The cause of brotherhood was a constant burden on her heart; the path of compassion was a reality to be experienced in daily concourse, and life itself was meaningful only in service.

The Kern Foundation.—The name of Helen Zahara had become synonymous with the programs and activities carried out by the Society with the assistance of grants from the Kern Foundation. She had been the coordinator of the Kern Foundation programs and chairman of the programs committee, since the inception of the Foundation's operation. The growth in the number of activities receiving financial support from the Foundation was a tribute to her tireless energies in seeking ways in which the Foundation's purpose, the dissemination of the theosophical philosophy, could be fulfilled. Those of us who worked closely with her in the

development and administration of the several programs receiving Foundation grants must testify to the constant attention she gave to the sound management of those programs in terms of the best utilization of the resources available as well as of the most effective ways to achieve the broad purposes which the activities were designed to promote.

During the major portion of the year under review, Miss Zahara carried on the work with which she had become so closely identified as coordinator of the Kern Foundation programs, and as this report proceeds it will be apparent that no area of the Society's activities was left untouched by the impact created by one or another of the programs receiving Foundation support. The unexpected death of Miss Zahara on February 26, after a relatively brief illness, therefore posed a challenge to us all to insure that none of the programs would be in jeopardy and that the momentum established in the growth and development of the activities would not be lost. Two factors enabled us to proceed with confidence and without any faltering in our efforts. The first was the immediate assurance of the Kern Foundation Trustees, through Mr. John C. Kern, Advising Trustee, and Mr. Paul Williams, Vice-President of the Northern Trust Company, the Corporate Trustee, that they were available for advice and counsel and the every assistance would be placed at our disposal to see us through the period of reorganization. It would be difficult to express adequately my personal gratitude to these two colleagues in the administration of the Kern Foundation for their support, encouragement, and confidence during an extremely difficult time. Fortunately, Mr. Kern, who is a member of the Society and who also serves as a Trustee of the Theosophical Investment Trust, had already become greatly involved, through frequent con-

ferences with Miss Zahara and me, with all phases of the Kern Foundation sponsored activities, including fiscal policy and program management. Mr. Williams also had long taken a keen interest in many areas of the Society's activities supported or affected by the Kern Foundation grants; representing the Corporate Trustee, he had always made himself available for meetings with the National Board of Directors as well as with our Programs Committee. In the weeks and months following Miss Zahara's death, I have been able to turn to Mr. Kern and Mr. Williams not only for sympathetic understanding of the new needs that have arisen, but also for invaluable assistance in the development of new patterns of procedural arrangements.

During the past year, approximately \$291,000 has been disbursed to the Society by the Foundation to assist with or fully support the more than 20 programs authorized by the National Board of Directors and approved as recipients for grants by the Foundation's Trustees.

The Olcott Staff:—Before we summarize the activities of the past year, I must refer to the second factor which made it possible for the work to move forward without any loss of momentum although so valued and seemingly indispensable a colleague as Helen Zahara was suddenly removed from our ranks. That factor was the magnificent manner in which the entire Olcott Staff, my comrades in the work and life at our National Headquarters, met the emergency created by Helen's illness and subsequent death. Each year since I have been in office as your National President, I have sought for words that would express in some adequate measure my gratitude for the privilege of working with so splendid a group of Theosophists. This year it is even more difficult to put into words the thoughts of my heart as I

recall those days and nights of late February and early March when we had to learn anew lessons of courage and faith born of sorrow shared and crisis faced together. Not a single member of the Olcott Family held back in the hour of the Society's need; each one offered to shoulder added burdens, to assume whatever task might be necessary, as we moved ahead.

New administrative patterns had been instituted in the past fiscal year as the result of the election of Mrs. Ann Wylie to the vice-presidency of the Section. When she assumed that office in July, the National Board of Directors, accepting my recommendation, appointed Miss Elithe Nisewanger to the position of National Secretary. This enabled Mrs. Wylie to become administrative assistant to the National President, relieving me of a number of details in management. Miss Anne Storrs was transferred back to service as secretary to the National President. Following Miss Zahara's passing, Mrs. Diane Burckes, who had served as her secretary, immediately assumed a major role in assisting me with the coordination and management of the Kern Foundation programs and it was largely due to her complete familiarity with and competent grasp of the many aspects of those programs that I was able to deal with the overall coordination required to insure the smooth continuation and development of the Kern Foundation activities.

1972 Convention-Summer School: Visit of Rukmini Devi Arundale.—As I have already suggested, the 1972 Convention-Summer School, with its theme of "Facing the Winds of Change," set the keynote for the year under review. We were most fortunate to welcome again as our Summer Sessions guest, Srimati Rukmini Devi Arundale, whose several talks enriched our discussions in unique ways. The titles of two talks particularly emphasized

that even in the midst of change there is that which has permanency, and it is for us to discover a manner of life in which all changes can be comprehended without ourselves becoming disturbed or uncentered. Speaking on "The Message which Never Changes" and "The Art of Living Eternally," Mrs. Arundale recalled us to the vision of our essential purpose.

Happily, Mrs. Arundale, accompanied on her trip to the United States by her colleague, Mr. Peter Hoffman, could undertake a brief tour, including visits to several of the theosophical summer camps. Preceding her arrival at Olcott, she spoke in New York City and at the Northeast Federation meeting at Pumpkin Hollow Farm. Following the Summer Sessions, she and Mr. Hoffman were the principal speakers at the special workshop programs at Far Horizons Camp and at Camp Indralaya. A six-week lecture circuit took Mrs. Arundale on visits to Seattle, Portland, San Diego, Los Angeles, Ojai, Houston, Atlanta, Orlando, Washington, Baltimore and Boston, before her departure from this country in late September.

The National President's Travels.—In keeping with the recognition that the Society is indeed a world-wide body and that the work in one area must inevitably affect developments in other areas (for the winds of change cannot be confined to national boundaries), the Board of Directors authorized me this year to undertake a number of trips outside the United States, some in answer to specific invitations to meet with members in other Sections. Such trips have a unique importance not only in deepening our understanding of the international character of this Society, but also in setting the stage for the contemplated world programs to commemorate the Society's centennial in 1975.

In late July, I traveled to England to attend the English-speaking Region Summer School of the European Federation, held at the High Leigh Conference House in Hoddesdon, near London. Here some 150 members from all parts of the British Isles had come together to consider the theme, "To Know For Oneself." The roster of speakers included Mrs. Radha Burnier, General Secretary of the Indian Section, as well as all of the well-known workers throughout the English-Speaking Sections of the European Federation. A discussion on "Plans for 1975" enabled me to share information and ideas on the coming world conference scheduled for that year in New York City. The meetings at High Leigh were almost immediately followed by the 70th Anniversary Convention of the German Section, held at Bad Homburg near Frankfurt, Germany, coincident with official meetings of the European Federation Council at which I was invited to participate. At Bad Homburg some 200 members, representing 15 countries, considered the theme, "Schritte in die neue Zeit," or, as simply translated into English, "Steps Ahead." Once again, there was an opportunity to discuss with the European Federation some of the plans now under way for the 1975 meetings in New York and, in addition, I was invited to speak on "Theosophical Literature for Today," reviewing our Quest Book program and the policies which have guided us in the production of a literature keyed to the modern mind.

In December, accompanied by Helen Zahara, I traveled to Adyar for the third time since assuming office as National President. The trip's principal purpose centered on the holding of an International Publishing Conference, on which I shall report later in this summary. The visit to Adyar, of course, again gave me the opportunity to attend the meetings of

the General Council as representative of the American Section (Miss Zahara also attending as a Council member) and to take part in the 97th International convention. In addition, Miss Zahara and I took advantage of the opportunity afforded by such a journey to stop en route, first in Lisbon, where we met and addressed members of the Society in Portugal, and then in Madrid, where the Society cannot be active but where members continue to carry on such work as they can in small private meetings. Our return trip included a stopover in London for meetings with the council of the Theosophical Publishing House, London, thus further strengthening the links in our mutual efforts.

The major highlight of the entire trip to India on this occasion was the visit which had been arranged for Miss Zahara and me to Dharamsala, the hill station in the foothills of the Himalayas, where we were privileged to meet in private audience His Holiness, the Fourteenth Dalai Lama of Tibet, as well as a number of his associates in carrying on the work of the preservation of Tibetan literature and culture. Since our Publishing House had obtained world publication rights to the Dalai Lama's book, *The Opening of the Wisdom-Eye*, our discussions focused on the possibility of further cooperation in publishing material written by or under the auspices of His Holiness, in accordance with the Society's long-established role in recognizing the importance of all philosophical and religious traditions.

The third major trip outside our national boundaries took me to South America in April, principally for the purpose of attending the Inter-American Theosophical Federation council meetings which were held in conjunction with the Argentine Convention and Summer School at the resort area of Embalse de Rio Tercero, near Cordoba in Argentina.

Accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Loenholdt and Mrs. Margery Parks, I was able on this trip to visit a number of theosophical groups. Since Mr. and Mrs. Loenholdt had lived and worked for a number of years in El Salvador and Colombia, their fluency in Spanish made possible contacts which would otherwise have been missed or at least proven more difficult to effect. In conjunction, therefore, with the conference in Argentina, we were able to meet with members in San Salvador, Bogota, La Paz, and Lima. The Argentina conference, bringing together some 300 members from eight nations, gave renewed impetus to our hemispheric links in the Inter-American Federation, furthering plans for cooperative efforts throughout the Americas as well as for the Fifth Inter-American Conference which is to be held simultaneously with the 1975 centennial congress in New York City.

Last fall, I fulfilled a long-standing engagement to speak in Peoria, Illinois, and then traveled westward to attend the Northwest Federation meeting in Seattle, followed by visits to the branches in Denver, Missoula, Great Falls, Casper, Salt Lake City, and Albuquerque. Whenever a branch is able to expand into new and larger headquarters, it is a cause for rejoicing that growth is taking place. Consequently, I was extremely happy to share in the dedication last fall of new headquarters for the branches in Cleveland and in Fort Wayne. Following the South American trip, this spring, I met with the Texas Federation, conducted a seminar on *The Mahatma Letters* for the Northeast Federation, and spoke to both members and public in Boston.

Although it may appear that this year my visits throughout the Section have been minimal, I have felt that through the monthly CONTACT letter, sent to every branch and study centre, I have been able

to speak directly to every group. The reports submitted to me annually by the majority of branches and study centers also aid in keeping the administration informed on developments, including problems, in the various groups. Further, I have been encouraged by the numerous favorable comments from the members regarding my monthly column in *The American Theosophist*, "Perspective," which is intended to serve as a kind of regular letter to all the members in which I can report on my travels and share ideas that may be useful for our mutual consideration. In January, the CONTACT letter was sent not only to branches and study centers but also to every member, and the response was extremely gratifying, indicative of the fact that visits to the membership can be by written word and thought as well as by physical travel.

Lecture Tours and Field Work.—In addition to her numerous duties at Headquarters and to the trip to Adyar already mentioned, Miss Zahara found it possible last fall to take up some lecture assignments. In September, she was the guest speaker at the 90th anniversary of the Theosophical Society of St. Louis, also attended by Mrs. Margery Parks. Miss Zahara's fall itinerary included Buffalo and the Western New York Federation conference, Tulsa where the Texas and Mid-West Federations held their annual Inter-Federation meeting, a visit to the Orange County Study Center, and to San Diego for the annual West Coast Conference.

In conjunction with a private visit to the United States and Canada, Mr. Geoffrey Farthing, former General Secretary of The Theosophical Society in England, spoke to branches in San Diego, Santa Monica, and Los Angeles, and we subsequently arranged a brief tour for Mr. Farthing which included visits to

the groups in Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, New York, and Boston. In addition, Mr. Farthing was able to spend some days at our national headquarters and to give the Olcott Sunday lecture in November.

Last year, we announced the retirement from active service to the Society of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Layton, who had carried on for a number of years the major thrust of our field efforts through the Regional Expansion Programs. For some time previous to their retirement, the National Board of Directors had been discussing the need for a different type of program that would focus more precisely on follow-up work in newer groups or in groups that needed some revitalization through such assistance as could be given from the national level. It was agreed, therefore, to reduce the scope of our public activities in terms of major advertising for lecture or class series and to ask our field workers to give particular attention to areas which needed some specific help. It was recognized that such a program was not designed to attract the unusually large audiences that had been drawn to the Regional Expansion series, but it was hoped that we might begin the exploration of ways for strengthening the local base on which ultimately the work throughout the Section depends.

Mrs. Mattie Louise Gephardt, experimenting with a modified type of expansion program which included greater focus on training members to carry on the local work, devoted the fall months to assisting groups in Texas, visiting Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Austin, Harris County Study Center, Amarillo, and El Paso. The branch in Corpus Christi was enabled to reorganize with a substantial number of new members, and a new study center was formed in Fort Worth. During the spring months, Mrs. Gephardt carried her program to the Gulf Coast area, visit-

ing Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Covington, Mobil, and the Gulf Coast branch. A meeting of the Gulf Coast Federation, held in Biloxi, attracted excellent attendance, and new study centers were organized in Mobile and Baton Rouge, where the work had been dormant for a number of years.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter McNiece experimented with another type of program aimed at assisting small groups especially in becoming more stable by learning techniques of group processes, planning long-range study programs and goals, and utilizing the resources of Headquarters, particularly the Department of Education and the Olcott Library. During the fall months, Mr. and Mrs. McNiece were able to visit most of the groups in the central district, including Decatur, Rockford, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Peoria, Springfield, Davenport, and Madison, as well as an unofficial group of interested inquirers in Quincy. The spring months took them south and east for extended work with or brief visits to the groups in Indianapolis, Chattanooga, Memphis, Knoxville, Nashville, Huntsville, Louisville, Greensboro, Norfolk, Erie, and Utica. They also met with members and inquirers in Roanoke, Virginia and Lexington, Kentucky, where organized groups do not yet exist, but where there is obvious potential for future activity.

One of the most promising experiments, however, was that entered into during the past year by the Northwest Federation, which presented a proposal to the Board of Directors at its annual meeting last July for an expansion program to be conducted during the fall months under the auspices of the Federation and relying in great measure upon volunteer member-workers to achieve its success. Carefully planned and executed under the dynamic leadership of the Federation president, Mr. John Roberts, the program called for a coordi-

nated effort in the presentation of Theosophy in a selected number of cities in Washington State. The class and lecture presentations were conducted by Mr. F.T. Escudero; teams of members accompanied Mr. Escudero to each city in which the program was given in order to assume responsibility for hall arrangements, book sales, ushering, etc. A well-laid out program of advertising in each city preceded the actual start of the program, and in response to the Federation's request, the National Board of Directors allocated a modest grant to support this advertising program. As a result of the entire project, new members were added in Tacoma and Seattle, and a new study center was organized in Everett. I believe that similar programs could well be developed in other federation or regional areas, utilizing local talent for the actual conduct of the programs and drawing upon national resources for support and assistance.

Workshops, Seminars, and National Educational Programs.—The entire range of our activities should be viewed as educational in nature and import. While the Department of Education at Headquarters exists principally to supply branches and groups with such supplementary aids as tapes, slides, tape visuals, films, manuals, etc., as well as to recommend study courses prepared under the auspices of the department, its scope of concern has long included a variety of training and seminar programs as well as involvement in projected national educational projects. For this reason, its late chairman, Miss Helen Zahara, not only had responsibility for the department's functioning at Olcott, but also co-ordinated numerous activities throughout the Section which had an educational purpose.

Among the latter activities have been special workshop/seminar programs held annually at the summer camps and co-

sponsored by the Department of Education and the camp officials, with partial scholarship assistance available to members as a result of a Kern Foundation grant for this purpose. On June 18, 1972, the newest of our theosophical summer camps began its official existence with a formal dedication ceremony at which I was privileged to preside. The Ozark Theosophical Camp and Education Center is the result of a dream of many members throughout the Southeast District; established on property donated for the purpose by Mrs. Alma Klose, developed under the dynamic leadership of the camp board's first president, Mr. Marion W. Lee, the camp continues to expand. The property now has been deeded to the National Society as a safeguard to insure its continuation as a theosophical center and the camp operates under a long-term lease agreement between the Society and the camp. Following the dedication in mid-June, the camp sponsored a workshop-seminar week on the theme, "Aspects of Karma," under the leadership of Mrs. Mattie Louise Gephardt.

As mentioned earlier, Mrs. Rukmini Arundale and Mr. Peter Hoffman assisted with the workshop/seminars at Far Horizons in the High Sierras of California and at Camp Indralaya on Orcas Island in Washington, during successive weeks in August. In both instances, the theme for the discussions was "The Theosophy of Life." Mrs. Gephardt participated in the Camp Indralaya program as a representative of the National Headquarters.

A seminar on Hinduism, Buddhism, and the Wisdom of China, under the title "The Roots of Theosophy in the Eastern Tradition," was conducted at Pumpkin Hollow Farm in Cracyville, New York, in early August by Miss Zahara, with assistance from Mrs. Diane Burckes. That seminar was followed by a special

weekend of further study and discussion on "What is the Relevance of Eastern Thought to Contemporary Life?" with Miss Zahara and others taking responsibility for the sessions. In all of these camp programs, the scholarship fund established by a grant from the Kern Foundation was utilized to assist a number of members to participate in these training and study sessions.

While speaking of the very successful camp programs which have the assistance of the Department of Education in either planning or conducting, mention should be made of the spring seminar which Miss Zahara had planned to attend at Camp Indralaya. Following a successful pattern established the previous year, the camp officials this year sponsored a seminar on Vedantic Hinduism, and while there could be no participants from Headquarters, we were able to supply materials from the Olcott Library and from the Theosophical Publishing House as a basis for the seminar studies.

Particularly noteworthy among the seminars conducted during the past year was the fourth annual North American Theosophical Students Conference, which our Section had the happiness to host last October. It had been agreed in consultation with the Canadian colleagues to hold the 1972 conference at Olcott and consequently we devised a program using the seminar format in order that the participants might draw on the rich and unique resources of the Olcott Library and Research Center. The theme of the conference was "The Roots of Theosophy," with members selecting areas of study in eastern and western thought that would illustrate the presence of theosophical concepts in the major religious and philosophic traditions. Miss Zahara was principally responsible for the arrangement of the seminar studies, and the exciting weekend was concluded with

an outstanding public lecture given by Mr. T. G. Davy, General Secretary of the Canadian Section.

A special two-day seminar agreed to by and specifically planned for the members of the National Board of Directors was held at Olcott immediately preceding the Board's midyear meeting in January. Both Miss Zahara and Mrs. Virginia Hanson as editor of our official journal were invited to participate in the seminar discussions which focused attention on such questions as what constitutes Theosophy, the structure and work of the Society, the scope of and policies governing our publications programs, and related topics.

Two worker training sessions had been planned for the spring of the year. With Miss Zahara's death, however, it was necessary to cancel the week-long training workshop which had been scheduled for mid-March at Headquarters, but I was able, with the excellent assistance of Mrs. Virginia Hanson who had accepted at my request appointment as acting chairman of the Department of Education, to continue with plans for an intensive weekend training workshop for young Theosophists. Twenty enthusiastic young members attended these sessions, during the weekend of March 17 and 18, some coming with partial scholarship assistance.

At the Young Theosophists Worker Training weekend, a young member, Miss Kathleen Murphy from Fresno, California, decided Olcott is such a fine place to live and work in that she returned early in May to take up secretarial duties at the Publishing House.

This past year, the National Board of Directors authorized the establishment of two new types of programs designed to enable members to take up study or training at Headquarters at times and for periods arranged at their convenience. While there are great benefits to be derived from a group training experience, when

a number of members can come together for a specialized program, it is recognized that many more might be able to come if the training opportunities are not confined to one week or one weekend during the year. The first of these new programs, the Worker Training Assistance Program, invites potential workers or those already actively serving the Society at local or regional levels to spend a period of time at Olcott becoming familiar with the various departments, facilities, and resources available. Two members have taken advantage of this program. The other program, the Olcott Library and Research Center Program for Research and Study, is designed to stimulate and encourage members to spend a period of time utilizing the unique resources of the headquarters' library for approved research and study projects, in anticipation that such study could result in the development of material for lectures, study classes, etc., in the branches and federations. To date, no scholarship has been given for this program, but at the close of the fiscal year, one application was pending.

Three further programs, two of which were initiated by the National Board of Directors and one by the members at the 1972 Convention, must be given special mention in this report, although progress in implementing the programs has so far been minimal. The first of these, established by resolution of the National Board of Directors, provides for a national fellowship program for the support and training of selected, qualified member-workers, in anticipation of their subsequently assuming increased responsibility in the Society's work. While no member has yet been selected to be the recipient of a national fellowship award, the Board of Directors and national officers, with encouragement from the Kern Foundation Trustees, continue to search for

qualified individuals who could be invited to become what may be termed "Theosophical Fellows." A second program resulting from action taken by the Board of Directors concentrates on the preparation of an occult studies curriculum for possible presentation to colleges and universities. At the midyear meeting of the Board of Directors, Mr. Capel McCutcheon offered to serve as co-ordinator of this program and, in late spring, he presented to those involved in the activity a tentative outline on which subsequent study and discussion can be based.

The members assembled in Convention last year adopted a resolution calling for the appointment of a committee that would, first, identify the objectives, principles, and methods suited to a theosophical educational program, evaluating the validity and effectiveness of such methods in actual teaching situations, and, second, formulate and implement the objectives into a curricular program designed for use by teachers. It was recognized that these two steps were preliminary to any establishment of an ongoing theosophical educational enterprise for children and young people. Accordingly, I addressed a letter to some 16 educator-members throughout the Section, inviting their participation on a committee that would begin its efforts with the articulation of educational objectives. The response was somewhat discouraging, revealing widespread differences in view and approach to the task. Aware that the developments visualized in the Convention resolution call for more time and attention than I can give them in the light of the heavy administrative tasks resting on me, I proposed to the Board of Directors at our midyear meeting the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. John Abbenhouse, now resident managers of the Orcas Island Foundation which operates Camp Indralaya, to serve as

co-ordinators of the National Theosophical Education Committee. Responding to the Board's invitation in the affirmative, Mr. and Mrs. Abbenhouse have begun planning that will carry the committee's work further toward realization.

Department of Education.—The programs and activities just reviewed are directly related, as I have pointed out, to our total educational effort, but the Department of Education at Headquarters has primarily served the members and branches with study aids and materials. Since early 1966, Miss Zahara had served as chairman of the department and during the seven years under her direction, the department's activities expanded dramatically. She often commented, laughingly, that she found it strange to be associated with such a department when she herself was not a trained teacher, but all who heard her speak, conduct classes or seminars, or who wrote her for guidance in the selection of study programs, research projects, etc., knew that she was essentially a deep and understanding student of Theosophy and as a result of her studentship, she was a real teacher. In this area of the work, a replacement for Miss Zahara has not been found, but to insure the continued guidance and direction of the activities for which the Department of Education is responsible, I turned quite naturally to one of the finest students on our staff, Mrs. Virginia Hanson, asking her to add to her already overburdened desk responsibility as acting chairman of the department, pending a permanent appointment. This arrangement proved possible because of the competent management of the day-to-day details of the department's work by Miss Marie Minor, who continues as the departmental secretary.

Miss Minor reports that materials for 714 programs were sent out on loan during the year, an increase of more than

75 over the previous year. Particularly popular, of course, are the tape and cassette recorded talks, but there is also a steady demand for slides and tape-visuals. The two Quest Books films, "How Many Lifetimes" and "Reincarnation," have been made available to branches and study centers throughout this department, and Miss Minor reports that the first film has been borrowed 41 times while the second has been out on loan 48 times. This department also handles arrangements for the correspondence course teachers, and 42 students have been enrolled during the year with six teachers, Mrs. Alicia Ripple, Mr. George Linton, Mrs. Gladys Lawler, and staff members Mr. Clarence Pedersen, Mrs. Diane Burckes, and Miss Minor.

Other activities of the department for which Miss Minor was responsible included the continued sale of the Children's Kits and the Brotherhood Now Series Kits; the publication and distribution of a manual on public relations, *Media Magic*, by George Koch, the editing and copying of tapes with which Mr. James Person of the headquarters staff and Mr. Lloyd Schultheis of Tulsa assisted; and guidance for members participating in the Worker Training Assistance Program.

In midyear, a major physical rearrangement of the department took place, following on the remodeling of the former staff kitchen and dining area on the main floor of the headquarters building. The shifting of the Department of Education to the newly created office space was, of course, time-consuming, but it did permit the necessary expansion of physical facilities to meet a number of departmental needs.

One of the most vital programs within the Department of Education and one which continues to bring enthusiastic and appreciative response is the new members'

letters program, so beautifully and efficiently carried on by Mrs. Hanson, with the invaluable clerical assistance of Mrs. Magdalene Pierro. Extensive revisions of the letters were undertaken during the past year and their sequence altered as a consequence; suggested reading lists were brought up to date with the inclusion of more recently published theosophical books. Such a general review, after the program has been in operation for nearly a dozen years, can only be helpful in insuring that the letters serve the purpose of aiding newer members, during the first two years of membership, in their studies of Theosophy and their familiarity with the history, policies and activities of the Society. During the past year, Mrs. Hanson reports, a total of 18,845 letters were sent out, an average of 1,570 a month, each one, I might add, signed personally by Mrs. Hanson. In addition, other Sections continue to evince interest in this program, so that during the year sets of the letters were sent to the General Secretaries of the Society in Switzerland, Denmark and Burma. Mrs. Hanson also continues to be responsible for correspondence with a great many inquirers who ask searching questions about Theosophy and the theosophical philosophy as well as with members who write as a result of the contents of the monthly letters.

Quest Books Films.—Although not directly under the management of our Department of Education, the program that has resulted in the production of two Quest Books films must be recognized as educational in nature, for it seeks to bring the theosophical philosophy to the attention of large numbers of people through the unique medium of film. At the close of the 1971-72 fiscal year, the second film, "Reincarnation," had just been completed, so that at the beginning of this year, 80 prints were

secured and released for distribution through Modern Talking Picture Service, Inc., the same distributors we are using for our first film, "How Many Lifetimes." Through this distribution channel, the films are made available for telecasts and for showings to schools, community groups, fraternal, service, and religious organizations, resorts, etc.

According to monthly reports received from Modern Talking Picture Service, which is, incidentally, the largest distributor of sponsored films in the United States, "How Many Lifetimes" was listed in 14 promotions during the past year and "Reincarnation" was listed in 28 promotions during the 11-month period of its circulation. Showings of the first film included 168 telecasts and 3,489 groups, for a total estimated viewing audience of nearly 2,800,000. The second film, "Reincarnation," during the 11 months since its release, was telecast 108 times and circulated to 3,002 groups, with a total estimated viewing audience in excess of 4,300,500. In addition, Modern Talking Picture Service reports to us that they were unable to satisfy 1,350 requests for "How Many Lifetimes" and 981 requests for "Reincarnation."

When a film is circulated to groups, a discussion guide accompanies it. This guide contains a fairly extensive bibliography, featuring a number of Quest Books, and stating that these particular books can be sent to school libraries free of charge, upon request addressed to the Theosophical Book Gift Institute, an organization which also receives substantial grants from the Kern Foundation. Miss Marion Peterson, the efficient secretary of that organization, reports that during the past year 47 such requests were filled.

During the past year, preparations were begun for the production of a third Quest

Books film, the release of which is planned to coincide with the Society's centennial celebrations in 1975.

Radio Theosophy.—Sharing with our films an educational purpose, the broadcasts of Radio Theosophy continue to be effective in a number of areas, although the activity as a whole has been slowing down considerably. Other projects, including the utilization of the films, would seem to have competed successfully for member attention and support, but several branches have still found it possible and worthwhile to support radio broadcasting as part of their regular public activities. The National Radio Fund provides up to one-half the cost of such radio work, with the balance of the expense being met by members in branches or federations sponsoring the broadcasts. The continuing grants to the National Radio Fund from the Edith Gray Trust have enabled us to withdraw this program from the Kern Foundation supported projects, at least for the present. During the past year, Radio Theosophy was aired on seven stations, six of these programs operating with assistance from the National Radio Fund for a total subsidy approximating \$3,400. Several groups also received assistance of up to \$50 per quarter for advertising the radio programs. In Eugene, Oregon, the local group was able to sponsor radio broadcasts without any financial support from national funds. The Foundation for Radio Theosophy continues to be responsible for the maintenance and handling of all tapes used in the broadcasts and for this purpose receives substantial grants from the National Radio Fund. In November 1972, Mrs. Sylvia Chase, who had served as the Foundation's secretary, felt it necessary to resign that position, and the Foundation Trustees elected Mrs. Nancy Bullock of Ojai, California, to succeed her.

Some thought is being given to a new development in radio work, which would have particular appeal to young people. A sample program will be presented by Mr. William Quinn, its originator, at the 1973 Convention.

Department of Information.—Under the continued capable direction of Miss Frieda Yordy, the Department of Information maintains responsibility for a wide variety of tasks. Miss Yordy serves as the official hostess at Olcott, answering numerous telephone calls, welcoming the many visitors who come in daily to use the services of the library or to inquire about the Society and Theosophy, and taking care of the free literature table at Headquarters. Through this department, form letters about Theosophy and the services of the Society are sent to all inquirers as well as to purchasers of theosophical books, whose names are referred to the department by the Publishing House. During the past year, over 5,800 letters were sent out; naturally a great deal of personalized correspondence is generated as a result of the form letter mailings, and as a consequence of such correspondence, 145 individuals joined the Society through the Department of Information during the past year. One of the regular services of the department is the referral of individual inquirers to local branches or study centers; during the year under review, 262 individuals were referred to organized groups in their own areas, while 198 names were sent to the Canadian Section, since as a result of our widespread book advertising program, we receive many inquiries from Canadian readers.

Through the Department of Information, requests for information about the national library services, for book catalogs, and for free literature are filled. As mentioned, this department also supplies the publicity table in the reception

hall at Olcott. Distribution of the publicity leaflets through the department totalled more than 42,400 during the past year, some 8,600 of these taken from the table in the Headquarters Hall. Miss Yordy maintains the mailing list for circularizing those interested in the various public events held at Olcott, including the regular monthly lecture series and the fall and spring series of discussion classes. There continues to be a steady growth in attendance at these public meetings, resulting in an average monthly announcement mailing in excess of 1,245.

Olcott Library and Research Center.—Taking a major role in the Society's central task of disseminating the theosophical philosophy is the Olcott Library and Research Center. Its splendid collection of books on Theosophy, comparative religion, Eastern and Western philosophies, and allied subjects related to the Society's Three Objects, comprises a rich and unique recourse for both member and non-member study and research. During the past year, nearly 800 titles have been accessioned to the library's holdings in the Oriental and Western Sections, and a Kern Foundation grant has been extremely helpful both in supporting the continued accessioning of valuable works and in aiding the general library operation which has continued to expand as a result of the acquisitions. In addition, a Spanish Section has been instituted, with a total of 225 theosophical titles now available for Spanish-reading borrowers.

Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Loenholdt continue their exceptional service in charge of the library, and in September we were fortunate to add Mrs. Josephine Lee as a resident staff member to that department. Mrs. Marian Bateman continues to give invaluable part-time assistance, especially in the task of classifying new accessions. As Mr. Loenholdt is also in charge of the

Grounds Department, giving at least half-time to that important area in the maintenance of the Headquarters estate, a task complicated this year by the unusual requirements connected with the landscaping around the new book storage building, it is amazing to me to note the amount of work handled in the library by so few. Quite obviously here is an area where our services could be greatly expanded were we able to increase the staff, but such an increase not only involves the selection of proper and competent personnel, fully familiar with theosophical literature, but also the assumption of additional budgetary burdens in an area which cannot and should not be self-supporting. This is but one area, however, in which we often feel the squeeze created by the Society's financial resources in relation to the demand for expansion to meet the increased interest in Theosophy.

During the past year, the Olcott Library's circulation rose to 5,825 books, 49% of which were from the theosophical collection, 36% from the shelves containing works on related subjects in the Western Section, and 15% from the shelves of the Eastern Section. Of particular interest is the remarkable increase in circulation of the notable works in the Eastern or Oriental Section, truly a rich collection of books on all aspects of Eastern religions, philosophies, and cultures. The use of texts from that collection has practically doubled during the past year. The use of the library service by local borrowers continues to increase slightly, although in general the ratio remains approximately 55% for books taken by individuals in person and 45% for books sent to borrowers by mail. At present the number of library borrowers totals 1,382, a gain of 290 for the past year. Of these only about 10% are members of the Society, a figure that should certainly be increased, for it would seem to

indicate that all too few members are utilizing this invaluable resource for their individual and group studies.

A new system in the code numbering of books has been adopted; the very large pamphlet collection has been reorganized and listed in a special catalog; new procedures improving the card index file have been adopted. In addition, a further service of the library, undertaken as time permits, has been the repair and cleaning of books for sending as basic nuclear libraries to new study centers. During the past year, four Official Study Centers have thus been serviced.

The American Theosophist and Discovery.—During the years of my presidency in this Section, we have had the happy good fortune of the presence of an editor who has maintained such a consistently high standard in the editing and production of our official journal, *The American Theosophist*, that we find our magazine achieving an ever increasing world reputation as one of the finest, if not the finest, theosophical periodicals issued on a regular basis. Mrs. Virginia Hanson, in spite of assignments in the Department of Education already referred to, and additional assignments of an editorial nature which will be mentioned subsequently, continues as Editor of *The American Theosophist*. In early March, we were especially happy to welcome to our editorial staff Mr. William W. Quinn, Jr., who has been appointed as Assistant Editor.

As Mrs. Hanson reports, ten regular issues and two special issues of *The American Theosophist* were published during the past year, with a total print order in excess of 65,000. Substantial quantities of the special issues are now taken by the Theosophical Publishing House for sale in the Quest Bookstore. The regular issues contain, of course, announcements of all matters of official business within the Section, as well as

announcements and reports on national and international conferences, branches, federations, summer camps and the allied groups, and such varied programs as the Non-English Publications Loan Fund, the Krotona School of Theosophy, and the Kern Foundation sponsored projects. The Financial Statements are published following the customary audit, but this year were issued as a separate brochure tipped into the journal that was sent to all members. Book reviews, now handled completely by Mr. Quinn, feature new Quest Book titles, works issued by the three major Theosophical Publishing Houses, and other titles of significance and interest to theosophical students.

The program of devoting two issues each year to special themes has continued to draw extremely favorable comment, from members and non-members alike, and through the sale and distribution of these issues by the Publishing House, their circulation has increased. One of the new Quest Books, *Approaches to Meditation*, issued during the past year comprised, with some additions, one of the earlier special issues, and plans are now under way for the utilization of two other special issues as Quest Books. The theme for the Fall 1972 special issue was "Freedom: A Philosophic Inquiry," while that of the Spring 1973 issue, one of the largest issues ever produced, was "Of Death and Dying," a subject that proved more appropriate than we could have known when it was selected by the National Board of Directors. Indeed, perhaps the two topics discussed in this year's special issues may be recognized as intimately related, for the regular issues of our journal just preceding and immediately following the Spring number on the topic of death memorialized the freedom from physical incarnation experienced by our two great colleagues, Helen Zahara and N. Sri Ram.

An editorial committee, appointed by the Board of Directors, assists Mrs. Hanson and Mr. Quinn with conscientious evaluations of original articles submitted for publication. Our appreciation is extended to the members of this important committee: Mr. Richard Ihle, Mr. Stephen E. Kellogg, Mr. Felix Layton, and Mrs. Edith Schlosser.

Mrs. Hanson has continued to be responsible for the publication of *Discovery*, issued monthly from September through May, primarily for the use of branches and study centers in publicizing their programs. Soon after Mr. Quinn's arrival on our staff, he was able to assume responsibility for the preparation of this leaflet, thus relieving Mrs. Hanson of one aspect of the editorial work. Distribution of *Discovery* is handled in the Membership Department, where principal responsibility for this phase of the activity has been taken by Miss Constance Schulz. Miss Schulz reports that during the past year 109,697 copies were distributed to 75 branches and study centers, to the Canadian Federation and the Puerto Rican Section, to all members-at-large, and to some individual subscribers. This represents an increase in distribution of nearly 2,000 over the previous year.

The Theosophical Publishing House.—The operation of our Publishing House continues to be the largest single departmental activity at the national level. The impact on that operation of the publication of Quest Books and the substantial advertising and promotional programs, all made possible by generous grants from the Kern Foundation, has provided the major impetus for growth and expansion in this department. Quite naturally, therefore, the vacancy caused by the death of Helen Zahara, who had been principally responsible for the Quest Book publishing program and for the management of the

major advertising effort, was felt most keenly in this area of our work.

Mr. Clarence Pedersen, who has served for some years now as the efficient manager of our Publishing House, had worked closely with Miss Zahara in decisions affecting actual publication and distribution, through advertising and other means, of our books. It was logical, therefore, to request Mr. Pedersen to assume the newly created position of Manager of Publications and Sales Advertising. Fully familiar with the numerous details involved in publishing as a result of her close association with Miss Zahara, Mrs. Diane Burckes took up duties as Assistant Publications Manager, in addition to her work in giving me invaluable assistance with the overall management of the Kern Foundation programs; her work as assistant in the publications department was viewed as temporary, however, to cover a period of overlap in the reorganization schedule, so that soon after the beginning of the new fiscal year, she could be available to take up yet other duties in the administrative end of the work at Headquarters. With the availability of Mr. Quinn, as already mentioned, to assume increasing responsibility for some of the regular editorial tasks in conjunction with *The American Theosophist* and *Discovery*, Mrs. Virginia Hanson could take on, at my request, yet another assignment, compatible with her unique and exceptional talents, the position of Senior Editor of Publications for the Publishing House, working closely with Mr. Pedersen in the production of Quest Books and other T.P.H. titles.

A basic factor in the total reorganization scheme was the securing of a competent member to succeed Mr. Pedersen in the management of operations in the Publishing House. Happily, such a member was available, answering my urgent invitation to take up the all important work of over-

seeing the continually expanding Publishing House operation. Mr. Floyd Kettering, who, with his lovely wife and two children has now taken up residence in one of the houses on the Headquarters estate, became Manager of T.P.H. operations in mid-April, and we are deeply indebted to him for answering the call for full-time service to the Society.

Once again we can record a significant advance in sales, with total merchandise sales in excess of \$ 362,000, representing a 14 % increase over the previous year. The increase which has been recorded each year for the past several years must be seen as resulting from several factors, not the least of which is the combined effort of an outstanding team of workers in the Publishing House department. In addition now to Mr. Kettering as manager of operations, we have on the resident staff Mrs. Zella Balch, who so capably manages the Quest Bookstore; Mr. M. Randolph Miles, who most efficiently manages the shipping department and who so competently directed the move into the new book storage building; and as of May 1, Miss Kathleen Murphy who gives invaluable secretarial assistance to both Mr. Pedersen and Mr. Kettering. On the non-resident staff, the Publishing House has continued to have the exemplary services of Mrs. Joan Bergman, Mrs. Doris Hughes, Mrs. Phyllis Thompson and Mrs. Patricia Kloppman in the office, and Mr. Harvey Dastrup in the shipping department. Additions to the non-resident staff during the year were Mrs. Esther Lennon, Miss Karen Hurst, Mr. Thomas Flint, Mr. Ernst Murphy Luchs, Mr. Jeff Griebeler, and Mr. Keith Snail, while the services of Mr. William Simon, Mr. Theodore Wannow and Mr. James White were terminated after longer or shorter periods during the year. Additional assistance, of course, was employed during the period of the actual transfer of stock stored in

public warehouses to the new storage building. An accolade of special appreciation must go to all who continue to serve so efficiently and helpfully in the Publishing House work, as well as to all who have given some periods of service in that department, but who for one reason or another found it necessary to leave our employ.

It is interesting to note that direct sales through the Quest Bookshop of Wheaton, under the management of Mrs. Balch, as indicated earlier, climbed this year to nearly \$35,300, a 41% increase over the previous year. Some concern has been expressed over the need for additional space for the display of books in the bookstore, and this is a matter that must be taken into consideration in any planned expansion. At the present time about 3,000 titles are displayed, making the bookstore a mecca for inquirers in the Chicago Metropolitan area.

Direct mail advertising continues to play an important role in the general work of the Publishing House. During the past year, six mailings were completed, with a 2 to 3 % average in sales returns. Total sales directly attributable to this program approximated \$7,630,000. The Publishing House has continued to supply the Quest Bookshop of New York with a mailing list of 1500 names, utilizing the mailing pieces sent from Wheaton, and about 1,000 mail-order leaflets are supplied to the Quest Bookshop of Seattle.

One of the valuable services rendered by the Publishing House is the handling of the Society's publicity leaflets, when these are ordered in quantity lots by groups or individuals. During the year, nearly 85,000 leaflets were sold. The continuation of a Kern Foundation grant to enable branches to receive a 50 % subsidy on quantity orders is a most helpful contribution to the work at the local level, where these

leaflets should be utilized to supplement and support public activities. Many groups and individuals continue to give unique service in sending copies of the booklets. "To Those Who Mourn" and "When Death Occurs," to those suffering bereavement; sales of these two leaflets during the past year totalled nearly 10,000 copies.

Special mention should be made of the fact that our Publishing House serves as the sole distributor in North and South America for books published by the Adyar Library and Research Center. While sales of the Adyar Library Series works have not increased appreciably over the past year, as many of the works are highly specialized, efforts continue to be made to publicize this unique service especially directed towards Asian scholars.

The majority of publications issued during the past year have been under the Quest Book imprint, but the Publishing House has reprinted five titles, *The Mystery of Life and How Theosophy Answers It* by Clara Codd; *Reincarnation, the Hope of the World* by Irving S. Cooper; *The Seven Rays* and *A Study of Pleasure and Pain* by Ernest Wood; and *The Transition Called Death* by Charles Hampton. Binding was completed on the six-volume edition of *The Secret Doctrine*, reprinted at Adyar, so that an adequate supply of this work is again in stock.

Continued improvements have been made in the system of processing orders and in other aspects of the Publishing House operations. Since the personnel are trained to handle a number of different tasks, so that there can be an interchange of work loads, it has been possible to process the increased sales without additional personnel in the office and shipping areas; estimates indicate that a further 15% growth could be achieved with the staff and machinery now available. In this regard, it may be of interest to note

that operating expenses in the Publishing House constitute 32½% of sales.

Book Warehouse and Further Expansion Needs.—The National Board of Directors, recognizing the vital necessity for a storage building and appreciating the support of the members in financing the T.P.H. Building project itself, authorized last July plans for proceeding as soon as feasible with the erection of a basic steel structure to serve for book storage purposes. Accepting Mr. Marion W. Lee's offer to supervise the construction of the new building, the Board of Directors approved plans for financing the work and once again, I turned to the membership in an appeal for donations to aid in the realization of the project. In the pages of *The American Theosophist*, I have reported on the difficulties experienced by Mr. Lee, who with his wife became resident at Olcott in early September for a little more than three months; he and his faithful crew of workers, among whom were a number of our own staff—Douglas Shiell, Jerry Johnson, Joseph Wallace, Tom Bostrom, Robert Miller, and Scott Stearns—labored through one of the worst autumns we have ever known so far as weather was concerned to get the building under way. The carpentering skill of Mr. Robert Gephardt of our staff was called on for the preparation of the necessary pallets on which the books are stored, and finally, on February 12, 1973, the first box of books was carried into the new storage building. The response of the membership in support of the building program has been most encouraging; contributions during the past fiscal year totalled nearly \$46,500.

The steady expansion of the Publishing House business, reflected in a growth in sales of more than 26% since we moved into the new building in 1970, has inevitably meant an enlargement of staff to cope with the many areas of the work.

In addition, the reorganization effected this spring and the consequent creation of a new department within the Publishing House, responsible solely for publications and advertising, have resulted in further space needs. As you may surmise, therefore, the problem now before us concerns the urgent need to expand the office area in the new building. Sales in the Quest Bookstore, which have more than doubled since the move into the new building, indicate too that a larger area could be given to this activity, enabling the bookstore to carry a greater and even more diversified inventory.

Quest Books.—In 1966, the term "Quest Books" was introduced as the designation of a new project undertaken principally with a Kern Foundation grant. During the years that have followed, that term has become virtually a household favorite with Theosophists everywhere and an increasingly familiar phrase to countless thousands who are seeking a meaningful philosophy of life and turn to Theosophy for an understanding of life's problems. These high quality paperbacks, beautifully designed and produced, available at modest and competitive prices in bookstores throughout the United States and in many other parts of the world, are undoubtedly the major work with which the name Helen Zahara will always be associated. That we could move through the years with such a rapid growth in the number of Quest Book titles and a consequent expansion in sales of those titles constitutes abiding proof of her indefatigable energies, her total commitment to the idea of making Theosophy known as widely as possible in order that peoples everywhere might benefit from its life-transforming wisdom, her continuing determination to make practical the vision which should motivate the life of every Theosophist. Last year, we recorded a total of 78 titles under the Quest colo-

phon. Eight titles were added to the list during the past year, two of these in the Quest Miniature series. In addition, three titles were published in clothbound editions, to be issued in Quest paperback at a later date. Of the clothbound books, special attention should be given to the publication of the first authentic biography of the American President-Founder of the Society, Colonel Henry Steel Olcott, *Hammer on the Mountain* by Howard Murphet. Every member of this Section should be familiar with the singular career of this most remarkable man who played a distinguished role in American history and who established the patterns of organization in the Theosophical Society that still guide us today.

The continuing sales demand for all our Quest titles has meant that a number of titles have had to be reprinted. Fortunately, the availability of our own storage facilities now enables us to place both original and reprint orders of more substantial quantities, effecting substantial savings in unit costs as well as in time and energy. During the past year, the total number of Quest Books sold was 164,394, more than 8,500 over the previous year's record. Since the beginning of the program in late 1966, nearly 700,000 Quest Books have been distributed. Our goal of reaching the million mark by 1975 does not seem unattainable.

An invaluable service given by the Theosophical Book Gift Institute, directly related to the Quest Book program, is the supplying of examination copies of these books to professors requesting review copies for possible adoption as texts or as supplementary reading in a variety of college and university courses. We find that Quest Books are often listed as required or recommended reading in a wide range of courses, and orders from college book stores frequently follow on the response for examination copies.

Since the inception of the Quest Book program, the inventory of Quest titles has been maintained separately from that of the Publishing House, T.P.H. taking into its own inventory quantities only as required. This transfer is much more easily effected now, with the new storage facilities at Olcott, and enables T.P.H. to take in only such quantities as can be conveniently placed in its shipping room. At the end of the fiscal year, the Quest Book inventory totalled just over \$246,600, constituting a major asset in the Society's reserves.

Quest Book Consignment Program.—Initiated in late 1971, the program of providing a Quest Book consignment at no charge to branches with adequate facilities to maintain a book sales department and with regularly advertised public activities has aided a number of groups to establish what may be thought of as mini-Quest Bookshops. Continued funding of the program has been granted by the Kern Foundation. During the past year, eight groups took up the offer to participate, bringing to 33 the number of branches and study centers now enrolled in the consignment program.

Quest Bookshops.—In addition to the outstanding Quest Bookshop operated in conjunction with our Publishing House in Wheaton, the two original Quest Bookshops, one in New York and the other in Seattle, continue to record excellent growth.

In New York, the Quest Bookshop has had to be dependent upon some salaried employees, but its sales for the year, in excess of \$18,400, indicate a steady growth potential. Plans for the expansion of inventory, increased advertising, and other developments should result, during the coming year, in even further substantial growth. The Seattle Quest Bookshop, conducted almost solely with volunteer staff from among the membership of the

branch, reports a gain in sales during the year for a total in excess of \$14,500. Here, advertising in community papers has been found especially valuable and further efforts along this line are planned for the coming year.

National Advertising and Sales Promotion.—The sales record of the Theosophical Publishing House, including the continued growth in demand for Quest Books, would not be possible without the major financial support given by the Kern Foundation for the extensive national advertising program we have undertaken during the past several years. The Society's own resources could not encompass such a project and we are most grateful to the Trustees of the Kern Foundation, particularly the Advising Trustee, Mr. John C. Kern, for a recognition of the essential value and importance of this program. Specific advertising plans are worked out in consultations among the T.P.H. Management Council, the Kern Foundation Programs Committee, and representatives of the Kern Foundation Corporate Trustee. Wolf and Krautter, Inc., of Chicago, continue to be responsible for design, production and placement of Quest Book and related advertising.

During the past year, advertising appeared regularly in *Publishers Weekly*, the *Journal of the American Library Association*, the *New York Times* (Book Review Section), *Saturday Review*, *National Observer*, *Harpers*, *Atlantic*, *Psychic*, *Fate*, *World*, *Intellectual Digest*, *Book World* (of the *Chicago Tribune*), *Los Angeles Times*, *Miami Herald*, *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, and *St. Petersburg Times*. The Adyar Library Series of Oriental Texts and the book lending services of the Olcott Library and Research Center were advertised in such professional journals as *Philosophy East and West*, *Journal of Asian Studies*,

Review of Metaphysics, and the *Journal of Indian Philosophy*. Plans to exhibit again at the Annual Conference of the Association for Asian Studies had to be cancelled because that meeting was scheduled so near the time of Miss Zahara's death that alternate arrangements could not be made for management of the project.

An increasingly important role in our total sales promotional efforts has been the utilization of professional sales representatives. At the close of the fiscal year, we were represented by seven sales groups or individuals, a total of 12 men covering the entire United States with the exception of Alaska. Biannual sales conferences are held in New York City, following customary practice in the book trade industry; during the past year, I was able to attend these meetings, becoming thoroughly informed on this aspect of our promotional program. Mr. Pedersen, of course, has been in charge of these conferences, the one in December being attended also by Miss Zahara and the one in May by Mrs. Hanson, who as Senior Editor of Publications could review the new titles on the advance list given the salesmen.

Our international representation was increased on the first of January when we added National Publishing Company of Agincourt, Ontario, as our exclusive representatives in Canada. Media Directions of New York City, formerly Henry M. Snyder & Co., continue to represent us on the world market, exclusive of the United Kingdom and Australia, where T.P.H., London and the Quest Book Agency of Australia, respectively, serve as our agents.

In addition to the advertising programs supported by grants from the Kern Foundation and the employment of sales representatives, a number of other promotional

efforts have been undertaken directly by the Publishing House, utilizing the Society's resources. These include the regular printing and mailing of catalogs, special flyers, brochures, etc., all designed to promote book sales in both the wholesale and retail book markets.

International Publishing Conference.—Directly related to the entire range of our publishing and advertising endeavors was the historic meeting held at Adyar in early January when for the first time the managers of the three major Theosophical Publishing Houses—Adyar, London and Wheaton—met together for face-to-face discussions on topics of mutual concern in meeting our world responsibilities for the publication and distribution of a literature that will convey the magnificent truths of the Ageless Wisdom in a manner relevant to the needs of humanity. Such a meeting had long been contemplated as a necessary sequel to the invaluable discussions held by representatives of the several Publishing Houses during the 1966 World Congress at Salzburg, when a number of basic agreements mutually beneficial to the Publishing Houses had been entered into. So rapid, however, has been the growth of our Wheaton Publishing House that a conference with officials from the London and Adyar Houses had become imperative, and Miss Zahara was mainly instrumental in bringing about the arrangements for the meetings at Adyar. Happily, the Kern Foundation lent its full support to this project, recognizing the importance of the discussions in relation to Quest Book and other programs already subsidized by the Foundation. Consequently, a major grant was approved for Kern Foundation assistance to enable Mr. Pedersen and Miss Zahara to travel to Adyar for the meetings, with my travel expenses met by the Section as authorized by the National Board of Directors.

During the first week in January, the International Publishing Conference went forward; in addition to the three members from this Section, representing the Wheaton Publishing House, there were present Mr. Leslie Leslie-Smith, chairman of the T.P.H. London Council, and Mr. Michael Maxwell, manager of T.P.H. London; Mr. K. N. Ramanathan, manager of T.P.H., Adyar, Mr. K. Ramanathan, manager of the Vasanta Press at Adyar, and Mrs. Radha Burnier, Director of the Adyar Library and member of the T.P.H. Adyar Council. From time to time, the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, as chairman of T.P.H. council, attended the meetings, presenting his views on the subjects under consideration. The agenda included a full review and discussion of priorities and intercommunication on printing schedules undertaken by the various Publishing Houses; policies on reprinting; agreement on procedural arrangements for distribution rights; the needs of the Vasanta Press for additional equipment to cope with the expanding demands; plans for utilizing the H. P. Blavatsky Publications Reserve Funds held both in the U.S. and at Adyar; the publishing program for the centennial; publication for the Adyar Library and for the non-English reading Sections; and the encouragement of new writings by the Society's qualified members.

These sessions were followed by a conference under the chairmanship of the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, when consideration was given to policies governing the publication of theosophical literature and a fairly extensive agenda was discussed. In addition to those who had attended the publishing conference, a number of other representative workers in the Society whose presence at Adyar for the International Convention made it possible for them to attend, were invited to participate in the policy discussions;

these members included Mr. John Coats, Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, and Mr. Seymour Ballard.

All who participated in these conferences agreed that an important step had been taken in furthering the work undertaken throughout the world in terms of the publication and distribution of theosophical books and that the discussions had been both enlightening and significant.

Membership.—However splendid the vision that inspires our activities, however dramatic may be the programs developed within the Section in our efforts to share the theosophical philosophy as widely as possible, however significant the impact of that philosophy may be in meeting human needs, no program or activity could go forward without the dedicated efforts of individuals who believe in and are committed to the objectives of this Society. The tremendous contributions in time, money, and talent, given so beautifully year in and year out by loyal members throughout the Section, call for the heartfelt gratitude of us all.

Our effectiveness is truly derived not from numerical strength alone but far more from the determination of each member to make Theosophy a living reality in his daily existence, so that he becomes a truly radiant center of peace and harmony in his environment. What a world transformation could be effected, if each of us were to live out that which we know, to express through every action and thought that which we study. Yet, of course, numerical strength is important if the organization as an effective channel is to endure. This year, however, I must record a small net loss in membership, undoubtedly brought about by several factors. On May 31, 1973, the membership stood at 6044, a net loss of 75 from the previous year. A larger number than

in former years, 720, permitted their membership to lapse into inactivity, while resignations totalled 137. At the same time, we happily welcomed into the Society 788 new members.

Among the factors responsible for the small loss this year should be mentioned, first, the changed pattern in our field program, already reviewed. A further influence may well have been the action taken at the last Convention, following on the proposal unanimously submitted by the National Board of Directors, to amend the National By-Laws to provide for an increase in general membership dues. This was the first such increase since 1959, but inevitably some members left our ranks as a result. The amendment effected a more equitable dues structure, however, although in view of today's rapidly rising costs of goods and services, the gain in terms of meeting the annual budgetary deficits in the Society has been minimal. Member-at-large general membership was advanced from \$12 to \$15 annually, while branch or lodge general membership was increased from \$8 to \$10. Recognizing that Official Study Centers are increasingly carrying on activities similar to those of branches or lodges and that therefore Study Center members have local financial obligations, the By-Laws amendment provided for a reduction in general membership dues of Study Center members from \$12 to \$10. A subsequent action of the National Board of Directors, following on Convention approval of the amendment raising the dues, provided for the application of \$3 instead of \$2 of each member's dues to *The American Theosophist*, thus more nearly approximating the actual cost of production of the official journal.

Among the 95 deaths reported this year were two, in addition to that of Miss Zahara already noted, that deserve special mention. Mrs. H. Kay Campbell,

National Secretary under the presidency of Mr. L. W. Rogers and chairman of the committee which was responsible for the selection of the Wheaton headquarters site, died last July after a lengthy illness. In mid-February, Mrs. Dorothy Rae, who had played a prominent role in conducting classes during our first Regional Expansion program in 1959-60, passed away.

A membership survey must also include mention of the number of organized groups active throughout the Section. Continuing the trend evidenced in recent years, the number of Official Study Centers steadily grows, and on May 31, 51 such centers were officially recognized. Together with 101 Branches (or Lodges), we may report there are now 152 functioning official groups throughout the Section, a gain of three over the number recorded last year. Another amendment to the National By-Laws, adopted by the Convention last year, abolished the practice of maintaining a Study Centre Fund at Headquarters, an anachronism in the light of the change in the dues structure already referred to.

The work of the Membership Department, which involves not only the compilation of the statistics given above, but also the numerous daily details of record keeping, correspondence, maintaining the membership mailing list with all the nearly endless changes in addresses, taking care of monthly mailings of *CONTACT* and other membership mailings, etc., devolves upon the capable and efficient head of the department, Mrs. Margery Parks, and her able assistant, Miss Constance Schulz, who joined our staff on the first of July last year, replacing Mrs. Mildred Caldwell who, for reasons of health, left us soon after the 1972 Convention-Summer School. Occasional assistance has been given the department by a number of part-time workers, most recently by Mrs. Suzanne Luchs.

Headquarters.—The Society's human resources are the most precious element in the fulfilment of our aims, for without members committed to the ideals for which the Society stands, the Society itself would soon pass into oblivion. While the work throughout the Section is equally dependent upon people, working together in official or unofficial groups or laboring alone to do what is possible in sharing theosophical insights, it is at our national center, Olcott, that one becomes most sharply aware of the daily dedication, the hourly commitment, of a team of workers pulling together to insure the Society's continued existence. Each one who comes brings something unique to contribute to the total group; each one who leaves after however long or short a time is remembered for the impress he has given to the life at Olcott.

That life is immeasurably enriched because it is comprised not only of the departments which inevitably receive the major emphasis in a report of the Section's activities, but also of those departments which sustain and maintain the very base of our operation. I refer specifically to the housekeeping, dining, grounds, and building maintenance areas of the Headquarters. All who give unstinting service in those departments deserve far more commendation and appreciation than can be expressed within the scope of this report, and I always regret that somehow only passing reference can be made to the workers who so beautifully and conscientiously assume tasks that seem less glamorous than some of the others already mentioned. In the housekeeping department, Mrs. Robertina Pumyea continues not only to head the department but to set an example of achieving spit-and-polish cleanliness throughout the Headquarters buildings that leaves most of us breathless. During several months of the year, Mr. Michael Weddell alternated

duties in the financial office with part-time service in housekeeping, exhibiting a versatility that is rather characteristic of staff members. In April, however, Mrs. Suzanne Luchs returned to resume work as a non-resident member assisting in the housekeeping department. Mr. Harry Binford, a Wheaton member, gave a number of months' service in a non-resident capacity as custodian.

Whatever changes occur in staff personnel, whatever crises arise to challenge our lives, the dining department steadily provides the resident workers with what I am convinced is the most excellent cuisine to be found anywhere in the world. Mrs. Edith Schlosser, who had taken on the management of the dining department a little over a year ago in answer to an urgent need and on what we confidently expected would be a temporary basis, happily and good-naturedly continued that work throughout the year, quite spoiling us all with such delectables as home-made bread and other items too numerous to list. Unsurpassed in the culinary arts are our cooks, well-loved members of our headquarters family although non-resident—Mrs. Marie Dastrup, Mrs. Virgie Ness, and, from time to time especially through the summer months, Mrs. Ethel Halas. Mrs. Lauren Wallace assisted in the dining department for some months during the year, and Mr. Murphy Luchs has given part-time assistance in the essential work of dishwashing.

The exceptional care and attention given to the maintenance and improvement of the beautiful facilities provided by our headquarters estate make possible a physical setting appropriate to the Society's work in this country. The loving care and supervision given by Mr. Fritz Loenholdt to the work on the grounds are reflected in the growing beauty of Olcott, where members may come as to

a spiritual home for inner nourishment and inspiration. Assisted by Mr. Robert Gephardt and Mr. Charles Sass, Mr. Leonholdt labors tirelessly to improve the landscaping. Last June, Mr. Douglas Shiell joined our resident staff to assist with work on the grounds. The tasks of the grounds department were complicated this year by the erection of the new storage building, creating problems in relandscaping the adjacent area. Temporary assistance in connection either with the building project or the grounds work related to it was given by Scott Stearns, Daniel Chisholm, Kurt Luchs, Joseph Wallace, Tom Bostrom, Jerrie Johnson, and James Youker, some of whom have continued to work on the grounds as further needs for additional help have arisen.

Through the years a number of lovely additions have been made to the grounds as memorial plantings. Gifts to purchase trees as living memorials to members who have served the Society are received annually. This year a very generous member, asking to remain anonymous, instituted a fund for a Helen V. Zahara memorial garden to be designed in the Japanese style and placed between the T.P.H. Building and the new storage facilities. The appropriateness of that location will be readily apparent, for Helen's labors in connection with our book publication program were largely responsible for the need for both buildings.

The national headquarters serves also as an active center for a number of public events through the year, attracting interested inquirers who find the services of the library and the bookshop invaluable. In addition to regular monthly public lectures from October through May (with the exception of December), weekly public discussion series are held. The fall 1972 series focused on "The Great Books of

Theosophy," referring to many of the theosophical classics and to a number of the Quest Books. The series in the spring of this year was devoted to "The Art and Science of Meditation," these discussions attracting audiences almost too large to accommodate in our library. Wednesday evening rap sessions, under the general chairmanship of Mr. James Person, continue to attract large numbers of young people.

Finances.—Quite naturally a fundamental requisite for the work in any organization is proper financing. While major financial assistance has been given us in recent years by the several grants from the Kern Foundation which support partially or wholly so many of our activities, the major source of support continues to rest, as it must always rest, with the members of the Society. This is quite proper, too, from the point of view of the Kern Foundation, for as we have pointed out on numerous occasions, the Trust Agreement establishing that Foundation contains a most important clause providing that consideration will be given those organizations whose members show a willingness to support the work of the organization. For the Society, that has often meant a strain on our own financial reserves, as we attempt to meet the increasing costs of operating the normal and required activities in which the Society has long been engaged. Yet each year that I have been in office, I have felt tremendously encouraged by the spontaneous and enthusiastic response of the members to the numerous appeals that I have circulated either for specific purposes such as our building program or for the general purpose of supporting the total operation of the Society. It is truly heartening to be able to report to the Kern Foundation Trustees that we are indeed meeting our financial obligations and responsibilities as a result of the

membership support for the activities entered into by this administration.

Last July, the National Board of Directors, on my recommendation, appointed Mr. Richard W. Neuman of St. Paul to the office of National Treasurer, succeeding Mr. Edwin Lord who had served temporarily in that office when Mr. Theron Chaney had been forced to resign for health reasons. Mr. Neuman, while not resident at Headquarters, has been able to make frequent trips to Olcott throughout the year, to confer with Mr. Lord, who retains the position of Controller in addition to serving as chairman of the Financial Advisory Committee, and with Miss Clarice Richie, our very efficient cashier-bookkeeper (who doubles as our amazingly green-thumbed vegetable gardener!). Assisting in our financial department through the year has been Mr. Michael Weddell and, on a part-time basis, Mrs. Elizabeth Teal, a non-member employee who has become so familiar with our rather complicated accounting procedures that she could take an increasing share of responsibility in the preparation of monthly statements summarizing departmental and administrative expenses. Mrs. Marcella Lord, our cost-conscious Purchasing Agent, gives valuable secretarial assistance in the financial department.

Additions to our fixed capital assets, mainly the new book storage building, more than offset the operating deficit. Consequently, the Society's value in terms of its total assets continues to grow substantially, indicative of our essentially healthy condition.

In addition to general donations of approximately \$7,500 during the past year, we were the recipient of a number of bequests, the most substantial of which was from the Florence Case Estate, amounting to about \$21,600. Altogether

bequests received during the year totalled \$26,301.

I have already commented on the encouraging support given to the T.P.H. Building Fund, especially for the new storage building. In spite of the continued need for cash for that building program, we were able to retire approximately \$20,000 in loans from members and branches, so that our outstanding indebtedness in terms of such loans has been substantially reduced and now stands at a little over \$30,000.

The Theosophical Investment Trust, of which Mr. John A. Sellon currently serves as chairman, now holds funds of nearly \$735,000 in its several capital accounts. Among the major fund accounts placed with the Trust, in accordance with a resolution of the National Board of Directors, is the Membership Endowment Fund. The steady growth of this fund augurs well for the Society's future as it represents a permanent endowment to secure the Society's existence, with the interest only being applied to the dues of those members who have so endowed their membership. As deaths occur among those who have joined the membership endowment plan, that portion of the fund becomes free from dues allocation and may be applied to the general support of the Society's work. There are now 308 active members on the list of those who have endowed their membership; in addition, 45 who held endowment membership are now deceased. At the conclusion of the fiscal year, the endowment fund was in excess of \$112,000.

Also administered by the Investment Trust is the ABC-America Fund (approximately \$150,000), held on behalf of the international work of the Society and this year drawn upon to assist with the provision of a second printing press for the Vasanta Press at Adyar. Other capital accounts administered by the Trust include

the Society's reserve fund and the Olcott Staff Retirement Fund. A life-annuity program has received less attention since the Trust's inception in 1956, but a number of members find this program of value in that they may deposit money or securities, receiving the income during their lifetime, but providing through this means that upon their death the capital will revert directly to the Trust for the benefit of the Society.

We owe special appreciation to the members of the Investment Trust, which include in addition to Mr. Sellon as chairman, Mr. Edwin Lord, Mr. John C. Kern, and Dr. Paul H. Dunakin, as well as the three national officers of the Society—the National President, National Vice-President and National Treasurer. The Trustees are frequently called upon for financial counsel in the development of the Society's budget, establishment of fiscal policy, etc., and Dr. Dunakin also gives invaluable counsel in all legal matters that arise.

Allied Activities.—It is never possible within the scope of this annual review to comment on the numerous projects and activities undertaken by members and groups throughout the Section, all of which combined constitute the thrust of theosophical effort in the United States. Best known of these activities are the programs sponsored by the several allied groups: the Theosophical Book Gift Institute, the Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, the Theosophical Order of Service, and the Parents Theosophical Research Group. Regular reports of these groups appear in *The American Theosophist* and frequent mailings or announcements from the directors of these organizations serve to keep the members informed of practical ways in which Theosophy can be applied.

Mention should also be made of the vital work carried on by the American

Federation of Young Theosophists who this year, have engaged in a number of projects, one of the most outstanding of which is the publication of an excellent magazine, *Sophia*.

In addition, the work of the Krotona Institute of Theosophy, in the maintenance of an outstanding educational program through the Krotona School, must be recognized as a major theosophical endeavor of great significance in preparing theosophical students for the further dissemination of the philosophy. Also situated in Ojai, California, where the Krotona School is located, is the Taormina Theosophical Community, involving a number of members in an experiment in community living.

All who contribute to one or another of these closely associated activities deserve gratitude for the efforts made in cooperative service.

International Aspects.—In reporting on my own rather extensive travels outside the United States during the past year, I have commented on the general importance of the international character of our work. It is a characteristic of this Society that cannot and must not be overlooked, for surely one aspect of our uniqueness arises from the fact that within our own ranks as a world organization we comprehend all religious traditions, all ethnic groups, all the wide diversity of the world's peoples. One need not travel far to realize sharply the tremendous advantages we in the English-speaking Sections of the theosophical world possess in having readily at hand an extensive literature for reading and study. Some years ago, the Non-English Publications Loan Fund Committee was established to aid in rectifying this imbalance in our international work. The International President, Mr. Sri Ram, who served as chairman of the committee, requested the vice-chairman, Miss Helen Zahara, to handle all the practical aspects

of the committee's work, including the periodic issuance of appeals for support. In keeping with Miss Zahara's own keen commitment to this effort, she designated the Non-English Publications Loan Fund as the recipient of memorial gifts that might be made after her passing, and some \$500 has been so far subscribed in memory of Helen Zahara. Just a few weeks before his own death, the President asked me to take up the work of vice-chairman and I happily consented not only in tribute to the memory of my cherished friend and close comrade in the work but also because of my own deep conviction of the importance of this effort to provide assistance to the Non-English speaking Sections for the publication of theosophical literature in their own languages. It is a work that must go forward with ever greater support as we prepare for 1975 and the world celebrations of the Society's birth, for what more fitting achievement could there be to crown 100 years of activity than to have theosophical books available in all the tongues men speak?

The work at our international center is remembered annually on Adyar Day, when many groups come together for special programs keyed to a recognition of the significance of that radiant center of world Theosophy, and when members throughout the Section give to the support of Adyar. This year, the contributions to the Adyar Day Fund totalled \$6,934. One way in which every member can contact both Adyar and the international work of the Society is through subscribing to *The Theosophist*, published at our world center under the editorship of the President. Subscriptions to this journal, which are handled by our Publishing House, were 361 for the past year, a figure absurdly low for a Section the size of ours.

Throughout the world, increasing attention is centered on plans for the celebra-

tion of the Society's centennial. Preliminary arrangements for the 1975 world congress in New York City are moving forward in this Section under the direction of a Centennial Activities Committee, of which the National Vice-President, Mrs. Ann Wylie, has been serving as chairman. On three occasions during the past year, I have been in New York for various discussions relating to a possible public relations program in 1975 and to arrangements at the Statler-Hilton Hotel where the congress will be held in that year. The response to the initial brochure mailed to every member announcing plans for 1975 has been somewhat less than anticipated, but undoubtedly as we are able to announce more specific details, members will indicate their intention to be in New York and/or Adyar for the 1975 conferences. Since both domestic and world economic factors will affect costs of travel, hotel accommodations, etc., it has been difficult to answer specific questions on costs of the New York gathering and possible charter flight arrangements this far in advance.

Conclusion.—As we come, then, to the conclusion of this report on the activities of the American Section during the past year, we may well ask: What lies ahead? What of tomorrow and the coming year? Is there a road map to guide our steps? Our Section is but one branch in the multi-limbed banyan tree of The Theosophical Society, and our work and destiny cannot be seen apart or separated from the welfare of the entire organism. The opportunities that have come to us within this Section, the challenges, the responsibilities, lay upon us special obligations, to insure that we inject into the bloodstream of the total Society only such elements as will stimulate healthy growth and life-renewing vitality.

In one of the last talks I heard our late President, Brother Sri Ram, give, the

Closing Address to the 97th Convention at Adyar, he said: "We can transform the Society only when there is . . . a corresponding transformation in ourselves. . . . Perhaps if we start transforming the lead of our nature into the gold of purity in life, altruism and truth, we will be able to bring about the necessary change in the Society. Then the era that opens before us will be really new."

If we are anxious about the future, if we feel that change may threaten cherished ways or established patterns, if we are convinced there is no road map into tomorrow, then it is because we have failed to perceive the vision splendid contained in the majestic directive on which this Society was established: "The *Chiefs* want a 'Brotherhood of Humanity,' a real Universal Fraternity started; an institution which would make itself known throughout the world and arrest the attention of the highest minds."

One hundred years ago, in July 1873,

H. P. Blavatsky arrived in the United States on her third and final trip to this country. Sent, she wrote, for the purpose of organizing a group of workers on an inner plane, she set about the most awesome task ever undertaken by any man or woman, the task of redirecting the rushing torrent of materialism with all its accompanying evils into channels of spiritual truth and light.

H.P.B. stated that she and Colonel Olcott were informed what had to be done, but not how to do it. The "how" of things is always difficult, and if we find it so today, we must not despair, but as did the founders of this Society focus on what must yet be done, confident that somehow, somewhere, sometime, the stupendous reality of brotherhood—today the most uncommon common noun in our language—will be the lived and living experience of all humankind.

JOY MILLS,
General Secretary.

ENGLAND

The year under review has seen a steady continuation of the work, with an experimental innovation in the holding of two Conventions. The General Secretary's Letter to Unattached Members has completed its first year and appears to be a useful means of keeping contact with the large number of members not attached to Lodges.

At the National Headquarters, the programme of public lectures and study courses has been maintained. The Sunday lectures in particular attract a much younger audience than used to be the case only a few years ago. The posters in the London Underground are responsible for bringing many people, of varied nationalities, into touch with the Society. The use of the Tape Library has much increased, and

helps to compensate for the shortage of lecturers. The Lending Library has welcomed many visitors from abroad and a number of students have availed themselves of its facilities.

A small Convention was held in London in April, at which the Blavatsky Lecture, "The Mystery of Satan," was given by Mr. Edward Gall. A second Convention of three days was held in Harrogate, to make possible the participation of members from the North of England. The two guest speakers were Professor Meyer-Dohm, of the German Section, and an English member, Miss Grace Eldridge. The experiment of two Conventions was well supported, but the amount of work involved for the organizers will not allow its frequent repetition.

Residential weekends at Tekels Park have included one for intending speakers, one mainly for non-members interested in Yoga, and one devoted to *The Light of Asia* and some aspects of Buddhism. The Research Centre weekend, under the title "Sources of Truth," was as usual one of the year's high-lights.

The Summer School at High Leigh, under the title "Sources of Inspiration," proved a most happy and inspiring event, and we were especially pleased to welcome members from Germany, Holland and Australia.

The Theosophical Bookshop reports a substantial increase in sales, of which some 9% are to non-members. The Manager of the Bookshop, Mr. Michael Maxwell, and the Chairman of the Publishing House, Mr. Leslie H. Leslie-

Smith, attended the Convention at Adyar (1972) and had fruitful discussions with representatives of the Adyar and Wheaton Publishing Houses.

During the year, 261 new members were admitted and 52 more reinstated or transferred from other Sections. Among these have been a number of members from Uganda who have now settled in England. Deaths, resignations, lapsings and transfers out of England accounted for a loss of 344, leaving a total at 30th September of 2,250. Two Lodges and three centres have closed, one new Lodge Charter has been granted and one new Centre authorized.

IAN THE HOSKINS,
General Secretary.

INDIA

The year under report was made eventful by the passing away of our late International President, Sri N. Sri Ram, who was a member of the Indian Section ever since he joined the Society in 1909 and who was closely associated with the work of the Indian Section in different capacities during several decades. Numerous members throughout the country came to know him and appreciate him as he had travelled widely to every part of India to speak to members and the public on Theosophy and other subjects. He was also, till he became International President, frequently the chairman of the Indian Section Council meetings, guiding its deliberations. Even after he had undertaken the arduous duties of the International President, he continued to preside over various conferences and gatherings within the Section and made it a point to spend a few days each year at

the Indian Section Headquarters, Varanasi. During the last year, he presided over the North India conference at Gwalior, which was held along with the annual conferences of the U.P. and M.P.-Rajasthan Federations and on the way provided the opportunity to members in Delhi, Agra, Varanasi and Calcutta to meet him and hear him. During this tour, he stayed for one week in Varanasi, which enabled workers to consult him and listen to his talks. At the end of February and the beginning of March, 1973, barely one month before he passed away, he visited Bombay and Hyderabad and fulfilled a number of engagements, including more than one broadcast from the Hyderabad radio station. Although Mr. Sri Ram had a remarkable universality of outlook and a freedom from traditional or conventional points of view, he also embodied those qualities which are the quintessence

of Indian culture. His gentle ways, tender concern not to wound or hurt, his unswerving loyalty to the truth as he knew it, his humility, the economical but precise use he made of words and other qualities which one cannot enumerate in this context, were such as those spoken of in ancient books as characterizing an ideal Indian sage. We hope that his unremitting labour for the welfare of the world and of the Theosophical Society, carried on till the very end, will bear fruit in the shape of a new generation of workers deeply and selflessly devoted to the cause of the Theosophical Society and Theosophy as he was.

Since Mr. Sri Ram's passing away, Mr. John Coats has been elected as President of the Theosophical Society for the next seven-year term. He has been a member of the Society since 1932 and was the Chairman of the Federation of European Sections for many years. He has ceaselessly travelled during many years to all parts of the Theosophical world, often at great inconvenience to himself, in order to meet members and speak to them. His wide acquaintance with members everywhere will be an asset in his new task as the President and on behalf of the Indian Section I am happy to offer our co-operation in the great work which he has to guide and foster, and pray that the blessings of the Elder Brethren will be with us all as we proceed into a new century of work.

I would like to remind members that the work of any International President is onerous and heavy. To carry on the work of the T.S. in a manner which will make it a true channel of Wisdom is the responsibility of not only the President and the officers but that of every member and every Lodge. It is as we fulfil our duty to humanity and the Society in our own spheres, without faltering and with-

out withholding, that we will make the burden of the President lighter and add our strength to his.

The existence of a sense of individual responsibility is, in my view, very important at all the levels of work. There are Lodges where only one or two members shoulder the responsibility and do all the work, the others participating in different degrees but not making a positive contribution towards keeping the Lodge active in the right direction. There are other Lodges in which a larger number of members share the responsibilities and duties and in such cases there is a more vital channel for Theosophical influences to radiate. I have previously mentioned the fact, and I think it will bear repeating, that though Lodges everywhere may benefit from the lectures and presence of visitors, they must also be the soil from which lecturers and workers spring. There are members who sometimes complain that headquarters does not send a sufficient number of visitors and competent speakers to their areas. But such speakers and workers are not manufactured from some special source; they arise from the rank and file, so to speak. Wherever a member is earnest and eager, and alive to the need of knowing Theosophy and helping others to come to it, he transforms himself into a worker. Training classes and study courses by themselves cannot create workers, if the individual members who compose the classes do not have the will to learn, to study, to live and disseminate Theosophy, even as a professor cannot produce a good student, however brilliant his lectures may be, if the student does not prepare, work, listen, etc.

So every member has the potentiality and the responsibility of being a worker and a strong pillar of Theosophy, it being understood that work means primarily the

understanding and assimilation of Theosophy and the communication of such Theosophical understanding.

Besides our late President, there were many others who passed on to other worlds, for each year takes its toll even as it brings an influx. Among the departed I must mention Srimati A. Sita Devi, a member of very long standing from the U.S., who made India her home for nearly forty years. Her many-sided talents and her capacity to throw herself wholeheartedly into any task in which she engaged herself, made her a most valuable worker. She was Librarian of the Adyar Library for several years and was responsible for bringing out the Besant Spirit series, besides being the author of other books. Other stalwarts who shed the physical body were Sri Pannalal Varma of Ujjain, who was a member from 1912 and a source of strength to the work in Ujjain; Sri Jagat Narain Tewari of Etawah (member 1933-73) whose discourses on the Theosophical teaching in Tulsi's Ramayana appealed to many within and outside the Society; and Sri Bal Govind Das Loiwal of the Bengal Federation. The Madras Federation suffered a loss in the death of Sri S. Ganesh (1955-73) who was a prominent member of the Kilpauk Lodge.

A continued effort was made from the Section Headquarters systematically to send lecturers to the weaker areas, organize study and training camps, and give guidance to new Lodges.

Sri M. Krishnamacharyulu, the Jt. General Secretary, has been indefatigable in carrying out lecturing work. He visited 82 Lodges in ten Federations and spoke to members and the public, addressed students and other organizations, presided over conferences and attended to other necessary work. He conducted study camps at Tapeswaram, Ambalapuzha, and Gavirangapura and organized the

South Indian conference and some other gatherings. The Indian Section is fortunate to have the whole-time service of Sri Krishnamacharyulu.

Sri S. Krishnamurthy undertook the Expansion Programme activities in the southern region, giving particular attention to the Tamil Districts Federation. He toured through the Federation twice, speaking in the Lodges as well as in colleges and other organizations. He also carried on an intensive correspondence with interested members and enquirers. He also conducted a study camp at Nandi Hills.

Similarly, Prof. B. R. Mullik took under his wing the work in the north-western part of the Section. He gave a series of lectures at Chandigarh, Delhi, Rohtak, Srinagar and Muradnagar and conducted study camps at Saproon (Himachal Pradesh), Srinagar and Meerut. He also had to do much correspondence in connection with these programmes. It is hoped that out of these initial efforts, there will come the possibility of starting Centres and Lodges in the North-West, where up to now only very few exist.

The visits of these lecturers and the follow-up activities have created enthusiasm and strengthened the work. We are grateful to them for all the work done.

Others who visited Lodges and gave lectures were Sri S. G. Venkataramanan who visited various places in the Tamil and Telugu Federations, Miss Jeanne Dumas and Lt. Col. R. Gopalaratnam who visited Tamil and Kerala Lodges, Dr. C. V. Agarwal who gave illustrated talks in Hindi and English at a number of places in the U.P. and Delhi Federations and Sri P. N. Chakraborty who visited Lodges in Bengal. Several of those mentioned, particularly Dr. Agarwal and Sri P. N. Chakraborty discussed with members everywhere the question of

forming Centenary Committees, organizing celebrations and so forth.

I must also mention here the tour made by Mr. John Coats before and after the last Convention. He spoke to members in some of the major cities including Delhi, Patna, Agra, Varanasi, Calcutta, Bombay and Hyderabad and visited various other places particularly in the Rayalaseema Federation.

Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and Mrs. Hodson were welcome visitors at the Bombay Federation conference where he gave a series of lectures. A number of Indian Section members attended the School of the Wisdom in order to listen to Mr. Hodson, who during his stay at Adyar also addressed the members of the Madras Federation.

During the year, I was able to visit Lodges in Bihar and Gujarat and also several places in the U.P. and Maharashtra besides Delhi and Bombay. I also presided over the annual conferences of the Karnataka Federation at Hassan, the Marathi Federation at Akola, the Tamil Federation at Courtallam and participated in the conference held at Gwalior. These conferences have been occasions where I could discuss the problems of Lodges and members, the work in general and also the Centenary work.

Study and training camps were organized in a number of places, besides those already mentioned. There was the annual Workers' Training Camp at Adyar which was directed by Sri G. K. R. Patri of Hyderabad. There were camps at Sellappampalayam, Kodaikanal, Tenkasi and Courtallam, in the Tamil Federation. Sri C. R. N. Swami conducted a camp in Calicut in Kerala, which was held in addition to the one held in Ambalapuzha. There were three-day camps in Varanasi and Kanpur, the latter under the direction of Sri B. N. Swarup. In the Karnataka

Federation, there were fourteen camps of shorter or longer duration. Bihar Federation had a camp in Patna. The Gujarat Federation had seven district camps and one workers' camp at Surat.

The Secretary of the Publicity Committee, Dr. C. V. Agarwal, with the help of our Treasurer, Sri P. N. Chakraborty, has been steadily organizing these various aspects of expansion work. Encouragement and aid have been given to Federations through the Publicity Committee to bring out Theosophical literature in regional languages. Guidelines have been offered to new Lodges for carrying on work and books have been provided by the Section to form the nucleus of Lodge libraries and for use in study classes.

The Publicity Committee has also been in regular correspondence with the Federations in order to organize effectively the work during the centenary year. Centenary Committees are being formed at Federation and Lodge levels, consisting of suitable men in public life, including judges, Vice-Chancellors and leaders of other spiritual organizations. At Varanasi the committee consists of, among others, the Maharaja of Banaras, the Mayor, the Vice-Chancellors of the Banaras Hindu University and the Kashi Vidyapith, the Directors of several institutes and other distinguished citizens.

It is proposed to organize a public meeting in every town where there is a Theosophical Lodge and avail of the occasion not merely to recount the past work of the Society, but to bring to the attention of the public the relevance of the Theosophical Society in the present context in which separatism and materialism are rampant. The Theosophical Society is concerned with that basic change of attitude from self-isolation to selfless cooperation without which the social changes that are needed cannot be brought about.

It is also planned, between November 1974 and February 1976, to arrange for broadly Theosophical articles to appear in magazines and newspapers, to arrange for broadcasts from radio stations and do whatever else is possible to awaken the public to Theosophy. A revised Lodge handbook is also being prepared to mark the occasion and efforts will be made to bring out a special volume on the Theosophical heritage of India as found in the teachings of the various mystics and philosophical schools of the land.

The Indian Bookshop is reprinting revised translations into Hindi of *The Ancient Wisdom* by Annie Besant, *Theosophy Explained* by Pavri, *At the Feet of the Master* and B. L. Atreya's *Yoga Vasistha and Modern Thought*. Other vernacular publications were *Practical Occultism* translated into Bengali by P. N. Chakraborty; *Nivritimarga* in Kannada by A. Vasudeviah and a reprint of the *Theosophical Society Ya Sandesha* (Kannada) by Y. Srinivasa Rao; a pamphlet on Death and After in Malayalam by V. Chellappan; a Gujarati book on the Law of Karma by H. K. Mehta, a Gujarati pamphlet on the Theosophical Society, and a translation into Gujarati of J. Krishnamurti's *Meditation* by Shivilal Mody. The Rayalaseema Federation has published a number of leaflets in Telugu, Kannada and English and in Bombay, *Death* by Mehran Dhalla was brought out.

The branches of the Theosophical Order of Service have been carrying on work along the lines mentioned in my previous reports. Nearly 3,000 blankets received from Australia at the headquarters of the Order in Patna were distributed to orphanages, schools for the blind and the deaf and dumb, leprosy homes, homes for women, etc.

The Theosophical Islamic Association has been carrying on its programme of

lectures in Adyar and hopes to have a branch in Ahmedabad. Dr. Besant's *Beauties of Islam* has been translated into Urdu as also the pamphlet *Theosophy and Islam*. Theosophists, whether belonging to the Association or not, cannot be indifferent to the problem of bridging the gap between Hindus and Muslims in this country and creating an understanding of the essential truths in the two religions in the light of Theosophy—which is the work before the Theosophical Islamic Association.

The New Life for India movement has been planning to publish a small paper, with Dr. Besant's clarion call "Wake up India" as its name, to be distributed as widely as possible among students. It is hoped that this will be a means of awakening the young to the values, without which there can be no way out of the morass into which the country has fallen. A number of eager young students have been participating in this plan and it is hoped that it will be possible to overcome the bureaucratic delays in registering the paper soon and release the paper.

The work at headquarters has gone on smoothly although there has been an acute shortage of efficient helpers. I am grateful to my colleagues at Varanasi who have carried on under somewhat difficult circumstances during my unavoidably long absences from headquarters necessitated by the work in connection with the Adyar estate, the passing away of my father and other circumstances.

The membership of the Section on 30th September, 1973 was 7721 showing a decrease of 148 from the previous figure. The number of Lodges is 330 and of Centres 33. Lodges and Centres not having the required strength are 133 and 9 respectively.

A number of members are in the habit of paying their annual dues for the official year which has passed, while to be in good

standing it is necessary to pay the dues for the current year before it ends. The ideal would be of course to pay the dues in advance as the Section Constitution requires. It is very much to be desired that Lodge and Federation Officers will encourage members to pay for the current year so that they may be always in good standing. It is also advisable that members should pay their dues early in the year and not at the tail end, that is, late in September as there is an inevitable delay in the transmission of the dues from the Lodge to the Federation and from the Federation to the Section. Thus the dues paid late in the year to the Lodge officer would be received after the year is over at the Section office.

In conclusion, I once again appeal to members to come forward to share the privilege of promoting the Society's objects. Help is badly needed at the headquarters in Varanasi, in the Federation areas and in the Lodges. We need lecturers, students, organizers and office workers who are prepared to sacrifice their convenience at least to some extent and live a life of service to the cause of Theosophy. Life is brief and those who are brought into contact with the Theosophical Society have open before them an opportunity in the spiritual sense which may not immediately repeat itself.

RADHA BURNIER,
General Secretary.

AUSTRALIA

The past year has been marked by change and leave-takings of various kinds, the most noteworthy being the passing of the International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram who was well-known to Australian members through his several tours of this Section. His approach was essentially a philosophical one, and with his wide knowledge and understanding of the main currents of the modern world he was able to bring a moderating influence which cautioned against all kinds of dogmatism both within and outside the Society, but above all he exuded a rare quality of wisdom and humility.

The machinery for the election of a new president was immediately set in motion and, for the first time in the Society's history, five candidates stood for the office. At the end of September the results were not known but our votes had been counted and the figures forwarded to the Recording Secretary at Adyar. Of the 1,357 members eligible to vote only 666

did so. That so few cast a vote is somewhat disquieting although failure to do so was not always a matter of indifference; some declared they had no personal knowledge of the candidates and therefore preferred to abstain from voting.

In accordance with the International Rules, the Vice-President, Mr. James Perkins, became the President pro tem and with his wife, Kathrine, left Sydney for Adyar on the 2nd May. They had been two years with us, part of this time being spent touring the Section and speaking to Lodges. In October last year, at the end of a very successful visit to Adelaide, they participated in that Lodge's usual long holiday-weekend Seminar; in October and November they spent six weeks in Perth where Mr. Perkins conducted a well-attended Study Seminar of ten illustrated lectures, while Mrs. Perkins spoke to members and smaller groups. These all drew responsive audiences. More recently they had settled at the Manor,

Sydney. Our sincere appreciation is expressed to these two tireless workers.

At the end of February the news came of the passing of our very dear friend, Miss Helen Zahara, after a short but severe illness. She was General Secretary of the Australian Section from 1957 to 1965 during which time she was closely associated with the Lodges and membership here. She returned to Sydney on a brief visit early in 1969 *en route* from the International Convention at Adyar to the United States where she held the post of Head of the Department of Education and Co-ordinator of the Kern Foundation program at the National Headquarters of the American Section, Olcott, Wheaton. In 1971 she returned for a longer visit, being the guest lecturer for that year. She had always had a warm regard for Australia where she began her theosophical career in 1937 and took a keen interest in what was happening in this part of the world. The Non-English Publications Loan Fund was initiated and promoted by her to provide loans for translation of theosophical books from English into other languages. The former Indo-Pacific Fund, administered by The Theosophical Society in Australia, also originated with her and at the 1973 Convention this was renamed the Helen Zahara Commemorative Indo-Pacific Fund. It is used to assist projects for Sections and Theosophical Groups in the Indo-Pacific area. To help boost these two funds which were so close to her heart the Helen Zahara Memorial Appeal was launched at Convention and at the end of September stood at \$1354.13. Four paintings (2 oil and 2 water-colour) have generously been donated by members and when sold will help to swell the appeal still further.

General Secretary.—As no fellow can be eligible for a fifth consecutive term according to the Rules of The Theosophical Society in Australia, Miss Ruth Beringer relinquished the reins to Mrs. Elaine

Murdoch and left for a well-deserved rest. To her work in the Section, Miss Beringer brought commonsense, efficiency and a deep sense of dedication. Our warmest thanks go to her for the work she did for the Society in Australia.

Under the heading of change must also be mentioned the move of the National Headquarters Office, and the Blavatsky and Isis Lodges, to temporary premises at 58 Margaret Street, Sydney and 67 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, respectively, pending the completion of the new 14-storey office building at North Sydney next year.

Convention.—This year Convention was held for the third time at what must be our favourite venue, Binna Burra in the Lamington National Park, Queensland from the 19th to the 26th April, 1973. One hundred and ten members, some from as far distant as Perth and New Zealand, came together in these harmonious and beautiful surroundings where the theme "The Unity of Nature" was singularly appropriate. Convention opened with a short but moving Commemorative Service for Mr. N. Sri Ram and Miss Helen Zahara. We were most fortunate in having as our Guest Speaker, Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan, the Librarian at the Adyar Library and Research Centre at our International Headquarters. Apart from two very fine and inspiring talks and a slide evening, she led some of the morning meditations and contributed generously to various sessions as well as entering wholeheartedly into the social life and attempting to teach members Indian folk dancing. Her happy temperament in a large measure contributed to the outstanding success of the Convention. Special mention should also be made of the excellent talk, "The Encounter of Man and Nature," given by the newly re-appointed National Lecturer, Mr. Will Ross; the unusual and arresting musical program

given by a Brisbane member, Mr. Ken Jones, on "The Spiritual Significance of Popular Music"; two films by our New Zealand visitors, Mrs. Elsie Wilson and her husband, Mr. Frank Wilson, "Meditations on Nature" and "Adyar"; and an illustrated talk, "Nature, Rich in Life and Form," by Miss Ruth Beringer. Equally interesting were the regular convention programs—the Theosophical Research Session, the Question and Answer evening, the Theosophical Order of Service meeting, the Round Table group, the bus and boat outing to the Gold Coast, the two days devoted to group walks along nature trails and the discussions ("Regard Earnestly All the Life that Surrounds You" and "Help Nature and Work with Her") which took place while the billy boiled for the picnic lunch.

When we come together at Convention there are always the obvious and outstanding contributions, but equally important to the success of the occasion is the arduous "plain slogging" which goes on behind the scenes and the spirit which animates each and every member. That these three are present in rich abundance at our conventions is borne out by the enthusiasm with which members look forward to them each year.

Guest Speaker.—Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan spent an arduous three months visiting various Lodges and groups in Adelaide, Brisbane, Cairns, Canberra, Melbourne, Newcastle, Perth, Sydney and Toowoomba. At most of these places she addressed both public and members' meetings and in Adelaide she also conducted a 5-lecture seminar on the World religions well-attended by members, university and high school students. Everywhere she charmed her audience by the warmth of her personality as well as by her fine interpretation of the ancient wisdom. In her capacity as librarian of the Adyar Library and Research Centre she was able to

contact libraries and universities in several cities and make valuable links with the staff. In Sydney she not only gave radio talks as part of the regular Sunday night programmes on Station 2GB, but was interviewed most sympathetically by the press and appeared on two television channels. It was widely felt that the Australian Section was most fortunate in having this valuable and charming ambassador visit it.

National Lecturer.—At Convention, Mr. Will Ross was re-appointed as National Lecturer and has been kept busy touring the Section. Apart from speaking at Convention and in his present home-city, Melbourne, he has visited Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Newcastle, Perth, Sydney, Tasmania and Northern Queensland. In the course of his travels he has not only addressed members' meetings and public ones, but has given radio and television interviews. In Hobart he spoke to 400 pupils at the Friends' Senior School and to the students at the College of Advanced Education twice; in Launceston too he addressed students at the Girls' High School. In all these places he was favourably received. We are most fortunate that Mr. Ross enjoys speaking, which he does so ably, and are most appreciative of the excellent work he is doing.

Other Visits.—In April Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and his wife Sandra returned to Australia to live in Perth where Mr. Hodson has since conducted a seminar on the ancient wisdom. In June, Mr. and Mrs. Hodson visited Sydney where Mr. Hodson addressed two crowded public meetings and one members' meeting. Unfortunately we are to lose the services of these two stalwarts when they move to New Zealand later in the year.

Before retiring as General Secretary, Miss Beringer visited Adelaide, Albury, Canberra and Melbourne, and I have visited Adelaide, Hobart, Launceston and

Melbourne. These visits give a wider appreciation of the work being done in Australia and of the needs of individual Lodges which can sometimes be helped as a result.

Note should also be taken that Perth Lodge regularly sends speakers to Gosnells and Blavatsky to Newcastle Lodges. Members visiting other cities are always welcome, they sometimes speak to the Lodge and are able to exchange ideas regarding the work with members; thus Toowoomba has benefited by visits from members of Brisbane Lodge and Dr. Murdoch gave a talk to the Canberra Lodge when his work took him to that city.

Lodges.—There are 17 Lodges on the roll but it seems apparent that Peace Lodge which has had difficulty keeping going, will be dissolved before the end of the calendar year, while Isis Lodge has gone into recess pending the completion of the building at North Sydney. In many Lodges the work depends year after year on a handful of loyal members who are capable of assuming responsibility. Smaller Lodges have not the numbers to draw on and are often dependent on one or two dominant personalities. When these are unable to carry on the Lodge is hard-pressed to continue. Questions we may ask ourselves are: What are we doing to train members to assume responsibility? Have we speech training groups in the Lodge? Are we exploring new methods of approach and of presentation? In this regard I would like to quote from the annual report of the then president of Perth Lodge who writes: "It is important that all members who are able should take a turn in some job or other. There should be new faces every year on the committee. People who cling to office are not good for any organization. Often I have heard people say of a candidate for office, "Oh, he hasn't the experience for the job". Where pray does one gather

experience to do a job if one is excluded from it? So often I have noticed that the man—or woman—grows to fill the job—rises to the challenge of position and responsibility—particularly if he knows he is backed by an organization that will applaud his successes and ignore his failures".

While lectures have a place in our meetings (ideas can be developed in depth, the wide sweep of a particular subject can be presented, a lot of information can be given in a short time), a number of people would like to feel more actively involved in meetings. Some stimulating results can be seen in smaller groups and Lodges where members meet in private homes and thrash out ideas in a relaxed and more intimate atmosphere, where members who hesitate to speak in a large group, feel sufficiently secure to put forward a point of view.

It is encouraging that some Lodges are aware of the problems and are willing to experiment with new ideas. One successful approach has been through seminars like the public ones given by Mr. James Perkins in Adelaide and Perth, or the regular one undertaken by Adelaide Lodge over the long holiday-weekend each year and held at the home of Miss Helen George. I would like to see more of these organized, some on a small and less pretentious scale. Lodges might arrange an occasional weekend away; these can take several different forms ranging from purely informal to intensive study ones. Some Lodges are already doing this either in members' homes or a guest house. Another approach is through yoga and meditation groups which are becoming an integral feature in most of the larger Lodges.

It is pleasing to see that Canberra Lodge which was chartered in October, 1971, is thriving, and that Mosman (now renamed Tathagata) Lodge has taken a new lease

of life although its numbers are few. Cairns Lodge has had a windfall in the form of a legacy of a small property to be administered by The Australian Section Theosophical Trust on their behalf; this has given added impetus to their work. Blavatsky and Melbourne Lodges are still operating in temporary premises which hampers some of their activities. Melbourne is still awaiting Council approval to commence renovating their new property in Russell Street, while in Sydney the new building which is to accommodate both Blavatsky and Isis Lodges, and the National Headquarters, has been dogged by a series of strikes. Hobart Lodge has also had to vacate the premises it had rented but has been most fortunate in being able to continue its meetings at "The Centre," at 56 Molle Street, Hobart where the atmosphere is much more congenial to its purposes.

The Albury, Rockhampton and St. George (Sydney) Study Groups have continued to meet regularly and mostly follow the procedure of listening to a tape or reading a study book, followed by discussion. In April another group was formed in Darwin and already has attracted a number of new members.

Adelaide, Perth and Melbourne each publish a small magazine, while Brisbane and Hobart bring out a Contact newsletter. These not only contain interesting articles but serve to keep members informed of the Lodge activities. In Sydney, the Discovery (Youth) group have a bi-monthly magazine *Movement*.

Services to Lodges.—The second film "Reincarnation" became available in October, 1972. Like "How Many Lifetimes," it was produced under a grant from the Kern Foundation by The Theosophical Society in America. This 29 minute 16 mm. colour production dramatically portrays the basic concept of rebirth and already has been in demand

by Lodges and some outside bodies. These two films together with special programs, study courses and tapes are available from the National Headquarters Office. This year 93 tapes have been borrowed and we add to them from time to time. At present we are also making available cassettes for those who prefer to borrow these rather than tapes.

The *Adyar Newsletter* which keeps Lodges in touch with International Headquarters, appears quarterly and is sent regularly to Lodges by courtesy of The Theosophical Society in Australia. The General Secretary's "Contact" letter to all presidents and the secretaries of larger Lodges keeps members informed of events at home and abroad. While Isis Lodge is in recess a similar Contact letter is being sent to each member regularly and this service is to be extended to all unattached members quarterly.

Headquarters Staff.—It would be impossible to carry out the work of the Headquarters Office without the small band of people working efficiently and harmoniously as a team: Mrs. Gladys MacCartie (the assistant General Secretary), Miss Marion Caws, Miss Judith Fyfe, Mr. David Esplin (the assistant Treasurer and Secretary of The Theosophical Foundation Pty. Ltd.), Miss Doris Williamson, the former Manager of the Quest Book Agency and her successor, Miss Audrey Godding. To these as well as to Mr. Norman Hankin, Chairman of The Theosophical Foundation Pty. Ltd., and Dr. H. S. Murdoch, the National Treasurer, as well as the occasional helper who assists in times of crisis and pressure, we owe our deepest thanks.

Membership.—Membership now stands at 1927, an increase of 86 over last year. There have been 341 incoming members (295 new members, 35 readmissions and 11 transfers from other Sections). Against this there have been 255 outgoing ones

(45 resignations, 21 deaths, 182 lapsings and 7 transfers to other Sections).

Through death we have lost several outstanding workers including Mr. William MacPherson, Lt.-Colonel Urmson, Mr. Fred Hill and Mr. W. G. Patterson.

Mrs. Emily Hynes and Mrs. Lily Zimmermann completed 50 years membership while five members have attained the considerable age of 90 years, namely Miss Amy Barrett, Mrs. Orlo-Smith, Mrs. Connie Wundersitz, Mr. B. A. Bidwell and Mr. John Farquharson.

A monthly average of 420 letters have been sent to new members who have expressed appreciation of this service which is provided to each new member for the first 18 months of membership. The beautifully inscribed diplomas sent to these members is the work of Mr. W. P. McKenzie whom we thank for this very useful service.

Journal.—*Theosophy in Australia* has been published every alternate month and although some articles have been reprinted from other theosophical magazines, the majority have been contributed by Australian members or are transcripts of talks given by visiting lecturers or the National Lecturer. The task of getting the magazine out on time is a corporate effort by the Headquarters Staff but special thanks must go to Miss Marion Caws and Mr. David Esplin for the demanding task of editing.

Advertising and Publicity.—Advertisements have appeared regularly in *The Australian*, *The Bulletin* and *The Australian Journal of Advanced Education* and this has resulted in a steady trickle of telephone and mail requests for information. Forty-seven enquirers have subsequently subscribed to the 12-part Correspondence Course which uses Eunice and Felix Layton's book *Theosophy, Key to Understanding* and also includes the booklet *At the Feet of the Master*.

Books were supplied to Harristown High School, Toowoomba (the cost of \$20.50 being shared equally by the Section and Toowoomba Lodge) as well as to schools visited by the National Lecturer.

Valuable publicity has also come from radio, press and television interviews with Mr. Will Ross and Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan; two members of the Section Office participated in the David Frost Show "God" but so many organizations were represented they did not have an opportunity to express a point of view.

Broadcasting.—The regular 15-minute theosophical broadcasts have continued on Station 2GB each Sunday evening and elicit requests for scripts or information concerning Theosophy. We are most grateful to the radio talks committee (Misses Florence Beaufoy and Marion Caws, and Messrs. David Esplin and Fred Houstone), to the guest lecturers including Mr. Will Ross and Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan, and to those who record the talks.

Bookshops.—A regular feature of the major Lodges and a steady source of income are the excellent bookshops run by those in Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney. These are of a very high standard and perform the invaluable function of being able to supply books not always obtainable elsewhere, and are our most important form of publicity, being our main link with the public. The personnel endeavour to give a highly personalized service to customers which is rare in most bookshops today, and through them have come many enquiries regarding Theosophy as well as some of our new members.

Quest Book Agency.—The Agency under the capable management of Miss Doris Williamson and later Miss Audrey Godding has completed another successful year. In June, Miss Godding took over

and we thank Miss Williamson for the excellent work she has done over the past three years, and wish her well in her new life. Demand has increased in 1973 especially for Quest Books; Perth Lodge in particular has had very good sales in the latter part of the year and there has been a greater response from New Zealand and the Northern Territory. Books were sold to 103 trade customers in addition to Theosophical Lodge and Groups. Advertisements are placed regularly in *The Melbourne Age*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Australian*, *The Post*, *Review*, *Cosmos* and *English in New Zealand*. Mrs. Shirley Miller continues to act as agent in the Brisbane area, Mrs. Audrey Runciman in Canberra and Miss Joyce Duncan in Melbourne. Volunteers who would care to assist by approaching bookshops in their area are most welcome and should contact Miss Godding or their local agent. Recently Quest has produced more titles and Robinson and Watkins are to reprint a number of books in 1974 in addition to some new titles. A total of 7,998 books were sold comprising 4,905 Quest Books, 1,411 Robinson and Watkins books and 1,682 from T.P.H. London.

The Theosophical Order of Service.—Much of the work of The Theosophical Order of Service in Australia continues to be done by groups of theosophists and friends working autonomously for special projects in their area which include assistance to the under-privileged, animal welfare and concern for environmental problems. In order to work more effectively with other members of the community concerned with such problems, the Theosophical Order of Service in Australia is a member-body of the National Council of Women, the United Nations Association of Australia, The Australian Conservation Foundation and AUSTCARE (Australian Care for Refugees). Money has been collected for the

last-named and we, in turn, have received 1% of the AUSTCARE funds for our special projects in India and Viet-Nam being run by theosophists. It should be stressed that this money can only be used for the specific purpose of caring for refugees and not for any of our other projects.

During the year the Order of Service was instrumental in suggesting that an Aboriginal woman visit New Zealand on a special scholarship to study Maori educational methods and did the organizing for the trip. Another especially exciting project was the arrival of a small Vietnamese girl from Madame Hai's orphanage in Saigon last December for adoption by the daughter of the National Director.

International.—Once again we have been in close touch by correspondence with the International Headquarters in India and with Sections and members all over the world.

The Adyar-Australia Fund stood at \$22,617.95 on 30th September, 1973 and its income during the year amounted to \$1,239.47 which is held in safe-keeping for the upkeep of the Adyar Estate. Collections and donations for Adyar Day, the Adyar Library and Research Centre, the Olcott Schools and the Rice Bowl Appeal have been transmitted to Adyar.

Donations from Lodges and members and a national contribution to the Non-English Publications Loan Fund amounted to \$1,017.00 of which \$895.30 has been forwarded to the Fund in the United States.

We have also assisted through the Helen Zahara Commemorative Indo-Pacific Fund with gifts of books, mostly for use in Lodge Libraries, to Lodges in Indonesia, Singapore, Burma and Penang.

Administration.—During Convention at Binna Burra, three National Council meetings were held as well as the customary Annual General Meeting of The Australian Section Theosophical Trust.

The Sydney Quorum of the National Executive Committee and the Directors of the Trust Company meet regularly each month; minutes of all these meetings and relevant information are sent to all concerned with the administration. I would like to thank most sincerely all those concerned with this side of the work and for the help and support they have given to me personally since assuming office.

Donation of Books.—An Indian member, Dr. M. Rammohan Rao, has generously donated 400 copies of Dr. George Arundale's book *You* to the Australian Section. Already some of these have been sent to smaller Lodges and groups and, as they become available, more will be distributed. Our sincere thanks have been conveyed to Dr. Rao.

Bequest.—Last year our finances were assisted by a bequest of \$6,000.00 from the Estate of the late G. C. Szymming as mentioned in the treasurer's report for the year ending 30th September, 1972. Properties in Victoria from the Estate have also been bequeathed in equal portion to The Theosophical Society in Australia (Australian Section Theosophical Trust) and the Blavatsky Lodge of The Theosophical Society. These will be disposed of at an appropriate time and for the best possible value.

Finance.—At Convention in April, Dr. H. S. Murdoch was again elected as National Treasurer and Mr. David Esplin was appointed as Assistant Treasurer. We are deeply grateful to these two workers for looking after our financial affairs so ably.

The Theosophical Foundation Pty. Ltd.—Once again Mr. Norman Hankin filled the office of Chairman and Mr. David Esplin

that of Secretary of the Foundation, the Directors of the Company all being members of the Society.

It was hoped that the building in North Sydney, which is held in trust for the Society and Blavatsky Lodge, would be completed by the end of 1973. However the work has been delayed by serious industrial unrest and it is not anticipated that it will be completed until mid-1974.

In continuance of its policy of promoting the objects of The Theosophical Society, financial assistance was given to publishing *Theosophy in Australia*, the operation of The Quest Book Agency and lecture tours.

Conclusion.—Appraising the year's work, it is apparent that we stand at the crossroads: in 1976 we can either go forward to a second century of worthwhile theosophical effort or we can become just another organization paying lip-service to certain ideals but doing nothing effective. It seems necessary to reappraise the work honestly and feel free to experiment and question. The forms which served us well as means of presenting theosophical ideas in the past may no longer be good enough if these are to flow freely and creatively, while the ideas themselves require a fresh interpretation if they are to be meaningful. Already there is a growing awareness of this among members and some Lodges are beginning to experiment with new approaches and new methods of presentation. It is only by constant reassessment that the movement retains its vitality and can make a valuable contribution to present-day society. Whether or not this happens depends on each of us.

ELAINE MURDOCH,
General Secretary.

SWEDEN

The Section's Headquarters in Stockholm were moved in the autumn of 1972 from the old premises, which had been held for 57 years, to new premises more centrally situated and with easier access for the public. The moving and arrangements in the new place took a great deal of the autumn, but on the last day of October regular meetings could begin. We find our new home a good one, and our contacts with the public have increased, thanks also to better facilities for the bookshop and the lending library.

The Section held its annual Convention of 1973 the last week-end in April in Stockholm. We have the pleasure of having the Danish General Secretary, Mr. Preben Sorensen, as our guest and main speaker, and he gave among other things glimpses from his recent visit to Adyar and India.

A study course in Raja Yoga has been going on in Stockholm during the winter, the study being based on Wallace Slater's *Raja Yoga—a practical course*, which has been translated and duplicated. In the autumn of 1973 a study circle on the present situation of man and possibilities for the future, considering also man's inner resources, has been started. It is of interest to note that for the participants, a majority of whom have joined the T.S. recently, the two aspects of the subject are of equal importance, to come to a deeper knowledge of man, mainly by the study of Theosophy, and the application of that knowledge to the world situation to-day and to-morrow.

Regular meetings have been held in four places including six Lodges and some activity has continued in two other places. During the autumn of 1973 there has been the beginning of theosophical activity in another three places.

The four Scandinavian Sections of Denmark, Norway, Finland and Sweden arranged this summer, during the first week of July, a joint summer-school at Tranberg, a beautifully situated conference place north of Oslo in Norway. The key-note of the summer-school was "The Sources of the Ancient Wisdom," which was also the theme of a series of lectures by our guest speaker, Miss Ianthe Hoskins, General Secretary of England. About 75 people attended this gathering, which stressed again how fruitful such co-operation between the Sections can be.

The joint Danish-Norwegian-Swedish magazine *Teosofi i Norden* is continued. A booklet, *On Death and its Meaning*, came from the printer early this summer. A new information leaflet on Theosophy has been produced. In the series of duplicated articles by modern theosophical writers (supplementing the magazine) sent to members and held available to the public, have appeared two articles by Laurence J. Bendit.

The membership at present stands at 349 members, 44 new members having joined and 18 left during the year.

CURT BERG,
General Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND

The tempo of world change continues to accelerate year by year and 1972-73 has brought many marked and encouraging advances in thought and understanding. We are not alone in our campaign to direct the "crest-wave" of action on ecological subjects from the purely physical to the emotional, mental and spiritual planes.

The vital words of H.P.B. quoted in our last year's report are becoming almost prophetic:

"The gradual assimilation of mankind of great spiritual truths will alone revolutionize the face of civilization and ultimately result in a far more effective panacea for evil than the mere tinkering of superficial misery."

1972-73 has again witnessed the increasing acknowledgement by scientists of the hidden laws of Nature and the Intelligence behind such laws. Such ideas as the DNA codes and precision programmed universe are becoming commonplace.

Our First Object, the ideal of the Universal Brotherhood, is gaining widespread acceptance through world-wide tourism and the influence of the youth of today.

Generally speaking, touring now in the various countries compared with, say, even twenty years ago, discloses a genuine welcome to visitors irrespective of race, creed, sex, caste or colour. Reservations, war-memories and petty nationalism of a few decades ago are disappearing. The youth in prosperous countries like Japan want a good and full life in peace and prosperity. Discontent is centred mostly in the countries which have yet to be economically emancipated and lifted from

poverty and insecurity. There may be some exceptions, unfortunately vicious ideologies are still being indoctrinated, but by and large, the youth of the world want peace and brotherhood. Visitors not only visit the temples of all religions now-a-days but are at times invited to join in some of their ceremonies.

Highlights of 1972-73.—Overseas Speaker.—Highlights of the past year included a visit by Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan from Adyar. She lectured throughout the Section, inspiring members and public alike. Her cheerful optimism and inner strength and joy proved contagious. She endeared herself to one and all and with T.V., radio and press interviews, helped spread the ageless wisdom to a very wide audience. Dudley Gower, M.A., of England arrived to retire in Nelson, but soon found himself on the public platform lecturing and bringing a fresh presentation of the great truths to members and public. Our grateful thanks.

Members Rise to the Occasion.—Members responded to the more general public acceptance of our philosophy and using all known methods of propaganda, reached increasing numbers of enquirers. The improved public image of the Theosophical Society and the needs of the times enabled our Lodges to operate with less resistance than ever before and to increased audiences. For instance a group of 45 in Katikati invited our General Secretary to address them on "Meditation," and Frank and Elsie Wilson showed their colour film "Meditation on Nature". Study and research are thus going on in many unexpected parts of the country.

Lodge Work.—Most Lodges have been functioning well this year and attracting numbers of young sincere students. The willing service of our faithful officers and

members is bearing fruit and providing the Elder Brethren with much-needed channels for the higher forces.

Seminars.—The H.P.B. Lodge, Auckland, and the Wellington Lodge were again successful with their gatherings. Deep study with notes, charts, pencils and paper appeal particularly to the young in their endeavour to gain knowledge of each aspect of Theosophy.

National Lecturer.—Mr. Walter Tanner's lectures on the subject "Essential Knowledge in the Search for Enlightenment," and answers to questions have been a source of help and inspiration to all centres visited. Our sincere thanks.

Other Speakers, including our Assistant General Secretary and Treasurer have travelled many miles to bring country Lodges new subject matter for discussion.

The General Secretary dealt particularly with "Spiritual Ecology for Mankind," our 1973 Keynote, and was supported at many of his lectures by Elsie and Frank Wilson with their splendid colour film "Meditation on Nature". A visit to the Far East with his wife and younger daughter confirmed the belief in the growing tolerance between the various peoples of the nations, irrespective of race, creed, sex, caste or colour. Tourism, one feels, is playing a most valuable role in uniting the members of the one great human family.

Advertising again this year covered most large daily papers, Sunday and weekly journals throughout both islands and the campaign to gain increased subscribers to *Theosophy in New Zealand* brought in over 450 new subscribers. A new record circulation has now been reached with overseas subscribers also increasing.

The booklet *Introducing Theosophy*, copies of the National Network Broadcast "I Believe" and thousands of the

fine Kern Foundation inspired leaflets have again been used by Lodges and the Section with good results.

A publisher and his son were so impressed with C. W. Leadbeater's booklet *Australia and New Zealand, Home of a New Subrace*, that their publishing company, Ashford & Kent Ltd., P.O. Box 779 Tauranga, N.Z., published 5,000 copies for public sale. We trust that the Lodges and members will make great use of this inspiring booklet which is now available from Section Headquarters. Credit for this goes to Miss Mary Graham and Mrs. Kathleen Crawford.

"Theosophy in New Zealand" now exceeds an annual circulation of 10,400—up 4,000 from last year, and is gaining general acceptance in many quarters. An increasing number of new subscribers are joining the Society each year. Balanced between a publicity journal and a house organ for members, the magazine continues to fulfil a most important task. Having the long articles from members in overseas journals condensed and interestingly presented, makes for modern style up-to-date reading.

Section Library continues to be of help to country members and is kept supplied with many of the latest publications. It is in the capable hands of Mrs. Joan Patterson.

Tape Library.—Miss Evelyn Taylor efficiently continues this work for Lodges. The Theosophical Cassette Centre approved by last Convention has now come into operation to help members have the best talks available to them personally. Frank and Athol Wilson have kindly undertaken this important work at 13 Balmain Road, Birkenhead, Auckland.

Youth's Part.—Young people are becoming quite challenging to our many speakers. Their techniques of study and deep reading demand that each speaker knows his subject thoroughly. Youth

will not be fobbed off with vague platitudes. The youth of the world are all on the march and more than ever are seeking logical answers to life's problems. The study and application of the Buddhist teachings is becoming very popular amongst the American youth.

T.O.S. Activities are helping many of our members at Orewa and proving a fine centre for the thriving Orewa Lodge. Development plans are in hand and should be finalized in the near future. Bill and Eileen Finch, Frank Wilson, Leslie Hardy and many others are doing invaluable work there.

Animal Welfare and Health Society activities are flourishing in Dunedin, bringing widespread publicity and general interest.

Finances.—Our members always respond generously to our Voluntary Fund Appeal to enable essential work to be extended. The response this year brought \$850 as against a Budget of \$800. Rest assured that every cent given to the fund is expended with the utmost care and profitability to our cause.

Our Capital Funds are wisely administered and our Real Estate is taken good care of by The Properties Trust Board.

Legacies.—The Society will benefit this year from a half share in the estate of the late Mrs. I. M. Lett and from a one-third share under the Will of the late Eric Brown.

Section Treasurer.—I feel I must pay a special tribute to our capable and wise Section Treasurer, Neill Edgar, A.C.A. He handles all our finances, advises on advertising and constitutional matters, and is a valuable member of the Section Executive and Trust Board. We are extremely fortunate to have his dedicated and impersonal help in the New Zealand Section.

Donations.—

Adyar Day Fund	\$ 190
Harijan Free Schools	\$ 144
Non-English Publications	\$ 54
Century Fund—	
31-10-'72	\$ 4326
Plus	\$ 200
	<hr/>
	\$ 4526
Interest to Adyar	\$ 320

Membership.—Incoming: 146; Outgoing: 149, leaving a total at 30-9-'73 of 1,165 members.

Called to Higher Service—N. Sri Ram.—This year has witnessed the passing of one of our much loved Presidents, N. Sri Ram, at the age of 83 years. He was an inspiring writer and speaker, world travelled, wise and kindly on all occasions and with a clarity and delicacy of thought almost beyond compare. We honour his life and passing with deep reverence.

Helen Zahara, a New Zealander of international Theosophical repute, passed to higher service on 26th February. One time Recording Secretary at Adyar, General Secretary for Australia and more recently Kern Foundation Liaison Officer with the American Section, she did outstanding work for the Society. Helen was completely impersonal, dedicated, an efficient accountant and a most likeable and wonderful friend.

Twenty-three members of the New Zealand Section passed away during the year.

The Mason Foundation which is administered by the New Zealand Insurance Company Trust Department continues to provide worthwhile contributions to our publicity and advertising campaigns. This year we received the sum of \$669.21. The Kern Foundation of U.S.A., upon which the Hon. H. G. R. Mason, C.M.G., Q.C., patterned this fund at the start of endowing it, yielded them \$291,000.00 for the

year. On a per capita basis we are catching up and will surpass the American Foundation when more members make gifts to our fund or leave gifts in their Will mentioning the Foundation.

Gratitude.—Adyar, U.S.A., England and Australia have as usual helped us during the year in a truly co-operative and brotherly relationship. Our own Section and Lodge Officers and personnel and many unseen workers who give so willingly of their time and effort continue to help the New Zealand Section in “popularising a knowledge of Theosophy” as directed by the Masters.

Our efficiency in carrying out Their work depends upon the reliability and selflessness with which each individual worker plays his or her part. I thank each one of you personally for making this an harmonious, co-operative and

efficient Section and for the spirit of goodwill and cheerfulness at all times prevailing throughout both Islands.

Assistant General Secretary.—It would not be possible to name all our many helpers but special gratitude goes to Miss Cecilia Pollard, our Assistant General Secretary, for her efficiency, dedication and willing help upon all occasions. This applies especially when the General Secretary is away on Lecture Tours and she is in charge of the Section office.

Conclusion.—By practising the Brotherhood we proclaim we fit ourselves to be fuller helpers in the years to come and play a part in the introduction of the Sixth Sub-race on the shores of the Pacific.

BRIAN DUNNINGHAM,
General Secretary.

NETHERLANDS

Membership.—1,066 (last year 1,063); New Members: 57 (34); Re-admissions: 7 (4); Transfers from other Sections: 0 (2); Resignations: 38 (35); Deaths: 20 (38); Lapsings: 0 (7); Transfers to other Sections: 3 (0). This gives an increase of 3 members as against a loss of 40 in 1972.

One Lodge, “Esther Windust”, was dissolved and has become a Centre, and a new Centre opened activities in Hengels, mostly with young members.

Convention.—Held 7-8 October, 1972, this was dedicated to the Byzantine Rite of Catholicism. Prof. Quispel, a well-known professor at the University of Leiden and Mr. van Rossam, who lectured on “Religion in East Europe,” were the guest speakers.

Study-week and Summer School.—This year the subject was Astrology and the

study courses were well-attended. The teacher was Mr. Cosman.

Publishing House.—As Mrs. Burger found the task too heavy, Miss A. J. Post was appointed as the new Manageress. The translation of *The Divine Plan* is nearly finished and will be ready for sale at the end of this year.

The following are the new members of our Board: Mrs. N. E. v.d. Schoot-Groot—President (General Secretary); Mr. Ir. H. W. Dunnewalt—Vice-President; Miss B. Willemse—Treasurer; Mrs. B. L. M. Cardinaal-de Laat de Kanter—Recording Secretary; Miss A. J. Post—Manageress, Publishing House; Mr. Ir. H. E. Ch. Poortman—Chief Editor (*Theosophia*); Mr. D. van Egmond, Mr. W. Haartman; Mr. Dr. W. van Vledder.

N. E. v.d. SHOOT-GROOT,
General Secretary.

FRANCE

The work proceeds steadily in France, chiefly in Paris where big audiences attend the lectures given twice a month and the two weekly courses on Theosophy in our Headquarters. In other towns, principally in Marseilles, Nice, Cannes, Lyon, Grenoble, Le Mans and Rouen, the theosophical activities go on satisfactorily.

The annual Convention was held the 28th and 29th April, with over one hundred participants and Mr. Georges Tripet, General Secretary of the Swiss Section, as our guest of honour. As usual, almost all the participants communally took their meals in our Headquarters. Besides its ordinary work, the Convention entirely revised the Rules of the French Section which had been in force since 1955.

A great number of French members participated in the Summer School of Latin Countries which took place at Tremezzo (Italy).

Our Publishing House (Editions Adyar) demonstrated great activity during the year ending 30th September, 1973. It published ten books among which are

French translations of the second volume of *Isis Unveiled* and *Practical Occultism* by H. P. Blavatsky, *Reincarnation, Karma* and *Thought Power* by Annie Besant, *Invisible Helpers*, by C. W. Leadbeater, *The Elixir of Life* by Godolphin Mitford, and *Meditation for Beginners* by J. I. Wedgwood. As previously, our bookshop has furnished its numerous customers with books on Theosophy and similar subjects.

We kept on publishing conjointly with the Belgian and Swiss Sections our magazine *Le Lotus Bleu*, which was founded by H. P. Blavatsky and which is completing its 78th year of existence. Its new and attractive presentation is most appreciated by its many readers. As formerly, it was issued ten times during the year which has just finished, with an average printing of 1,800 copies.

One new Lodge has been formed in Paris, making the total number of Lodges in France amount to forty. The number of members in our Section has grown again. It has reached 1,221, the increase being 17 members.

SALOMON LANCRI,
General Secretary.

ITALY

The Theosophical Society in Italy is growing in number every year, of groups and in work done. The number of members is now 594, with 82 new admissions during the year and the constitution of five new Lodges. There are now twenty-five active groups.

The 59th National Convention was held at Castrocaro (Near Bologna) with the participation of more than 100 members, notwithstanding the postal and railway strikes. The guest of honour was

Mrs. H. Sabetay from Paris. The Convention was arranged in the manner of a symposium on "The First Aim of the T.S.," which was debated by 12 speakers.

The General Secretary, Mr. E. Bratina, on invitation, spoke before an audience of 300 people in the Town Hall Auditorium at Forli. The press and the radio gave a good appreciation and several interviews.

The Monthly Review of the Section, the *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* was issued

regularly during the year and reaches now almost 600 subscribers.

The Summer School of Pays Latins was held at Tremezzo on the lake of Como, 18-25th September, 1973, with 95 participants. The theme was, "The Second Aim of the T.S.", which was discussed by Mrs. Leslic-Smith, Miss Mir Tabatabai, Mr. Lanci, Mrs. Nyssens, Mrs. Sabetay, Mr. Sel Sere, Mr. Thorin and Mr. Bratina. During a symposium on the same topic, the speakers were Miss Anderson, Mr. Forcellini, Mrs. Pearson Laroute, Mrs. Bermudes. There were also five "Study Groups" and a "Question Answer" meeting. During the Summer

School an excursion was organized to nearby important spots. There was also a programme of Italian Music.

In Italy, there is a growing interest among thousands of people in astrology, parapsychology, yoga, psychology, but mainly for practical purposes, while religion and idealism in general are losing ground.

It is necessary to present Theosophy for practical application in everyday life and to point out the usefulness of following spiritual ideals for one's own equilibrium, moral growth and happiness.

EDOARDO BRATINA,
General Secretary.

GERMANY

Our membership decreased a little because of many deaths, but interest for Theosophy is growing in most places, particularly at Bad Homburg v.d.H., where we continue to arrange lectures and meetings once a month for inquirers and members who came to us since we celebrated our 70th anniversary in that town.

Weekend meetings at Inzamühlen every May and October are appreciated and well attended each time.

"To Live Consciously with Theosophy" was the key-note of our summer school at Hustedt/Celle from 1st-8th July, 1973. Guests of honour and main speakers there were Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith, Chairman of the European Federation, and Mrs. Ila and Mr. Geoffrey Barborka from California. There was much to learn during this week of full sunshine every day.

ANNELIESE STEPHAN,
General Secretary.

CUBA

The joint meetings of members of the eight Lodges who meet at the Section's Building in Havana have continued as usual, every month in a different Lodge.

Administrative Activities of the Section, Board of Directors.—(December 17th, 1972). It was agreed that the 68th National Convention and Board of Directors meet

on January 19th, 20th and 21st, 1973. The National Treasurer, Brother Adolfo Aizpurua read his Report. The estimated budget for the year 1973 was approved with incomes and expenditures as estimated of \$2,191.20. Brother Roberto Latour was reappointed Auditor to the Section. The National President read his

Annual Report. Diplomas of 50 years and 25 years membership of the Section were given to various members.

68th National Convention and Board of Directors.—(January 19th, 20th and 21st, 1973). Fifteen Lodges of the Section were represented at the National Convention. The National President read his Annual Report (January 1st to December 31st 1972) The National Treasurer read his Report stating that in the previous year (1972) the income was \$2,486.50 and the expenditure was \$1,632.31 with a surplus of \$854.19.

During the session of the Board of Directors on the 21st January 1973, Brother Adolfo Aizpurua Aizcorbe and Brother Ramiro Blanco Calás were re-appointed Treasurer and Vice-Treasurer respectively; Sister Dr. Lelia Fernandez Pagola as Librarian. The National President reappointed Brother Dr. Luis Coloma Delgado, National Secretary; Brother Alfredo Cabrera Martinez, Recording Secretary; Brother Juan Bautista Rodriguez Oliva, Assistant to the Presidency; and as Advisers to the Presidency; the Presidents of all the Lodges of the Section. As Assistant Editor and Manager respectively of *Revista Teosófica Cubana* Brother Juan Bautista Rodriguez Oliva and Sister Dr. Lelia Fernandez Pagola were reappointed by the National President.

In the meeting for members during the Convention, on the evening of the 19th, the Prayers of Religions were read by several members of the Section. Brother Ignacio Muñio Quintero of "Leadbeater" Lodge gave a lecture on "The Present Moment to the Theosophist" and Brother Dr. Dana Cruz-Bustillo a lecture on "Personality and Civilization". At the Public Meeting on the evening of the 20th, Brothers Juan Bautista Rodriguez and Dr. Lelia Fernandez Pagola gave a lecture on "Ascent and Descent of

Civilizations". At the Public Meeting on the evening of the 21st, a lecture was given on *The Voice of the Silence* by three members, Brothers Humberto Sarmiento, Eneida Irrargarri and Gaspar Torres Martinez.

Board of Directors.—(July 29, 1973) Besides the required reports of the National President, the Librarian and the Assistant Editor of *Revista Teosófica Cubana*, the session was dedicated to fraternal relations.

Lodges and Members.—This year ended with 19 active Lodges, the same as in the previous year. The number of members has increased compared to last year's Report, from 376 to 390 as at September 30, 1973. The new entries were 36, of which 35 were new members and 1 re-entry; and the decreases 22, of which 3 were resignations, 10 deceased, 3 lapsings and 6 transfers to other Sections (leaving the country).

The Lodges of the Section were active during the year in their studies and work.

Theosophical Publications.—*Revista Teosófica Cubana* is being published regularly. Its circulation has been augmented, every member receiving his number free of cost.

Theosophical Festivities.—All took place as usual at the Section's Building in Havana.

The Section's Economy.—The National Bank regulations do not allow at present the export of dollars, and like in years before, it has not been possible for us to comply with our financial obligations to Adyar. However we have made the corresponding reserve of funds in our financial records. The reserve of funds for the year ended September 30, 1973, is of \$197.43, which is 15% of \$1,300.20 for Fees and \$16.00 for Diplomas.

DANA CRUZ-BUSTILLO,
General Secretary.

HUNGARY

No Report

FINLAND

The year under review was not very different from the previous years, with regular activities, the magazine, libraries, Lodges and lectures at the Headquarters and elsewhere, Annual Convention and Summer School, numerous excursions and weekends at the Summer Home, Krevilä, and so on.

Out of the ordinary occurrences have been that the General Secretary was invited to give a short radio talk to clarify the current ideas about Theosophy; and was also asked to inform high school students about Theosophy during their lessons on religion and to have interviews with students. The platform of some adult education colleges has been at our disposal. The General Secretary have been responsible for increasing correspondence and contact with many inquirers who ask questions about the Society. Krevilä has been in intensive use by members and friends. Several lectures were arranged there during the summer and also two courses of yoga were held by outside experts taking advantage of the improved facilities of our summer place. And following a successful pattern established the previous year, a weekend workshop seminar was held again at the conclusion of the

summer season, focusing attention on the problems of our sectional work ("New member", "Dissemination of Theosophy" and "What we expect from the Board of the Section").

There have been international contacts through one of our members attending the School of the Wisdom at Adyar and three of us contributing to the Scandinavian Summer School in Norway. The General Secretary has acted as monthly link with Huizen Centre.

We have been happy to be able to publish new editions of Finnish translations of *The Voice of the Silence*, Clara Codd's *The Ageless Wisdom of Life* and Annie Besant's *In the Outer Court*. Also *The Ancient Wisdom* in Finnish is being reprinted. And there are plans of publishing soon a book by a young Finnish writer and some new translations.

There is urgent need for more qualified workers. The burden of our activities rests on too few shoulders as the need for an intensified cultivation of our national Theosophical work is greatly felt these days, when there seems to be considerable interest in Theosophy.

SIRKKA KIVILINNA,
General Secretary.

RUSSIA

Dissolved

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

No Report

SOUTHERN AFRICA

During the year under review the work in our Lodges has been carried on along the established lines. Most of the Lodges have regular members' meetings and public meetings and some keep their Lodge rooms open during lunch hours once a week or on Saturday afternoons and offer library services and opportunities for enquirers to make contact. Pretoria Lodge in addition has meditation and study classes.

The General Secretary together with the Deputy General Secretary visited the Lodges in Rhodesia during October 1972 and the itinerary to visit the Lodges in the Republic during October this year has been drawn up. The General Secretary also visited several Lodges in England and Holland, meeting the General Secretaries of both countries and the members.

This year our Convention was held in Bulawayo, Rhodesia, the key-note being "A constant eye to the ideal of human progression and perfection."

The Summer School held during three days before the Convention was considered by all present to be a very happy gathering. Thought provoking studies

were presented followed by discussions on "The Golden Stairs", "The Individual and the World", "Meditation", "E.S.P. and the Powers latent in Man" and "Devotion".

Johannesburg Lodge bought its own property, situated near a new University, and hopes to attract many students in the near future.

George Lodge returned its Charter. The Lodge was founded in 1928, but there were no new officers to take over. However all the members became "unattached" members. Not so young any more and living in three villages—more than 20 miles apart—some of them come together every fortnight and have studies and discussion.

We had to reduce the issues of our magazine *The Link* from four to three per annum. As to the membership of the Section I am happy to report that there is an increase of 13 members, the total being now 425.

ANNA BISCHOFF,
General Secretary.

SCOTLAND

During this year we had a small, and welcome, increase in our numbers. Our four main Lodges continue to operate as before, and there is a wakening of interest in one region, Dundee, which has been dormant for some time: this is due to the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Senior.

This year a number of our new and recent members undertook the study of *Introductory Studies in Theosophy* by A. Gardner, spread over a period of nine months. Study was carried out at a fixed

time each week.

Some of the other members also studied the book *Yoga* by Ernest Wood, again at fixed times each week. This is one method of keeping a scattered Section like ours in touch.

A newsletter was also started, and four editions of this have been circulated to members.

J. G. MITCHELL,
General Secretary.

SWITZERLAND

There are not many changes in the activity of the Swiss section since our last report. The number of members increased by seven and we have now 230 members. The number of the Lodges remains the same.

In 1972, the most important event for us was the organisation of the Summer School of the Latin Countries at Territet. Attendance: 160 members; among them Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith, Chairman of the European Federation, and Mr. John Coats, recently elected President of the Society. The last Annual Convention of the Section was held in the Spring of 1973 near Bern, about 45 members attending.

The General Secretary attended one meeting of the board of the International Centre at Huizen and also a meeting at Huizen of the Committee of inquiry into the North-Siegfried succession. He went also to London in order to discuss some international finance problems for the Society and to Paris as guest and lecturer of the French Convention. The Lodges of Marseille invited him to give two lectures and a talk to the members.

A prominent member of Geneva, Mrs. Mir-Tabatabai, gave lectures in Grenoble (France) and Mrs. Claire Wyss gave talks in many countries (Germany, Austria, Yugoslavia). On the other hand, we have had the pleasure to have the visit of some foreign lecturers: Mrs. Pearson-Laroute, Mrs. Nine Grandi, Mr. Lancri, Dr. Laupfert, and so on.

We published three pamphlets, on *Theosophy*, *Friendship* (prepared by Mr. S. Lancri, General Secretary in France) and *The Emblem of the T.S.*, in French and German. Now we are preparing to occupy new premises in Basle and are hoping that it will contribute to a better diffusion of our philosophy. We completed the board of the Section in electing one very active young Theosophist, Mrs. Lyner (Basle), and her collaboration will certainly be useful. The Meyer Fund continued to collaborate financially in the publication of books in foreign languages. It also helped the Y.T. Movement in the publication of the International Journal *Unity*.

GEORGES TRIPET,
General Secretary.

BELGIUM

Yet again we have nothing to declare. However, we are preparing actively and discreetly for the future. The first fruits

shall be perceptible during and after the 1974-75 season.

JEAN BARREIRO,
General Secretary.

INDONESIA

Suspended

BURMA

Before commencing this Annual Report, let us record with deep sorrow the passing away of our beloved late International President N. Sri Ram on 8th April, 1973 at Adyar. He visited our Lodge in October, 1953 on the last day of the Lighting Festival and presided over the Annual Convention. He delivered two lectures; (1) "The Significance of our Times", (2) "Nirvana and the Law". We all cherish in our memory the sweet and pleasing personality of N. Sri Ram which reflects through his articles in *The Theosophist* magazine under the caption "On the Watch Tower".

Membership.—The Burma Section, Theosophical Society, consists of seven Lodges, including one Masonic Lodge, namely (1) Olcott (2) Youth (3) Lotus (4) Blavatsky (5) Taungdwingyi (6) Magwe and (7) Bodhi. Total number of members at the close of the year was 56, as compared with 53 of the previous year, as three new members joined the Society during the year.

The Olcott Lodge.—This Lodge forms the backbone of the Theosophical Society in Burma, and continues to maintain its membership, with interesting activities, thus keeping the torch of Theosophy alight. A regular study session led by Bro. A. Peters was held every week on *Dhammapada*, a treatise on the Buddhist way of life. During the year a total of 16 talks were given by other members on various aspects of Theosophy.

Sixtieth Annual Convention was held on 29th October, 1972 at the "Olcott" Lodge. Members with their families and acquaintances, numbering a total of 37, attended the Convention. After the usual prayers of all religions by members concerned, the General Secretary read over the greetings received from abroad, and

from district Lodges. Bro. Dr. Tun Min of Kyaukpyu was to deliver the opening Convention lecture, but unfortunately he was unable to do so due to his sudden illness. The General Secretary filled the gap by making a short opening speech on Theosophy.

The subject of discussion at the Symposium was "Truth". Some district members who were unable to attend the Convention personally sent essays on "Truth" and these were read over and commented upon by members present, making the discussion most lively and interesting. The closing Convention lecture on "Theosophy as I understand It" was given by Bro. U Kyaw Sein.

Finance.—An audited abstract of Receipts and Payments Accounts for the year ended 30th September, 1973 shows an opening balance of K. 4,382.19 and closing balance of K. 4,176.95 resulting in a deficit of K. 205.24 as against the surplus of K. 194.50 of the previous year. K. 30,000.00 worth of National Savings Certificates bought in the name of Burma Section, Theosophical Society was transferred to Bro. U Kyaw Hla of "Lotus Lodge," Mandalay. (For reason already mentioned in last year's Report). This was encashed in April, 1973 as requested by him, and the amount was sent to him together with interest received thereon on 10th April, 1973. We have the pleasure to record here our thanks for a donation of K. 50.00 received from Bro. U Kyaw Hla out of the above proceeds.

Theosophical Order of Service.—At the instance of the Theosophical Society in America, as one of the activities for the Centenary Celebration of the International Theosophical Society in 1975, we have started the work of translating into Burmese *The Key to Theosophy*, a Quest Book edition sent by them. The work is

still in its initial stage, and is being earnestly carried out by members in Rangoon as well as those of the Lodges from districts, and we hope to make it a unique T.O.S. activity.

The other Lodges—(1) Youth (2) Lotus (3) Taungdwingyi (4) Magwe and (5) Bodhi (Masonic) continue doing their best in the cause of Theosophy, by disseminating Theosophical teachings through correspondence to interested persons and by holding mutual discussions amongst close associates.

Thingangyun Land.—Our appeal before the Supreme Court against the transfer of the title of the Thingangyun Land to Daw Aye Kyi, a squatter on the land, is still pending. We hope to receive a judgment in the near future.

Maymyo Blavatsky Lodge.—There is no further development to be reported with regard to the land belonging to the Maymyo Blavatsky Lodge, after the visit to the place by the General Secretary, U Than Kyaing, in 1969, to pay up the arrears of the taxes due on the land and to submit the application for the renewal of the lease of the land. For various

reasons members of that Lodge are still unable to resuscitate it and it is in a dormant state. As there seems to be no chance of reviving that Lodge we are negotiating with a prospective buyer for sale of the property.

Burma Educational Trust.—Necessary actions are being taken in the matter of the acquisitioned Trust Building and Land, and the frozen Bank Account of K. 35,566.17. In spite of repeated reminders, we are still awaiting the results.

Conclusion.—Where there is Light there must be Shadow. We wander about the world seeking the Light. All we have to do is to turn round and leave the Shadows behind us. Then at last we may shut our eyes, for the eyes of the heart will recognize the Light a thousand times more clearly. Then life will become a thousand times richer, for the burden will have been lifted from our shoulders, nothing can frighten us any more—nothing is mightier than the radiance and the immortal happiness of Truth.

THAN KYAING,
General Secretary.

AUSTRIA

No events of special importance can be reported, except that generally both members and non-members seem to become by and by more interested in our work. Audiences at lectures are growing.

The main centre of activity is now at Graz, where there are usually three or four meetings every week in our lecture hall; once a week a public lecture is held, and on two or three other days the different Lodges and Study Groups have their fortnightly meetings. There was less

activity in Vienna and in the smaller places.

In October 1972 we had a short visit from Mr. John Coats at Graz, and in Spring 1973 there was an exchange of lecturers with Germany: Mr. Reinhard Flemming, Vice-President of the German Section, lectured at three places in Austria, and the undersigned gave three lectures at Munich, Germany.

The Regional Summer School for the German speaking region at Pichl, Austria, was again well attended. Besides about

90 members from six countries there were present Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith and Mrs. Claire Wyss, Chairman and Vice-President of the Theosophical Society in Europe, and Miss Ruth Beringer, former General Secretary of the Australian Section. The theme of the School was "Unity".

Membership of the Section shows again a slight increase. Twenty-two new members came in, there were 4 resignations, 6 deaths and 5 lapsings, bringing the total number to 246 (as against 239 last year).

The quarterly journal *Adyar* has now a circulation of more than 1,000. Besides the 630 members in Germany, Austria and the German speaking part of Switzerland, there are about 300 subscribers, not only in ten European countries, but also on other continents, and as far as Venezuela and Australia. About 50 copies are regularly mailed on exchange and as free copies, and a further 50 copies are being used for propaganda purposes.

The "Adyar-Verlag" published a translation of C. Jinarājadāsa's booklet *In His Name*, and an introductory book by K. Lechner-Werther, an Austrian member and artist, with the title *Die liebenswerte Bestie* ("The Lovable Beast"). That book won a prize in the literary competition of the Theosophical Society in Switzerland (Meyer-Fonds) two years ago. A permanent cooperation was established between the Adyar-Verlag at Graz and the T.P.H. London. Mr. F. M. Maxwell, manager of the T.P.H. London, visited us at Graz. According to the agreements made, German translations of *The Abridgement of the Secret Doctrine* and of E. L. Gardner's book *Fairies* will be printed in England as a co-production of the two publishing houses; the selling will be done by the Adyar-Verlag.

On the whole the prospects for our work seem to be more encouraging now than some years ago.

NORBERT LAUPPERT,
General Secretary.

NORWAY

The last year has been both happy and interesting for the Norwegian Section. Many interested persons have been present at our meetings this year. They seem to find their way to the T.S. by themselves, buying books and listening to lectures and asking sincere questions.

The chief event of the year was the Scandinavian Summer School held in Norway at Tranberg, near the lake Mjosa. There were 82 members and interested people present, from Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Norway. The chief speaker was the English General Secretary, Miss

Ianthe Hoskins. Her lectures on the Ancient Wisdom and the Upanishads were inspiring and highly appreciated. There were also valuable lectures given by speakers from the different northern countries. On the first day of the Summer School, the Norwegian Section celebrated its 60 years "birthday", as the Summer School happened to be opened exactly 60 years after the Section was founded, in 1913.

Membership is now 138.

RUTH WESSEL NIELSEN,
General Secretary.

EGYPT

No Report

DENMARK

If one should find a few keywords for the past year I think these words would be *preparation, co-ordination, work and planning*. The activity in the Section has been speeded up due to several factors. In the beginning of January the Section was invited to take part in an exhibition in Copenhagen called The Journey Inwards arranged by a university professor. The exhibition in which many related movements took part was a great success, and the week it was going to last was extended to two, three and four weeks. We sold a lot of our literature and distributed pamphlets and magazines and had also the opportunity to give some lectures on Theosophy. Several times reporters came from the newspapers and the Danish Radio to interview the different representatives.

During the year a great effort has been made to centralize and co-ordinate important aspects of the Section. Three publishing fractions were put together with a central administration, and the small libraries of the Lodges in Copenhagen were put together with the main library to form a well equipped and large selection open to the public two evenings every week.

The Scandinavian Summer-School from 30th June to 8th July was held in Norway, north of Oslo in a very beautiful spot with Norway's largest lake below. The scenery was out of this world and so beautiful that one almost doubted that it was real. The nice and sunny weather contributed also to a wonderful gathering with lectures, study groups, questions and

answers, film-evening, excursion, etc. Miss Ianthe Hoskins was guest of honour and her talks were very much appreciated.

The three Scandinavian countries, Norway, Sweden and Denmark, publish as usual a joint magazine *Teosofi i Norden* (Theosophy in the North). In the year to come we plan to modernize this magazine and to give it a wider circulation. Our own magazine *Nu* (now) is still flourishing and has a circulation around 1300. It is sent mainly to non-members, and each week we get a lot of new addresses of people who would like to have it sent each month. As it is sent out freely our main problem in this respect is to keep the circulation in check and within such a frame that we can manage the costs, the publication and distribution.

The year's main feature was the great resolution taken by the Central Board to buy a property in order to create a beautiful and centrally situated centre and headquarters in Copenhagen which should at the same time be suitable. This has been an old dream, and many years ago a fund was founded to realize it. During the years we had unfortunately to face the fact that inflation and rise in prices were so galloping that our dream seemed on the point of vanishing instead of coming true. So what was demanded was action, and after much activity, search and enquiries we finally invested in a property in the heart of Copenhagen next to the lakes. The large and spacious apartment was very suitable but needed much rebuilding and modernizing, and on the 1st August

when we took over, a group of eager and devoted members invaded the place and began tearing down walls, building up new ones, painting, etc. Since then the work has progressed rapidly and the official opening is fixed for the 17th November, the T.S. birthday on which we can also celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Danish Section.

This work to create a new centre and working together has linked all the members closer together, and gifts, assistance and "know how" have poured in with great enthusiasm and good-will.

The usual monthly public lecture and weekly public study course have been carried on during the year and many new faces have appeared. Four thousand pamphlets were distributed about the lectures and the Theosophical Society.

Another highlight of the year was our two guest-speakers, Mrs. Rukmini Arundale and Peter Hoffman from Kalakshetra. I had the opportunity to take them around in Denmark where they gave lectures for members and public. These days were happy and inspiring ones giving the Section an upliftment. Rukmini was also interviewed by a newspaper-reporter who wrote a fine article about Theosophy and her work and activities in so many fields.

The book *Christ and Buddha* by C. Jinarajadāsa has been published in Danish this year and new books are under preparation for the coming year. We also plan a push forward as to our book-sales which have increased much within the last few years. We shall send out book-lists to all the book-stores in the country. We have at least 50,000 books, especially by Annie Besant and C.W. Leadbeater from the good old days, which we want to distribute in order to be able to print new ones. Although the

content of these books is ageless and inspiring, we realize that the presentation is not quite up to date, and it is also strange to see how the language has changed within a generation or two. The covers of the books are very traditional and unimaginative so they may not sell well. But we have also many newer and attractive books to offer.

The life of the Lodges has been marked by a great interchange among them due to a greater activity within the Section, and also because we find such an interchange very fruitful and inspiring. There are thirteen Lodges in the Section, seven of which are situated in Copenhagen.

Strangely enough there has been a drop in the total membership. It might be due to several factors. First and foremost, we have looked critically at the list of members and contacted those who have not been in good standing for a couple of years. After two inquiries we have cancelled their membership when they have not responded. In the past we have not been so strict. On the other hand, members can apply for free membership which also includes the official magazine, so no members skip because of lack of finance but due to lack of interest. Another reason, I think, is due to the reorganizing and building of up a new centre which has focussed our energy inwardly. But we are very optimistic about the figures for the coming year when we get settled. At the same time we realize that a few eager and devoted members can accomplish much more than a less devoted and enthusiastic, but much larger number.

Ten joined the Section during the year, 17 dropped out, 2 resigned and 8 passed away, making a total membership of 283.

PREBEN SORENSEN,
General Secretary.

IRELAND

No Report

MEXICO

No Report

CANADA

In the last few years Canadian life styles have changed remarkably. During the same period Theosophical activity in this country has also altered, though not to any significant degree. In view of the challenges presented by change, it is important we be sensitive to opportunities that might only come once.

Alteration in the pattern can be seen most readily in the publication and distribution of Theosophical literature. In this regard we are fortunate that when opportunity knocked the door was opened—thanks to the Kern Foundation funds and the way they were put to work by the American Section.

Through Quest Books the Society is now reaching a far wider public than ever before. Most of the major book outlets in Canada stock at least some of the Quest titles, and a surprising number of readers of these books go to the trouble of making enquiries regarding Theosophy and the Theosophical Society. Perhaps most significant in this new widespread availability of our literature is the possibility of reaching potential students who live in remote parts of the country.

This is reflected in a trend which began in the United States some time ago and which is increasingly noticeable in Canada. I refer to a rise in the relative numbers of members-at-large, due in large part to

those who are joining from centres removed from any organized Theosophical activity.

Films are a relatively new medium through which to present Theosophy and they help provide variety in our approach to the public. During the year the Section purchased a print of the new Quest film, "Reincarnation". Along with the first film in this series, "How Many Lifetimes," it has already travelled thousands of miles to and fro across Canada. It is difficult to assess their impact, but no doubt they are of great value in planting seed ideas in the minds of many who otherwise would not be reached.

In Canada the international aspects of the Society are frequently in evidence. On four occasions in the year under review we had the pleasure of forging new links with other parts of the Theosophical world. A highlight was the 1972 North American Theosophical Studies' Conference, held October 7-9 at "Olcott", headquarters of the American Section, co-sponsor of these events. The Conference was so organized as to provide maximum individual participation. Working in small groups, the delegates were invited to contribute to the theme, "The Roots of Theosophy," and it was impressive to see the quality of work produced in a very short time, to say nothing of the wide variety of approaches that were chosen.

Needless to say, full advantage was taken of the excellent reference facilities available in the "Olcott" Library.

A national tour by Geoffery Farthing, former General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in England, took place in November. Mr. Farthing gave talks in Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Toronto and Montreal, and was well received at all of these centres. Particular mention should be made of the innovative programme arranged by Edmonton Lodge to take advantage of Mr. Farthing's visit: in Red Deer, Alberta, a city in which Theosophy was hitherto unknown, our guest was featured on a radio programme and gave a public lecture which was well-attended.

A surprise but welcome visitor to Toronto in the Spring was Mrs. Gool Minwalla, Presidential Agent of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan. She was in Canada for the purpose of a family visit, but kindly made the time available to give a talk to local members.

Finally, in September, the Montreal and Toronto Lodges were each fortunate to receive a visit from Mr. John B. S. Coats. Mr. Coats kindly took time out from a busy lecture tour of the United States to make possible this diversion into Eastern Canada.

In what was otherwise a year of pleasant memories, the activities of both the Toronto Lodge and the Canadian Section were upset by a fire that occurred in January. Serious damage was suffered by both the Library and the Travelling Library operated by the Lodge, and the general programme was necessarily curtailed for several weeks. The office of the Canadian Section, which occupies space in the building, also was damaged. Unfortunately, among the items destroyed were a number of irreplaceable ones. All in all, however, we were fortunate that the fire was contained just before the loss would have been virtually complete.

TED G. DAVY,
General Secretary.

ARGENTINA

Visit of Brother John B. S. Coats.—He stayed with us from 28th March to 2nd May. He visited Buenos Aires, Rosario, Rio IV, Cordoba, Mendoza and San Rafael and was the official guest of the 11th Summer School and Annual Convention. He aroused the interest, the enthusiasm and the responsibility of the numerous audience at his lectures and left a strong influence and brought about a deep change in the attitude of several brothers. We are most grateful for his inspiring visit and the deep impression he left in our Section.

Now all the members know that Brother John B. Coats has become our new President. He has assumed a great

responsibility; however, the trust we put in him is not less great.

Trips abroad.—From May until the end of the year, Br. Juan Viñas, Vice-President of the I.T.F. and Member of the National Council, carried out with great success a series of teaching activities in Central America (Costa Rica, Panama, Nicaragua and other countries).

Activity of the Argentine Federation of Young Theosophists.—The young people of the Section were intensely active. The group "Despertar" of Cordoba was holding a weekly course on Theosophy every Saturday from 14 July to 2 September. The subjects were chosen by the young people of the different parts of

the Section, and the talks met with an enthusiastic audience. The National Days organized by the F.A.J.T. on 7, 8 and 9 July, were attended by the young people of Buenos Aires, Rosario, Cordoba, San Rafael, Mendoza and Bahia Blanca.

Trip of the General Secretary to Rosario.

—Br. Manuel Farinich was invited by the Centre “Annie Besant” to attend their commemoration of the anniversary of Br. C. Jinarājādāsa. On 16th June, a Round Table was held on the subject “Jinarājādāsa and the New Humanity of Intuition”. On the next day the General Secretary gave a public talk on “Basic Concepts of Jinarājādāsa’s Thinking”. He also attended a meeting of the Lodge Voluntad and other activities.

Days in Bahia Blanca and New Branch.—

These were organized by the Lodges Maitreya and Silencio on 17th and 18th of August, and Br. Manuel Farinich attended together with Br. Roberto Minervini. The General Secretary talked to the members on “Our Responsibility as Members of the T.S.”. Some sympathizers were specially invited, some of whom became members and are trying to form a new branch.

Br. Roberto Minervini gave a public lecture on the subject: “What Does Theosophy Teach Us?”. Both of us as well as the Lodge Presidents of Bahia Blanca met at the place where the new group in formation is functioning; the General Secretary presided and talked on the needs of the present moment and the work of the T.S. and its members. The same night he gave a public talk on “The Mind and How It Works”. This short convention was full of intense work and good results. Our best wishes are with the future new Lodge Sadhana.

Visit of the General Secretary to Mal del Plata.—Together with his wife he visited the Lodges La Busqueda and Sanat Kumara, gave a public lecture on “Man,

Mind and Its Contents” and a talk to members on subjects concerning our present and future work.

Theosophical Days at San Rafael (Mendoza).—They were organized by the Lodge “Annie Besant” from 16th to 20th August on the subject “Science and Theosophy” and met with great interest.

Convention in Tucuman.—This gathering was organized by the National Council from 11th to 19th August with uninterrupted activities like public lectures on “Theosophy and the T.S.”, “Truth in Christianity”, “The Light of Theosophy”, theosophical courses on Anthropogenesis, Reincarnation, Karma, Yoga and Thought Power, The Path of Discipleship, a Round Table on “Spirituality and Daily Life”. The work in Tucuman thus got a new impulse shown in letters and new applications received.

Lodge to be founded in Paraguay.—

A group of brothers in Paraguay have asked the Argentine Section to become members of the T.S. and form a Lodge in Paraguay related to our Section. The first two applications have already been accepted, and they want to name their future Lodge “Fraternidad”. We are waiting for the other applications, before we can ask the Constitutive Charter from Adyar. We have already sent instructive material to our brothers in Paraguay, and we are sure they will be able to form a centre of inspiration, peace and harmony.

Review “El Teosofa” in Spanish is on sale to the public in street kiosks. It is edited in a modern presentation by Br. Salim Alfredo Whebe in cooperation with the Argentine Section.

It is important to emphasize one of the clauses of the agreement between the Director of *El Teosofa* and the National Council of the Argentine Section. In one of the articles it is established that in case this co-operation should cease,

any possible surplus is to be transferred in its full amount to our Headquarters at Adyar.

Teaching Activities in San Lorenzo (Santa Fe).—Members from Rosario will start a course of Theosophy and the F.A.J.T. a Round Table; talks will be given by Roberto Minervini and the General Secretary.

56th Convention and 11th Summer School.—Both took place at Embalse Rio III in April. Twenty-six Lodges of the Section were represented; 300 persons attended the Summer School. There were also present the Presidential Agent of Bolivia, Br. Mario Cariaga Aramayo, the Brazilian General Secretary, Armando Sales (later relieved by the Vice-President, A. Moreno), the General Secretary of the U.S.A., Joy Mills, delegates from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Chile, the General Secretary of Uruguay, the President of the Inter-American Theosophical Federation, Luis Spairani, the delegate of the U.S.Y.T., Nathaniel Altman and the guest of honour, Br. John Coats. The subject of the School was "Theosophy and Theosophists Facing the Present Moment". Lectures were given by Armando Sales, Joy Mills and John Coats. After the daily morning meditation, groups were formed to exchange their ideas on the subjects to be studied. Other meetings were held (LCC, Round Table of the Y.T., General Council meeting of the I.T.F., etc.)

Boletín de Padres.—This review is distributed quarterly and free of cost by T.S. members in nearly all the countries of the Spanish language, and it is very favourably accepted.

Argentine Theosophical Publications.—Sales increased remarkably. An agreement has been made with a commercial firm for the distribution of our literature

in bookstores all over the country, and arrangements with other countries are planned. The book *Psychism and the Unconscious Mind*, edited by the London Research Group, is in the press with the help of a donation of £50 as contribution for the publication. C. Jinarājadāsa's booklet *In His Name* and N. Sri Ram's book *Life's Deeper Aspects* are also being printed as well as other titles, which are being reviewed before they are published.

Sale of books.—The Headquarters at Buenos Aires as well as that of Rosario could greatly increase the sale of books.

Third Camp at Alpa Corral.—It was attended by members of the whole Section and was held from 3rd to 6th March. Talks, Round Table and social meetings took place in a fraternal atmosphere.

Cuyama Federation of Theosophical Lodges.—Brothers of Mendoza are endeavouring to form a new Lodge in San Juan, where a group is already working.

Seminaries, Research and Meditation Courses.—These courses are an experiment and open exclusively to members; the course of group meditation is given after a theoretical course of 4 to 5 months.

New members.—After several years showing diminishing membership, this year the number of members increased slightly.

Books of Taimni.—We are planning to translate and print the whole literature of this author.

As before the effort of the National Council was directed towards living Theosophy, its practical aspect in daily life, and we think we have in our Section a sufficiently strong and sincere nucleus to carry on the work in an impersonal way.

MANUEL FARINICH,
General Secretary.

CHILE

No Report

BRAZIL

Theosophical Days.—of the three South Atlantic countries Brazil, Argentine and Uruguay were held from 12 to 15 October in Montevideo. Brazil was represented by 13 members. All these meetings took place in the Headquarters of the Uruguay Section, whose members had done an excellent work in preparing and carrying through these Theosophical Days, which could thus take place in an atmosphere of great enthusiasm and fraternal spirit.

Interamerican Theosophical Federation (F.T.I.).—Thanks to the dynamic spirit of its President, Luis Spairani, its Vice-President, Juan Viñas, and their co-workers, the F.T.I. is now consolidated and working most beneficially. Its chief aim is unifying Theosophical thought by means of harmonious co-operation of the affiliated Sections and thus activating the whole work in the Americas. One of its main tasks is to transmit its message in writing, particularly through its official magazine *América Teosófica*, which is co-edited in Brazil under the same name, as well as by the publication of the most important books. The first attempts in this sector were successful. Some of the titles out of print and scheduled to be republished in Spanish are *Dharma* by A. Besant, *Invisible Helpers* by Leadbeater and *Gods in Exile* by J. J. van der Leeuw. Other books will follow, as soon as possible.

Mention must be made of the activities of the F.T.I. Vice-President, Juan Viñas, who is visiting the different American Sections and thus largely contributing to the revival of their activities. He has the strength to unite the brothers, to

convey to them his enthusiasm and interest in the work. One of his chief objects is to energize the activities of those Lodges and Sections which have difficulties. His work deserves the support and sympathy of all members.

Commemorative Celebrations.—Foundation Day was celebrated on 17.11.72, presided over by Br. Armando Sales, attended by a great number of members. There were several speakers.

Adyar Day was celebrated in a similar manner; three brothers gave talks on Leadbeater, H. S. Olcott and Giordano Bruno.

White Lotus Day: This meeting on 8th May 1973 was dedicated to Mme. Blavatsky. Homage was also paid to Br. N. Sri Ram, M. de Andrade Pinto and A. Goncalves Mareco, who had passed away.

Visitors.—The National Section had the great pleasure to receive Sister Dr. Cesina Bermudas from the Portuguese Section, who was contacting a great number of members and reading an excellent work of Br. Tripet "From the Harmony of the Ego to the Symphony of the Personality", another one by Br. Thorin entitled "Sin, Religion and Theosophy" and later a paper of Sister Hermine Sabetay on "Mental Harmony". She gave her comments on these ideas and aroused greatest interest among the audience.

Br. John Coats was received at the airport of São Paulo on 23 February by a great number of members. The same day he participated in a meeting at our Headquarters. The next day he

presided over a meeting of the Y.T.'s and on the 25th in Brasília he delivered a public lecture. From there he visited Belo Horizonte, and a few days later Rio de Janeiro, where he stayed for about one week before returning to São Paulo. Between the 18th and 22nd March he gave lectures and participated in the work at Curitiba and Porto Alegre.

Brazilian Federation of Young Theosophists (F.B.J.T.).—This Federation accomplished a marvellous work. Their representatives took part in the South-Atlantic Days from 12 to 15 October 1972, including a Round Table with the subject "The young people and their attitude towards life". The F.B.J.T. held a camp in Porto Alegre from 20 to 28 January 1973, attended by about 100 young people from Uruguay, Argentine and Brazil, during which was founded the "Interamerican Federation of Young Theosophists" (F.I.J.T.). They had the visit of Br. John Coats, President of the World Federation of Young Theosophists, when he contacted the different national groups. He was accompanied by young Bruce from Johannesburg. They held a 1st National Convention of Young Brazilian Theosophists in July and took part in the foundation meeting of the "Centro Teósofico Raja" and many other activities.

The young people have done an excellent work in order to activate the work of the National Section, whose future leaders they will be. We hope they will go on successfully.

Antitoxic Campaign.—This campaign is going on with the distribution of Geoffrey Hodson's pamphlet *The Psychedelic and the Yogic Pathways to Reality*, by the National Section to schools and authorities. The public is very eager to read it, and it is much appreciated and recommended by officials up to the President of the Republic.

Articles in Newspapers.—We are continuing to publish Theosophical articles in a number of newspapers, thus reaching about 300,000 readers.

Publication of Theosophical Books by commercial Publishers.—There is a remarkable increase of public interest in occult literature. Therefore, several publishing houses started bringing out Theosophical books, for example *The Key to Theosophy*, *Light of Asia*, *The Voice of the Silence*, *The Ancient Wisdom*. The monumental enterprise of publishing the six volumes of *The Secret Doctrine* is under way. The interest in these books is proved by the fact that the first edition of *The Voice of the Silence* is out of print and it is being republished, *The Ancient Wisdom* is nearly out of print, and it is difficult still to find one of the 14,000 copies of *The Key to Theosophy* on sale at the newspaper stands.

Elections of the World President and the President and Vice-President of the National Section.—Both elections coincided between the 15th and the 22nd August 1973. Four hundred and sixty members voted. Mr. John Coats received the highest number of votes for International President; Sr. Murillo Nunes de Azevedo was elected National President and Sr. Milton Lauradon, Vice-President. According to our new rules and regulations a new election of the Members of the National Council has to be carried out, so the proposal of Br. Armando Sales to bring forward the date of taking charge by the new President from 17th November to 6th October 1973 was approved by the General Council.

Rules and Regulations.—It has been generally known that the Rules and Regulations of the T.S. in Brazil, enacted in 1952, contained several mistakes and omissions of important points, so that they were badly in need of a complete reform. A commission was therefore

appointed, first in 1971 and then another in 1972, to deal with the most difficult task of preparing a modified wording of the Rules. Their proposal was submitted for the approval of all the Lodges and members of the Executive Committee. After a number of amendments had been worked out, a majority of 43 votes approved the new Rules and Regulations in writing. The new wording was then submitted to the approval of the Headquarters at Adyar.

Increase of Annual Fees.—Owing to the monetary devaluation and the budgetary needs the General Council had to resolve to increase the Annual membership fees from January 1973 to CR\$25 for individuals and CR\$20 for family group members, from which amount CR\$1 goes to the Interamerican Theosophical Federation and CR\$4 to the Reserve Fund to be used for acquiring quarters for the Lodges most in need.

In the same meeting (2.10.1972) it was decided that the Lodges of São Paulo should cooperate for the maintenance of the Headquarters by forming a group to take charge of it with the help of the monthly dues of the members.

Patrimony.—Several buildings had been the property of the former Federation of Theosophical Lodges in Rio de Janeiro and of Lodges in the towns where those buildings were. A commission has been formed and entrusted to get these properties registered in the name of the T.S. in Brazil.

Acquisition by the Reserve Fund of Lodge Quarters.—The Fund proved to be very useful to help the Lodge “Estrela do Norte” which was threatened with the loss of its little meeting hall, which was put up for sale by the owner and which could be acquired with the help of the Fund.

Activities of Theosophical Lodges and Study Centres.—After two years of satis-

factory work, the Study Centre “Augusto Bracet” in Rio de Janeiro applied for a Charter to be transformed into a Lodge with the same name.

A Study Centre “Justo Juiz de Nazareth” was formed in Boa Vista, another, “Hamsa,” in Belo Horizonte.

From the reports of a great number of Lodges we learnt that they have been working most satisfactorily.

Property.—The National Section is very happy that now all the Lodges have their abode, which fact will contribute to strengthening our work and facilitating the expansion of Theosophy in our country. We must emphasize with gratitude the activities of the Lodge “H. Pinto Seidl” in Mogi das Cruzes, which has organized a library with Theosophical and other books in the local gaol for the use of the prisoners. One of these sent a letter to the Lodge expressing his deep thanks for this activity and informing them of the favourable effect on the prisoners. This letter was published in one of the local newspapers, which keeps a weekly Theosophical column publishing articles and information given by the Lodge.

Three Lodges of São Paulo are working together in a study programme carried weekly in the National Headquarters. An elementary course in Theosophy is greatly appreciated by sympathisers. Quite a number of Lodges have become inactive since two years.

State of Membership.—The report of last year mentioned a total number of 957 members. Unfortunately this number is somewhat decreased, not only because of several Lodges having become inactive, but also owing to the increase of annual fees from 15 to 25 CR\$. The total membership is now 840.

Departments: Theosophical Order of Service.—Sister Julieta Noronha do Nascimento, who is directing this

department, did a marvellous work in spite of great difficulties due to lack of resources. She continued visiting poor families, teaching them domestic hygiene and economics; she took part in the work at the Handicraft School of the "Centro Teosófico Raja", where 35 pupils are instructed in several kinds of needlework, etc.; she distributed to poor school children at Christmas, uniforms and sandals, and cloth pieces to poor women. The balance of last year and the collection of the current year amounted to CR\$644.52, the expenditure for the distributed material to 632.55 leaving a balance of 11.97.

Book Department.—This department is led with great dedication by Br. Pedro dos Santos. The profits are hardly covering the expense owing to the purchase and also the loss of books. There are 15,290 books of 44 titles.

Department of Propaganda.—Some serious difficulties arose from the shifting of the Director of this department, Br. Olivo Desiré Dantas, to Brasília, where however he continues editing our official organ under its new name *América Teosófica*.

Expansion Department.—This department was founded by the General Council at its meeting of 6.10.72 and is working under the competent leadership of Br. João Batista de Brito Pinto. Some of his co-workers are travelling through the country and making contacts with people interested in spiritual subjects. Speakers are sent to the capitals to give lectures attracting sympathisers and new members. Courses on basic Theosophy are held with distribution of the texts and pro-

jection of coloured slides from Theosophical books. Such courses are attended by an average of 25 persons, who pay a fee of CR\$20. Many young Theosophists are helping efficiently in this work. A flying crew is also provided to be sent to different towns to propagate the Theosophical message. The most dynamic activities of all helpers is greatly appreciated.

Secretaries.—The work of the 1st Secretary, Cora Sales, consisted chiefly in writing a great number of letters, circulars to all the Lodges and all the other office work. The 2nd Secretary, Paulo de Castro, was in charge of the recording of the minutes of the Executive Assembly and the General Council, as well as a résumé of them to be forwarded to the Lodges.

Library.—We are grateful to our Librarian for his very efficient work. The library is open for the public during the meeting time of the Lodges and great use is made of the books.

Since the National Headquarters are soon to be transferred to Rio de Janeiro, whereas the library is the property of the Lodges in São Paulo, it is up to them to nominate the future Librarian.

Expression of Thanks is given by the resigning General Secretary to the members of the Executive Assembly and the General Council as well as to specially deserving brothers, who had helped him to take charge of the National Presidency at a particularly difficult moment; best wishes to his successors.

ARMANDO SALES,
General Secretary.

BULGARIA

No Report

ICELAND

The membership of The Theosophical Society in Iceland remained at about the same level at the end of last year as at the beginning, although 67 new members were admitted, which is one of the highest figures of new admittances during a year from the Chapter's founding. Many were stricken from the records for various reasons, especially due to more exact regulations regarding non-payment of annual dues. A great number of the new members are young people.

The Society's activities have been very similar to what they were earlier, although somewhat increased.

Lectures, open to the public, are given every Friday in the Theosophical House in Reykjavik, to introduce and spread theosophical teachings, and on Wednesdays the public is given instructions in meditation and yoga. The organ *Gangleri* has been issued as formerly and its subscribers have increased considerably since an introductory circular, intended for young people, was mailed to groups in many parts of the country.

Otherwise most of the activities are primarily intended for the Society's membership. Instructive lectures are given three Saturdays every month besides the activities undertaken by individual Lodges, and every Saturday there is instruction in hatha yoga, which is a novelty in the Society's activities in Iceland. Two days a week, Wednesdays and Saturdays, are so-called clubdays, when the members congregate in the Society's house and talk over a cup of coffee or look through a book in the Society's library. The

Society's library service is open at the same time, as the Society undertakes to order foreign books for the members and has also a number of books for sale at all times.

Three summer seminaries were held during the year: One in Reykjavik for those who were unable to leave town, another one at Flúor, a summer hotel in the Southern District, and a third one at Akranes.

It has been decided that the Society will send informatory letters to the membership every other month or more often during next year.

Mundilfari is the name of a newsletter published by the Society, containing news and information on theosophical endeavour and its nature. This is issued four times annually.

Conferences concerning the Society's activities are held two or three times a year. These were in the beginning meetings of the Chairmen of the individual Lodges, but they have since developed into general conferences of the Chairmen, lecturers and other officials of the Society.

There have been discussions on the establishment of a summer camp and in this connection attempts have been made to obtain a site which is about 50 km from Reykjavik in a quiet location with thermal energy, which is considered a great advantage in Iceland, with the intention of constructing a summerhouse there.

A report of this kind only tells about the outer form of the Society's activities. How they influence the membership and

the general public can neither be weighed nor measured, so it can hardly be put down in writing. It must be mentioned, though, that every effort is bent towards increasing the standard of the Society's information. This is necessary for various reasons, for example so that people have a chance to obtain general information on mystical matters, and if The Theosophical Society is to set the tune and be in a leading position it must make great demands of itself.

Secondly, a great number of the members are exceptionally well read and trained workers. The many young people who joined the Society in the early sixties

have now reached full development and this generation is presently completely assuming the leadership. Most of them have now reached thirty or are in the early thirties.

It still remains to be mentioned that man himself is of prime importance. All information and all activities are geared to the benefit of the individuals. The Society is people. These people want to influence mankind through their lives, and we do, indeed, teach far more by what we are than by what we do.

SIGVALDI HJÁLMARSSON,
General Secretary.

SPAIN

No Report

PORTUGAL

During the year ending 30th September, 1973, the Portuguese Section of the Theosophical Society has continued its work actively.

We have celebrated all great Theosophical events, such as "Foundation Day", "Adyar Day" and "White Lotus Day". We had public meetings at the Headquarters every fortnight and, sometimes, every week.

Among the chief lectures we must refer to: "Vestiges of the Civilization of Atlantis in Mexico", by Dr. Cesina Bermudes and a series of lectures about "Races, Cultures and Civilizations" held by the General Secretary, who was also the principal lecturer at the commemorations of "Foundation Day", "Adyar Day" and "White Lotus Day". At the "White Lotus Day" we remembered

our Brother N. Sri Ram, whose life and work were explained by the General Secretary and Dr. Maria Guilhermina M. C. Nobre Santos.

Dr. Cesina Bermudes, during the meetings at Lodge "Annie Besant", presented in a Portuguese translation, all the lectures given at the Summer School of Montreux-Territet. These were discussed by the General Secretary, Dr. Maria Beatriz Serpa Branco, Dr. Fernando Serpa Branco, Dr. Maria da Glória Firmino and other Members. It was an important work, which gave to the Members, who were unable to attend the Summer School, the possibility to know the lectures directly in their language.

At the Christmas Festival, the Family Serpa Branco (parents and three children) offered us a beautiful puppet-show, which was greatly appreciated by everybody.

During this period our Section was honoured by visits from very important Theosophists: Miss Joy Mills, Miss Helen Zahara and Mr. John Coats. The ladies had the opportunity to visit some beautiful and historical places of our country and, on the 8th December, they were kind enough to give a public lecture at our Headquarters. Our Members will never forget the inner strength of Miss Mills' words and the gentleness of Miss Zahara, whose passing away was a great loss for the world Theosophical family.

Mr. John Coats, who has been our guest on other occasions, and a great friend of ours, held two public meetings followed by questions and answers. So, Brother J. Coats had an opportunity again to contact our members and to feel the atmosphere of our Country.

Concerning the Lodges, we must state that our Section kept the same number (13) as in the last Report, but one (Isis) was dormant. Lodge "Koot-Hoomi" met with great regularity. The main subject of its work was: "Races, Cultures and Civilizations". Next year, its President, Prof. Nobre Santos intends to give a series of lectures integrated with the work of the Lodge, about "The Masters and the Theosophical Society".

The President of Lodge "Annie Besant" organized some Theosophical meetings in the country, as in the past, in order to stimulate Theosophical feeling among the members and an interest in Theosophical doctrines.

Concerning the Summer Schools, some of our Members could attend the meetings at Tremezzo, but, as regards myself, unfortunately, I had to stay in Lisbon because of my professional work in the University.

Our Section will begin the new Theosophical Year on the 4th October and we plan to have public meetings every fortnight.

Regarding membership, we had 176 members on the 1st October 1972 and now we have 186 (20 new members, 4 deaths, 6 lapsings). Nevertheless, old and young members manifest an increasing interest in the study of the literature left to us by the great leaders of Theosophy.

So, we continue with optimism concerning our work and I hope that our Section will in the future help in the Work of the Great Ones throughout the World.

DÉLIO NOBRE SANTOS,
General Secretary.

WALES

At the beginning of the year of which this report is a review, 1972-73, the Welsh Section celebrated its Golden Jubilee, 1922-1972. The event was held in conjunction with our Annual Convention, our Guest of Honour being Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith, Chairman of the European Federation. One of the features was a suitably decorated cake, and greetings were received from Bro. Sri Ram and many Sections and friends. The theme of

the Convention was "Towards a New Era"; in the light of events which followed, this was rather prophetic.

We had known for some time that developments were taking place in Cardiff city centre, but not sure how our Headquarters would be affected. However, in the spring of this year, 1973, an offer was made to us for 10 Park Place which, in view of our limited financial resources and heavy future repairs, we felt unable

to refuse and decision was taken to sell. As a result we have obtained new premises a little way out of the city centre which, though smaller, are more suitable for our purposes, in excellent condition and more easily maintained, and our financial position is much more secure.

The Colwyn Lodge had similar problems and are now settled happily in their new home. Decisions such as these are not easy to make especially when one has been in occupation fifty years, but it would seem the changes have been beneficial. There is a new vigour and a new sense of purpose in the Section. Cardiff has been particularly active with their study groups with emphasis on *The Key to Theosophy*, *The Divine Plan*, leading to *The Secret Doctrine*. There has been a most enthusiastic response which is now bearing fruit. This and the increased

enthusiasm at Colwyn Bay, where attendances at public meetings have increased by over twenty-five per cent since moving, is now being reflected in our membership figures which have increased during the past year from sixty-five to seventy-eight. The new members being younger than those passed on, should help to attract others to the Section.

This new life is of great importance as we approach 1975 and, after the many years of apparent stagnation, we feel we can now look forward with increased confidence to the future.

Over the years the Section has had at its heart a core of the most loyal and devoted workers to whom the Section's deepest thanks and appreciation are due.

HARRY EDGAR,
General Secretary.

POLAND

No Report

URUGUAY

The 50th Annual Convention was held at our Headquarters on 18th August 1973. The President, Mr. Justo V. de la Vega, commenced the meeting with an invocation. He requested the audience to turn their thoughts to the memory of the late President, Mr. Sri Ram. Then he read the report of work done during the year 1972-1973.

A seminar was held from 12th—15th October, 1972 on the study of Theosophy. Official delegations from Argentina and Brazil participated. This seminar was arranged under the patronage of the Inter-American Theosophical Federation; public lectures, talks to members and

round table meetings were also held with a good attendance, and a beautiful spirit of fellowship prevailed.

On 17th November, 1972, the anniversary of the Society was celebrated. The General Secretary took the opportunity to present the Diplomas of Membership to the new members. On 7th January, 1973, members gathered to commemorate the 48th anniversary of the foundation of the Society in Uruguay. The Adyar Day was celebrated on 17th February 1973.

Visit of Mr. John Coats.—It was a great joy for us to have Mr. John Coats for a few days in March. His public

lectures were followed with great interest by members and visitors alike.

Inter-American Theosophical Federation.—From the 14th to 17th April, meetings of the Executive Council of the Federation were held in Cordoba, Republic of Argentina. A group of members headed by the General Secretary, Mr. Justo V. de la Vega, and Mrs. de la Vega represented Uruguay. The meetings were presided over by Mr. Luis Spairani, President. Members from Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, U.S.A., Mexico, Puerto Rico and Chile attended the meetings.

White Lotus Day.—On May 8th, the anniversary of the death of Madame Blavatsky, the members gathered at a remembrance meeting. Passages from the *Bhagavad Gita* and *The Light of Asia* were read.

Rules.—Additional rules to the Rules and Regulations of the Section were adopted at a general meeting held in July.

"Teosofia in Uruguay".—The fifth number of this journal appeared in July. A quarterly bulletin is also being issued to keep the members informed of the various activities of the Section.

Headquarters Building.—Due to the generous efforts and donations of the members, the H.Q. at Javier Barrios Amarin 1085 is being repaired. The library received the gift of many books on Theosophy. At our library hall in 18 de Julio 1333 Ave, public lectures were given by Mr. M. Dobal and the attendance was very good.

New Lodge.—The new Lodge "Elevation," which received its charter on 23rd September last, commenced its studies on 1st March, 1973. Members of each Lodge gathered on that day to congratulate the new group of workers in the theosophical world.

Membership.—44 new members have joined this year and the total membership of the Section stands at 181.

The General Council usually meets once a month, and twice or more times if necessary. The Council keeps the membership informed of the subjects discussed by means of Minutes put on the walls of our headquarters and library hall. The eleven Lodges of the Section are working once a week with members and visitors. During the Annual Convention, a delegate of each of the Lodges reports on the work accomplished during the year. A summary of the reports follows:

Lodge "Morya".—Studied Theosophia in Action. Talks to members and visitors on the founding of the Society and about the first theosophical leaders. Courses of Theosophy translated into Spanish.

Lodge "Koot-Hoomi".—Continued the study of *Theosophy Explained* by Pavri.

Lodge "Fraternidad".—Studied the book *Symbolism and Occultism, Occult Medicine*, books by Krishnamurti.

Lodge "Harmonia".—Studied *The Voice of the Silence*, Upanishads, Basic Course of Theosophy, writings by Rabindranath Tagore, Einstein. The month of May was dedicated to H. P. Blavatsky with talks and readings on her life.

Lodge "H.P.B.".—Studied *Evolution of Life and Form*, books by Herman Hesse, Jung and I. K. Taimni.

Lodge "Elevacion".—The new Lodge commenced its works studying the book *Karma Yoga* by Vivekananda.

Lodge "Karma-Marga".—Studied theosophical themes by writers of today; *The Art of Loving* by E. Fromm; *Search for the Real; What is Right Action?* This Lodge invited Mr. Juan Viñas of Argentine to offer three public lectures in our headquarters.

Lodge "Ariel".—Studied books by Krishnamurti; *Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett*.

Lodge "Ishvara".—In its first year, studied various subjects of Theosophy about the underlying values of the human

being; the true understanding of eternal teachings in the light of Theosophy; the attitude of the student of Theosophy in daily life.

Lodge "Gautama".—It started the study of the fourth volume of *The Secret Doctrine* of H.P.B. Its reading is conducted by Mr. J. de la Vega. About 12 members attend the meetings on Sunday mornings, each line being carefully studied.

Lodge "Djwhal Khul".—This Lodge worked by means of teams of four members each studying Theosophy. Finished the study of the book *The Last 30 Lives of Alcyone*; Started the study of the book *The New Humanity of Intuition* by Jinārājādāsa. This Lodge organized two study camps in seaside resorts where they had meetings to study and discuss theosophical subjects. They worked with

propaganda on Theosophy on T.V. and in newspapers; Mr. Mario Dobal offered a series of lectures on basic Theosophy with a good attendance of members and visitors.

The membership participated in the election for World President of the Society. Following the instructions received from the Recording Secretary at Adyar we arranged the election in our headquarters. Amongst 131 members eligible to vote, 99 members voted in the Presidential election.

I can say that the theosophical team in Uruguay is working in a right way, each one according to his aims within the Ideal of Theosophy. I hope that every Lodge will reach a growing perfection in its work in the time to come.

JUSTO V. DE LA VEGA,
General Secretary.

PUERTO RICO

Our membership shows a total of 59 members, one less than last year. We gained two new members; and two elderly members of many years' standing passed away. All of our usual activities, as noted in previous reports, continued.

As an experiment we changed the annual convention date from Easter Sunday to the Sunday nearest February 17th, Adyar Day. The weather is apt to be more pleasant at that time of year. This change made it possible for us to have as guest speaker at our Convention,

our good friend, Mr. John Coats. His visit was brief but most welcome.

It was my good fortune to be able to return to Adyar in December, 1972 and represent the Section at the international Convention. Our Section's treasurer, Mr. Jaime Baquero, attended the convention of the Federation Teosofica Inter-Americana in Argentina during Easter week and represented Puerto Rico.

SEYMOUR D. BALLARD,
General Secretary.

YUGOSLAVIA

The year under review started with the regular work in all Lodges. The Annual Convention was held on 8th October 1972 and a report was sent to the Office of the Recording Secretary.

The Lodge Truth in Beograd suffered a loss of three staunch members, all three passing away in December 1972, and the Lodge Harmony in Zagreb lost its president Br. Duro Robotić who was one of the oldest and most active members of the Yugoslav Section. Br. Duro Robotić passed away on 13th August 1973. In the year under report four new members joined the Society, and two resigned. The total number of members on 30th September 1973 amounts to 75.

Members meet in three Lodges once a week and in the others once in a fortnight. The themes were chosen mainly out of the books: *The Key to Theosophy* by H. P. B. and *Self-Culture* by I. K. Taimni. These two books were translated and copied more than twenty times. Besides, many other articles from theosophical journals were also translated.

The General Secretary visited and gave talks to members in Beograd, Zagreb, Ljubljana, Novi Beograd and Celje, this visit taking place immediately after the Convention in October last. Brother John Coats also visited our Lodges in Beograd, Zagreb and Celje, and our members were happy to meet him.

Eight members from three Lodges attended the Summer School in Pichl from the 9th to 16th September 1973, and took an active part in the discussion groups on the theme: "Unity".

Concerning the Presidential election: Of the total of 75 members, 68 voted for a new President. Two members are abroad, 1 member is in arrears, 2 members resigned, 2 students declared that they did not know the candidates. We all wish the new President a happy and prosperous period of his work under the inspiring influence of our Elder Brethren.

MILA GRUBACEVIC,
General Secretary.

SRI LANKA

The report for the past year reflects the difficulties under which our National Section, as well as many others in other countries too, are striving to maintain their activities, thanks to the selfless efforts of a band of devoted workers in these Sections. It is a challenge which must be faced and overcome by those who are convinced that we are working to achieve a worthy objective in furthering the aims and objects of the Society.

Several meetings, seminars, meditation and study camps were held by the Section and by its Lodges, of which Besant Lodge

in Colombo was mainly responsible for many of these activities, in which members of all Lodges and friends also participated.

On November 17th, Foundation Day, a public meeting was held at Girl Guides Headquarters Hall in Colombo, at which the Guest Speaker was Professor Dr. M. B. Ariyapala, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Sri Lanka, Colombo.

The public meeting was followed by a social and get-together of members and their guests.

Adyar Day, February 17th—which is also observed as Olcott Commemoration Day—a public meeting jointly organised by the Olcott Commemoration Society, the Theosophical Society and the Colombo Buddhist Theosophical Society, was held at Olcott Hall, Olcott Mawatha, B.T.S. Building, Colombo 11, presided over by the Hon'ble Stanley Tillekeratne, Speaker of the National State Assembly of Sri Lanka. Several speakers representing a number of Buddhist Societies and the Theosophical Society, and H. E. the U. S. Ambassador in Sri Lanka participated in this meeting. Earlier in the day, at 10 a.m., His Worship the Mayor of Colombo, Mr. Vincent Perera, garlanded the statue of Col. Olcott, at Olcott Mawatha, opposite the Fort Railway Station, and wreaths were placed at the foot of the statue by the Minister of Cultural Affairs, the National President of the Theosophical Society, the President of the Buddhist Theosophical Society and other societies too.

At a meeting of the National Section which was held on February 23rd, a vote of condolence was passed on the "passing on" of our late beloved brother N. K. Choksy, Q.C., who was a member of the Theosophical Society for nearly half a century, a past National President, and later Vice-President for many years; his death occurred on January 16th 1973. Brother F. Rustomjee, J. P. U. M., was elected as Vice-President to fill this vacancy. At this meeting the National Secretary delivered a speech on the significance of Adyar Day (February 17th). Brother F. Rustomjee delivered the first of a series of three Talks on "Man, Visible and Invisible". Two further talks by the same speaker on this subject took place on 24th and 30th April.

Before the meeting which was held on 30th April, two minutes silence was

observed as a mark of respect in memory of our former revered President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, and a vote of condolence, which was passed at this meeting, was conveyed to the bereaved members of the late President's family.

A vote of condolence was passed and two minutes silence was also observed as a mark of respect on the passing away of the late Mr. Dudley Senanayake, a former Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.

The following series of meetings was organised by Besant Lodge and held at Girl Guides Headquarters hall, and the speakers on the subject of "Esoteric Aspect of Religions", were: on 15th May, Bro. F. Rustomjee, Zoroastrianism; 28th May, Her Holiness Satchitananda Mataji, Hinduism; 11th June, Bro. Theja Gunawardhana, Christianity; 25th June, Dr. W. F. Jayasuriya, Buddhism; 16th July, Mr. Fuard Uduman, Islam.

Shri Parthasarathy of the Chinmaya Mission at Bombay, was invited to deliver a lecture on August 11th and his subject was "Man and Mind".

A week-end Meditation and Study Camp which was organised by Besant Lodge, was held at a private residence at Bolgoda, on 28th and 29th September. This was attended by 60 members and guests and the camp was quite a success. The various study groups at this camp were instructed by Bro. F. Rustomjee, Her Holiness Satchitananda Mataji, Dr. W. F. Jayasuriya, Dr. K. M. P. Mohamed Cassim, Mrs. Theja Gunawardhana and Mr. Fuard Uduman.

White Lotus Day, which falls on May 8th, was commemorated at a meeting and social of the members of the National Section and guests, when Dr. Kewal Motwani was the Chief Speaker.

On 19th May, a meeting was held at Lotus Lodge, Demotawa Estate, Pasyala at the residence of Mrs. Elaine Roversi Perera, the Lodge President and her sister

Miss Hilda Roversi, the Secretary. They very kindly entertained the members and friends to tea after the discussions, lead by Bro. F. Rustomjee based on the series of lectures delivered by him earlier on "Man, Visible and Invisible".

Shanti Marga Lodge which meets at Poddala, near Galle, held ten meetings during the year under review under the leadership of Brother A. P. Sugathadasa, one of our most senior members.

In a brief but highly interesting report, submitted by their Secretary Brother, G. A. Mendis, he records that their leader delivered a series of very illuminating talks on the "Evolution of the Human Soul", and that his vivid explanations and appropriate similes brought home to them very deep and sublime truths. His ability to reconcile the great truths of Theosophy with the teachings of the Lord Buddha had created an understanding and appreciation of Theosophy in all who had the privilege of listening to him, including many who were not members. It may be interesting to note that all seven members of Shanti Marga Lodge are Buddhists.

Meetings of the Executive Committee were held on 23.2.73, 26.9.73 and 22.10.73, and a meeting of the General Council was held on 11.6.73.

No reports of any special activities of note were received from other Lodges. There are seven Lodges with a total membership of 74 which records an increase of 8 over the previous year's total of 66.

It is confidently hoped that as a result of the series of Meetings, Seminars and Study Camps organised by Besant Lodge, an appreciable increase in the number of members will result in the ensuing years.

I would also appeal to our members and well-wishers to rally to the support of the Section with generous donations in view of the parlous current financial situation in which we are placed as revealed in the Statement of Accounts presented by our National Treasurer, Brother M. Canagaratnam, whose services have been very helpful to the Section.

D. L. F. PEDRIS,
General Secretary.

GREECE

The Greek Section of the Theosophical Society has been working very regularly, as usual, during the whole past year.

The number of our Lodges are always six and the members amount to 241. We have 31 new members while 25 have been outgoing.

One of our meetings was dedicated to the memory of our dear late President Sri Ram with speeches referring to his activity.

C. MELISSAROPOULOS,
General Secretary.

CENTRAL AMERICA

The Annual Report of our activities during the period from 17.11.72 to 22.10.73 is as follows:

The General Secretary, from Costa Rica, took her functions over on 17.11.1972 from Br. Benvenuto Martínez from Nicaragua during the Central American Convention which took place in our country in a fraternal and dynamic atmosphere and was well attended by all countries.

We had a painful start since on the 23rd December our sister Republic Nicaragua was afflicted by one of the greatest catastrophies in consequence of the earthquake. Many of our brothers lost all their material belongings, although fortunately all the members survived. The Lodge building and all it contained were completely destroyed. In the face of such a disaster the Central American Lodges and the General Secretary collected the sum of 5000 córdobas and the General Secretary, Pilar Madrigal Nieto, and Br. Dr. Gonzalo Vargas Aguilar went themselves to Managua to hand over this money to Br. Benvenuto Martínez, Julita and Luis Caracas Santos and Julio C. Martínez to cover their most urgent needs. Because of this disaster the brothers were dispersed and the Lodges do not function for the moment.

During the same Convention and before giving up the function of General Secretary, Br. Benvenuto granted diplomas to several members of Honduras to establish the Lodge "Tegucigalpa" in that country. The former Lodge had the name of "Subirana", which name the Lodge Tegucigalpa has taken back in order to take possession of a small piece of land donated by a deceased brother.

The total of new members in Central America is 26.

The Secretary had the difficult task of dividing the Lodge Gnosis of Guatemala owing to lack of comprehension and brotherliness; all the efforts of the Secretary to reunite them were in vain. Actually the group led by Sister Carmen Aguilar Alvarez is meeting in her house and working, whereas the other group has written to ask for its separation from the T. S. We have urged them to go on as Fellows-at-large, but do not yet know what they have decided. This was a very troublesome matter.

This year we had the first visit of Br. John Coats (our present President) and afterwards that of Br. Juan Viñas Pastor from Argentine. Both of them have done a marvellous work, arousing interest and giving a new impulse to all our Lodges, which are now working more dynamically and fraternally.

The Inter-American Federation has started to publish books which had been out of print for many years, and the response was marvellous.

Last August the General Secretary visited the Honduras Lodge to exchange ideas with its members and help them to prepare for the visit of Br. Juan Viñas. The meeting with those brothers was pleasant and helped to tie bonds of brotherhood and friendship. From there the General Secretary went to Guatemala with the purpose of having discussions with the members of the divided Lodge Gnosis and to try and settle their discord. Unfortunately it was not possible to reconcile them. The General Secretary did this trip at her own expense with no charge for her office.

The last, but most important point refers to the physical departure of our beloved and revered late President, Br. Sri Ram, and the election of the new President, Br. John Coats. The first put

us in great sorrow and we cabled the news to all countries in Central America, who together with us emitted thoughts of Love and Peace to those at Adyar as well as to the illustrious and admired deceased. Costa Rica too endured the loss of one of its most outstanding members, Br. Miguel Monge Echandi, who had been General Secretary, President of the Lodge Virya at several periods as well as representative in our country of the Highest Council of the International Mixed Freemasonry of the Cenit Paris.

The election of Br. John Coats as world President was received with great rejoicing in all our countries, and we hope that his work will continue the brilliant direction set by all his predecessors and be fulfilled in the realization of the Great Ideal with which the Blessed Masters have entrusted the Theosophical Society for the welfare of mankind. Our wishes for Light and Peace for all brothers.

PILAR MADRIGAL NIETO,
General Secretary.

PARAGUAY

Dissolved

PHILIPPINES

The beginning of the year under report marked great revolutionary changes in the country, producing a temporary lull in the activities. Some Lodges that used to meet later in the evenings, called off their meetings. Many members stayed at home afraid to be caught out in the streets. Some even waited for announcements that the Society was not one of the "banned" organizations! Anyway this did not prevent us from "coming together" even over telephones to re-think some worn-out ideas and plan for more realistic measures in our Work while still intent on the lateral goal of popularizing a knowledge of Theosophy. Before many weeks were over, practically everyone was "back-to-work" for Theosophy.

Public Lectures and Programming.—There is always room for improvement and even a measure of experimentation along lines that can improve the quality of our work for the Theosophical Society.

Where before, every Sunday was a public lecture day at the Headquarters (except fifth Sundays), this time, it was felt some of these Sundays (when members are more available) could be used to keep the members honed-up on the teachings as a preparation also for real public presentations later on. The small study groups conducted in the Lodges tended to fizzle out due to lack of knowledgeable discussion leaders and so the need to build up and harness older members to handle Study Classes was in order. Besides, this was one way of involving other members in useful work for the Society. Thus, public lectures at the Headquarters were reduced to first Sundays of the month only. Beginning February, each month was assigned to a host Lodge to help Section workers in drumming-up publicity for the lectures and to provide some needed refreshments. Older and more experienced members of

the Society were harnessed and non-members, if invited to use the Theosophical platform, were to be screened properly. Better prepared lectures, and time for the necessary notices were felt important. Considering the snail-paced mails, this was a necessity. Though far from spectacular, the results in terms of presentation and audience participation were encouraging. So far, only members and a yogini-member of the English Section have been called to the platform. Among these were, Mr. J. Cunanan; Judge J. Morfe; Mr. Augusto Reyes; Mr. A. Miravite; Mr. R. Socco; Dr. J. Pineda and Mrs. Irene Tweedie of the English Section. Topics included were: "Spiritual Healing, Its Concepts and Implications"; "Yoga and Spirituality"; "Reincarnation and the New Society"; "Christian Mysticism"; "Theosophy in Business"; "Zen Buddhism"; "Bhakti Yoga, as Gleaned from the Bhagavad Gita"; "The Yoga of Jesus".

Study Classes.—A ten-week lecture Course on "Brotherhood Through the Great Religions", was a deeply appreciated series conducted by Mrs. Eugenia Tayao. So too, was the "Yogic Teachings found in the Bible" by Dr. Pineda. A fresh series on "Theosophy for Beginners" is currently being offered by Mr. Augusto Reyes. A short series on Astrology was conducted by Mr. Vic Haoshin. At the Study Centre in Pandacan, Atty. Mauricio Carlos, a prewar member, leads an ambitious programme of studies which are well presented with diagrams and illustrations including such subjects as: The Different Planes of Nature; The Solar System; The Different Vehicles of Man; The Chakras; and Life After Death.

Lodge Activities and Lodge Reforms.—For a long time, the idea that the Society is a loosely organized body with a wide latitude of freedom, was being pin-pointed

as the source of much in the way of soporific attitudes and even irresponsibility in some quarters. Dues were hardly paid in time, if at all. Reports were never turned in. Lodges trudged on in the same old grooves of unprepared meeting days, and perked-up only during special occasions or when visitations by some officials were made. A directive to Lodges requiring periodical reports on activities and membership status with a provision that failure to do so would render the Lodge concerned liable for classification as inactive or lapsing or force it to merge with another active Lodge or surrender its charter, hardly elicited any response. Perhaps it is a question of enforced "writer's cramp" on the part of the officials concerned, but at least there was evident renewed activity in many Lodges. Dues also came in more promptly. Among the Lodges that displayed better activities were Cavite Lodge, which instituted fresh ideas (like a house-to-house campaign) on membership re-activation and propaganda methods. Its officials led by its President, Mr. Lavadia, also took active part in civic affairs of the provinces, "to call attention to the Society". Buhay Lodge is another small Lodge kept faithfully alive by a husband and wife team, Dr. & Mrs. Magdalo Francisco. The Lodge has now decided to campaign for more members, whilst those formerly dropped have been encouraged to "come back to the fold". Another Lodge, Hamsa, which for many months remained inactive, now meets again regularly. Manila, Rizaliana and Ilaw Lodges have remained steadily active and progressive, registering some additions to their rolls. Three far-away Lodges, Cebu, Cabanatuan and Munoz, have been attracting a good number of members and sympathizers. These Lodges have now started building up their own small libraries. Members

of Ilaw Lodge are actively propagating vegetarianism and fruitarianism as part of their TOS work. Many Lodges, however, are still far from the ideal, and may even drop down in membership due to reforms presently being instituted. One such reform is the controversial increase in entrance and membership dues.

Membership and Entrance Fees.—To introduce a substantial increase in Entrance Fees and Annual Dues was predictably catastrophic to progression in number and suicidal in morale at a time when earnings lagged far behind zooming prices. But this was a problem plaguing the Section for a long time, and proposals to increase the dues and entrance fees have been shelved year after year. First, there was the ridiculous P 2.00 Entrance Fee—cheaper than a cinema ticket and as dignified as the neighborhood circus. Then the unrealistic P 1.00 a month annual dues for members was not even enough to cover the postage of announcements sent out for members. Second, the entrance fee tended to encourage curiosity seekers, and worse, even fostered the oriental fallacy that anything which could be had so cheaply was not really worth much. A certain dignity of approach and seriousness of purpose must pervade those who are truly in search of truth and are willing to make sacrifices for that which appeals and calls to their highest natures. As Damodar Mavalankar puts it: “We need men of principle and seriousness of purpose... the fee in my judgment should be increased to Rps. 200 or Rps. 300...” (*Damodar and the Founders of The Theosophical Movement*, p. 260). No, we did not follow Mavalankar’s suggestion, but we decided that a P 25.00 Entrance Fee was not exorbitant, would not act as a deterrent, but certainly can give the Society a better image and provide funds for members in distress, and other

needs. Membership dues were increased to only twice the amount to include the costs of magazine and library services. A generous remittance of dues for active members who have been in the Society for not less than two years, would be covered by the entrance fees of new members and the generous sponsorship of these members by some officials.

A furor of protest flooded Headquarters. Eventually with plain statistics staring these protestors in the face and tactful explanation of the need to keep the Work of the Society on an even keel despite the erosions made by prices on its tiny budget, things quieted down. To meet the deadline before the increase would take effect, almost 70% of the members paid their dues for the year before the first of July. It was good and also bad. Good, because a certain measure of discipline and cooperation had begun; bad, because after half of the next fiscal year, there would be nothing to look forward to in the way of finances from dues. Surprisingly, however, the first month of the new increase in dues, registered an increase of eleven new members! This need not indicate a repudiation of all the gloomy expectations of the objectors, for August and September registered zero in the membership chart. However, we are not fazed. A decrease in numerical strength can be offset quickly by the more valuable increase in inner strength and discipline, as well as the acquisition of earnest and serious members that trickle in. Quality is more important than quantity.

Again, as if to discourage fly-by-night members, new applicants are now requested to memorize the three Objects of the Society and to write in not more than three hundred words, why they want to join the Theosophical Society. No discouragement has so far been recorded.

The Free Correspondence Course, etc.—Laterally, we did not neglect the need to spread the teachings to as many as can be reached. The announcement through the newspapers of a Free Correspondence Course on Theosophy based on that prepared by the American Section, brought in a total of 44 correspondents. These came from the Visayas, Mindanao and a few from the North. However, after three or four lessons, the number dwindled to one-seventh of these and at the time of writing only five from Mindanao and the Visayas are still continuing with the Course. We do not offer a reason for this discouraging turnover. It is possible to speculate, however, that anything free is not very much appreciated. The course is a beautiful step-by-step introduction to the fascinations of the Ancient Wisdom, but unless a sufficiently strong drive impels a person to force himself to study, the interest wanes. Even for truth seekers, when the study is free, the compulsion seems absent. For all that, nothing is lost, we think. Free leaflets and other literature on Theosophy are given away and those who have been reached must have benefited in some way or another, whether we know it or not. This we have done, during the different sorties in other places where members of the Society or the National President and Officials are sometimes invited to speak to different groups on Theosophy. The modest expansion of the Book-shop and the Library facilities has helped much towards this end. A Rizaliana member, Mrs. Goring Go Piao, has started full-moon meditation meetings in the roof-garden of her house in Greenhills, which are becoming popular among members and sympathizers alike. From individual members, we hear of their private campaign to call attention to the teachings by the unique changes they have wrought in their lives and the simplicity

with which they are now able to handle the diverse problems of living. Two of these members, Mrs. R. Acu and Mrs. Gene Tayao, are with the National Council of the YWCA and have done much to influence the work of the Christian Education Committee to work along Theosophical lines. This must be the action that speaks louder than words.

The Annual Convention.—Easily the highlight of this year's activities was the three-day annual convention held last June 9, 10, 12. The theme chosen was "Theosophy A Total Commitment". The date was pushed up to June to coincide with the long-weekend prior to the nation's celebration of Independence Day. Very enlightening and enjoyable was the whole-day activity of the 10th. Most of the important business of the Convention was lined up on that day to accommodate members from the provinces who could not stay overnight. The morning was taken up with "The Work of the Theosophical Society", ably presided over by Mrs. F. Romero. A sumptuous sit-down lunch served on gaily-decorated tables, was a specially appreciated departure from the usual canteen-style meals of past Conventions. The beautiful tables seating twelve each and the comfortable rattan chairs, served the delegates well during the entire proceedings and lent, together with the symbolically decorated stage and hall, (a joint effort of the group headed by Mr. A. Familiar and Atty. G. Ramos), a very festive air to the whole proceedings. This was more than accentuated by the well-prepared musical numbers and the continuous background music of a yamaha organist provided by the National Treasurer, Mr. A. Reyes. Two principal lectures of the Convention were delivered, one by the National President on the Convention's theme: "Theosophy A Total Commitment", while the

other was given by the National Vice-President, Mrs. J. Pineda, on the subject: "Theosophy, Its Relevance to the New Society". A notable feature of the closing of the Convention was the new Candle-light Ceremony, a simple but moving ritual where everyone was asked to come forward, one by one to light his own small candle on the big lighted one up front, and as he walks back to his seat, he is greeted with, "May Your Light Be Ever Bright!" The Friendship Circle formed immediately afterwards, also contributed to the great warmth of feeling and togetherness that the Ceremony had generated among those present.

The outing on the last day of Convention was held in the historic city of Baliwag in the Buenavista Resort, a beautiful country place where swimming and short talks were enjoyed by all. The number who registered for Convention was a little less than in previous years. There were 98 members and a handful of visitors.

As every opportunity to spread Theosophy, however distant the place, was considered an important assignment by the officials, the excursion to Baliwag was also utilized to accept an invitation from some Baliwag residents to give talks there on Theosophy. Accordingly, before some of the officials and a few members proceeded to the Buenavista Resort, they detoured to the town proper and met in the house of an important alderman of the town, with a fairly large group of about fifty, which included two other pre-war members of the Baliwag Lodge which was then founded by the late first President of the Society, Mr. Ismael Zapata.

Christmas, Holy Week and White Lotus Day Programmes.—Three other important activities observed during the year, were the Christmas Programme of December 19, the Maundy Thursday, Holy Week Observance, and the White Lotus Day Pro-

gramme. In keeping with the austerity of the times, this Christmas Programme was a "family-affair" with children of members as special guests. The Christmas Bazaar which was opened in conjunction with it, was a colorful, but small affair that brought in non-members, too. Holy Week Programme, held on Maundy Thursday, featured three principal speakers on the general theme: "Occult Truths in The Mysteries of Jesus." Speakers and their subjects: Mr. D. C. Argente on "The Atonement"; Mr. Jose Cabrera on "Resurrection and Ascension" and the National President, C. Z. Gregorio on "Crucifixion". A big attendance was notable in this annual programme. White Lotus Day Observance, had for principal speakers, Mrs. Rosie Acunon: "The Life and Times of H.P.B." Prescribed readings were rendered by: Mrs. Estela Ampil Cruz, Mrs. Sagrario Carlos Arreza and Mr. Ramon Socco.

The Order of the Round Table.—A fortunate visit last April of the charming couple from Ojai, California, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jordan, resulted in the formation of the Order of the Round Table. Thirteen children below 17 years and an almost equal number of adults were accepted into the Order in a marathon ceremony presided over by Mrs. Sarah Jordan, Chief Knight of the Order in the United States.

The Theosophical Youth Movement.—The early month of September saw again the reactivation of the then very vigorous TYM. The need to revive the Movement was an offshoot of a visible need to have the young people who make up a goodly percentage of the members and sympathisers, find their own vehicle of expression. Mrs. F. Romero, a former TYM-er herself, was asked to organize the group and found the response very encouraging.

The TOS.—The Theosophical Order of Service for this year seemed to have been

reduced to only the activities of the Healing Department, headed by Mr. Jose Aniezo. Notably, in the whole history of the TOS in the Philippines, this group has been functioning faithfully, and as vitally as ever, rain or shine. Individual members, however, have reported that they have joined other organizations, civic and charitable, to bring the uplifting influence of Theosophy to them. A member of the Ilaw Lodge, Mr. Salvador Dizon, has taken up the cudgels for vegetarianism and fruitarianism by compiling in book form his experiences with his own infant son, whom he raised as a strict fruitarian and who is now a healthy, bright-eyed, very alert youngster of seven. Tentatively, he says, his book will be titled: "Can Man Live on Fruits Alone?"

Lodge Visitations and Speaking Engagements.—An important aspect of the functions of National officials, particularly, the President, is to be able to visit periodically Lodges and study groups and help stimulate the activities of each. This year, physical disability has somewhat curtailed for me these strenuous visits to far-away Lodges. Fortunately, there are those reliable and very capable workers who have always been willing to pitch in at the last moment, even if it meant half-day trips to Lodges up north over roads that were most ungentle to aging bodies, but were most generous with their suffocating dust. To our devoted member, and past President, Mr. Domingo Argente, I appealed for such help, to substitute for me in a scheduled visit to Cabanatuan and Munoz Lodges last January which had lined up an impressive programme. Another such deeply appreciated help was given me by our National Vice-President, Dra. Pineda, when St. Mary's College, a big private Catholic school for girls, invited me to speak on Reincarnation. Dra. Pineda's illuminating talk was very much

appreciated by the big audience. It has also helped in strengthening the warm relations between the Society and the Catholic elements, built up by Mr. Hodson when he was here. Some of the Lodges, however, which I had the privilege to visit, were Cavite Lodge, Balintawak, Hamsa, Buhay, and Ilaw. Of course, in Rizalana and Manila, I am often in attendance for they are both my home bases. Trips to other Lodges are being planned to make up for previously scheduled visits which have been cancelled.

Some of the invitations to speak on Theosophy which I had the privilege to accept, include one in a Congregation of a young people's spiritists' group in Malabon, two others to a group in Banawe Hospital, another in a private home in Urdaneta Village, and one to a Seminar on Ecumenism in the exclusive Bancom Building in Makati.

Visitors.—This year we had the happiness to welcome to the Section, last February, Mrs. Irene Tweedie and Miss Joan Foubister of the English Section, who came to the Philippines to see the much-talked-about psychic healers; and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jordan who have completely won the hearts of some of the members.

Mrs. Tweedie was prevailed upon to give a talk on "The Inward Path of the Soul".

The Library and the Bookshop.—Mr. Tony Francisco's exemplary devotion and faithful service to the Theosophical Society have contributed much to the continuing expansion of the Library and the Bookshop. We give here excerpts from his report on the Library and the Bookshop:

The T.S.P. National Library continues in its active programme of meeting the reading needs of members and non-members. During the past year, 250 volumes were added to the library shelves,

These books include all available titles on the basic teachings of Theosophy, as well as on comparative religion and philosophy. A complete inventory of the Library at the end of the fiscal year indicated that the total collection now exceeds 1,000 volumes. The circulation of books during the past year has increased by 20% over that of previous years, with a total of more than 500 books available for circulation. While less than 20% of the Society's membership are active borrowers, the number of non-member student-borrowers continues to increase. Scholars of different schools who are in the field of comparative religion and philosophy find theosophical books of immense help in their researches. As news of the specialized resources of our Library became better known outside, more and more students from different schools frequented Headquarters and became library members.

A complete renovation of the Library has been undertaken this year. It has been enlarged to accommodate the increasing number of readers and borrowers. The Library now occupies two-thirds of the entire third floor of our Headquarters. It has also been better refurbished and prettied up.

The Bookshop.—An important objective of our Section, to popularize a knowledge of Theosophy, has been fully undertaken and increasingly met by our Theosophical Bookshop through its nation-wide distribution and sale of Theosophical literature acquired from the three major Theosophical Publishing Houses, Adyar, Wheaton and London. The Mail-Order Service instituted by the Bookshop barely two years ago, is a popular aspect of the sales. Books from the Theosophical Publishing House in Wheaton have a wide market both from members and non-members, for their comparatively low-price and wide range of subjects covered. This fiscal

year showed a gross increase in sale of 10% more than the previous year—an encouraging trend, considering the grave economic depression sweeping the country and the increased price of these items.

The Bookshop has been renovated with more attractive shelves and has been transferred to the groundfloor of Headquarters building for better accessibility to customers and more space for expansion and improvement.

Acknowledgments.—No work of labor and love like the Work to which the Society is dedicated is possible without the small group of loyal workers who, year in and year out give unstintingly of their time, their energies and material possessions to the furtherance of the Society's aims. I am unusually fortunate to have as co-workers people like our librarian, Tony Francisco; our generous and devoted Treasurer, Mr. Angel Reyes; our Vice-President, Dra. Pineda, who is willing always to help when circumstances allow; our National Secretary, Atty. M. L. Zapata, and his wife, Ananda, both of whom have always given of themselves anytime, anywhere the Work so needs them; Mr. Domingo Argente, our former General Secretary, to whom I can always appeal to pitch in for me and help where his wide knowledge of Theosophy can always be useful. Then we have our two trustees, Mrs. Punay Fernandez and Mr. Vic Reyes (an appointee in an acting capacity); and Mr. Vic Hao Shing, editor of *The Philippine Theosophist*, whose invaluable help has eased very much for me the burden of editing and putting out the official organ of the Section. There are countless other friends and co-workers—I cannot possibly name them all here—but to these dear associates, who have been most kind and helpful, go my deepest gratitude and warm affection.

Conclusion.—Speaking of the nearly one hundred years of existence of the Theosophical Society and of its being considered as an important cycle, the late International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, had said: "There are those who think that the coming cycle will be new because of fresh influx of life. We should realize that no event of importance can take place without the setting in motion of the appropriate forces." These forces if they are to be reflective of a new and benign era cannot be too different from those generated by the devotion and dedication of loyal members working for the great Masters of the Wisdom for the ideals of the Theosophical Society. We in the Philippines are deeply conscious of the

challenge that the remaining few years of an era in the becoming poses for members like ourselves. We may with many hopes and expectations initiate changes and innovation and even scan new directions and never create a froth and raise a bubble. But does it matter? All of these, large or small, important or unimportant, in due time will settle down in the right places, in the right time and in the right proportions for Higher Forces can utilize these to begin for humanity a fresh new cycle according to the purity of the intentions that in this century released them. To this end, we invoke the blessings of the Great Ones to guide us always.

CLEO Z. GREGORIO,
General Secretary.

COLOMBIA

Five Lodges in the towns of Cali, Medellín, Barranquilla, Bucaramanga and Guayaquil (Ecuador) are working satisfactorily. In Bogota the Lodges "Maitreya" and "Blavatsky" are working normally; "Juvenil Arco Iris" was revived with the purpose of working in the field of the young; "Spinoza", which had been inactive, started again with a course on "Basic Theosophy", which was successful.

Particular emphasis must be laid on the Theosophical work for the youth showing interest in our teachings. In this task old and young active members are working together, since there is no antagonism towards the adults. Their programmes include working camps, round table discussions of subjects troubling human beings in the light of Theosophy, publication of courses and studies in the field of self-realization, and so on.

The Theosophical Movement for Children increased its activities this year; more

active members are working with children between 6 and 12 years. The Ceremonies of the Round Table are celebrated and dialogues are arranged in which the older children expose their view-point on the aspects of their small problems considered in the light of Theosophy. There is an exchange of ideas on Karma, reincarnation, unity of life, fraternity, etc., and the study group consists of 35 permanent assistants. They are taking part in puppet theatre plays, whose arguments are based on Theosophical doctrines. They have been visiting children's hospitals and giving their message by means of such representations. A financial support collected by the members of the Lodges was submitted to the Director of the Hospital.

At Headquarters courses for speakers were organized in order to make active members fit for giving public lectures, with good results. A convention was arranged in an harmonious environment and was attended by members of all Lodges in the

country. The subjects proposed by each Lodge were studied, working systems were discussed and it was agreed to have a convention each year. The idea is to increase the ability for Theosophical work. The Review *Seleccion Teosofica* continues to be published normally and meets with utmost interest.

Brother John Coats paid a visit to Bogotá, Bucaramanga and Barranquilla, held meetings with members, delivered public lectures and aroused interest in the viewpoints expressed. Sister Joy Mills of the North American Section also came to Bogotá together with Fritz and Helen Loenholdt, giving enthusiastic talks about her work and her visits to India.

A good cooperation was maintained with the brethren of the Interamerican Theosophical Federation.

We had also visits from the Presidents of the Federations of Young Theosophists, Br. Nathaniel Altman of the U.S.A., and Silvia Lialiana Pastore of the Interamerican Federation, domiciled in Argentina. Furthermore, the Columbian Federation of Young Theosophists was founded recently. It will be affiliated to the World Federation as well as to the Interamerican Federation. Sister Maira Cecilia Zea was elected President.

Summing up, the work in the Section was satisfactory.

ALFONSO ORTIZ,
General Secretary.

EAST AFRICA

New Office-Bearers.—At the annual General Meeting held at Dar-es-Salaam during the last Convention in Easter Holidays the following were elected for a period of three years:

General Secretary (National Chairman), Mr. H. M. Chhaya; Assistant General Secretary (National Vice-Chairman), Mr. H. D. Shah; National Secretary, Mr. I. N. Menon; National Treasurer, Mr. B. S. Patel.

Section Headquarters.—Since 1961, the Nairobi Lodge premises which is the only owned property in the Section at No. 55-A, Third Parklands Avenue, Nairobi, is the Headquarters of the Section.

Membership.—Our membership stands at 1078 as against 1297 last year. In spite of our major loss of 333 members of Uganda Lodges, we have been able to maintain a substantial number due to the admission of 195 new members, the majority of whom have joined during the visit of Mrs. Mehran R. Dhalla.

African Participation.—Apart from the efforts of all the Lodges to interest African brethren in Theosophy, the significant feature of the last year's work was an initiative by an African member to bring Theosophy to the very core of the indigenous people. One of our African members, Mr. D. M. Gacharia, has started gathering his friends to study Theosophy in his town near Embu, Kenya. At his invitation Bro. A. B. Patel and Bro. V. M. Shah (Regional Secretary, Kenya) visited the group and discussed Theosophy with them in June, 1973. This created more interest and being again invited, I visited the group with Bros. R. S. Tak (Regional Secretary, Kenya-2) Bro. J. B. Amin, Mr. and Mrs. R. Innocent (originally from Wales, now in Kenya) and Bro. James on 14th October and had a discussion on Karma and Reincarnation. We presented several text books on Theosophy for the group's further study. It is hoped that a Lodge will be formed

mainly of African members soon and it will be a nucleus for many more such groups in the country in the near future.

23rd Annual Convention.—This was held at Dar-es-Salaam during Easter Holidays when the Dar-es-Salaam Lodge was the host to some 250 delegates from Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia. Our Guest of Honour was Mrs. Mehran R. Dhalla who also toured all our Lodges in Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia for 105 days. It was a unique Convention in many respects and in particular for our Section, as it was for the first time that the following items were introduced successfully:

1. Mrs. Dhalla's three Convention lectures were duplicated and were distributed to each member of the audience after the lectures.

2. A convention bulletin was issued and distributed free of charge.

3. An audio-visual exhibition of pictures depicting the teachings from *At the Feet of the Master* and *The Masters and the Path* was staged by Dar-es-Salaam Lodge.

4. Discussion groups were formed to discuss eight different questions (one each) pertaining to our work in these countries in particular and the Theosophical Society in general. The discussion brought out some very good ideas about the work.

5. A supplement giving articles on Theosophy and the work of the Theosophical Society was published in the local daily English newspaper and the Nairobi Gujarati Weekly. The cost of space for the English supplement was covered by advertisements donated by various firms in Dar-es-Salaam and for the Gujarati supplement Nairobi Lodge collected advertisements to pay for the cost of space.

As usual the Dar-es-Salaam Lodge bore all the expenses for accommodation and meals of all delegates and all incidental expenses in connection with the Convention.

Presentation of Books.—The Section presented 100 books to one of the largest prominent libraries—The McMillan Library, Nairobi and the Kilimanjaro Lodge of Moshi, Tanzania donated 51 books to the Moshi Regional Library at the hands of Mrs. Mehran R. Dhalla. Both gifts were much appreciated.

Enquiries from African Readers.—We seized the opportunity of putting Theosophical ideas through an advertisement inserted by us in the newspapers in response to articles entitled "Was God an astronaut?" in a local newspaper. We sent to each of our enquirers some books in which references were made about the advanced planets helping the planets which are backward in evolution. There were many enquiries and some enquirers have joined the Society as members.

Mrs. Mehran Dhalla's Visit.—The reputation of the Theosophical Society in East Africa of affording free opportunities practically each year to the general public to listen to interesting and instructive lectures on problems of life followed by questions and answers (a unique aspect of our lectures) drew large audiences for Mrs. Mehran Dhalla wherever she went in Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia. Her visit was of special significance for us as when two other guests had declined our invitation at the eleventh hour, she spontaneously accepted it. We are very grateful to her for this service to the Cause of these countries for 105 days at a stretch! Bro. A. B. Patel accompanied her in Kenya and Tanzania.

A Regional Conference.—Taking advantage of Mrs. Dhalla's presence, Zambian Lodges held a one day regional conference at Kitwe on 3.7.1973 which was a unique experience for members in Zambia.

Visit to Lodges.—Since 2nd October, Bro. A. B. Patel has been visiting Lodges

in Zambia and will be there till the middle of December conducting workers' camps and study classes at every Lodge there.

Bro. H. D. Shah visited Tabora, Moshi and Lindi (Tanzania) Lodges and addressed members as well as public.

I visited the Nakuru Lodge and delivered a public lecture on "Purpose and Importance of the Theosophical movement" on Foundation Day.

Bro. S. N. Joshi, visited the Tabora Lodge and addressed members and the general public.

Celebrations.—All Lodges, besides holding regular weekly meetings, celebrated usual important days of the Theosophical Calendar and also respective national days. Several Lodges collected funds on Adyar Day and remitted these to Adyar.

Television Interviews.—Mrs. Dhalla was interviewed on television in Nairobi and Lusaka. Also three Nairobi Lodge members including myself were given two opportunities (i) Adyar Day (ii) Foundation Day—to explain Theosophy and the work of the Theosophical Society. We are grateful to the Directors of Broadcasting in these countries.

Publication in Ki-Swahili.—As it is considered by us a bit difficult to find appropriate words in Ki-Swahili, the language of Kenya and Tanzania, we did not take up the American Section's suggestion to translate *The Key to Theosophy* into Ki-Swahili. Moreover, the average educated African prefers to read English books at present, so we published a small 11-page booklet containing Theosophical articles translated in Ki-Swahili at the cost of shillings 1250 for 2,000 copies.

The Century Fund.—Due to the departure of our enthusiastic and influential members Bro. C. G. Patel and Bro. J. M. Parikh to India the Section-based

Committee's work has been delegated to all Lodges with a revised scheme of distribution of the collections e.g. 25% to Adyar, 25% to the East African Section and 50% to the Lodge. It is hoped this will give an impetus to the Lodges to collect funds for this purpose.

Loss to the Section.—We have suffered a loss through the death of Bro. L. B. Patel, our former National Treasurer and a veteran worker of the Nairobi Lodge.

Loss to the International Movement.—All our Lodges sent messages of condolences on the death of our International President Bro. N. Sri Ram and expressed sorrow at the loss our movement has suffered.

Election of New President.—On the 12th of October, we were advised of Mr. John B. S. Coats' election as President. We conveyed this news to all our Lodges and sent our letter of loyal greetings and congratulations to the New President. We pledge our loyal support to all that he may do to achieve the objects of the Society in the crucial coming years.

Our Thanks to the Acting President.—We place on record our thanks to the Acting President, Mr. James S. Perkins, who helped the late Bro. Sri Ram as his deputy since 1961 and carried on the arduous and thankless job of Acting President after Mr. Sri Ram's passing away. We wish him and his wife a very happy healthy and long life in the service of the Great Ones!

Additional Activities.—*The Theosophical Order of Service.*—The T.O.S. is active in several Lodges doing useful work to help suffering humanity. A brief account is as under:

Nairobi.—Helps needy individuals directly, who apply for the same. The help consists of rations, house rents, school fees, uniforms and passages to go to U.K. or India. The National Director, Bro. R. H. Patel, runs a Nature Cure

and Ayurvedic free advice centre for two hours every day of the week and several persons took advantage of it last year.

Dar-es-Salaam.—Preferred mostly to help humanitarian institutions such as The Red Cross, Deaf and Dumb, Orphanage (Children's National Home), Rehabilitation Centre for refugees, schools in backward areas, etc., and the celebrations of four principal Theosophical days, namely 1st October, 17th November, 17th February and 8th May started with a donation to one of such institutions of materials worth about £100 to £150 as were required by them each.

Nakuru.—Also helped institutions like the Child Welfare Society, the Alms House, etc.

Kericho.—Distributed milk, fruits and pastries to patients in General Hospital once a month.

Tabora.—Donated loaves of bread worth Shs. 2,000 to the poor through the "Indian Sisters of Charity" during the last year.

Lusaka.—Sponsored H. E. The President of Zambia, Dr. Kaunda, for a nutrition walk at Kwacha 10 per kilo-meter, the total donation being K.500 (£ 205 approx.)

Bharat Samaj Puja.—Regularly every Sunday those members and sympathisers who were interested in such ceremonies participated at Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam when an opportunity was taken each time to explain the meaning of the Mantras from the Theosophical point of view and how in essence, each religious worship aimed at one and the same principle.

Healing Group.—This ceremony was performed every week at Dar-es-Salaam only.

In Conclusion.—I am glad to report that the work of the Society in this Section is carried on in a spirit of brotherhood and harmony and each worker is eager to emphasize that he/she is a Theosophist first and then everything else. All our workers, though having differences of opinions sometimes, are working as a team for the good of the Cause which is dearest to all. This is a spirit which has made this young Section progressive and we pray that it will always be uppermost in our minds. We pledge our loyalty to the Cause and also to the International President, Bro. John Coats.

H. M. CHHAYA,
General Secretary.

PAKISTAN

The work of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan is now located only in the western part of the sub-continent, after the creation of the new state of Bangla Desh. Pakistan now comprises four provinces; namely Sind, Punjab, Baluchistan and the North-West Frontier Province. There are two Lodges in Sind—at Karachi and Hyderabad—a third in Baluchistan

at Quetta, and another in the Punjab at Lahore.

Activities.—Of these four Lodges, the Karachi Theosophical Society remains the largest and the oldest, having been founded on 22nd December 1896. Its membership on 30th September 1973 was 115. Throughout the year, the Lodge held its activities, comprising two public lectures,

weekly study classes and one members' meeting per month. Besides these, weekly special studies of Mr. Krishnamurti's writings were carried out. The Lodge also commemorated the anniversaries of the Founders of various religions and focussed attention on their teachings. It also had special meetings on Adyar Day, White Lotus Day, Foundation Day and anniversaries of Dr. Besant and Mr. Jamshed Nusserwanjee.

The Karachi Theosophical Society has a large and valuable library comprising over 12,000 books on Theosophy, Religion, Philosophy, Literature, Science and allied subjects. The library is free and open to the public and is well-used. One hundred and thirty-six new books were added to the library during the year. During the year under report, efforts were made to enhance the library funds and a sum of Rs. 17,666 was raised through a Variety Concert. The Lodge hopes to raise Rs. 200,000 for a Library Endowment Fund, the interest on which would be a permanent source of income for the library.

The Lodge held a special commemorative meeting on 22nd April 1973 at which loving tributes were paid to the late Mr. N. Sri Ram, the fifth International President of the Theosophical Society.

The small Lodge, the Lahore Theosophical Society, with about 15 members carried out its weekly programme of lectures and discussions throughout the year. It is slowly building up its library.

The Lodges at Quetta and Hyderabad have no fixed programme of activities but meet occasionally or when they have visitors. The Quetta Lodge has a small nucleus of about 11 members. The Hyderabad Lodge has sent no statistics for a long time but should have about 40 members.

Difficulties faced in developing Theosophical work in Pakistan.—The main im-

pediment is lack of leadership in different cities. While Karachi has a good group of enlightened members, they are unable to work outside the city. The local leadership is not strong or willing enough to organise work on a steady basis.

Lack of funds is another real difficulty. And non-availability of literature in local languages—mainly Urdu and Sindhi is still another.

This part of the sub-continent also needs Theosophical lecturers and visitors from the more developed Sections. While for regular work, local languages are preferred outside Karachi, English is still widely used in the larger cities.

Both for publications in local languages and for inviting Theosophical guest lecturers, the Presidential Agency needs the support of the International Headquarters.

Theosophy in Karachi.—The Karachi Theosophical Society publishes a 4-page bulletin called *Theosophy in Karachi*. It is a small but readable little publication, giving the monthly programme of the Karachi Theosophical Society, news of Lodge activities and some articles and passages of Theosophical instruction and interest. Besides its circulation among local members, the bulletin is sent to Lodges in Pakistan and to others on request, free of cost. *Theosophy in Pakistan* which was being published by the Presidential Agency and which had ceased publication since some time, is now planned to be revived.

The Theosophical Order of Service.—The Order works as a well-organised group only in Karachi. It is registered with the Department of Social Work, Government of Pakistan, and is one of the best and most active bodies of its kind in the city. Its work is divided into five departments, namely, Relief and Rehabilitation, Animal Welfare, Art and Education, Welfare of the Handicapped, and Health

and Healing. A full-fledged Montessori Centre, catering to over 120 children, educational scholarships to over 300 school and college students, a club for the adult blind and healing services are some of its main activities. The Order is supported in its scholarship programme by the Save the Children Fund, London. Last year, the Order spent Rs. 217,029.22 on relief and educational scholarships.

Field Work in Theosophy.—Mr. M. Abdi visited Tehran in October-November, 1972 and was in contact with the Theosophical Society there. He addressed two members' meetings and gave a public lecture from their platform. En route to Iran he visited the Quetta Theosophical Society where he also addressed two members' meetings and delivered a public lecture.

Mrs. Gool K. Minwalla, taking advantage of her visits to Iran, England, Holland, Canada and the United States of America in connection with educational work for the Montessori Association, was able to visit theosophical centres in these countries. In Toronto she lectured from

the platform of the Toronto Theosophical Society and later gave two lectures at the Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society in America at their headquarters at Wheaton. She also addressed a member's meeting in Teheran.

Mr. Dara F. Mirza has visited the Lahore Theosophical Society during the year. On two of these visits, public lectures were given.

Conclusion.—As in most other countries, Theosophy in Pakistan needs to be interpreted through a channel of thought familiar to its people. Islam's broad approach to other religions, its beautiful and uncompromising monotheism and its mystical concepts so well interpreted in Sufi philosophy, offer an inspiring channel to the able and dedicated Theosophical worker—be he a son of the soil or a friend from other fields. We never lose hope that such workers will join the Theosophical Fraternity in Pakistan. The doors are wide open.

GOOL K. MINWALLA,
Presidential Agent.

MALAYSIA FEDERATION

Organisation.—There are two registered Lodges in Malaysia, i.e., in Seremban and Penang. The Theosophical Group in Malacca is attached to the Seremban Lodge. In all there are 50 members. No organised attempts are made on "membership drives" as it is felt that those who wish to become members of Lodges should do so of their own volition without any persuasion. Dissemination of Theosophical information is very inadequate. Action is being taken to remedy this situation in 1974.

Lodge Activities.—Lodges meet weekly for study on selected texts and discussions,

In addition, public meetings are arranged whenever a visiting T.S. lecturer is available. Talks by non-T.S. Lecturers on selected topics are also organised whenever possible.

Educational Work.—The Seremban Lodge has successfully pioneered child education in the Montessori method in Seremban. Starting with about 20 children between the ages of 3 and 6 in 1967, the centre has now grown into a fully equipped and effective school for about 120 children. Another centre has been started in Malacca and efforts are being directed towards its growth.

Centenary Celebrations.—Plans are being made to celebrate the forthcoming centenary of the Society in 1975. Plans are being considered to organise a South East Asian or Pacific Convention in Malaysia in which members going to or from the

International Convention in Adyar may participate. Arrangements are also being made for a Malaysian contingent to participate in the Adyar celebrations.

S. NARAYANAN,
Presidential Agent.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Our Theosophical activities, "as a group", during the year under review took place through the Belfast Lodge, which has always been the core of the T.S. in Northern Ireland. The programme of Public Lectures on Sunday afternoons was varied and interesting, and also reached a high standard; lecturers were drawn mainly from among our local talent, since it isn't always possible to count on the wisdom of visiting speakers; all lectures were reasonably well attended by our own members; it is regrettable that present conditions make it rather uninviting for the general public to attend our meetings. A look at our Members' Book discloses the rather disappointing fact that membership at 30th Sept. 1973 was 39, just half the total membership we had at the beginning of the 1950's. Obviously, there has been a progressive "contraction", which, in fact, might well be indicative of better things to come. Time will tell. Another feature of our activities was the weekly members' meetings, when, despite current difficulties, at least "two or three" always managed to be gathered together. Many among our members continue to be seriously involved in T.O.S. activities. The Regional Summer School was attended by one or two of our members who reported "fresh tidings of Brotherhood". To two outstanding events I would like to draw particular attention;

(a) During the Annual Convention on 27th May 1973, which took the form of a Business Meeting only, Dr. Hugh Shearman, after twenty years of dedicated efforts as Organizing Secretary, and before that as Presidential Agent, announced his desire to retire from office. I felt greatly honoured at being nominated Brother Hugh's successor.

(b) A new roof over our heads—We no longer reside at 18 Brookhill Avenue, treasure-house of fruitful memories. During the middle of June 1973 the Belfast Lodge moved into more modest premises: a large room at "Gateway House, 242 Antrim Road, Belfast BT15 2AR".

After our customary "Summer Pralaya", we resumed our programme of public lectures at our new premises on 30th September 1973 with what turned out to be a lively discussion on the subject "The Shackles of Belief"; the meeting was very well attended, mostly by faithful members. The Bangor and Coleraine Lodges continue to be passing through a phase of relative "stillness". Some thought is being put at the moment into the question of how to "revive" them. We may have to wait yet a little while longer before conditions in this troubled province allow the Pearls of Divine Wisdom to enrapture more human hearts, for, although man is often prepared to give anything for a certain belief provided

that belief is *exclusive*, an *inclusive* belief—open-ended, universal—as suggested by our Theosophical Teachings, seems to be extremely hard to grasp, for to “grasp it”, one must, first of all, learn to “give up self”, and few are those, relatively

speaking, of “comprehensive” heart and of “serene” mind who are capable of doing this, and who are prepared to show it by embracing the Theosophical Ideal.

ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ,
Organizing Secretary,

VIET NAM

Our Board is composed of: Mrs. Nguyen thi Hai, General Secretary; Miss Luu thi Dau, 1st Assistant General Secretary; Mr. Nguyen van Huan, 2nd Assistant General Secretary; Mr. Pham dang Lan, Secretary; Mr. Le van Hai, 1st Vice-Secretary; Mr. Le toan Trung, 2nd Vice-Secretary; Mrs. Pham dang Lan, Treasurer; Miss Tran thi Hoanh, Vice-Treasurer; Mr. Ha To Thuan, Mr. Truong van Vi, Mr. Tran van Dieu and Mr. Duong Ngoc Dau, Councillors.

Introduction.—As the occult cycle 1975 approaches, almost everybody in our Section is up and awake preparing for the occasion. They are in search of Truth, to learn and do work for the Society. In order to meet their aspirations, we arranged two meetings a week, namely: Saturday evenings: Training course to prepare the leaders, and Sunday mornings: Teaching of Theosophy. The attendance at the former was about fifty and the latter from eighty to one hundred.

In the future planning, we have made preparations with courageous and talented people for the spread of Theosophy through the radio and television.

Now it is my greatest pleasure to present the Annual Report for the year ending 30th September 1973.

Membership.—The total membership at the end of the year under review stood at 1,116, an increase of 69 over the previous year. There were 8 deaths, no resignations, no lapses and no transfers to other Sections.

Lodges.—

The Viet Nam Lodge.—The Section now has 18 active Lodges. Among them, there is one Lodge named Viet Nam Lodge. It has been founded on 3rd March 1935 under the name of Leadbeater Lodge. The change of name occurred on 17th July 1952. It is the first nucleus of our Section in 1952! We took all the board of this Lodge and put it on the Section, and it became dormant. Now, the Section has decided to revive it with its original Charter. This was done in September by a leader, Mr. Nguyen văn Huân, a good and active member. He has also been many times Assistant General Secretary. We consider the most ancient Lodge Viet Nam as a new one. We hope that the Masters bless it!

The “Kiem Ai” Lodge continues to be very important and very active with 195 members, an increase of 17 members. It has weekly public lectures. Its magazine *Anh Dao* is lasting. The Lodge has a well furnished library containing theosophical books.

The Youth Lodge “Phung Su”. This Lodge is the most active in Viet Nam. It has two meetings a week: on Saturday afternoon and on Sunday morning. It has lectures, study and discussion on “The Three Objects of the Theosophical Society”. The meditation class is well attended too. On the occasion of the 21st Anniversary of the Youth Lodge, the members will organize a Symposium on “Unity in Diversity” from 1st to

4th November this year. That will be an interesting programme.

Most of those young members are educated people, having also a sound basic knowledge of Theosophy.

The “*Dung Hanh*” Lodge (or *Women's Lodge*). It is also an important Lodge in Viet Nam. It has weekly meetings studying the Commentary on *At the Feet of the Master* and *The Voice of the Silence*. It has a library.

The “*Chon ly*” Lodge, in the centre of Viet Nam, is still active.

The “*Tu Bi*” Lodge and the “*Saigon*” Lodge are also active. They have a combined programme with study every Sunday morning.

And these other Lodges: *Minh Triet* (Wisdom), *Bồ Đề* (Buddhi), *An Giang*, *Kien Giang*, *Bắc ái*, *Long xuyên*, *Duối Chon Thầy*, *Dinh Tuồng*, *Gò Công*, *Vũng Tàu* and *Y Chi* (Atma) are also active.

In short, every Lodge in Viet Nam is capable of expansion.

Publications.—In May 1973, the Section issued a booklet on *After Death* written by Mrs. Nguyen thi Hai, with 10,000 copies for the first edition. In order to popularize Theosophy, we sold the booklets at a very low price. After one month of sale, only a few thousand copies have remained.

The Section has also mimeographed, chapter by chapter, *The Causal Body* (by A. E. Powell), *The Secret Doctrine* (by H. P. Blavatsky), and *Commentaries on “The Light on the Path”*, all translated into Vietnamese, and free copies were distributed to members before and after Mrs. Nguyen thi Hai's lectures.

Convention.—The 21st Annual Convention was held on 29th April 1973. Its theme was “The Hope of the Aspirant”. The Convention was very inspiring with the participation of some 200 members. A fraternal banquet ended this Convention.

Summer School.—Our Summer School was held in the “Pure Heart Centre” at Vung Tau City (most easterly province of Viet Nam) a seaside resort about 80 miles from Saigon, from 5th August to 12th August 1973. We had 120 participants. The theme of the Summer School was “In the Outer Court”.

Each day began with a meditation followed by a lecture. After each lecture, there were group discussions. Each night began with a discussion on the last lecture of the morning from 8.00 o'clock to 9.00 o'clock.

Theosophical Orphanage.—Our Orphanage works well as before. We have received much help from the Theosophical Order of Service in Australia (which has just made a splendid donation of US \$ 2,000/-), in America, in Germany and in France.

We have 64 orphans. The new play house at the front of the Orphanage has been built partly with the donation of the Theosophical Order of Service in Australia. It gives to the building a joyous appearance and is a comfort to the children.

International Guests.—In this year also the Section had the opportunity to enjoy the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Hodson. On their travel back to Australia from Adyar, they became our international guests from 18th to 28th March, 1973. Though Mr. and Mrs. Hodson's stay was rather short, they have helped us greatly with applied Brotherhood and inspired Theosophy.

Our visits.—Eight members from the Director Council (Mrs. Nguyễn thi Hai, Miss Trần thi Hoanh, Mr. Nguyễn văn Huân, Mr. and Mrs. Phạm dâng Lân, Mr. Hà tô Thuần, Mr. Duong Ngoc Dâu and Mr. Lê văn Hai) have visited two Lodges in two eastern provinces. It was a great pleasure to meet again our old friends. Mr. Nguyễn văn Huân gave a lecture on “The Maha Chohan's

Letter in 1881". He was appreciated by all members because he knew how to show them the Maha Chohan's way to live Theosophy by oneself and in relation to people inside as well as outside the Society.

Direction of our Activities.—In this year, the Board has decided to change the way of work. In addition to the spreading of the Theosophical Truths, we follow the Maha Chohan's way which is—according to Mr. Jinarājadāsa—our Theosophical Charter: we must think of mankind as a whole and not only of our members. We try to promulgate Theosophy to humanity. The Maha Chohan says: "Yet it is absolutely necessary to inculcate it (Theosophy) gradually, enforcing its theories—unpeachable facts for those who know—with direct inferences deduced from and corroborated by the evidence furnished by modern exact science." and elsewhere it says "... and leave the teeming millions of the ignorant, of the poor and despised, the lowly and the oppressed, to take care of themselves and their hereafter as best they know how?"

So, we try, with all our strength, to make this ideal the motive of our work. We let the mind think upon the sorrow of the world and the ways of helping it.

We began, at first, to issue 10,000 copies of the booklet *After Death* (of 64 pages). We have a programme to write on: "The Inner Side of Man", "Karma", "Reincarnation," etc., with 10,000 copies for each booklet and to sell them at a very low prices.

On another side, we are going to start the movement: "Act with as much perfection as possible in order to change the World".

Anniversaries.—We celebrated two anniversaries—one of H. P. Blavatsky, and one of Annie Besant. On 17th November 1972, we organized a festival for Foundation Day with a large gathering.

Brotherhood Foundation.—Now our country must undergo an economic war. Our cash-box has almost nothing, but our Section is supported by the donations of members every month, and the Brotherhood Foundation, and so everything is all right.

Thanks.—If the Theosophical Society in Viet Nam is going fairly well, it is due to the common effort of all members, their good co-operation, and their ready assistance in all matters connected with the activities of the Section.

Conclusion.—In spite of the cease-fire in my country, the war is still on in some boundary areas. The soldiers are not yet demobilized. People struggle for life. The Maha Chohan said: "Struggle for life is the real and most prolific parent of most woes and sorrows and of all crimes." And all of us know that to strive to spread Theosophy among those persons is a very difficult task. But with our heart and strength, we want to try.

May the Masters help us!

NGUYEN THI HAI,
General Secretary.

VENEZUELA

During the past year the lodges continued their usual work. Special celebrations were held on 17th November, 17th February and 8th May, on which occasions the attendance was numerous.

Eight members had to resign because they did not pay their annual fee. Three new members joined us, and three former

members renewed their membership. I hope next year we will have more.

I must admit that, this being a year of presidential elections, the enthusiasm was not what I had expected; but after the elections it will become better.

PABLO BONILLA,
Presidential Agent.

WEST AFRICAN FEDERATION

No Report

BOLIVIA

During the past year the lodges of the T. S. in Bolivia continued their meetings, studies and other fraternal work actively. We had the visits of Br. John Coats, Joy Mills and Fritz and Helen Loenholdt from North America who gave lectures in the lodges.

In the town of Cochabamba a new lodge, "Rafael Echazu," was founded with 10 members. Actually the town of Sucre has requested permission to form a group of Theosophists.

MARIO CARIAGA ARAMAYO,
Presidential Agent.

CANADIAN FEDERATION

The Canadian Federation has just completed a busy year. We were pleased to welcome forty new members. Several young people have joined, but the glamour of so-called yogis and the many occult groups seem to have more attraction for them. We were most fortunate in having as Guest Speaker, Mr. John Coats in Vancouver and Toronto. Also Dr. Phan Chon Ton, who is lecturer in the Alberta University gave a most interesting lecture in Hermes Lodge, Vancouver.

Last year we reported quite a large

number of new Lodges, starting up in the Province of Quebec. We regret to report that almost half of them have closed down. Quebec is almost completely French speaking, and is predominantly Catholic. We feel the urgent need there for strong leadership, someone who is able to use both French and English. We are not able to make personal contact with them, as three thousand miles is a long way away.

IDA STEPHEN,
Federation Secretary.

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

There has been undiminished activity in the various Sections of the Federation during the year under review. Details of the work will be given in the respective reports of the Sections.

This Summer many Sections have been holding Summer Schools and Conferences: Finland, Iceland, the Scandinavian Sections, Belgium, Germany, England, the German Regional and Pays Latins Sections. There has also been an International week at Huizen, Holland, which was presided over by Srimati Rukmini Devi Arundale.

All these gatherings represent a great deal of planning and organizing and sheer hard work. Our grateful thanks are due to all those concerned in making these arrangements, from General Secretaries and lecturers to the helpers serving meals and keeping the meeting rooms tidy.

Some of the meetings have been international in character. But much more could be done to attract members from other Sections to visit other groups of Theosophists. This could be achieved in some measure if we plan our activities a long way ahead and with reference to the dates of meetings in other Sections. For instance, this year the Scandinavian Summer School coincided with the German Summer School and the International week in Huizen with the English

Summer School. A little consultation should make it possible to have lecturers from overseas who could visit several Sections.

Another important activity in the Sections is book publishing. There is a steadily increasing demand for books on Theosophy and allied subjects, and our publishing houses must rise to the occasion. Translations are especially important and the Non-English Publications Loan Fund can be called on to help in publishing books in languages other than English. It is hoped that Mr. Maxwell, the Managing Director of the Theosophical Publishing House in London, will be able to speak to us at the Pays Latins Summer School in Tremezzo.

I have myself been able to visit Germany, Switzerland and Holland and plan to visit Austria and Italy in September. On these visits I have been impressed by the enthusiasm and vitality of the Sections and the very warm brotherly attitude of the members. It is this feeling among the members which indicates clearly the deeply valuable work of Theosophists in the world which desperately needs the message of Theosophy.

MADELEINE LESLIE-SMITH
Chairman.

INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION

Another year has elapsed and, according to our By-Laws, the I.T.F. Executive Committee offers an account of the work carried on during these twelve months.

I.T.F. Council Meeting.—The first three months of the year were devoted to the preparations for this meeting, which took

place in a beautiful spot called Río Tercero in the province of Córdoba, Argentina. There were representatives from most of the American countries, who attended together with various members from their own Sections. All the items of the Agenda were considered and the results

were highly useful, not only for the valuable contribution derived from the presence of many members from America, but also for the quality and warmth that come out of these International events. The discussions were clear on the fundamental need of working for the Theosophical ideas, through the Sections as a united body, being conscient of our responsibility. Additional details of this wonderful event will be found in the Minutes sent to all the Sections.

Brother John Coats' Tour.—The Executive Committee, together with the Latin American Sections and Brother John Coats, planned his third Theosophical tour in our continent. It started in San Juan, Puerto Rico; then it went on through Caracas, Venezuela; Brazil, where he visited several centres like Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Porto Alegre, Curitiba and some others; Montevideo, Uruguay; Argentina, staying at the cities of Buenos Aires, Rosario, Córdoba, Río Cuarto, Mendoza; Santiago and Valparaíso, Chile; Cochabamba, Bolivia; Lima, Peru; Bogotá, Colombia. Then, the countries that make up the Central American Section. Later, Mexico and U.S.A., where he visited a large number of centres. In all these places, he gave public lectures and private talks for the T. S. members. He was the special Guest at the I. T. F. Council Meeting, coöperating with his view points and personal experience.

Miss Joy Mills' Trip.—Once we were sure Miss Joy Mills would be the American representative at the I. T. F. Council Meeting to be held in Argentina, the Executive Committee suggested to her the possibility of visiting some theosophical centres on her route. Due to the short time available, she could only make an informal visit to the Lodge in San Salvador, going then to Bogotá, Colombia, where she lectured at the National Headquarters. After the Council Meeting she

visited La Paz, Bolivia, and Lima, Peru, having informal meetings for the T.S. members.

The I.T.F. Vice-President's Tours.—*Mexico.* Though it started in December 1972 at the National Convention, it went on during the first months of this year. Travelling together with Juan C. Palmeri, from Argentina, Brother Viñas started his activities in Mexico City, where he stayed more than a month. He delivered public lectures and a Basic Course on Theosophy, which had a large attendance. Then, a tour was started towards the East, to the region of Yucatan, visiting the Lodges of Orizaba, Veracruz, Merida, Peza Rica and Puebla, with public and private lectures and social gatherings. Later, the tour went on to the Northwest, to the Lodges of Saltillo, Monterrey and Piedras Negras, following then to Ciudad Juarez and Tijuana, in the Californian region. Here, the program consisted of the usual lectures plus radio and T.V. interviews. Brother Viñas was the Guest Lecturer at the Spring Convention of the Theosophical Federation of Southern California, attended by members from Mexico and U.S.A. In the City of Los Angeles, a lecture was delivered at the España Lodge. Before going back to Mexico City, a week's lecture program was delivered in Guadalajara.

This activity was carried on from December 27th to April 7th. Mrs. Ana Romero and Mrs. Juana del Real, members of the Mexican Sectional Council, were also part of the travelling party, giving later an evaluation of the work to the General Secretary. A lot of books were sold in the places and the attendance was large everywhere.

Central America, Caripe and Brazil. This tour covered seven months, starting on May 30th and going up to December 30th. The first country was Costa Rica, where Brother Viñas, this time travelling alone,

stayed for more than two months. He delivered a course on Indian philosophy at the University, a course on the Esoteric Side of Wagner's Operas, given at the National Library, and public lectures and a Basic Course on Theosophy at the Sectional Headquarters, plus radio and T.V. interviews. Then, El Salvador, for a month with similar activities and a very large attendance especially at the Course on Theosophy, delivered at the Teotl Lodge. A week in Nicaragua, visiting the members that remained in Managua after the earthquake of 1972. A lecture was delivered at the Inter-continental Hotel and another one in the city of Masaya. The members here are very enthusiastic and hope to be able to build a new home for the Theosophical activities. Later three weeks in Honduras, with public lectures and radio and T.V. interviews. Two weeks in Panama, staying at the Capital and the town of Colon with similar activities which had a great response from the people everywhere, selling a lot of books.

The interest in Theosophical books was particularly noticeable in Puerto Rico, the next stop. Here the activities went on for a month. Besides courses and lectures at the Headquarters in San Juan, talks were delivered at the World University, in Bayamon, and at the town of Ponce.

In Caracas, Venezuela, lectures and courses were delivered at the University, libraries and some other places. Many people were interested in our ideas and some of them joined the T. S. as had already happened in the previous places. In Brasil, the tour lasted for a month, in Rio de Janeiro and San Pablo. The result of the tour was highly positive, permitting a better understanding among the members and an intense spreading of our ideas to the public. No doubt, the Centennial Celebrations will have in all

these places an effective and inspiring action.

Publications.—Almost everything planned at the beginning of the year could be completed. Only two books had to be finished in the first months of 1974: *The Basic Ideas of Occult Wisdom* (Winner) and *Self-Realisation Through Yoga and Mysticism* (Ransom), plus two Guides for Lodge Study and a leaflet for the public. All of these have already been sent to the General Secretaries in the different Sections.

The Executive Committee, on behalf of the Brazilian Section, made an application to the Non-English Publications Loan Fund Committee in order to print three books in Portuguese: *Theosophy, A Key to Understanding* (E. and F. Layton), *Self-Realisation through Yoga and Mysticism* (J. Ransom) and *Space, Time and Self* (N. Pearson). At present, the General Secretary in Brazil together with a team of workers is devoted to the task of translation and publication. We are sure this will mean a lot in our task to spread the Theosophical ideals.

Possible Plans on Publications for 1974.—*The Wisdom of the Upanishads and Karma and Reincarnation*, by Annie Besant—*Man, his Origins and Evolution and Thoughts for Aspirants*, by N. Sri Ram—*Letters to Aspirants*, by Clara Codd—*An Approach to the Occult*, by Hugh Shearman. The purpose is to add *Self-Culture*, by I. K. Taimni, in its new edition, but this depends on time, for the new chapters that came out in this edition have to be translated.

Inter-American Journal.—Six numbers have already been published, including in all of them modern articles on Science, Philosophy, Religion, Art, etc. Articles written by our early leaders were also included, as they are as important today as they were in the time they came out. The spiritual purpose of the Journal is

to be a channel for the Forces that work to rescue man from darkness and ignorance and, in a sense, it is fulfilling that aim. It is also a means to spread Theosophy, not only among the members but also to the public, to the ones who are eager to understand the great mystery of

Life. Some Sections and members have written to us expressing a high satisfaction in the magazine, that helps us to double our efforts in this beautiful task.

LUIS SPAIRANI,
President.

LODGES ATTACHED DIRECT TO ADYAR

PERU

Lodge H.P.B.:

We herewith send you our annual report covering the period from 17 February to 14-15 December 1973.

Meetings.—During the mentioned period we held 87 study meetings, in which preference was given to the basic teachings. On Fridays we studied the booklet *At the Feet of the Master*.

In order to give our young members the opportunity to develop their faculties, the following important papers were delivered: "The number of gold in the ancient monuments", "The work of the T.S. in the world", "The path of service", "The message of the Masters", "A biographical sketch of Col. Olcott", "The importance of Theosophy in the study of Biology". We trust that in the coming year those contributions will become more constant, since in Peru it has become necessary to make Theosophy widely known.

Visits.—During the year we had the visit of Br. Oscar Tejeira del Cuzco of the Lodge Illac Umac, which unfortunately has not been working for several years. He gave a lecture on the aspects of our ancient civilisations and their religious symbolism. From the hot town of Iquitos came Mr. and Mrs. Lara Huarcaya sharing with us their anxieties and hopes to form a group of Theosophical studies fairly soon.

We had the great pleasure of receiving on her way back to Wheaton, Sister Joy Mills, President of the American Section, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Loenholdt and Miss Margaret R. Parks. Those visits brought us hours of great joy, so much the more as we could listen to a talk given by Sister Mills, translated into Spanish by Br. Carlos Couturier.

Besides we were visited by our Br. César Góngora Perea from Los Angeles, who talked about his valuable experiences, making our young members realize the fruitfulness of Theosophical studies. To close this pleiad of visitors, Br. John Coats contacted our members, delivering a delightful talk, which was also translated into Spanish.

New Members.—Six new members have joined us. The requests for admission will be sent to Adyar in due course.

Passing away of the World President.—This news reached us completely unexpectedly and we were very afflicted. We held a commemoration meeting in our headquarters, reading his biographical data and some of his thoughts.

Elections of World President.—According to the instructions received from the Recording Secretary of HQ., the voting for the new World President was carried out on 5.9.73 with the following result: Total of active members: 39, votes received; 34, justified absences: 2, un-

justified absences: 3. After this act, the covers with the votes were sent by registered mail to Adyar.

Death of our Brother Felix Mafferetti Negri.—The loss of this great friend and brother was very hard; he had been an indefatigable Theosophical worker.

Finances.—The restrictions imposed by our Government to send money out of the country prevented us so far from sending our annual dues to Adyar for this year.

Conclusion.—As matters stand, we think we have reason to be satisfied with the accomplished work; we succeeded in arousing the interest of young people and preparing them. It is youth which has to carry on the work and deal with the actual revolutionary epoch of chaos.

We want to close this report with the expression of hopefulness that under the new President, Latin America will be a little favoured by Adyar, since there is great Theosophical interest, but without the assistance of Headquarters our work will be limited to our conventional and linguistic relations, which form an obstacle to wider and more fruitful communication.

JORGE TORRES UGARRIZA,
President.

Lodge H. P. B. "A"

This is the first report of our T.S. lodge about its activities since its foundation.

Managing Council.—is composed of the following 12 members: President: Augusto Alba Bardales, Vice-President: Eberard Rotman, Secretary: Manuel Fajardo Mora, Economy: Remigio Zllada Chavez, Adviser: Ing. Dante Birne, Legal

Adviser: Dr. Eleodoro Olivera, General Culture: Angela Gadea, Esoteric Culture: Maria Ayala Meza, Public Relations: Cesar Negreiros Pascua, Supervision: Gaspar Ponciano Arellano, Press: Waldo Casquero P., Drafts and Projects: Miroslav Jiras Vitku. There are 38 members of the Lodge H. P. B. "A."

Meetings.—124 public lectures given weekly in our lecture hall at Carabaya 744 with an average of 20 attenders; 25 Lodge meetings for special activities; 14 meetings of the Managing Board; 12 excursions.

We have not been in a position to take up better Theosophical work, because we intend to have first of all our Lodge fully organized.

Projects.—Our immediate aims are:

- (1) To get our offices in the centre of Great Lima adequately furnished.
- (2) To organize an extensive propaganda.
- (3) To create incentives arousing more interest in these spiritual disciplines.

Finally we want to underline the remarkable importance and interest which the Theosophical teachings have awakened in our midst; there is an intense interest in acquiring Theosophical literature. The great metropolis of Lima with more than 3 million inhabitants in its particular position in the middle of the west coast of South America is qualified to play a predominant part in the development of Theosophical studies, and it is for this reason that we firmly believe our premises and our intense activity will increase the number of students in Peru.

AUGUSTO ALBA BARDALES,
President.

HONG KONG

Hong Kong Lodge:

Your General Committee takes the pleasure in submitting to you a Report covering some major events of this Lodge during the year 1973.

Officers and Members of the General Committee.—President: Rev. Yen Why; Vice-President: Brother L. Clark; Hon. Secretary & Treasurer: Brother P. Y. Ko; Librarian: Dr. R. Ching; Committee Members: Brothers T. V. Zung, T. C. Zung, Jairam Panjabi, K. S. Sze, Henry Fok & K. K. Tam; Singapore Lodge: Brother T. C. Shu. The number of members of this Lodge remaining in Hong Kong being very small, our activities during the year have been very limited.

Lectures on Theosophy.—A series of talks on J. Krishnamurti's *At the Feet of the Master* given by our President, Rev. Yen Why, was held in the Lecture Room of the City Hall, Hong Kong on the 3rd, 17th & 31st July, 1973, from 5.00 to 7.00 p.m. There were approximately 50 people present on each occasion.

Circulating Papers of Theosophical Broadcast Talks.—We have circulated amongst our members in this year the

notes of Brother G. Hodson's "A Seminar of The Air" which were supplied by The Theosophical Society in Australia. We are considering applying to them for tapes of those talks.

Ch'an Buddhism Studies.—The Study group of "Ch'an Buddhism and Daily Life" took place in Sam Lun Buddhism Association, Kowloon. The gatherings were jointly sponsored by this Lodge and W.F.B. Hong Kong & Macau Regional Centre on every Saturday afternoon in August and September, 1973.

Visit of Sister Vimala Thaker.—The highlight event of this year was the visit to Hong Kong of Sister Vimala Thaker of India. She and her Secretary arrived here on 29th September and were met by most of our members. She has delivered to us altogether four lectures on various religious topics, i.e., two lectures in Shatin outskirts, N.T., one in Kowloon and one in Hong Kong urban area. Her talks were so instructive that we were much benefited. She left Hong Kong on 6th October, 1973.

P. Y. Ko,
Hon. Secretary.

ISRAEL

Lodge Covenant:

The activity of Covenant Lodge during the year 1972-73 shows progress. Much time and attention has been given to the new immigrants from Russia, who have now formed their own Lodge, Blavatsky.

We were happy to have a visit from Miss Ilse von Tresckow, who gave us an interesting lecture on the Count of St. Germain. We also had lectures during the year on Heinrich Heine, Sri

Aurobindo, Paul Brunton, "What is Theosophy?", "The Meaning of Mantram", meditation, the development of abstract science in Russia, thought-forms, our relationship to the Sun, and so on. The President of the Lodge lectured sometimes to the members in Haifa, also. We celebrated Foundation Day, White Lotus Day and the birthday of Dr. Annie Besant on the first of October. Two of our members care for invalids

in institutes for the aged, and one is going twice a week to hospital to take care of sick persons.

The Lodge registered five new members plus the Russian members, who afterwards formed their own Lodge. Three members were lost—one resigned, one left the country and one died.

BERTHA AL. DOMINIC,
President.

Lodge Blavatsky:

This Lodge was formed on 18.7.73 of immigrants from Russia. They are most grateful to their theosophical brothers who have helped them with literature and in other ways. Through the French Section they have received many books translated into Russian, such as *At the Feet of the Master* and the *Bhagavad Gita*. Books have also come from the Unity Lodge in England and the Reinicke family, U.S.A.

The Lodge does not yet have regular meetings as it is difficult to get organized in a new environment. Many of the members are young.

BERTHA AL. DOMINIC
for the President.

Harmony Lodge:

1972-73 was for our Lodge a year of repeated emotional stress and sorrow, in spite of the consolation emanating from our theosophical teachings as to the indestructibility of Life and Consciousness: not only the death of our international President, Brother N. Sri Ram, affected our feelings greatly, but also the loss of four very dear members of our Lodge, who have passed on to the Greater Light in the course of the period under reference, namely, Sisters Rachel Sicsu and Mela Baeuml as well as Brothers Hanns Beermann and Guenther Ebstein. We shall cherish their memory for many years to come.

The "ingathering of the exiles", hailing from more than 80 different countries, created for Israel a language-problem of no small measure. It was overcome to a rather large extent, however, by intensive study-courses in Hebrew, organized officially by our authorities. But Hebrew, being what it is, a very difficult semitic tongue, elderly people—in spite of their brave efforts—obtained a somewhat superficial knowledge of it only. It was, therefore, necessary to conduct our Lodge Meetings in German (twice monthly) and, in addition, to deliver introductory talks in Hebrew, which were given to members and invited guests by Mr. Hans Zeuger, our Lodge President, at his home in Tal-Shahar. As a result, a new member, belonging to the younger generation, joined our Lodge in June last, bringing thus the total of members in good standing to 27.

Since the message of Theosophy should not and cannot be confined to those already drawn into our numerically small Lodge-circle, but should be carried to the very multitudes of our nation, Mr. Hans Zeuger continued—this year, too—to give lectures to students of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem as well as to teen-agers attending Secondary Schools. In addition, he addressed members of various co-operative settlements (kibbuzim) in all parts of the country and spoke in the Academician's Club of the ruling Workers' Party. The topics were: "Theosophy", "Astrology" or "Parapsychology".

He, furthermore, was again interviewed by and contributed to our local press and was once more invited to appear on the radio and television of the official Israel Broadcasting Station.

Very welcome visits from members of other Sections, namely, Sisters Maj-Britt Wreibo (Sweden), Maria Sokolow (U.S.A.) and Ilse von Tresckow (until recently

Secretary of the Huizen Center in Holland) kept up our brotherly contact with theosophical groups abroad.

Miss Dorit Hargow, a young member of our Lodge, attended the first study period of the School of the Wisdom at Adyar in Autumn 1972.

HANS ZEUGER,
President.

Lodge Emmanuel:

Our small country is in a sorry situation. Our Lodge work during the year has not changed from the past one. Lately most of the people are looking for spiritual satisfaction in deep study of the Bible as they start to turn to religions.

The membership is the same as before.

HEINRICH SREBROW,
President.

Lodge Besorat Hagalil:

In our winter season 1972/73 we met regularly every two weeks. Part of the meetings were held in Zefat as in other years, and part of them at the home of Zipora Rosen in Amirim.

At the first meeting Masha Dominic from Tel-Aviv was our guest and gave a lecture about "Aim and Significance of Meditation", a theme we took and deliberated on in forthcoming meetings. Especially after the publication of the Hebrew translation of *Yoga of Light* by G. Hodson, when every member and friend could obtain and study it at home, we had some fine and deep discussions under Chanah Mor's leadership. Other themes spoken about at meetings were: The Significance of: (1) the Feast of the Lights (Hannukka), (2) the Exodus from Egypt; About Education; Dharma. Each meeting started with the meditation from *Yoga of Light*.

We had some outstanding events:

(1) The already mentioned publication of the Hebrew translation of *Yoga of Light* by Geoffrey Hodson, translated by Mrs. Alisa Nahor, painter and poetess, member of our Lodge.

(2) The publication of *Some Basic Explanations of Theosophy* (in Hebrew) by C. Mor.

(3) The Convention, 13-15 September 1973, of the three cooperating T.S. Lodges from Tel-Aviv, Haifa and Zefat, held in Amirim in Galilea and organised by the members of Lodge Besorat Hagalil as the 20th anniversary of its founding, with 20-35 participants at all events.

(4) At this Convention our guest of honour was Miss Ilse von Tresckow from Huizen, who gave some fine lectures and led daily a very inspiring meditation, besides bringing us the feeling of belonging to the great theosophical family. The Convention was a success in every way.

To honour the memory of our former President, N. Sri Ram, his last Convention Address "Our Whole Manner of Existence" and an edition of his thoughts about Brotherhood, compiled by W. Slater, were translated and printed for the occasion of our Convention.

Thanks to the very dedicated work of Mrs. Varda Ben-Jitzhak our bulletin *Theosophia* appeared four times with articles in Hebrew, English and German and it is sent to approximately 20-30 interested persons besides to some 60 subscribers.

Our recent war situation belongs really to the next report but is so very much in the forefront of our thoughts, that we can do nothing without mentioning it. It disrupts the regular activities of all Israelis, and understandably the schedule of Lodge meetings, of editing of translations, etc. On the other hand, never

before have we felt so acutely the need for meditations and teachings about Karma, the meaning of life and death, etc., of having on hand printed material in Hebrew that may help people understand the great suffering all have to endure.

For the Statistics:

Membership at October 1972 14

Increase 1

Membership September 1973 15

PINCHAS MOR,
President.

Lotus Lodge:

As was decided in the first meeting of the Lotus Lodge, the Lodge meetings were held almost regularly every alternate week. The meetings were held in the manner of "ask and get clarification". Members did feel free to ask questions. The main stress was seen to have been laid upon "Application of Theosophy in Everyday Life".

In the first few meetings some topics from the book *At the Feet of the Master*

were discussed. The topics were more or less about behavior in modern society based upon rules given by the Master in the above mentioned book.

Thanks must be given to two guest lecturers from other Lodges. Mrs. B. M. Dominic from "Covenant" Lodge, Tel Aviv, and Mrs. C. Mor from "Besorat Hagalil", Safed. Mrs. Dominic gave us valuable answers to some key questions about Theosophy. Mrs. Mor gave a general lecture on Theosophy.

In one of the meetings, Mr. N. Nahaman spoke about some experiments done in Russia, on plants, things and animals, about detection of the surrounding etheric field.

In remaining meetings, study of the Hebrew translation of the book *Reincarnation* by I. Cooper was started, which we wish to complete as soon as this present war is over.

NATHAN SAMUEL,
Secretary.

SINGAPORE

Singapore Lodge:

Office-Bearers.—The following were elected to office at the Annual General Meeting held on 11th November 1972: President: Lim Khay Guan; Vice-President: T. Gulabrai; Hon. Secretary: Gertrude Weerekoon; Hon. Treasurer: Puncha Bandara; Hon. Librarian: Tan Siow Hee; Hon. Auditors: Lian Gan Hoe, Ang Beng Siong.

In accordance with Rule 6 of the Lodge Rules and By-Laws the following members were co-opted: Sis. Rose Weerekoon, Bros. Chan Chim Lim and Stoner Kadirgamar.

In mid-September, Bro. Stoner passed away, and no one was co-opted in his place.

Committee Meetings.—There were nine committee meetings held during the year.

Membership.—Number of members as at 1st October '72: 36

Less:

Resigned	2	
Deceased	1	
Left Singapore	1	4
		32
Admissions	2	
		34

The two new members admitted were Bro. B. B. Annamalay and Sis. Margaret Tan, both of whom had previously been Associate Members. The number of Associate Members of the Singapore Lodge now stands at 11.

Accounts.—Thanks to generous donations, our accounts for this year show an excess of income over expenditure of \$174.94.

Lodge Activities.—During the year the Lodge was fairly active, and we were fortunate in receiving short visits from international theosophical speakers. One of the first was Mrs. Jean Raymond our Recording Secretary at Adyar: she spoke to members on “Sacred or Profane?” Early in the year, we had a brief opportunity of meeting two really dedicated workers—these were Dr. and Mrs. Benito Reyes, who dropped in one afternoon and immediately captured the hearts of all those present by their disarming simplicity and their approach to the theosophical life. They were indeed inspiring personalities and it is to be regretted that time did not permit their giving our members a talk.

In the middle of the year, the International Librarian, Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan, touched at Singapore on her way home from Australia. Both talks given by her—“A Mind to Embrace the Universe” and “Man, Master of his Destiny” were well received by our members. Geoffrey and Sandra Hodson also passed through Singapore and, though unable to lecture, were warmly received by those of us who met them at the airport.

It was with sad hearts that we learnt of the passing in Adyar of our beloved President, Bro. N. Sri Ram. A moving

tribute was paid to him on White Lotus Day, which, together with Lodge Special Days like Foundation Day—Nov. 17th, Adyar Day—Feb. 17th, and our 62nd Anniversary on Aug. 1st., were celebrated with the usual festivities.

This year we revived the practice of remitting an annual donation to Headquarters, to which we are directly attached. You will be glad to note that we were able to raise Rs. 500/- for Adyar Day, and that this donation from our little centre headed the list of contributions from other countries.

Invited speakers during the year included: Venerable Damodarananda—“Steps towards Realization”; 2 talks on “Yoga” from Swami Vedananda; Swami Bhoomananda—“The Secret of God-Realization”; Ven. Sariputra—“Religion in Modern Life”; Ven. Shanti Bhadra Thera—“Path to Inner Peace”; and the Swami Shantananda, who spoke on “What is the Subject?”

We should also like to record here our sincerest thanks to the following: our Sister Lodge in Adelaide, South Australia, and the Australian Section Headquarters in Sydney for donating a most generous amount of pamphlets and books on Theosophy.

Our thanks also to all those who have donated their services to our Lodge, moral support, books to the Library, and given of their service in cash or in kind to the Lodge. We are also grateful to the local newspapers for publishing news of our public talks, and we look forward to all your continued support in the coming year.

LIM KHAY GUAN,
President.

CHILE

Lodge H. P. B.

Because of the particular conditions in our country, the Lodge Helena Petrovna Blavatsky held only 30 meetings during the period from 1.10.72 to 30.9.1973.

We did not give public lectures, but we celebrated White Lotus Day, Foundation Day on the 17th November and on the 25th November, the anniversary of our Lodge. On those occasions we sang the hymn of the Society, recited poetry pertinent to the occasion, had talks and

songs. At each of those occasions we had invited the other Lodges as well as sympathizers of the T.S. and fraternity lunches were served.

We studied the following books: *The Doctrine of the Heart, Thought Forms, The Laws of the Higher Life, The Disciple, The Voice of the Silence.*

Working hours: Mondays from 19.00 to 20.30.

PAUL QUINTANILLA C.,
President.

JAPAN

Nippon Lodge, Tokyo:

It shocked me very much to learn from Mr. Pederson of the death of Miss Helen Zahara, at the beginning of March. And a month after this, I received again unexpected sad news from Adyar; the painful loss of our President Sri Ram. Though we all know "death" is only a start to a new and more subtle plane, we still feel deep grief.

Meeting.—We have study meetings every second Saturday evening. Attendance is 12 or 13 members.

Study.—We are studying *The Abridgement of The Secret Doctrine*. We are intending to publish this after we finish the translation. But it is difficult to translate because there are many technical words, and we have no equivalent words in Japanese.

I am translating the abridgement of *The Key to Theosophy*, according to the wish of the late Miss Helen Zahara. I would like to publish it before the Centenary of our Society. And I am also translating *Invisible Helpers* in my monthly pamphlet *Shi-jo-ga no hi-ka-ri*, which means "The Light of Atman".

New Members.—We have eight new members making a total of twenty. There are many more people interested in Theosophy in my country, but as yet we have no theosophical book in Japanese. This is the chief reason why we cannot get many more new members.

Foreign Friends.—In April, Mr. Le-Toan-Trung came from Vietnam. He came to Japan to learn the art of bridge building. He is a very good young man and we really like him. Mrs. Nguyen-Thi-Hai, National President of Vietnam Theosophical Society, sent with him a beautiful handmade wooden plate with "Nippon Lodge" carved on it.

Mr. Sidney Mitchell was a good friend to us. He came to our meetings regularly and helped us read theosophical books. He was teaching at the International Christian University in Tokyo, but he finished his tenure at the University and went back to the United States at the beginning of July.

EMIKO TANAKA,
President.

BANGLADESH

Lodge Comilla:

Comilla Lodge is one of the oldest Lodges, being established on 26th May 1889. It was fortunate in having such august visitors as Dr. Besant, Mr. Bertram Keightly, Mr. Jinarājadāsa and others.

During the war of 1971, the Lodge premises were lost, as well as all old

records, furniture, rare books, etc. The Lodge is now meeting weekly in the house of a member. There are sixteen members, the same as last year.

RASMOHAN CHAKRAVARTI,
President.

WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

The objects of the World Federation of Young Theosophists are to support and further the objects of the Theosophical Society, to maintain channels of communication between Young Theosophists, both individuals and groups, and to promote an interest in Theosophy among young people internationally. These objects are being realized through the activities of Young Theosophists around the World.

In 1973, the W.F.Y.T. sponsored international meetings in three different continents in order to co-ordinate the activities of the Young Theosophists.

On December 29th 1972, Mr. John Coats, Chairman of the W. F. Y. T., convened an informal gathering of Young Theosophists at Adyar. The meetings, which lasted several days, were significant in molding the long range plans of the W.F.Y.T. Mr. Coats appointed a Co-ordinating Committee which is organizing an Indian Section of the W.F.Y.T. The Committee has agreed to arrange accommodations for Y.T.'s who will be attending the 1975 Centennial Celebrations. The feasibility of camping at the Besant Camping Centre at Adyar, as well as arranging private accommodations with Indian families in Madras is currently being explored. The Adyar conference was the first step in developing a W.F.Y.T.

programme to be held during the Centennial Celebrations.

A second Conference was convened by John Coats during the Inter-American Y.T. Congress held in Embalse de Rio Tercero near Cordoba, Argentina in April, 1973. An Inter-American Federation of Young Theosophists was officially formed this year consisting of Young Theosophist groups from all the Americas.

The idea of forming an Inter-American Federation grew out of discussions held at Y.T. Meetings in Montevideo, Uruguay in October, 1972. On January 27th, 1973 during a Y.T. camp held in Porto Alegre, Brazil, the Inter-American Federation of Young Theosophists was formed. Its founding was approved by representatives from Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay, and through letters sent from the Presidents of the Colombian, Costa Rican and United States Y.T. groups. Marcus Flavius de los Santos, President of the Brazilian Federation of Y.T.'s, became Co-ordinating Secretary of the Inter-American Federation in January, 1973. In April 1973, during the Inter-American Y.T. Congress which was held in conjunction with the Inter-American Congress of the Theosophical Society, officers of the Inter-American Federation of Y.T.'s were elected. Silvia Pastore of Argentina

was elected President. Over 150 Young Theosophists from Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Uruguay and the United States attended the meetings. The Inter-American Federation plans to publish a bi-lingual journal containing news and articles from Y.T.'s in North and South America.

John Coats' participation in the Y.T. Conference held in Argentina was part of an extensive tour of the Latin American nations. From Latin America, Mr. Coats travelled to the United States in order to attend the Convention-Summer School of the T.S. in America, visit the various Theosophical summer camps and tour the Section. In June, John Coats met with Charles Chesrow, Secretary of the World Federation of Young Theosophists, and briefed him on the significant events of the Adyar Conference of January, 1973 and the Argentine Conference of April.

In July 1973, Charles Chesrow travelled to Europe in order to attend the summer camp of the European Federation of Young Theosophists. The third and final conference of the W.F.Y.T.'s was held in Uffelte, Holland during the camp of the European Y.T. section. The Secretary presided over the official W.F.Y.T. Council Meeting which incorporated the discussions of the Y.T. Meetings held previously at Adyar and Argentina.

Plans were announced to encourage the publication of articles on such subjects as healing, meditation, yoga, theosophical education and other aspects of applied as well as pure Theosophy, in the language of and especially for modern youth. To initiate this programme, introductory articles on these subjects will be published in the W.F.Y.T. Newsletter which is to be published semi-annually, resources permitting. The Newsletter is under the continued direction of Mrs. Margreet Meijer of The Hague, Holland.

During the Council Meeting, Nathaniel Altman of the U.S.A., Silvia Pastore of

Argentina, Ngo-thanh-Ha of South Vietnam and Danielle Lyner of Switzerland were elected to the Executive Committee of the W.F.Y.T. Aart Heybroek of Holland was elected Treasurer.

Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale visited the camp of the European Federation and led a round table discussion on Theosophical topics stressing the need for Young Theosophists to take on significant and practical work for the world as individuals and as a group. The needs for Theosophical Schools, Animal Welfare programmes and more youth oriented social activities were discussed.

The Secretary, Charles Chesrow, met with a number of Y.T.'s while visiting various European countries including Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark and England. In November 1973, Charles Chesrow met once again with John Coats in America before Mr. Coats' departure for Adyar to assume his new duties as President of the Theosophical Society. At this time the progress of the W.F.Y.T. and the outcome of the Conferences held at Adyar, Argentina and Holland were assessed. In order to build a foundation for the new cycle of theosophical activity during the second hundred years, the W.F.Y.T. must become more active in the work of the Theosophical Society. Accordingly, John Coats has invited the W.F.Y.T. to establish its administration in the Youth Headquarters building dedicated to the W.F.Y.T. on the Adyar Estate.

"Unité": Latin European Federation of Young Theosophists:—Unité is a federation of Y.T.'s from the countries of France, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy and Spain, Unité was organised at the Latin Countries Summer School in August 1972 at Territet, Switzerland. Since its formation Unité has grown from 13 members to more than 50 in 1973. Danielle Lyner of Basle, Switzerland, is President of this federation and

also edits a journal titled *Unité* which prints news of the organization as well as leading articles on Theosophical subjects. During December 1972, *Unité* held a seminar on the theme of Unity at Paris, France. Thirty Y.T.'s attended and listened to lectures by the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Societies in Belgium and France. A second gathering was held during Easter, 1973 at Hermance, Switzerland. The participants focussed their attention on "Harmony," the subject of the camp, by exploring nature together, meditating and listening to music. Meetings were also held in Italy and also in Holland during the European Y.T. camp.

In her 1973 Report of *Unité*, President Danielle Lyner writes:

"As far as our paper *Unité* is concerned, it is now published in 700 copies monthly. We are trying to use it as a kind of link between us all by publishing news of each different country group and also to establish through its articles a dialogue between young and older members of the Society. For example we always have an article from one of the older members of the Society in each magazine.

This year and according to many young people's requests we shall publish a more systematic approach to the study of Theosophy in the form of an introductory course which had been written by a research centre in London and which will last 9 lessons, which is exactly the number of magazines we publish in a year. We also give a kind of course in meditation, first by giving its theory and afterwards, perhaps, if this is needed, some practices. We also have in our paper a diets rubrique with recipes which are much appreciated by people starting a vegetarian diet and who meet with some difficulties. We have at the back of each number a correspondence sheet whereby the editor of the magazine

can ask questions of general interest and also by which means the readers can themselves ask questions of the editor—questions and articles to be published in *Unité*...

Unité is sent to Vietnam and also to Canada. It is translated into Spanish (where they already have more than 30 subscribers which is a lot if one considers that Theosophy is prohibited in Spain) and it is also sent to South America. We are hoping in the coming year to get more exchanges with the South American countries by means of articles and translations from one paper to the other. (I mean South American magazines)."

European Federation of Young Theosophists:—Young Theosophists from Iceland, Sweden, Germany, Holland, France, Spain, Switzerland, England and the U.S.A. attended the summer camp of the European Federation of Y.T.'s held at Uffelte, Holland.

The camp was organized in co-operation with the Dutch Section of the Y.T. Lectures and discussions on the theme "Theosophy in Individual and Social Life" were presented. The participants constructed theoretical models for a society in which outer life is the expression of a basic spiritually founded philosophy.

In addition to the W.F.Y.T. Council Meetings held at the camp, the European Federation of Y.T.'s and the *Unité* Group (The Latin European Federation of Y.T.'s) convened organizational meetings during the camp of the European Section.

Danielle Lyner, who is President of the Latin European Federation, was elected President of the European Federation of Y.T.'s. In her dual roles as President of the two European Federations, Danielle hopes to increase communications among all European Y.T.'s

and to co-ordinate their activities so that more Y.T.'s may participate in them.

The European Federation is currently planning to hold next year's summer camp in Switzerland. The topic for the summer camp programme will be "Healing".

European Sections:—The Dutch Section continues to be a very active organization. In 1973 several weekend seminars were held at the International Theosophical Centre at Huizen. Organic gardening, healing and astrology were explored during some of the meetings. Lectures on these subjects were presented by experts in each subject.

The Dutch Section publishes a bi-monthly journal, *Uranos*, which has a large circulation among the general public. The group meets for a Secret Doctrine Study Group every month. The study group holds meetings in the homes of various Y.T.'s which last an entire weekend.

Aat Dekker was elected President of the Dutch Section in 1973.

In *Yugoslavia* there are a small number of Y.T.'s in Zagreb, Celje and Ljubljana. Youth activities are presently being co-ordinated by Emilio Trampuz of Zagreb, who became interested in Theosophy after having taken an "alpha training" course while living in Sydney, Australia where he joined the T.S. He writes: "There are about thirty people in the yoga group which I am leading. Some of them are only interested in physical exercises (which we do twice a week), but some are also very interested in Indian Philosophy and the spiritual side of yoga, so perhaps, and I hope, in time some of them will also join the Theosophical Society. We have only just started meeting this month, and will soon have a series of lectures besides the yoga exercises. In this way, they will, hopefully, be gradually introduced into a new world, a world of searching, a world of learning,

a world in which the first qualification is a discriminative mind."

*Finland:—*Though there is no nationwide organization of Y.T.'s in Finland, many young members belong to the Lodges of the T.S. Miss Sirkka Kivilinna, who is General Secretary of the T.S. in Finland, reports that many young members contribute to the Section as lecturers and writers. Many young members are also supporting the yoga movement in Finland. There is a young people's lodge in Helsinki where weekly public meetings are held as well as additional discussion groups are held. Mr. Valto Hautala is Chairman of the Lodge.

*Iceland:—*The young members of the T.S. in Iceland carry on much of the work of this Section including lecturing, writing and the editing of their country's T.S. journal. The young people have organized a youth group which meets monthly under the direction of Birgir Bjarnason of Reykjavik. The group invites outside lecturers to speak on current events and interests. The young members run and also actively participate in a hatha yoga class.

*Germany:—*During 1973, Eva-Helen Otto continued to issue a circular letter whereby the members who live in various parts of the country keep in touch. Current social, political and Theosophical subjects are discussed by all the members in this fashion. Michael Schulz is the new President of the German Y.T. section.

*Israel:—*A youth group is being formed under the direction and inspiration of Mrs. Bertha Al. Dominic of Tel Aviv. There is a fine nucleus of young members and it is hoped that financial help can be obtained so that it will be possible to invite one of them to attend the 1974 European Y.T. camp.

*The American Federation of Young Theosophists:—*From August 26-31, the American Federation of Y.T.'s held their

summer camp at Pumpkin Hollow Farm (a Theosophical Camp) located in New York State.

The programme was titled "The Karma of Happiness". Through meditation and creative expression including physical yoga, dance and Tai Chi, the deeper aspects behind individual creativity were explored. John Coats attended the camp and addressed the Y.T.'s daily on the following subjects: "What Do We Expect in 1975", "The Theosophical Society—Organizing", "How To Publicize Theosophy", "Living and Changing", "Gaps and What To Do About Them."

Current Y.T. projects include the printing and sale of gummed Theosophical seals for use on books and papers, and the production of nicely painted plaques of the Theosophical Emblem.

During the Thanksgiving Holiday, the Y.T.'s celebrated a Festival of Life with a vegetarian meal, discussions and social togetherness. Other similar social events were held during the year to celebrate various occasions including a special Christmas party organized especially for the children.

There was a workshop training weekend for Y.T.'s on March 18 and 19, 1973. The programme included training in group leadership, communication skills, the application of Theosophy to daily life, and the history, structure and function of the T.S. A second weekend seminar was held on December 1 and 2, 1973 again at the T.S. Headquarters with local as well as out-of-state Y.T.'s participating. The focus of this seminar was "New Ways of Communicating Theosophy". Exploration was made into new avenues of reaching out to the public using Theosophy as the medium and utilizing media techniques. The seminar was put on video tape.

In April, the Y.T.'s conducted a symposium during an "Olcott" Sunday lecture

at the T.S. Headquarters in Wheaton on the subject "Birth of a New Age". In July during the Convention-Summer School of the T.S., the Y.T.'s participated in another symposium on the subject, "Is There a Theosophical Generation Gap?" John Coats attended the summer sessions of the American T.S. section and held discussions with the Y.T.'s.

On July 22, after the sessions were over, the Y.T.'s held a "Metaphysical Festival" on the T.S. Headquarters Estate which was successful in introducing Theosophy to the public. The programme included a live contemporary music and light show, a Quest film showing, a display of Quest Books and occult readings with booths for astrology, the I Ching, numerology, tarot, graphology and palmistry.

Another approach towards the development of new methods of communicating Theosophy was to develop a tape recorded programme titled "Theosophy Through New Age Music" composed of selections from modern music interspersed with classical Theosophical Thoughts. Plans were under way to distribute the tapes for radio broadcast.

The journal *Sophia* continued to be published during the year. Nathaniel Altman as President of this Federation represented the American Federation of Y.T.'s at the Inter-American Y.T. Congress in April and also met with Y.T. and T.S. groups in other countries including Bolivia, Colombia and Puerto Rico.

India.—Mr. Hrishikesh K. Sharan is Chairman of a Co-ordinating Committee which is organizing an Indian Federation of the W.F.Y.T.

The Committee hopes to issue a newsletter from Adyar for the benefit of Young Theosophists in India. It is also hoped that youth camps can be organized and maintained at regular intervals.

There is a Youth Lodge called "Vasanta" at the International Headquarters of the T.S. at Adyar, which meets regularly throughout the year except during the summer months. Members of the group participate in the activities of the Madras Federation of Lodges. At the International Convention in December, the members run the Kiosk in the restaurant and help in various other ways.

There is a recently formed "Lotus" Youth Lodge in Bangalore City which has been sponsored by the Theosophical Society there. They are currently planning their programme of activities and hope to keep in touch with other Youth Lodges and groups around the world.

Pakistan.—During the year an appeal was sent out by the W.F.Y.T. to request help for the Lahore Lodge, which was re-activated through the dedication of the young members of this area, to acquire Theosophical literature. Mr. Fali Engineer, representing the Lodge, writes that the response has been very good. Literature and books were received from groups and individuals in the U.S.A., England, Tasmania, Saigon and Ceylon. These contributions were appreciated.

South Vietnam.—A similar appeal had previously been sent out for the benefit of the Youth Lodge "Service" in Saigon. Mr. Ngo-thanh-Ha writes that "We are very happy to inform you that we have received books, reviews and letters from lots of friends all over the world. . . . We treasure them in our hearts and thank you all for your whole-hearted kindness and co-operation."

Mr. Ngo-thanh-Ha reports:

"As we have told you in our last report, we are still in the fifth year of our seven-year programme of activities (1968-1975) and are focussing on:

1. Continuing our study of Theosophical teachings,

2. Helping children to develop themselves,

3. Establishing a larger and more helpful contact with T.S. members, in the country and internationally.

That is why, besides the 7 staff-members of our Lodge, we have three more section chiefs for:

1. Theosophical Teachings Section,

2. Children's Section,

3. Liaison Section.

In 1973, the theme of our study and meditation is "Love", because through Love we can realize our inner Self and Love is the characteristic of the coming New Age of Christ. We are also studying the three Objects of the T.S., chiefly the first one, to create a real Universal Brotherhood through Love. The words of encouragement and books received are stimuli to all of us and evidence that we are not alone in our work.

We have conscientious workers for our children's programme in the aim of stimulating spiritual consciousness and developing awareness of responsibility and life. They are working on a fourfold activity:

- to introduce Theosophical teachings,

- to teach Theosophy through Arts,

- to teach Theosophy through Nature,

- to apply Theosophical Wisdom through outdoor excursions and games.

Briefly, we are trying to play our humble part in the externalization of the Divine Plan."

In March 1973, the Saigon Youth Lodge enjoyed the visit of Geoffrey and Sandra Hodson. A very extensive report of their activities was developed at this time, outlining in great detail the general activities of the Lodge. During the year the Youth Lodge organized a very impressive programme of activities for the children all of which is outlined in the report. This report is being made

available to all youth groups around the world.

In 1974, the group plans to translate into Vietnamese and study the book, *The Seven Human Temperaments*, by Mr. Hodson. The current President of this most active Lodge is Miss Phan-thi Ngoc Mai.

Brazil.—On October 24th, 1973 the Brazilian Federation of Young Theosophists celebrated the third year of existence as a federation. Under the direction of Marcus Flavius de los Santos, who until recently was President of this section, the Federation was started and has grown considerably with over 200 young people participating in the activities of the Federation at this time.

From July 20-22, the Brazilian Federation held its first National Convention at the Raja Centre in São Paulo. At that time Marilia Varallo of São Paulo was elected as the new President, the duties of whom began in October, 1973.

In addition to the established groups in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Belo Horizonte, Porto Alegre, Teofilo Otoni and Brazilia, there are three new groups in this Federation. One of them is located in Magi das Cruzes near São Paulo. The other two are in the North—one in Recife and the other in Salvador City.

The “Rio Group” meets the last Sunday of every month at the home of Mirian V. Guimaraes, who is President of the group. The group is located in Rio de Janeiro.

The “JET Group” is located at the Pythagoras Theosophical Institute in São Paulo. Forty Y.T.’s assemble at this centre on Saturday nights. They have been studying *The Key to Theosophy* by H. P. Blavatsky and have been holding lectures on such subjects as “Friendship” and “Brotherhood”. The group has a

social department which is actively engaged in charity campaigns.

The “UAI Group” located in Belo Horizonte has been meeting at one of the members’ homes on Sundays. The programmes usually centre around social and cultural activities.

The “Arjuna Group” is located in Porto Alegre. About 10 Y.T.’s assemble on Saturdays at the Dharma T.S. Lodge in which they are all very active. Apart from their study, they deliver public talks and participate in recreational activities.

The youth group in Brazilia meets on Sundays in the home of Ulisses and Enide Resende. The group in Teofilo Otoni continues to grow as does the group in Salvador City which has 7 members.

The group in Mogi das Cruzes consists of about 20 members many of whom are university students. They are actively engaged in social work including the acquisition of books for the prison in the city which has no library. They wrote to a newspaper asking for books in the name of the T.S. Lodge and had a fine response, collecting over 3000 books. They also plan to deliver lectures in the prison.

The highlight of the year for the Brazilian Federation was the fifth Brazilian camp held from January 20-28, 1973 near Porto Alegre in a place called “Happiness Mansion” belonging to the Macrobiotic Association. Study themes included “Monad, Ego, Personality” and “Young People and World Integration”. Various excursions, morning group meditations, games, nightly artistic shows, films and slide presentations, and small group discussions on aspects of the camp themes make these gatherings tremendously successful.

Y.T.’s from Uruguay (Groups: Kuthumi and Maitreya), Brazil (Groups: UAI, Arjuna, Rio, JET and

Brazilia) and Argentina (Groups: Renacer, Loto Blanco, N. Sri Ram, Acuario and Hacia El) were present making up nearly 100 Y.T.'s.

On the 27th of January, the Inter-American Federation of Young Theosophists was formed with the full support of the Latin American Y.T. Sections, the American Federation of Y.T.'s and the W.F.Y.T.

Central America.—The group in Costa Rica meets on Fridays at 7.30 p.m. at the T.S. Headquarters. They are studying basic courses on Theosophy. Apart from these studies, they also show films and hold conferences as well as arranging camps. The group was formed in May 1972, and about 20 Y.T.'s meet in San Jose. President of the group is Eduardo Nassar B.

The first Youth Conference for Central America will be held from December 27-30, 1973 with participants from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Costa Rica.

Mexico.—There are three Youth Groups in Mexico with a total membership of 58 Y.T.'s as of May, 1973.

The Youth Lodge "Loto Blanco" meets at the T.S. Headquarters in Mexico City on Sundays for its own members, and on other days during which time they run courses on Theosophy for beginning, intermediate and advanced students of Theosophy.

The second Youth Lodge is called "Samadhi-Prapti" and meets on Saturdays in Orizaba, Veracruz.

The third group called "Mahatma Gandhi" is located in Poza Rica, Vera Cruz and meets on Wednesdays.

On May 27th, the Mexican Y.T.'s held a special programme at the "Loto Blanco" Youth Lodge in honor of their special guest, John Coats, who addressed the Y.T.'s on this occasion. Music and theatrical performances made this a

momentous occasion. President of the Mexican Y.T. Federation is José Cruz.

Colombia.—Whereas formerly the Colombian Y.T.'s functioned as a group, beginning on August 29th, 1973 they began to function as a Federation composed of seven organized groups.

Besides the re-unions that the groups have had, they continue meeting every Saturday at the main Lodge located at the T.S. headquarters. Courses on Theosophy for the public, especially the young people, are given. They also continue to hold their course in meditation which has been based on the book by Donna Sherry Lord. During the year there were two Y.T. camps, the first one in January and the other in August. The contribution of the Colombian Y.T. Federation to the Convention of the T.S. in Colombia was a programme on the subject "Theosophy and Youth."

During the year, the group established more contacts with other Y.T. groups around the world with the hope of exchanging more experiences in the future to help make their work more effective.

Plans are under way to expand the Federation in 1974 by starting groups in other cities in the country. The Federation is under the direction and Presidentship of María Cecilia Zea.

The groups that make up this Federation are: "Jinarajadasa", "Unidad", "Olcott", "Besant", "Ananda", "Videa Y. Naturaleza" and a theatrical group called "Bachue". The groups hold weekly discussions, many of them holding these activities out-of-doors with sport and recreation. Some hold classes on Theosophy, whereas others have a more specialized interest in yoga. Some of the groups also hold Ceremonies of the International Order of the Round Table.

Uruguay.—There are two active Youth Groups in Uruguay. The "Maitreya"

group is located in Montevideo and is under the general direction of Carlos Fernandez who is the President of the group. The other group is called "Kuthumi" and is located in Las Piedras and is under the direction of Cristina Dobal. "Maitreya" formulated its Constitution during the year and is affiliated to the W.F.Y.T. On July 8, 1973 the group "Kuthumi" celebrated their second year of existence. In November 1972, the group began to issue a 4-page newsletter. They meet on Fridays during which time they study Theosophy, until December when they take two months vacation. During the year, they studied some Theosophical books including *Popular Lectures on Theosophy* and *The Laws of the Higher Life* both by Annie Besant, as well as *The Textbook of Theosophy* by C. W. Leadbeater. The Y.T.'s of this group actively participate in the work of the T.S. Lodge "D.K." which runs a number of camps during the year.

A number of Y.T.'s from this Section participated in the Brazilian Y.T. camp held in January, 1973 as well as the Inter-American Y.T. Congress held in April in Argentina. During the year Y.T.'s from both Argentina and Brazil visited the youth groups in Uruguay and all participated in symposiums at the youth and T.S. Lodges. Talks were also given on television. In March, John Coats visited this country. Youth symposiums and discussions were held on such topics as "Theosophy and Youth", "Y.T. Preparations for 1975," "Problems of Society" including ecology, over-population, sex, and drugs.

Australia.—The Youth Group of the Blavatsky Lodge of the T.S., Sydney, went through some changes during the year. Yvonne Malyyke, who was President of the Group and Peter Glasson, who edited the journal *Movement* resigned

from these activities to become more active with the Tathagata Lodge of the T.S. and also took on the work of issuing a nation-wide Australian occult newspaper called *Cosmos* which began in June and is issued monthly to its subscribers and also sold on the news stands. The venture has been successful and is fulfilling a great need of spreading Theosophical ideas to a large number of young Australians.

Noel Odou, who was Secretary of the Youth Group, has taken on the duties as Convenor of the "Discovery Group" which succeeds the old group. His duties include arranging the weekly gatherings, and together with five other Committee Members, developing a bi-monthly programme.

An attempt is made to provide an atmosphere where it is possible to discover for oneself, through exchange of ideas, experimentation, and actual participation, those things each person is interested in for himself. To set the keynote and lead in this direction, they started off with a five-week series on anxiety in all of its ramifications. A group discussion with participants seated in a circle is used and is similar to methods used in group psychotherapy sessions. There is freelance participation with a minimum of guidance from the convenor.

Two of the members of the Discovery Group have re-issued *Movement* which continues along similar lines as before.

New Zealand.—Young members of the T.S. in this country are actively engaged in the work of the Section. As last year, there is a young people's group in Auckland which meets in conjunction with the H.P.B. Lodge. On their own they hold a number of social events which include excursions and visits to a number of the beautiful beaches in this country. The Y.T.'s are under the direction of Susan Macintyre.

Argentina.—The Council has kept the same structure of 1972: President: Paulina de Palmeri; Vice-President: Mónica A. Pastore; Secretary: Silvia Liliana Pastore; Treasurer: Maria Cristina Cesano. The Postal address is: Santiago 257, Rosario, Sta. Fe., Argentina.

The groups which constitute the Federation are: "Renacer," Buenos Aires, "El Loto Blanco," Mendoza, "Hacia El," Rosario, "N. Sri Ram," San Rafael, "Acuario," Santa Fe., "Despertar," Cordoba.

This last group was constituted legally last September. There is another group recently formed, which has still not joined the F.A.J.T. (Argentinian Federation of Young Theosophists), and which is meeting at Tucumán city. They have 90 active members in the country.

During this year, they have had the following activities:

In January 1973, from the 20th to 27th, 31 young people of this Federation travelled to Puerto Alegre (Brazil), to participate in the Fifth Brazilian Camp of Y.T.'s. They were present on January 27th, at the meeting where the I.F.Y.T was established.

From January to April, Juan Carlos Palmeri, honorary member of the group "Hacia El", who travelled to Mexico accompanying Juan Viñas in a series of lectures through that country, carried on as representative of this Federation to be able to make contact with the Y.T.'s of Mexico. He promoted the constitution of groups of Y.T.'s through lectures and slides showing our activities here, as well as stimulated the setting up of the Mexican Federation of Y.T.'s.

In March, during the Summer School organized by the Argentinian Section of the T.S., an Inter-American Meeting of Y.T.'s was held at Embalse Rio III, Córdoba. There they had their annual Assembly and they participated also in the

meetings where the Inter-American Federation of Y.T. (FIJT) was established, Silvia Liliana Pastore being elected as President and Monica Pastore as Vice-President (they are, at present, secretary and vice-president of the EAJT). They had in this the pleasant opportunity to meet brothers from Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, USA, Uruguay and Heike Backhans, who belongs to the Swedish Section of the T.S., from Europe. Our beloved World President of the W.F.Y.T., John Coats, was present also.

During all this time they have published four newsletters, with subjects prepared by young people of the national groups. These bulletins were published once each three months with 200 copies each time, which were distributed in Argentina and among the Y.T.'s of America. On July 7th, 8th and 9th, they had their National Meeting and a mini-camp in Córdoba City. These activities were really successful, with the cooperation of 20 Y.T.'s who travelled long distances from their cities (6 to 12 hours by bus) to be present there. Five groups sent their delegates to the meeting.

These activities were followed by a cycle of public lectures during eight Saturdays and Sundays, given by young people of the groups "Renacer", "Hacia El" and "N. Sri Ram", who travelled to Córdoba with that aim.

From July 16th till August 12th, Silvia Pastore (Lily), as President of the FIJT and also as Secretary of the FAJT, travelled through Central and South America, visiting the groups of Y.T.'s of San José (Costa Rica), Bogotá (Colombia) and Cochabamba (Bolivia). In Bogota, she was present at the Fifth Theosophical Convention, as the delegate of Argentina in response to the invitation that the Argentinian Y.T.'s had received from the Colombian Y.T.

On August 17th, 18th and 19th, a mini-camp in a river resort, 50 Km. from Rosario, was held by the group "Hacia El" (Rosario). They were living in a big house by the river, surrounded by a marvellous park. Twenty persons participated in the mini-camp, half from Rosario and half from Buenos Aires (Renacer group). They spent their time enthusiastically in studies, tasks, walking and entertainments.

During those days also, Vicente Fiumanó (from Renacer group), together with other members performed an important task in Tucuman city, where a new youth group, very interested in Theosophy, was established.

On October 12th, 13th and 14th, there will be a mini-camp in the mountains, at San Rafael (Mendoza), organized by the "N. Sri Ram" group. Undoubtedly it will be a successful meeting, like all the others.

The Argentina report goes on to say: "This year, all the young people have worked intensely in their respective groups, organizing meetings, going deeply into the real essence of Theosophy, travelling long hours to impart to others their knowledge, or to exchange ideas to better their present and future contribution. Besides, all of them work individually displaying an intense activity either in the Lodges of the T.S., as their presidents, or giving brilliant public lectures, or leading public debates, etc. Some of them have had also the task of divulging different aspects of Theosophy to the public.

All the young people, either individually or in their groups, are working intensely to be better representatives of our ideals and to contribute to mould in our physical word the perfection of the archetypal ideas."

CHARLES CHESROW,
General Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 600020

OFFICERS

1 October 1973

Executive Committee:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| (1) THE PRESIDENT | } | <i>Ex-officio</i> |
| (2) THE VICE-PRESIDENT | | |
| (3) THE RECORDING SECRETARY | | |
| (4) THE TREASURER | | |
| (5) SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI | | |
| (6) MRS. RADHA BURNIER | | |
| (7) MRS. NORMA Y. SASTRY | | |
| (8) MR. C. D. T. SHORES | | |
| (9) MR. K. N. RAMANATHAN | | |

Adyar Library: DIRECTOR: MRS. RADHA BURNIER.

LIBRARIAN: MRS. SEETHA NEELAKANTAN.

Archives: MRS. RUTH ESPIN

Bhojanasala: SUPERINTENDENT: K. B. GOSATHKAR.

Estate Administration Committee: SECRETARY: MRS. NORMA Y. SASTRY.

Garden Department: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. T. JAYEWARDENE.

Information Department: PROFESSOR H. E. HAKIM.

Laundry: SUPERINTENDENT: LT. COL. R. GOPALARATNAM.

Leadbeater Chambers: SUPERINTENDENT: MRS. JOSEPHINE JAYEWARDENE.

Legal Adviser:

Maintenance Department: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. N. S. NARASIMHACHARI.

Medical and Sanitary Department: MEDICAL OFFICER: DR. S. V. JOSEPH.

Movable Properties Department: CUSTODIAN: MR. P. V. N. IYER.

Public Relations Officer: PROFESSOR H. E. HAKIM.

The School of the Wisdom: PRINCIPAL: MR. JOHN B. S. COATS.

The Theosophical Publishing House: MANAGER: MR. K. N. RAMANATHAN.

The Theosophist: ASST. EDITOR: MRS. BRIDGET PAGET.

The Vasanta Press: MANAGER: MR. K. RAMANATHAN.

Watch and Ward Department: SUPERINTENDENT: SUBEDAR. G. SAMBASIVAN.

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

We have to record our sense of great loss sustained by the passing on of Mr. N. Sri Ram, who was International President of the Society for the period 1953/73. Mr. Sri Ram was also Chairman of the Council of The Theosophical Publishing House, and had presided over the meetings of the Council since October 1964. The Theosophical Publishing House owes deep gratitude to Mr. Sri Ram for his guidance of its affairs.

Mr. James S. Perkins, Acting President of the Society on the death of Mr. Sri Ram, became Chairman of the T.P.H. Council, filling that position till Mr. John B. S. Coats was elected President of the Society on 11th October, 1973.

One meeting of the T.P.H. Council was held in 1973, under the chairmanship of Mr. James S. Perkins.

Publishing Conferences.—Early in January 1973, the Publishing Conference of representatives of the three Theosophical Publishing Houses, namely those at Adyar, London and Wheaton, was held in Adyar.

The Conference had an agenda of such heads as matters relating to printing; policies on reprinting; matters relating to distribution; Vasanta Press equipment; H. P. Blavatsky publications; publishing programmes for the Centenary; plans for the future; and non-English publications. A report on the proceedings of the Conference has been issued to the participants.

Policies Conference.—Following the Publishing Conference, a Policies Conference was held under the presidency of Mr. N. Sri Ram, and attended by a number of Theosophical leaders as well as representatives of the three publishing houses. Among the subjects considered by the Conference were:

1. Is it possible to find general agreement on what we should consider as basic literature?

2. Publishing policies, how they develop at Adyar, London and Wheaton.

3. Should titles be published just because there is a demand for them, even when they no longer help in the work, and are dated on political and social questions, etc.?

4. Is the image of the Society affected by the quality of our literature?

5. Reprinting of *First Principles of Theosophy*; matters relating to reprinting of *Man: Whence, How and Whither*; *Old Diary Leaves*; recommendation of UNESCO regarding need to follow new norms of unprejudiced language in light of current conditions.

6. How can we encourage new literature?

7. The responsibility of Adyar with regard to greater development of non-English publications.

Participants in the publishing and policies conferences felt that both Conferences had been very valuable in clarifying the lines of publishing work in the Society and in establishing greater co-ordination in the work.

New Publications.—There were five new publications during the year, namely *Dynamics of the Psychic World* compiled from H. P. Blavatsky by Lina Psaltis (Asian and African edition); *Man and His Seven Principles*, by Arthur Robson; *The Mahatmas and Their Letters*, by Geoffrey A. Barborka; *The One Life and Functional Forms*, by A. Kannan; and *The Nature of Our Seeking*, by N. Sri Ram.

Reprints.—Twenty-seven titles were reprinted during the year, and reprint orders

varied from 10,000 copies (in the case of the *Bhagavad Gita*, text and translation, and *The Astral Plane* by C. W. Leadbeater) to 1000 copies. Books for which there is increasing demand, such as *The Chakras*, *Life After Death* (C. W. Leadbeater) *The Ancient Wisdom* (Besant) and *Concentration* (Ernest Wood) were reprinted in larger numbers.

Our work on reprints was handicapped by the fact that though the Vasanta Press had secured additional printing equipment, the installation of such equipment was held up by delays in additional power supply to the Press. Thus, though we had additional machinery we were unable to use it till early in 1974.

Book Prices.—Prices of soft cover editions of our publications were reduced early in the year, to bring the books more within the reach of low income groups. The reduction was generally about 20 per cent.

Workers.—Mrs. Bridget Paget continued to work as Assistant Editor of *The Theosophist* during the year. As in past years the services of a number of Adyar residents were available for the reading of proofs and the evaluation of manuscripts. We are happy to express our thanks to them.

“*The Theosophist*”.—Mr. James S. Perkins, the Acting President, succeeded Mr. N. Sri Ram as the Editor of *The Theosophist* in May 1973. A special commemorative

issue of *The Theosophist* was published in June 1973 in honour of Mr. Sri Ram, who had passed on in April. In this issue tributes to his memory and his work, and reminiscences of Mr. Sri Ram were contributed by a wide range of Theosophical leaders and workers.

The circulation of *The Theosophist* remained steady. For the second year in succession there was an excess of expenditure over income, and therefore with effect from 1st January 1974 subscription prices of the journal were increased to meet part of the loss on its working.

The Theosophical Publishing House, Wheaton, the Theosophical Publishing House, London and a number of National Sections of the Society as well as individuals have generously helped the magazine in registering and collecting subscriptions and we express our thanks to all of them.

Financial results.—Total sales fell by Rs. 1,17,000/- as there were no overseas orders for sheets during the year. This was reflected in the excess of income over expenditure, amounting to Rs. 1,997 against Rs. 69,925 in the previous year. The expenditure on advertisement and catalogue increased to Rs. 6,596 and establishment charges rose by Rs. 9,243 owing to the increase in salaries and dearness allowance from October 1972.

K. N. RAMANATHAN,
Manager.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

The year 1972-73 was a sad year for the Library. On April 8th the International President of the Theosophical Society, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who was also the Chairman of the Library Council and a member of the Editorial Board, died after a sudden heart attack. During the twenty years under his leadership the library was not only able to move into more spacious premises but several necessary changes were brought about for more effective functioning of the Library in its usefulness to the readers and borrowers. Modern and up-to-date methods were introduced in the care and preservation of many valuable books and manuscripts, including the airconditioning of the stack-rooms where the MSS. are stored, as well as the microfilming laboratory. The standard of *The Adyar Library Bulletin* and of the publication in the Adyar Library Series was improved and better facilities extended to scholars from within and outside India to use the library for their researches.

While placing on record our warmest appreciation of his wonderful inspiration and leadership, we bid him farewell knowing that he will ever be remembered for his life of utter dedication in spreading the ancient wisdom otherwise known as Brahmayidyā or Theosophy. Our sympathies are extended to his daughter, Mrs. Radha Burnier, the Director of the Library, and to the other members of his family. We also at this juncture express our congratulations and affectionate thoughts to Mr. J. B. S. Coats, the newly elected international President of the Theosophical Society. He has been a dedicated worker for the organization for many years and has travelled widely around the world as a lecturer.

During the year the library also lost by death Mrs. Adelta Sita Devi who was the librarian from 1946-54, and later head of the Cataloguing Section until

1971 when due to illness she had to discontinue her services. The library will certainly miss her valued assistance.

PUBLICATIONS:

During the year the revised edition of Dr. Raghavan's *Studies on Some Concepts of the Alaṅkāra Śāstra* (ALS 33) was brought out. Also a new edition of Dr. Otto Schrader's *Introduction to the Pāñcarātra and the Ahribudhnya Saṁhitā* (ALS 5), out of print for some time, was released.

Prof. A. A. Ramanathan completed the editing of vol. 2 of the *Amarakośa* with the commentaries of Liṅgayya Sūrin, Mallinātha and Bommagaṇṭi and it is now in the press. The Descriptive Catalogue of the Sanskrit MSS. sent to the library by the Visvabharati, Santiniketan, is now being printed. Pandit S. Anantaraman is now getting ready for the press the Descriptive Catalogue of the Tamil MSS. in the library's collection. The translation of the *Samnyāsa Upaniṣads* is progressing steadily, and in *The Adyar Library Bulletin* for the year under report five more have been included. Prof. Ramanathan, who is helping Dr. E. R. Sreekrishna Sarma in this, is also translating into English the *Vaiṣṇava Upaniṣads*.

SALES:

The demand for the Adyar Library Series is steadily increasing. We are glad to report that the Theosophical Society in Australia, with its headquarters in Sydney, is taking over the distribution of the library's publications in Australia and New Zealand—countries in which the interest in Sanskrit and Indological studies is slowly increasing.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY BULLETIN:

The volume for 1973 consists of papers from well-known scholars like Dr. G. Cordona, Dr. Ludo Rocher, Dr. T. Goudriaan and Dr. E. R. Sreekrishna

Sarma, besides translations of five of the *Samnyāsa Upaniṣads*, and a text on Pāṇini's grammar called *Mukhabhūṣaṇam*, edited by Dr. K. Kunjunni Raja. The journal records 132 exchanges and 170 subscribers.

Manuscripts Register.—The details regarding each MS. for inclusion in the register is being scrutinized by Pandit S. Anantaraman. During the year 1791 MSS. were checked. It is hoped that soon the register entries will be completed.

SERVICE RENDERED :

Microfilms of four palmleaf MSS. and one transcript, and photostat copies of four printed books were supplied on request to institutions and scholars. Also supplied were: 56 photostat frames of eight documents and letters to the Treasurer, Theosophical Society; 10 photostat frames of 6 documents to the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society; and microfilms of 10 volumes of H. P. Blavatsky Scrapbooks for the Archives of the Theosophical Society. The library also supplied to the Nehru Memorial Museum Library microfilms of 58 volumes of the *New India*, a political paper edited by the late Annie Besant while she was working for Indian independence.

Transcripts in Devanagari of 32 MSS. were supplied on request to various scholars and research institutions while typed copies of 70 articles and reviews from the *Modern Review* and the *Indian Review* were supplied to a scholar in Malaysia.

Works Used.—The library records 365 readers, 125 resident readers cum borrowers, 114 borrowers from the city and 37 braille borrowers. We are glad to note that more members in India of the Braille Lodge of the Theosophical Society are using the Braille section of the library.

During the year under report 5,202

persons used the library; 27,776 books and 4,350 MSS. were consulted in the premises; 6,575 books and 11 MSS. were borrowed.

Research Scholars.—The Library's rich collections continue to be used by many research fellows in and outside India. Among them were: Mr. V. K. Chari, Dept. of English, Carlton University, Ottawa, Canada; Mr. B. J. and Mrs. J. M. Stoddart, University of Western Australia; Mr. Colin A. Cole and Prof. U. S. Ghannam, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada; Dr. Charles S. J. White, American University, Washington; Mr. P. C. Chandrakaew, Mahacula Buddhist University, Bangkok; Miss T. Kalyani, University of Toronto, Canada; Mr. S. Lakshmanaiah, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati; Mr. Kashinath Jha, University of Bihar; Mr. Ch. Muthyalayya Naidu, Lecturer, M. R. College, Vizianagaram; Mr. N. A. Mosar, Marathwada University, Aurangabad; Prof. R. Karunakaran, Sanskrit College, Trivandrum; Mr. E. L. Kameswara Rao, Telugu Dept., Osmania University, Hyderabad; Miss S. Revathy, Research Scholar, T. M. S. S. M. Library, Tanjavur; Mr. V. Kutumba Sastri, Kuppaswami Sastri Research Institute, Madras; Mr. G. K. Hegde, Sanskrit Lecturer, Lal Bahadur Sanskrit College, Sagar; Mrs. Suman Rani Jain, University of Lucknow; Mr. M. Kripacharyulu, Sanskrit Lecturer, Oriental College, Guntur; Dr. S. Krishnaswamy, Director, and Miss S. Sheela Nair, Research Assistant, Indian Council for Historical Research, New Delhi.

REPAIR AND PRESERVATION :

Forty-seven books and 67 volumes of journals were bound in the Vasanta Press of the Theosophical Society; 1078 books were repaired and bound where necessary in the Library's own repair section; 17 books of the library and 16 pages of documents from the Treasurer of the

Theosophical Society were hand-laminated. Due to the long delay in getting fresh supplies of acetone from the Govt. Cordite Factory, Nilgiris, the lamination work had to be slowed down. Seven volumes of H. P. Blavatsky's Scrapbooks sent for microfilming were also repaired and rebound for the T. S. Archives. One palmleaf MS. was repaired.

ACQUISITION AND CATALOGUING:

Books.—Out of 4000 received during the year, 73 were purchased, 44 were exchanges and the rest were gifts. Out of 3888 received as gifts, 447 are still to be accessed and catalogued. Our grateful thanks are due to the late Mr. N. Sri Ram for donating 1133 books in various languages and subjects; also to the late Miss Anna Ornholt, Kotagiri, Nilgiris, for 325 books—mostly on the philosophy of Martinus, besides books on literature, history and civilization.

Other donations were: 307 on Yoga, Theosophy and Buddhism from Mrs. P. Engleman; 263 directly from the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, New Delhi, and 53 through authors and publishers aided by the Ministry; 196 light fiction from the Olcott Library and Research Centre, U. S. A.; 161 Braille books from the Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, Ojai, California; 82 from Mr. M. V. Gopalakrishnan, Adyar; 74 from Dr. C. Ranganathan, Madras; 63 on the teachings of Swami Omkar from Divine Light Zentrum, Switzerland; 48 each from Dr. Jean Raymond, Adyar, and from Dr. D. Rood and Mrs. A. P. Sita Devi, Adyar; 44 Sanskrit and Indological books from Mr. P. R. Tiruvengadam, Madras; 44 from *The Theosophist* Office being review copies; 32 each from Mrs. Radha Burnier and Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan; 30 vols. comprising the complete works of Sri

Aurobindo from the Sri Aurobindo Birth Centenary Library, Pondicherry; 25 Theosophical books in Russian from Nicholas P. V. Reincke, U. S. A.; 24 from Dr. N. Sivakamu, Adyar; 24 being Adyar Library Publications; 18 bound volumes of the special issues of the Hindi journal *Kalyan* from Mr. Bhupatroy Mehta, Ahmedabad; 17 Sanskrit books from Dr. A. Kannan; 15 for use of the library MSS.; 14 from Mr. D. V. Syamala Rau; 10 from the Buddhist Publication Society, Kandy, Sri Lanka; 10 which includes the Danish translation of *The Secret Doctrine* from Mr. Preben Sorensen, Denmark; and below five from Mr. F. M. G. Sayeed, T. S. Islamic Association, Madras, Mrs. Gopi Thadhani, Madras, World Goodwill Mission, London, Miss Jeanne Dumas and other friends and sympathizers.

Appreciation and thanks are also extended to The Theosophical Publishing Houses, Adyar (49), London (6), and Wheaton (16) for sending all their new publications and reprints. We also thank the Point Loma Pub., Inc., California, The Matilda Zeigler Magazine for the Blind, Ohio, and the East and West, Poona, for continuing to send their latest publications; also the various Embassies, Consulates, and the Government Publicity Departments of the various Indian States for their cultural and information journals and booklets.

Mrs. R. S. Burnier has, as in the past years, donated Rs. 409 worth of new books published in England. We extend our thanks to her as well as to the Theosophical Society in America which has gifted new books on Buddhism, ecology, etc., to the value of Rs. 400.

Book Cataloguing.—Due to a large number of new titles requiring cataloguing the reclassification of books in the Eastern section did not make much progress. The pamphlets in the Social Sciences section are still to be completed.

DONATIONS:

The library takes this opportunity to record its grateful thanks to: a member from the Netherlands Section of the Theosophical Society for Rs. 3,658.35; "Friends" who wish to remain anonymous, Rs. 3,500; The Theosophical Society in Netherlands, Rs. 516.75; Mrs. E. Laban, Germany, Rs. 107.08; Mrs. Beatrice Fleming, Germany, Rs. 80; anonymous contributions amounting to Rs. 77.28; and to Dr. J. Raymond, The Theosophical Societies in England and Australia, and Mrs. M. G. Moos, England, for amounts less than Rs. 50.

The Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, Ojai, California, has gifted a Braille typewriter to the library. We also express our thanks to Mrs. Marjorie Dawn who during her visit to Adyar to attend the international Convention of the Theosophical Society in December 1972 devoted much of her time to teaching two of the girls in the library to use this typewriter and read Braille.

VISITORS:

Notable visitors to the Library included: Hon. Mishra, Speaker, Bihar Legislative Assembly, Patna; Mr. Ram Singh Yadhav, Dy. Speaker, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, Jaipur; Mr. Gobind Mohan Misra, Secretary, Bihar Vidhan Sabha; Mr. Alagar Swami, Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu; Mr. H. A. Khan, Reader, Dept. of Library Science, University of Mysore; Mr. J. Bossanyi, Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Extra-Mural Studies, Southampton University, England; H. E. Shriman Narayan, Governor of Gujarat; Mr. G. Brunner, Consul General, Switzerland; Mr. C. Bhattacharya, M.P., Bihar; Mr. C. D. Gautam, M. P., Madhya Pradesh; Dr. Ivan Borse, Dy. Director General, National Archives of Hungary; Mr. V. V. Talwar, Asst. Director, National Archives, New Delhi; H. E. K. K. Shah,

Governor of Tamil Nadu; Dr. Hubert Durt of Ecole Francaise d'Estreme Orient; and Mrs. Nasil Chand, Senior Librarian, Govt. College for Women, Chandigarh.

CONCLUSION:

We record our heartfelt appreciation and thanks to Dr. V. Raghavan and Dr. K. Kunjunni Raja who continue to extend their help in the research and publication programmes; to Mr. E. F. Orfila for his continued help in the microfilming and repair and preservation sections; to Mrs. Parvati Gopalaratnam for looking after the work of the librarian during her absence from India and for continuing to give part-time help in the cataloguing section; and to the many Theosophists and friends for their encouragement, interest and support in the work of the Library.

The Library, though well known for its valuable collections, is still not used to the maximum extent except by Indological institutions and research fellows. It was established by the first President of the Theosophical Society to promote the second object of the Society which is to encourage a comparative study of religions, philosophies and sciences. As the Theosophical Society moves into 1975, with a record of one hundred years of work for promoting brotherhood among peoples of the world with no distinctions whatsoever through spreading the knowledge of the higher aspects of religions, philosophies, and culture, it is hoped that the Adyar Library with its rich collections can play a greater part in bringing about understanding between nations and help in its own unique way in ushering an era of peace into the world, the foundation of which is wisdom expressed as love.

SEETHA NEELAKANTAN,
Librarian.

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

The first term of the 24th Session of the School of the Wisdom opened on October 17th, 1972, and closed on December 8th, 1972. As the Principal, Mr. N. Sri Ram, was obliged to be away at the time of the opening, the Director of Studies, Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, inaugurated the session. There were 24 students present at the opening. However, within a few weeks more had joined, and during the second term we gained seven more students, so that the total registered number was 33. At the same time we also lost four students during the first term, one, unfortunately, through death, and before the end of the session 16 more were obliged to leave. At the time of the closing ceremonies there were only eleven regularly attending students. From time to time we also had observers, some of them very earnest and regular in attendance during their stay on the Compound. Counting both students and observers the average attendance in the morning was about 24. The attendance in the afternoon was not so good.

This session was characterized by an extraordinarily fine lecture programme. Our Director of Studies, Mr. Hodson, lectured three times a week, covering all phases of theosophical teaching and yoga. Our Principal, Mr. N. Sri Ram, gave us six hours of his very valuable time, mostly in answering questions of students, in his own wise manner. Besides these we had many other fine lecturers: Mr. K. Sankara Menon, who gave five lectures on the Hindu Scriptures; Dr. Kannan, with four lectures on *Theosophy and Science*; Mr. Yagna Sastry, on the Theosophical Society Estate; Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan, who gave three lectures,

Roots of Theosophy, *Nirvana* and *The Yoga of Theosophy*; Mr. Ch. Sankar Rao, who gave two inspiring courses, 12 lectures, six on Theosophical Literature and six on the History of the Theosophical Society; Mrs. Bridget Paget, who spoke on *The Theosophist*; Dr. Jean Raymond, who spoke on *Sacred or Profane*; Mr. Edward Mundrick, on *The Spirituality of Youth*; Mr. Roderick Bucknell gave two lectures, on *Theravadi Buddhism* and *The Life of a Buddhist Monk in Thailand*; Mr. M. Krishnamacharyulu gave three lectures on *Theosophy as Guidance*; Mrs. Radha Burnier gave four lectures, on *Eastern Philosophy*, *Hinduism*, *Jainism*, and *Taoism*; Miss Joy Mills, on *The Contemplation of Death*; Miss Helen Zahara on *The First Object of the Theosophical Society* (a remarkable lecture); Mr. John Coats on *The Problems of Youth*; Mr. Seymour Ballard on *Concepts of Power and Karma*; Mr. Homi Shroff, eight talks on *A Study in Consciousness*; Prof. Hakim, four lectures on *Islam*, *Sufism*, *The Bahai Faith* and *Ninety Years of Theosophy*; Jeanne Dumas, two on *Some Concepts of Mahayana Buddhism* and *Zen Buddhism* (my lectures were given when at the last minute it was found that no other lecturer was available). Five of our students also gave us the opportunity of hearing the results of their researches: Mr. Preben Sorensen on *Meditation*; Mr. Conrad Jamieson on *Moon Rocks and the Creation of the Moon and Earth*; Mr. Rajendra J. Trivedi on *Some Aspects of the Law of Karma*; Mr. S. C. C. Sittambalam, on *Yoga in the Bhagavad Gita*; Mr. O. N. Kumaraswami on *Avataras*; and Dr. G. Talwar on *The Evolution of Man*.

Besides the lecture programme, the students also had classes and discussions several afternoons a week. During the first term the classes were on *The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett*, and during the second term Dr. Jean Raymond expertly led a class on *The Voice of the Silence*.

The School students went on the usual tours of the Estate and other places. They visited the Adyar Library, Kalakshetra, the Museum and Archives, the Engineering Department, the Olcott School, the town of Kancheepuram, the Garden Department, the Madras Museum and the Mahabodhi Society, the Vasanta Press and Mahabalipuram. The students also had a tea party in November so that all could meet the Principal, and they had a night of star-gazing in February, conducted by Mrs. Norma Sastry, preceded by refreshments given by Miss Annie Tjioe.

Thanks are due to many for the success of this session of the School of the Wisdom, particularly to the lecturers who gave so much of their valuable time. Special mention in this regard must be made to Mr. Sankara Menon, Mr. Sankar Rao, Mrs. Radha Burnier, and Dr. Jean

Raymond who are very busy people, and to Prof. Hakim, who, in an emergency when another lecturer was unable to come, gave us a splendid talk with very little advance notice. Also, we must thank Mr. Iyer of the Movable Properties Department for making arrangements for lectures, Mr. Gosatkar of the Bhojana-sala for furnishing tiffin for the opening and closing ceremonies and the Garden Department for furnishing plants and flowers. Also our attender, P. Munu-swami, who looked after the rooms and prepared the coffee and tea for the morning refreshment. We thank our Director of Studies for making this long trip to India to give the School the benefit of his many years of study. And finally, we must thank the students for graciously putting up with any inconveniences they might have felt.

The 24th Session was formally closed on March 16th, 1973 by the Principal, who gave out certificates to the students at that time. The Director of Studies gave a short talk at the closing ceremonies.

JEANNE DUMAS,
Secretary.

MEMORANDUM
OF
ASSOCIATION, ETC.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled "An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860," that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



Station, Madras,
Dated 3rd April 1905.

(Sd) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR,
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1875, INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

*In the matter of Act XXI of 1860 of the Acts of the Viceroy
and Governor-General of India in Council, being
an Act for the registration of literary,
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are:

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire or by

gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follows:

GENERAL COUNCIL

Ex-Officio

President-Founder:—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

Vice-President:—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

Recording Secretary:—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

Treasurer:—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knos, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, N.Z.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de la Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr. Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Masso, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

Additional

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalvala, Poona, Special Judge, [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author, [for 2 years].

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded The Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of "President-Founder," and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society

The
Founders

Income and
property ap-
plied to pro-
motion of
objects

as set forth in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any members thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration or application of the said

Members of
General
Council not
answerable

trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions, having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than three-fifths of the members of the Society.

Witnesses to the signatures:

(Sd.) WM. GLENNY KEAGEY ..
 „ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ..
 „ PYARE LAL ..
 „ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ..

city present personally or by proxy at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this . . . day of March 1905.

{ (Sd.) H. S. OLCOTT
 „ W. A. ENGLISH
 „ SUBRAMANIAM
 { „ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE
 „ UPENDRANATH BASU
 „ ANNIE BESANT
 „ N. D. KHANDALVALA

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED "THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY," ADYAR, MADRAS

1. The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. All members of the General Council shall at all times be Fellows of the Society and not fewer than seven members of this Council shall be resident in India.

2. (a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not fewer than 5 and not more than

12 Additional Members, among whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place. Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of the Society excepting the President of The Theosophical Society and excepting the

Removal of
General
Council
members and
officers

General Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not fewer than five members.

4. (a) The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of the Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and a meeting shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

(b) Whenever, at any time or place, a Convention or other function of the Society shall bring together a number of members of the General Council the President at his discretion may call such members to a meeting for the purpose of study and discussion of any matters concerning the Society that he considers appropriate to lay before them. The meeting may then forward to the President its report on such matters and may make recommendations thereon. Such meetings shall be of a consultative nature without administrative or legislative authority.

In the event the President does not himself attend such a meeting he may appoint the Vice-President or some other member of the General Council to preside in his stead.

The President or his Deputy shall give not less than thirty days' notice of such meeting to all members of the General Council who may be expected to be present at the function that provides oc-

casion for the meeting, but all members of the Council shall have the right to attend.

5. (a) On the request of any member of the General Council any resolution or other item of business proposed by such member shall be placed on the Agenda, and circulated with brief supporting statements, for consideration at the next meeting of the General Council, provided that not less than six months' notice of such resolution or item of business shall be given to the Recording Secretary.

(b) At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

Note: Meetings include adjourned meetings.

6. The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of the Society shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman

from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. The term of office of the President shall be seven years from the date of assuming office.

10. Seven months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Executive Committee shall ensure that the Recording Secretary or other person appointed by the Committee calls for nominations for the office of President from the members of the General Council by air-mail and at the same time by ordinary mail. Any member of the Society in good standing may be nominated. Each member of the General Council shall be entitled to make three nominations, but each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary, Federation Secretary or Organizing Secretary, shall consult his Governing Body before making nominations. The written consent of the member nominated shall be necessary for the validity of the nomination. It shall be the responsibility of the nominator to see that his nominations, and also the written consent of the nominees, reach the Recording Secretary within three months of the date of the call for nominations. No nominee shall be put on the voting list unless supported by at least five nominations.

At the expiration of three months, the Recording Secretary shall place all the nominations received, together with the relevant papers, before the Executive Committee at a meeting especially convened for the purpose. At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations. The names of the nominees qualified to be on the voting list shall be listed in alphabetical order. This list shall be the voting list and shall not be subject to challenge.

The Recording Secretary shall then immediately communicate by air-mail (and at the same time by ordinary mail) the voting list, together with the names of the nominators of the respective candidates to the General Secretaries, Federation Secretaries, Organizing Secretaries and Presidential Agents and to the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters. Each General Secretary, Federation Secretary, Organizing Secretary and Presidential Agent shall make known the names of the candidates and their respective nominators to the members in his area and take the votes of the individual members on the rolls of his National Society or area of administration at the close of the last official year of the Section or area who have been members of the Society in good standing for at least one year immediately prior to the close of the said official year and shall communicate the result to the Recording Secretary who shall himself take the votes of the members of the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters at the close of the last official year of the Society, who have been members of the Society in good standing for at least one year immediately prior to the close of the said official year. If only one name remains on the voting list, the subsequent vote shall be taken on a "For" or "Against" ballot.

At the expiration of three months from the date of issue of the voting list by the Recording Secretary, the voting returns shall be totalled by him. The Executive Committee shall appoint two of its members as scrutineers. The Candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected President and he shall assume office thirty days thereafter. In the event of a tie, or of the rejection of a single candidate in a "For" or "Against" ballot, or of a candidate on the voting list dying or being so seriously incapacitated

as to be unable to carry out the Presidential duties if elected, after the despatch of the voting list and before the final totalling of votes by the Recording Secretary, the nomination and election procedure shall be repeated, and the President in office or the Vice-President if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President assumes office.

* *Note:* A member is in good standing if his dues to the International Society have been paid for the year immediately prior to the close of the last official year.

11. (a) Within three months of assuming office the President shall nominate the Vice-President, subject to confirmation by the General Council. His term of office shall be at the discretion of the President but when the Vice-President has been three years in office that office shall become vacant by the passage of time and the President, within three months, shall again make a nomination and submit it to the General Council. Notwithstanding this provision the Vice-President shall remain in office and his term shall continue until a successor has been nominated and confirmed. The Vice-President in office may be renominated. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of the Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. In case of death, resignation or disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President,

the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold Office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. The President shall appoint the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and such subordinate officials as he may find necessary, which appointments shall be reported to the Executive Committee for consideration at its next following meeting, and shall become valid if approved by a majority of votes of the whole number at the said meeting, the newly appointed officials not being present nor counting as members of the Executive Committee for purposes of such votes. The Executive Committee may remove any of these appointees, by a vote of three-fourths of the whole number of its members. In this event, the President shall make a new appointment.

13. The Treasurer, Recording Secretary and subordinate officials being assistants to the President in his capacity as executive officer of the General Council, the President shall have the authority to remove any appointee to such offices.

14. The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members. Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-optation.

15. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other

Appointment
of other
officials

Nomination
and election
of Vice-Presi-
dent; his
duties

Removal of
appointees
from office

Appointment
of Executive
Committee

Meetings of
Executive
Committee

business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit, and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not fewer than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of the Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of the Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of the Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Recording Secretary, the receipt of any of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. The securities and uninvested funds of The Society shall be deposited in the State Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Execu-

tive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by any two of the following, the President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and any other persons appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12.

21. (a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of the Society beyond India, at any time and from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of the Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if necessary affix the Seal of the Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of the Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property, movable or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any Company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to sub-delegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and releases, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

(b) The funds of the Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public securities, or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages on such property.

(c) The Adyar Estate of the Society in Madras including the Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of the Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21 (c).

22. (a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to the Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of the Society with the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of the Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may

appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

Note: The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21 (a).

23. The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. The Recording Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of the Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Recording Secretary.

25. On the death or resignation of the President, the Recording Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

HEADQUARTERS

26. Headquarters of the Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person the use of any portion or premises in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying or residing under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period.

ORGANIZATION

28. Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or color, shall be eligible for membership in the Society, but those under the age of eighteen shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian, and shall have no right to vote until they have reached the age of eighteen years.

29. (a) Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge (Branch), the General Secretary of a National Society, or through the Recording Secretary; and a Diploma (Certificate) of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Recording Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Recording Secretary.

(b) The date of membership will begin:

(i) When admission has been made through the General Secretary, Federation Secretary, Organizing Secretary, or Presidential Agent from the date of acceptance by the General Secretary, Federation Secretary, Organizing Secretary or Presidential Agent, as entered by him and duly reported to the Recording Secretary at Adyar.

(ii) When admission has been made through the Recording Secretary, from the date of acceptance of the application by him, and so recorded in his office.

30. Lodges (Branches) and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge (Branch), residing within the territory of a National Society, shall normally belong to that

National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the consent of the General Secretaries concerned a member who belongs to one National Society may while retaining his membership of that National Society belong to another National Society, but he shall not be allowed to cast more than one vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society.

When a National Society under its own rules provides for Life Membership in that National Society, such Life Membership shall no longer be effective where a Member resides in the territory of or transfers his membership to another National Society, unless the specific approval of the General Secretaries concerned has been granted.

31. (a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the

President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge (Branch), for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge (Branch) may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge (Branch) shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge (Branch) belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge (Branch) vote in favor thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of

this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge (Branch) concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge (Branch), when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges (Branches) or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas (Certificates) directly to the Recording Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge (Branch). In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of the Society through the Recording Secretary.

34. The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which, if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Recording Secretary, and the Seal of the Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of the Society.

35. (a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches).

Lodges and
Fellows
where no
National
Society
exists

Formation of
a Lodge

President
grants, refuses
Charters

Formation of
a National
Society

(b) Upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches) in areas which are territorially adjacent and in which there are not sufficient Lodges (Branches) for each national group to form a National Society, the President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a Charter constituting such Lodges (Branches) into a Section. The Charter shall confer the same powers as one issued to a National Society. In all respects the rules applying to National Societies shall apply to any group of Lodges (Branches) holding a Charter under this rule.

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a certificate of Federation to any national or territorially adjacent group of Lodges (Branches) not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgment territorial division or other causes have made such Federation necessary or desirable. Any such Federation may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of Federation business.

A Federation shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Federations and to their chief executives.

(d) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Agents to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business

and administration of the Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Agent shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. All Charters of National Societies or Lodges (Branches) and all Diplomas (Certificates) of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive Officer of the General Council of the Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

If at any time the number of members in good standing of a National Society falls below 49, the Recording Secretary shall report that fact to the General Council. If during the following three years the membership of the National Society remains below 49, the General Council shall then call upon the President to withdraw its Charter.

37. Each Lodge (Branch) and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge (Branch) belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges (Branches) and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows: In the case of a Lodge (Branch) belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society; in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) not situated within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31 (c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the President.

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgment of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge (Branch) which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge (Branch) shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. Every National Society must appoint a **General Secretary**, who shall be the channel of official communication between the **General Council** and the National Society.

39. The **General Secretary** of each National Society shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work of his Society, and at any time furnish any further information the President or **General Council** may desire.

40. National Societies hitherto known as Sections, which have been incorporated under the name of "The . . . Section of The T.S." before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies, for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

FINANCE

41. (a) The fees payable to the **General Treasury** by Lodges (Branches) not comprised within the limits of any National Society are as follows: for Charter, Rs. 18.00; for each Diploma (Certificate) of Membership, Rs. 4.50; for the Annual Subscription of each Fellow, Rs. 4.50; and in the case of Lodges (Branches) comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, Federation or Presidential Agency for Charter Rs. 18.00, when printed at Adyar, or supplied from Adyar Headquarters. The President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer shall together have the power to fix of vary such fees and charges and the Recording Secretary shall inform the General Council of any changes within three months of their being made. The Annual Subscription of each Fellow shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society within which the Lodge exists; or equivalents.

(b) New members joining otherwise than at the beginning of the year shall at the time of admission pay their Annual Subscription pro rata for the remaining period of the fiscal year at the rate of Rs. 1.13 per quarter or as fixed by the President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer.

42. Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a) shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulations of such National Society, but not less than the fee and subscription fixed for a Fellow-at-large not resident within the territory of a National Society.

Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay

to the General Treasury an Entrance Fee of Rs. 4.50 and an Annual Subscription of Rs. 18.00. The President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer shall together have the power to fix or vary these fees, and the Recording Secretary shall inform the General Council of any changes within three months of their being made.

43. (a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury fifteen per cent of the total amount of fees payable by members to the Section and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of March of the current year, and the financial year of the Society shall close on 31st March.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41 (a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Agents to collect dues in territories to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43 (a).

44. In the event of the cancellation of any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge (Branch), the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge (Branch), granted by the President, shall *ipso facto*, become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas (Certificates), Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge (Branch) shall vest as follows:

(a) in the Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) coming under Rule 31. (c) (except where the law of the

country where the National Society or Lodge (Branch) is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided), and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in the National Society in which the Lodge (Branch) is situated, in the case of a Lodge (Branch) within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge (Branch) not coming under Rule 31 (c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge (Branch) whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of the Society except for the purpose of vesting in the Society or in the National Society as the case may be the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge (Branch).

Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge (Branch), as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges (Branches) being not fewer than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgment shall seem best for the interests of the Society.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in the Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge (Branch) whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, to which the Society may become entitled under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee

for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to the Society.

45. The financial accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed

Financial
accounts

by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

MEETING

46. The Annual General Meeting or Convention of the Society shall be held in India in the month of December, at such

Annual
General
Meeting

place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year. Lodges (Branches) desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation in March of the current year, with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. At least once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held out of India, at

World
Congress

a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention in India.

48. The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of the Society at his discretion.

Special
meetings

REVISION

49. The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of the Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such by-laws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.

By-laws

DIRECTORY

AT

1 JANUARY, 1974

Ex-Officio Members of General Council

President: MR. JOHN B. S. COATS

Vice-President: MR. JAMES S. PERKINS

Recording Secretary: DR. (MRS.) JEAN RAYMOND

Treasurer: MISS ANNIE TJIOE SIANG NIO

National Societies, Federations and Presidential Agencies

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1886	United States	... Miss Joy Mills	... P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois 60187
1888	England	... Miss Ianthé H. Hoskins	... 50 Gloucester Place, London, W1H3HJ
1891	India	... Mrs. Radha Burnier	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221001
1895	Australia	... Mrs. Elaine Murdoch	... Rooms 3-5, 4th Floor, Kembla Building, 58 Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W., 2000
1895	Sweden	... Mr. Curt Berg	... The Theosophical Society, Nybrogatan 24, S-114 39 Stockholm
1896	New Zealand	... Mr. W. E. B. Dunningham	... 10, Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland, S. E. 3
1897	The Netherlands	... Mrs. N. van der Schoot-Groot	... Amsteldijk 76, Amsterdam 8
1899	France	... Mr. S. Lancré	... 4, Square Rapp, Paris 75007
1902	Italy	... Sgr. Edoardo Bratina	... 34131 Trieste, Corso Umberto Saba N. 6
1902	Germany	... Mrs. Anneliese Stephan	... Alsterdorfer Str. 338, 2 Hamburg 39
1905	Cuba	... Sr. Dana Cruz Bustillo Artigas	... P.O. Box 6365, Havana
1907	Hungary	...	...
1907	Finland	... Miss Sirkka Kivilinna	... Vironkatu 7c 2, 00170 Helsinki 17
1908	Russia	...	...
1909	Czechoslovakia	...	...
1909	Southern Africa	... Mrs. A. M. G. Bischoff	... P.O. Box 863, Johannesburg
1910	Scotland	... Mr. James G. Mitchell	... 15 Bingham Cres., Milltimber, Aberdeen AB1 0HP
1910	Switzerland	... Mr. G. Tripet	... Av. Dumas 29, 1206 Geneva
1911	Belgium	... Mr. Jean Barreiro	... 51, rue du Commerce, 1040 Bruxelles 4
1912	Indonesia	...	...
1912	Burma	... U Than Kyaing	... No. 102, 49th Street, East Rangoon
1912	Austria	... Dr. Norbert Lauppert	... Kaiserfeldgasse 19, Postfach 655 A-8011 Graz
1913	Norway	... Mrs. Ruth Wessel Nielsen	... Oscars gate 11, Oslo 3
1918	Egypt	...	...
1918	Denmark	... Mr. Preben Sørensen	... "Anandagaarden," Staarup, DK-4500 Nykøbing S
1919	Ireland	... Miss Dorothy Emerson	... Alexandra Guild House, 30 Leinster Road West, Dublin 6
1919	Mexico	... Sr. Luis A. Medina Barrera	... Iturbide 28, Mexico 1, D. F.
1919	Canada	... Mr. T. G. Davy	... Box 5051, Postal Station "A," Toronto 1, Ont.
1920	Argentina	... Señor Manuel Farinich	... Florencio Balcarce 71, Buenos Aires
1920	Chile	... Señor Ricardo Michel A.-P.	... Casilla 3603, Santiago
1920	Brazil	... Dr. Murillo Nunes de Azevedo,	... Rua Imperatriz Leopoldina, 8, 17º andar, Rio de Janeiro 20000
1920	Bulgaria	...	...
1921	Iceland	... Mr. Sigvaldi Hjálmarsson	... Ingólfsstraeti 22, Reykjavik
1921	Spain	...	...
1921	Portugal	... Prof. Délio Nobre Santos	... Campo Mártires Pátria 69, Lisbon
1922	Wales	... Mr. Harry Edgar	... 206 Newport Rd., Cardiff

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1923	Poland	...	...
1925	Uruguay	... Sr. Justo V. de la Vega	... J. Barrios Amorin 1085 St., Montevideo
1925	Puerto Rico	... Mr. Seymour Ballard	... Box 534, G. P. O., San Juan, Puerto Rico-00936
1925	Rumania	...	...
1925	Yugoslavia	... Mrs. Mila Grubacevic	... Lino Mariani, 17, Pula 5200
1926	Sri Lanka	... Mr. F. H. P. Joseph	... 49 Peterson Lane, Colombo
1928	Greece	... Mr. C. Melissaropoulos	... Dragatsaniou str. 6, Athens 122
1929	Central America	... Sta. Pilar Madrigal Nieto	... Apartado 1911, San Jose, Costa Rica
1929	Paraguay	...	...
1929	Peru	...	...
1933	Philippines	... Mrs. Cleo Z. Gregorio	... Corner Iba and P. Florentino Sts., Quezon City
1937	Colombia	... Sr. Alfonso Ortiz	... Carrera 6a No. 56-40, Bogotá
1947	East Africa	... Mr. H M. Chhaya	... P.O. Box 48507, Nairobi, Kenya
1948	Pakistan*	... Mrs. Gool K. Minwalla	... "Q" House, 2nd Floor, 2 Framroze Road, Bath Island, Karachi-4
1948	Malaysia*	... Mr. S. Narayanan	... 12, Lorong Damansarah Endah, Kuala Lumpur
1949	Northern Ireland†	Mr. Antonio Rodriguez	... Gateway House, 242 Antrim Road, Belfast BT15 2AR, United Kingdom
1950	State of Israel	...	...
1951	Japan	...	...
1952	Viet-Nam	...	... 72/4 Nguyen-dinh-Chieu, Saigon
1953	Venezuela*	... Señor Pablo Bonilla T.	... Apartado 2907, Caracas
1956	West Africa†	... Mr. Isaac K. Zaney	... P.O. Box 720, Accra, Ghana
1965	Bolivia*	... Señor Mario Cariaga Aramayo	... Casilla Correo 2083, La Paz
European Federation (of National Societies in Europe, formed 1903)		... Mrs. M. Leslie-Smith	... 2, Tekels Park, Camberley GU15 2LF, Surrey, England
Canadian Federation (attached to Headquarters, Adyar, 1924)		... Mrs. Ida Frances Stephen	... 2050 Cypress St., Vancouver 9, B.C., Canada
Inter-American Federation. . .		Sr. Luis Spairani	... Florencio Balcarce 71, Buenos Aires, Argentina
World Federation of Young Theosophists . . .		Mr. Charles Chesrow . . .	2820 Telegraph Rd., Deerfield Ill. 60015, U.S.A.

Additional Members of the General Council

- DR. HUGH SHEARMAN, 36, Cliftonville Road, Belfast BT 14 6 JY, United Kingdom (for 1972, 1973 and 1974).
- MRS. RUKMINI DEVI ARUNDALE, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600020 (for 1973, 1974 and 1975).
- MR. GEOFFREY HODSON, 17 Belvedere St., Ep30M, Auckland S.E.3 New Zealand (for 1974, 1975 and 1976).
- MR. C.D.T. SHORES, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600020 (for 1974, 1975 and 1976).
- MR. V. W. SLATER, 10, Cranmer Court, Wickliffe Avenue, London, N3 3HG, England (for 1972, 1973 and 1974).
- MRS. GOOL K. MINWALLA, 'Q' House, 2nd Floor, 2 Framroze Rd., Bath Island, Karachi 4 (for 1974, 1975 and 1976).
- MRS. ANN WYLIE, P.O.Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois 60187, U.S.A. (for 1974, 1975 and 1976).
- MR. K. N. RAMANATHAN, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600020 (for 1973, 1974 and 1975).
- Mk. L. H. LESLIE-SMITH, 2 Tekels Park, Camberley GU15 2LF, Surrey, England (for 1973, 1974 and 1975).

* Presidential Agency } Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries are not members of the
 † Federation } General Council.

SUMMARY

Of the Meetings of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held in the H. P. B. Room at Headquarters, Adyar, on 25th and 31st December 1973, and 1st, 2nd and 8th January 1974.

PRESENT *

Mr. John B. S. Coats	..	<i>President (in the Chair) and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society in France, New Zealand and Chile.</i>
Mr. James S. Perkins	..	<i>Vice-President, and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society in Sri Lanka and Uruguay.</i>
Dr. Jean Raymond	..	<i>Recording Secretary, and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society in Wales, Italy, Yugoslavia and East Africa.</i>
Miss Annie Tjioe Siang Nio	..	<i>Treasurer, and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in the Netherlands.</i>
Miss Joy Mills	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in America.</i>
Mrs. Radha Burnier	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in India, and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society in Finland and Sweden.</i>
Miss Ianthe Hoskins	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in England.</i>
Mrs. Elaine Murdoch	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Australia.</i>
Mr. Curt Berg	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Sweden.</i>
Mrs. Anneliese Stephan	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Germany.</i>
Mr. Georges Tripet	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Switzerland and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Belgium.</i>
Mr. Seymour Ballard	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Puerto Rico and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Cuba.</i>

* Note: Not all members were present at all meetings.

Srimathi Rukmini Devi Arundale	..	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr. L. H. Leslie-Smith	..	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr. K. N. Ramanathan	..	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr. C. D. T. Shores	..	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr. V. W. Slater	..	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mrs. Ann Wylie	..	<i>Additional Member</i>

Before commencing the Business, the President asked for a few minutes' silence in memory of the late President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, to whom all owed a great debt of gratitude.

The Vice-President wished it put on record that the conduct of the Presidential election had been carried out correctly and according to the Rules.

The Minutes of the Meetings of the General Council held on 25th December 1972 and 1st January 1973.

These were confirmed and signed.

Amendments to the Rules and Regulations

The following amendments to the Rules and Regulations were adopted, following confirmation of the postal vote:

(a) *Definition of the term "in good standing"*

"A member is in good standing if his dues to the International Society have been paid for the year immediately prior to the close of the last official year"
The result of the voting was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
30	1	1	32

It was decided that the definition be inserted as a footnote to Rule 10.

(b) *Rules 41 and 42: Proposal to amend these Rules to empower the President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer to determine the amount of fees and charges.*

"41. (a) The fees payable to the General Treasury by Lodges (Branches) not comprised within the limits of any National Society are as follows: for Charter, Rs. 18.00; for each Diploma (Certificate) of Membership, Rs. 4.50; for the Annual Subscription of each fellow, Rs. 4.50; and in the case of Lodges (Branches) comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, Federation or Presidential Agency for Charter Rs. 18.00, when printed at Adyar, or supplied from Adyar Headquarters. *The President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer shall together have the power to fix or vary such fees and charges, and the Recording Secretary shall inform the General Council of any changes within three months of their being made.* The Annual Subscription of each Fellow shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society within which the Lodge exists; or equivalents.

(b) New members joining otherwise than at the beginning of the year shall at the time of admission pay their Annual Subscription pro rata for the remaining period of the fiscal year at the rate of Rs. 1.13 per quarter *or as fixed by the President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer.*

42. Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a), shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulations of such National Society, but not less than *the fee and subscription fixed for a Fellow-at-large not resident within the territory of a National Society*. Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay to the General Treasury an Entrance Fee of Rs. 4.50 and an Annual Subscription of Rs. 18.00. *The President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer shall together have the power to fix or vary these fees, and the Recording Secretary shall inform the General Council of any changes within three months of their being made.*

(Alterations in italics)

The result of the voting was as follows:

For	Against	Abstaining	Total
31	—	1	32

(c) Rule 19: Alteration of the word "either" to "any".

"19. All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Recording Secretary, the receipt of any of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same."

(Alteration in italics)

The result of the voting was as follows:

For	Against	Abstaining	Total
31	—	1	32

Additional Members of the General Council:

Under Rule 2 (b) of the Rules and Regulations, the Acting President, Mr. James Perkins, nominated for re-election Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, Mr. C. D. T. Shores, Mrs. Gool K. Minwalla and Mrs. Ann Wylie.

The voting results were as follows:

	For	Against	Abstaining	Total
Mr. Geoffrey Hodson	28	2	2	32
Mr. C.D.T. Shores	28	3	1	32
Mrs. Gool K. Minwalla	32	—	—	32
Mrs. Ann Wylie	31	—	1	32

The four were declared duly elected Additional Members for 1974, 1975 and 1976.

Committee to study structure and procedures of the Theosophical Society:

Following on a proposal by the Theosophical Society in America, a Committee was appointed, consisting of the President, (Chairman) Miss Joy Mills (Vice Chairman), Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith (European Federation), Mr. Luis Spairani (Inter-American Federation), Mrs. Radha Burnier (India), Mrs. Elaine Murdoch (Australia) and Mr. A.B. Patel (East Africa), to examine the organizational structure of the Society, with a view to consider whether aspects of its work could be strengthened and communication improved. It would be a committee of enquiry only.

Revision of Rule 10:

A sub-committee was appointed to consider the revision of Rule 10 and to prepare a draft to present to the General Council for voting at the next session. It consisted of the Recording Secretary (Chairman), Miss Ianthe Hoskins, Mrs. Anneliese Stephan, Mr. Georges Tripet and Mrs. Ann Wylie.

Utilization of Headquarters Estate:

A sub-committee was appointed to consider and recommend to the General Council various proposals for utilization of the Adyar Estate. It consisted of Mrs. Radha Burnier (Chairman), Mr. Curt Berg, Mr. L. H. Leslie-Smith, Miss Joy Mills and Dr. Jean Raymond.

Recommendations accepted by the Council in session were as follows: (1) That the Estate should be used fully for theosophical work, and specifically for the benefit of the community at large (2) The T. S. shall maintain the right to grant or withhold permission for any institution, work or scheme to function on its property; (3) The Besant Centenary Trust should either remove the Besant Theosophical High School from Damodar Gardens at an early date, or hand over the School to the T. S. or to a body named by the President. In any event the T. S. will ensure the continued existence of a school of a similar nature in the area; (4) The T. S. should aim to start a school, affiliated to the Central Board of Education, in Besant Gardens. Intended to carry out the principles of theosophical education, it is viewed as a centennial memorial; (5) The H. P. B. Hostel, a child welfare centre and the animal hospital should continue in Besant Gardens, the animal hospital to be run under T. S. auspices in co-operation with the Blue Cross Society; (6) In Besant Gardens, a permanent centre of theosophical research and study should be created with facilities and accommodation for students, which could serve as a memorial to the late President, N. Sri Ram (7) The Scout Camping Centre should continue to be active; (8) Additional residences should be erected along the sea front (9) The programme of semi-permanent accommodation for delegates to the Centenary Convention should proceed (10) Effort should be made to purchase the leasehold land along the Adyar River.

Sale of Urur Houses:

Transactions for the sale of these houses had been halted following the Government move to acquire Besant and Damodar Gardens. This move had been dropped on the Society entering into an undertaking that if, in future, it wanted to sell any land, it would give the Government first option to buy. However, the Society had obtained a clearance from the Government to proceed with the sale of the Urur houses, and this would be done after January 1974.

Century Book:

Mr. L. Leslie-Smith reported that the typescripts of most articles were already with him. Copies would be xeroxed by the T. S. in America for early circulation to countries who wished to translate it. The name, "The Universal Flame," was decided upon by the General Council.

History Book—Dr. Hugh Shearman:

Mr. V. Wallace Slater was appointed to the Advisory Committee to replace the late Miss Helen Zahara. The other members, Mr. Perkins and Mr. Tripet, stated they had not seen any of the script. If possible, Dr. Shearman was to be asked to have it ready by April 1974, and it was to be seen by the Committee before publication.

Lease of Damodar Gardens (cf. Utilization of the Headquarters Estate):

The lease had expired on 30th June 1973, but the Besant Theosophical High School was still in occupation. As there appeared to be major difficulties related to the removal of Besant Theosophical High School to the Besant Centenary Trust's property in Tiruvanmiyur, the General Council resolved to offer, as an alternative to removal, that the School be handed over to the T. S. or to a body nominated by the President. The Society did not want to acquire any of the assets of the B. C. T. except the cottages in Damodar Gardens, for which it would pay compensation.

As this was a new proposal, Smt. Rukmini Devi stated that she would have to refer it to the Board of the B. C. T. An early reply was requested so that action may be taken at the end of the current academic year.

Fund in Europe for International Work:

It was resolved that a Fund be set up in Europe to promote the international work of the Society. It is to be registered in the Netherlands, domiciled in Amsterdam, and named Stichting International Theosofisch Fonds. The Board shall be appointed by the General Council and its first members shall be Mr. Curt Berg (Chairman), Mr. Marijn Brandt, Mr. Aieso Raven, Mr. V. Wallace Slater and Mr. Georges Tripet.

Centenary Celebrations:

The Centenary Committee was dissolved. The dates of the Adyar Celebrations were fixed at 20-30 December 1975. It was resolved that the New York Congress, to be held 14-20 November 1975, be a World Congress. It was agreed that financial assistance be given to General Secretaries, if required, so that all may attend the Adyar Centenary Convention.

Holding of International Conventions at Adyar:

It was agreed that, in principle, the international Conventions should be held at Adyar, the International Headquarters, unless unusual circumstances prevailed.

The School of the Wisdom:

The President reported that the School of the Wisdom would not be held in the coming year as in the past, and future policy with regard to the School was under consideration.

Perwathin (Theosophical Society of Indonesia):

It was agreed that members of Perwathin could become Fellows-at-large attached to Adyar. However, only 15% of their dues to Perwathin need be remitted, rather than the normal dues of Fellows-at-large.

Salaries of Employees at the International Headquarters:

As the salaries are not adequate to meet basic needs of employees it was agreed that the following measures be undertaken to enable the Society to raise salaries to reasonable levels: (1) an appeal to Sections and members for financial assistance (2) improved economy and efficiency in the running of the Headquarters (3) efforts to increase income from sale of garden produce, publications, and so on.

Olcott Memorial Middle School new premises:

As the Primary Section of the School is now functioning in Besant Gardens, it was resolved that a lease or license be drawn up between the T. S. and the School, as the land and buildings are owned by the Society, the School being a separate registered body.

Change in the Society's Fiscal Year:

The Treasurer recommended that the Society's fiscal year be changed to coincide with the Indian fiscal year as she stated that this would reduce the work of the Treasury. It was resolved to circulate the proposal for voting immediately so that, if approved, it could be instituted for the year commencing 1st April 1974.

Non-English Publications Loan Fund:

The Committee was reconstituted to consist of the President (Chairman, *ex-officio*), Miss Joy Mills (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith, Chairman of the European Federation (*ex-officio*), Mr. Luis Spairani, President of the Inter-American Federation (*ex-officio*), Mr. Leslie Leslie-Smith and Mr. K. N. Ramanathan.

Judiciary Committee to study Rules of National Societies and their compatibility with the International Rules:

It was resolved that the Executive Committee be asked to appoint a Judiciary Committee to study the Rules of the National Societies. Rule 37 of the International Rules requires that these be not incompatible with the Rules of the Theosophical Society but some discrepancies had been pointed out.

Microfilming and preservation of Archival material:

The Executive Committee would be asked to look into methods of preservation of material in the Archives. It was also recommended that copies of microfilms of the material be sent to several centres around the world, for safe-keeping.

Treasurer's Report and Accounts for year ending 30th September 1973:

These were considered and adopted. Comments on them included the following: (1) The fall in income in the Theosophical Publishing House was attributed to a fall in orders for printed sheets from T. P. H. Wheaton, which had found it less costly to get them printed in the U. S. A. However, the fall in income was more apparent than real. There were many unfilled orders for bound copies, which the Vasanta Press was unable to keep up with as priority had been given to the printed sheets. The income from the bound volumes would eventually appear in the accounts, as orders were filled. (2) The second Heidelberg printing press was not yet functioning, owing to bureaucratic delays, but when installed, would greatly increase the output of the Press. (3) The subscription to *The Theosophist* is to be increased from 1st January 1974 to offset the loss incurred in its publication. (4) The President's Management Account now appears in the T. P. H. Accounts, instead of the Consolidated Accounts. (5) Because of the large fall in income during the preceding year, it had been necessary to cash some of the Fixed Deposits held by T. P. H. to pay royalties. (6) Sales of Adyar Library publications have increased considerably, due principally to wide publicity given them by T. P. H. Wheaton and T. P. H. London. (7) The sum of Rs. 269,093 being surplus on disposal of lands during the year, relates to portions of the rice fields which had been sold, but the sale of which had been registered only during the year under review.

The Budget for 1973-74:

This was considered and adopted.

Appointment of Auditors for 1973-74:

Messrs. Naganathan & Co., Chartered Accountants, Mylapore, Madras, were reappointed on the same terms as in the previous year.

Executive Committee for 1973-74:

The following were appointed as members of the Executive Committee for 1973-74:

President
Vice-President
Recording Secretary
Treasurer

} *Ex-Officio*

Mrs. Radha S. Burnier
Mr. K. N. Ramanathan
Mr. K. Sankara Menon
Mrs. Norma Sastry
Mr. C. D. T. Shores

Member, General Council

Member, General Council

Member, General Council

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1973

National Sections (Active)	40
Presidential Agencies (Active) ..	4
Federations formed under Rule 35(c) ..	2
Total Lodges ..	1,208
Total Membership 1972 ..	33,345
Total Membership 1973 ..	32,169
Decrease	1,176

	No. of Lodges	No. of Members
1. United States of America ..	101	5,341
2. England ..	71	2,250
3. India ..	450	7,721
4. Australia ..	17	1,927
5. Sweden ..	11	348
6. New Zealand ..	19	1,165
7. The Netherlands ..	31	1,066
8. France ..	40	1,221
9. Italy ..	25	594
10. Germany ..	14	302
11. Cuba ..	19	390
12. Hungary ..	—	—
13. Finland ..	21	450
14. Russia ..	—	—
15. Czechoslovakia ..	—	—
16. Southern Africa ..	10	425
17. Scotland ..	4	96
18. Switzerland ..	9	230
19. Belgium ..	10	285
20. Indonesia ..	—	—
21. Burma ..	6	56
22. Austria ..	8	246
23. Norway ..	8	138
24. Egypt ..	—	—
25. Denmark ..	13	283
26. Ireland ..	3	53
27. Mexico ..	23	272
28. Canada ..	13	299
29. Argentina ..	43	758
30. Chile ..	8	82 (1968)
31. Brazil ..	36	840
32. Bulgaria ..	—	—
33. Iceland ..	14	643
34. Spain ..	—	—
35. Portugal ..	13	186

* Presidential Agency.

† Federation

	No. of Lodges	No. of Members
36. Wales ..	2	78
37. Poland ..	—	—
38. Uruguay ..	11	181
39. Puerto Rico ..	6	59
40. Rumania ..	—	—
41. Yugoslavia ..	4	75
42. Ceylon ..	7	74
43. Greece ..	6	241
44. Central America ..	9	115
45. Paraguay ..	—	—
46. Peru (see below)		
47. The Philippines ..	17	253
48. Colombia ..	9	123
49. East Africa ..	22	1,078
50. Pakistan* ..	4	181
51. Malaysia* ..	7	50
52. Northern Ireland† ..	3	39
53. Israel (see below)		
54. Japan (see below)		
55. Viet-Nam ..	18	1,116
56. Venezuela* ..	3	40
57. West Africa† ..	11	241
58. Bolivia* ..	4	38
59. Canadian Federation ..	10	178
60. Fellows-at-Large ..	—	73
61. Lodges attached directly to Adyar		
Chile ..	1	13
Israel ..	6	99 (1972)
Peru ..	4	77
Hong Kong ..	1	10
Singapore ..	1	34
Japan ..	1	20
Bangladesh ..	1	16
Total	1,208	32,169

Study Centers:

United States of America ..	51
England ..	18
India ..	28
Australia ..	1
Yugoslavia ..	1

DR. JEAN RAYMOND,
Recording Secretary.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

ADYAR, MADRAS 600020, INDIA

Accounts for the year ended 30th September 1973

A. B. C. FUND INVESTMENTS

<i>Particulars</i>		<i>Amount</i>
No.		Rs.
1.	3% Conversion Loan, 1946-1986 ..	261,200
2.	4½% Tamil Nadu Land Development Bank, Debentures, 1969-76 ..	100,000
3.	4½% Tamil Nadu Land Development Bank, Debentures, 1970-80 ..	15,000
4.	4½% Tamil Nadu Land Development Bank, Debentures, 1966-73 ..	25,000
5.	4½% Andhra Land Mortgage Bank, Debentures, 1971-76 ..	130,000
6.	4½% Andhra Land Mortgage Bank, Debentures, 1970-75 ..	20,000
7.	7¾% Central Bank of India, Deposit ..	100,000
8.	7½% Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation Deposit ..	100,000
9.	7¾% Punjab National Bank, Deposit ..	100,000
10.	7% Punjab National Bank, Deposit ..	250,000
11.	7¾% United Commercial Bank, Deposit ..	100,000
12.	7¾% Indian Bank, Deposit ..	480,000
13.	7½% Indian Bank, Deposit ..	50,000
14.	7¾% National & Grindlays Bank, Deposit ..	200,000
15.	7¾% Bank of India, Deposit ..	50,000
16.	7½% Bank of India, Deposit ..	40,000
17.	12 Years National Defence Certificates ..	10,000
18.	4% Canadian Pacific Railway Co. £ 3,000 ..	63,000
19.	4½% Kenya Government Loan £ 500 ..	10,500
		2,104,700

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1973

	1971-72	1972-73
	Rs.	Rs.
The Theosophical Society in Argentina	.. 4,855.60	1,511.80
" Australia	.. 5,127.07	6,876.07
" Austria	.. 850.30	1,158.79
" Belgium	.. 1,457.65	—
" Bolivia	.. 525.39	212.30
" Brazil	.. 2,716.86	—
" Canada	.. 1,371.26	1,739.85
" Central America	.. 689.20	991.34
" Ceylon	.. 18.00	—
" Chile	.. 1,015.87	—
" Colombia	.. 254.46	272.71
" Cuba	.. —	185.22
" Denmark	.. 462.90	563.76
" England	.. 9,989.46	10,508.46
" East Africa	.. 1,871.79	1,142.00
" Finland	.. 1,300.50	2,129.50
" France	.. 9,681.10	8,835.59
" Germany	.. 1,411.78	1,515.42
" Iceland	.. —	1,217.46
" India	.. 7,987.50	7,720.35
" Ireland	.. —	153.70
" Italy	.. 1,123.98	1,127.20
" Malaysia	.. —	39.00
" Mexico	.. 1,195.29	1,180.46
" Netherlands	.. 12,032.56	12,786.50
" New Zealand	.. 1,831.58	1,956.85
" Northern Ireland	.. 39.03	57.49
" Norway	.. 144.88	217.00
" Philippines	.. 270.46	—
" Puerto Rico	.. 826.30	355.95
" Scotland	.. 322.07	164.70
" South Africa	.. 1,325.62	1,799.90
" Sweden	.. 850.18	890.86
" Switzerland	.. 1,276.93	1,375.00
" U.S.A.	.. —	* 72,789.40
" Uruguay	.. 143.83	244.60
" Venezuela	.. 294.40	325.92
" Wales	.. 279.50	191.60
" West Africa	.. 1,295.73	749.06
" Yugoslavia	.. 328.00	283.03
Canadian Federation	.. 394.29	511.06
Lodges Attached to Adyar	.. 1,390.72	1,415.49
Fellows-at-large	.. 1,886.88	1,984.94
	<hr/> 78,838.92	<hr/> 147,180.33

* Includes the sum of Rs. 34,889.74 relating to the year 1971-72.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

EXPENDITURE	PREVIOUS YEAR		Current Year	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Appropriations:				
President's Travelling Fund ...	10,000.00		5,000.00	
Vice-President's Travelling Fund...	—		5,000.00	
School of the Wisdom ...	8,000.00		—	
		18,000.00		10,000.00
Departmental Results:				
Adyar Library ...	—55,183.66		—54,966.21	
Bhojanasala ...	— 964.97		— 5,430.36	
Garden Department ...	—10,600.05		—15,706.98	
Laundry Department ...	— 7,140.59		— 4,094.56	
Leadbeater Chambers ...	— 5,213.71		— 1,595.11	
Maintenance Department ...	—27,024.49		—40,122.44	
Theosophical Publishing House ...	+69,924.60		+ 1,996.94	
Vasanta Press ...	+ 734.65		+ 779.58	
		35,468.22		119,139.14
Depreciation:				
On Gulistan Property ...	519.75		519.75	
On Immovable Property ...	34,102.17		40,660.88	
On Motor Cars ...	3,626.35		2,901.08	
On Movable Property ...	1,800.17		1,951.10	
		40,048.44		46,032.81
Establishment and other Expenses:				
Bad debts ...	656.78		1,628.73	
Boundary Expenses ...	10,656.03		14,731.74	
Convention 1972 ...	6,820.98		7,951.67	
Dispensary ...	10,964.84		11,681.55	
Fire Insurance ...	802.94		763.06	
Gulistan Maintenance ...	1,308.05		1,474.27	
International Offices ...	15,094.41		11,678.07	
Legal and Audit Expenses ...	3,355.00		6,104.05	
Light & Water ...	6,328.18		5,400.14	
Miscellaneous ...	15,052.29		23,277.00	
Museum and Archives ...	2,655.27		943.56	
Postage, Telegrams and Telephones	5,089.22		8,307.15	
Printing and Stationery ...	1,442.28		2,412.93	
Publications to General Secretaries	1,149.17		1,219.82	
Repairs and Renewals ...	65,685.34		74,817.91	
Retirement Allowances ...	5,961.52		6,857.14	
Salaries and Wages ...	41,190.95		50,852.79	
Sanitation ...	7,710.03		9,353.09	
Taxes ...	17,939.50		17,909.09	
T.P.H. Management ...	12,000.00		—	
Travelling & Conveyance ...	1,888.03		2,483.96	
Watch and Ward ...	26,966.88		34,874.51	
		260,717.69		294,722.23
Gratuity allocation ...		2,591.00		3,253.50
		356,825.35		473,147.68

ADYAR, MADRAS 600020
30th November 1973

FOR THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,
(MISS) TJIOE SIANG NIO,
Hony. Treasurer.

Examined and found correct.
R. A. RAMAN, Partner,
N. A. NAGANATHAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

Examined and found correct.
R. A. RAMAN, Partner,
N. A. NAGANATHAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

LIABILITIES	PREVIOUS YEAR		Current Year	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
General Fund:				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	3,071,219.07		4,345,243.90	
Add: Receipts during the year:				
Donations ...	2,896.01		110.00	
Fees and Dues ...	78,838.92		147,180.33	
Bequests ...	81,560.78		19,329.30	
Increase in the value of Life Policy ...	219.00		210.00	
Transfer of Vasanta Press Machinery Replacement Fund ...	113,266.45		—	
Transfer of Adyar Animal Clinic Building Fund ...	664.90		—	
Transfer of Grant to Adyar Library from Ford Foundation (India) ...	—		48,750.00	
Surplus on disposal of lands during the year ...	1,000,300.84		269,093.29	
	4,367,965.97		4,829,916.82	
Less: Headquarters contributions to Non-English Publications Loan Fund a/c Basle, Switzerland ...	—		456,550.00	
	4,367,965.97		4,373,366.82	
Less: Reversals ...	11,000.00		—	
	4,356,965.97		4,373,366.82	
Less: Reversals of excess provision of Govt. Grants receivable by Adyar Library for 1971-72 ...	—		3,158.25	
	4,356,965.97		4,370,208.57	
Less: Excess of Expenditure over Income ...	11,722.07		8,705.58	
		4,345,243.90		4,361,502.99
Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund (b) ...		2,030,330.72		2,120,361.82
Century Fund (a) ...		279,578.59		433,717.24
Exchange Equalisation Fund ...		207,846.53		182,992.47
Other Funds: (see notes below)				
(a) Of The Society: Interest bearing				
Miscellaneous Funds (a) ...	30,399.84		31,309.37	
Miscellaneous Funds (c) ...	302,396.91		401,665.54	
		332,796.75		432,974.91
(b) Of The Society: Non-Interest bearing				
President's Travelling Fund ...	24,848.59		30,444.44	
Miscellaneous Funds ...	236,546.04		219,388.82	
		261,394.63		249,833.26
(c) Of others: Interest bearing ...		91,644.36		92,431.20
(d) Of others: Non-Interest bearing ...		5,785.59		6,402.40
C/o		7,554,621.07		7,880,216.29

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS AT 30th SEPTEMBER 1973

ASSETS	PREVIOUS YEAR		Current Year	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Immovable Properties: At Cost	215,946.00		206,902.84	
Less: Land sold during the year ...	9,043.16		2,432.79	
		206,902.84		204,470.05
Lands at Urur (At Cost) ...		3,882.40		3,882.40
Lands in Sindh ...		10,000.00		10,000.00
Buildings at Adyar (At Cost)				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	823,189.53		1,364,087.68	
Additions ...	540,898.15		262,347.65	
	1,364,087.68		1,626,435.33	
Less: Depreciation to date ...	558,357.08		599,017.96	
		805,730.60		1,027,417.37
Buildings under Construction :				
Besant Scout Camp Toilet Block...	7,599.12		—	
Olcott School Building ...	21,120.06		120,973.02	
Staff Quarters ...	206,453.81		—	
T.S. Well & Water Tank ...	14,089.93		42,101.84	
Vasanta Press Building Extension .	70.79		159,066.95	
Child Welfare Centre ...	—		1,612.98	
Temporary Sheds for Schools ...	—		24,780.87	
		249,333.71		348,535.66
"Gulistan", Kotagiri (At Cost)				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	20,790.72		20,790.72	
Less: Depreciation to date ...	8,405.54		8,925.29	
		12,385.18		11,865.43
Movable Property at Adyar:				
Furniture & Fixtures: (At Cost)				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	104,097.99		106,281.96	
Additions ...	3,878.47		1,764.07	
	107,976.46		108,046.03	
Less: Disposals ...	1,694.50		—	
	106,281.96		108,046.03	
Less: Depreciation to date ...	88,535.07		90,486.17	
		17,746.89		17,559.86
Motor Cars (At Cost)				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	56,057.50		56,057.50	
Less: Depreciation to date ...	41,552.11		44,453.19	
		14,505.39		11,604.31
Investments (At Cost)				
Government of India Loans ...	255,051.76		255,051.76	
State Government Loans ...	310,962.00		296,037.00	
Foreign Investments ...	833,930.01		364,110.19	
Surrender Value of Life Policy ...	25,338.00		25,548.00	
Miscellaneous Securities ...	66,834.69		69,584.69	
Fixed Deposits ...	4,807,895.00		4,820,895.00	
		6,300,011.46		5,831,226.64
Interest Accrued on Investments ...		94,183.35		113,007.51
C/o		7,714,681.82		7,579,569.23

BALANCE SHEET OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

LIABILITIES	PREVIOUS YEAR		Current Year	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
B/f ...		7,554,621.07		7,880,216.29
Adyar Library Funds and Reserves:				
Building Fund Cash (c) ...	602,478.70		602,478.70	
Immovable Property ...	38,000.00		37,000.00	
Miscellaneous Funds ...	7,457.44		8,199.87	
Gratuity Reserve ...	14,816.02		11,002.38	
Grant from Ford Foundation (India) ...	48,750.00		—	
		711,502.16		658,680.95
T.P.H. Funds and Reserves:				
Capital Fund ...	121,958.32		112,651.25	
Reserves and Surplus ...	299,897.41		323,721.50	
Creditors ...	154,631.25		188,180.42	
T.P.H. Investments ...	283,000.00		363,000.00	
		859,486.98		987,553.17
Vasanta Press:				
Machinery Dismantling & Assembling Reserve ...	7,111.06		6,443.78	
Retirement Allowance Reserve ...	41,500.00		30,295.60	
		48,611.06		36,739.38
Gratuity Reserve ...		164,742.19		154,013.78
Reserves:				
Casuarina Development ...	39,111.09		42,999.26	
Doubtful Debts ...	146.93		—	
		39,258.02		42,999.26
Sundry Creditors:				
For Departments ...	28,289.08		25,939.15	
For Others ...	824,028.59		832,702.12	
		852,317.67		858,641.27
Sundry Deposits ...		63,761.30		94,368.85
Liabilities for Expenses ...		2,250.00		4,000.00
 <i>Note.—(a) Capital and Interest available for specific purposes. (b) Interest only available for general purposes. (c) Interest only available for specific purposes.</i>				
		10,296,550.45		10,717,212.95

ADYAR, MADRAS 600020
4th December 1973.

FOR THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
(Miss) TJIOE SIANG NIO,
Hony. Treasurer.

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS AT 30th SEPTEMBER 1973

ASSETS	PREVIOUS YEAR		Current Year	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
B/f ...		7,714,681.82		7,579,569.23
Departmental Assets: (As valued and certified by the Management)				
Water Line Meter Installations ...	208.17		187.36	
Electrical Installations ...	14,196.87		44,755.08	
Telephone Installations ...	12,328.30		12,735.19	
Tools, Equipments etc. ...	39,285.66		62,004.22	
Printing Machinery etc. ...	152,158.80		482,606.36	
Amounts Recoverable ...	10,487.93		10,712.13	
Standing Crops and Developments ...	5,850.86		2,561.15	
Stock on hand ...	126,642.05		152,140.19	
		361,158.64		767,701.68
Adyar Library Assets ...		1,139,728.84		1,114,731.06
T.P.H. Assets:				
Assets ...	497,438.82		496,648.89	
Investments ...	283,300.00		363,300.00	
Cash and Bank Balances ...	54,469.87		25,322.93	
		835,208.69		885,271.82
Sundry Assets ...		2,872.60		1,076.53
Loans and Advances ...		66,966.97		223,365.36
Outstanding Income:				
Fees and Dues ...	1,268.10		1,226.10	
Subscriptions ...	1,529.61		1,529.61	
		2,797.71		2,755.71
Security Deposit ...		390.00		390.00
Sundry Debtors: (Considered good by Management)		26,855.23		28,427.77
Gratuity Advance ...				3,842.30
Prepaid Expenses ...		2,801.87		767.55
Cash:				
In Madras Banks on Current Account ...	115,674.22		91,017.98	
In London Bank Account ...	9,141.81		11,545.42	
On hand ...	18,272.05		6,750.54	
		143,088.08		109,313.94
		10,296,550.45		10,717,212.95

Examined and found correct.
R. A. RAMAN, Partner,
N. A. NAGANATHAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

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